

BC Energy Step Code – Part 9 Residential

Effective May 1, 2023, compliance with Step 3 of the BC Energy Step Code (BCESC) will take effect within all electoral areas of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) for Part 9 residential construction. These upcoming changes are a requirement of the BC Building code and will be in conformance with the Provincial Building Act General Regulation.

Part 9 Construction

Buildings to which the Step Code applies include:

- Detached single-family homes, with or without secondary suites
- Cabins, cottages, carriage homes
- Duplexes, multiplexes, row houses, and low-rise apartment buildings

Document Requirements

The documents listed below are in addition to typical documents required for building permit applications.

For building permit application:

- Pre-construction BC Energy Compliance Report completed by a qualified Energy Advisor
- Energy modelling report (e.g. EnerGuide report)
- Construction plans (same version used for the energy modelling and compliance reports)

Prior to insulation/vapour barrier inspection:

- Mid-Construction Blower Door Test & Compliance Report
This report provides valuable information to help mitigate deficiencies early when they are easiest to address. If testing is only conducted at the completion of the building, changes required to address deficiencies in the building's airtightness can be time consuming and costly.

Prior to occupancy:

- As-built BC Energy Compliance Report completed by a qualified Energy Advisor

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Climatic Zone

Energy Advisors use the degree-days obtained from the appropriate climate zone in the National Research Council's [HOT2000 Climate Map](#) to complete the BC Energy Compliance Report.

Alternatively, the appropriate degree-days below 18°C found in Division B, Appendix C of the current BC Building Code may also be used.

“To learn more about the RDN building permit requirements, access our online building permit portal or find links to the BC Building Code, visit rdn.bc.ca/building-inspection-services. “

Helpful Resources

[Find an Energy Advisor](#)

[Builder guides and handbooks | Energy Step Code](#)

[Resources for industry | Energy Step Code](#)

[Resources for BC Contractors • CleanBC Better Homes](#)

[Technical Bulletins - Province of British Columbia](#)

[CHBABC Online BC Energy Step Code Courses](#)

[CHBABC Energy Programs](#)

[Home Rebate Search Tool • CleanBC Better Homes](#)

[Incentive programs | Energy Step Code](#)

Organizations

[BC Housing](#)

[Canada Green Building Council \(CAGBC\)](#)

[Canadian Home Builders' Association BC](#)

[Community Energy Association](#)


[Energy Step Code](#)

[Passive House Canada](#)

[ZEBx – Vancouver Zero Emissions Building Centre of Excellence](#)

For more information, please contact:

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Regional District of Nanaimo

 250-390-6530

 building@rdn.bc.ca

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