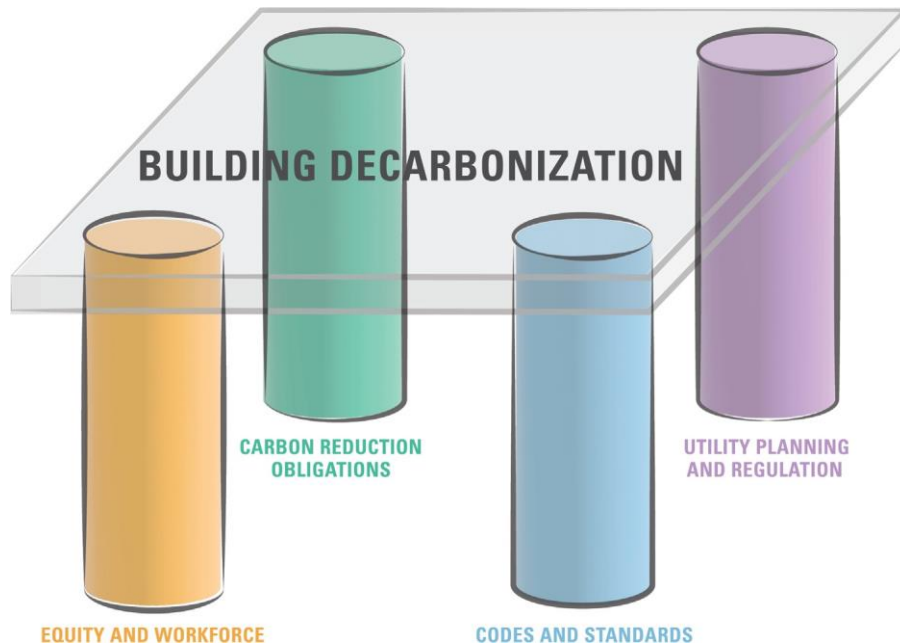


NEEP’s 2024 Regional Roundup provides a snapshot of West Virginia’s current policies and progress towards greater energy efficiency and building decarbonization.

Policies and performance are organized across the four categories from NEEP’s 2024 report, *Decarbonizing Buildings: How States can Set the Table for Success*. The categories, or “legs of the table,” include Utility Planning and Regulation, Codes and Standards, Carbon Reduction Obligations, and Equity and Workforce.



- West Virginia is one of the few states in the NEEP region that does not have an energy efficiency resource standard. Because there is no formal structure for program plans and goals, utilities in the state offer limited one-year energy efficiency programs.
- In 2021, West Virginia passed legislation establishing a benchmarking and disclosure program for state buildings.
- The Office of Energy and its partners offer workforce programs for the energy sector, including for energy efficiency. These include programs offered through WV ASHRAE, the West Virginia University School of Engineering, and the BridgeValley Community & Technical College on code official training, commercial energy auditing, building certifications, and other curricula.

UTILITY PLANNING AND REGULATION



UTILITY PLANNING AND REGULATION

Utility Planning and Regulation identifies mandates and frameworks to ensure that utility investment, rates, and programs align with building decarbonization goals. This section includes a *Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency By-the-Numbers* table, which shows performance data for 2021 and current program goals for the state, an overview of policies the state has adopted to implement climate-forward energy efficiency programs, and any planning and regulation the state is pursuing to decarbonize the grid.

Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency by the Numbers

	West Virginia	Regional Average
Savings as a Percent of Retail Sales in 2021*	Electric: 0.01% Gas: 0.00%	Electric: 1.13% Natural Gas: .43%
Low Income Spending Per Qualified Resident in 2021†	\$465,984 in costs for low-income multifamily program; spending per qualified resident not reported	\$36.00
Current Program Goals	None	

* Data from 2022 ACEEE State Scorecard.

† Data from Appalachian Power Petition for EE Programs.

Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency

Energy Efficiency Program Administrator	Electric utilities in the state currently offer limited energy efficiency programs. Appalachian Power and Wheeling Power offer residential, low-income, and commercial programs in one-year cycles. Monongahela Power Company and Potomac Edison Company both offer virtual home and commercial energy assessments.
Program Goals	There are no statewide mandates or goals for energy efficiency programs in West Virginia.
Benefit Cost Analysis	<i>Base Test for Appalachian Power and Wheeling Power:</i> Total Resource Cost Test Non-energy impacts include installation costs and program overhead costs.
Utility Performance Incentives	No current policies in place.
Fuel Switching Policies	No current policies in place.
Statewide Qualified Contractor Network	No current policies in place.
Centering Equity in Climate-Forward Energy Programs	No current policies in place.



UTILITY PLANNING AND REGULATION



UTILITY PLANNING AND REGULATION

Below is an overview of the energy efficiency policies in place for utility planning and regulation. This leg of the table sets mandates and frameworks to ensure that utility investment, rates, and programs align with building decarbonization goals. The Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency By-the-Numbers table generally shows performance data for 2021, which is the most recent year of readily available data across all states, but the targets show the latest policies and regulations, including the energy savings targets for the next three-year cycle.

Climate-Forward Energy Efficiency by the Numbers		
	West Virginia	Regional Average
Savings as a Percent of Retail Sales in 2021	Electric: 0.01% Gas: 0.00%	Electric: 1.13% Natural Gas: .43%
Low Income Spending Per Qualified Resident in 2021	No data	\$36.00
Energy Efficiency Resource Standard	None	

Long-Term Planning

Utility Clean Heat and Building Decarbonization Programs	No current policies in place.
Long-Term Utility Planning	No current policies in place.



CODES AND STANDARDS



**CODES
AND STANDARDS**

Codes and standards establish a clear timetable for improving the energy performance of new and existing buildings, appliances, and equipment, spurring changes in technologies and building practices. The Regional Roundup provides additional information on policies in this area that operate at the city level to highlight how communities are taking the lead. Programs such as benchmarking and home energy labeling programs are also included, even when just voluntary, as they can be a precursor for BPS or mandatory home energy score programs.

Building Energy Codes	West Virginia adopted the ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2013 for its commercial building codes, and the 2015 IECC for its residential building codes. The State Building Code is effective as of August 1st, 2022, and can be accessed here .
Stretch Energy Codes	No current policies in place.
Building Performance Standards	No current policies in place.
Benchmarking	HB 2667 (2021) requires state buildings to benchmark and report their energy usage annually.
Home Energy Labeling	No current policies in place.
Appliance Efficiency Standards	No current policies in place.
Equipment Emission Standards	No current policies in place.



CARBON REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS



CARBON REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS

Carbon reduction obligations set performance requirements for obligated parties, such as energy providers, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions or install clean heating systems. This section also includes any policies that articulate statewide climate goals and involvement in a regional cap and invest program because both programs are aligned with the policies under carbon reduction obligations and can be a part of a future clean heat standard or statewide cap and invest.

Climate Goals	No current policies in place.
Clean Heat Standard	No current policies in place.
Regional Cap-and-Invest	No current policies in place.
State Cap-and-Invest	No current policies in place.
Centering Equity in Carbon Reduction Obligations	No current policies in place.



EQUITY AND WORKFORCE



EQUITY AND WORKFORCE

Equity and workforce investments address housing and workforce inequities by empowering historically marginalized communities and ensuring that the energy transition is just and inclusive. This section includes policies that prioritize community empowerment through defining environmental justice communities and/or convening community members to have meaningful input on climate and energy policies in the state. It also highlights any statewide goals or metrics that mandate programs to deliver a certain level of benefits to communities. Finally, it provides a snapshot of the inclusive workforce programs and policies within each state.

Statewide Equity Initiatives

Community Empowerment	No current policies in place.
Metrics and Goals	No current policies in place.
Home Upgrade Hubs	No current policies in place.

Inclusive Workforce Development

Inclusive Workforce Development	No current policies in place.
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WEST VIRGINIA'S BUILDING DECARBONIZATION TABLE

UTILITY PLANNING AND REGULATION



Electric Utility Energy Efficiency Programs

EQUITY AND WORKFORCE



CARBON REDUCTION OBLIGATIONS



CODES AND STANDARDS



Residential 2015 IECC
Commercial ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2013