



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

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### MECHANICAL, VENTILATION and ENERGY CODES COMMITTEE SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES

**LOCATION:** In response to the Governor's Emergency Proclamation, there was no physical location.

**MEETING DATE:** September 9, 2021

**Members in Attendance:** Kjell Anderson, Chair; Caroline Traube, Vice Chair; Todd Beyreuther; Andrew Klein; Phil Lemley

**Staff In Attendance:** Stoyan Bumbalov, Krista Braaksma, John McEntyre, Stephanie Feuchter

**Visitors Present:** Bryan Ahee, Kim Barker, Kyle Bergeron, Chris Boroughs, Ken Brouillette, Andi Burnham, Clarence Clipper, Annemarie Dooley, Kevin Duell, Mike Fowler, Mark Frankel, Jeff Giffin, Gary Heikkinen, Luke Howard, Adam Hutchinson, Duane Jonlin, Jonny Kocher, Mary Koban, Jamie Lemon, Chris Little, Marcus Lew, Court Olson, Scott Peterson, Albert Rooks, Michael Rosenberg, Lisa Rosenow, John Rothlin, Andrea Smith, Tonia Sorrell-Neal, Steve Strong, Holly Townes, Helen Walter-Terrinoni, Bob Wolfer, Tom Young

Agenda Items	Committee Actions/Discussion
1. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Kjell Anderson, Committee Chair. Everyone was welcomed and roll was called. A quorum of the Committee was present.</p> <p>Kjell thanked the TAG members for the time and effort they put into the review process.</p> <p>The main task today is to review the TAG report and any specific proposals you're interested in talking about. This is an interim step before the proposals go out for public comment. There is also an MVE Committee meeting scheduled for next Thursday if we don't get through all the comments today. The Council will meet next Friday to review the TAG reports on proposal and take additional comments, then formally put the approved proposals out for public comment and testimony, with a final vote around March of next year.</p> <p>Kjell also said there was a TAG discussion of requesting additional economic analysis of some of the proposals.</p> <p>Kjell went over the rules of the meeting—using Zoom reactions to raise hands to speak or ask questions or use other icons to note agreement; removing reactions after they have been</p>

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	acknowledged; mute while not speaking; and be respectful of one another. He will call on speakers in the order he sees their hands go up.
2. Review and Approve Agenda	The <a href="#">agenda</a> was approved as written.
3. Review and Approve Minutes	The minutes of the <a href="#">March 18, 2021</a> meeting were approved as written.
4. Energy Code TAG Report	<p>Kjell presented a brief slide show on the TAG process and the statutory goal of energy reduction and how that tied in with Commerce’s rules implementing the Clean Building Law and the State Energy Strategy report from 2020.</p> <p>Kjell noted the majority of the TAG votes were unanimous or nearly so. Those that were not are noted on the TAG report.</p> <p>It was also noted that the TAG is recommending going forward with a modification to Section C406 that bases the points on a 0.1% carbon savings per point, which also allowed for additional measures that previously did not reach a full half-point.</p> <p>The first proposal shown, 214, was tabled by the TAG with no action taken or recommended. Caroline Traube noted there was a similar provision in proposal 206 for shower drain water heat recovery, which the TAG felt would be more enforceable. 214 would expand that to allow credit for commercial kitchen or laundry heat recovery. Chris Little, the proponent of 214, said he has not provided any updated language but could do so either later in this meeting or for the meetings next week. It was stated that there could also be public testimony submitted on 206 to expand the scope for the heat recovery credit.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Caroline Traube moved to recommend disapproval of Proposal 21-GP1-214. Todd Beyreuther seconded the motion. The motion carried.</p> <p>Marcus Lew, CenTrio, spoke to proposal 121C, which the TAG had recommended for approval, with some changes to the C406 credits. He is proposing amending proposal 206 to include the provisions in the amended 121C, and mirroring the credits from the TSPR option upon the advice of Reid Hart. The group also included additional criteria on achieving C406 credits. The Committee asked for some additional information on the thresholds provided.</p> <p><b>Motion:</b> Caroline Traube moved to table discussion to allow time for further review of the modifications and to allow the proponents to respond to questions received. Todd Beyreuther seconded the motion. The motion carried.</p> <p><b>Holly Townes</b>, a mechanical engineer who specialized in energy efficiency and buildings spoke in favor of proposals 103 and 136 for the space and water heating efficient electrical equipment proposals from RMI.</p>

**Tom Young**, Northwest Concrete Masonry Association, spoke in opposition to proposals 207 and 208 pertaining to a mass wall provision in the code for certain building types, with stringent opposition to 208 in particular.

**Tonia Sorrell-Neil**, Masonry Institute of Washington, also spoke against proposals 207 and 208, with an appeal to send them back to the TAG and reach out to the industry.

**Lisa Rosenow**, Evergreen Technology Consulting; **Mark Frankel**, Ecotope; and **Luke Howard** (proponent), Commerce, all spoke in support of proposals 207 and 208.

**Gary Heikkinen**, representing the Northwest Gas Association, spoke in opposition to proposal 103, the heat pump space heating proposal, citing minimal results that require a large infrastructure investment.

**Mark Frankel**, Ecotope, rebutted Mr. Heikkinen's comments, citing the greater efficiency of heat pumps over gas appliances.

**Court Olson** spoke in support of 103 and 136 as an avenue towards greenhouse gas reduction and a reduction of fossil fuel use. He also spoke to the infrastructure investment, stating the impact would be minimal over time.

**Annemarie Dooley**, Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, also spoke in favor of 103 and 136 as a method to combat climate change and the resulting health consequences.

**Albert Rooks**, Small Planet Supply and Passive House Northwest, echoed Holly Townes' comments and voiced support for the two heat pump proposals. He felt the industry was ready to step in and serve the demand.

**Jonny Kocher**, RMI, spoke as the proponent of proposals 103 and 136 and stated that he felt electrification was the way to achieve better efficiency and meet our climate goals.

**Chris Boroughs**, PSE, spoke in opposition to 103 and 136. He felt there was no effort to work with the gas industry to arrive at a compromise, and supported Gary Heikkinen's assertions of infrastructure costs.

**Lisa Rosenow**, ETC, spoke in support of proposals 103 and 136 and the work by the TAG to address concerns.

**Duane Jonlin**, City of Seattle, spoke in support of proposals 103 and 136. He stated that if there was an increase in the supply of renewable natural gas in the future, the code could adapt.

**Amy Wheeless**, Northwest Energy Coalition, spoke in support of 103 and 136, and urged the Committee and Council to put them forward for public comment.

**Kevin Duell**, Northwest Natural, spoke in opposition to 136, citing lack of equipment availability and industry support. He also spoke to both economic and societal costs.

	<p><b>Albert Rooks</b> rebutted Mr. Duell’s comments on availability, citing Ecotope’s research and current installations locally and in California.</p> <p><b>Mark Frankel</b>, Ecotope, concurred that there are several models of commercial heat pump water heaters on the market now and more that are awaiting certification. <b>Court Olson</b> concurred.</p> <p><b>Chris Boroughs</b>, PSE, supported Kevin Duell’s comments, and felt that there was still a long way to go.</p> <p><b>Lisa Rosenow</b>, ETC, supported 136 and felt the proposal provided flexibility in addressing existing buildings.</p> <p><b>Bryan Ahee</b>, Bradford White, spoke in opposition to 103 and 136, echoing concerns regarding product availability on the commercial water heater side, and expressing concerns regarding service and technician readiness. He also expressed concerns about how this would impact the health care facilities that are required to have standby capabilities.</p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> Caroline Traube moved to support the remaining TAG recommendations and forward them on to the Council. Phil Lemley seconded the motion. The motion carried.</p>
5. Other Business	None
6. Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Attachments:

[Energy TAG Report](#)

[Revised Low Carbon District Energy Proposal](#) (121C)