

SPECIALIZED ENERGY CODE

Context

In an effort to promote and regulate the energy efficiency of Shutesbury municipal buildings, the Town of Shutesbury has previously adopted the Stretch Energy Code and as a Green Community is required to adhere to all subsequent stretch codes; the most recent version that automatically took effect on February 14, 2025. The Specialized Energy Code builds on the current Stretch Code with additional provisions that help meet our climate goals. The additional provisions of the Specialized Energy Code currently apply only to new construction of residential and commercial buildings.

ARTICLE xx: Specialized Energy Code Bylaw

To see if the Town will repeal the Town of Shutesbury General Bylaw, entitled “Stretch Energy Code” and replace it with a new General Bylaw entitled “Specialized Energy Code” for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, pursuant to the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of xxx, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, or act relative thereto.

SHUTESBURY GENERAL BYLAW: SPECIALIZED ENERGY CODE

A. Purpose

1. The purpose of the Specialized Energy Code shall be to provide a more energy efficient and low greenhouse gas emissions alternative to the Stretch Energy Code and the baseline Massachusetts Energy Code, applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for both new construction and existing buildings to further reduce the climate impacts of buildings, with the goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from the buildings sector no later than 2050.

B. Definitions

1. International Energy Conservation Code (IECC): The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. The baseline energy conservation requirements of the MA State Building Code are the IECC with Massachusetts amendments, as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards and published in state regulations as part of 780 CMR.

2. Specialized Energy Code: Codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC. The Specialized Energy Code adds residential and commercial appendices to the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code, based on amendments to the respective net-zero appendices of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

3. Stretch Energy Code: Codified by the combination of 225 CMR 22 and 23, not including Appendices RC and CC. The Stretch Energy Code is a comprehensive set of amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) seeking to achieve all lifecycle cost- effective

energy efficiency in accordance with the Green Communities Act of 2008, as well as to reduce the climate impacts of buildings built to this code. The Stretch energy code was previously codified in 780 CMR appendix 115.aa, prior to the passage of the 2021 Act Creating a Next-generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy (2021 Climate Act).

C. Applicability

1. The Town adopts the Specialized Energy Code, as codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, including any future editions, amendments, or modifications, in place of the applicable provisions of the Massachusetts State Building Code and the Stretch Energy Code, for all commercial and residential buildings.
2. The Specialized Code is enforceable by the Building Inspector.