

Building Performance Standards (BPS)

Colorado State Building Performance Colorado (BPC)

Colorado state's Building Performance Colorado (BPC) program was adopted in 2023 to set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets for large buildings to collectively achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Owners of covered buildings are required to track and report their building's energy use and meet property-type performance targets in 2030 and 2040. The state plans to expand the program to include targets for 2040. The policy does provide building owners with some flexibility for compliance by offering alternative performance metrics that still maintain the intention of reducing emissions.

Covered Buildings

- **Commercial** buildings of 50,000+ square feet
- **Multifamily** buildings of 50,000+ square feet
- **Exemptions:** Buildings with more than half the gross floor area dedicated to manufacturing, industrial, or agricultural purposes.

Timeline

2026	2030	2040	2050
With the passing of CO House Bill 1269, 2026 targets became goals rather than firm targets.	All buildings must collectively meet the overall emission reduction goal of 20% from the 2021 energy use baseline.	Targets TBD	All buildings must collectively meet net-zero emissions.

Compliance Requirements & Pathways

Building owners need to submit their benchmarking report using the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager® and assess their building(s) performance. Using this data, The Colorado Energy Office (CEO) established property-type targets for both Site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) and GHG Intensity (GHGI). A building's property type is determined by its primary use and follows ENERGY Star Manager Portfolio® guidelines for property types. Building owners may choose a Compliance Pathway with a performance metric that best suits their building. The BPC program does not specify how building owners must reach their targets, allowing for innovation and tailored approaches.

Compliance Pathways

Energy Efficiency Pathway

Buildings must reduce their weather-normalized Site EUI to meet their property type target, typically through energy efficiency measures and upgrades. This pathway focuses on reducing energy use and serves as the default route for buildings that do not elect one of the other Compliance Pathways.

Energy Efficiency Standard Percent Reduction Pathway

Building owners that will not meet their property type target can instead opt to reduce their building's Site EUI by a flat amount. To meet compliance on this pathway, a building must reduce its weather-normalized Site EUI by 13% for the period of 2026-2029 (now a voluntary goal due to HB1269) and by 29% for the period of 2030-2050.

GHG Reduction Pathway

Rather than meet a Site EUI target, building owners may choose to meet a GHGI property type target. This pathway focuses on reducing emissions, usually by investing in high-efficiency electric equipment or renewable energy.

GHG Standard Percent Reduction Pathway

Similar to the Energy Efficiency Standard Percent Reduction Pathway, building owners may reduce their building's GHGI by a flat amount. To meet compliance on this pathway, a building must reduce its GHGI by 13% for the period of 2026-2029 (now a voluntary goal due to HB1269) and by 29% for the period of 2030-2050.

Compliance Adjustments

The BPC Program allows for adjustments to be made due to unique circumstances. Building owners requesting a compliance adjustment must conduct an ASHRAE Level II energy audit.

Target Adjustments

Only available for buildings that follow either the Energy Efficiency or Greenhouse Gas Reduction pathways with a property type target.

Timeline Adjustments

Buildings are eligible to request a compliance timeline adjustment, irrespective of the compliance pathway.

Under-Resourced Buildings

Under-resourced buildings are considered buildings with limited access to resources and may receive additional flexibility.

Demonstration of Compliance

CEO relies on the benchmark reports to determine if a building is meeting its assigned BPS target. Buildings using a GHGI metric must also submit a Building Emissions Calculator Report.

What are the Penalties?

Building owners who fail to meet their BPS target will be issued a civil penalty of \$2,000 and may be issued an additional \$5,000 penalty for every month the building is out of compliance.

Conservice Solutions

Conservice offers a BPS service package that includes tracking building performance against BPS targets, compliance submissions, enhanced reporting options, and many other exclusive features. Visit our website for more information: <https://esg.conservice.com/>