

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING ENERGY CONSULTANTS

CODE OF ETHICS

Preamble

This Code of Ethics for Certified Energy Plans Examiners (CEPEs) and Certified Energy Analysts (CEAs) is adopted by the Board of Directors of the California Association of Building Energy Consultants (CABEC) as part of its mission to encourage the professional development of building energy consultants and to promote the technical understanding and enforcement of California Residential and Nonresidential Title 24 building energy efficiency standards.

Professional Ethics

- As a condition of membership in CABEC and/or certification by CABEC, all CEPEs and CEAs agree to: Maintain high professional standards in performing energy-related plan review and/or energy compliance calculations and the overall integrity of their work from a technical, legal and ethical standpoint
- Provide energy calculations and documentation that are consistent with the plans and specifications used in their preparation and which conform to the energy standards for which they are prepared.
- Demonstrate unbiased judgment in the performance of my work, including disclosing to a client or employer any circumstance that could be construed as a conflict of interest and ensuring that such conflict does not compromise the interests of the client or employer.
- Compete fairly with other CEPEs/CEAs, including recognizing and giving credit to others for the professional work they have performed, and not offering or accepting improper contributions or gifts to obtain or grant work or to influence the judgment of others.
- Abide by the decisions of the CABEC Board of Directors with respect to the certification process and any complaint review procedures adopted by the Board. .

Substantial Working Knowledge of the Standards and Compliance Methods

When preparing energy compliance calculations and documentation used to demonstrate that a building meets or exceeds the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, CEPEs and CEAs will have good working knowledge of the standards and how the energy compliance software is used to perform the calculations and generate the appropriate energy report.

Cooperation with Reviewers

CEPEs and CEAs must understand and agree to the following guidelines with respect to the review of any building energy code compliance work or related analysis that they perform as a CEPE and/or CEA.

1. CEPEs and CEAs shall provide all electronic files associated with their work on a specific project to an authorized individual who submits a written request and is acting officially on behalf of (a) the local enforcement agency, (b) the California Association of Building Energy Consultants, (c) the California Energy Commission, (d) a utility company reviewing project eligibility for an energy incentive or tax credit or (e) HERS raters reviewing documentation for a federal tax credit. The electronic files shall be provided to the requesting agency/individual within 30 days of the written request. CABEC will maintain in confidence the files it receives except as otherwise required by law or by CABEC's Complaint Review Procedures.
2. CEPEs and CEAs shall comply with the published CABEC complaint review procedures, and agree to cooperate fully with CABEC by responding in timely manner to any questions and by working to resolve the complaint.

Intellectual Property

CEPEs and CEAs will be respectful of the intellectual property belonging to CABEC as well as to other CEPEs and CEAs. Intellectual property includes but is not necessarily limited to copyrighted images and text, patents, logos, trade names, service marks and trademarks.