



# Codes & Standards Strategy Communication Plan

Start Date: [December 2015](#)

Estimated Completion Date: [Ongoing](#)

## Strategy Planning Team

**LEAD:** Ken Baker, NEEA Senior Manager for Codes & Standards, Code Strategy Planning Group Lead

**PARTICIPANTS:**

- Debbie Driscoll, NEEA Strategic Market Manager, Code Strategy Planning Group Facilitator
- Brent Barclay, BPA
- Stacey Donohue, Idaho PUC
- Jessica Iplikci, ETO
- Duane Jonlin, SCL
- Andrew Pultorak, PSE
- Sheree Willhite, Idaho Power
- Kerry Cameron, Tacoma Power
- Mark Heiser, Oregon Building Code Council
- John Jennings, NEEA
- Michael Lane, PSE
- Mike Rosenberg, PNNL

## Description

### **A process for the communication of regional code changes.**

The initial purpose of this strategy group is to improve communication between utility program managers and code developers regarding lighting products. That document and plan continues to exist and will be used by the C&I lighting Strategic Market. This document has been revised to include the code change process as a whole. The proposed plan creates a critical path for communicating code changes in the four states to utility program managers and industry stakeholders, and to bring them into contact with code developers and the code development process.

The final result will be:

- A process for communicating code-change work regionally, including identified points of collaboration between utilities and code change groups and state code boards.
- A portal for utilities to view and discuss future code changes by state.
- A potential process for utility program development that supports future code change proposals and adoption.

Ultimately, this plan will serve the goals and vision of the regional lighting and new construction strategies by encouraging solution oriented, best practice efficient products, and systems are addressed in code.

## Desired Outcome

1. More proactive engagement on code change between utility program managers, industry, NEEA code staff, and code developers resulting in more effective code implementation in the Northwest.
2. Proactive utility engagement in offering best practice incentives that lead to future code adoption.

## Recommended Metrics

1. Instances of utility involvement in code development process.
2. Reported satisfaction with level of collaboration.

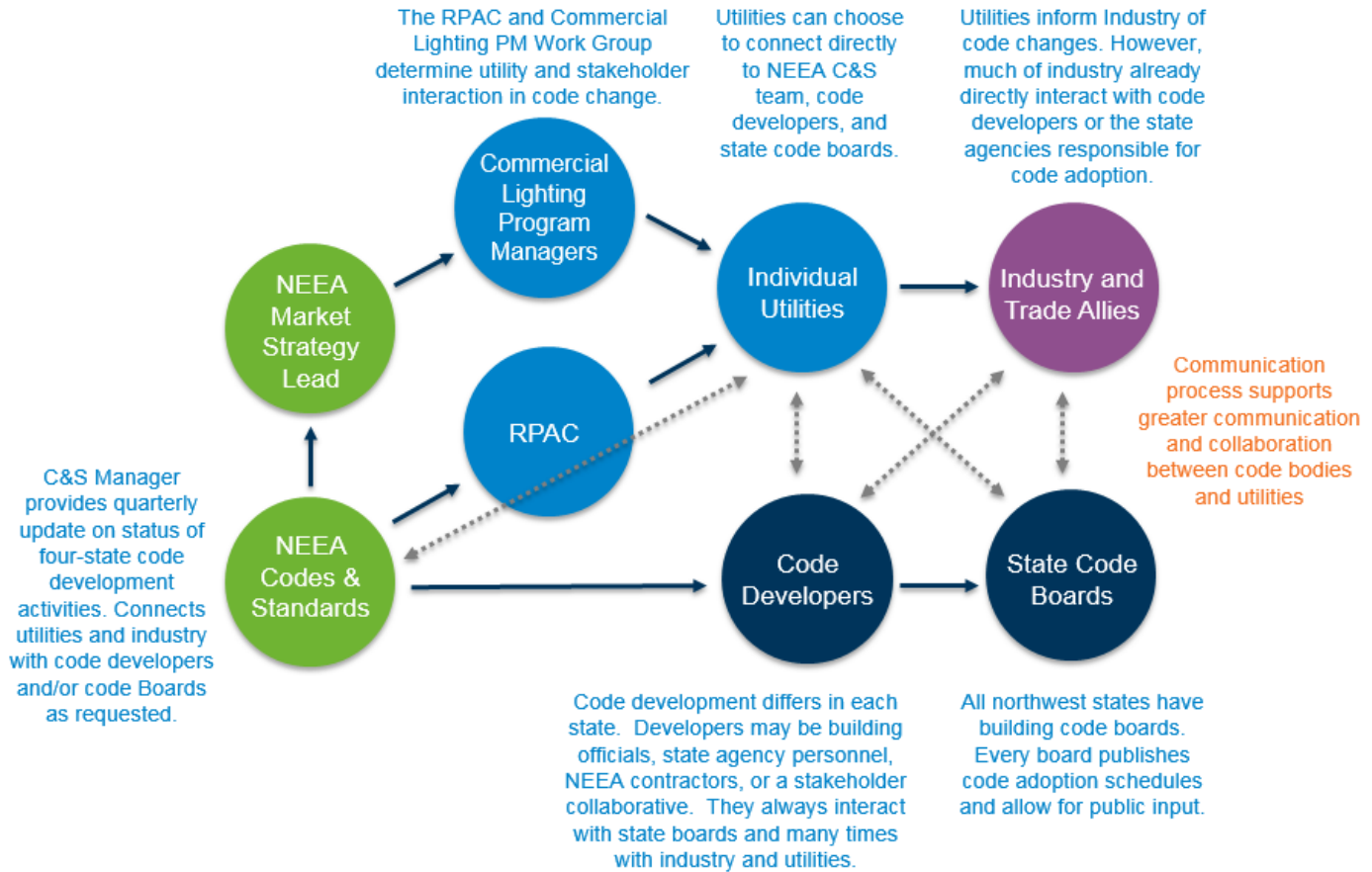


## Methodology

1. Quarterly reports prepared for RPAC, and the NEEA Market Strategy Lead. Posting on neea.org
2. Identify regional utility staff for direct communications on code change. The Senior Manager of Codes and Standards will contact the following key utility staff directly when code change is occurring, solicit their input, and provide a path for their interaction with code developers at their discretion.
  - *ETO - Jessica Iplikci*
  - *IPCo – Sheree Willhite & Becky Arte-Howell*
  - *PSE - Michael Lane & Andrew Pultorak*
  - *Northwestern – Deb Young & Dave Bausch*
  - *Tacoma – Peter Meyer & Natasha Houldson*
  - *Avista – Dan Johnson*
  - *Snohomish – Robert Marks*
  - *SCL – Joe Fernandi & Phoebe Warren*
  - *Pacific Power – Nancy Goddard*
  - *BPA – Carrie Cobb & John Wilson*
  - *Snohomish – Robert Marks*
  - *Cowlitz – Michelle Ehrlich & Doug Swier*
  - *Clark – Larry Blaufus*
  - *Chelan – Andrew Grassell*
  - *Grant – Casey Strong*
3. Code change schedule updated yearly or as a code change process engages and information posted on the neea.org website.
4. Develop a table of code developer contacts for use by all stakeholders and post on the neea.org website.
5. Requirements for NEEA contractors to engage with utilities during the code development process. Idaho and Montana may be good models to follow as they have an energy code collaborative that includes/invites utility and industry stakeholder participation.



# Code Development Communication Process



## Timeline

Communications begin immediately and are updated in quarterly RPAC memos.  
 Code change schedule and code developer contacts will be online before next RPAC memo; link to be provided in memo.  
 NEEA contractor requirements to be updated as contracts are renewed.

## Resource Requirements

Key contact for code updates identified at each utility.  
 No budget required.



Current State-by-State Code Status

|              | Washington  | Oregon  | Idaho   | Montana  |
|--------------|---|---|---|--|
| Current Code | 2012 WA Energy Code – both Residential and Commercial   | Commercial – 2014 Specialty Code<br>2012 Oregon Residential Specialty Code  | 2012 IECC for Commercial<br>2012 IECC amended to 2009 for Residential   | 2012 IECC for both Commercial and Residential with residential amendments. |
| Next Change  | The 2015 WA Energy code went into effect July 1, 2016. The 2018 development cycle begins in 2018. | Oregon is the only northwest state on a 6-year code cycle. However, the next code change cycle is currently undetermined. | Ongoing. The Idaho Building Code Board voted to adopt the full 2015 IECC for residential and commercial but it doesn't look like the residential adoption will be supported by the legislature. | No decision has been announced on timing of the next code change process.  |