

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking
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Document Title:	Notice of Availability - Pre-Rulemaking Express Terms
Description:	This file provides notice to the public of the availability of a pre-rulemaking draft of the Express Terms for the 2025 update to the California Energy Code (Part 6 of California's Building Standards Code).
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Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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CEC-70 (Revised 7/22)

**IN THE MATTER OF:***2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking*

DOCKET NO. 22-BSTD-01

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

RE: 2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking
Express Terms

Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period for the 2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking Express Terms

Purpose

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is the state's proposing and adopting agency for the Energy Code (also known as Title 24, Part 6). Staff is evaluating proposed amendments to the Energy Code for the 2025 code cycle and has prepared draft regulations (also called Express Terms) that would result from the proposed amendments. This notice is to inform the public that a preliminary rulemaking draft of the Express Terms has been published to the [2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking](#) docket ([22-BSTD-01](#)).

Background

California's Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code) are applicable to newly constructed buildings, additions, and alterations to existing buildings. As part of the California Building Standards Code, the Energy Code follows the same three-year update cycle. CEC proposes to adopt Energy Code amendments in 2024, for publication in 2025, with an effective date of January 1, 2026. This proposed update is referred to as the 2025 Energy Code.

For context, the 2022 Energy Code update included new standards for installation of solar photovoltaic and energy storage systems in newly constructed nonresidential, high-rise residential, and hotel/motel buildings. The 2022 Energy Code also introduced heat pump standards for some residential and nonresidential applications, as well as many other provisions. The 2025 Energy Code update will improve upon the 2022 Energy Code by revising and updating energy efficiency standards for newly constructed buildings, additions, and alterations to existing buildings, consistent with state and federal law.

Summary of Staff Proposed Changes

- Introduces heat pump standards for existing single-family homes and for select nonresidential existing building types.

- Please note an important update to the content presented at the [August 24, 2023 Pre-Rulemaking Workshop](#). In consideration of the public comments received to date on CEC docket [22-BSTD-01](#), staff is now proposing single-family heat pump alterations as a prescriptive standard in Part 6, rather than a voluntary standard in Part 11 of Title 24. Standards for single-family heat pump alterations would remain applicable only in climate zones where it is demonstrated to be cost-effective.
- Updates heat pump standards for newly constructed single-family, multifamily, and select nonresidential building types.
- Updates photovoltaic system standards for residential, nonresidential and hotel and motel buildings.
- Updates energy storage standards for high-rise residential, nonresidential, and hotel and motel buildings.
- Increases envelope efficiency standards for residential and nonresidential buildings.
- Increases space conditioning system efficiency and control standards for residential and nonresidential buildings.
- Improves indoor air quality requirements for multifamily buildings.
- Improves efficiency standards for multifamily domestic water heating systems.
- Establishes electric-ready requirements for multifamily domestic water heating systems.
- Simplifies standards for multifamily buildings.
- Increases efficiency requirements for pool and spa water heating systems.
- Increases daylighting control requirements for nonresidential buildings.
- Increases efficiency standards for laboratories.
- Increases efficiency requirements for controlled environment horticulture buildings.
- Increases efficiency requirements for nonresidential refrigeration systems.
- Establish industrial pipe insulation requirements.
- Establishes electric-ready requirements for commercial kitchens.
- Makes general improvements to the clarity and consistency of existing provisions.
- Relocates portions of the Alternative Calculation Method Approval Manual pertaining to the application, approval, updates, expiration, and decertification of third-party compliance software to Title 24, Part 1.
- Relocates field verification and diagnostic testing requirements from Title 20 to Title 24, Part 1.

Staff seeks public comment on the proposed changes so that improvements and corrections can be made before the formal rulemaking period begins. Preliminary rulemaking backup materials including technical reports and data gathered to help substantiate the proposed measures can be found on CEC docket [22-BSTD-01](#).

Public Comment

Written comments may be submitted to the Docket unit by 5:00 p.m. on November 17, 2023.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the e-commenting page for this docket at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-01>. Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the "Comment Text" box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document

in compliance 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 22-BSTD-01 and Pre-Rulemaking Draft Express Terms in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov.

A paper copy may be mailed to:
California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 22-BSTD-01
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

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Availability of Documents: Documents will be available in the 2025 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking docket (22-BSTD-01) at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-01>.

Dated: November 2, 2023 at Sacramento, California.

Michael J. Sokol
Director, Efficiency Division

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