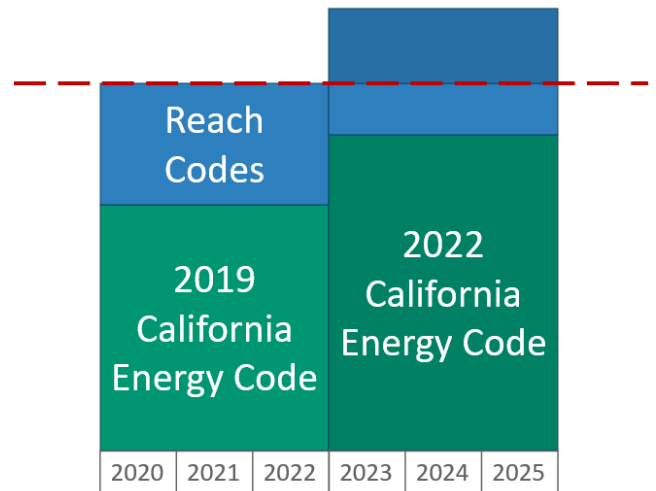


Reach Code Timing for the 2022 Energy Code

Reach codes are tied to the California Energy Code

- A local energy reach code is a local government's amendment to the California Energy Code
- The Energy Code is updated every 3 years
- When an updated Energy Code takes effect, reach codes adopted under the previous Energy Code become unenforceable
- If a local government wants to continue to have a reach code, the reach code must also be updated
- The 2022 California Energy Code will go into effect January 1, 2023



As shown on the following page, a reach code will need to be adopted around September of 2022 to take effect on January 1, 2023.

Three options local governments can consider in terms of timing are:

1. Adopt a reach code **to take effect at the same time as the updated Building Code.** One option is to adopt a local reach code to take effect at the same time as the updated Building Code. To do this, the reach code generally needs to be adopted around September or October of the year before the updated Building Code takes effect – in September 2022 to take effect January 1, 2023. This will allow time for state review and approval of the reach code before the end of the year. In many cases, local jurisdictions will then adopt amendments to other Parts of the updated Building Code later in the year. This timing ensures that a reach code is in effect for as long as possible and can ensure that there are no gaps in reach code requirements at the start of a new code cycle.
2. Adopt a reach code **with other amendments to the updated Building Code.** Many jurisdictions adopt amendments to different Parts of the updated California Building Code, usually late in the year before the updated code takes effect. To avoid the need for two separate amendments to the Code, some jurisdictions may adopt a reach code at the same time as it adopts the Building Code. Because a reach code amending the Energy Code (Part 6) of the Building Code requires additional approval by the California Energy Commission, however, the reach code likely will not take effect for a couple months after local approval. In some cases, this may mean that a jurisdiction will not have an enforceable reach code at the beginning of a new code cycle.
3. Adopt a reach code **when it makes sense in terms of the local process.** Some jurisdictions may not have previously adopted a reach code they want to continue and may not be ready to adopt a reach code for the beginning of the Building Code cycle. A reach code can legally be adopted at any time, so a jurisdiction can choose the timing that fits best with its needs.

Reach Code Timing for the 2022 Energy Code

Reach Code Timeline for the 2022 Energy Code

The graphic below shows the steps involved in developing and adopting a reach code, together with estimates of the time needed for each one, and approximately when each step will need to occur in order to have a reach code ready to take effect at the start of the next code cycle, on January 1, 2023. Each jurisdiction will need to customize this timeline, particularly for stakeholder engagement, involvement with local committees, and public process. Jurisdictions aiming to have a reach code in place to take effect with the updated Energy Code on January 1, 2023 will need to plan for adoption of the reach code around September of 2022.

