DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-BSTD-01
Project Title:	2025 Energy Code Rulemaking
TN #:	259197
Document Title:	Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration, Availability of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration, and Start
Description:	Proposed 2025 Revisions to the Energy Code for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings
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Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	9/17/2024 2:32:38 PM
Docketed Date:	9/17/2024

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

50-2024-121

Gavin Newsom, Governor

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August 1, 2024
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CEC-057 (Revised 1/21)

Sacramento, California 95814

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Negative Declaration,

Availability of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration, and Start of the Public Comment Period

Proposed 2025 Revisions to the Energy Code for Residential and Nonresidential Buildings

Docket No. 24-BSTD-01

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is considering adopting revisions to the statewide California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (also known as the Energy Code), codified in Title 24, Part 1 and Part 6, of the California Code of Regulations, and referred to as the "Proposed 2025 Amendments." The Energy Code establishes minimum levels of energy efficiency for newly constructed buildings and for additions and alterations to existing buildings. The Proposed 2025 Amendments to the Energy Code focus on three key areas: residential and nonresidential envelope, multifamily domestic hot water heating, and heat pump baselines for space heating and water heating. In addition, the Proposed 2025 Amendments examine several more targeted topics, including, but not limited to, requirements for new pool and spa water heating systems, updated battery energy storage system requirements for specified buildings, industrial pipe insulation requirements, and additional electric-ready requirements. The Proposed 2025 Amendments also include changes resulting from an overall effort to improve clarity and consistency, correct errors, streamline requirements, and align with national standards and other parts of the California Building Standards Code.

CEC staff prepared an Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration to document the potential impacts of the Proposed 2025 Amendments and analyzed the potential environmental impacts that are likely to result if the revisions are adopted. Staff considered air emissions, water use, indoor air pollution, and materials use, including mercury, lead, copper, steel, plastic, silicon, gold, aluminum, fiberglass, glass, and wood, finding the impacts in these areas to be less than significant.

In addition, staff estimates that implementing the Proposed 2025 Amendments will reduce statewide annual electricity and gas consumption, and consequently reduce criteria air pollutant and greenhouse gas emissions. Therefore, staff's recommendation to the CEC is to adopt a Negative Declaration based on the Initial Study.

The Initial Study and a Proposed Negative Declaration for the 2025 Energy Code rulemaking was initially made available to interested parties for public comment from March 29, 2024, to April 29, 2024, on the CEC's 2025 Energy Code Docket. The CEC is making the Initial Study available again along with a revised Proposed Negative Declaration for interested parties to review and comment. The Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration is an analysis prepared by CEC staff to determine the relative environmental impacts associated with the Proposed 2025 Amendments. This document has been prepared to comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and the guidelines in California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq. (CEQA Guidelines). This document is available on the CEC website at <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-

The written public comment period for the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration will be held from **July 29, 2024, through August 29, 2024**. Any interested person, or their authorized representative, may submit written comments to the CEC for consideration on or prior to 5:00 p.m. on **August 29, 2024**. The CEC appreciates receiving written comments at the earliest possible date. Comments submitted outside this comment period are considered untimely. The CEC may, but is not required to, respond to untimely comments.

The CEC encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page at https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-BSTD-01, which links to the comment page for this docket. Enter your contact information and a comment title describing the subject of your comment(s). Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document consistent with California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Section, 1208.1. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 24-BSTD-01 in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be sent to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit
Docket No.24-BSTD-01
715 P Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding, with access available via any internet search engine.

Copies of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration and all documents incorporated by reference are available for review during business hours at:

California Energy Commission 715 P Street, MS-4 Sacramento, CA 95814

To ensure you receive notice of any changes to the proposed regulatory changes in this proceeding and notice of the public meeting when the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration will be discussed and considered for adoption, please join the proceeding email <u>subscription list</u> or provide a valid email or mailing address with your comments.

Direct media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office to (916) 654-4989 or mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

Direct specific questions regarding the substantive and/or technical aspects of the Initial Study and Proposed Negative Declaration to Payam Bozorgchami at payam.bozorgchami@energy.ca.gov.