



COLORADO
Energy Office

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Office of Governor Jared Polis

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Colorado Energy Office releases Task Force Recommendations for Statewide Building Performance Standards

The recommendations will inform the State's Building Performance Standards, which will improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings in Colorado

DENVER - Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022 - In compliance with statutory requirements in HB21-1286, or the "[Energy Performance for Buildings](#)" Statute, the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) submitted final [recommendations for statewide building performance standards \(BPS\)](#) from the BPS Task Force (Task Force) to the Governor, General Assembly, and Air Quality Control Commission of Colorado (AQCC) on October 1, 2022.

The Polis Administration's 2021 [Greenhouse Gas \(GHG\) Pollution Reduction Roadmap](#) identified building energy efficiency and electrification as important strategies in meeting the state's ambitious GHG pollution reduction targets of 6% by 2025, 50% by 2030 and 90% by 2050 from 2005 levels. HB21-1286 established building sector-specific emissions reduction targets of 7% by 2026 and 20% by 2030 from a 2021 energy use baseline for buildings 50,000 square feet or larger, and directed CEO to convene a Task Force to make recommendations for the State's future BPS policy. The AQCC will consider these recommendations in its rulemaking process.

"The BPS Task Force worked diligently to incorporate feedback from diverse stakeholders and develop recommendations for practical Building Performance Standards," said CEO Executive Director Will Toor. **"These recommendations will help the State establish rules that not only save large building owners money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but also provide resources and flexibility to ensure an easy pathway to compliance for all covered buildings in Colorado."**

In developing the recommendations, the Task Force recognized that the overall design of the BPS, which includes multiple compliance options, needs to ensure that all the buildings covered by this policy collectively meet the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets set in HB 21-1286. To do so, the Task Force's recommendations for the State's BPS policy include:

- *Using site Energy Use Intensity (EUI), the annual energy consumption per square foot, as the metric for buildings to demonstrate compliance with a primary energy efficiency compliance pathway, and an electrification metric for primary and secondary electrification compliance pathways.*
- *Establishing property type site EUI targets, normalized for weather and occupancy (if possible), and using those targets to determine a building's compliance with the BPS.*
- *Establishing energy efficiency improvements or electrification of 80% of a building's space and water heating as the two primary compliance options for building owners.*
- *Providing flexibility in how building owners can comply with the BPS and including secondary actions that building owners can take to receive credit towards compliance, such as the use of renewable energy, electrification of part of a building's energy load, and participation in a demand response (DR) program or use of automated DR technologies.*
- *Allowing building owners to seek adjustments to compliance requirements from the Colorado Energy Office.*

The Task Force also included recommendations on State-level programs to support building owners in complying with the BPS, enforcement measures, how to address workforce and equity issues in the BPS, and a process for creating a BPS policy for 2030-2050.

The BPS [Task Force](#) included 18 members that represented diverse interests from across Colorado and the building sector. The Task Force met monthly from September 2021 through September 2022 to develop and approve its recommendations and to solicit public feedback.

For more information on building performance standards, please visit energyoffice.colorado.gov/climate-energy/energy-policy/building-performance-standards.

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About the Colorado Energy Office

To deliver on the vision of a prosperous, clean energy future for Colorado, the Colorado Energy Office works to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and consumer energy costs by advancing clean energy, energy efficiency and zero emission vehicles to benefit all Coloradans. Go to energyoffice.colorado.gov to learn more.