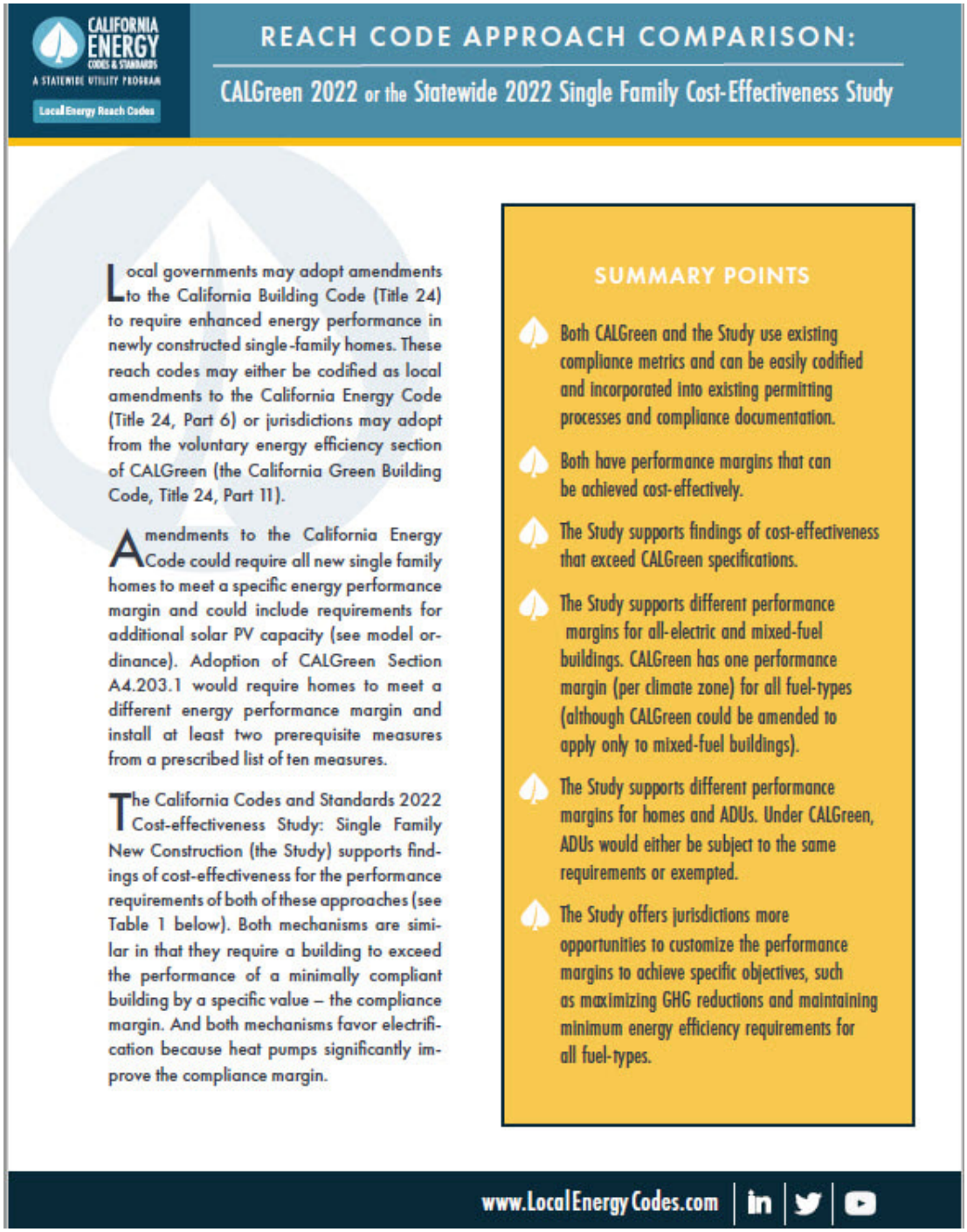
REACH CODE NEWS BRIEF: OCTOBER 2022

NOW AVAILABLE: REACH CODE APPROACH COMPARISON: CALGREEN 2022 OR THE STATEWIDE 2022 SINGLE FAMILY COST-EFFECTIVENESS STUDY?



CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODES & STANDARDS
A STATEWIDE UTILITY PROGRAM
Local Energy Reach Codes

REACH CODE APPROACH COMPARISON:

CALGreen 2022 or the Statewide 2022 Single Family Cost-Effectiveness Study

Local governments may adopt amendments to the California Building Code (Title 24) to require enhanced energy performance in newly constructed single-family homes. These reach codes may either be codified as local amendments to the California Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) or jurisdictions may adopt from the voluntary energy efficiency section of CALGreen (the California Green Building Code, Title 24, Part 11).

Amendments to the California Energy Code could require all new single family homes to meet a specific energy performance margin and could include requirements for additional solar PV capacity (see model ordinance). Adoption of CALGreen Section A4.203.1 would require homes to meet a different energy performance margin and install at least two prerequisite measures from a prescribed list of ten measures.

The California Codes and Standards 2022 Cost-effectiveness Study: Single Family New Construction (the Study) supports findings of cost-effectiveness for the performance requirements of both of these approaches (see Table 1 below). Both mechanisms are similar in that they require a building to exceed the performance of a minimally compliant building by a specific value – the compliance margin. And both mechanisms favor electrification because heat pumps significantly improve the compliance margin.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Both CALGreen and the Study use existing compliance metrics and can be easily codified and incorporated into existing permitting processes and compliance documentation.
- Both have performance margins that can be achieved cost-effectively.
- The Study supports findings of cost-effectiveness that exceed CALGreen specifications.
- The Study supports different performance margins for all-electric and mixed-fuel buildings. CALGreen has one performance margin (per climate zone) for all fuel-types (although CALGreen could be amended to apply only to mixed-fuel buildings).
- The Study supports different performance margins for homes and ADUs. Under CALGreen, ADUs would either be subject to the same requirements or exempted.
- The Study offers jurisdictions more opportunities to customize the performance margins to achieve specific objectives, such as maximizing GHG reductions and maintaining minimum energy efficiency requirements for all fuel-types.

www.LocalEnergyCodes.com

With the effective date of the statewide 2022 Energy Code less than 90 days away, many local jurisdictions are hard at work crafting local measures that reach beyond the statewide thresholds to achieve local CAP and other climate goals. The statewide Reach Codes Program has recently published a useful resource for jurisdictions evaluating different approaches to local ordinances focusing on single-family new construction.

This Fact Sheet examines the differences between local amendments to the Energy Code (Title 24, Part 6) compared to adopting specific provisions from the voluntary energy efficiency section of 2022

CALGreen (Green Building Code, Title 24, Part 11). While the new 2022 Single Family New Construction Cost-Effectiveness Study supports findings of cost-effectiveness for the performance effectiveness for the performance requirements of both approaches, there are significant differences between the two pathways.

For instance, the Study supports different performance margins for all-electric and mixed-fuel buildings while CALGreen has a single performance margin for all fuel types. Additionally, the Study supports different margins for detached homes and ADUs while under CALGreen, ADUs would be subject to the same requirements as detached homes or exempted.

The Fact Sheet provides valuable insight into the different compliance metrics being used in the 2022 Code language as well as a table showing the compliance margins under each approach for all 16 Climate Zones.

The new Fact Sheet is available here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

November 2: BayREN Training: Navigating the Energy Code (2022 Update)

November 9: BayREN Training: 2022 Energy Code Changes – Single Family

November 9: 3C-REN Webinar: Shifts in Power: Ensuring the IRA, 2022 Energy Code, and California's Climate Policies Benefit the Tri-County Region

November 10: 3C-REN: 2022 Energy Code Preview for Single Family Projects

November 15-16: Energy Code Ace training: 2022 Title 24, Part 6 Essentials — Single-family Standards for Architects & Designers

November 16: BayREN Regional Forum: Decarbonizing Rental Housing While Protecting Tenants

November 16: Energy Commission Monthly Business Meeting

November 17: 3C-REN Training: 2022 Energy Code Preview for Multifamily Projects

November 29: Energy Code Ace training: 2022 Title 24, Part 6 Essentials — Nonresidential & Multifamily Standards: Solar & Battery Storage

November 30: BayREN Training: 2022 Energy Code Changes – Multifamily

November 30: Pacific Energy Center webinar: Commercial Building Retrofits Electrification



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

NEW THIS MONTH!



REACH CODES CORNER: RECAP OF FINAL NEWCOMERS WEBINAR SERIES EVENT

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

The popular Reach Codes Newcomers webinar series concluded in late September with the final session focusing on implementation. The session, a result of collaboration between the Statewide Reach Codes Program, BayREN and California Climate and Energy Collaborative, featured a range of speakers from local jurisdictions, led by Misti Bruceri of the statewide program and Karen Kristiansson of BayREN.

Brian Reyes, Sustainability Planner for the County of Marin, and Lawrence Garber, Local Government Associate for Building Decarbonization Coalition, led off the session with analysis of reach code implementation efforts. Reyes shared the results of the County's analysis while Garber provided a snapshot of BDC's annual survey. Both presenters pointed out common challenges, including increased workload for local staff and lack of systems to track and analyze implementation data.

The session then shifted to focus on creating a framework for reach code implementation and local leaders Joe McCluskey from the City of Burlingame and Kristian Hoffland from the City of Santa Barbara shared their expertise and suggestions. These included providing training for jurisdiction staff in other departments who participate in code implementation, developing tools and checklists, or using existing tools such as the HERS registry where possible.

Finally, the team summarized the keys to successful implementation:

Staff Time

- Plan for time for implementation
- Designated champion for ongoing implementation
- Time for all staff for initial training and refreshers

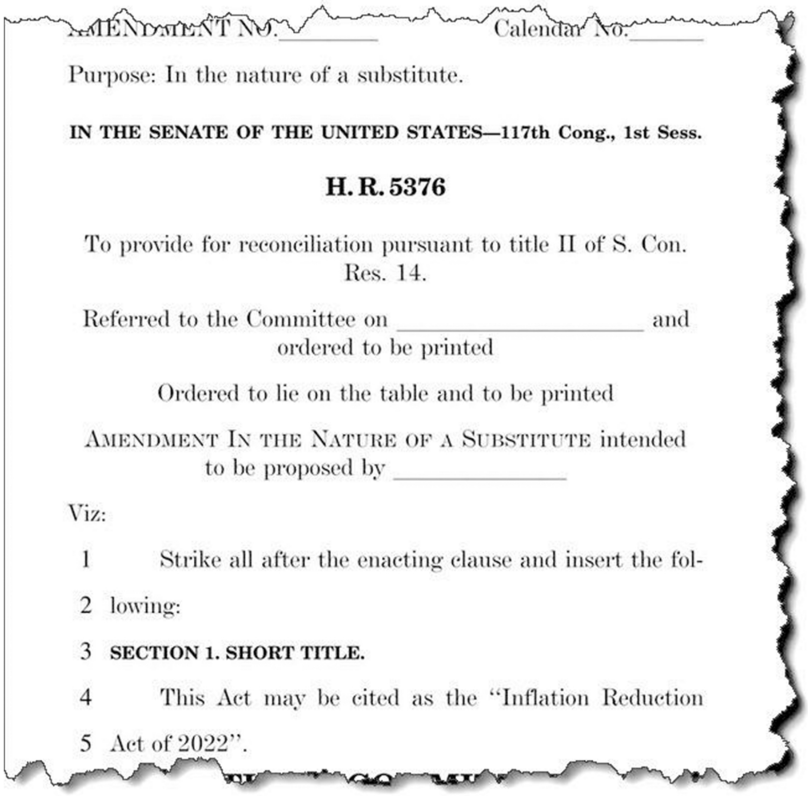
Communication

- Clear, early communication with applicants
- Clear communication with staff
    - What kind of support do they want?
    - Ongoing challenges

Tracking

- Consider what you'll need to understand and document the policy impacts in a couple years
- Set up systems for collecting data
- Monitor and adjust (and report out!)

The presentation materials for this session, and all the previous sessions, are available for download on both the localenergycodes.com and BayREN websites. Session recordings are available on the Statewide Reach Codes Program YouTube channel.



AMENDMENT NO._____ Calendar No._____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—117th Cong., 1st Sess.

H. R. 5376

To provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 14.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by _____

Viz:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Inflation Reduction Act of 2022".

HOW THE NEW INFLATION REDUCTION ACT CAN HELP LOCAL JURISDICTIONS ACHIEVE REACH CODE AND CLIMATE GOALS

The reach codes team hosted a webinar on July 7, 2022, to share draft results of the multifamily new construction cost-effectiveness analysis.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA) was signed into law by President Joe Biden on August 16, 2022, and according to the DOE's preliminary assessment, represents a historic, $369 billion investment in the modernization of the American energy system that will—in combination with other enacted policies and past actions—help drive 2030 economy-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 40% below 2005 levels.[1]

The legislation contains several provisions that may be impactful to local jurisdictions across California as they work toward achieving their own climate goals. This article, while not intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the IRA, offers some highlights of the Act as well as some resources for more information.

Key provisions include:

- Expansion of clean energy tax credits to drive adoption of wind and solar power
- Competitive financing to local, state and tribal governments for climate-smart development
- Funding for programs aimed at deploying clean energy such as rooftop solar and pollution-reducing technologies in low-income and disadvantaged communities
- Financial assistance for clean energy projects that benefit disadvantaged communities
- Incentives for homeowners to install heat pumps for furnace and water heater replacements, EV purchases and rooftop solar
- Financial assistance to local governments to establish ambitious building codes, including adoption of zero-energy codes
- Funding for state-based workforce development assistance programs to train contractors in installation of home energy efficiency and electrification improvements

Funding under the IRA will be managed and released through various federal agencies on different timetables. For instance, in some cases funding must be distributed by the end of 2024 while other funding may be available as late as the end of 2031. The availability of IRA grants will also encourage state and local governments to consider how these funds can and should be mixed with their planned use of other state and federal funds.

Some useful resources that provide more information on the IRA and funding opportunities for local governments include:

- Cities and the Inflation Reduction Act, Climate Law Blog, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia University.
- Clean Energy for All website
- "How States and Cities Can Benefit from Climate Investments in the Inflation Reduction Act," Center for American Progress, August 25, 2022.
- **Implementation of Inflation Reduction Act,** ACEEE Energy Efficiency Forum, December 8, 2022

[1] **The Inflation Reduction Act Drives Significant Emissions Reductions and Positions America to Reach Our Climate Goals. US Department of Energy Office of Policy.** DOE/OP-0018, August 2022.



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

October 2026 September 2026 August 2026
Archives