

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Energy Code Performance Pilot Program

Q1. When will the pilot start and end?

A1. The program will begin accepting submittals on July 27, 2021 with an anticipated completion date of the end of the year. There will be an initial 2-3 week sign-up period. Participants will be offered training shortly after the sign-up period.

Q2. What buildings are eligible for participation in the Pilot?

A2. New buildings with one or more of the following occupancy types are eligible to participate in the Pilot:

- Multifamily
- Office
- Retail
- School

Additions and/or alterations of these occupancy types may be considered on a case by case basis.

Q3. What form will my participation take?

A3. Participants will be asked to submit alternate energy analysis forms documenting a new or existing project and provide feedback on the process itself. Along with a cover sheet, there will be one report for each building systems: envelope, mechanical and lighting. Forms will be completed with assistance from PNNL and submitted to the Department for review and data collection.

Q4. How will my data be used after submission?

A4. Participant data will be received and reviewed solely by the PNNL+DOB Pilot team. Collected data will be analyzed anonymously. The data and analysis results will be used only for the purpose of identifying where the compliance tools could be further developed and improved.

Q5. How long will it typically take to prepare a report?

A5. The time to analyze a project using any one of the proposed system performance pathways will depend on the size and complexity of the project. The level of effort is expected to be similar to using COMcheck compliance software. For example, a typical 25,000 square foot office building should take about 4-6 hours to complete each of the reporting tools.

Q6. Will the pilot for a job application replace regular ECC compliance approvals per current Codes?

A6. No. The pilot is voluntary and separate participation. Submission for the pilot will be independent from regular ECC compliance approval steps.

Q7. If a pilot testing results in ‘Not Passing’ in a job application, will it affect regular compliance approval or future permit of the same job reviewed under current Codes?

A7. No. The pilot is meant to test a new approach and methodology for various real job applications, and the results will be used only to further improve the alternate tools and future Energy Codes.

Q8. Will this future transition of NYCECC to performance-based compliance approach apply to all building/job types and sizes?

A8. No. In accordance with Local Law of 2018 requirement for ‘Covered Buildings,’ the performance-based compliance path will likely apply to most buildings of 25,000 square feet or greater. Although they will have the option of using the performance-based approach, all other buildings will likely continue with prescriptive performance path as an option for compliance.

Q9. Who should I contact if I have questions about the program or tools?

A9. All questions regarding the Pilot program shall be sent to EnergyCodePilot@buildings.nyc.gov.

Q10. If I am planning an alteration can I participate?

A10. Yes. Large alterations will be considered on a case by case basis. To be considered, please email EnergyCodePilot@buildings.nyc.gov with details of your alteration.

Q11. Can I participate if I am simply planning an HVAC upgrade?

A11. Although whole building Analysis is preferred, certain system alterations may be considered. Please email EnergyCodePilot@buildings.nyc.gov with details of your alteration.

Q12. Are you still interested in the report if I can’t get my project to pass the criteria set forth in the Performance Pilot?

A12. Yes. The purpose of the pilot is to determine feasibility of the tools and applicability of a Performance-Based Energy Code. Projects that do not pass within the current tools will be still be analyzed to inform future criteria of the tools.

Q13. Does PNNL or DOB have tutorials, or offer trainings for each of the tools?

A13. Yes, training will be offered to those participating in the Pilot program. In addition, please find additional information regarding the programs and performance-based Codes at:

- **Total Systems Performance Ratio @ Asset Score –**
<https://help.buildingenergyscore.com/support/solutions/articles/8000081245-total-system-performance-ratio-in-asset-score>
- **Total Systems Performance Ratio Training –**
https://buildingenergyscore.energy.gov/documents/TSPR_Training_Presentation_Slides_2020-06-03.pdf
- **Performance Based Codes –** https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2021-07/Performance-Based_Code_Compliance_Roadmap_Final.pdf.