

October 2025 Chapter Meeting – Outline

1. Code Review and Adoption Process

- **Overview of Kentucky's review cycle:**
 - Timeline for adoption of 2024 codes.
 - Key stakeholders involved (state agencies, enforcement officials, technical advisory committees).
- **Public input process:**
 - How design professionals, contractors, and engineers can provide feedback.
 - Balancing national code intent vs. local Kentucky-specific needs.
- **Coordination with enforcement officials:**
 - Lessons learned from prior code cycles.
 - Common pitfalls in interpretation and enforcement.

2. Current Code Challenges and Enforcement Issues

- **Ambiguities in existing codes:**
 - Examples where mechanical system design requirements are open to interpretation.
 - Conflicts between IBC/IMC/IECC or with other state regulations.
- **Energy code enforcement:**
 - Consistency of IECC enforcement across jurisdictions.
 - Difficulties with performance vs. prescriptive compliance paths.
- **Common issues in mechanical inspections:**
 - Commissioning documentation.
 - Controls and balancing requirements.
 - Mechanical ventilation rates and indoor air quality verification.

3. Anticipated Changes in the 2024 ICC Codes

- **International Mechanical Code (IMC 2024):**
 - Updates on ventilation, indoor air quality, and filtration.
 - Revisions to commercial kitchen ventilation, duct construction, and exhaust systems.
 - Potential implications for electrification of mechanical systems.
- **International Energy Conservation Code (IECC 2024):**
 - Enhanced efficiency requirements (HVAC equipment efficiencies, ERVs, heat pumps).
 - Tighter building envelope coordination with HVAC sizing.
 - Requirements for advanced controls and monitoring-based commissioning.
- **International Building Code (IBC 2024) & Fire Code (IFC 2024):**
 - Mechanical system-related fire/smoke control provisions.
 - Changes in fire dampers, smoke control systems, and system integration with BAS.

4. Outlook: Trends and Innovations

- **Electrification and decarbonization:**
 - How Kentucky may integrate national decarbonization goals.
 - Potential code-driven movement toward heat pumps and away from fossil fuels.
- **Resiliency and climate adaptation:**
 - Mechanical systems designed for extreme weather events.
 - Emergency power and backup system requirements.
- **Digital code enforcement tools:**
 - Use of BIM and digital plan review platforms for code compliance.
 - How enforcement officials see technology streamlining their review process.

5. Interactive Discussion Prompts

- What do enforcement officials see as the **most common errors** in submittals related to mechanical systems?
 - Where do designers feel they need **greater clarity or consistency** in enforcement?
 - How can ASHRAE members collaborate with Kentucky officials to **smooth the transition** to the 2024 codes?
 - What are the **training or education needs** for both engineers and inspectors to successfully implement new requirements?
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