

# BC Zero Carbon Step Code

The purpose of this bulletin is to explain how the BC Zero Carbon Step Code pertains to new building permits.

On January 1, 2024 the CRD will enable Level EL-3 of BC Building Code Sections 9.37 and 10.3 which was introduced in the BC Building Code as a revision on May 01, 2023. The Province intends new buildings to be meet zero carbon emissions standards by 2030. This new requirement under the Code is related to greenhouse gas emissions and the Zero Carbon Step Code and applies to [all applications for new buildings](#) (except accessory buildings).

The Level EL-3 requirement will limit the primary heating systems and water heating systems for new buildings to electric heating systems or systems meeting the level EL-3 standard for reduced greenhouse gas emissions. It is important to note that fossil fuels and solid wood fuel heating systems will still be permitted for secondary or supplemental heating systems. The use of gas cooking stoves or ovens will not be restricted.

Resources for additional information:

- [BC Government: Building Code Changes Support BC's Zero Carbon Targets](#)
- [BC Government Zero Carbon Step Code Bulletin \(PDF\)](#)
- [BC Home Builder's Association BC Building Code Changes: Part 9 and Zero Carbon Step Code](#)

Please Note:

This is a supplement of the [Building Permit Application Checklist](#), which can be found here: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/building-permits-inspections/forms-publications>