

JDB CODE SERVICES, INC.

May 19, 2016

Florida Building Commission Energy Technical Advisory Committee
C/O DBPR
2601 Blainstone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Subject: Public Comment by the Florida Home Builders Association (FHBA) and the Leading Builders of America (LBA) on the Implementation of Section 34 of Chapter 2016-129 Laws of Florida (aka HB 535)

Florida Building Commission Energy Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):

Please accept the following as Public Comment and a request for Alternate Language respectfully submitted by Joseph Belcher on behalf of the FHBA and Amanda Hickman on behalf of the LBA regarding:

- 1.) whether renewable power generation may be used for compliance with the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation and
- 2.) time limits on the use of such renewable power generation.

To Question 1, FHBA and LBA request the Energy TAC recommendation to the Florida Building Commission be yes, renewable energy production should be permitted for compliance without limitation based on the following.

- The base code, IECC 2015, permits such use.
- The TAC voted to adopt ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301.
- ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301 permits such use (Table 4.4.2(1), Items 8, 9, and 24).
- The TAC voted NAR on a proposal to prohibit such use (EN6933).
- The TAC voted NAR on alternate language to limit (cap) such use (EN6933).
- Numerous proposals to the IECC 2018 that would prohibit or limit such use received recommendations for disapproval (RE155, RE164, RE167, RE168, RE175, RE177).

To Question 2, FHBA and LBA request a response that there is no need to limit the

length of time onsite renewable power generation may be used for compliance. In fact, as time passes, it only stands to reason that renewable power generation equipment and methods will improve. Limitations on the use of renewable power generation would be detrimental to the public interest only serving to chill the advancement of this technology.

In conclusion, the FHBA and LBA strongly support the Energy Rating Index compliance path with the inclusion of renewable energy sources or on-site power production to demonstrate compliance with the Florida Building Code-Energy Conservation without limits or caps. While solar power is not the only renewable energy source available, it is nonsensical in the State of Florida, the Sunshine State, to not take advantage of this abundant source of onsite energy production.

FHBA Alternate Language Proposal to address two questions from HB 535:

R406.4 ERI-based compliance. Compliance based on an ERI analysis requires that the *rated design* be shown to have an ERI less than or equal to the appropriate value listed in Table R406.4 when compared to the *ERI reference design*. Onsite renewable power generation complying with ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301 shall be permitted with no time limit for its use.