MEMORANDUM

TO: Design Professionals
FROM: Jerry W. Jones
Deputy Assistant Secretary/Chief Architect
RE: Energy Code Reviews
DATE: December 17, 1998

As you are aware, effective January 1, 1999, mandatory Energy Code enforcement will begin. This packet is being provided to the design community with the following commonly asked questions and answers. This is intended as an aid in making Energy Code submittals to this office.

What projects are required to be submitted for review by this office?

During the period from January 1, 1999 until January 1, 2001 Energy Code compliance becomes mandatory for all buildings requiring a design professional. In order to verify compliance, it is necessary to submit to the Fire Marshal’s Office for a review. Review for buildings exempted during this period is voluntary.

Energy code plan review will become mandatory for all commercial buildings in the state on January 1, 2001 (see exceptions in Section 55:V.2605). After January 1, 2001, State Fire Marshal review on Energy Code compliance documents for all building projects in the state will be required.

NOTE:

All state owned projects shall be submitted to Facility Planning and Control under the same terms as stated above.

There are three basic exemptions to the Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code:

1. An exemption based on the use, total energy use or total size of the building. See explanation of this exemption in Section (D) below.

2. An exemption based on the nature and cost of an alteration made to an existing building. See explanation of this exemption in Section (E) below.
3. An exception based on the historic nature of the building. See explanation of this exemption in Section (F) below.

D. General Exemptions: The following buildings or portions of buildings are exempt from the Energy Code.

1. Buildings or portions thereof separated from the remainder of the building that have a peak energy usage for space conditioning, service water heating, and lighting of less than three and one-half British thermal units an hour per sq. ft. of gross floor area.

2. Buildings of less than 1,000 sq. ft. of gross floor area.

3. Areas of buildings intended primarily for manufacturing or commercial or industrial processing. See definition of Industrial Occupancy.

E. Renovated Buildings: To determine applicability of the Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code to altered, repaired or renovated buildings, see R.S. 40:1574 (C), (D), (E), (F), (G) and (H). Altered, repaired or renovated buildings not covered by these sections are exempt from the Energy Code.

F. Historic Buildings: The State Fire Marshal may modify the specific requirements of the Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code for historic buildings and require alternate requirements which will result in a reasonable degree of energy efficiency.

What information must be included?

A complete valid set of Energy Code compliance documents as detailed in 55:V:2609 and 55:V:2611 as applicable. (See checklist enclosed)

What happens if the information is not included?

In order to expedite plan review and not delay construction or occupancy of affected buildings, the State Fire Marshal shall have the authority to issue a 21 day release for buildings for which the initial plan submission did not include a complete, valid submission of Energy Code documents. In the event that such a release is issued, parties submitting plans without a complete, valid submission of Energy Code documents will be notified in writing of the Energy Code requirements and have 21 days to submit the required Energy Code documentation. During this time, initial plan review may be completed, thereby allowing construction to commence. Failure to submit required Energy Code compliance documents within said 21 days will result in the issuance of a plan review letter stating the project does not comply with the Energy Code.
What happens if my project does not comply with the Energy Code requirements?

Parties submitting code compliance documents that appear to the State Fire Marshal to comply with the Louisiana Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code shall be furnished a letter of apparent compliance. Said letter shall be either in the form of a statement in the plan review letter or as a separate letter.

Parties submitting code compliance documents that appear to the State Fire Marshal not to comply with the Louisiana Commercial Building Energy Conservation Code shall be furnished a letter of apparent non-compliance. Said letter shall be either in the form of a statement in the plan review letter or as a separate letter. Building construction is allowed to take place.

Who do I call to get technical assistance and code materials?

Department of Natural Resources in Baton Rouge
1-800-836-9589

JWJ/DZ/adg
ENERGY CONSERVATION REVIEW CHECKLIST

As an aid to streamline our energy conservation review process, we ask that you complete this checklist, and attach it to your Architectural Plan Review Application. First, determine if the energy code applies to this project (project, or portions of project, covered by an exemption listed in LA R.S. 55:V:2603 (D) is exempt from compliance with the energy code). If the energy code does not apply to this project, simply complete the first four (4) lines, below, and attach this checklist to the Plan Review Application.

If the energy code applies to this project, denote which compliance code was utilized (1995 CABO MEC or ASHRAE/IES 90.1-1989), by completing the blanks, in the applicable portions of the code checklist below. Each blank shall reference the location of the particular item, within your submittal (note drawing sheet number, detail number, section page, separate energy booklet, etc.). All forms and certificates referenced below, are required per LA R.S. 55:V2608 (as applicable to your submittal). Address each checklist item in your package. Verify that each applicable item below, is: A. Included in your submittal, B. Is correct, and C. Is coordinated within the submittal (construction drawings, specifications, and energy conservation data are coordinated and consistent). For items not applicable to this submittal, simply denote "N/A" (not applicable) at each blank line. Any items not addressed may cause unnecessary delays in processing your review. Your help, up front, will facilitate a complete submittal package, shorten our review time, and help us to get your project reviewed and returned sooner. All technical questions shall be directed to DNR/Energy, at phone 1-800-636-9589. Thank you for your help, in completing and coordinating the items in this checklist.

Project Name (please print): ________________________________

Project Address: ________________________________________

Checklist Completed By: ________________________________ Phone: ( ) _______________ Date: __________

Exempt From Energy Code, Per Exception: ________________________________

1995 CABO MEC USING MECCHECK 95
(applicable for multi-family residential buildings of three stories or less)

Pen-on-paper Prescriptive Path: Include a Prescriptive Package Worksheet (Form LA MEC-1) and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Pen-on-paper Trade-Off Approach: Include a Trade-Off Worksheet (Form LA MEC-2) and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer Software Approach: Include a computer generated MECCheck Compliance Report, and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

ASHRAE/IES 90.1-1989
(applicable for all new commercial buildings and additions – note exceptions 55:V:2603 C, D)

Envelope

Pen-on-paper method: Include an Envelope Summary sheet (Form LA 90.1-1), an Exterior Wall Worksheet (Form LA 90.1-2), a Roof/Floor Worksheet (Form LA 90.1-3), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer method: Include an Envelope Summary sheet (Form LA 90.1-1) with sections 402.2.1 and 402.2.2 completed, and the box at the bottom indicating ENVSTD output. Include
the two computer outputs from ENVSTD, with both indicating at the bottom, that the building passes. Include documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Pen-on-paper method: Include an Electric Systems Summary sheet (Form LA 90.1-4), a Lighting Wattage Worksheet (Form LA 90.1-5), a Lighting Controls Worksheet (Form LA 90.1-6), and documentation as required by 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer method: Include an Electrical Systems Summary sheet (Form LA 90.1-4) with sections 401.1 and 401.2 completed, and the box at the bottom indicating LTGSTD output is used checked off. Include the computer output from LTGSTD, indicating that the building passes the control requirements and the interior and exterior lighting allowance requirements. Include the interior and exterior lighting wattage allowance and lighting control screen outputs. Include documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Mechanical/Hot Water

Hot water requirements: Include a Service Water Heating Systems Summary sheet (Form LA 90.1-7), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Unitary single zone mechanical system requirements: Include a Mechanical Summary sheet for Unitary Single Zone Systems (Form LA 90.1-8), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

More complicated mechanical system requirements: Include a Mechanical Summary (All Systems) report (Form LA 90.1-9), a Fan System Worksheet (Form LA 90.1-10), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Energy Cost Budget Method (alternative compliance method): Include computer modeling of both the proposed and reference buildings to compute total energy costs, and certified design statement by a registered architect or engineer.

COMCheck EZ (alternative compliance method – note exceptions for Louisiana)

Envelope

Pen-on-paper method: Include an Envelope Compliance Certificate (Form LA COM-1), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer method: Include an Envelope Compliance Certificate (generated by the COMCheck EZ program), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Lighting/Electrical

Pen-on-paper method: Include a Lighting Compliance Certificate (Form LA COM-2), a Lighting Application Worksheet (Form LA COM-3), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer method: Include a Lighting Compliance Certificate (generated by the COMCheck EZ program), Lighting Application Worksheet (Form LA COM-3), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Mechanical/Hot Water

Pen-on-paper method: Include a Mechanical Compliance Certificate (Form LA COM-4), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).

Computer method: Include a Mechanical Compliance Certificate (generated by the COMCheck EZ program), and documentation as required in 55:V:2601 (D-2).