

# BC Energy Step Code

Information for Applicants – Land Use Applications and Building Permits

- **Council adopted the Step Code on April 26, 2018, and it came into effect November 1, 2018**
- The BC Energy Step Code is a new performance-based standard of the building code that establishes measurable energy-efficiency requirements for new construction.
- To demonstrate compliance, a builder must prove to local building officials that the building meets or exceeds a set of defined metrics for building envelope, equipment and systems, and airtightness testing.

## What is the BC Energy Step Code?

The BC Energy Step Code is a provincial standard that establishes progressive performance steps in energy efficiency for new buildings from the current BC Building Code level to net zero energy ready buildings by 2032.

The Step Code will apply to new residential and commercial buildings. To comply, builders must use energy modelling software and on-site testing to demonstrate that both their design and the constructed building meet Step Code requirements.

## What Steps did the City adopt and how does this affect my project?

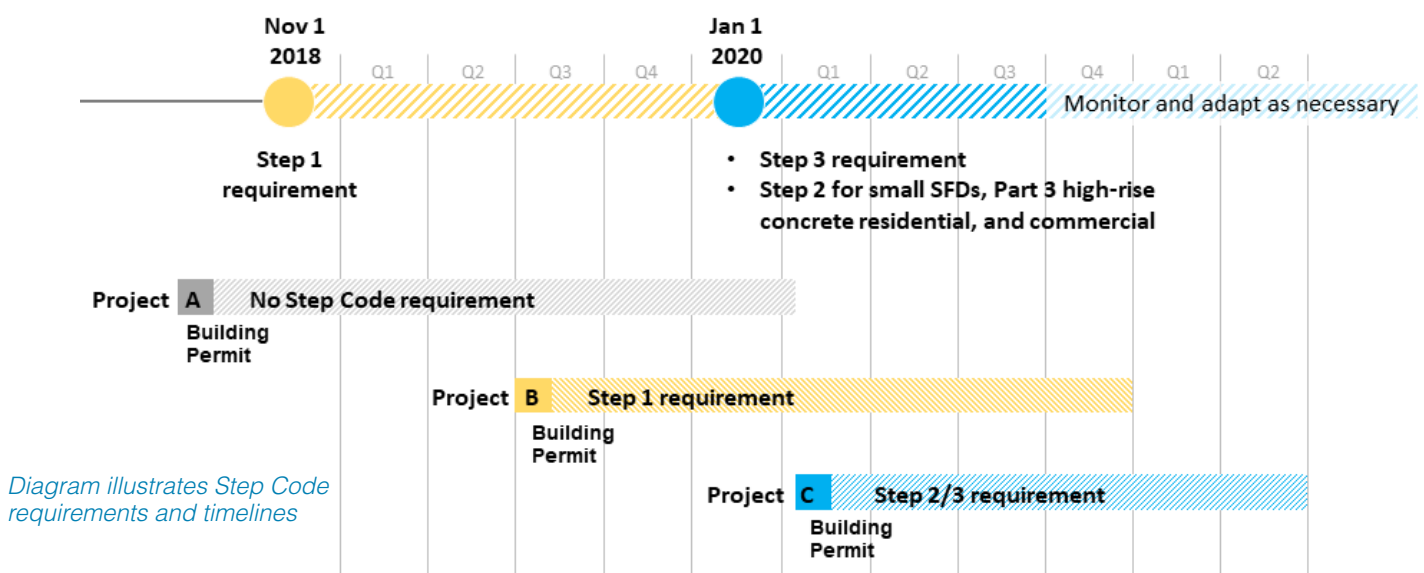
- Building permits applied for **after January 1st, 2020** will need to demonstrate compliance with the Steps adopted for that particular building typology:
  - **Step 3** for Part 9 homes (excluding small homes/garden suites)
  - **Step 2** for Part 9 small homes/garden suites
  - **Step 3** for Part 3 mid-rise/wood-frame residential buildings under 6 storeys
  - **Step 2** for Part 3 high-rise/concrete residential buildings and commercial buildings.

We **recommend that applicants familiarize themselves with the requirements of the Step Code**, as this may affect the design and/or siting of your building. As well, it is recommended that applicants familiarize themselves with the use of energy models and air tightness testing, as this will be a requirement for all projects.

## Need more info?

For information and resources on the BC Energy Step Code, including the implementation guide, costing study, technical webinars, and FAQs, visit [energystepcode.ca](http://energystepcode.ca).

To provide your input regarding adoption of the Step Code in the City of Victoria and the best mechanisms to support industry in its implementation, contact [sustainability@victoria.ca](mailto:sustainability@victoria.ca).

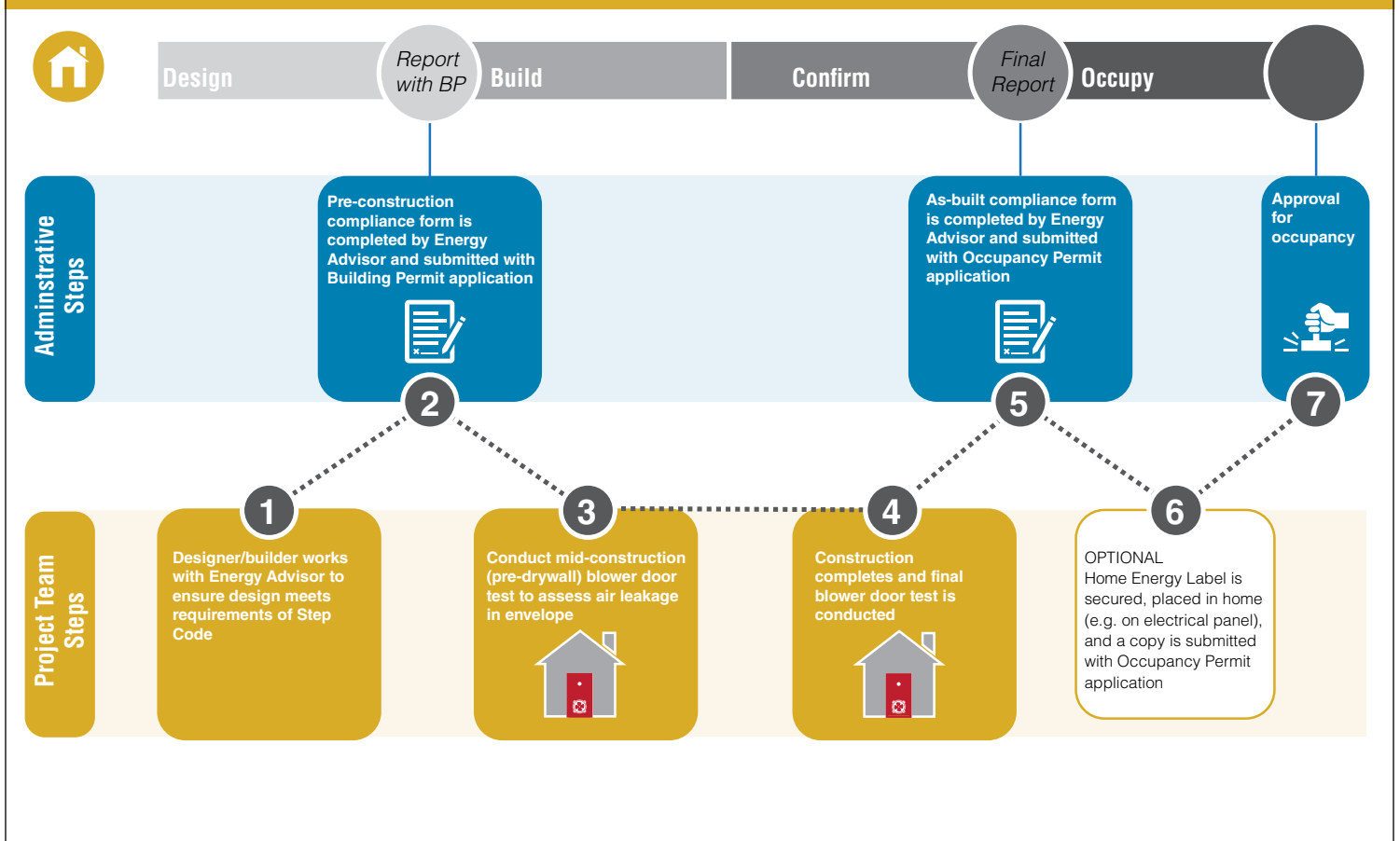


## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

E [sustainability@victoria.ca](mailto:sustainability@victoria.ca)

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## Process for Part 9 projects (e.g., single family homes, duplexes, townhomes)



## Process for Part 3 projects (e.g., multi-unit residential, large commercial office)

