

BUILDING INSPECTION
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April 22, 2010

Commissioner Anthony Eggert
Commissioner Jeffrey Byron
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814-5514

Re: Green Building Ordinance and the Building Energy Efficiency Standards

Per the request of Commission Staff, we would like to express to you our firm commitment to have the City of Redwood City enforce the current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards as part of the implementation of our local green building code. As pointed out in my January 29, 2010 letter requesting approval of the Redwood City Green Building Code, this code will require buildings to be designed to consume no more energy than permitted by California Title 24 part 6. As the Building Official, I will continue to work with my staff involved in energy plan review and field inspection to improve their working knowledge of the energy standards. This includes special training as needed which focuses on enforcement of the energy standards and the special requirements of the Ordinance.

The Redwood City Green Building Code Ordinance was introduced at the October 12, 2009 City Council meeting. A public hearing was held and the Ordinance was approved by the City Council at the October 26, 2009 meeting. The benefit of increase in energy efficiency and lower energy usage was reviewed. This factor is contained in the adopted Green Building Code Section 9.180 B. as one of the ordinance goals. The Council and public hearing participants recognized the energy saving and cost effectiveness of the ordinance, which was approved by the Council.

Working with other jurisdictions in San Mateo County, an energy cost-effectiveness study was completed on January 21, 2009. This study was submitted with the January 29, 2010 letter to the Energy Commission. The cost-effectiveness in relation to the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards was discussed during the review of the Redwood City Green Building Code.

No provision of Sections 9.182, 9.183, 9.184 or 9.185 of the Redwood City Ordinance 2348 shall alleviate any requirement to meet the State of California's Title 24 Energy Code requirements. Specifically, no building permit shall be issued to any project subject to the Ordinance 2348 unless the application can demonstrate continued compliance with the California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6) of the California Building Code.

I trust that this letter satisfies any remaining concerns and approval of the Redwood City Green Building Code will be scheduled for the May 5, 2010 California Energy Commission business meeting. Thank you.

John LaTorra
Building Inspection Manager