

BC ENERGY STEP CODE REQUIREMENTS

In May 2023, the BC Building Code will require that all new builds must be 20% more energy-efficient than the base building code requirements today, which is Step 3 for Part 9 buildings, and Step 2 for Part 3 buildings.

ACHIEVING STEP CODE COMPLIANCE:

1. The builder works with an energy advisor from the design phase to create a model (energy efficiency target) for the new build.
2. Energy Advisor provides a standardized “pre-built” report that is to be submitted at the time of building permit application. - Refer to Part 9 Compliance Tools, found here: energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9
Note: *the building permit will not be issued without a satisfactory energy model from a qualified third party.*
3. The builder and energy advisor stay in communication throughout the build. The 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 the energy advisor. The energy advisor submits a standardized “as-built” report to the AHJ following construction and prior to final inspection or occupancy, to verify air tightness and energy performance.
6. An occupancy permit can be issued if the minimum required energy efficiency is achieved, as verified by the energy advisor in the “as-built” report.

Questions?

Contact Building Inspection:

250-794-3263 or
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