

Midwest Building Energy Codes Conference

Conference Agenda

October 20-22, 2020

Virtual

All sessions will take place in Central Time

The annual MEEA Midwest Building Energy Codes Conference is filled with engaging sessions coming to you virtually this year. This event is well-known for its networking and discussion opportunities, so we've also included three Informal Discussion Sessions in our virtual conference to provide you with an opportunity to talk with and learn from others. These informal discussions will be semi-facilitated and participation is strongly encouraged.

Day 1: Tuesday, October 20

10:00 – 11:30 am Midwest Roundup and COVID-19 Impacts

12:15 – 1:00 pm Informal Discussion Session – Inspections and the Energy Code

2:00 – 3:30 pm New Code, New Opportunities: The 2021 IECC

Day 2: Wednesday, October 21

10:00 – 11:30 am If You Don't Measure it, You Can't Manage it: The Benefits of Benchmarking and Beyond

12:15 – 1:00 pm Informal Discussion Session – Net Zero Buildings: What is needed to advance net-zero in the Midwest?

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11:30 am – 1:00 pm City of Columbus Data Jam – Additional Registration Required – see below

2:00 – 3:30 pm Leading the Way on Innovative Energy Policies

Day 3: Thursday, October 22

10:00 – 11:30 am More than Compliance: The Myriad Benefits of Energy Codes Support Programs

12:15 – 1:00 pm Informal Discussion Session – Resilience and Sustainability: How is 2020 affecting building practices?

2:00 – 3:30 pm Facing the EE/COVID Challenge: A Facilitated Panel and Audience Q&A

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Session Descriptions

Midwest Roundup and COVID-19 Impacts

Join MEEA and representatives from across the Midwest to discuss what has been happening in building energy efficiency over the last year. This session will highlight energy code adoptions, building energy efficiency policies, impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and more!

Informal Discussion Session – Inspections and the Energy Code

Energy codes are increasingly seen as a cost-effective way to increase efficiency, improve health and resiliency and meet stated climate goals. None of those goals can be achieved without compliance. This discussion session will focus on tricky areas of compliance verification and the new, innovative inspection procedures being implemented in response to COVID-19. Participation is strongly encouraged.

New Code, New Opportunities: The 2021 IECC

The release of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code is right around the corner. The new code could have a 10% improvement in efficiency, so some significant changes are expected. This session will provide an overview of anticipated changes to the commercial and residential energy code and highlight opportunities for advancing energy efficiency.

If You Don't Measure It, You Can't Manage It: The Benefits of Benchmarking and Beyond

Existing buildings are the elephant in the room when it comes to reducing energy use in buildings. This panel will provide an overview of several approaches, policies and programs that are improving energy efficiency in existing buildings.

Informal Discussion Session – Net Zero Buildings: What is needed to advance net-zero in the Midwest?

Remember when net zero buildings were something out of science fiction? Well unlike teleporters, today the growth of net zero buildings is rapidly increasing across the country. This lively discussion session will explore the unique opportunities and challenges of advancing net-zero construction in the Midwest. Bring your ideas for a stellar discussion!

City of Columbus Data Jam (Additional Registration Required)

Join MEEA, in partnership with the City of Columbus and JadeTrack, for a free Benchmarking Data Jam to help Columbus building owners and managers understand the importance of benchmarking and the requirements of the Columbus Energy Benchmarking Ordinance. Participants will receive personalized, hands-on instruction and will leave having set up their buildings, entered energy data into the proper software and learned to submit the data to the City to meet the requirements of the Columbus Benchmarking Ordinance. All levels of knowledge and experience with benchmarking and energy management are welcome! This session is best suited for building managers and owners in the city of Columbus, OH. Contact Alison Lindburg at MEEA (alindburg@mwalliance.org) for more information and to register.

The Trusted Source on Energy Efficiency



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Session Descriptions

Leading the Way on Innovative Energy Policies

Innovative energy policies happen at all levels of government. Currently, states, cities, and developments are taking the lead in exploring creative ways to provide their constituents and ratepayers with the benefits of improved efficiency. This panel will showcase the variety of initiatives being implemented in the Midwest and touch on existing buildings, new construction, and even electrification.

More than Compliance: The Myriad Benefits of Energy Codes Support Programs

Improving compliance is critical to achieving the full benefits of energy codes, but often times jurisdictions need help. This session will share lessons learned from existing energy code support programs, highlight up and coming efforts to support this work and discuss why code support has become a priority for funders.

Informal Discussion Session – Resilience and Sustainability: How is 2020 affecting building practices?

It is an understatement to say the construction season looked a lot different at the beginning of the year. This session will highlight how things have changed, from indoor air quality and prioritizing ventilation, to responding to more extreme weather, to seeing the cascading impacts of interconnected building systems, to looking past this moment and visualizing the post-2020 future. How has 2020 affected you? Come prepared to learn and share!

Facing the EE/COVID Challenge: A Facilitated Panel and Audience Q&A

One of the realities pushed into the spotlight by the pandemic is the need for clear, accurate and reliable information. For energy efficiency there is also a corollary – acquiring, accessing and analyzing that information is now a much bigger challenge. In this interactive session, our panel will explore some of the ways that the challenges with energy data have been met in the Midwest, and then we will open up for questions to share audience experiences with energy data and COVID-19.