

# Energy Code Compliance: Opportunities for Raters and Program Administrators



### Presented by:

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- Amy Dzura, Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
- Mike Barcik, Southface Energy Institute

### Residential Energy Code Field Study

- Phase 1: Baseline field study
- Phase 2: Education and training using info from initial study
- Phase 3: Follow-up field study

Can the case be made for utility investment?



ENERGY Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

### Residential Energy Code Field Study

### 8 Key Items:

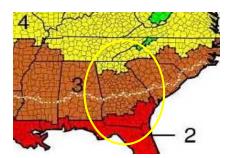
- Above-grade wall insulation
- Ceiling insulation
- Foundation insulation
- Window U-factor
- Window SHGC
- Envelope tightness (ACH50)
- Duct tightness (total leakage test)
- High-efficacy lighting



63 observations of each key item minimum

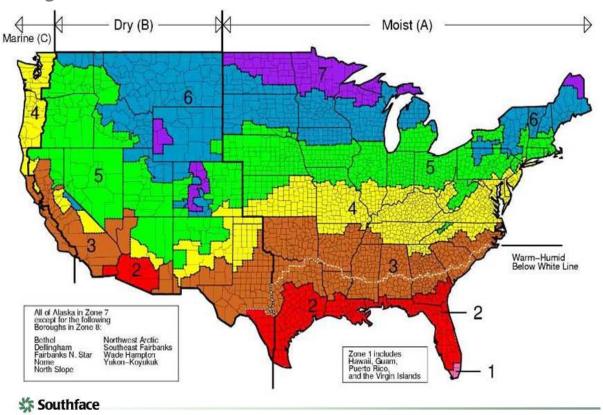
### Residential Energy Code Field Study

- Random sample of municipalities
- Random sample of homes
- No site visited twice (site visits = 2-4 times 63)
- Modeling to determine savings potential from items with ≥15% non-compliance





### 2009 IECC CLIMATE ZONES



### 2009 IECC Prescriptive Code



Prescriptive envelope requirements of the 2009 IECC mostly represent common industry practice!

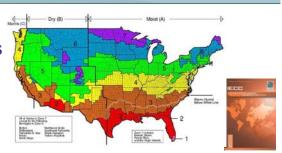


TABLE 402.1.1 INSULATION AND FENESTRATION REQUIREMENTS BY COMPONENT®

CLIMATE ZONE	FENESTRATION U-FACTOR <sup>b</sup>	SKYLIGHT <sup>b</sup> <i>U</i> -FACTOR	GLAZED FENESTRATION SHGC <sup>D, e</sup>	CEILING R-VALUE	WOOD FRAME WALL R-VALUE	MASS WALL R-VALUE	FLOOR R-VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>c</sup> WALL <i>R</i> -VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> R-VALUE & DEPTH	CRAWL SPACE <sup>c</sup> WALL R-VALUE
1	1.2	0.75	0.30	30	13	3/4	13	0	0	0
2	0.65 <sup>j</sup>	0.75	0.30	30	13	4/6	13	0	0	0
3	0.50 <sup>j</sup>	0.65	0.30	30	13	5/8	19	5/13 <sup>f</sup>	0	5/13
4 except Marine	0.35	0.60	NR	38	13	5/10	19	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13
5 and Marine 4	0.35	0.60	NR	38	20 or 13+5h	13/17	30g	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13
6	0.35	0.60	NR	49	20 or 13+5h	15/19	30g	15/19	10, 4 ft	10/13
7 and 8	0.35	0.60	NR	49	21	19/21	38 <sup>g</sup>	15/19	10, 4 ft	10/13



### Pennsylvania





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Pennsylvania

### State nickname:



The Keystone State







### Pennsylvania

### State bird:



Ruffed Grouse





### Pennsylvania

### State insect:

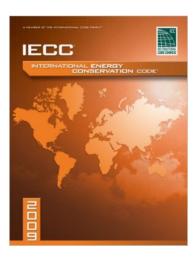


Lightning Bug





#### State energy code:



- Duct blaster test required
- Building cavities as returns OK
- No mandatory blower door test
- No DET verifier qualification requirements

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#### **Savings Potential**

- First-year savings if 100% compliance achieved
- Assumes 16,371 homes built
- Electricity savings
  - 8,173 MWh (all PA residential new construction goals = 4,700 MWh)
  - \$1.8 million
- Gas savings
  - 1,233,000 therms
  - \$1.4 million

Total first-year savings \$3.2 million



### **GEORGIA**



### State nickname:



The Peach State

**\$\$** Southface

### **GEORGIA**



### State bird:



The Mosquito



State insect:



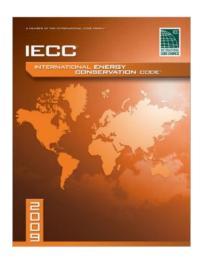
Buzz, The GA Tech Mascot

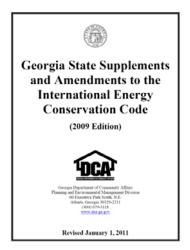


### **GEORGIA CODE**



GA's 2011 State Energy Code is based on 2009 IECC with GA Supplements and Amendments





#### UNIQUE TO GEORGIA

### Ways we have made the code better



Georgia State Supplements

and Amendments to the International Energy

Conservation Code

- 1. Improved Kneewalls
- 2. Consistent, Better Windows
- 3. Air Sealing Graphics
- 4. Minimum Insulation Backstop
- 5. Lighting Vacancy Sensor Credit
- 6. Ducts No Cavities, Mastic Required
- 7. No Electric Furnaces
- 8. No Powered Attic Ventilators (except solar powered)
- 9. Mandatory Blower Door and Duct Blaster test
- 10. DET Verifiers— (qualified individuals who can do testing)





### GEORGIA SAVINGS POTENTIAL

# First-year savings if 100% compliance achieved Electricity savings

- 11,148 MWh
- \$2.41 million

### Gas savings

- 547,700 therms
- \$0.78 million

Total first-year savings \$3.1 million





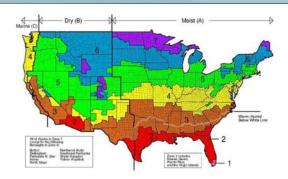
### **Foundations**

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### 2009 IECC - Foundations



Prescriptive 2009 IECC mostly represent common industry practice!

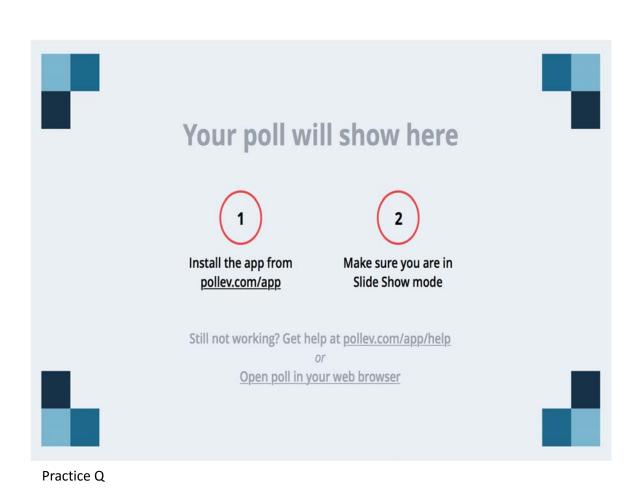


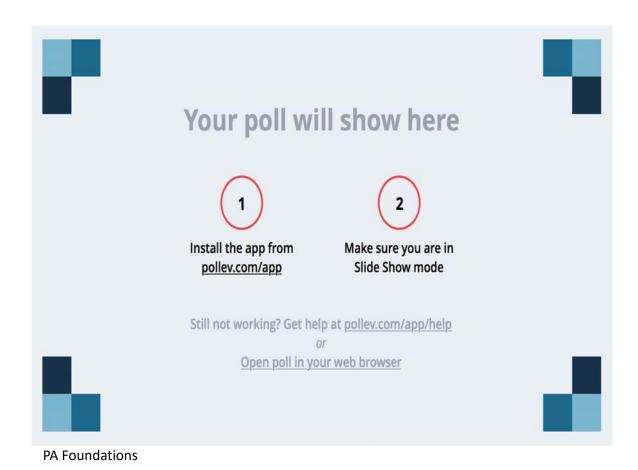
CLIMATE ZONE	FLOOR R-VALUE	BASEMENT <sup>c</sup> WALL <i>R</i> -VALUE	SLAB <sup>d</sup> <i>R</i> -VALUE & DEPTH	CRAWL SPACE <sup>c</sup> WALL <i>R</i> -VALUE
1	13	0	0	0
2	13	0	0	0
3	19	5/13 <sup>f</sup>	0	5/13
4 except Marine	19	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13
5 and Marine 4	30 <sup>g</sup>	10/13	10, 2 ft	10/13

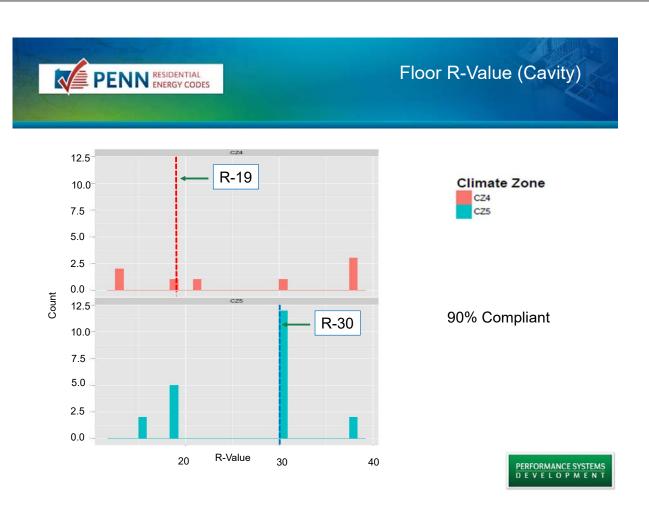




Pollev.com/amydzura999



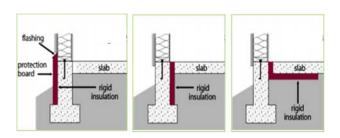


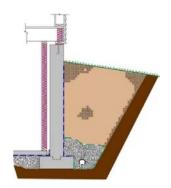






Slab and basement walls





Overall 89% Compliant



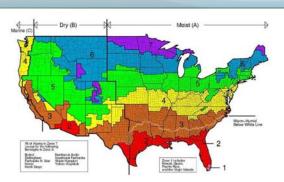


### **Above Grade Walls**

### 2009 IECC - Walls

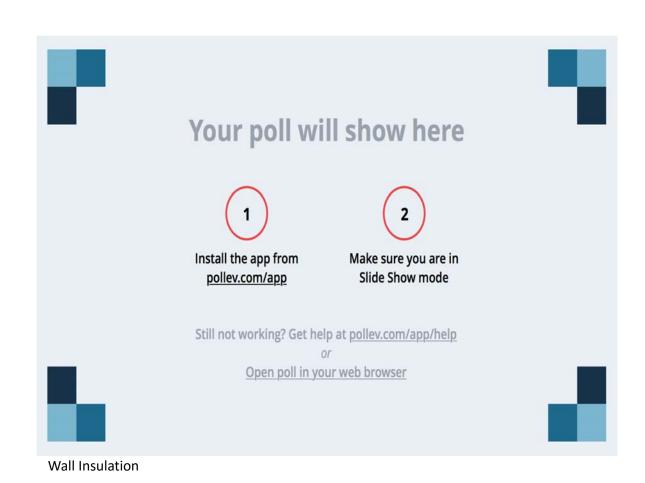


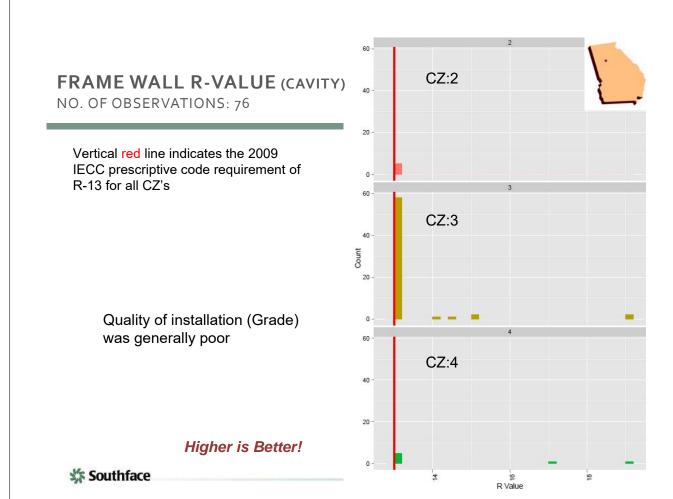
Prescriptive 2009 IECC mostly represent common industry practice!

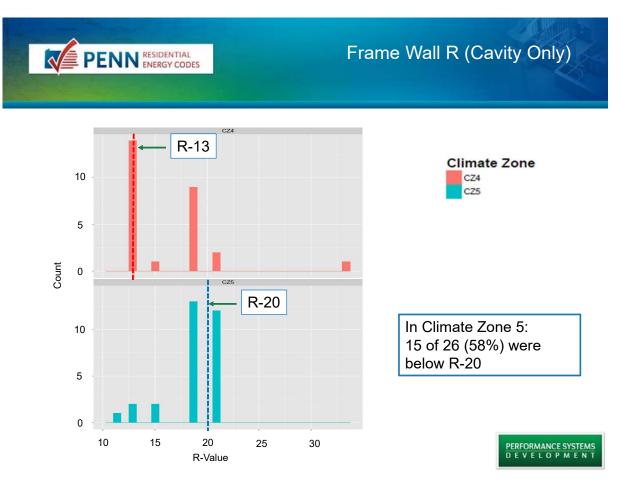


CLIMATE ZONE	WOOD FRAME WALL <i>R</i> -VALUE	MASS WALL <i>R</i> -VALUE <sup>i</sup>
1	13	3/4
2	13	4/6
3	13	5/8
4 except Marine	13	5/10
5 and Marine 4	20 or 13+5h	13/17











### Ceilings

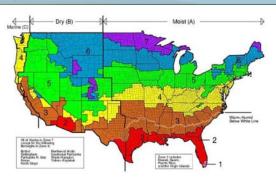
31

### 2009 IECC - Ceilings

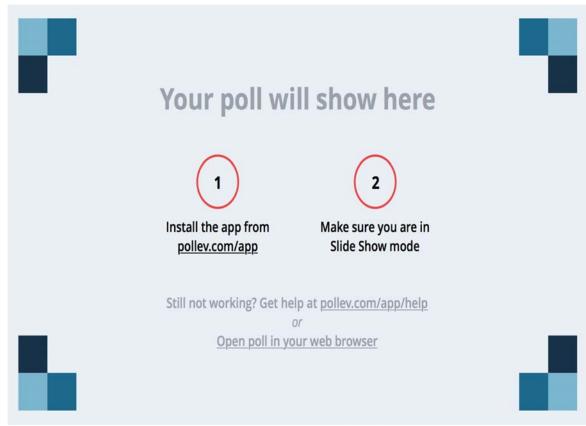


Prescriptive 2009 IECC mostly represent common industry practice!

CLIMATE ZONE	CEILING R-VALUE
1	30
2	30
3	30
4 except Marine	38
5 and Marine 4	38







**Ceiling Insulations** 

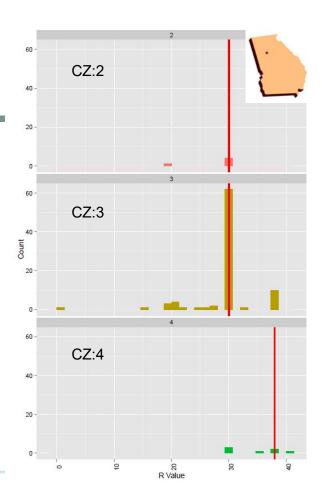
#### **CEILING R-VALUE**

NO. OF OBSERVATIONS: 99

Vertical red line indicates the 2009 IECC prescriptive code requirement of R-30 in CZ's 2 & 3 and R-38 in CZ 4

GA Code allows ceiling insulation to be traded down to as low as R-19

Quality of installation (Grade) was generally average to poor

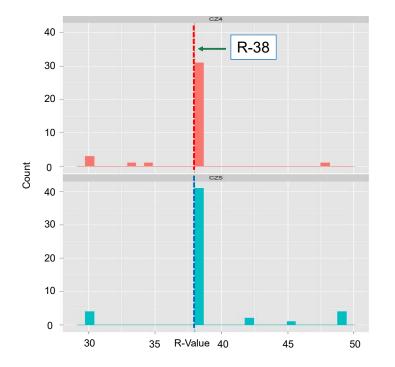


Higher is Better!















### Windows

### IECC 2009 - Fenestration Performance

#### **Industry Standard Low-e complies!**

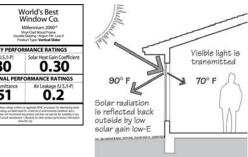
#### **U-factor**

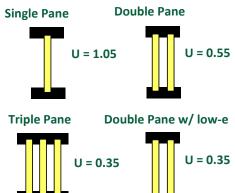
- Lower U-factor means better insulated (U = 1/R)
- Area-weighted U-factor

#### **Solar Heat Gain Coefficient**

- The SHGC is the fraction of the solar heat from the sun that enters through a window
  - SP clear glass SHGC: ~ 0.8
  - DP clear glass SHGC: ~ 0.6-0.7
  - DP low-e (low solar gain) SHGC: ~ 0.3

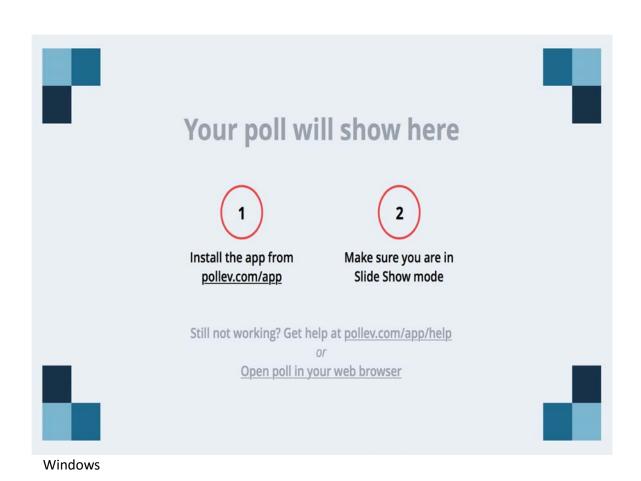












#### WINDOW U-FACTOR

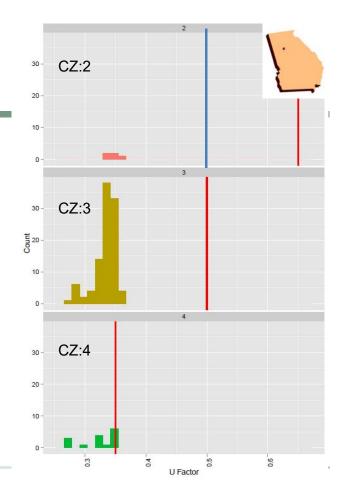
NO. OF OBSERVATIONS: 122

Vertical red line indicates the 2009 IECC prescriptive code requirement – maximum Ufactor for each CZ:

CZ:2-0.65-GA amended to 0.50

CZ:3-0.50

CZ:4 - 0.35



#### Lower is Better!



#### **WINDOW SHGC**

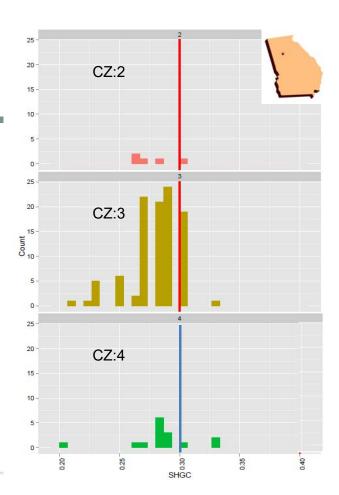
NO. OF OBSERVATIONS: 122

Vertical red line indicates the 2009 IECC prescriptive code requirement – maximum SHGC for each CZ:

CZ:2 - 0.30

CZ:3 - 0.30

CZ:4 - NR - GA amended to 0.30

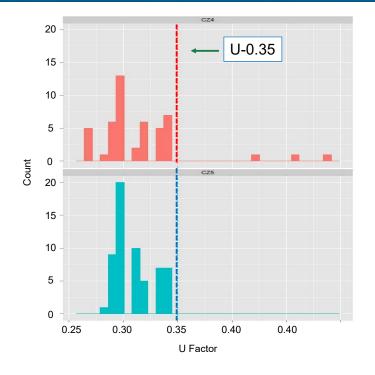


Lower is Better!















### **Envelope Tightness**

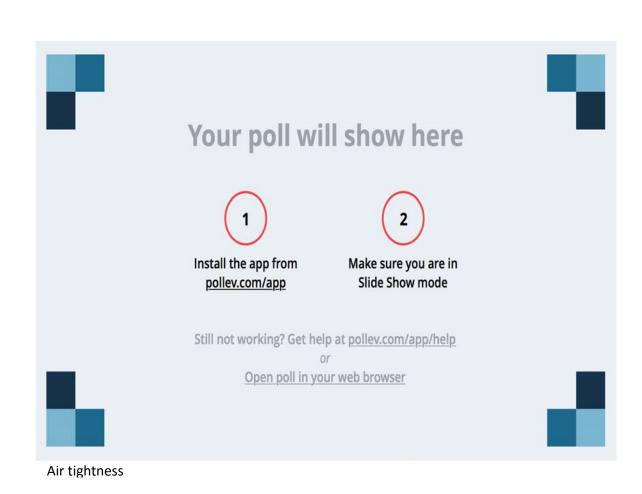
### IECC 2009 - Proving Air Sealing & Insulation

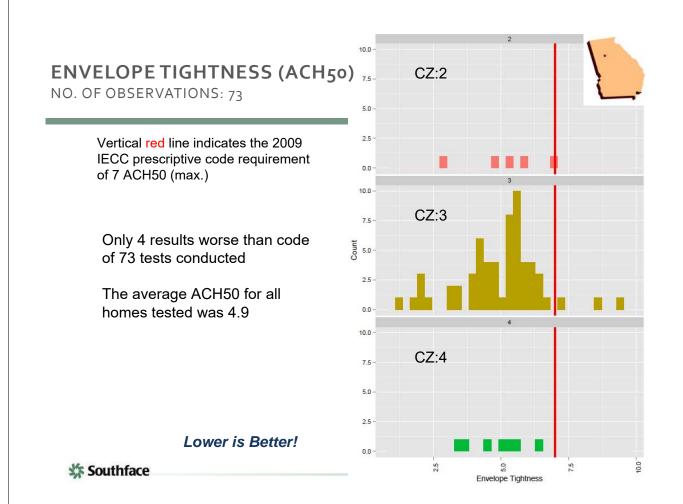
- Performance Testing Option for house leakage
  - Blower door result must be less than 7 ACH<sub>50</sub>
- Visual Inspection Option
  - Use Code Checklist (thermal bypass)
  - Requires multiple inspections
    - Framing stage / pre-drywall
    - Final

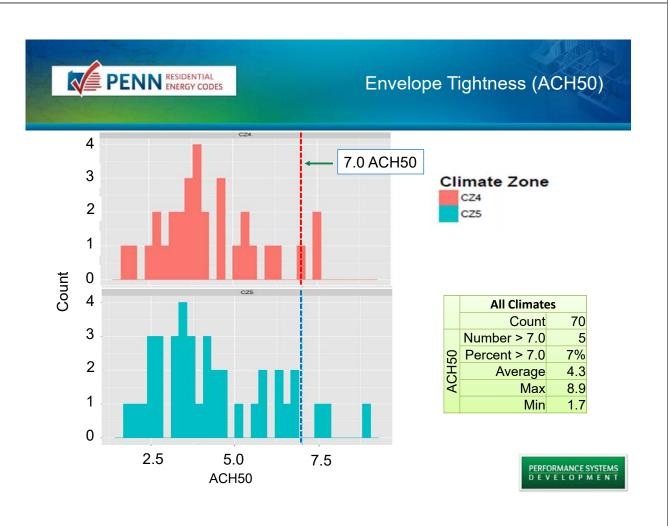


NUMBER	COMPONENT	CRITERIA					
1	Air barrier and thermal barrier	Exterior thermal envelope insulation for framed walls is installed in substantial contact and continuous alignment with building envelope air barrier. Breaks or joints in the air barrier are filled or repaired. Air-permeable insulation is not used as a sealing material. Air-permeable insulation is inside of an air barrier.					
2	Ceiling/attic	Air barrier in any dropped ceiling/soffit is substantially aligned with insulation and any gaps are sealed. Attic access (except unvented attic), knee wall door, or drop down stail is sealed.					
3	Walls	Corners and headers are insulated. Junction of foundation and sill plate is sealed.					
4	Windows and doors	Space between window/door jambs and framing is sealed.					
5	Rim joists	Rim joists are insulated and include an air barrier.					
6	Floors (including above-garage and cantilevered floors)	Insulation is installed to maintain permanent contact with underside of subfloor decking. Air barrier is installed at any exposed edge of insulation.					
7	Crawl space walls	Insulation is permane Exposed earth in unv retarder with overlaps					
8	Shafts, penetrations	Duct shafts, utility pe exterior or unconditio					
9	Narrow cavities	Batts in narrow cavity sprayed/blown insula					
10	Garage separation	Air sealing is provide s.					
11	Recessed lighting	Recessed light fixture Exception—fixtures is					
12	Plumbing and wiring	Insulation is placed b Batt insulation is cut t sprayed/blown insula					
13	Shower/tub on exterior wall	Showers and tubs on separating them from					
14	Electrical/phone box on exterior walls	Air barrier extends be					
15	Common wall	Air barrier is installed in common wall between dwelling units.					
16	HVAC register boots	HVAC register boots that penetrate building envelope are sealed to subfloor or drywall.					
17	Fireplace	Fireplace walls include an air barrier.					











### **Duct Leakage**

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### IECC 2009 - Duct Sealing

- Performance testing of duct system\*
   When tested at rough-in
  - Max. 6% leakage with AHU installed
  - Max. 4% leakage before AHU installed

#### When tested at final

- Maximum 8% Leakage to Outside
- Maximum 12% Total Leakage

\*duct leakage in CFM<sub>25</sub> based on % floor area;

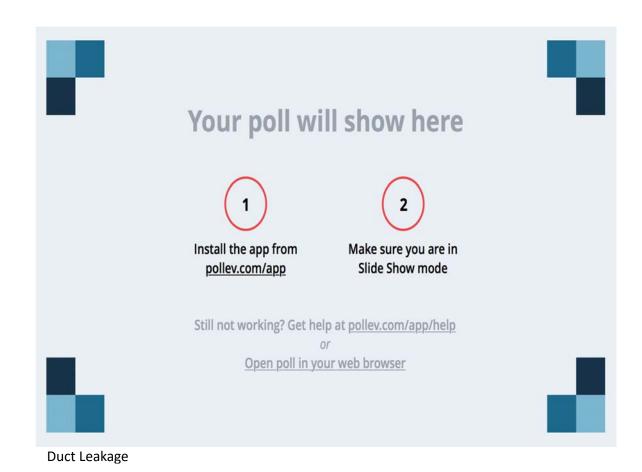
**Exception**: Testing not required if ducts and air handler are inside the envelope

**Example**: 59 CFM<sub>25</sub> total duct leakage measured at rough-in (AHU installed) for a system serving a 1,000 sq. ft. zone:  $(59 / 1,000) \times 100 = \underline{5.9}\%$  (Passes!)









## DUCT TIGHTNESS (CFM25/100 FT<sup>2</sup> CFA)

NO. OF OBSERVATIONS: 70

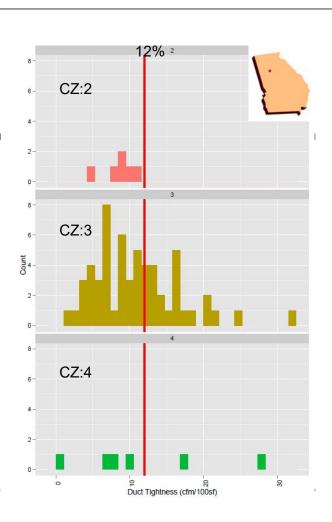
Vertical red line indicates the 2009 IECC prescriptive code requirement of maximum 12% Total Leakage

While many duct systems complied with the 2009 IECC most would not comply with 2012/15 codes

Many duct systems installed completely inside the thermal envelope tested much worse than 12% duct leakage

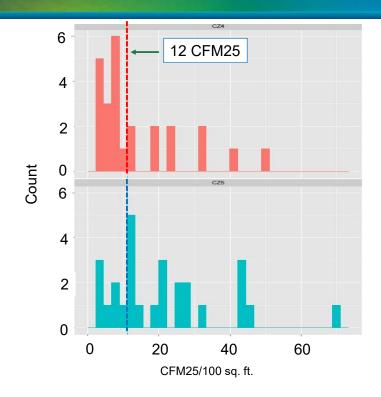
Lower is Better!







### Field Study Results Total Leakage (CFM25/100 sq. ft.)

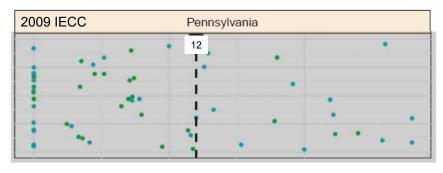




	All Climates							
	Count	52						
	No. > 12	26						
	Percent > 12	50%						
10	Average	18						
CFM25	Median	12						
兵	Max	69						
0	Min	2.4						











### **High-Efficacy Lighting**

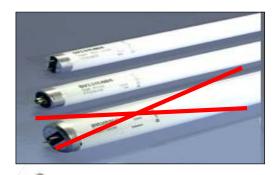
53

### 2009 IECC - Lighting



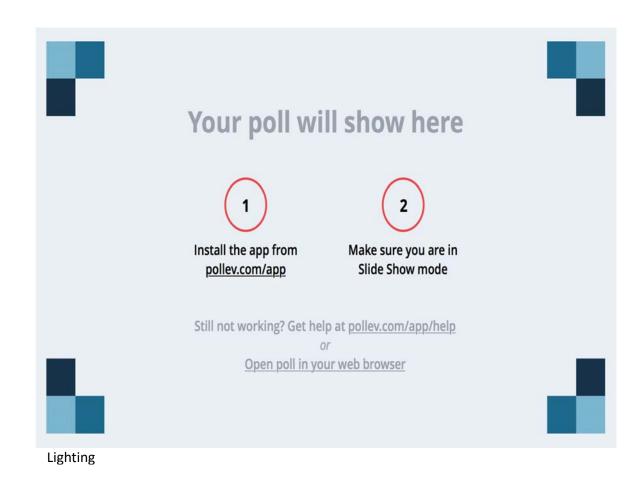
- A minimum of 50 percent of bulbs in permanent fixtures must be high-efficacy
- High efficacy =
  - + CFL,
  - + T8 or T5 fluorescent bulb or,
  - + Meet certain lumen/W requirements (good LEDs)
  - NOT incandescent/ halogen
  - NOT T12 fluorescent bulbs









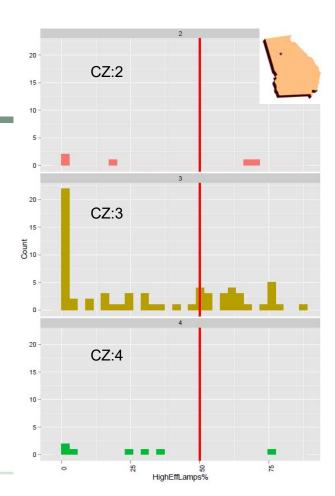


#### **HIGH EFFICACY LAMPS (%)**

NO. OF OBSERVATIONS: 79

Vertical red line indicates the 2009 IECC prescriptive code requirement of 50% of all lamps

Of 79 homes observed only 27 complied with the minimum Standard (~35% compliance)

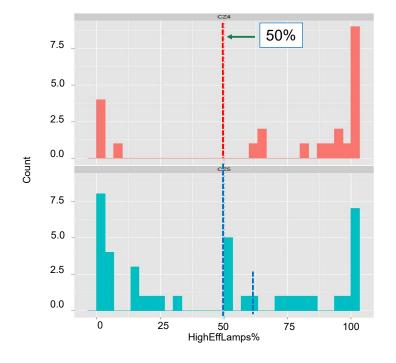


Higher is Better!





#### High-Efficacy Lamps (%)



CI	imate	Zone
	CZ4	
	CZ5	

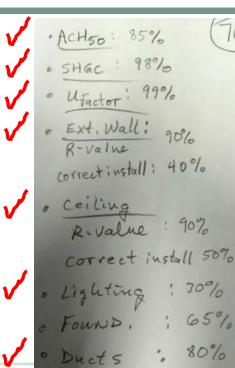
All Homes							
No. %							
≥50% HE	39	62%					
<50% HE	24	38%					

PERFORMANCE SYSTEMS D E V E L O P M E N T

### PREDICTIONS - HOW DID WE DO?



While most people predicted the overall results would be low (~30%), a few people predicted it would be much higher...







### **Energy Savings Opportunities**

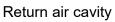
### The Big Three...

- 1) Duct Leakage
- 2) Insulation Quality
- 3) Efficient Lighting

Not sealed
Poor Air / Duct Sealing









Connected to attic





### **Ugly Ceiling Insulation**









# Training, Education, & Outreach What Would You Do?

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### What did we learn from all this?



- 1) Study proves where we are affects adoption
- 2) Point of Sale code enforcement yields very high compliance (e.g., windows)
- 3) Insulation Quality is poor the cheapest insulation usually had the poorest installation
- 4) Testing matters ducts inside the envelope were leakier than ducts outside the envelope (which were required to be tested)
- 5) Theories on lighting brand new in code, not even on the builder's radar (bulbs are installed by electrical sub), not life safety item

### The Economics of Lighting for Builders



Bulb Cost Assumption:		Elect	ricity Rate:	0.12	\$/kwh	
Incandescent = \$0.25						
LED = \$2 each						
					Bulb \	Wattage
	# Incand	# LED's	Price Prem	nium	Incand	LED
All Incand House	60	0	\$ -		60	10
50% LED House	30	30	\$ 52.50		60	10
100% LED House	0	60	\$105.00		60	10

(E-26)

No

No

No

3-Way Bulb Vintage

Bluetooth Capability

Built-In Speakers

Works with Iris

Built-In WiFi

4.43 Light Color

15000

760

	\$ Cost for 1 month - ON half the time						Simp	le Pa	yback
		Incand		LED		Total	\$ Savings (mon	ths)	(days)
100% Incand House	\$	158.11	\$	-	\$	158.11	0		- }
50% Incand / 50% LED	\$	79.06	\$	13.18	\$	92.23	\$ 65.88	0.80	24.3
100% LED House	\$	-	\$	26.35	\$	26.35	\$131.76	0.80	24.3

### The Economics of Lighting for Builders

Rated Life (Hours)

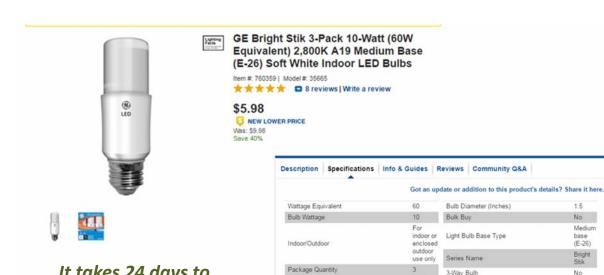
Color Temperature (Kelvins)

ENERGY STAR Qualified

Bulb Shape

Energy Efficient

Bulb Length (Inches)



It takes 24 days to payback LED's if half the lights are left on during construction! (12 days if all on!!!)

#### Georgia – a possible amendment to our next code



#### Insulation Installation Details

• **Wall and ceiling** insulation in the building thermal envelope in GA residences shall be installed to Passing Grade quality.

Two criteria affect installed insulation grading:

**Voids/ gaps** (in which no insulation is present in a portion of the overall insulated surface) and

Compréssion/incomplete fill (in which the insulation does not fully fill out or extend to the desired depth).

#### Voids/Gaps

 Voids or gaps in the insulation are only occasional and very small for Passing Grade (< 1% of overall component surface area)</li>

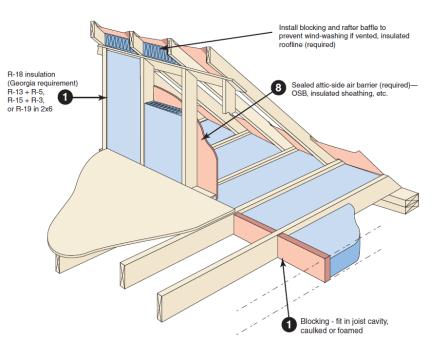
#### Compression/Incomplete Fill

- Compression/Incomplete Fill for both *air permeable insulation* (e.g., fiberglass, cellulose) and *air impermeable insulation* (e.g., spray polyurethane foam) must be less than 1 inch in depth or less than 20% of the intended depth, whichever is more stringent. The allowable area of compression/incomplete fill must be less than 5% of the overall insulated surface to achieve a Passing Grade.
- Any compression/incomplete fill with a depth greater than the above specifications (up to 1" or 20% of the intended depth, whichever is more stringent) shall not achieve a Passing Grade.

### Pictures & Diagrams of Good and Bad as Red Tags







BAD - Kneewall - Pics shows need for blocking & sheathing



GOOD - Kneewall - Sheathed and blocked



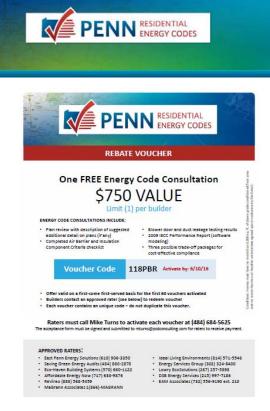


### **Component Specific How-to Videos:**

- Short/small easily downloaded or streamed
- Compare / contrast images (go / no-go)
- Include Hotline information
- Templates and links to other tools

Energy Code Hotline – 404-604-3598 energycodes @southface.org

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#### **Rater Voucher Program:**

Plan review/software analysis

**Voucher Program** 

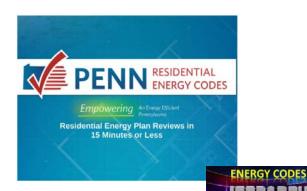
- Air barrier and insulation inspection
- Blower door test
- Duct leakage test
- Recommendations
- Limited Rater participation, seem to only focus on big fish
- Difficulty generating builder interest





### Classroom Training

- Plan Reviews in 15 Minutes or Less
- Keys to Effective Energy Code Implementation







Over 800 attendees, predominantly Code officials





#### Customizable forms/checklists

**Energy Code Checklist** 





**Duct Sealing Verification Form** 

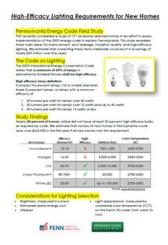
Hard-copy checklist and forms distributed to over 750 people





#### Fact sheets







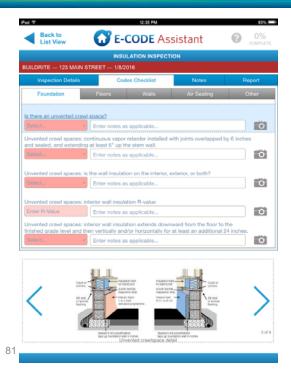








#### Compliance Enhancement Activities



#### The E-CODE Assistant:

An iPad-Based Energy Code Checklist and Educational Tool





Compliance Enhancement Activities

Custom training and technical assistance
Office/field visits covering >150 jurisdictions







### Compliance Enhancement Activities

# In-field demonstrations and training for Builders and HVAC contractors







### **THANK YOU!**

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