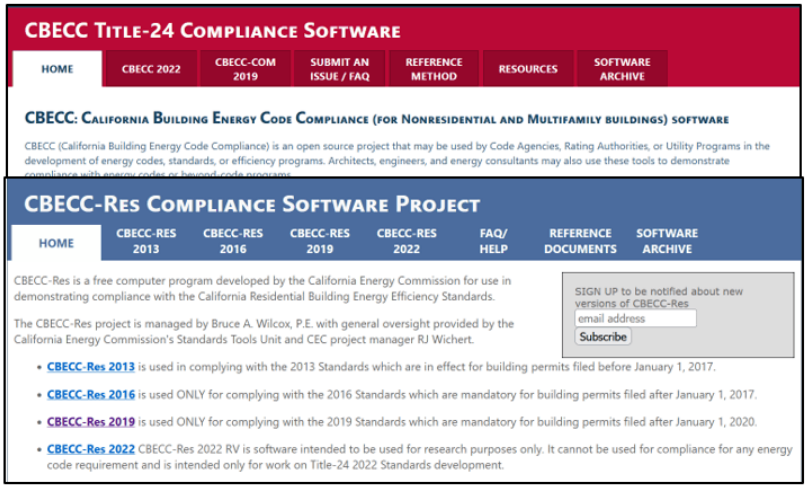
REACH CODE NEWS BRIEF: JUNE 2022

2022 BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS UPDATE





California Building Standards Commission Publishing Final Standards July 1 while Energy Commission Approves Energy Code Compliance Software and Conservation Manual

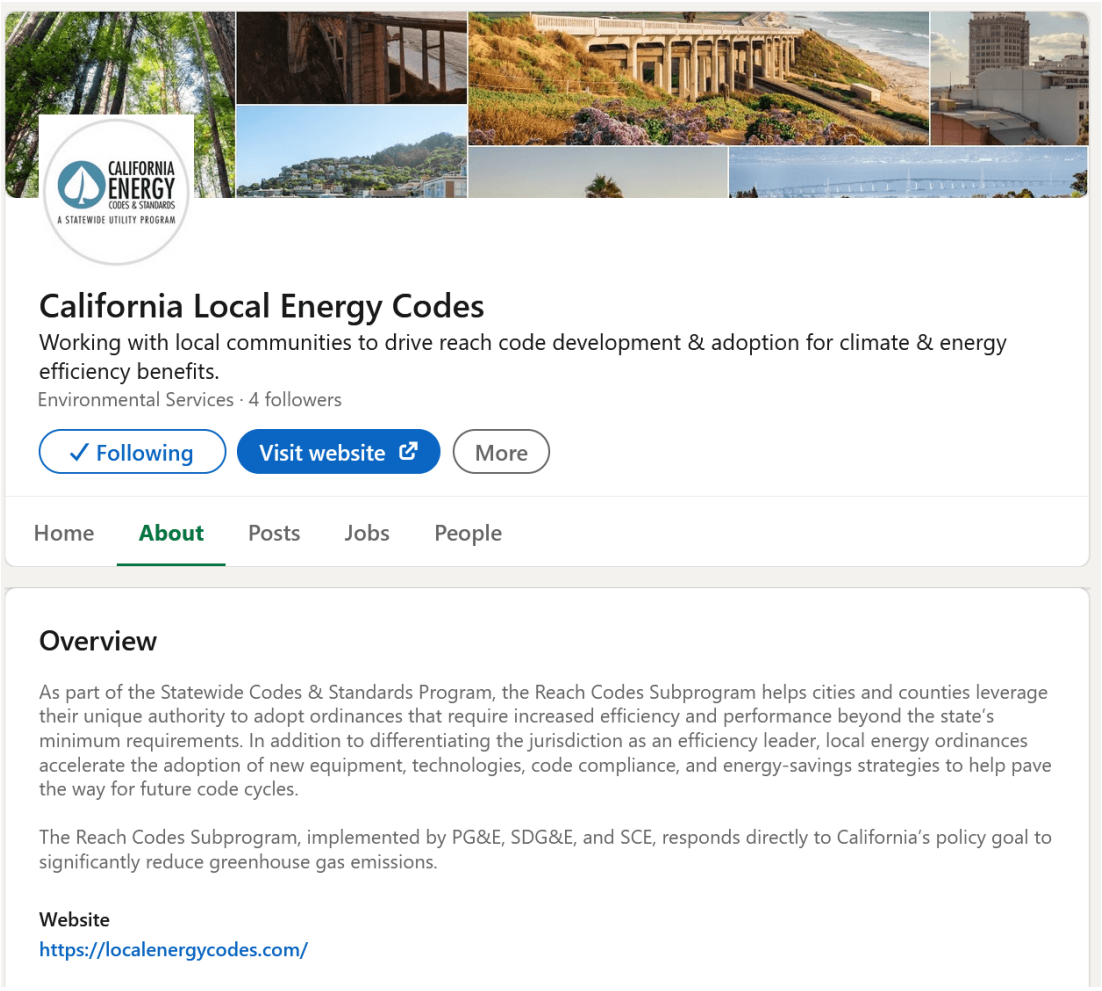
Key compliance tools were approved by the Energy Commission at its June 8 Business Meeting. Both the Energy Conservation Manual for the 2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards and the Building Energy Code Compliance Software (CBECC

2022.1.0 and CBECC-Res 2022.1.0) have been approved in their final forms and may now be used both for compliance activities as well as reach code development efforts for the 2022 code cycle. These resources are available on the Commission website.

In addition, the Building Standards Commission will be publishing the final adopted version of the Standards on July 1 to the BSC website.

Statewide Program Adds LinkedIn Channel to Social Media Resources

Join us today on LinkedIn! Local Energy Codes now has an active page where the team will provide the latest updates on reports, webinars and other initiatives, as well as news important to the reach codes community. Submit ideas for posts to info@localenergycodes.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

July

July 7: Statewide Reach Codes Program webinar: Draft Results: Multifamily New Construction Cost-Effectiveness Study

July 12: Advanced Water Heating Initiative (AWHI), EEBA and Electrify Now webinar: Heat Pump Water Heaters in the All-Electric Home: Builders share their experience

July 13: Energy Commission Monthly Business Meeting

July 14: 3C-REN: Central Coast Reach Codes Policy Workshop

July 21: 3C-REN Regional Forum: 2022 California Energy Code: Reaching Towards Higher Efficiency Standards

July 28: USGBC-LA Thought Leadership Series webinar: Building Our Electrified Future



Be sure to follow us on Twitter for the latest news and information!

NEW THIS MONTH!



REACH CODES CORNER: EVALUATING ALL-ELECTRIC AND ELECTRIC-PREFERRED OPTIONS

This column is a monthly feature focusing on specific topics of interest to newcomers to the reach code development community.

This month we look at two of the most popular reach code options for jurisdictions in the upcoming 2022 code cycle.

All-Electric Provisions

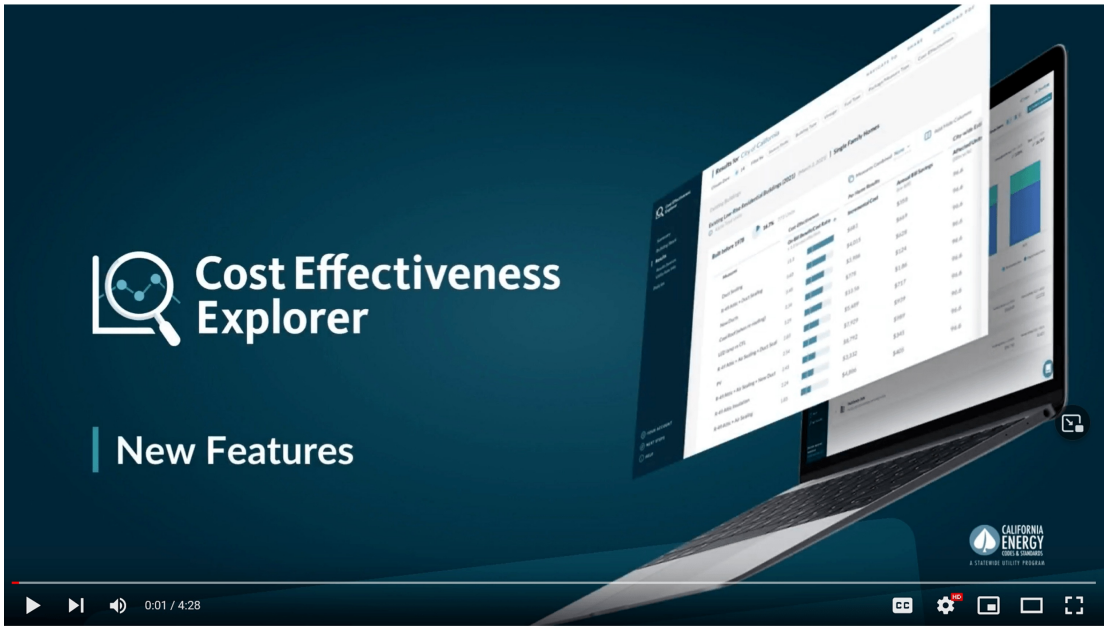
This option focuses on eliminating fuel sources other than electricity for new construction. Typically, these policies mandate no new gas appliances or gas space or water heating in new construction. If the approach is tied to the 2022 Building Code (Part 11, CALGreen), these types of policies must be renewed every code cycle. The jurisdiction must satisfy local requirements and file the adopted measure with the BSC, which will review and determine if it is acceptable for filing with the Secretary of State. Once this occurs, the measure is enforceable at the local level. If the latter, the jurisdiction must satisfy local requirements and the measure will be immediately enforceable.

The jurisdiction may also pursue an all-electric measure under its health and safety powers. If this approach is taken, the jurisdiction must satisfy local requirements but once adopted, the measure is immediately enforceable and does not expire. Communities pursuing this approach during the 2019 code cycle have included Berkeley, Morgan Hill, Petaluma, San Jose, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz.

Electric-Preferred Provisions

This approach is the most conservative option and amends the 2022 Energy Code. Requirements typically will include a provision that all-electric buildings satisfy code requirements, while mixed-fuel buildings must exceed code requirements by specified margins. Considerations to keep in mind are that this approach is usually the most conservative in terms of greenhouse gas reductions, so would advance a jurisdiction's climate action goals the least as well. In addition, the 2022 Standards include heat pumps as a performance standard baseline for water or space heating in single-family homes, and space heating in multi-family homes, as well as certain commercial buildings. This means if a design uses natural gas equipment instead of a heat pump, the design must add other measures to improve performance in other building systems to make up for the compliance deficit.

More information on this and many other reach code topics are available on the Reach Codes Newcomers webinar series videos. Visit the Local Energy Codes YouTube channel.



NEW COST EFFECTIVENESS EXPLORER FEATURES FOR 2022 CODE CYCLE

The Cost-Effectiveness Explorer team is rolling out new tools and preliminary data to help local jurisdiction staff begin working on new construction policies for the 2022 code cycle. While final cost-effectiveness results are not yet available, these new tools can be used by staff to explore likely options and impacts.

Some of the new functionality includes:

- Preliminary results from the 2022 New Single Family Home state-wide cost-effectiveness study.
- Jurisdiction-wide impact estimates for packages from this study. These include five different packages for all-electric homes and one package for mixed-fuel homes. Users can chart these impacts and edit the assumptions behind them.
- A spreadsheet-based impact model. The user can view impact forecasts for their jurisdiction for electric only and electric preferred policies.
- Building estimates for new construction volume during the 2022 code cycle. Users can view/revise/download these forecasts, and jurisdiction-wide impacts shown in the Explorer will reflect any changes.
- Downloadable pdf of specific results for user's jurisdiction

As cost-effectiveness results become final over the next several weeks, the Explorer will be updated as well.

Preview these features by watching this video. For questions, please email explorer@localenergycodes.com.



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.

© 2021 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