



KENTUCKY CODES COMPLIANCE IMPROVEMENT STUDY

FIELD PRACTICES SURVEY

Kentucky is one of eight states recently selected to take part in a survey of residential energy code field practices. The Kentucky Department of Housing, Buildings and Construction (DHBC), along with the Department of Energy Development and Independence (DEDI) and the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) will be conducting the survey, with funding support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The purpose is to determine what impact residential energy codes training will have on residential energy codes building practices and home energy savings. This project will include two years of free education, training, outreach, and technical assistance for builders, code officials, trade association, and others involved in the residential housing market.

In order to gauge the impact, the project will include pre- and post-program field surveys. This field survey will consist of project team members conducting site visits to randomly selected single-family residential construction projects across the state to observe several construction features, including: insulation R-value, window U-value, and duct and envelope tightness. These site visits have NO bearing on inspection compliance and information will be kept confidential.

We are asking builders to assist in this effort by providing the data collection teams access to their building sites. In deciding whether or not to participate in the project, please consider the following:

- **Participation in this project is voluntary, and the project team will need help from builders and code officials to complete the field study.**
- **We are simply gathering information. This is not part of any permitting / inspection / certificate of occupancy process.**
- **Each home that is part of the project will only be visited once; therefore it is not possible for the data collection team to determine whether or not the home is in compliance with the energy code.**
- **All information is anonymous. No personally identifiable information (e.g., street address, lot number, builder, jurisdiction name, etc.) will be reported, nor will this information ever be made public.**
- **The project team will not visit any home that is already occupied by the owner.**
- **Code officials will not accompany the data collection team on site visits and the collected data will not be shared with building departments.**
- **Most site visits will be completed within one hour with minimal interference to workers at the site.**
- **Only aggregated, state-level data will be reported at the end of each pre- and post-field study.**

We hope you agree to participate in this important research project. If you have any questions, please contact George Mann at gmann@kyenergystudy.org.