



**COLORADO**

Energy Office

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Office of Governor Jared Polis

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## **Deadline approaches for large commercial, multifamily, and public building owners to report 2021 building energy use data to the Colorado Energy Office**

*Online trainings available to help owners of buildings 50,000 square feet or larger meet requirements*

**DENVER - Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2022** - The Colorado Energy Office's (CEO) statewide benchmarking program, [Building Performance Colorado \(BPC\)](#), is preparing for its first benchmarking deadline. Signed in June 2021, the "Energy Performance for Buildings" statute ([HB 21-1286](#)) requires owners of large commercial, multifamily, and public buildings 50,000 square feet or larger to report their 2021 whole-building energy use data to the State by **December 1, 2022**. Building owners must enter their whole-building energy use data using the Environmental Protection Agency's [ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager®](#), a free energy management tool that assists building owners in capturing metrics and energy usage details in order to generate a benchmarking report.

Nationally, residential and commercial buildings comprise roughly [30% of greenhouse gas \(GHG\) emissions](#). Colorado's Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction Roadmap identified reducing energy use in buildings as a key near term action to meet the state's greenhouse gas pollution reduction goals. To measure and address energy use from buildings, HB21-1286 directed the CEO to create a statewide benchmarking program, called Building Performance Colorado (BPC).

**"Benchmarking is an important process for both helping building owners understand their building's energy use and providing data to the State that informs building decarbonization policy,"** said CEO Senior Director of Policy Keith Hay. **"By tracking a building's energy use and performance, building owners can identify areas to target cost-effective measures to eliminate unnecessary energy use and save people money."**

The EPA has found that buildings that consistently benchmark their energy use save on average 2.4% [in energy and energy costs per year](#).

The building energy use data reported to the State through these benchmarking requirements will be used to establish Colorado's Building Performance Standard (BPS) program. This program will require buildings to make improvements to meet set

energy reduction targets. The program's overall goal is to reduce GHG emissions from buildings covered by HB21-1286 7% by 2026 and 20% by 2030, from a 2021 energy use baseline.

There are two ways to comply with the state's benchmarking reporting requirements. Using a new or existing account on the ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager® free online tool, building owners can enter building metrics and energy usage to generate a [benchmarking report](#) and submit by the deadline of December 1, 2022. For specific cases, building owners can instead submit a [waiver request form](#) with supporting details and necessary documentation to the State by November 1, 2022 to waive reporting requirements for a given year. In either case, building owners are required to [pay an annual fee of \\$100 per covered building](#). Owners of [public buildings](#) are exempt from paying the annual benchmarking fee of \$100 per covered building. Public building owners are encouraged to reach out to the BPC Help Center to verify their building's public status.

Leading up to the Dec. 1 deadline, the BPC program will offer a series of free trainings on the benchmarking process and compliance with the state's reporting requirements. There are variations of the training targeting building owners with different levels of experience reporting building energy use. BPC will offer each training once a month before December 1, with the next trainings scheduled for the following dates:

- September 13, 2022 1:00 PM MST: Benchmarking 101 (for new reporters) - [Register here](#)
- September 20, 2022 11:00 AM MST: Benchmarking 102 (for returning reporters) - [Register here](#)
- September 29, 2022 11:00 AM MST: Drop-in session for all reporters - [Register here](#)

Visit [www.buildingperformanceco.com/help](http://www.buildingperformanceco.com/help) to learn more and to register for a future training. Pre-recorded trainings and videos on the benchmarking process are also available.

For additional questions or assistance, please contact the BPC Help Center, which offers free support on the benchmarking process via phone and email at:



**Building Performance Colorado (BPC)**

**Email:** [benchmarking@buildingperformanceco.com](mailto:benchmarking@buildingperformanceco.com); **Phone:** (888) 513-0353

**Website:** [Buildingperformanceco.com](http://Buildingperformanceco.com)

**Hours:** Monday - Friday | 9:00 am - 5:00 pm MST

The Help Center will respond to requests within 48 hours.

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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](http://energyoffice.colorado.gov) to learn more.