

REACH CODE NEWS BRIEF: AUGUST 2025

2025 ENERGY CODE RESOURCES FOR LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

2025

**BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY
STANDARDS FOR RESIDENTIAL
AND NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS**

TITLE 24, PART 6, AND ASSOCIATED
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
IN PART 1



JULY 2025
CEC-400-2025-010-F

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Gavin Newsom, Governor

The statewide Local Energy Codes team has been working hard to develop a full range of resources for the 2025 Energy Code for local jurisdiction use in developing reach code measures. The Resources area of the website is continually updated as new additional resources are complete; this list provides a snapshot of what is available now.

- [Local Energy Codes Options and Opportunities](#) provides a high-level overview of the range of options available
- [Reach Code Primer: The Local Government Reach Code Process](#), updated in September 2024, offers an overview of the development and adoption process
- 2025 Cost Effectiveness Studies: these provide the cost-effectiveness analysis required for reach codes amending the statewide energy code
 - [Single Family Residential Retrofits](#) (FlexPath and Specific Measures)
 - [Single Family Residential AC to HP Replacements](#)
 - [Nonresidential AC to HP Replacements](#)
- Staff and Implementation Resources
 - [FlexPath Decision Guide](#)
 - [FlexPath Slide Deck](#)
 - [Single Family FlexPath Model Ordinance Language](#)
 - [Single Family AC to HP Model Ordinance Language](#)
 - [Single Family AC to HP Model Staff Report](#)
 - [Single Family AC to HP Model Presentation](#)
 - [Nonresidential AC to HP Model Ordinance Language](#)

These are all available from localenergycodes.com, are free of charge, and available to any jurisdiction across California, regardless of utility service territory.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9: 3C-REN webinar: [Building The Future: High Performance Construction in California](#)

September 10: New Buildings Institute webinar: [Building Electric-Efficient Tiny Homes: Smarter, Smaller, Sustainable](#)

September 10: California Energy Commission: [Business Meeting](#)

September 11: [CalWEP Fall Plenary](#), Los Angeles

September 16-17: [ET Summit 2025](#) (virtual).

September 17-18: I-REN: [Zero Net Carbon Design Series](#)

September 17: BayREN Forum: [Resilient Municipal Facilities: Examples, Resources, and Lessons Learned](#)

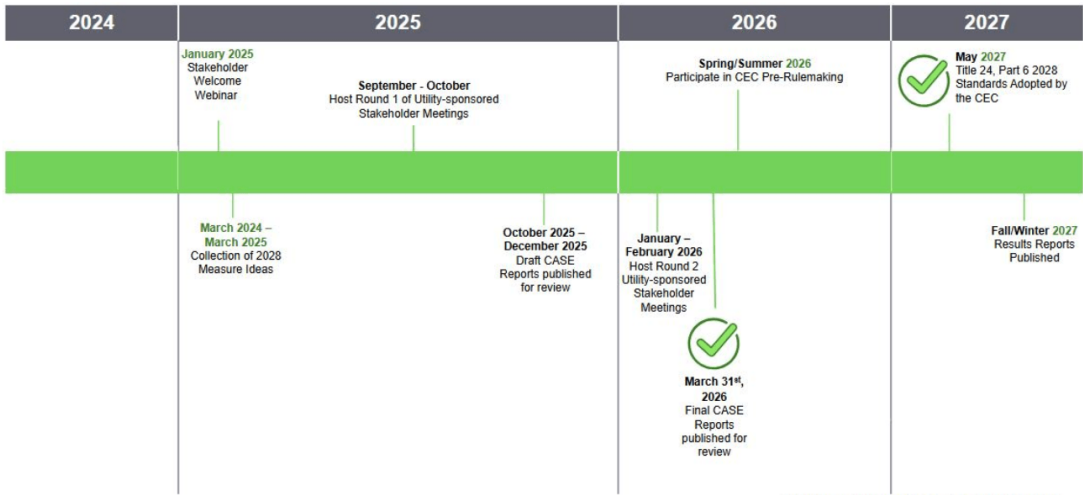
September 18-19: [2nd Global Summit on Climate Change & Environmental Sustainability](#), Los Angeles.

September 24: New Buildings Institute webinar: [Flipping the Switch - Helping Schools Achieve Clean Energy Goals Session 1](#)



NEW THIS MONTH!

Statewide CASE Team Milestones



Timeline subject to change. Updated 7/9/2025



STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS FOR 2028 ENERGY CODE DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

The Statewide Codes and Standards Enhancement (CASE) Team is hosting a series of interactive webinars in September to gather input on proposed Nonresidential Updates to the 2028 Energy Code.

- Tuesday, September 23: [Nonresidential HVAC, Covered Processes](#)
- Wednesday, September 24: [Nonresidential Covered Processes, Lighting](#)
- Tuesday, September 30: [Nonresidential Covered Processes, Envelope, HPWH](#)

These webinars provide an opportunity to collaborate on cost-effective proposals to update the California Energy Code and improve energy efficiency and system performance in California buildings.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION CELEBRATES 50 YEARS!

The California Energy Commission (CEC) was established in 1975 by the Warren-Alquist Act to respond to the energy crisis of the early 1970s. Over the past five decades, the CEC has pioneered energy efficiency advances and diversified the state's energy portfolio through its research and programs. Today, with a focus on achieving the state's goal of 100 percent clean energy, the CEC continues to advance innovative and equitable energy solutions.

The CEC was tasked with pursuing a forward-thinking agenda using key powers granted to it by the new law. The first was centralizing energy planning under the CEC, which imposed oversight on utility companies' ability to build new power plants and increase profits. At the same time, the legislation mandated the CEC to develop the first-ever [energy efficiency standards](#) for appliances and buildings and pursue alternative energy options, such as wind and solar, through research and investment in advanced technologies.

For more information on this historic journey over the past five decades, visit the Commission's Anniversary [webpage](#) or view its commemorative [video](#).

IMPACT OF INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT CHANGES ON REACH CODE DEVELOPMENT

On July 4, 2025, the One Big Beautiful Bill (H.R. 1) was signed into law, officially ending the 25D federal solar tax credit for homeowners on December 31, 2025. The expiration of this tax credit is likely to impact FlexPath reach codes, as the federal financial incentive reducing the first cost of investment for homeowners will disappear. This is expected to have the greatest impact primarily for jurisdictions in milder climate zones with lower cooling loads and for newer vintage homes.

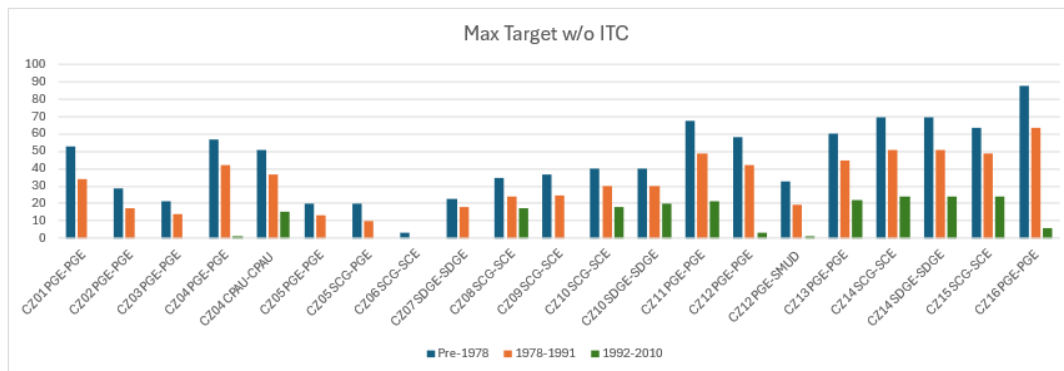
For instance, looking at Chula Vista (CZ10) as an example, the number of points for the earliest vintage (pre-1978) home under its FlexPath score totals 39, with nearly 45% of the total points coming from solar PV options. For the 1992-2010 vintage category, the solar PV options account for 85% of the total available points.

While PV options may be less valuable to FlexPath approaches, they may still bring significant value in specific situations. The graph below illustrates FlexPath targets for all 16 Climate Zones with cost effective PV options.

The statewide Local Energy Codes team just published a [Memo](#) to the original Cost Effectiveness Study discussing this point as well as incorporating 2025 changes and the analysis findings into the online Cost Effectiveness Explorer.

For more information, or to discuss jurisdiction-specific circumstances, please contact info@localenergycodes.com.

Maximum FlexPath Target: With C/E PV



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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