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P.O. Box 52025  
Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025

August 26, 2020

Greg Wheeler, CBO  
President, International Code Council  
City of Thornton  
9500 Civic Center Drive  
Thornton, CO 80229

Dominic Sims  
CEO, International Code Council  
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW  
6th Floor, Washington, DC 20001

2019 Group B Appeals Board  
c/o Mike Pfeiffer  
Senior Vice President of Technical Services  
International Code Council  
500 New Jersey Avenue, NW  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20001

*Re: Opposition to Appeal Filed regarding OGCV process*

Gentlemen, and Members of the Board of Appeals:

The appeal filed raises the issue of “Whether 20 proposals do not meet the spirit and intent of ICC Council Policy #28 (CP#28)” and states that “The current ICC process allows these partially vetted proposals to advance to the OGCV ballot and be approved with a 2/3 vote.”

I would ask you to consider the following items:

1. The Online Governmental Consensus Voting process (OGCV) was created to allow more Governmental members to become involved in the code development process. Many jurisdictions are under severe pressure to reduce costs, and limit travel. From my personal experience attendance at the hearings can run from \$1,000 if local to \$5,000 if out of town.
2. While funding may have prevented some governmental members from attending the hearings, they all have access to the recorded testimony. They are all capable of speaking with other members of the profession, as well as conducting their own



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research. Proper vetting was given to these proposals, and these governmental members voted from the perspective of the goals of their jurisdictions.

3. There are many governmental entities that are involved in the Administration, Enforcement, Formulation or Implementation of the codes, especially the IECC. As this document and others from the ICC Family of Codes become a standard of performance, the input of others is needed. Just as members of NAHB have seats at the table, representatives of jurisdictional sustainability, affordable housing, and environmental departments, active in utilizing the IECC as a standard of performance for their jurisdictional programs, deserve seats at the table.
4. Historically ICC has sought to bring more voices to the table; the inclusion of first responders to the IFC code development process is an example. Some may not have liked them appearing in force to speak and vote in support of the inclusion of sprinklers in residential occupancies, but that is what the open governmental process is about.
5. A 2/3 majority bar is a tough one to attain, and the membership reached this level of support.

The OGCV process allows more individuals to become involved electronically. As we have seen with our response to Covid-19, electronic communication is effective and readily available, and an acceptable method of doing business. I urge you to leave in the code the items that the membership has voted to support.

Thank you for your time and efforts for the benefit of the ICC Membership,  
Sincerely,

*Sharon Bonesteel*

**Sharon A. Bonesteel, AiA, CBO**

Energy Storage Collaboration Team Leader  
Building Codes Program Manager  
SRP | Product Development | PAB32W  
P.O. Box 52025, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025  
M: (602) 814-7357

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