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## Executive Summary

### 2017 Pikes Peak Regional Building Code Revisions

#### International Energy Conservation Code

January 19, 2017

This document serves as an executive summary of the proposed changes to the 2011 Pikes Peak Regional Building Code (further cited as "PPRBC"). The intent of these modifications is to simplify the construction process, take advantage of new code developments as well as comply with State of Colorado requirements. Please refer to the 2017 PPRBC "Draft" for additional information. This document summarizes the changes to the PPRBC and does not address changes to the 2015 International Codes adopted by reference.

#### Section RBC308 – ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE

**RBC308.2 SCOPE.** This section has been modified to adopt the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The International Code Council (ICC) publishes new codes every three years. Currently, we are under the 2009 I Codes. Items one and two have been added to clarify the scope of this code as the format of the IECC has changed significantly with the 2015 version.

**RBC308.4.1 General.** This amendment has been maintained but modified to remove specific reference section 405 and chapter 5 of the 2009 IECC due to formatting changes in the 2015 IECC. From an administrative perspective this code section remains the same and will not result in change of code application or requirement of design professional certification. It should be noted that the identifier "C" in front of the IECC Code Section (C103.1) indicates this code section applies to "Commercial" projects. The identifier "R" indicates Residential. Due to this new format in the 2015 IECC a number of amendments are duplicated.

**RBC308.4.2 FEES.** There is no change to this amendment, this section of the IECC is not necessary as fees are regulated under Section 108 of the Regional Building Code.

**RBC308.4.3 STOP WORK ORDER.** There is no change to this amendment, this section of the IECC is not necessary as Stop Work Orders are regulated under Section 103 of the Regional Building Code.

**RBC308.4.4 BOARD OF APPEALS.** There is no change to this amendment; this section of the IECC is not necessary as appeals are regulated under Section 101 of the Regional Building Code.

**RBC308.4.5 Minimum skylight fenestration area.** A new amendment has been added to the RBC in order to address new skylight criteria in the 2015 IECC. The 2015 IECC requires that most occupancies directly under a roof be provided with a minimum area of skylights in order the supplement natural light (and reduce energy usage). Un-amended, the code provides exception for Climate Zone 6 through 8, or the colder climates. The proposed amendment changes the exception to includes Climate Zones 5 through 8. Our region is considered Climate Zone 5 and therefore the code required skylights are not required within this jurisdiction. Due to extreme weather in this region including large hail and strong winds staff believes this requirement could place more of a burden on building owners; it should be elective, not required.

**RBC303.4.6 (DELETE) Insulation and fenestration requirements by component.** This amendment has been deleted as it is no longer necessary. If the prescriptive path is utilized the values indicted in Table R402.1.2 must be followed. It should be noted that the 2015 IECC has expanded alternative methods such as the U-Factor alternative (R402.1.4) and Total UA alternative (R402.1.5) that can be utilized to achieve insulation values similar to those of the 2009 IECC.

**RBC308.4.6 General.** This amendment is identical to RBC308.4.1 but is duplicated in order to apply to the Residential Section of the IECC (R103.1). No technical or administrative change.

**RBC308.4.7 General (prescriptive).** The amendment has been relocated from Section 101.4.3 of the 2009 IECC due to formatting changes in 2015 IECC. The exception remains unchanged. And provides an energy code compliance exception for heated detached accessory structures in conjunction a one or two family dwelling. No technical change.

**RBC308.4.8 Vapor retarder.** The requirement for a vapor retarder in a wall assembly was previously contained in the 2009 IRC. It was moved to the IECC in the 2015 version. Previous amendments to the IRC eliminated this requirement as history has shown vapor retarders to be problematic in this region resulting in potential mold problems. This amendment maintains the previous amendment to not require vapor retarders in wall assemblies

**RBC303.4.9 (DELETE) Circulating hot water systems (Mandatory).** This amendment has been deleted as it is no longer necessary and contained in the 2015 IECC.

**RBC308.4.9 FEES.** This amendment is identical to RBC308.4.2 but is duplicated in order to apply to the Residential Section of the IECC (R107). No technical or administrative change.

**RBC303.4.10 (DELETE) Equipment sizing (Mandatory).** The requirement for heating and cooling equipment to be sized in accordance with ACCA Manual S and J has been incorporated into the 2015 IECC.

**RBC308.4.10 STOP WORK ORDER.** This amendment is identical to RBC308.4.3 but is duplicated in order to apply to the Residential Section of the IECC (R108). No technical or administrative change.

**RBC308.4.11 BOARD OF APPEALS.** There is no change to this amendment; this section of the IECC is not necessary as appeals are regulated under Section 101 of the Regional Building Code.

**RBC308.4.12 Slab-on-grade floors.** No change, this amendment is carried over from the 2011 RBC and eliminates the requirement to continue foundation insulation to the top of the slab, it may terminate at the bottom side of the slab.

**RBC308.4.13 Building thermal envelope.** RBC 308.4.13 and RBC308.4.14 have been added to address changes in the 2015 IECC. The 2009 IECC contains provision for EITHER visual inspection of the building envelope for air barrier continuity OR verification of performance via a blower door test. The 2015 IECC requires BOTH an inspection and a blower door test. The new proposed amendments reflect the 2009 IECC requirement and allow for an inspection option or testing option.

**RBC308.4.14 Installation.** See RBC308.4.13 above.

**RBC308.4.15 Mechanical system piping insulation (Mandatory).** No change to this amendment, mechanical piping inside the building thermal envelope need not be insulated.

**RBC308.4.16 Building envelop.** This is a new amendment has been added to match an amendment in 2015 IRC. This amendment allows for a roof replacement (reroof) without having to comply with the IECC.