

# Building Efficiency UPDATE

## October 2007

### Energy Code Changes in 2008

January 1, 2008, Idaho will adopt the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). What does this mean to the *Building Efficiency* program?

The incentive payout levels will not change from 2007 to 2008. The changes to the qualifications for incentives will be minimal and are as follows:

- The solar heat gain coefficient (SHGC) and U-factor requirements for windows are lower in the 2006 IECC. So, the qualifications for High Performance Windows (B2) and Premium Performance Windows (B3) incentives will be adjusted similarly.
- The current code requires economizers on all cooling systems greater than or equal to 65,000 BTU/hr. The 2006 IECC requires economizers for all systems of 54,000 BTU/hr or more. Therefore 2008 incentives for Economizers (A4) will be offered only for units smaller than 54,000 BTU/hr.

### Application Roll-Over from Year-to-Year

What happens when you have submitted your Preliminary *Building Efficiency* Application in 2007, but your project will not be complete until 2008?

When a Pre-App is submitted, the incentive levels are determined based on the code that is in place when the building permit is obtained.

If a Pre-App is submitted to Idaho Power in 2007 and the building permit is also obtained in 2007, the project will be eligible for 2007 incentive levels, even if the construction is not completed until 2008 or later.

If the Pre-App is submitted to Idaho Power in 2007 but the building permit is obtained in 2008, the project will be eligible for the 2008 *Building Efficiency* incentive levels.

This roll-over structure will ensure that each project will be compensated accurately for any features that save energy over the code requirements they were designed under.

### Mark Your Calendar for These Events

It's not too late to attend the 2007 BetterBricks Awards reception. You can RSVP for this no-cost event online at [www.betterbricksawards.com](http://www.betterbricksawards.com).

These awards recognize architects, engineers, developers, building owners and operators, service providers, facility managers, and other building professionals for their efforts to enhance building energy efficiency in Idaho.

The 2007 award winners will be unveiled in a reception on the evening of Oct. 24. The event kicks off the 2007 Idaho Energy and Green Building Conference, which takes place Oct. 24–26.

Both events will be held at the DoubleTree Riverside in Boise. The theme of this year's conference is "Meeting the Sustainability Challenge." More details about this conference are online at [Association of Idaho Cities Conference](http://Association of Idaho Cities Conference). You can register to attend from this site.

### For More Program Information

Do you know of any commercial or industrial construction projects that could benefit from an energy efficient design? If so, we can send you a brochure titled, "Save Energy, Earn Incentives, and Improve your Bottom Line."

For a copy of the brochure, a program overview, or other details about *Building Efficiency* incentives, e-mail Billie McWinn at [buildingefficiency@idahopower.com](mailto:buildingefficiency@idahopower.com) or call her at (208) 388-5871.