



The Zero Carbon Step  
Code: An Introduction

ZERO CARBON  
**STEP**CODE

# BC Building Code Updates and Electric Utility Considerations

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NEW WESTMINSTER

# Agenda

- Introduction to the Zero Carbon Step Code
- Existing Building and Transportation Electrification
- Electric Utility Related Considerations
- Discussion

# BCBC 2018 Revision 5: Effective May 1, 2023

## **Summary Part 3 buildings**

- Introduces the Zero Carbon Step Code, an opt-in building carbon pollution standard for operational carbon.
- Introduces modified TEUI targets for office and retail occupancies.

## **Summary Part 9 buildings**

- Introduces the Zero Carbon Step Code, an opt-in building carbon pollution standard for operational carbon
- Introduces a prescriptive option for Step 3, Part 9 buildings if a local government passes an enabling bylaw
- More airtightness testing options
- New energy performance improvement compliance calculations

# Zero Carbon Step Code

- **Objective:** Zero carbon emissions new buildings
- **How:** Stop use of fossil fuels for heating, hot water, and cooking
- **Provincial mechanism:** Province sets Levels and minimum adoption timelines (like Energy Step Code)
- **CNW impacts:** Alignment with actions outlined in adopted climate strategies, increases electricity demand and consumption.

# Origin of the new regulation

**“By 2030, all new buildings will be zero carbon, and all new space and water heating equipment will meet the highest standards for efficiency.”**

– *CleanBC Roadmap to 2030*



## Roadmap to 2030



# Building carbon pollution sources and alternative equipment

## 43% of carbon pollution is from buildings

City of New Westminster

### Sources



64%

Space heating



35%

Water heating



1%

Cooking

Electric heat pump

Electric water heater

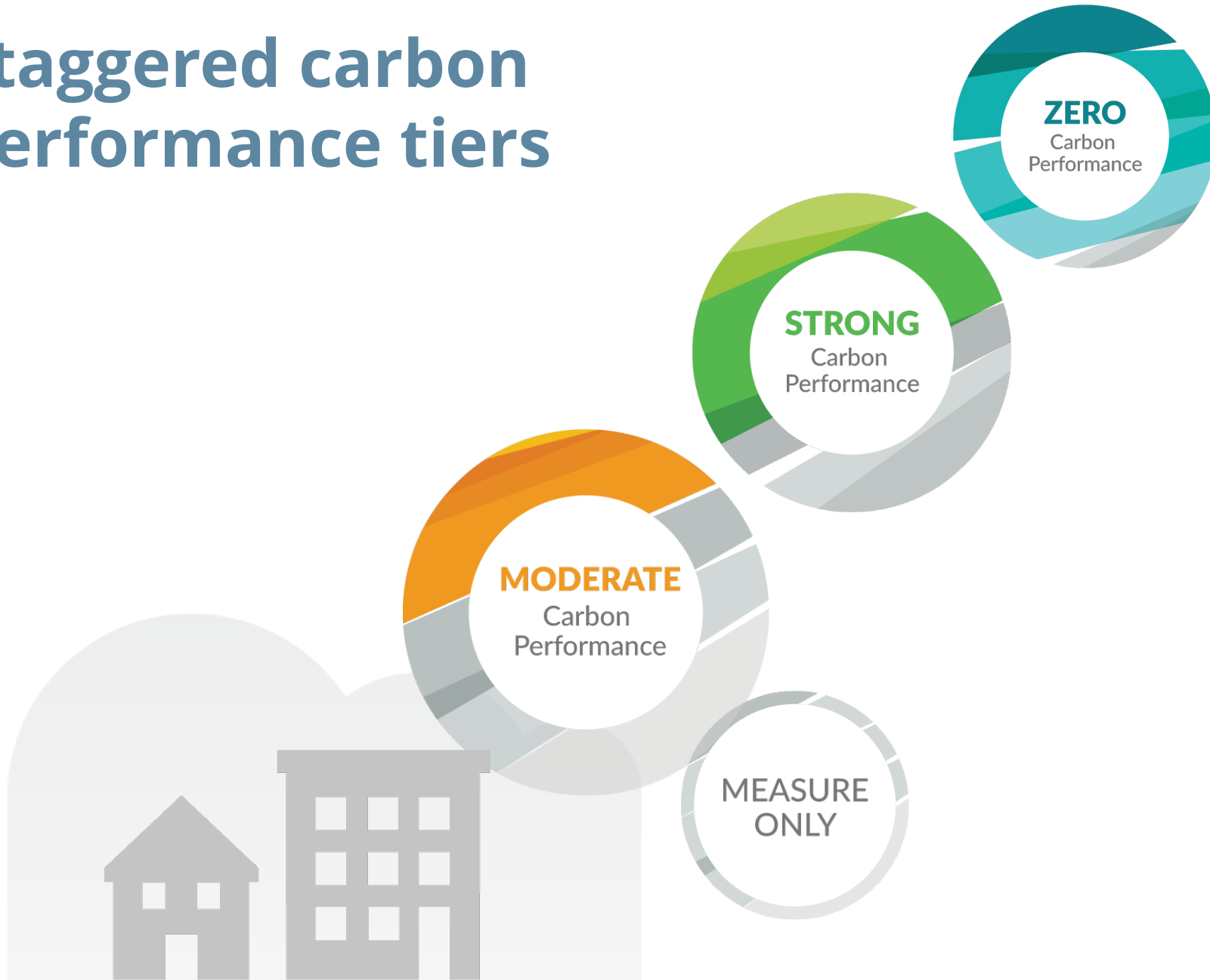
Induction stove

### Solutions



# Staggered carbon performance tiers

2030  
Provincial  
Requirement



# Compliance Approaches



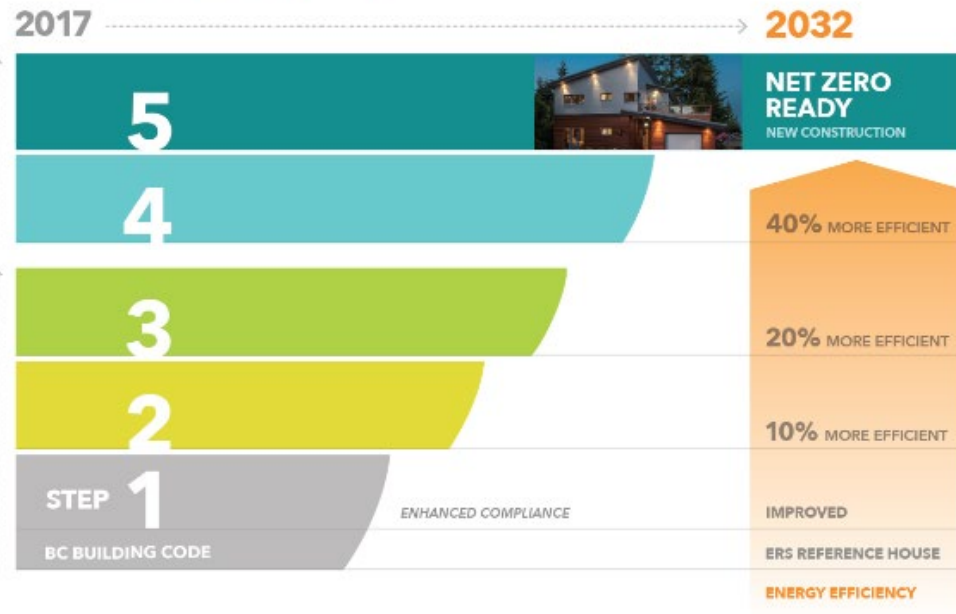
Building Type	Compliance Approach	Moderate	Strong	Zero
Part 9	Prescriptive	Space heating must be zero carbon.	Space and water heating systems must be zero carbon.	Space and water heating and cooking must be zero carbon.
	Maximum Carbon (Kg CO2e/yr)	1,050	440	265
	Carbon Intensity (Kg CO2e M2/yr)	6	2.5	1.5
Part 3 Residential	Carbon Intensity (Kg CO2e M2/yr)	7	3	1.8
Part 3 Offices	Carbon Intensity (Kg CO2e M2/yr)	5	3	1.5



# Provincial Energy Step Code Pathway to 2032

To meet the City's climate action targets, it is intended to have adopted the highest tiers of the Energy Step Code **before 2030**

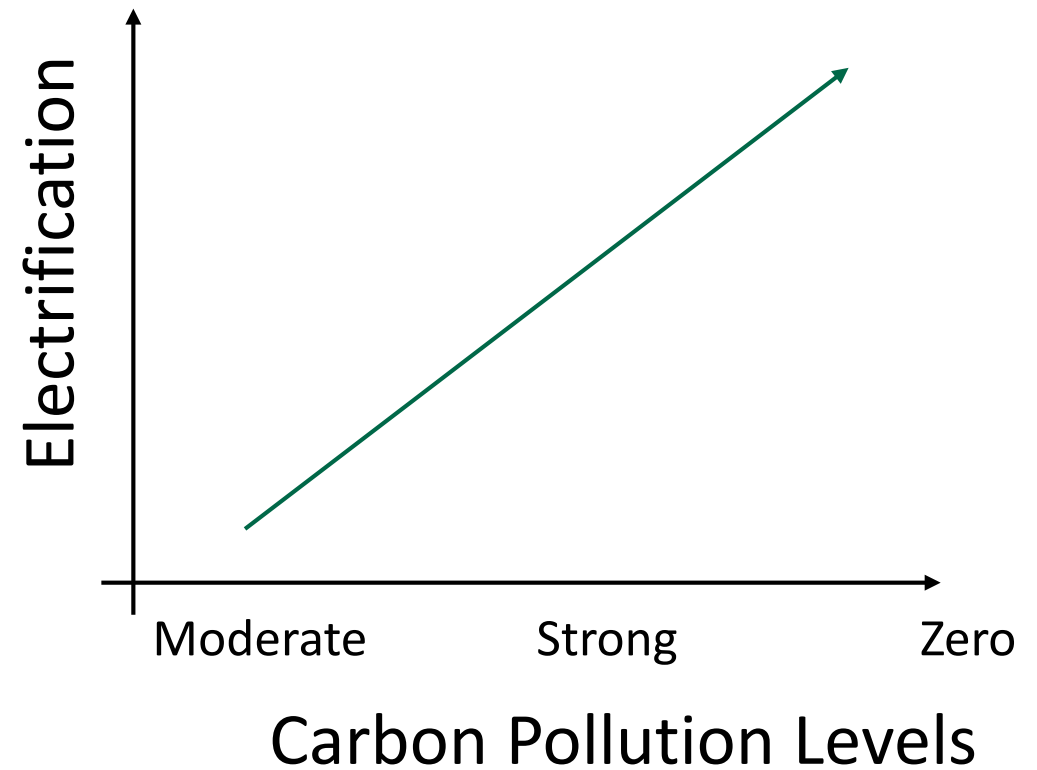
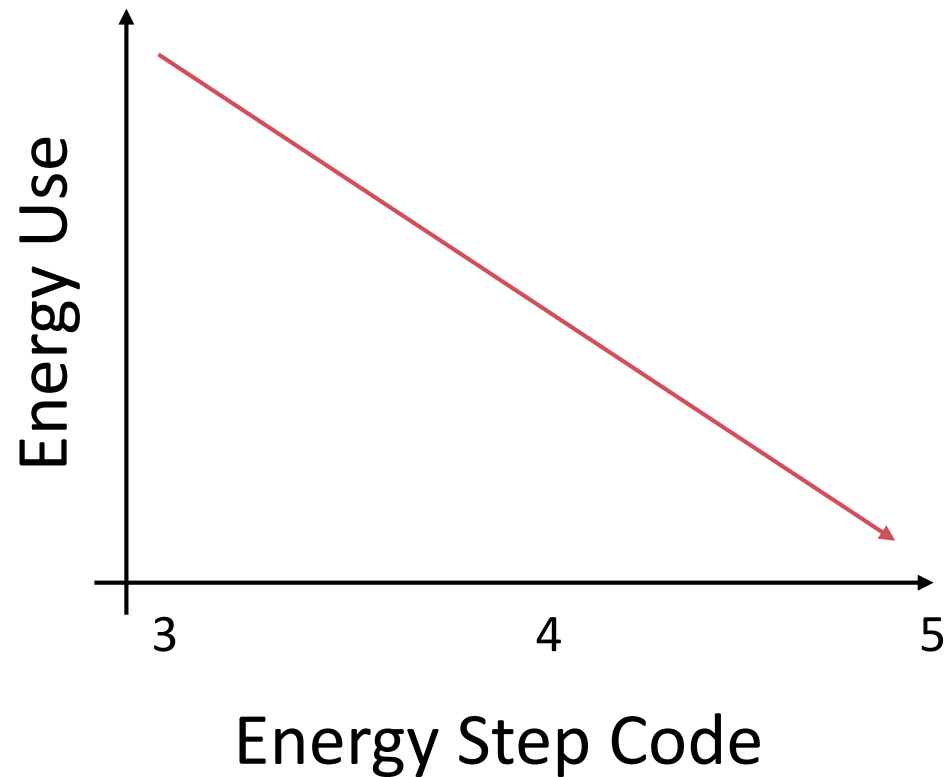
PATHWAY TO 2032: PART 9 (HOMES)



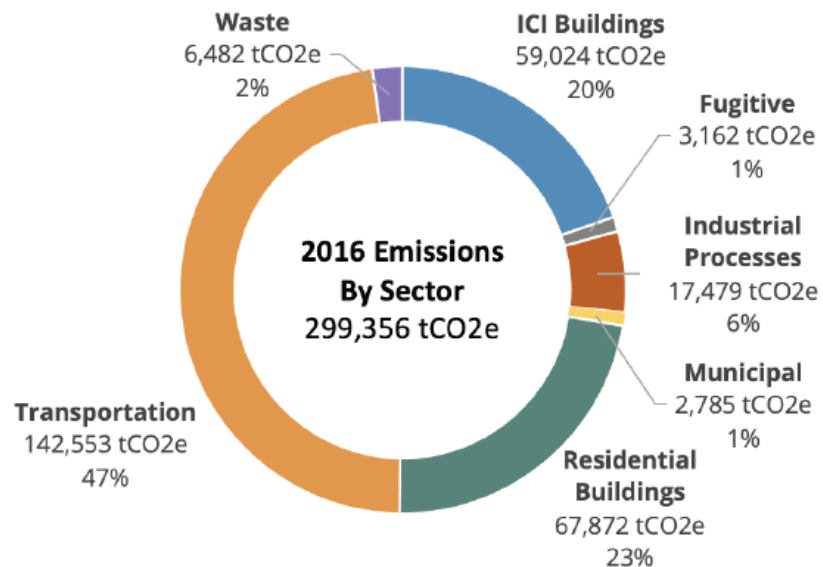
PATHWAY TO 2032: PART 3 (WOOD-FRAME RESIDENTIAL)



# Energy Step Code and Zero Carbon Interaction



# Existing Buildings and Transportation



- Continue to promote existing CleanBC electrification and efficiency programs
- Supporting transition to EVs (Public, at home, and private EV charging)

# Principals and Program Delivery

## REDUCE

- Turn it off, walk instead of drive

## IMPROVE

- Increase efficiency

## SWITCH

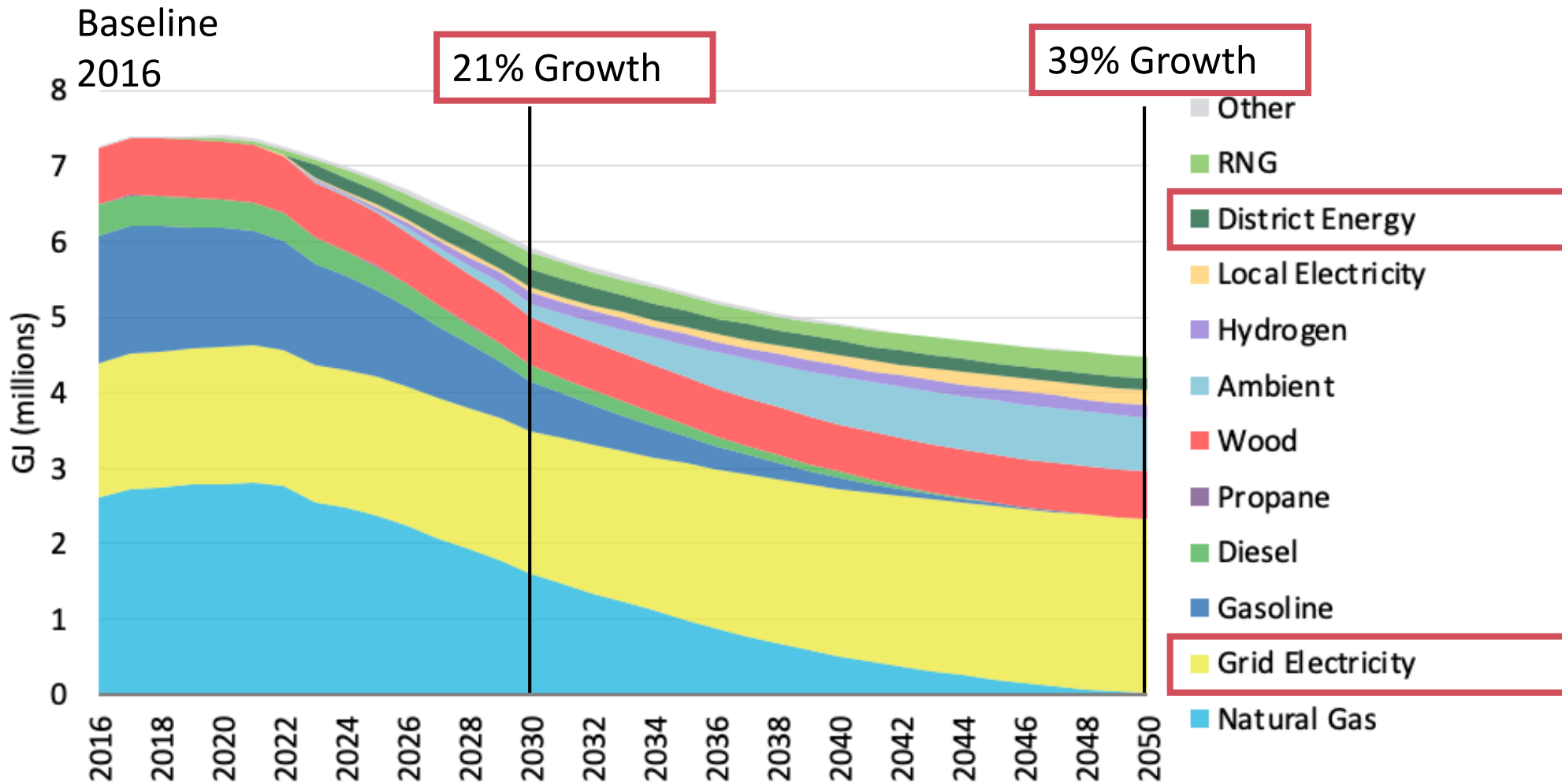
- Replace fossil fuel with clean energy source



PROGRAM FUNDING AND INCENTIVES PROVIDED BY



# Electricity Consumption Model from CEEP2050



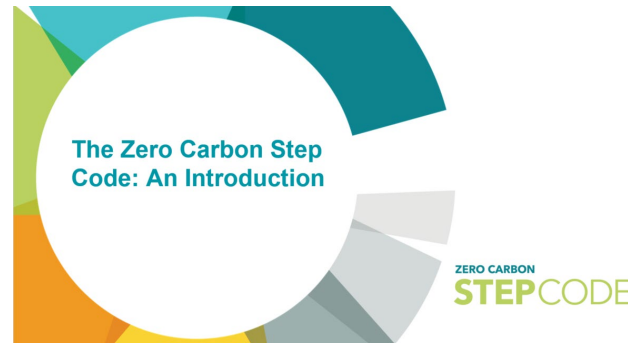
# Electric Utility Related Considerations



**ELECTRICITY SUPPLY**



**DISTRIBUTION CAPACITY**



**ZERO CARBON  
BUILDINGS**



**EQUITABLE  
DISTRIBUTION  
EXTENSION POLICIES**

# Discussion

## *Zero Carbon Buildings*

- Does the Utility Commission Support, in principle, accelerated adoption of the Zero Carbon Step Code in parallel with Energy Step Code?

## *Electricity Supply*

- Does the Utility Commission, in principal, support the delivery of municipal conservation and demand management programs through Energy Save New West?

## *Climate Action*

- What information does the Utility Commission need from the Climate Action team to support recommendations around utility planning (i.e. load forecasting, policy planning, etc.)?

# Thank you

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