



Meeting Agenda
Redwood Empire Association of Code Officials
1007-B West COLLEGE AVE # 326 SANTA ROSA CA 95401

REACO Regular Meeting: Aug. 5th, 2025
HELD AT: Charles 1320 19th Hole Dr, Windsor Ca 95492
MEETING START TIME IS 12:00 pm

You can also join virtually through the Zoom link below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81148309563?pwd=jbXOvdhXVQeTMaWnUDVuc9fP9sHSg0.1>

CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SELF INTRODUCTIONS (Officers, Guests, Members)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2025 meeting

OFFICER REPORTS

President: Kevin Scheumann –

Treasurer: Betty Li –

1. Account transactions summaries

Checking and savings beginning balance: \$

Deposits: \$

Debits and Checks: \$

Checking and savings ending balance: \$

Vice President: Ryan Rose

Secretary: Pam Miller

Past President: Richard Angley

LIAISON REPORTS

SCFPO: Devon Gambonini –

ICC Rep: Karyn Beebe – See Link <https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/gr-monthly-update/>

CBOAC: Eric Seabrook –

CALBO: Doug Hughes –

CEC Rep: Gagandeep Randhawa –

IAEI: Doug Hughes, Mike Stone –

BayREN: Christine Condon –

RECSI: Carolyn Glanton –

ICC Region 1: Richard Angley – Renewed membership

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee: Eric Seabrook, David Willoughby and Kevin Scheumann –

Web-Site Committee: David Willoughby –

ADU Committee: Brad Cannon, Eric Seabrook – See information on web page

Scholarship Committee: David Willoughby, Richard Angley, Kris Kuntz, Ian Broeske

Nominations Committee: David Willoughby, Charles Lucas (2024)

PROGRAM

Russ King

BayREN Residential HVAC Sizing and Duct Design

A couple of logistical things for the **BayREN Residential HVAC Sizing and Duct Design** training scheduled for the August 5th REACO meeting:

- sign-in sheets and post-class survey for in-person attendees
- We will need to collect contact information for online attendees for BayREN and for attendees to receive credit for the ICC Continuing Education Units
- The post-class survey link will need to be posted in the Zoom meeting chat for online attendees. May be worth posting it in the chat in the beginning of the training and then at the end to encourage participation:
 - **Link to Zoom survey:** [Residential HVAC Sizing and Duct Design 8/5 - Zoom](#)

CODE ISSUES / QUIZ - NA

CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT – next meeting is a joint meeting with MCCAB (Marin Codes Advisory Board) Wednesday, September 10th, 12Noon-2PM at Marin Civic Center, 3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael, Ca 94903; Room 308A. ----- meeting invite will be sent out later in the month for those attending virtually.



BayREN Codes & Standards Program

2025 BayREN Energy Code Trainings & Events

<https://www.bayrencodes.org/events/>

Live Online Events & Trainings

BayREN and Energy Code Ace C&S Training: 2022 Single-family Standards HERS-Verified Quality Insulation Installation (QII) - Training developed in partnership with [Energy Code Ace](#).

Location: Live Online

Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2025

Time: 9:00 am–10:30 am

Description: This course focuses on prescriptive quality insulation installation (QII) requirements in the 2022 Energy Code for new single-family buildings of any size and additions greater than 700 ft².

This presentation helps:

- Designers and architects create projects that meet QII
- Energy consultants clarify the minimum requirements and schedule of inspections the team needs to succeed when the Certificate of Compliance (CF1R) calls for QII
- Contractors coordinate with HERS raters and subcontractors on inspection dates and other QII requirements
- Building departments support QII projects at plan check and inspection to ensure the QII process goes smoothly
- HERS raters communicate with the construction team on how to prepare a project to meet QII requirements during HERS inspections

Course Objectives:

- Identify quality insulation installation (QII) requirements that may be unique or atypical for single-family construction
- Recognize how a project should start off on the right foot with good documentation in the design drawings to support QII
- Organize construction team for the QII construction inspection schedule and understand what the HERS rater will evaluate
- Discover additional resources available to learn more about QII (HERS providers, HERS raters, Energy Code Ace)

Topics Covered: QII, CF1R, HERS, Energy Code

Target Audience: Building Department Staff, Building Professionals, Contractors

ICC CEUs: 0.15

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

BayREN C&S Training: Electrical Upgrade Alternatives for Building Retrofits

Location: Live Online/Offered in partnership with Silicon Valley Clean Energy (SVCE)

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2025

Time: 9:00 am–10:30 am

Description: This class will focus on an overview of service upgrades for electrification retrofits. Assessment approaches, such as NEC methods and peak demand, will be discussed, along with strategies to reduce load.

Topics Covered: Electrification, Energy Code

Target Audience: Building Department Staff, Building Professionals, Contractors

ICC CEUs: 0.1

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

BayREN C&S Training: Residential Alterations

Location: Live Online

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Time: 9:00 am–10:30 am

Description: This course explores specific instruction on residential alterations to the Energy Code and will explain how to process residential alterations projects, which are mostly over-the-counter permits such as HVAC changeouts, window replacements and water heater replacements. Course extends content provided in the Residential New Construction Compliance course.

Topics Covered: Compliance Forms, Energy Code, HERS, HVAC

Target Audience: Building Department Staff

ICC CEUs: 0.1

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

BayREN C&S Training: Single-family Standards: Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) - Training developed in partnership with [Energy Code Ace](#).

Location: Live Online

Date: Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Time: 9:00 am–10:30 am

Description: This course focuses on requirements in the 2022 Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) for accessory dwelling units (ADU) in an event supported by Energy Code Ace and BayREN. We will discuss how to identify the ADU type and its impact on Energy Code requirements for envelope, mechanical, photovoltaics (PV), battery storage or battery ready and HERS measures. We will also review how the compliance metrics differ depending on ADU type, including the new EDR source energy metrics for new construction ADUs.

Course Objectives:

- Establish if an ADU design is considered an alteration, addition, or a new residential building per the Energy Code.
- Discuss the envelope (roof, walls, floors, fenestration) requirements associated with the ADU type (alteration, addition, new construction) under the 2022 Energy Code.
- Recognize the renewable energy requirements of ADU type including photovoltaics (PV), battery storage, and battery ready.
- Determine mechanical equipment requirements, including any HERS verification measure options that provide ADU design flexibility, and how utility source energy metric may impact those choices.

Topics Covered: Energy Code, ADU, Single Family

Target Audience: Building Department Staff

ICC CEUs: 0.1

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

Energy Code Ace 2025 Title 24, Part 6 Trainings

2022 Title 24, Part 6 Essentials — Nonresidential Standards for Building Inspectors

Location: Online

Date: August 19-20, 2025

Time: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Instructor: Marina Chavez Blanco

Description: Use the 2022 Nonresidential Energy Inspection Checklist to practice streamlined inspection of installation scenarios while also targeting top categories of high-value energy savings and impact on compliance. Effective building energy efficiency enforcement is reviewed and practiced as a comprehensive process — from initial consult of building features listed in permitted documentation to

review of what contractors document as installed to visual confirmation of these features on-site. This highly interactive online live course is designed to provide Building Inspectors with the essential knowledge and skills they need to more quickly and effectively enforce California's 2022 Nonresidential Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Part 6 or the Energy Code). This course is delivered in two half-day sessions held on two consecutive days. Participants must attend both sessions to complete the course.

Course Objectives:

- Identify Nonresidential construction's "top six" areas of high-value energy savings and impact on 2022 Energy Code compliance.
- Identify "essential" inspection tasks associated with the top six energy savings categories.
- Use a project's permitted documentation and this course's BI checklist to get oriented and develop an inspection plan with strategic areas of focus.
- Practice an inspection regimen that consults approved building details in permitted documents, reviews what contractors indicated as installed on NRCI forms, and visually confirms on-site installation meets or exceeds permitted details.
- Practice ways to address non-compliance, as well as methods for communicating effectively during inspection.

[Webinar Registration Link](#)

BayREN On-Demand C&S Trainings

2022 Energy Code Single Family Heat Pump Water Heater Training for Building Departments

Location: On demand

Duration: Short Course (60-90 minutes)

Description: Heat pump water heaters (HPWHs) are an increasingly popular technology that are a highly efficient means of providing hot water to houses. This training will describe HPWHs, when HPWHs are allowed under the 2022 Code, code requirements for installation, and how to complete compliance forms. **Topics Covered:** Overview of water heater technologies and trends, identifying HPWHs in the field, Energy Code requirements for HPWH installations and replacements, Energy Code compliance forms, and requirements specific to HPWHs.

Target Audience: Building Department Staff.

ICC CEUs: 0.1

[On Demand Webinar Registration Link](#)

2022 Energy Code Single Family Heat Pump HVAC Training for Building Departments

Location: On demand

Duration: Short Course (60-90 minutes)

Description: Heat pump water heaters (HPWHs) are an increasingly popular technology that are a highly efficient means of providing hot water to houses. This training will describe HPWHs, when HPWHs are allowed under the 2022 Code, code requirements for installation, and how to complete compliance forms. **Topics Covered:** Overview of water heater technologies and trends, identifying HPWHs in the field, Energy Code requirements for HPWH installations and replacements, Energy Code compliance forms, and requirements specific to HPWHs.

Target Audience: Building Department Staff.

ICC CEUs: 0.1

[On Demand Webinar Registration Link](#)

For information about BayREN resources and trainings contact Sonoma County BayREN Codes and Standards Program Representative:

Christine Condon, Christine.Condon@sonomacounty.gov or 707-565-2125



Outline of AB306 Provisions in AB 130 and Reach Code Pathways

Note: BayREN prepared this outline for local government staff, to help them as they are working with these amendments. Nothing here is intended to provide legal advice, and local government staff should always check with their city or county attorneys on any legal questions.

[1. Summary](#)

[2. Pathways for reach codes before 2031](#)

[3. Bill text and excerpts](#)

[4. Overview/summary of sections in AB130 that come from AB 306](#)

Summary

These provisions do four things:

1. Prevent the adoption of local modifications to the state building code, such as reach codes, that affect residential units between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031, with six exceptions (Sections 29, 30, 31; section 41 is the same except it doesn't list exception 6)
2. Prevent the adoption of new state building codes affecting residential units between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031, with seven exceptions (Sections 32, 39)
3. Establish that when a model home is approved, the state and local building codes in effect at the time of approval are the ones that should be applied to all homes based on that model home for 10 years, unless the design substantially changes (Section 40)
4. Limit the types of amendments that can be adopted between triennial code updates, i.e., during the intervening cycle (Section 42)

These provisions will not prevent implementation of the 2025 Building Standards or adoption of the 2031 Building Standards.

Pathways for Reach Codes before 2031

Background information needed to understand the pathways

- Local energy reach codes are amendments to the Energy Code (Part 6) part of the California Building Standards (Title 24).
- The current Building Standards (the 2022 Code) expire at the end of 2025.
- All reach codes that are based on the 2022 Code will expire at the same time.
- An updated Building Code (the 2025 Code) will take effect on January 1, 2026.
 - State law provides that local jurisdictions should adopt the updated code by the end of the year, but the Standards will go into effect regardless.
 - In most jurisdictions, the Chief Building Official usually takes the updated Building Standards to the Council/Board for adoption in November or so.
- Because energy reach codes are amendments to the Energy Code part of the California Building Standards, a jurisdiction must adopt the Energy Code before it can adopt a reach code.

Reach Code Pathways, Now-2031

If a jurisdiction already has adopted a reach code (based on the 2022 Code) that is/will be in effect before September 30, 2025 and wants to extend it past January 1, 2026:

- The jurisdiction could potentially use exception 1 to adopt a reach code that is “substantially similar” to the one in place. The council/board would need to make a finding that it is substantially similar.

To adopt a new or additional reach code before September 30, 2025 that will be effective in 2026 and beyond, there are two pathways:

- 2022 Code Pathway (two-step process):
 - Adopt a reach code on the 2022 Energy Code so that it “will be in effect” before September 30, 2025
 - When the jurisdiction adopts the 2025 Building Standards, use exception 1 to adopt a reach code on the 2025 Energy Code that is “substantially similar” to the one adopted before September 30. The council/board would need to make a finding that it is substantially similar.
- 2025 Code Pathway
 - The jurisdiction could adopt the 2025 State Building Code (or at least the Energy Code) earlier than usual, before September 30, together with an energy reach code based on the 2025 Code

To adopt a reach code between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031, it will have to fall within one of the exceptions.

- See the blue text in the “Excerpted Language on Limitations to Reach Codes” below for the exceptions.
- There are a lot of questions about what some of these really mean and how they would work.

- Guidance will hopefully be forthcoming.
- Note that Section 31 of AB 130 says that the BSC can rely on a statement by the local agency relative to conditions 1-5. For condition 6 (amendments are related to administrative practices only), the BSC should consult with HCD and review the amendments.

Bill Text and Excerpts

Link to full bill text:

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB130

Link to a summary of impacts of the bill [here](#).

Excerpted Language on Limitations to Reach Codes:

(b) Commencing **October 1, 2025, to June 1, 2031**, inclusive, **a city or county shall not make changes that are applicable to residential units** in the provisions adopted pursuant to Section 17922 and published in the California Building Standards Code or the other regulations thereafter adopted pursuant to Section 17922 to amend, add, or repeal ordinances or regulations which impose the same requirements as are contained in the provisions adopted pursuant to Section 17922 and published in the California Building Standards Code or the other regulations adopted pursuant to Section 17922 or make changes or modifications in those requirements upon express findings pursuant to Sections 17958.5 and 17958.7, **unless one of the following conditions is met:**

- (1) **The changes or modifications are substantially equivalent to changes or modifications that were previously filed by the governing body of the city or county and were in effect as of September 30, 2025.**
- (2) The commission deems those changes or modifications necessary as **emergency standards** to protect health and safety.
- (3) The changes or modifications **relate to home hardening.**
- (4) The building standards **relate to home hardening and are proposed for adoption by a fire protection district** pursuant to Section 13869.7.
- (5) The changes or modifications **are necessary to implement a local code amendment that is adopted to align with a general plan** approved on or before June 10, 2025, and **that permits mixed-fuel residential construction** consistent with federal law **while also incentivizing all-electric construction as part of an adopted greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy.**
- (6) The changes or modifications **are related to administrative practices**, are proposed for adoption during the intervening period pursuant to Section 18942, **and exclusively result in any of the following:**
 - (A) **Reductions in time** for a local agency to issue a postentitlement permit.
 - (B) Alterations to a local agency's postentitlement **fee schedule.**
 - (C) Modernization of, or adoption of, new **permitting platforms and software** utilized by the local agency.

- (D) **Reductions in cost of internal operation** for a local agency.
- (E) Establishment, alteration, or removal of **local programs related to enforcement of building code violations** or complaints alleging building code violations.

Excerpted Language on Limitations to State Building Standards:

... proposed **building standards affecting residential units shall not be considered, approved, or adopted by the commission, unless any of the following conditions are met:**

- (1) The commission deems those changes **necessary as emergency standards** to protect health and safety.
- (2) The building standards are **amendments by the State Fire Marshal to building standards within the California Wildland-Urban Interface Code** (Part 7 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations).
- (3) The building standards **are proposed for adoption in relation to standards researched pursuant to Section 13108.5.2.**
- (4) The building standards are proposed for adoption **pursuant to Section 17921.9, 17921.11, or 18940.7 of this code, or Section 13558 of the Water Code.**
- (5) The building standards **are necessary to ensure the latest editions of the model codes specified in Section 18916 are incorporated into the triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code**, along with any necessary and related state amendments supporting or facilitating the incorporation of the model codes.
- (6) The building standards **are necessary to incorporate errata or emergency updates to the national model codes** specified in Section 18916, along with any necessary and related state amendments supporting or facilitating the incorporation of errata or emergency updates to the model codes.
- (7) The building standards under consideration **would take effect on or after January 1, 2032.**

Overview/Summary of sections in AB 130 that come from AB 306

Section 29 (about local amendments to the state code/reach codes)

- Amends Section 17958 of the Health & Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - This section basically allows cities or counties to amend the Building Standards Code pursuant to Section 17922
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Limit the ability of cities or counties to amend the Building Standards with the Limitations to Reach Codes copied above

Section 30 (about local amendments to the state code/reach codes)

- Amends Section 17958.5 of the Health & Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:

- This section basically says that, except as provided in Section 17922.6, cities can make reasonably necessary modifications, including the adoption of green building codes, to the requirements adopted pursuant to Section 17922 on the basis of local conditions, as long as find that those modifications are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions.
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Limit the ability of cities and counties to make these modifications, including green building codes between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031 unless one of the conditions laid out in the Limitations to Reach Codes (above) is met

Section 31 (about local amendments to the state code/reach codes)

- Amends Section 17958.7 of the Health & Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - Requires a city or county to make an express finding that modifications to the Building Standards are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions.
 - A copy of the findings, together with the modifications, shall be filed with the Building Standards Commission, and shall not become effective until filed with the BSC
 - The BSC may reject any modification if no finding was submitted
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Requires the BSC to reject a modification to the Building Standards filed by a city or county between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031 unless one of the conditions laid out in the Limitations to Reach Codes (above) is met
 - Says that the BSC can rely on a statement by the local agency relative to conditions 1-5
 - Says that the BSC, in consultation with HCD, shall review amendments adopted per condition 6 (amendments are related to administrative practices only)

Section 38 (about state Building Standards)

- Amends Section 18929.1 of the Health & Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - Directs the BSC to receive proposed building standards from state agencies for consideration in an 18-month code adoption cycle
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - States that this section shall not apply to any building standards affecting residential units, and proposed building standards affecting residential units shall not be “considered, approved or adopted” by the commission unless one of the conditions laid out in the Limitations to State Codes (above) is met

Section 39 (about state Building Standards)

- Amends Section 18930 of the Health & Safety Code

- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - Lays out the process and criteria for codification of building standards adopted or proposed by state agencies
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Says that between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031, this section shall not apply to any proposed building standards affecting residential units unless one of the conditions laid out in the Limitations to State Codes (above) is met

Section 40 (about dwelling units based on model homes)

- Amends Section 18938.5 of the Health & Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - Basically says that a building permit is subject to the state Building Standards and local amendments that were in place at the time the building permit was submitted, with certain exceptions, such as a declared emergency or an expired or revoked permit
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Adds an exception that for dwelling units based on approved model home designs, the state and local building standards in effect at the time the model home is approved are the building standards that should be applied to any future home based on that model home for 10 years after that approval, unless the design substantially changes

Section 41 (about local amendments to the state code/reach codes)

- Amends Section 18941.5 of the Health and Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:
 - Says that the effective date of amendments, additions, and deletions to the Building Standards Code, “including, but not limited to, green building standards, adopted by a city, county, or city and county...” shall become effective 180 days after publication of the California Building Standards Code.
 - Also says that cities and counties can establish more restrictive building standards reasonably necessary because of local conditions upon making the required finding.
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Says that between October 1, 2025 and June 1, 2031, cities or counties shall not establish more restrictive building standards applicable to residential dwelling units unless one of the conditions in the Limitations to Reach Codes (above) is met (but the list in this section doesn’t include condition 6 that allows amendments for administrative practices)

Section 42 (limits types of amendments that can be adopted during the intervening cycle)

- Amends Section 18942 of the Health and Safety Code
- What this section did prior to the AB130/306 amendments:

- Provides that the BSC publish the code every three years, and allows for supplements to the Building Standards to be published between those as necessary
- What the AB130/306 amendments did:
 - Limits changes adopted during the intervening period to:
 - Technical updates needed to support the adopted code
 - Emergency building standards
 - Amendments by the Fire Marshal within the WUI Code
 - Incorporation of errata or emergency updates to national codes
 - “Changes or modifications made pursuant to paragraph (6) of subdivision (b) of Section 17958, paragraph (6) of subdivision (c) of Section 17958.5, or paragraph (6) of subdivision (c) of Section 17958.7”
 - Changes need to align with minimum federal accessibility standards

ICC Chapter Monthly Meeting

August 2025

Energy Code Related Updates

- **Business meeting agendas and recordings**
 - **July 10 Business meeting**
 - Nothing to report
 - **Next Business meeting – August 13** (agenda pending)
 - Potential approval of local ordinance exceeding 2022 Energy Code
 - City of Goleta
 - Additional electric readiness requirements for newly constructed buildings
 - HVAC hot water temperature requirements for nonresidential buildings
 - Source energy compliance margins for all newly constructed buildings by building types
 - **Next Business Meeting – September 10**
- **2025 Energy Code** – effective January 1, 2026
 - **Final version** available now.
 - **Hard copies are available** to local governments free of charge via BSORequests@energy.ca.gov
 - **Reference Appendices** available
 - Compliance Manuals available
 - CBECC software research versions available on [2025 Compliance Software webpage](#).
- **2025 Energy Code Significant Changes Overview** presentation now available on the Energy Code Support Center
- Visit the new [CEC 2028 Energy Code webpage](#)
- National Environmental Balancing Bureau (NEBB) is **formally withdrawing** as a Mechanical ATTCP. More information to follow.
- **AB 130 (AB 306)**
 - Pauses new updates to the California Building Standards Code, including the Energy Code, for residential buildings from October 1, 2025 to June 1, 2031. The 2028 Energy Code updates will focus on nonresidential buildings. More information to come from CBSC soon.
 - The 2025 Energy Code will go into effect on-schedule on Jan 1, 2026
- **Executive Order N-29-25** – for rebuilds and restorations resulting from the declared emergency from the Los Angeles & Ventura wildfires:
 - Exempt from solar PV and BESS requirements
 - May continue to comply with the 2022 Energy Code after Jan 1, 2026

- **Local Jurisdiction Advisory Group - Inaugural Meeting**
 - Review findings of the Gap Analysis Report and gather input to inform the CEC's compliance rate study approach. Email danielle.hughes@energy.ca.gov

Energy Code Training and Events

- **Energy Commission training and events**
 - August 27 – **CALBO Training Institute**: 2025 Energy Code Nonresidential Significant Changes
- **Energy Code Ace training**
 - August 4 – 2022 Single-family Envelope
 - August 5-6 – 2022 Single-family Compliance Modeling
 - August 6-7 – Single-family Standards for Plans Examiners
 - August 11 – 2022 Single-family Mechanical Systems
 - August 12-13 – 2022 Nonresidential Standards for Architects & Designers
 - August 14 – Single-family Standards: Analyzing the CF1R
 - August 19-20 – Nonresidential Standards for Building Inspectors
 - August 26-27 – Nonresidential & Multifamily Standards for Plan Examiners
 - August 28 – Single family and Low-rise Multifamily Solar & Battery Storage
- **BayREN training**
 - August 6 – 2022 Single-family HERS verified Quality Insulation Installation (QII)
 - August 14 – Electrical Upgrade Alternatives for Building Retrofits
 - August 27 – Residential Alterations
- **3C-REN training**
 - August 28 – Minimizing Call Backs on Heat Pump Projects
- **I-REN training**
 - August 28 – 2025 What's New: Multifamily
- **SoCal REN resources**
- **PG&E training**
- **Southern California Edison training**
 - August 12 – Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) and the California Energy Code (Webinar)
- **SoCal Gas education**

Energy Code Resources

- **Energy Code Support Center**
- Energy Code Hotline: call 800-772-3300 or use **hotline submission form**
- **2022 Energy Code Compliance Software**
- **Local Energy Code resources**
- **CalGreen resources**
- **Building and Home Energy Resource Hub**
- **Inflation Reduction Act Residential Energy Rebate Programs**
- **2028 Energy Code - Codes and Standards Enhancement (CASE)**
- **Energy Code Compliance Study** – Email danielle.hughes@energy.ca.gov
- **Energy Code Support Program for Documentation, Certification, and Plan Check**
 - Associate Energy Analyst (AEA) or certified Energy Analyst (CEA) training, code coaching, and third-party plan checks. Email danielle.hughes@energy.ca.gov

Receive regular updates via email

- [Blueprint Newsletter email list](#)
- [Building Standards email list](#)
- [Appliance Standards email list](#)
- [Federal IRA Residential Incentives email list](#)

ICC Government Relations

August 2025

Monthly Update

INSIDE

'Envisioning the Future'

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ICC and Archistar collaborate

New product addresses delays and capacity constraints
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Four Corners Initiative update

Outreach connects stakeholders with ICC PMGMC's mission
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PRO CODES ACT: Take action to protect the building safety codes ICC members created

Right now, what you and your colleagues have built to create world-class safety codes and standards is under attack. That's why a bipartisan group of Members of Congress is at work to pass the [Pro Codes Act](#), H.R. 4072. *Your help is urgently needed.* Click [HERE](#) to let your **Member of Congress know your work deserves to be protected**. You'll be joining a broad coalition of building and fire safety organizations to defend our work. This legislation aims to protect the code development process and to prevent unauthorized and erroneous copies of codes from being published. [Click here to ask your member of Congress](#) to protect your work and co-sponsor the Pro Codes Act today!

[Read more here](#) →



Major housing bill is now advancing to the U.S. Senate

The U.S. Senate Banking Committee has advanced significant housing legislation for the first time since the 2008-2009 recession. [The Renewing Opportunity in the American Dream \(ROAD\) to Housing Act of 2025](#) includes a wide range of policy approaches to boost housing supply, modernize financing options, reduce regulatory barriers, and promote economic mobility.

The bill's strong bipartisan support could be a harbinger for Congress to take additional action on the legislation in the fall. The bill expands the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards (HUD code) scope to apply to housing "with or without a permanent chassis." Currently, state and local governments utilize the International Residential Code (IRC) to govern construction of homes built offsite that are not affixed to a permanent chassis.

The Code Council is working with building safety organizations and Congress to ensure that the legislation's expansion of the HUD code assures equivalent life safety requirements to the IRC, supports code official training, and recognizes existing consensus-based codes and standards. The Code Council co-developed a series of best practice standards for offsite construction with the Modular Building Institute, which several states have adopted, and is currently working with the New York Institute of Technology on an additional standard that is still in development.

The bill would also authorize the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program, with a variation on ICC-supported language regarding resilient construction. The bill would direct HUD to publish best practices for zoning and cost-effective building codes, provide grants for "pattern books" to speed affordable housing projects, and support home repairs and training.

The Code Council's Government Relations team will continue to engage with key Members of Congress to ensure the bill supports construction that is safe, resilient, and affordable, as well as the critical role building safety professionals play in the housing sector. Contact the GR team at advocacy@iccsafe.org for more information about the bill or to engage with your federal elected officials.

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR

[2025 Annual Conference, Expo & Committee Action Hearings](#)
[October 19–30](#)

**Huntington Convention Center
Cleveland, OH**

Conference attendees can take advantage of the four-track Education Program, Expo Talks, Building Tours and Insight Sessions offer a full range of learning opportunities for all building safety professionals. [Register now](#) for your **Full Access Pass** or **Education Pass**. Earn valuable CEUs each day at the 2025 Annual Conference

FEMA Earthquake Hazard Reduction Grant applications are due August 11

FEMA is offering over \$2 million in funding through the **FY25 National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program – Individual State Earthquake Assistance (ISEA)** for eligible states and territories with high or very high seismic risk. Grants range from **\$50,000 to \$963,000** and support activities like seismic code implementation, hazard mapping, public education, and preparedness. Applications are due **August 11**, and a 25% cost share is required (waived for insular areas). Learn more at fema.gov/earthquake and apply via the [FEMA Grants Outcomes \(GO\) portal](#).



2025 Annual Conference coming to newly renovated convention center

With more than 500,000 square feet of meeting and event space – including 225,000 square feet for exhibiting, two ballrooms and more than 50 breakout rooms – the Huntington Convention Center is the perfect host for the [2025 International Code Council Annual Conference, Expo and Committee Action Hearings](#), which will be held from October 19-30. Attendees will be among the first to experience the convention center's \$50 million renovations. The renovations included a critical update that transformed the building from its initial concept as a medical mall (when it was rated for business occupancy) to meet the standards for assembly occupancy.

[Read more here](#) →

Check your voter eligibility to participate in Code Development Process

The 2024–2026 cycle of the Code Development Process introduced a revised schedule for hearings as well as deadlines related to voting. To ensure voter eligibility, it is important for Governmental Members to check their membership status by logging in to their [myICC](#) account. To be eligible to vote at Group A and B Public Comment Hearings (PCH) or the Online Governmental Consensus Vote (OGCV) in 2026, **an ICC Governmental Membership must be current as of October 21**. If the membership expires before October 21, it must be renewed to be eligible to vote in the 2026 PCH or OGCV. Visit [myICC](#) to check your status.

[Read more here](#) →

Day of Service is set for the 2025 ICC Annual Conference in Cleveland

This year marks the 11th Annual WICED/PTN/ICC Day of Service—a collaborative effort between Women in Code Enforcement and Development (WICED), PermitTechNation (PTN), and the International Code Council (ICC). Held on the Saturday before the ICC Annual Conference, this special event is our opportunity as members of the ICC family to give back to the communities we visit in a meaningful and lasting way. This year we're proud to support Fisher House and Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northeast Ohio. Volunteers will assist with property maintenance at both Cleveland and Akron locations. Sign up to be part of this rewarding experience! Volunteer slots are limited, so register now.

[Read more here](#) →

New report reveals valuable building industry insights for ICC members

The International Code Council released the *State of the Building Safety Industry Report: Envisioning the Future*, summarizing responses from a diverse range of building safety professionals across different generations, trade specialties, geographic locations and income levels. It covers a wide range of topics, including compensation, work environment, career satisfaction, workplace challenges and future opportunities. Respondents rated the value of continuing education assistance, flexible work schedules, work-life balance, benefits, and time off. Answers provided averages that will help employers and individuals benchmark themselves against others in the industry. More than 4,800 building safety professionals participated in the survey, representing a broad spectrum of disciplines across the industry. The survey included responses from both Code Council members and non-members, ensuring inclusive representation. Become an ICC member [here](#) to access the report.

[Read more here](#) →

NIBS report outlines urgent need for proactive disaster mitigation strategies

The [National Institute of Building Sciences](#) (NIBS) [Consultative Council](#) released a new report which presents a data-driven case for proactively retrofitting buildings and infrastructure within the U.S. [2025 Moving Forward Report: Retrofitting for Resilience](#) outlines the urgent need for proactive investment in disaster mitigation strategies. The NIBS Consultative Council, which includes representatives of architects, engineers, contractors and standards-developing bodies, serves as a non-partisan forum to address key challenges facing the built environment. Its annual *Moving Forward Report* aims to identify emerging issues and develop solutions to guide the industry and government. The report discusses the devastating financial and human losses across the U.S. caused by extreme weather events. The cumulative financial toll of weather-related hazards from 1980 to January 2025 has approached \$3 trillion, a figure that only accounts for 403 events that each caused \$1 billion or more in damages.

[Read more here](#) →

Full and alternate member slots open on Exam Development Committees

The Code Council has openings on Exam Development Committees (EDCs). Apply today to help contribute to the development and maintenance of ICC Certification exams! Application deadline is **September 15**. There are full and alternate member openings on the following [Exam Development Committees \(EDCs\)](#):

Accessibility; Certified Building Official / Certified Fire Marshal; Commercial Building; Electrical; Fire Services; IgCC; Mechanical; Permit Technician; Plumbing / Fuel Gas; Portable / Pre-Engineered Fire Extinguishing Systems; Property Maintenance and Housing / Zoning; Reinforced / Prestressed Concrete; Residential Building; Soils; Structural Masonry; Structural Steel and Welding; Sustainability; Tall Mass Timber. There are also alternate member openings on the Commercial Fire Alarm and Fire Sprinkler exam committees. For more information about the duties and responsibilities of an EDC member, contact 888-422-7233, ext. 5524 or at accommittees@iccsafe.org. To apply, [click here](#).

In-depth report from ICC examines battery and energy storage systems

The rapid advancement of lithium-ion battery technology has introduced a series of challenges for various stakeholders, namely building code officials, fire code officials, and first responders as well as architects, engineers, and construction professionals. The International Code Council (ICC) developed a roadmap to bridge the gaps in codes related to the use, manufacturing, storage, testing, and recycling of batteries and energy storage systems (ESS). The 2024 International Codes (I-Codes) feature updates to the International Fire Code (IFC), International Building Code (IBC), and International Residential Code (IRC) to enhance battery safety.

[Read more here](#) →

Code Council announces its new strategic collaboration with Archistar

The International Code Council announced a new strategic collaboration with Archistar. Through this collaboration, the Code Council is now an official Premier Platinum Reseller of groundbreaking technology that digitizes and automates code compliance checks called the eCheck™ solution. Enhanced with a seamless [ICC Code Connect API®](#) content integration, the eCheck™ platform allows cities and jurisdictions to evaluate building and zoning compliance more efficiently. The solution will directly address long-standing permitting delays and capacity constraints that contribute to housing shortages nationwide.

[Read more here](#) →

New York updates its state building code with 2024 International Codes®

The state of New York recently adopted nine of the [2024 International Codes®](#) (I-Codes®) with amendments. This decision comes after careful consideration by the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council and is a testament to the state's commitment to the safety and sustainability of its communities. "New York's adoption of the 2024 I-Codes marks a significant step toward advancing building safety, accessibility and sustainability," said International Code Council Chief Executive Officer John Belcik. "We commend the state's leadership in embracing the vital role that building codes play in protecting communities." Amendments to the state code adoptions include provisions for 18 inches of sea level rise over the currently required flood elevation in tidal areas, and other adjustments to existing language for buildings built in flood hazard areas. This adoption also requires the installation of automatic fire sprinklers in all newly constructed townhomes on municipal water systems. Other safety provisions include increased battery and energy storage system protection.

BUILDING FOR RESILIENCE: Insights from a global codes assessment

The quality and resilience of the built environment are fundamental to the health and sustainability of societies worldwide. With rapid urbanization expected to push the proportion of people in cities to nearly 70 percent by 2050, a vast portion of the global building stock that will exist in the coming decades has yet to be constructed. This construction boom, largely centered in Africa, Asia and Latin America, presents a critical opportunity to lock in safety and resilience for generations to come. A report publication, [Building Regulation for Resilience: A Global Assessment](#)

[of Building Codes](#), provides a comprehensive snapshot of where building codes stand today and offers a detailed set of recommendations for improvement. The report assesses the building codes and implementation environments of 22 countries across six geographic regions, focusing on three priority areas: structural safety and resilience, green buildings and universal accessibility. For building safety professionals and code officials, the report's findings offer a global perspective on shared challenges and highlight pathways to a more resilient future.

[Read more here](#) →

Engineered bamboo emerging as renewable, high-performance material

Across three days in June, the Code Council participated in a novel program of events in three Australian cities to showcase, discuss and learn about the attributes of bamboo as a building material. The focus was on establishing engineered bamboo as a mainstream product in the Australian market, in much the same way that compressed laminated timber was over a decade ago. Structural engineered bamboo has the potential to complement sustainably sourced timber where supply struggles to meet demand and, therefore, represents an opportunity for the timber industry to diversify and mitigate risk.

[Read more here](#) →

Code officials provide the first line of defense with hydrogen installations

[Hydrogen](#) is gaining renewed attention as a cornerstone of the evolving clean energy landscape. As an energy carrier, it offers remarkable versatility and potential across a broad spectrum of applications. With a high energy density by weight, hydrogen can be efficiently converted into mechanical work or heat, making it an invaluable resource in supporting diverse energy and industrial processes. Perhaps most compelling is its environmental profile: when used in a fuel cell to provide energy, the only byproducts are water and heat—completely avoiding production of greenhouse gases. Historically, hydrogen has been crucial in industries like petroleum refining, fertilizer manufacturing and glass production. Recently, its use has expanded to powering industrial forklifts and medium- to heavy-duty transportation such as buses, rail systems and long-haul trucks. In some regions, it is blended into natural gas pipelines for residential and power generation.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Plumbing, Mechanical, and Fuel Gas Updates

Four Corners Initiative connects with various PMG industry stakeholders

The [International Code Council's Plumbing Mechanical and Fuel Gas Membership Council](#) (PMGMC) launched an ambitious nationwide outreach effort to raise awareness about the vital role plumbing, mechanical and fuel gas (PMG) codes play in safeguarding public health and supporting industry professionals. The *Four Corners Initiative*, aptly named to reflect its coast-to-coast outreach, seeks to connect with industry stakeholders at all levels by highlighting the PMGMC's mission and the resources available through the Code Council. Spearheaded by the PMGMC and supported by the [Code Council's PMG Technical Resources Team](#), the *Four Corners Initiative* delivers live and virtual training events focused on the [International Plumbing Code®](#) (IPC), [International Mechanical Code®](#) (IMC), [International Fuel Gas Code®](#) (IFGC), [International Swimming Pool and Spa Code®](#) (ISPSC) and the [International Private Sewage Disposal Code®](#) (IPSDC). These sessions are designed not only to provide technical knowledge, but also to foster meaningful relationships within the PMG community.

[Read more here](#) →

ICC Family of Solutions Updates

ICC Evaluation Service performs tests on high-performance storm shelters

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC-ES) performs tests in accordance with ICC 500, as well as FEMA P-320 and PEMA P-361, for manufacturers of high-performance storm shelters and components. These tests include:

- Missile impact
- Static Air-pressure Difference
- Windborne debris impact resistance for tornadoes and hurricanes
- Wind load testing

ICC 500 outlines the standard for design and construction of storm shelters and is considered the primary standard for storm safe rooms, storm shelters and hurricane impact doors. The standard gives the minimum requirements to safeguard safe room occupants from conditions commonly experienced during tornadoes and hurricanes. Testing for storm shelter doors, walls, and other components is a crucial step in adhering to the standards set forth in the code. Contact us today to learn more and get started with storm shelter testing.

ICC-ES Supplement Reports help to simplify regional product approvals

ICC-ES regional supplement reports can help move product approval faster. ICC-ES Supplement Reports are designed to show proof of compliance to local and state-specific building codes. Adding an ICC-ES Supplement Report can streamline multiple jurisdiction approvals with one comprehensive report, simplifying the process of meeting varying regional code requirements. Recognized by code officials, designers, and specifiers, ICC-ES reports provide a mark of excellence, signifying that products have been rigorously evaluated, enhancing credibility and streamlining the approval process. ICC-ES Supplement Reports support:

- ✓ Nationwide Market Access: Meet the specific requirements of key local codes like the Los Angeles Building Code, Chicago Building Code, Florida Building Code, Oregon Building Code, and more.
- ✓ Streamlined Approval Process: Save time with code-official-trusted reports that make it easy to demonstrate compliance with local and state building codes.
- ✓ Enhanced Credibility: Show stakeholders that your products meet the highest standards for safety and compliance.
- ✓ Increased Visibility: Join the ranks of manufacturers already gaining awareness and trust in new markets nationwide by showcasing compliance to regional codes.

[Read more here](#) →

Virtual Canadian Evaluation Committee hearing set for September 18

The following will be presented for review at the virtual Canadian Evaluation Committee hearing, September 18.

- AC38CA (20) Canadian Acceptance Criteria for Sheathing Membranes
- AC174CA (20) Canadian Acceptance Criteria for Wood-plastic Composite and Plastic Lumber Deck Board Span Ratings

The proceedings of the Canadian Evaluation Committee will be carried out via live WebEx.

- Parties interested in joining the ICC-ES Canadian Evaluation Committee hearing on September 18 must register for the WebEx Event.
- Registrations will be reviewed and approved weekly by ICC-ES. You will receive a confirmation when your registration has been approved by ICC-ES.
- Registrations close September 17.

To register for the September 18 review, [click here](#). View the detailed agenda and all the latest information [here](#).