



# New Jersey Zero Energy Roadmap

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# Staff Introductions



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# Where the Roadmap is now

- To date multiple interactive sessions with various interested parties:
  - Home Builders
  - Fuel Gas Merchants/Utilities
  - Renter Associations
  - Enviro Groups
- Comments Collected from interested parties
- Other listening sessions scheduled for March/April
- Late April report to BPU

## BASE ENERGY CODE (BUSINESS AS USUAL)

### 2022:

- DCA reviews and adopts ICC 2021 codes including IECC 2021 in Uniform Construction Code with no weakening amendments
- DCA allows municipalities to adopt voluntary Zero Energy Appendices

### 2023-2024:

- Focus on achieving above >90% compliance with adopted base code

### 2025:

- Adopt new base code (ICC 2024 Codes) with considerations for zero energy ready and/or electrification requirements for all building types

### 2028:

- Adopt new base code for all building types (based on ICC 2027 Codes) with zero energy requirements

## STRETCH CODE PATH

### 2022:

- DCA reviews and adopts IECC 2021 in Uniform Construction Code with no weakening amendments
- DCA develop and adopts a statewide-voluntary stretch code (i.e. better energy efficiency req., electrification, renewable energy interconnection)

### 2025:

- Adopt new base code (ICC 2024 Codes) with any electrification provisions from stretch code
- Update stretch code with higher energy efficiency benchmark

### 2028:

- Adopt zero energy base code (based on ICC 2027 Codes) and fully incorporated provisions from stretch code

## REHAB CODE PATH

### 2022:

- DCA reviews and adopts IECC 2021 in Uniform Construction Code with no weakening amendments
- DCA adopts electrification amendments to Rehab Code

### 2023-2024:

- Municipalities use benchmarking law to implement building performance standards (BEPS)

### 2025:

- Adopt new base code (ICC 2024 Codes) with considerations for zero energy ready and/or electrification requirements
- Update Rehab Code with additional electrification and renewable energy procurement provisions

### 2028:

- Adopt new base code for all building types (based on ICC 2027 Codes) with zero energy requirements

# Base Energy Code (Business as Usual Actions)



- The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Board of Public Utilities, and the Department of Environmental Protection coordinate to develop a zero-energy code adoption timeline that establishes a high-level plan to reach a zero-energy code for new construction.
- Expand energy code training opportunities
- Support local implementation of electronic permitting/virtual Inspections capacity
- Develop and improve energy efficiency-focused workforce training programs by creating better pathways to recruit younger code enforcement professionals.
- Work with real estate industry to create home energy labels for residential/multifamily properties and reporting mechanisms for Multiple Listing Service (MLS) Databases
- Expand use of third-party energy efficiency certification programs as a code compliance path – including credentialed third-party implementation/verification/testing

## Stretch Code Path Actions

- Propose legislation to amend the Uniform Construction Code to allow for the adoption of a statewide voluntary stretch energy code that charges the Department of Community Affairs with developing and promulgating it.
- Develop and promulgate a statewide voluntary stretch energy code during the next code cycle that municipalities can adopt at the local level to require additional energy efficiency beyond the base energy code provisions in the Energy Subcode.
- Implement incentive programs and provide technical assistance to municipalities interested in adopting stretch code.

# Rehab Code Path Actions



- Develop energy efficiency updates (Basic Requirements) and electrification amendments (Supplementary Requirements) to the Rehabilitation (existing buildings) Subcode, making full use of triggers for proportional requirements.
- Propose legislation to amend the Uniform Construction Code to allow municipalities to adopt building energy performance standards (BEPS) and charge the Department of Community Affairs and/or Board of Public Utilities with developing model ordinance language for BEPS.
- Provide resources and technical assistance during municipal adoption of BEPS.
- Provide additional utility incentives to building owners that meet and/or surpass the energy efficiency benchmark of adopted BEPS ordinance.

Link to Roadmap: [New Jersey Zero Energy Roadmap Draft Review Copy - Google Docs](#)

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