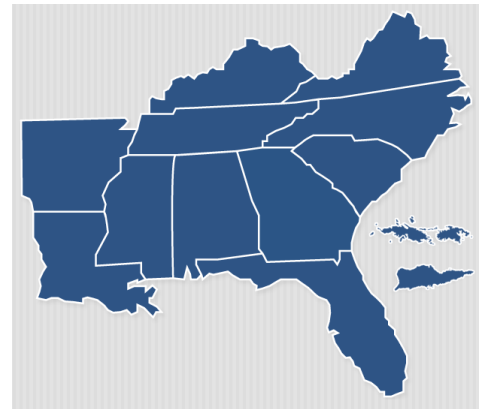


## SEEA Policy Team Highlights

October 17, 2012

### **Fall Spotlight: SEEA's Building Energy Codes Program**

SEEA's Building Energy Codes Program is committed to furthering SEEA's mission through successful energy code adoption, implementation and compliance. Although energy codes in the Southeast lag behind many other regions in the United States, significant progress is currently occurring on the energy codes front, and SEEA is effectively leveraging this momentum. For example, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina adopted new, statewide energy codes this year. Hundreds of builders and code officials have also benefited from SEEA trainings and implementation materials throughout the Southeast. Additionally, meaningful, unique partnerships have been fostered with organizations like the Home Builders Association of South Carolina, Arkansas State Energy Office, Building Official Association of Florida, Tennessee Valley Authority and Georgia Power.



### **2012 Energy Code Adoption Successes**

State	Code	Adopted	Effective
Alabama	2009 IRC + AL Amendments (2009 IECC equiv.)	Mar. 12, 2012	Oct. 1, 2012
Arkansas	ASHRAE 90.1-2007, 2009 IECC Chapter 5	Jan. 13, 2012	Jan. 1, 2013
Kentucky	2009 IECC	Jan. 6, 2012	Oct. 1, 2012
Louisiana	ASHRAE 90.1-2007	Jun. 5, 2012	Aug. 1, 2012
South Carolina	2009 IECC	Apr. 2, 2012	Jan. 1, 2013

### **2012 SEEA Energy Code Trainings**

State	Code	Date(s)
Alabama	2009 IRC + AL Amendments (2009 IECC)	10/1, 10/2
Arkansas	2009 IECC	8/30 + 10 HBA trainings
Florida	2009 IECC	10/31
Georgia	2009 IECC + GA Strengthening Amendments	9/25
Mississippi	2009 IECC, ASHRAE 90.1-2007	10/4, 10/11
North Carolina	2009 IECC	9/5, 9/6
South Carolina	2009 IECC	9/20 Summit + 10 HBA trainings
Tennessee	2012 IECC, ASHRAE 90.1-2010	8/26, 9/26, 10/31
Specialized Training: TVA	Commercial, Residential 2012 vs. 2009 IECC	12/12, 12/13

## SEEA's Focus on Collaborative Partnerships

SEEA has become an ally for utilities, building official associations, home builder associations and other organizations, including the Tennessee Valley Authority, Georgia Power, Mississippi Energy Institute, Building Official Association of Mississippi, Home Builders of Alabama, Home Builders of South Carolina, and Home Builders of Tennessee. SEEA will continue fostering and pursuing these unique, collaborative partnerships whenever opportunities exist throughout our territory. This outreach is particularly important because it allows SEEA to build trust and buy-in not only among building energy code advocates, but also among groups like home builders who have historically opposed building energy code advancement. By engaging with these groups and proactively providing them with resources and opportunities for partnership, we will continue building a larger collaborative base of support for building energy codes. With this perspective, we are helping stakeholders support building energy codes as a mutually beneficial opportunity.

## Mississippi Energy Plan Highlights Energy Codes

Governor Bryant launched Mississippi's first State Energy Plan, titled, "Energy Works: Mississippi's Energy Roadmap," at *The Governor's Energy Summit: Energy and Economic Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* on October 4th. SEEA served as a consultant to the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA), Mississippi Energy Institute (MEI) and Governor's Office for the energy efficiency section of the State Energy Plan. As a part of this effort, SEEA provided insights at meetings like the Governor's Working Group on Processing, Use and Efficiency on July 17, 2012, as the energy efficiency expert. This plan is an "all of the above" energy strategy. Energy efficiency served as a key tactic with the following policy opportunities:

1. "Lead by example.
2. Adopt statewide commercial energy building codes for new construction.
3. Initiate an energy efficiency market policy/program analysis."

As a compliment to this effort, SEEA coordinated two training workshops in October to promote energy code adoption efforts in Mississippi. SEEA will continue to support MDA, MEI and the Governor's Office with the implementation of the energy efficiency sections of the plan. Access the Governor's Energy Plan here: <http://www.governorbryant.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Energy-Works-Roadmap-Final.pdf>.



## GEFA Releases Pilot Study: A Compliance Model for Georgia and the Southeast

On October 17, 2012, the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) and Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) released a pilot study of local building departments to promote compliance with the Georgia State Energy Code for Buildings. The Building Department Pilot Study: “Guidance on Effective Enforcement of Georgia’s Energy Code” will assist local building departments in achieving energy efficiency and energy-cost savings for facilities across Georgia. The study evaluates permitting and inspection methods, and provides a blueprint for energy code enforcement. GEFA, DCA and the Southface Energy Institute, in partnership with SEEA and BCAP, conducted the study with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. This report will be a key resource and model as states work to comply with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) pledge to achieve 90% compliance with the 2009 IECC by 2017. Access an electronic copy of the report here:

[http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/constructioncodes/programs/documents/cc/Building\\_Department\\_Pilot\\_Study\\_GEFA\\_Release\\_8-16-12.pdf](http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/constructioncodes/programs/documents/cc/Building_Department_Pilot_Study_GEFA_Release_8-16-12.pdf).

## HBA of South Carolina Spearheads Energy Code Summit & Trainings

On April 2, 2012, Governor Nikki Haley signed into law HB 4639 and updated the South Carolina Energy Standard to reference the 2009 IECC. This legislation formally goes into effect January 1, 2013. SEEA is continuing to coordinate closely with the Homebuilders Association of South Carolina (HBA of SC) to support this updated code with specialized resources and materials. The kick-off of these initiatives took place on September 20, 2012, when the HBA of SC hosted its first South Carolina Energy Code Summit in partnership with SEEA. SEEA developed specialized “Success with 2009 IECC for South Carolina” booklets that were featured as a part of the residential training curriculum at the Energy Code Summit, and are also being provided at approximately ten upcoming trainings across the state before the 2009 IECC formally goes into effect on January 1, 2013.

## SEEA Supports Alabama’s First, Statewide Code

To promote the October 1st launch of Alabama’s first statewide mandatory energy code on October 1, 2012, SEEA partnered with the Alabama Home Builders Association, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs and Southface Energy Institute to deliver a two-day Train-the-Trainer Workshop on the energy code at the HBA headquarters in Mobile, Alabama. Attendees received copies of Chapter 11 of the 2009 IRC (energy code chapter), hands-on instruction, customized training materials and real-world experiences from class activities.



## Fayetteville Adopts 2009 IECC & HERS Rating Requirements

On July 17, 2012, the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas adopted the 2009 IECC with Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rating requirements. Ordinance 5512 has a phased approach. The 2009 IECC, HERS Index rating and associated sticker requirements went into effect on September 3, 2012, and all provisions of the 2009 IECC, as amended, go into effect on March 6, 2013. SEEA consulted, testified and provided trainings to key stakeholders on these requirements, helping Fayetteville to become one of the first cities in the nation to adopt HERS rating requirements. The tri-county area surrounding Little Rock, Arkansas, is now using Fayetteville as a model as they begin their own adoption efforts. SEEA will continue to provide the tri-county area with guidance on these requirements. Read more about the Fayetteville adoption here: <http://www.arktimes.com/arkansas/fayetteville-requires-energy-rating-on-new-homes/Content?oid=2465994>.

## Chattanooga Adopts 2009 IECC

On June 1, 2012, the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee adopted the 2012 IRC, 2012 IBC, and 2009 IECC with strengthening amendments and provisions for residential and commercial construction. Ordinance 12600 will go into effect on January 1, 2013, when the City of Chattanooga will no longer accept plans drawn to previous codes.

## Promoting “Success” with Energy Codes

To support implementation efforts, SEEA is partnering with Advanced Energy to provide specialized energy code materials for builders, called “Success” booklets. These booklets feature “right” and “wrong” pictures, job ready and job complete checklists, along with a tabbed, step-by-step guide for the implementation of the most difficult aspects of the 2009 IECC. “Success with the 2009 IECC for South Carolina” was the first “Success” booklet SEEA created. Additionally, SEEA will be rolling out “Success” booklets for Georgia, Alabama and the 2009 IECC (applicable to any state or locality) before the end of the calendar year. These booklets will also be available online to purchase from the printer at cost. The “Success” booklets have been very well received and praised throughout the community, and SEEA looks forward to continuing to use them as a collaborative resource for energy code implementation.





## Southeast Energy Codes Coalition

On October 24, 2012, SEEA will host the first Southeast Energy Codes Coalition Meeting. This meeting will be an opportunity for energy code advocates throughout the region to learn about each other, brainstorm, and coordinate upcoming energy code activities in the Southeast. By making the most of collective insights, this collaborative effort will foster more effective initiatives and prioritize near and long-term opportunities.

### Looking Ahead: 2012 Ongoing Initiatives

Role	Group	Next Meeting
Member	Energy Efficient Codes Coalition (EECC) Technical Committee	Oct. 18
Host	Southeast Energy Codes Coalition	Oct. 24
Member	National Collaborative—Regional Energy Efficiency Organizations (REEOs), Building Code Assistance Project (BCAP), National Association of State Energy Offices (NASEO) and U.S. DOE Building Energy Codes Program (BECP)	Nov. 1
Key Stakeholder	2015 IECC Code Development	Nov. 7-8
Key Stakeholder	USGBC Codes and Standards Summit	Nov. 13
Key Stakeholder	North Carolina Building Code Council (ASHRAE 90.1-2010 adoption and 2009 IECC rollback prevention)	Dec. 10

### Gearing Up: 2013 Energy Code Adoption Efforts

State	Entity	Code
Virginia	VBCOA Energy Committee	2012 IECC
Florida	FL Building Commission	2012 IECC
Arkansas	AR Economic Development Commission	2009 IECC
Louisiana	Legislature + LA Uniform Construction Council (dual routes)	2009 or 2012 IECC
Tennessee	Legislature	2009 IECC
Mississippi	Legislature	ASHRAE 90.1-2007 (possibly 2009 IECC)

**Thank you for your interest in SEEA!**



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