

Proposed changes to the Planning Commission's proposed energy efficiency language, per the 10/7/14 discussion of the Selectboard:

New residential dwellings (including modular homes but not accessory apartments) shall be designed and built to meet the most up-to-date version of of Efficiency Vermont's "Energy Code Plus" standard (or equivalent as the program evolves or is re-named) the Vermont Residential Building Energy Standard (RBES), with the exception of those dwelling types that meet the Vermont Residential Building Energy Standard (RBES)- RBES exemptions (e.g., mobile homes, owner/builder special provision, etc.). Even with such exceptions, all construction projects are encouraged to build to energy standards that exceed the statewide minimum, such as Energy Code Plus the programs designed and supported by Efficiency Vermont and Energy Star. ~~Documentation from Efficiency Vermont that the Energy Code Plus standard has been achieved shall be provided prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the new dwelling by the Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Administrator may issue a conditional certificate of occupancy if formal documentation is pending and evidence is provided of a pending approval from Efficiency Vermont. New dwellings permitted prior the enactment of this provision (xxxxx, 2014) shall not be required to meet this standard. The waiver option mentioned in section 5.23.1 may also be considered in exceptional cases when the Energy Code Plus standard cannot reasonable be achieved.~~