

**From:** [jeffrey hinkley \(hjeffrey604@gmail.com\)](mailto:hjeffrey604@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
**To:** [Publiccomment\\_codedevelopment \(DHCD\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia's Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:26:27 AM

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Dear Board of Housing and Community Development Members,

I write today to express my concerns with the Board's failure to update Virginia's Uniform Building Codes to standards guided by energy efficiency.

Virginia law, since 2021, requires that the Board of Housing and Community Development (BHCD) building code process consider the benefits and costs of adopting the current International Energy Efficiency Code (IECC). Evaluation of these beneficial construction techniques in compliance with Virginia law did not occur. This means that homes built in Virginia will continue to be less energy efficient so the occupant pays higher utility bills month after month and year after year. This needs to change. The BHCD needs to prioritize the benefits to the homeowners and renters over cutting costs for the builder community.

A broad collection of public and private experts produced the model 2021 IECC construction code. If fully implemented by Virginia, it would reduce pollution and yield substantial savings in energy costs which would continue for decades. The cost savings and other benefits of more stringent energy efficiency codes have been documented by the U.S. Department of Energy.

As directed by Virginia law, the statewide building code should be "at least as stringent as" the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) since the energy savings, pollution reductions and other benefits from greater efficiency exceed the added cost of construction.

I humbly request that BHCD members seek to approve uniform building codes standards that reflect the 2021 IECC guidelines as directed by state law.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

jeffrey hinkley  
604 Tabb Lakes Dr  
Yorktown, VA 23693  
[hjeffrey604@gmail.com](mailto:hjeffrey604@gmail.com)  
(757) 867-7909

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. If you need more information, please contact Tim Cywinski at Sierra Club Virginia Chapter at [tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org](mailto:tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org) or (804) 225-9113.

**From:** [Rosemarie Sawdon \(sawdon@msn.com\) Sent You a Personal Message](mailto:sawdon@msn.com)  
**To:** [Publiccomment\\_codedevelopment \(DHCD\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia's Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 10:06:26 AM

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Dear Board of Housing and Community Development Members,

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Rosemarie Sawdon  
1181 Oakland Sq  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
sawdon@msn.com  
(540) 951-1207

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. If you need more information, please contact Tim Cywinski at Sierra Club Virginia Chapter at [tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org](mailto:tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org) or (804) 225-9113.

## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Leslie Gelman (lesliegelman@yahoo.com) Sent You a Personal Message <kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 11:23 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Leslie Gelman  
2113 McKay St  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
lesliegelman@yahoo.com  
(703) 356-4356

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## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Irwin Flashman (irwin.flashman@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 11:27 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Irwin Flashman  
1327 Buttermilk Ln  
Reston, VA 20190  
irwin.flashman@gmail.com  
(703) 481-1910

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. If you need more information, please contact Tim Cywinski at Sierra Club Virginia Chapter at tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org or (804) 225-9113.

## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Emma Hoholik (ekh999@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 12:47 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Emma Hoholik  
3200 W Clay St  
Richmond, VA 23230  
ekh999@gmail.com  
(847) 863-2704

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## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Kelly Place (kelltron@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 2:19 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Kelly Place  
213 Waller Mill Rd  
Williamsburg, VA 23185  
kelltron@aol.com  
(757) 897-1009

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## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Denise Cooper-Waters (dcooperwaters1@verizon.net) Sent You a Personal Message <kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 5:51 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

Dear Board of Housing and Community Development Members,

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Denise Cooper-Waters  
53 Zachary Ln  
Stafford, VA 22554  
dcooperwaters1@verizon.net  
(540) 903-3743

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. If you need more information, please contact Tim Cywinski at Sierra Club Virginia Chapter at [tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org](mailto:tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org) or (804) 225-9113.

## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Lowell Smith (patconserve@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 7:19 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

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Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Lowell Smith  
2548 Crums Church Rd  
Berryville, VA 22611  
patconserve@gmail.com  
(973) 951-3222

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## Flanders, Kyle (DHCD)

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**From:** Joellyn St. Pierre (jastp@cox.net) Sent You a Personal Message  
<kwautomail@phone2action.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 10, 2023 7:29 AM  
**To:** Publiccomment\_codedevelopment (DHCD)  
**Subject:** Comment: Please Update Virginia?s Uniform Building Codes to Standards For Energy Efficiency

Dear Board of Housing and Community Development Members,

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I humbly request that BHCD members seek to approve uniform building codes standards that reflect the 2021 IECC guidelines as directed by state law.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sincerely,

Joellyn St. Pierre  
3445 Dickens Dr  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
jastp@cox.net  
(555) 555-5555

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club Virginia Chapter. If you need more information, please contact Tim Cywinski at Sierra Club Virginia Chapter at [tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org](mailto:tim.cywinski@sierraclub.org) or (804) 225-9113.

**From:** [Brown, Jeff \(DHCD\)](#)  
**To:** [Davis, Cindy \(DHCD\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Flanders, Kyle \(DHCD\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Virginia building codes are costing us homeowners  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023 7:13:47 AM

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FYI

**JEFF BROWN, MCP, CBO, CFM**

State Building Codes Office Director

Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

804.371.7161

[jeff.brown@dhcd.virginia.gov](mailto:jeff.brown@dhcd.virginia.gov)

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**From:** Bob Kennelly <[bob\\_kennelly@yahoo.com](mailto:bob_kennelly@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 20, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Brown, Jeff (DHCD) <[Jeff.Brown@dhcd.virginia.gov](mailto:Jeff.Brown@dhcd.virginia.gov)>  
**Subject:** Virginia building codes are costing us homeowners

Hi Jeff, there needs to be a major change in Virginia building codes to protect the home owner as so far, every home I've purchased in Virginia has cost me considerably by builders using experimental or cheap materials. For example, in a condo in Fairfax, Virginia the builder was allowed to use some sort of experimental composite "copper" pipe and almost every pipe had to be replaced due to leaks appearing randomly throughout the pipe and even on runs of the pipe with no seams or connecting points. Then I bought a townhouse with poly butylene plumbing no knowing any better and that cost me 20k and now I'm having to replace the cheap flexible air ducts after 20 years and that's going to cost another 20k. And formerly coming from Maryland, now appreciate the more stringent building codes they have there or had there at one time.

But bottom line is, builders are selling us homes at astronomical prices and using cheap materials that cost us even more down the road, so I'm going to be taking my complaints to the highest levels in Virginia and the Federal government to put a stop to builders being able to legally rip off we customers!

Thank you!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** [Glenn Ayres](#)  
**To:** [Publiccomment\\_codedevelopment \(DHCD\)](#)  
**Subject:** Ideas for updating building code  
**Date:** Monday, July 3, 2023 12:06:09 PM

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Here are a few ideas for changes in the Virginia building code.

- New housing should be required to have an environmentally friendly roof. Builders should choose between:
  1. A rooftop garden
  2. Solar panels
  3. White or solar reflective roofing materials
  4. Any combination of these
- If an old roof is being completely replaced, the new roof should conform to the standard above. Berm houses can be exempted from the roofing requirement if plants can grow on top of them.
- Gas stoves, dryers, water heaters, and heating units should be prohibited in new residential housing.
- All new residential housing should be wired in a way that facilitates recharging electric vehicles. Every new single-family house should be wired for recharging stations. New apartment buildings should have at least one recharging station per unit, preferably connected to the residential unit so that the cost of recharging is included in the resident's electric bill, or paid by the building owner. (The rent can be set to cover the cost of recharging EVs).
- Instead of asphalt or concrete driveways and sidewalks, porous materials such as gravel or paving stones with holes in them should be used to reduce runoff. Cobblestones can be recycled more easily than old concrete or asphalt. Ideally, paving materials should light in color to reflect sunlight.
- In newly developed areas and where possible, electricity should be provided through underground cables. This will reduce power outages during storms.

There should also be new restrictions on new commercial construction.

- Sprawling parking lots around shopping centers make stores less accessible for shoppers traveling on foot or by bicycle, and they do not absorb rain water. Where feasible, parking should be under commercial buildings rather than around them. New large commercial areas should be required to have multi-level parking structures so that not so much land is dedicated to parking, and one-level parking lots should be paved with water-permeable materials.
- New commercial buildings and parking structures should be required to have rooftop solar panels or other environmentally friendly roofing.
- Newly constructed parking structures and parking lots should include recharging stations for electric vehicles (possibly utilizing power from the solar panels on the roofs).

Thank you for considering my ideas.

Glenn Ayres  
12000 Calie Ct.  
Fairfax, VA 22033