604.4 Lighting. In Group B office spaces, the Auto-DR system shall be capable of reducing total connected power of lighting as determined in accordance with Section C405.5 of the International Energy Conservation Code by not less than 15 percent.

Exception: The following buildings and lighting systems need not be addressed by the Auto-DR system:

1. Buildings or portions associated with lifeline services.
2. Luminaires on emergency circuits.
3. Luminaires located in emergency and life safety areas of a building.
4. Lighting in buildings that are less than 5,000 square feet (465 m²) in total area.
5. Luminaires located within a daylight zone that are dimmable and connected to automatic daylight controls complying with Section C405.2.2.3.2 of the International Energy Conservation Code.
6. Signage used for emergency, life safety or traffic control purposes.

Reason: This proposal was submitted by the ICC Sustainability Energy and High Performance Code Action Committee (SEHPCAC). The SEHPCAC was established by the ICC Board of Directors to pursue opportunities to improve and enhance International Codes with regard to sustainability, energy and high performance as it relates to the built environment included, but not limited to, how these criteria relate to the International Green Construction Code (IgCC) and the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). This includes both the technical aspects of the codes as well as the code content in terms of scope and application of referenced standards. In 2012 and 2013, the SEHPCAC has held six two-day open meetings and 50 workgroup calls, which included members of the SEHPCAC as well as any interested parties, to discuss and debate proposed changes and public comments. Related documentation and reports are posted on the SEHPCAC website at: http://www.iccsafe.org/cs/SEHPCAC/Pages/default.aspx.

The SEHPCAC was concerned that the term 'lifeline services' was undefined and therefore unclear. As such the enforcement of this exception would be unclear. We learned that 'lifeline services' is a term of art used in disaster mitigation planning. It generally refers to the infrastructure systems which provide services to the population of an area such as water, sewer, power distribution and communications. While the committee agreed that these infrastructure systems shouldn’t have power reduced via an Auto-DR system, this requirement is only for the lighting in Group B offices. There is no reason why the management offices of infrastructure systems shouldn’t be included in the Auto DR system. Therefore the proposal is to eliminate the exception for office buildings associated with a lifeline service.

Cost Impact: Will increase the cost of construction. Eliminating the exception for these buildings will therefore impose the requirement and increase the cost of constructing them.

Analysis: The International Energy Conservation Code sections C405.5 and C405.2.2.3.2 referenced in the text of this proposal are section numbers for the 2012 Edition. Due to significant changes approved for the 2015 IECC, the section numbers for the 2015 Editions will be C405.4 and C405.2.3, respectively.