

January 29, 2021

SUNSHINE COAST - ENERGY STEP CODE IMPLEMENTATION

As of January 1, 2021, Step 1 of the BC Energy Step Code is in effect throughout the Sunshine Coast.¹

What is the BC Energy Step Code?

The BC Energy Step Code is a provincial standard where all new buildings across BC are built “net-zero energy-ready” by 2032.

To comply with the BC Energy Step Code, builders must use energy software modelling and on-site testing to demonstrate that both the design and the construction meet the requirements of the Code. They may use any materials or construction methods to do so.²

What building types does this apply to?

This applies for all new construction Part 3 (large and complex) and Part 9 (houses and small) buildings. Renovations are exempt from the standard.

What requirements are needed from the applicant?

All new applications will include a Pre-Construction Energy Report from a Certified Energy Advisor or Energy Modeler. To achieve Step 1, a Post-Construction Energy Report is required before the occupancy permit is issued.

A list of available rebates may be found at Clean BC Better Homes, British Columbia’s online hub for homeowners and businesses: <https://betterhomesbc.ca/>

A list of energy modelers and advisers working in the province can be found at Better Homes BC: <https://betterhomesbc.ca/ea-results/?ptype=pgeas&ea-project-types=constructing-a-home&ea-locations=Sechelt#ea-results>.

Additional resources:

- Step Code FAQs: <https://energystepcode.ca/faq/>
- Step Code Information Bulletin: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/bulletins/b19-01-step1-compliance-bulletin.pdf>
- Step Code Compliance: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/bulletins/b19-02-airtightness-step-code-bulletin.pdf>
- Step Code Timelines for Builders: http://energystepcode.ca/app/uploads/sites/257/2020/12/FOR-PRINT-FULL-STEP_BuilderMiniBrochure_v04.pdf

¹ [Building Amendment Bylaw No. 409-7, 2020](#)

² <https://energystepcode.ca/how-it-works/>