



**Downtown
Revitalization
Initiative**



NY Forward

DRI | NY FORWARD DECARBONIZATION PROJECT PLANNING

STATEWIDE PLANNING WEBINAR

OCTOBER 23, 2026



NORESCO
AN OPTERRA COMPANY

HOUSEKEEPING

- Webinar will be recorded and provided to attendees at a later date
- Use the chat box on the bottom right side of your screen to ask questions

COMPLIANCE REVIEW CHECKLIST

Energy Code Credit Path
Final Design Package Checklist:

ENERGY STAR Path
Final Design Package Checklist:

Third-Party Certification Path
Final Design Package Checklist:

This checklist details the submittal package for the **Final Design** and **As-Built Compliance Reviews**.

Your regional NORESKO representative will share this resource with you after your initial Compliance Meeting.

DRI | NY FORWARD 12

Mute Stop video Share Record Raise Chat

DRI | NY FORWARD 2

AGENDA

- Welcome
- DRI/NY Forward Process Timeline
- Decarbonization Background
- Decarbonization Strategies
- Decarbonization Compliance Criteria & Paths
- NORESO Team Planning Support & Resources
- Next Steps + Points of Contact
- Questions

INTRODUCTIONS

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- Southern Tier
- Western NY

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DRI | NY FORWARD PLANNING PROCESS TIMELINE

LPC Meetings

Project Development

Open Call for
Projects

Project Review,
Refinement and
Local Evaluation

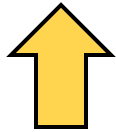
LPC
Recommends
Final Slate of
Projects to State

State Evaluates
Recommended
Projects

State Announces
Awarded Projects

Contracting Process
Begins

Decarbonization
Compliance Kickoff
Meeting



We are here!

Statewide
Decarbonization
Planning Meeting

WHAT IS DECARBONIZATION?

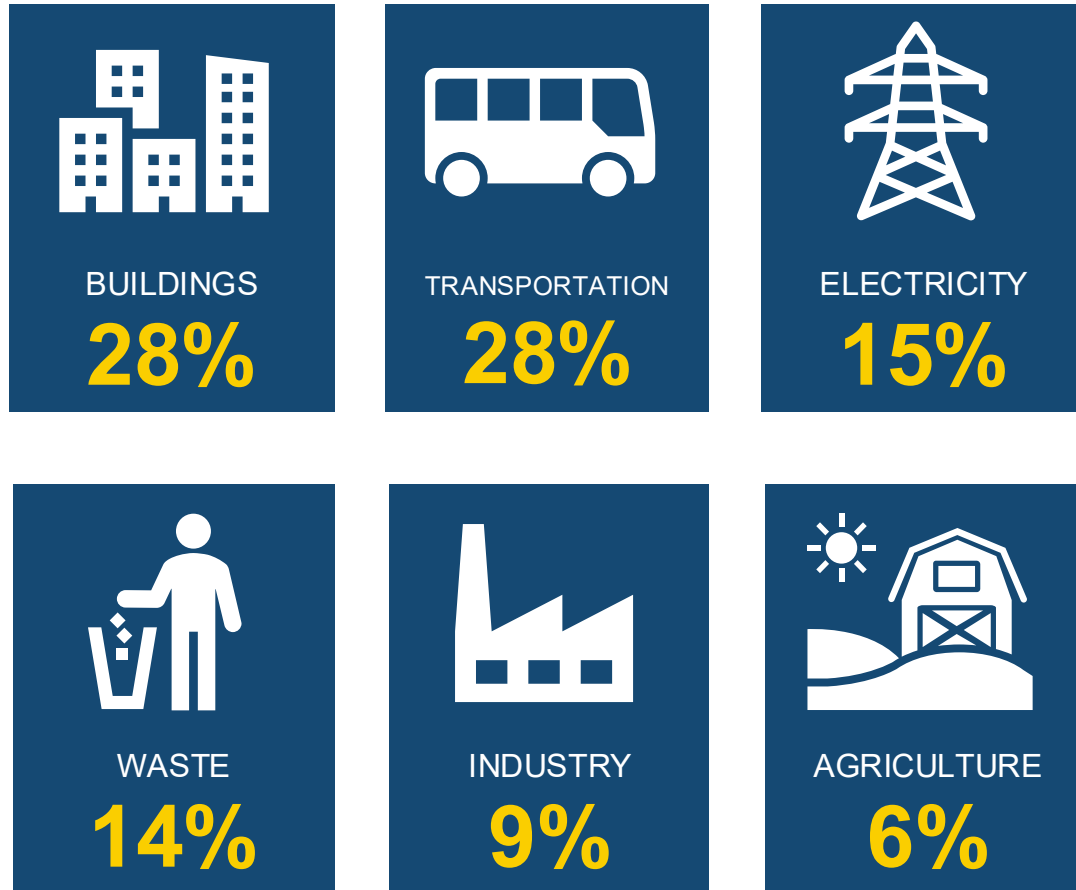
Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere are called **greenhouse gases (GHG)**.

Decarbonization is the reduction of GHG emissions.

Building decarbonization is the mitigation of GHG emissions through the reduction of building energy demand followed by the conversion of existing equipment and systems, especially systems powered by fossil fuel combustion processes, to highly efficient equipment and systems.

WHY DECARBONIZATION?

2025 NEW YORK STATE GHG EMISSIONS



Source: [2025 Statewide GHG Emissions Report \(Summary Report\)](#)

- New York Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act)
- **Reduce GHG emissions by 85% by 2050**
- Buildings upgraded and/or built through the DRI and NY Forward projects provide a great opportunity to help reduce emissions
- Buildings and occupants benefit from decarbonization: increased energy efficiency, health benefits, increased building resilience, improved occupant comfort, etc.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR YOUR PROJECT TYPE



NEW CONSTRUCTION: INTEGRATED DESIGN

- Passive lighting, heating and cooling
- Electric systems for heating and cooking
- Insulation and sealing
- More efficient systems than code



SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION: CONSTRUCTABILITY

- Backfitting into systems
- Minimize disruption to occupants
- Contingencies
- Due diligence
- Project economics

DECARBONIZATION STRATEGIES OVERVIEW



Load Reduction Strategies

- High-performance building envelopes
- LED lighting systems
- Smart building systems
- Energy recovery systems

Building Electrification

- Up-to-date electrical capacity and service
- Cold climate heat pump systems
- Heat pump water heaters
- Electric appliances

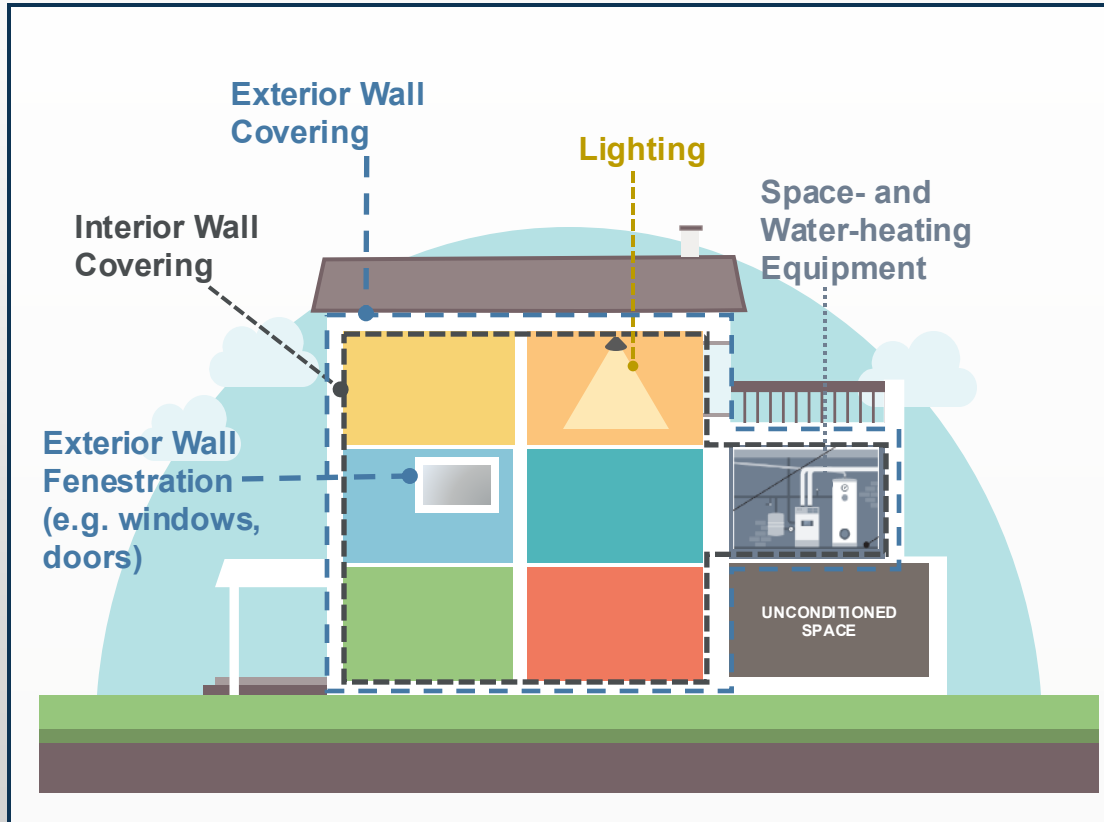
Advanced Controls

- Load flexibility and advanced controls of hot water, HVAC, and smart appliances
- Commissioning approaches

Distributed Energy Resources

- Renewable energy
- Battery storage
- Bi-directional Electric Vehicle (EV) charging
- Thermal storage

DECARBONIZATION COMPLIANCE CRITERIA



Building Thermal Envelope

building element assemblies (e.g. exterior walls, floors, ceilings, roofs) that enclose conditioned space or provide a boundary between conditioned space and unconditioned space

BUILDING THRESHOLDS

New construction projects > 5000 ft²

Building addition projects > 5000 ft²

Substantial renovation projects > 5000 ft²

Substantial renovations are defined as renovations that include two or more of the criteria below:

- Removal of 50% or more of the area of Interior wall-covering material of the *building thermal envelope*
- Removal of 50% or more of the area of the exterior wall-covering material of the *building thermal envelope* or fenestration
- Replacement of space-conditioning equipment constituting 50% or more of the total input capacity of the space heating or space cooling equipment serving the building
- Replacement of water-heating equipment constituting 50% or more of the total input capacity of all the water heating equipment serving the building
- Replacement of 50% or more of the interior & exterior lighting powered from the building

COMPLIANCE PATH OPTIONS

1 Energy Code Credits

- Utilizes the 2025 ECCCNY or 2025 NYS ASHRAE 90.1
- Projects must achieve 110% of the total credits required by code
- Number of energy credits is determined by building use type and climate zone

2 ENERGY STAR

- EPA program to determine building energy performance
- **SCORE OF 90 OR BETTER**
- **Target Finder**
- Project building performance
- Basic building information required

3 Third-Party Certifications

Energy & Environment Focus

- Building Cleaner Communities (NYSERDA)
- ENERGY STAR Certification
- LEED BD+C, ID+C, O+M, Homes, ND
- Green Globes
- BREEAM
- Passive House
- Living Building Challenge

Occupant Focus

- WELL
- Fitwel
- Living Building Challenge

Other

- Enterprise Green Communities
- SITES
- National Green Building Std.

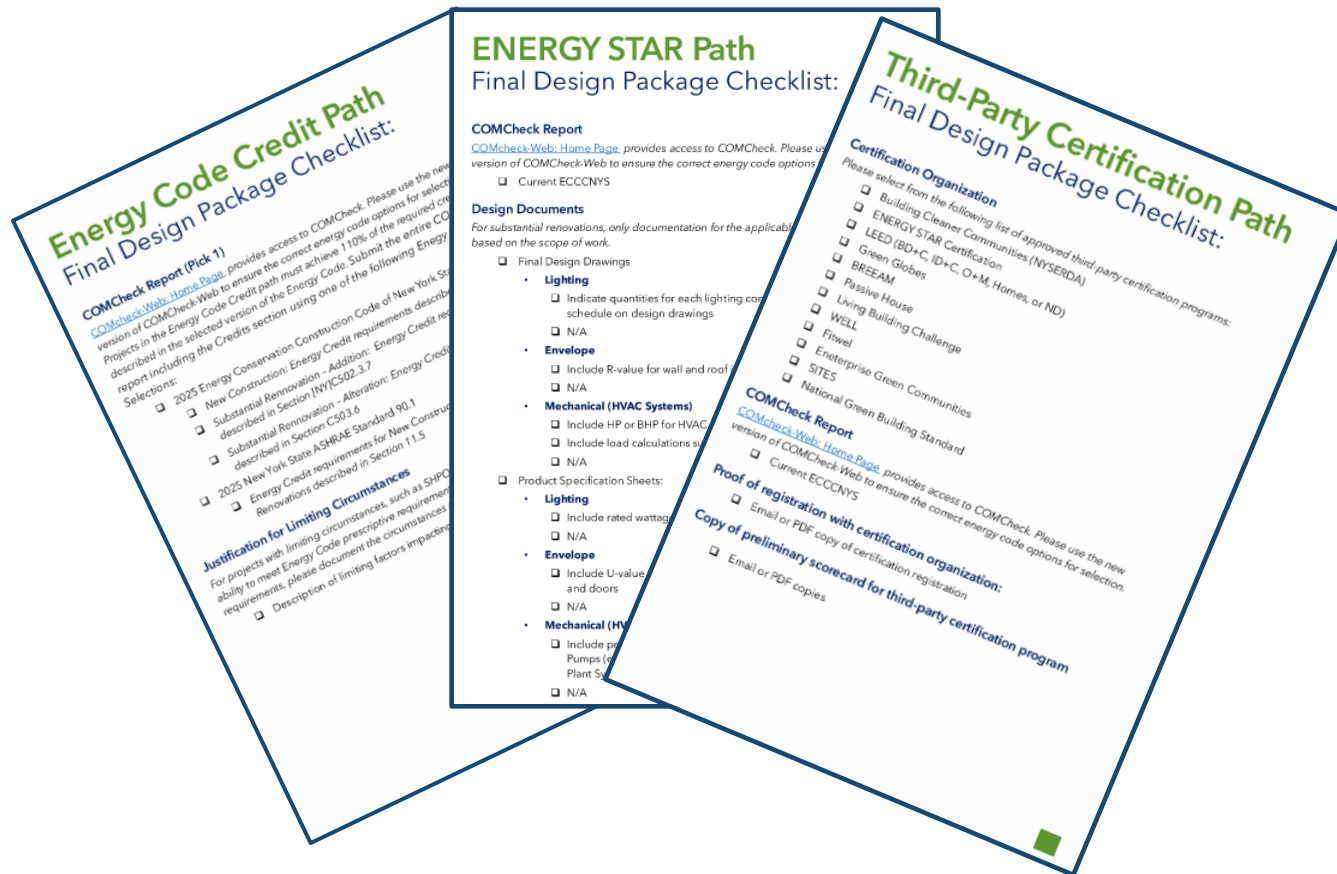
COMPLIANCE PATH SELECTION GUIDANCE

Project Characteristic	PATH 1 Energy Code Credit	PATH 2 ENERGY STAR	PATH 3 Third Party Certification
New Construction	●	●	●
Complete Renovation of Existing Building	●	●	
Partial Upgrades to Existing Building	●		
Historical Building (limitations on upgrades)	●		
Low Performing Building (high energy use)	●		
High Performing Building (very low energy use)		●	
Planning for Energy Modeling/Simulation		●	
Familiar with Portfolio Manager		●	
ENERGY STAR score needed elsewhere		●	
Third-party certification needed elsewhere			●
Desire added recognition in community			●
Seeking credits for ESG reporting		●	●
Jurisdiction requires third party certification			●

COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTATION OVERVIEW

Deliverable	PATH 1 Energy Code Credit	PATH 2 ENERGY STAR	PATH 3 Third Party Certification
COMCheck Report: 2025 Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State - OR - 2025 New York State ASHRAE Standard 90.1	●	●	●
Design Drawings	●	●	●
Product Specification sheets	●	●	●
Photos of Installed Equipment OR Purchase Documentation	●	●	●
Energy Model Input/Output Summary		●	
ENERGY STAR Statement of Energy Design Intent Report		●	
Copy of Third-Party Certification Submittals and Correspondence			●

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BUILDING DECARBONIZATION TOOLKIT

A resource developed for DRI/NY Forward to plan your project with decarbonization strategies in mind



Link to Toolkit: https://www.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2024-08/DRI_NYF_Decarb_Toolkit.pdf

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT DECARBONIZATION SUPPORT

The NORESO team is available to support your project development as a benefit to the DRI | NY Forward programs courtesy of NYSERDA. Some of the ways we can support your team include:

- **Compliance Guidance:** One-on-one consultation to evaluate which compliance path would best fit your project goals
- **Additional Funding Evaluation:** Assistance to research supplementary funding opportunities
- **Preliminary ENERGY STAR Score:** Perform building-level assessment for existing buildings and enter data into Target Finder to get a preliminary ENERGY STAR score estimate and help assess if the ENERGY STAR path is a good option for the project
- **Decarb 101 Webinar:** Live and pre-recorded sessions covering information on decarbonization technology and time for Q&A



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THANK YOU

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