

**From:** Shaw, Lindsey (DEP)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 20, 2020 3:55 PM  
**To:** Mike Pfeiffer; Greg Wheeler; Dominic Sims  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for 2021 IECC Voting Outcomes (Montgomery County DEP)

Hello Mr. Pfeiffer, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr., Sims,

**The [Department of Environmental Protection in Montgomery County, Maryland](#), strongly stands by the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) voting results.**

In December 2017, Montgomery County was the first county in the nation to declare a Climate Emergency and accelerated [our climate goals](#) to an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2027 and zero emissions by 2035. With more than half of our community-wide GHG emissions generated by commercial and residential buildings, Montgomery County knows that a strong IECC is the key to unlocking emission reductions in our built environment.

Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection was grateful for the ICC's allowance for online remote voting capabilities, and we realize this improvement may have created a large burden on ICC staff to approve an influx of new voters. We believe the 12 new voting members from Montgomery County DEP—who are all involved in the County's climate reduction effort or support the safety and wellbeing of the County's built environment—were thoroughly vetted by ICC staff. Additionally, these 12 voters would not have been able to fly to Las Vegas to vote in-person on individual proposals on the 2021 IECC due to travel costs, extended time out of the office, and overall climate impact of that travel. We are extremely appreciative of the ability to cast our votes for a stronger energy code remotely and look forward to the opportunity to do it again in future code cycles.

The incredible work done by forward-thinking local governments helped advance the 2021 IECC as one of the most effective tools to curb GHG emissions in newly constructed buildings. **Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection stands by the online voting process done remotely by our 12 voting members, and we call on the ICC to uphold the voting outcomes.**

Thank you for your time and opportunity to submit our comments.

Sincerely,  
Lindsey Shaw

**Lindsey Robinett Shaw, LEED AP® O+M, EEP**  
Manager, Energy and Sustainability Programs  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Office: 240-777-7754 | Mobile: 240-447-2917

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