Section I – History and Application of the Law

a.) History:

In August 2004, Public Act 093-0936 (Illinois Energy Conservation Code for Commercial Buildings) was signed. This law became effective on April 8, 2006.

On October 9, 2007, the law was revised to mandate the latest published edition, excluding supplements, of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).


On August 17, 2012, Governor Pat Quinn signed Senate Bill 3724, amending the implementation date of the 2012 IECC to January 1, 2013. This also lengthened the time allowed for the Board to review and adopt future published editions of the Code and make them effective. Stakeholders are also provided with more time for training and preparation to build, design, and enforce future updated codes.

On January 1, 2013, the 2012 IECC formally came into effect.

b.) Application:

- The law required all new commercial and residential construction for which a building permit application is received by a municipality or county to follow a comprehensive statewide energy conservation code.
- Renovations, alterations, additions, and repairs to most existing commercial and residential buildings must follow the Illinois Energy Conservation Code.
- Historic buildings are exempt if they are “listed on the National Register of Historic Places or the Illinois Register of Historic Places.”
- The law requires design and construction professionals to follow the latest published edition of the IECC.
- Under the law, the Capital Development Board has the power to modify the IECC.
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Study

The above study indicates that nationally, when comparing ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2007 to ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2010, there has been a 19% increase in energy efficiency. When considering there were no changes in efficiency levels from the 1975 standard until 1989, this is a significant increase.

c.) Questions:

1.) If the code isn’t currently regulated or enforced in a municipality or county, do designers and contractors still have to follow it?
2.) If a new construction project was completed in the state of Illinois in 2012, were the designers required to ensure that the building met the 2012 IECC standards?
3.) Which of the following is NOT one of the additions that was made to the Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Act in 2009?