June 6, 2016

Mr. Dick Browdy, Chairman
Florida Building Commission
1940 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chairman Browdy,

Thank you for the expedited work on the use of renewable generation as a compliance tool under the 5th edition of the Florida Building Code, (2014) Energy Conservation. It has come to our attention there may be some confusion regarding the use of a six-year code cycle instead of the traditional three-year code cycle found in Section 34 of HB 535 (2016). As the primary sponsors of the legislation, we offer the following clarification of our legislative intent.

The intent of House Bill 535 (2016) is to accelerate the Florida Building Commission’s finding as to the extent “onsite renewable power generation may be used for a period longer than three years but not more than six consecutive years” using an Energy Rating Index of 58 found in the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The reference to “six years” was our intent to provide the FBC with the ability to go beyond the traditional use of a three-year code cycle, and enable builders to use renewables for up to six years - if the FBC finds the use of on-site renewable generation would conserve natural resources that would otherwise be used to power the home. This decision would only apply to the 5th Edition of the Florida Building Code, and not impede upon the 6th Edition or subsequent editions of the Florida Building Code.


Committees:
Chair, Energy & Utilities Subcommittee; Vice Chair, Rulemaking Oversight & Repeal Subcommittee; Regulatory Affairs Committee; Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee; Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee; Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight

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We hope the forgoing information will both clarify our legislative intent with respect to HB 535 and guide your decision making specifically with respect to the alternative energy rating language. Please do not hesitate to contact our respective staff with any questions.

All the Best,

[Signature]

State Representative Dane Eagle
House District 77

[Signature]

State Senator Travis Hutson
Senate District 6

Cc: FBC Energy Code Workgroup