

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **New Statewide NH Energy Code Effective April 1, 2010**

Concord, NH – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – A new statewide energy code officially goes into effect on April 1, 2010 which calls for more energy efficient building practices to be followed for all new and existing homes as well as commercial buildings. Currently, New Hampshire is transitioning from the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to the 2009 IECC and as a result of this transition, it is estimated that the efficiency of new residential and commercial buildings in the State could increase by 18 to 22%.

The new energy code (IECC 2009) was adopted by the NH Building Code Review Board in May of 2009, following an assurance from Governor John Lynch that NH would achieve 90% statewide compliance with the new energy code by the year 2017. This assurance secured \$25,827,000 of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for the NH's State Energy Programs (SEP).

Compliance with the new energy code is mandatory throughout the State of New Hampshire regardless of local codes unless the local code is stricter. After obtaining appropriate permits from the municipality or the state, anyone may perform work on his or her home or building but must still comply with all code requirements for the safety of current and future occupants.

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) energy code update is part of a broader code update which includes the 2009 editions of the International Residential Code (IRC), the International Building Code (IBC), the International Plumbing Code and the International Mechanical Code (IMC). These codes are updates of the codes that became effective in 2007.

In order to better prepare builders, contractors, code officials, and other building professionals for this update to the energy code, the [New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning](#), through the use of American Recovery & Reinvestment Act funding, has selected [GDS Associates, Inc.](#) to help train and mobilize building professionals as well as to help create a plan to significantly improve compliance with the energy code. As part of this process, GDS is currently working towards developing a "Road Map" which will help to put NH on a path to reach 90% compliance with the IECC by 2017.

For more information on available training workshops related to the new energy code and what it means for building professionals as well as other activities related to achieving 90% compliance with the new energy code by 2017, visit [www.nhenergycode.com](http://www.nhenergycode.com).

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