

MEMBER SINCE 2017

WASHINGTON



CLIMATE SUCCESS STORY Governor Inslee cuts the ribbon at Telegraph Townhomes, sustainable, affordable townhomes built in partnership with Habitat for Humanity and the Kulshan Community Land Trust in Bellingham, WA.



Source: State of Washington Governor's Office

Washington passes nation's first statewide gas ban in new buildings

On Earth Day 2022, the Washington State Building Code Council adopted the country's strongest, most climate-friendly building energy codes to date. Beginning July 2023, new commercial and large multifamily residential buildings must be built with high-efficiency electric heat pumps for water and space heating.

Buildings represent Washington state's second-largest source of emissions and its fastest-growing source of carbon pollution, with emissions coming primarily from gas-powered space and water heating. By banning the use of fossil fuels in new commercial buildings, Washington is projected to eliminate more than eight million metric tons of CO₂ by 2050. Washington is poised to expand these requirements to all residential buildings by the end of the year.

However, Washington is not waiting until July 2023 to act. Earlier this year, Washington expanded its Clean Buildings law to institute energy performance standards to all buildings over 20,000 square

feet, thereby achieving greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions from existing buildings.

Washington will also continue to leverage state funds to make energy efficiency upgrades and install renewable energy in multifamily housing and community facilities, such as Hobson Place, which opened its doors in January 2022.

Located in South Seattle, Hobson Place provides permanent supportive housing and an integrated physical and behavioral health care clinic. Hobson Place is also the first permanent supportive housing facility in Washington state to achieve Passive House certification, improving residents' health and comfort while significantly reducing building operational costs.

This progress supports Washington's push to make buildings more efficient, healthy, and climate-friendly.

CLIMATE ACTION-AT-A-GLANCE

The following list includes both **statutory** and **executive** policies and actions that have been adopted or are in the process of being adopted.



ECONOMY-WIDE GHG TARGETS & CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

- Lead by Example programs & goals
- Economy-wide GHG goal
- Carbon neutral goal
- State climate action plan



INDUSTRY

- Regulations addressing HFCs
- Buy clean programs, studies, or pilot projects
- Regulations addressing GHG emissions from industrial sources



ELECTRICITY

- 100% clean electricity goal
- Renewable portfolio standards



RESILIENCE

- Statewide resilience or adaptation plan
- Resilience offices or interagency bodies



JUST TRANSITION/EQUITY

- Environmental justice offices or interagency bodies
- Environmental justice screening and policy tools



NATURAL & WORKING LANDS

- NWL in state GHG inventory
- Healthy soils legislation



TRANSPORTATION

- Low emission vehicle standards
- Zero-emission vehicle standards
- Clean truck standards
- Clean Fuels Standard



CARBON MARKETS & VALUING CLIMATE DAMAGES

- Social cost of greenhouse gases in policymaking
- Carbon market participation



BUILDINGS/EFFICIENCY

- Electric utility energy efficiency resource standards
- Gas utility energy efficiency resource standards
- Appliance efficiency standards
- Statewide building performance standards