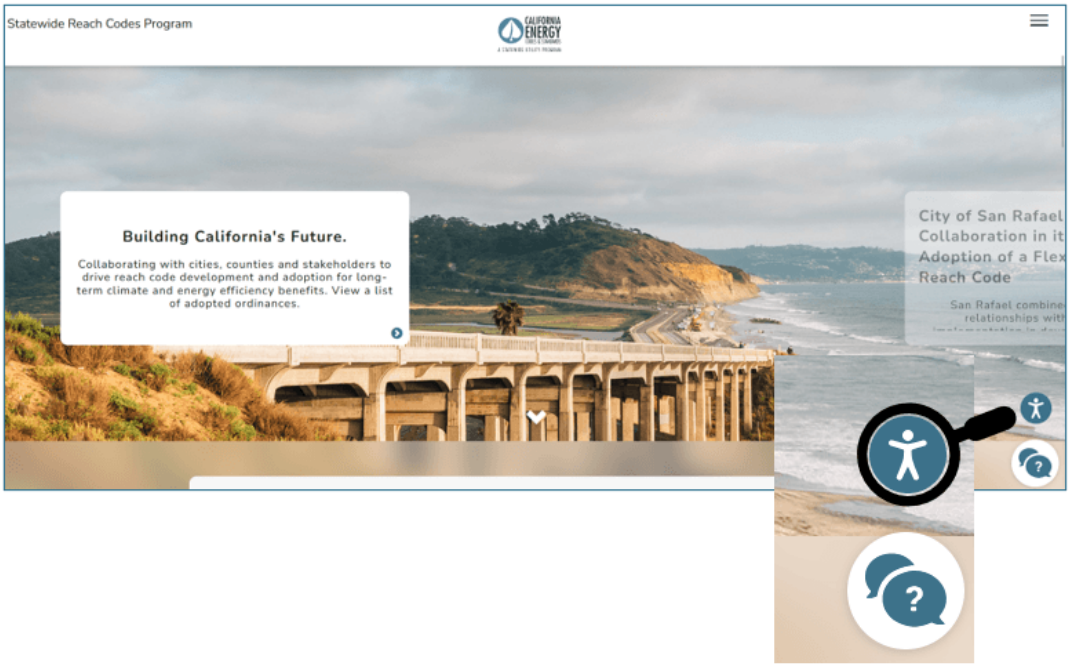
REACH CODE NEWS BRIEF: DECEMBER 2025

STATEWIDE LOCAL ENERGY CODES TEAM LAUNCHES NEW ACCESSIBILITY FEATURES ON WEBSITE



The statewide team has been hard at work improving accessibility on its website LocalEnergyCodes.com. This initiative supports the commitment to providing a website that is accessible to the broadest audience possible, regardless of ability.

Launching this month, the newly enhanced LEC website features an icon in the lower right corner of every page which, when clicked, opens a menu of numerous choices designed to enable a visitor to adjust their viewing parameters to maximize their own individual viewing experience.

Once selected, these settings are retained for future visits so the individual need only adjust settings once. Users can select from a range of pre-configured profiles; in addition, they can further refine specific settings such as font size, color contrast, cursor size and color, and more. When the user has created an individualized profile, the accessibility icon shows a checkmark so it’s easy to see at a glance that it has been enabled.

We invite everyone to take the new accessibility feature for a test drive and let us know how it works for you!



UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14: BayREN C&S Training: 2025 Energy Code Changes – Single Family

January 21: California Energy Commission: Business Meeting

January 26-28: Cleantech Forum North America. San Diego

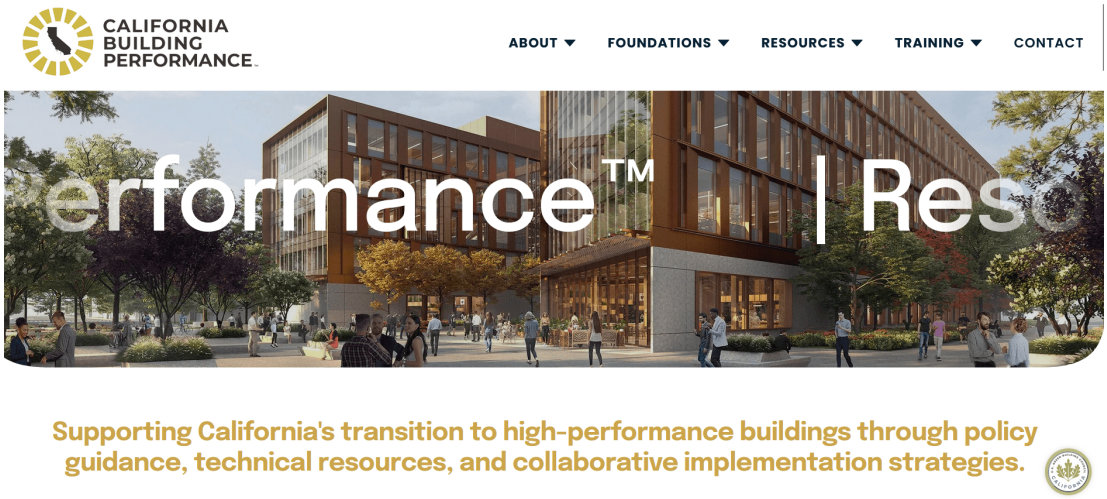
January 28: BayREN C&S Training: 2025 Energy Code Changes – Multifamily

January 29: I-REN C&S Training: Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

January 31: Planning & Conservation League: 2026 California Environmental Assembly. Davis



NEW THIS MONTH!



USGBC CALIFORNIA LAUNCHES NEW BUILDING PERFORMANCE HUB

The California Building Performance™ Hub, a platform developed by USGBC California and its partners, offers a robust, free resource supporting California's transition to high-performance buildings through policy guidance, technical resources, and collaborative implementation strategies.

The Hub, launched this fall, provides dedicated resources and information for stakeholders of all kinds: building owners and operators; policymakers and local jurisdictions; contractors and other service providers; and residents and tenants. The website offers a host of valuable resources, including:

Some of 2022 CALGreen’s most impactful provisions focus on electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure as a means of advancing the state’s strategic goals of electrification as a primary driver towards decarbonization. These changes were also spurred by Executive Order N-79-20, which mandates 100% in-state sales of new zero-emission passenger vehicles (ZEV) by 2035.

- a foundational library of “101” documents to strengthen stakeholders’ knowledge of different areas for more informed decisionmaking
- a Building Support Agent, a dedicated AI agent designed specifically for use in generating tailored responses from Hub resources for individual users

- a Building Performance Calculator, a free tool for building owners and stakeholders to evaluate how their existing buildings perform against California's energy and emissions targets
- a training program providing online webinars complementing the Hub and related topics

In addition, the Hub offers the California BPS Peer Learning Collaborative (CalBPS PLC), a forum where staff from more than 45 cities and counties can share ideas and create alignment to accelerate and streamline the path to building performance standards. This forum meets monthly to exchange ideas and hear from experts on different aspects of building performance standards policy development and implementation. Interested individuals can complete the interest form here.



A CONVERSATION WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON'S AMY DISCHER

Amy has been with Southern California Edison for 18 years, for the past two years on the Codes and Standards team for reach codes. Prior to that she served as an SCE account manager for K-12 schools. She is married with three sons and enjoys reading and the beach in her spare time.

Q: Amy, what are you seeing in the SCE service territory regarding reach code policy development as we enter a new code cycle?

A: We're seeing a continued interest in reach code development, with emphasis on electrification and decarbonization as well as grid efficient buildings. While there may be more focus on opportunities for nonresidential buildings, we're very excited to witness an accelerated interest over the past couple of years.

Q: What do you attribute this to?

A: There’s a lot of strength in local, regional and statewide collaboration, the sense that a rising tide lifts all boats. At the statewide level, the sharing of best practices between jurisdictions continues to streamline local policy development efforts. We’ve seen sharing between communities like Goleta and Corte Madera, as well as communities with more geographic overlap, such as City of LA and LA County. Regardless of the distance, the outcome of this collaboration is really to empower every jurisdiction with tools and resources they don’t have to create themselves.

Q: Let’s talk a little more about collaboration; what do you think are the strongest aspects for your jurisdictions?

A: At the statewide level, of course the localenergycodes.com and CALGreenInfo.com websites are tremendous resources. USGBC-CA has just developed a new resource, the California Building Performance Hub, which also promises to be a terrific resource. (See the accompanying article, left, for more information). At a regional level, the Central Coast Working Group is very robust. The informal collaborative culture in this community is also very strong!

Q: What programs and resources does SCE offer to communities in its service territories?

A: We’ve really worked to expand our support, not only to local jurisdictions but other institutional organizations. For instance, we’ve partnered with K-12 school districts to facilitate implementation of electrification policies. Similarly, we actively work to engage with the 13 unique tribal organizations in our service area, who have no legal compliance obligations under Title 24 but often great interest in advancing electrification and decarbonization goals. As always, we are available to local staff for letters of support and other outreach efforts. We can be a great starting point for new local staff who may not know where else to start! We offer a ‘first line of defense’ where we can engage, suggest additional resources and maintain strong lines of communication throughout the policy development process.



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.

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OTHER REACH CODE NEWS BRIEFS

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Archives