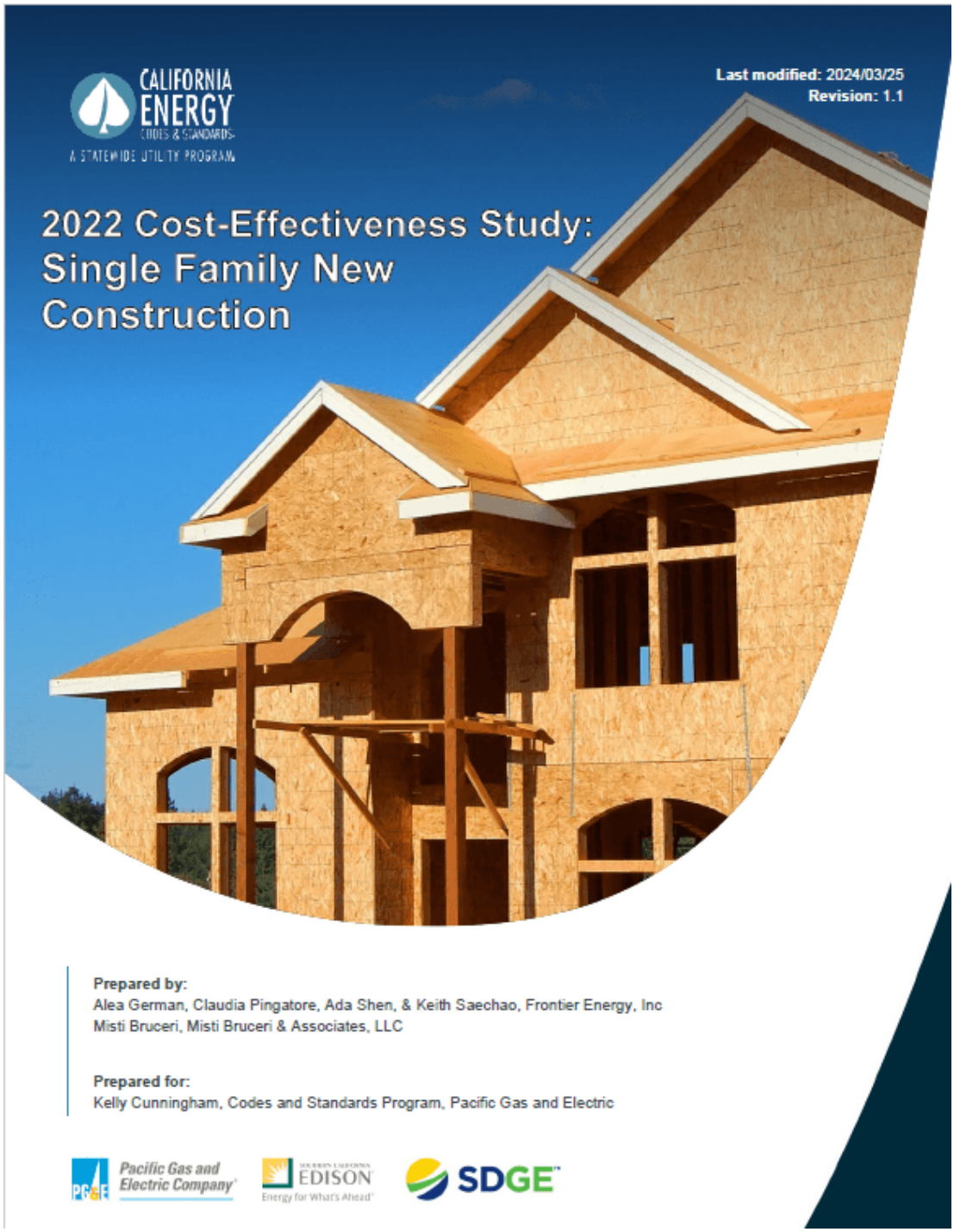
REACH CODE NEWS BRIEF: APRIL 2024

UPDATED SINGLE FAMILY NEW CONSTRUCTION COST-EFFECTIVENESS RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE



The 2024 update to the Single Family New Construction Cost-Effectiveness Study was recently published by the Statewide Reach Codes team. This update includes analyses based on important tariff changes impacting IOU rates as a result of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) decision to replace previous net energy metering with a Net Billing Tariff (NBT) as of April 15, 2023. The original study conducted cost-effectiveness analyses based on the previous Net Energy Metering 2 (NEM2) tariff; this update uses current tariffs for analyses with the new Net Billing Tariff (NBT).

This analysis follows the same structure as the original study, evaluating mixed fuel and all-electric package options in all sixteen California climate zones (CZs), including combinations of efficiency measures, on-site renewable energy, and battery energy storage.

The report utilizes utility tariffs from each investor-owned utility (IOU) and two publicly owned utilities (POU) based on the climate zones served by the respective utility. The analysis was conducted for an ADU and a detached home prototype.

In addition to the full report, model ordinance language and an Executive Summary is available. The new data is included in the free online Cost Effectiveness Explorer as well.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6-8: National Energy Codes Conference. Sacramento.

May 8: California Energy Commission Business Meeting

May 15: 3C-REN Regional Forum. The Past, Present, and Future of HERS Raters

May 21-23: Getting to Zero Forum. Charlotte, NC

May 22: I-REN Webinar: Demystifying the Energy Code: How and Why to Comply

May 23: California Green Building Conference. South Los Angeles.

May 29-30: CalWEP Peer to Peer 2024. San Jose.

May 31: 3C-REN Training: Practical Ways to Address Embodied Carbon. AIA Santa Barbara Chapter House



NEW THIS MONTH!



NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS FOCUSED ON CODE ADOPTION

Local jurisdictions have exciting new opportunities for funding the development and implementation of local reach codes and other building energy codes through the Department of Energy's Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP). This program, funded by the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA), provides up to one billion dollars directly to local communities to support adoption, implementation, and enforcement of the latest model, zero energy, or equivalent codes. DOE is particularly interested in supporting States and local governments in implementing local capacity building, multi-year investments in workforce and education, and long-term improvements in building energy codes through multi-cycle adoption and building performance standards (BPS).

Topic areas explicitly described in the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) include:

- **Qualifying Building Energy Codes:** This Topic Area is to provide funding to units of local government that have authority to adopt building codes for the adoption and implementation of a qualifying building energy code.
    - IECC 2021 pathways for residential
    - ASHRAE 90.1 2019 for nonresidential
- **Latest Model or Zero Energy Codes with Amendments:** This Topic Area is to provide funding to States and units of local government that have authority to adopt building codes for the adoption and implementation of a building energy code with combinations of strengthening and weakening amendments that achieves equivalent or greater energy savings as compared to the applicable latest model energy code or zero energy code.
- **Innovative Building Energy Code Approaches:** This Topic Area is to provide funding to States and units of local government that have authority to adopt building codes for the adoption and implementation of certain innovative building codes, including certain building performance standards (BPS) for existing buildings or stretch codes for new and renovated buildings.

Timelines and Resources

The program was announced in January 2024 with three anticipated rounds of funding (third round is pending funds availability). Each round consists of a submission of a concept paper followed by a full application, responses to reviewer comments, and selection notification. The first round is already underway. Jurisdictions interested in participating in the second round may submit concept papers by May 31, 2024, and full submissions by September 13, 2024.

The program webpage includes information on the SCEP program as well as complete details on the complete FOA. At the California Energy Commission, Daniel Wong of the Standards Compliance Branch, Efficiency Division is spearheading efforts by the Commission to support or partner with interested jurisdictions. He can be reached at daniel.wong@energy.ca.gov.

This program is funded by California utility customers and administered by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E®) and Southern California Edison Company under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission and in support of the California Energy Commission.

© 2024 Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas and Electric Company and Southern California Edison.

All rights reserved, except that this document may be used, copied, and distributed without modification.

OTHER REACH CODE NEWS BRIEFS

October 2026 September 2026 August 2026
Archives