

## Opportunity to participate in field study



# DOE Commercial Energy Code Field Study: Targeting Large Complex Buildings

The US Department of Energy has contracted with **Slipstream**, an independent nonprofit, to lead its Commercial Energy Code Field Study being conducted in the Midwest. Slipstream is looking for commercial buildings larger than 75,000 sq. ft. with complex HVAC (heating and cooling controlled by a BAS) to participate in this study.

### What are the objectives for the Commercial Energy Code Field Study?

The primary objectives of this study are:

- Understand the approaches and outcomes created by designers and contractors in addressing the complex elements of the commercial energy code in completed buildings

- Construct a representative data set of larger commercial buildings in colder climates; use this data set to analyze compliance and enforcement
- To improve methodologies for measuring compliance and address challenges in commercial buildings

### I'm interested in participating in the research. What is involved?

The study has two components:

1. A review of the permit set of drawings and specifications, and
2. a visit to the building site one or two times, ideally just prior to occupancy.

#### RESEARCH PARTNERS





We are looking for commercial buildings larger than 75,000 sq. ft. with complex HVAC (heating and cooling controlled by a BAS) to participate in this study. Large office and high-rise mixed-use multifamily buildings that were completed or will be completed between January 2020 and 2022 are ideal candidates.

Buildings with single zone, constant volume package or split units like RTU's, PTACs or other through wall/window units are not suitable for this study.

The main thing we need from potential participants is a permit drawing set and permission to visit the site to view control sequences that have been programed in the BAS. Ideally, this would be just before or just after substantial construction completion. We anticipate the time commitment from participants is minimal.

### How will the research study use my information?

All plan review and site observation data will be aggregated to develop high-level conclusions. No individual site information will be identified. All data will be kept completely confidential within the research study team.

### How would the results of this research impact the commercial real estate industry in the Midwest?

Understanding approaches to complying with the most complex elements of the energy code could lead to a variety of outcomes, including revised or even simplified code language, educational programs, or more efficient enforcement methods. Quantifying the energy savings will also create the foundation of a business case for private funders, especially utilities, to fund programs aimed at increasing compliance. Currently empirical data to support such an investment doesn't exist.

### How does this differ from other initiatives to date?

This study is an expansion and continuation of DOE funded work that started in 2016 by the Institute for Market Transformation and Pacific Northwest Laboratory, looking at medium commercial office and retail buildings in Florida, Nebraska, Iowa and Nevada.

### Want to learn more?

If you are interested in participating in the study or want more information please contact Slipstream:

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