



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

# New BC Energy Step Code Requirements

May 4, 2023

Development Services, Peace River Regional District

diverse. vast. abundant.

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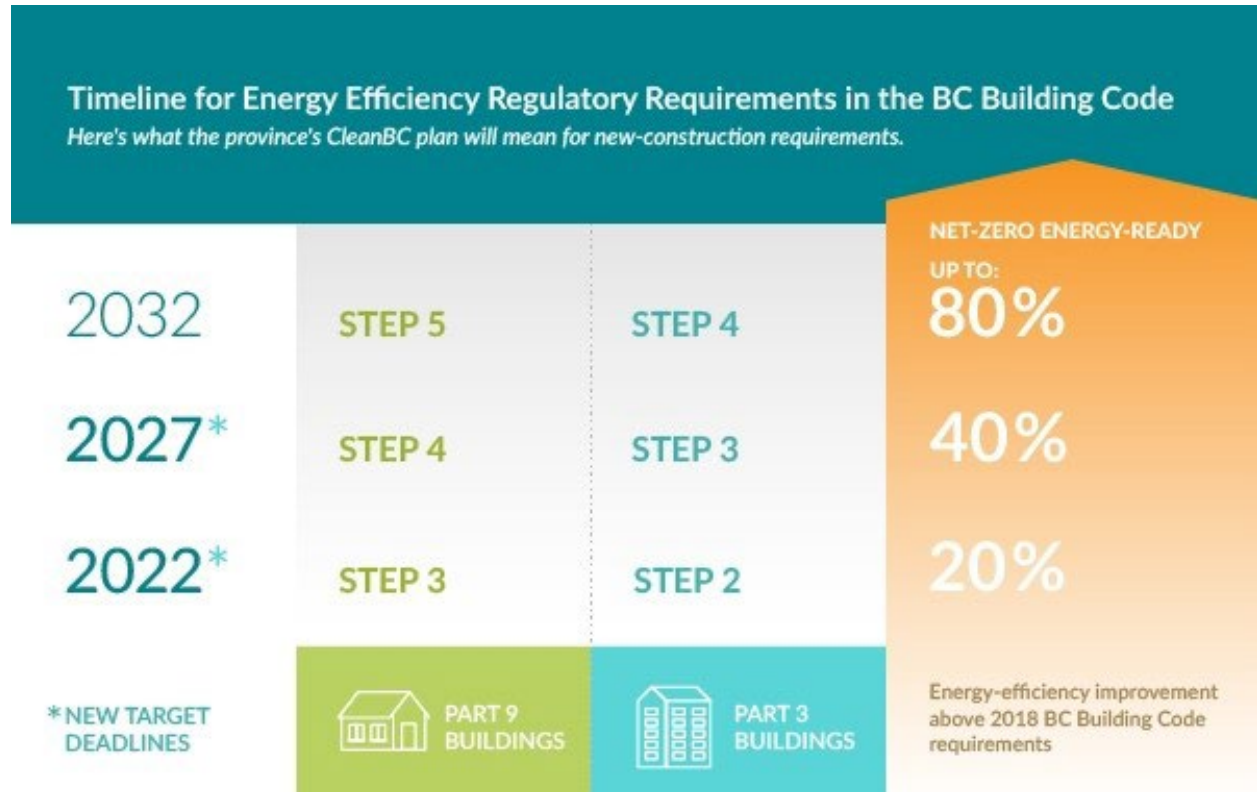
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## Overview

Effective May 1, 2023, most new buildings will be required to comply with the energy efficiency requirements of the BC Energy Step Code.

The BC Energy Step Code's performance-based energy efficiency approach requires that a building's designed performance be evaluated through whole-building energy modelling and on-site airtightness testing to validate how the building's design and construction meets performance targets for the desired 'Step' of the BC Energy Step Code.



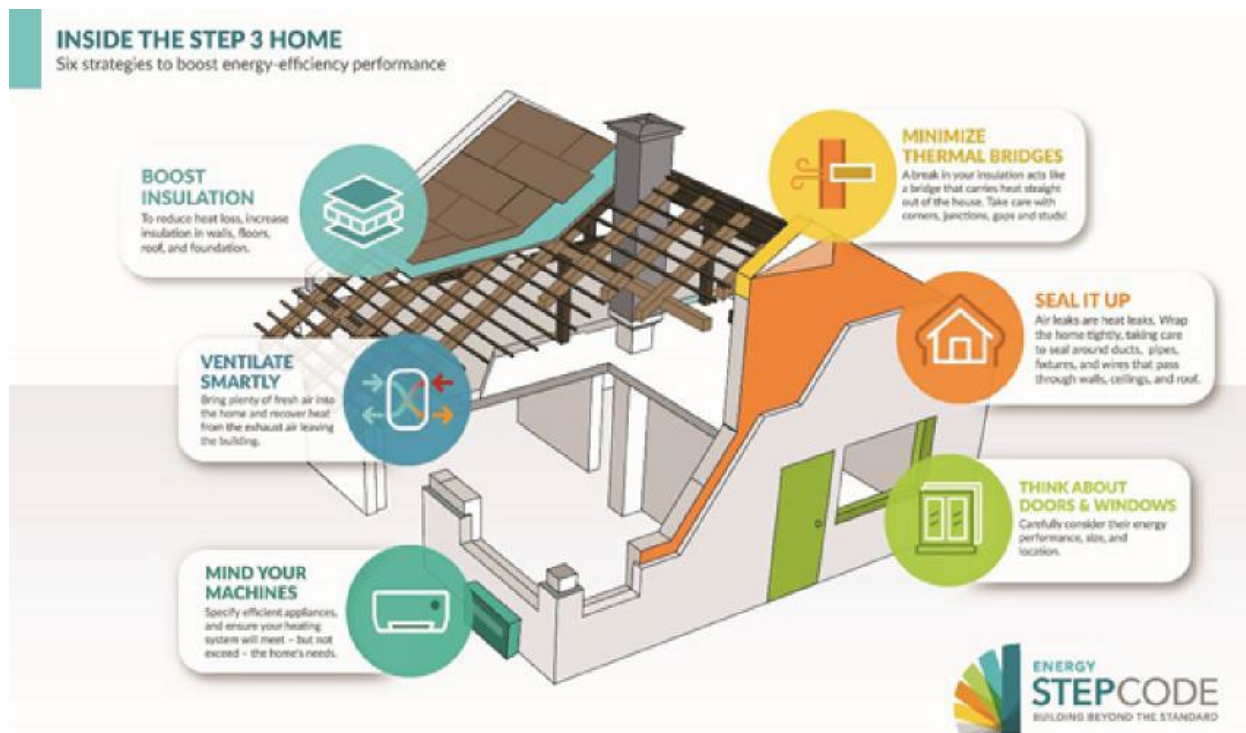
## Achieving compliance with Step Code

1. Builder works with an energy advisor from the design phase to create a model (energy efficiency target) for the new build. Find a local Energy Advisor [betterhomesbc.ca/ea/](https://betterhomesbc.ca/ea/).
2. Energy advisor provides a standardized "pre-built" report that is to be submitted at time of building permit application. See Compliance tools: [energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9](https://energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9)
3. Builder and energy advisor stay in communication throughout the build. Energy model is updated with any changes to the design (e.g. window specification updates, mechanical system exchange, insulation level change, etc.).

4. Optional but advised: mid-construction blower door test conducted by energy advisor to find any air leaks and allow repair **BEFORE** seal-up stage.
5. Final inspection and air-tightness test conducted by energy advisor. Energy advisor submits a standardized “as-built” report to the Peace River Regional District following construction and prior to final inspection or occupancy, to verify airtightness and energy performance.

See Compliance tools: [energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9](http://energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9)

6. An Occupancy Inspection Report can be issued if minimum required energy efficiency is achieved, as verified by the energy advisor in the “as-built” report.



## Contact

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