

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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August 7, 2013

Buildings Technologies Program
Building Energy Codes Program Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE-2J
1000 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20585-0121

RE: Certification Statement—California's Title 24, Part 6, 2008 and 2013 *Building Energy Efficiency Standards* Exceed the Level of Stringency of the Reference National Model Energy Codes

To Whom It May Concern:

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 requires each state to certify that it has reviewed and considered adopting the national model energy code or standard. Each must determine if its energy code meets or exceeds the current federal reference code and to submit its certification to the Secretary of the Department of Energy. The federal reference energy code for residential buildings are the 2009 and 2012 *International Energy Conservation Codes* (IECC) and for commercial buildings is the *American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers and Illuminating Engineering Society of North America* (ASHRAE/IESNA) *Standard 90.1-2007 and 2010*.

In response to this law, California Energy Commission staff has completed a comparison of the energy saving impacts of residential and nonresidential building energy efficiency measures for the state's 2008 and 2013 *Building Energy Efficiency Standards* (Title 24, Part 6, California Code of Regulations) to the estimated energy use expected for the federal reference model energy codes. Staff concludes that California's residential and nonresidential energy standards exceed the energy savings expected from requirements in Chapter 4, Residential Energy Efficiency, of the 2009 and 2012 *International Energy Conservation Code* and from the commercial requirements encompassed in *ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2007 and 2010*. While significant improvements have been made to the energy stringency levels of the reference national model energy codes, California's residential and nonresidential energy standards contain building measures and building performance operation impacts that are more rigorous, resulting in more energy efficient newly constructed buildings than would be expected to occur from efficiency requirements of the reference national model energy codes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. P. Oglesby'.

Robert P. Oglesby
Executive Director