

**NYC Administrative Code:**  
**Article 320: Building Energy and Emissions Limits, and**  
**Article 321: Energy Conservation Requirements for Certain Buildings**

**Article 320: Building Energy and Emissions Limits**

§ 28-320.1 Definitions.

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

**BUILDING EMISSIONS.** The term "building emissions" means greenhouse gas emissions as expressed in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emitted as a result of operating a covered building and calculated in accordance with rules promulgated by the department in consultation with the mayor's office of long term planning and sustainability. The term "building emissions" shall not include greenhouse gas emissions emitted during a local state of emergency declared by the mayor pursuant to section 24 of the executive law or a state of emergency declared by the governor pursuant to sections 28 of the executive law, where such local or state emergency has an impact on building emissions.

**BUILDING EMISSIONS INTENSITY.** The term "building emissions intensity" means, for a covered building, the number obtained by dividing the building emissions by the gross floor area for such building, expressed in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per square foot per year.

**CAPACITY RESOURCE.** The term "capacity resource" means a facility that has the capability to generate and transmit electrical power and sell capacity (i) by bilateral contracts, (ii) in the wholesale capacity market, or (iii) by indirect sales of capacity in the wholesale market in accordance with the schedules of rates and charges of a utility in effect pursuant to section 66 of the public service law.

**CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT.** The term "carbon dioxide equivalent" means the metric used to compare the emissions of various greenhouse gases based upon their global warming potential as defined in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fifth Assessment Report (2014).

**CITY BUILDING.** The term "city building" means a building that is owned by the city or for which the city regularly pays all of the annual energy bills, or a cultural institution that is in the Cultural Institutions Group as determined by the department of cultural affairs for which the city regularly pays all or part of the annual energy bills.

Exception: The term "city building" shall not include any senior college in the city university of New York system.

**CLEAN DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCE.** The term "clean distributed energy resource" means a distributed energy resource that (i) uses any of the following sources to generate electricity: hydropower, solar photovoltaics, geothermal wells or loops, tidal action, waves or water currents, or wind; or (ii) is designed and operated to store energy, including but not limited to batteries, thermal systems, mechanical systems, compressed air, and superconducting equipment.

**COVERED BUILDING.** The term "covered building" means, as it appears in the records of the department of finance, (i) a building that exceeds 25,000 gross square feet (2322.5 m<sup>2</sup>) or (ii) two or more buildings on the same tax lot that together exceed 50,000 gross square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>), or (iii) two or more

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buildings held in the condominium form of ownership that are governed by the same board of managers and that together exceed 50,000 gross square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>).

Exceptions:

1. An industrial facility primarily used for the generation of electric power or steam.
2. Real property, not more than three stories, consisting of a series of attached, detached or semi-detached dwellings, for which ownership and the responsibility for maintenance of the HVAC systems and hot water heating systems is held by each individual dwelling unit owner, and with no HVAC system or hot water heating system in the series serving more than 25,000 gross square feet (2322.5 m<sup>2</sup>), as certified by a registered design professional to the department.
3. A city building.
4. A housing development or building on land owned by the New York city housing authority.
5. A rent regulated accommodation.
6. A building whose main use or dominant occupancy is classified as occupancy group A-3 religious house of worship.
7. Real property owned by a housing development fund company organized pursuant to the business corporation law and article eleven of the private housing finance law.
8. A building that participates in a project-based federal housing program.

**DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCE.** The term "distributed energy resource" means a resource comprised of one or multiple units capable of generating or storing electricity, all at a single location that is directly or indirectly connected to an electric utility transmission and distribution system. The resource may serve all or part of the electric load of one or more customers at the same location, and it may simultaneously or alternatively transmit all or part of the electricity it generates or stores onto the electric transmission and distribution system for sale to or use by other customers at other locations.

**FINANCIAL HARDSHIP (OF A BUILDING).** The term "financial hardship (of a building)" means a building that for the combined two years prior to the application for an adjustment to annual building emissions limit pursuant to section 28-320.7:

1. Had arrears of property taxes or water or wastewater charges that resulted in the property's inclusion on the department of finance's annual New York city tax lien sale list;
2. Had been exempt from real property taxes pursuant to sections 420-a, 420-b, 446 or 462 of the real property tax law and applicable local law and the owner had negative revenue less expenses as certified to the department by a certified public accountant, or by affidavit under penalties of perjury; or

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3. Had outstanding balances under the department of housing preservation and development's emergency repair program that resulted in the property's inclusion on the department of finance's annual New York city tax lien sale list.

**GREENHOUSE GAS.** The term "greenhouse gas" means a unit of greenhouse gas, including carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF<sub>3</sub>).

**GREENHOUSE GAS OFFSET.** The term "greenhouse gas offset" means a credit representing one metric ton of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions reduced, avoided, or sequestered by a project from a measured baseline of emissions and which has been verified by an independent, qualified third party in accordance with offset standards referenced by rules of the department.

**METRIC TONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT.** The term "metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent" means the global standard unit in carbon accounting to quantify greenhouse gas emissions, also expressed as tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDIT.** The term "renewable energy credit" means a certificate representing the environmental, social and other non-power attributes of one megawatt-hour of electricity generated from a renewable energy resource, which certificate is recognized and tradable or transferable within national renewable energy markets or the New York generation attribute tracking system. This term also means the environmental, social, and other non-power attributes of one megawatt-hour of electricity generated from a hydropower resource that does not trade or transfer renewable energy certificates for those hydropower resources in any renewable energy market or via the New York generation attribute tracking system, provided that the hydropower resource owner certifies the amount of energy produced in each reporting year and that it has not sold the non-power attributes equal to its energy production more than once.

**RENT REGULATED ACCOMMODATION.** The term "rent regulated accommodation" means a building in which more than 35% of dwelling units are required by law or by an agreement with a governmental entity to be regulated in accordance with the emergency tenant protection act of 1974, the rent stabilization law of 1969, or the local emergency housing rent control act of 1962.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2020/116, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-320.2 Advisory board.

There shall be an advisory board convened by the office of building energy and emissions performance upon the effective date of this article, in January of 2029 and in January of 2039, to provide advice and recommendations to the commissioner and to the mayor's office of long term planning and sustainability relating to effectively reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings. Such recommendations shall include, but not be limited to:

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1. A report and recommendations to be delivered to the mayor and the speaker of the city council no later than January 1, 2023 for additional or improved approaches to assessing building energy performance. Such report shall include, but not be limited to:

1.1. An approach for buildings to submit energy use or greenhouse gas emissions and other information for the purpose of assessing energy performance of covered buildings;

1.2. A methodology that includes the metric of measure, adjustments to the metric, the approach to comparing the output to a benchmark, alternative compliance paths, credit for beneficial electrification and distributed energy resources, and an approach for a trading mechanism as described in section 28-320.11;

1.3. Recommendations for addressing tenant-controlled energy usage;

1.4. Recommendations for amendments to the audit required under section 28-308.2 of the administrative code, including consideration of whether such audit should be replaced by a capital plan;

1.5. Recommendations for reducing building emissions from rent regulated accommodations;

1.6. Recommendations for allowing additional time to comply with the emissions limits for buildings converting to a new occupancy group or use with lower emissions limits or some other change in status that would affect applicability of the provisions of this article;

1.7. An evaluation of the extent to which the mayor's 80x50 energy infrastructure pathways study is incorporated and addressed within the recommendations made pursuant to items 1.1 through 1.6 of this section; and

1.8. A reference guide to delineate the responsibilities of the building designer and owners to comply with emissions limits.

2. A report to be delivered to the mayor and the speaker of the city council no later than January 1, 2023, providing an analysis of, and any recommendations for improving, energy and emissions performance requirements for covered buildings. Such recommendations shall be targeted to achieve at least a 40 percent reduction in aggregate greenhouse gas emissions from covered buildings by calendar year 2030 relative to such emissions for the calendar year 2005. Such report shall include, but not be limited to assessments of:

2.1. Incentives for reduction of peak energy demand;

2.2. Methods to allow for staggered reporting cycles for compliance with energy and emissions performance improvements;

2.3. Methods for calculating penalties for non-compliance;

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2.4. Estimated emissions reductions associated with any recommended energy performance requirements;

2.5. The economic impact, including benefits, of achieving the energy and emissions performance requirements;

2.6. Methods for achieving earlier or larger reductions from city buildings;

2.7. Separate improvement targets for base building energy systems and tenant-controlled energy systems;

2.8. Methods for achieving emissions reductions from manufacturing and industrial processes; and

2.9. Methods for achieving emissions reductions from hospitals while maintaining critical care for human health and safety.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.2.1 Advisory board composition.

Such advisory board shall be staffed with registered design professionals and be composed of 19 members as follows: the chairperson, the speaker of the council or the speaker's designee, the mayor or the mayor's designee, eight members appointed by the mayor, and eight members appointed by the speaker of the council. The mayor shall appoint one architect, one engineer, one building owner or manager, one public utility industry representative, one environmental justice representative, one business sector representative, one residential tenant representative, and one environmental advocacy organization representative. The speaker shall appoint one architect, one stationary engineer, one construction trades representative, one green energy industry representative, one residential tenant representative, one environmental justice organization representative, one environmental advocacy representative and one not for profit organization representative. The director of such office, or the designee of such director, shall serve as chairperson of the advisory board. The advisory board may convene in working groups. Such working groups may include individuals not on such advisory board to address the recommendations required by this article. The mayor shall invite the appropriate federal, state and local agencies and authorities to participate, including but not limited to the New York state energy research and development authority. Such advisory board shall convene a working group on hospitals that shall be composed of engineers, architects, and hospital industry representatives.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3 Building emissions limits.

Except as otherwise provided in this article, or otherwise provided by rule, on and after January 1, 2024 a covered building shall not have annual building emissions higher than the annual building emissions limit for such building as determined in accordance with this section based on the occupancy group of the building.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.3.1 Annual building emissions limits 2024 through 2029.

For calendar years 2024 through 2029 the annual building emissions limits for covered buildings shall be calculated pursuant to items 1 through 10 of this section. For the purposes of such calculation the department shall provide a method for converting categories of uses under the United States environmental protection agency Portfolio Manager tool to the equivalent uses and occupancy groups set forth in this section. For a covered building with spaces classified in more than one occupancy group, the annual building emissions limit shall be the sum of the calculated values from items 1 through 10 of this paragraph, as applicable for each space.

1. For spaces classified as occupancy group A: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.01074 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
2. For spaces classified as occupancy group B other than as described in item 6: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00846 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
3. For spaces classified as occupancy groups E and I-4: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00758 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
4. For spaces classified as occupancy group I-1: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.01138 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
5. For spaces classified as occupancy group F: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00574 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
6. For spaces classified as occupancy groups B civic administrative facility for emergency response services, B non-production laboratory, Group B ambulatory health care facility, H, I-2 and I-3: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.02381 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
7. For spaces classified as occupancy group M: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.01181 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
8. For spaces classified as occupancy group R-1: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00987 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
9. For spaces classified as occupancy group R-2: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00675 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
10. For spaces classified as occupancy groups S and U: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00426 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf).

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.1.1 Greenhouse gas coefficient of energy consumption for calendar years 2024 through 2029.

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The annual building emissions of a covered building in accordance with this section, greenhouse gas emissions shall be calculated as follows for calendar years 2024 through 2029:

1. Utility electricity consumed on the premises of a covered building that is delivered to the building via the electric grid shall be calculated as generating 0.000288962 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per kilowatt hour or, at the owner's option, shall be calculated based on time of use in accordance with referenced emissions factors promulgated by rules of the department. The department, in consultation with the office of long term planning and sustainability, shall promulgate rules governing the calculation of greenhouse gas emissions for campus-style electric systems that share on-site generation but make use of the utility distribution system and for buildings that are not connected to the utility distribution system.

2. Natural gas combusted on the premises of a covered building shall be calculated as generating 0.00005311 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per kbtu.

3. #2 fuel oil combusted on the premises of a covered building shall be calculated as generating 0.00007421 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per kbtu.

4. #4 fuel oil combusted on the premises of a covered building shall be calculated as generating 0.00007529 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per kbtu.

5. District steam consumed on the premises of a covered building shall be calculated as generating 0.00004493tCO<sub>2</sub>e per kbtu.

6. The amount of greenhouse gas emissions attributable to natural gas powered fuel cells shall be credited compared to the electricity grid marginal emissions factor that will be determined by the commissioner and promulgated into rules of the department.

Exception: Natural gas powered fuel cells that commence operation prior to the later of January 1, 2023 or the promulgation of such rules, shall be credited compared to the electricity grid marginal emissions factor published in the most recent New York state energy research and development authority renewable energy standard program impact evaluation and clean energy standard triennial review, or a successor to such report issued by the New York state energy research and development authority.

7. The amount of greenhouse gas emissions attributable to other energy sources, including but not limited to distributed energy resources, shall be determined by the commissioner and promulgated into rules of the department.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2020/095, 9/27/2020, eff. 9/27/2020)

§ 28-320.3.2 Building emissions limits for calendar years 2030 through 2034.

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For calendar years 2030 through 2034 the annual building emissions limits for covered buildings shall be calculated pursuant to items 1 through 10 of this section. For the purposes of such calculation the department shall provide a method for converting categories of uses under the United States environmental protection agency Portfolio Manager tool to the equivalent uses and occupancy groups set forth in this section. For a covered building with spaces classified in more than one occupancy group, the annual building emissions limit shall be the sum of the calculated values from items 1 through 10 of this paragraph, as applicable for each space. The department may establish different limits, including a different metric or method of calculation, set forth in the rules of the department, where the department determines that different limits are feasible and in the public interest. Where such limits are set by rule, the average emission limits for all covered buildings shall not be less restrictive than the average emissions impact of the building emissions limits outlined in items 1 through 10 of this section. The advisory board and the office of long term planning and sustainability shall provide advice and recommendation regarding such limits.

1. For spaces classified as occupancy group A: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00420 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
2. For spaces classified as occupancy group B other than as described in item 6: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00453 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
3. For spaces classified as occupancy groups E and I-4: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00344 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
4. For spaces classified as occupancy group I-1: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00598 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
5. For spaces classified as occupancy group F: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00167 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
6. For spaces classified as occupancy groups B civic administrative facility for emergency response services, B non-production laboratory, Group B ambulatory health care facility, H, I-2 or I-3: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.01330 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
7. For spaces classified as occupancy group M: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00403 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
8. For spaces classified as occupancy group R-1: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00526 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
9. For spaces classified as occupancy groups R-2: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00407 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf);
  
10. For spaces classified as occupancy groups S and U: multiply the building emissions intensity limit of 0.00110 tCO<sub>2</sub> e/sf by the corresponding gross floor area (sf).  
(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)



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§ 28-320.3.2.1 Greenhouse gas coefficients of energy consumption for calendar years 2030 through 2034.

For the purposes of calculating the annual building emissions of a covered building in accordance with this section, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions attributed to particular energy sources shall be determined by the commissioner and promulgated into rules of the department by no later than January 1, 2023. The commissioner shall consult with the advisory board required by this article to develop such greenhouse gas coefficients for utility electricity consumption. When developing such coefficients, the commissioner shall consider factors, including but not limited to the best available New York state energy research and development authority and State Energy Plan marginal forecasts for Zone J for the end of the compliance period and beneficial electrification.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2020/095, 9/27/2020, eff. 9/27/2020)

§ 28-320.3.3 [Reserved.]\*

\* Editor's note: L.L. 2019/097 did not include any section numbered as § 28-320.3.3; reserved at the discretion of the editor.

§ 28-320.3.4 Building emissions limits for calendar years 2035 through 2050.

No later than January 1, 2023, the commissioner shall establish by rule annual building emissions limits and building emissions intensity limits applicable for calendar years 2035 through 2039 and building emissions limits and building emissions intensity limits applicable for calendar years 2040 through 2049. Such limits shall be set to achieve an average building emissions intensity for all covered buildings of no more than 0.0014 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/sf/yr by 2050.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.5 Building emissions limits on and after calendar year 2050.

No later than January 1, 2023 the commissioner shall establish by rule annual building emissions limits and building emissions intensity limits applicable for calendar years commencing on and after January 1, 2050. Such limits shall achieve an average building emissions intensity for all covered buildings of no more than 0.0014 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/sf/yr.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.3.6 Deductions from reported annual building emissions.

The department may authorize a deduction from the annual building emissions required to be reported by an owner pursuant to section 28-320.3 where the owner demonstrates the purchase of greenhouse gas offsets or renewable energy credits, or the use of clean distributed energy resources, in accordance with this section. For such sections that limit the dates of applicability of such deductions, the department shall promulgate rules to extend such deductions for each future compliance date.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.6.1 Deductions from reported annual building emissions for renewable energy credits.

A deduction from the reported annual building emissions shall be authorized equal to the number of renewable energy credits purchased by or on behalf of a building owner, provided (i) the renewable energy resource that is the source of the renewable energy credits is considered by the New York independent system operator to be a capacity resource located in, or whose output directly sinks into, the zone J load zone for the reporting calendar year; (ii) the renewable energy credits are solely owned and retired by, or on behalf of, the building owner; (iii) the renewable energy credits are from the same year as the reporting year; and (iv) the building that hosts the system producing the energy does not receive a deduction under section 28-320.3.6.3. Covered buildings claiming deductions for renewable energy credits under this section must provide the department with the geographic location of the renewable energy resource that created the renewable energy credits. The department, in consultation with the mayor's office of long term planning and sustainability, shall promulgate rules to implement this deduction.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.6.2 Deductions from reported annual building emissions for purchased greenhouse gas offsets.

For calendar years 2024 through 2029, a deduction shall be authorized for up to 10 percent of the annual building emissions limit. Such a deduction shall be authorized only where within the reporting calendar year, greenhouse gas offsets equivalent to the size of the deduction as measured in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and generated within the reporting calendar year have been (i) purchased by or on behalf of the owner in accordance with an offset standard referenced by rules of the department, (ii) publicly registered in accordance with such offset standard, and (iii) retired or designated to the department for retirement. Such greenhouse gas offsets must exhibit environmental integrity principles, including additionality, in accordance with rules promulgated by the department in consultation with the office of long term planning and sustainability. For the purposes of this section, additionality means a requirement that an offset project is not already required by local, national or international regulations. Prior to the department promulgation of rules pursuant to this section, the department shall consult the advisory board on environmental justice as established by section 3-1006 of the administrative code.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.3.6.3 Deductions from reported annual building emissions for clean distributed energy resources.

A deduction from the reported annual building emissions shall be authorized based upon the calculated output of a clean distributed energy resource located at the building subject to the report. The department shall promulgate rules to set forth how such deduction shall be calculated, in accordance with the following:

1. For a clean distributed energy resource that generates electricity, the department shall establish separate calculations for each type of commercially available clean distributed energy resource, which shall not be revised more frequently than once every three years.
2. For a clean distributed energy resource that stores electricity, the deduction shall be based on the size of the resource and its ability to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during designated peak periods. (L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.7 Reports required to be filed by owner.

By May 1, 2025, and by May 1 of every year thereafter, the owner of a covered building shall file with the department a report, certified by a registered design professional, prepared in a form and manner and containing such information as specified in rules of the department, that for the previous calendar year such building is either:

1. In compliance with the applicable building emissions limit established pursuant to section 28-320.3; or
2. Not in compliance with such applicable building emissions limit, along with the amount by which such building exceeds such limit.

For a report filed on or after May 1, 2026, where a report required to be submitted by May 1 in the prior year indicated that the covered building was not in compliance with the applicable building emissions limit established pursuant to section 28-320.3 in the calendar year covered by such report, but such building is in compliance for the calendar year covered by the report required to be submitted by May 1 in the current year, such report shall describe the methods used to achieve compliance.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2020/117, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-320.3.7.1 Extension of time to file report.

An owner may apply for an extension of time to file an annual report required by section 28-320.3.7 in accordance with this section and the rules of the department. An extension may be granted where the owner is unable to file the certified report by the scheduled due date despite such owner's good faith efforts, as documented in such application. An extension granted pursuant to this section shall not modify the owner's obligation to comply with the applicable emission limits for such calendar year.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.3.7.2 Reporting on compliance by the department.

By January 1, 2026, and January 1 of every year thereafter, the office of building energy and emissions performance shall submit to the mayor and the speaker of the council a report relating to compliance with this section. Such report shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Beginning with the report due January 1, 2027, the methods used by covered buildings to comply with the building emissions limits established pursuant to section 28-320.3 where such buildings were not in compliance for the report submitted in the previous year, including, as applicable, any retrofitting improvements and purchasing of clean energy, disaggregated by method and by number of buildings; and
2. The total number of buildings in each occupancy group, and the number of buildings in compliance with emissions limits, disaggregated by occupancy group.

(L.L. 2020/117, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-320.3.8 Continuing requirements.

In 2055, the office of building energy and emissions performance shall prepare and submit to the mayor and the speaker of the council recommendations whether to repeal or amend any of the requirements of this article.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.9 Extension for certain income-restricted housing.

This section is applicable to covered buildings:

1. That are owned by a limited-profit housing company organized under article 2 of the private housing finance law, and
2. That contain one or more dwelling units for which occupancy or initial occupancy is restricted based upon the income of the occupant or prospective occupant thereof as a condition of a loan, grant, tax exemption, tax abatement, or conveyance of property from any state or local governmental agency or instrumentality pursuant to the private housing finance law, the general municipal law, or section 420-c of the real property tax law.

Such covered buildings are exempted from the annual building emissions limits set forth in section 28-320.3.1 and 28-320.3.2 and from any applicable reporting requirements. Commencing January 1, 2035, such covered buildings shall be subject to the annual building emissions limits established pursuant to sections 28-320.3.4 and 28-320.3.5 and any applicable reporting requirements.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.3.10 Changes in building status.

The department may establish by rule procedures for a building to apply for additional time to comply with the emissions limits when such building converts to a new occupancy group or use with lower emissions limits, or undergoes a change affecting the applicability of this article to such building.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.3.10.1 Additional time for certain covered buildings.

A covered building where at least one dwelling unit is required by law or by an agreement with a governmental entity to be regulated in accordance with the emergency tenant protection act of 1974, the rent stabilization law of 1969, or the local emergency housing rent control act of 1962, but that is not a rent regulated accommodation pursuant to this article, may delay compliance with annual building emissions limits until January 1, 2026, and submission of the first report required by section 28-320.3.7 until May 1, 2027.

(L.L. 2020/116, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-320.4 Assistance.

The office of building energy and emissions performance shall establish and maintain a program for assisting owners of covered buildings in complying with this article, as well as expand existing programs established to assist owners in making energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements. These programs shall be made available to assist building owners without adequate financial resources or technical expertise.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.5 Outreach and education.

The office of building energy and emissions performance shall establish and engage in outreach and education efforts to inform building owners about building emissions limits, building emissions intensity limits and compliance with this article. The materials developed for such outreach and education shall be made available on the office's website. Such outreach shall include a list of city, state, federal, private and utility incentive programs related to energy reduction or renewable energy for which buildings reasonably could be eligible. The office of building energy and emissions performance shall also provide outreach, education, and training opportunities for buildings' maintenance and operations staff.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.5.1 Reporting on outreach and education.

By June 1, 2021, and by June 1 in every year thereafter, the office of building energy and emissions performance shall submit a report to the mayor and the speaker of the council, detailing the outreach and education efforts made pursuant to section 28-320.5, including, but not limited to information provided about incentive programs and other sources of funding. Such report shall also include the number of staff members working at the office of building energy and emissions performance.

(L.L. 2020/117, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-320.6 Penalties.

An owner of a covered building who has submitted a report pursuant to section 28-320.3.7 which indicates that such building has exceeded its annual building emissions limit shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than an amount equal to the difference between the building emissions limit for such year and the reported building emissions for such year, multiplied by \$268.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.6.1 Determination of penalty.

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In considering the amount of the civil penalty to be imposed pursuant to this article, a court or administrative tribunal shall give due regard to aggravating or mitigating factors including:

1. The respondent's good faith efforts to comply with the requirements of this article, including investments in energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reductions before the effective date of this article;
2. The respondent's history of compliance with this article;
3. The respondent's compliance with the conditions of any adjustment to the applicable building emissions limit, issued by the department pursuant to section 28-320.7;
4. Whether the non-compliance was directly related to unexpected and unforeseeable events or conditions during the calendar year outside the control of the respondent;
5. The respondent's access to financial resources, where the court or administrative tribunal may consider the financial hardship of a building owned by such respondent as evidence of such respondent's access to such financial resources; and
6. Whether payment of such penalty would impact the operations of facilities critical to human life or safety.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.6.2 Civil penalty for failure to file report.

It shall be unlawful for the owner of a covered building to fail to submit an annual report as required by section 28-320.3.7 on or before the applicable due date. An owner of a covered building subject to a violation for failure to file a report shall be liable for a penalty of not more than an amount equal to the gross floor area of such covered building, multiplied by \$0.50, for each month that the violation is not corrected within the 12 months following the reporting deadline; provided, however, that an owner shall not be liable for a penalty for a report demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this article if such report is filed within 60 days of the date such report is due.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.6.3 False statement.

It shall be unlawful to knowingly make a material false statement in a report or other submission filed with the department, pursuant to this article. A violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days or both such fine and imprisonment. A person who violates this section shall also be liable for a civil penalty of not more than \$500,000.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

**NYC Administrative Code:**  
**Article 320: Building Energy and Emissions Limits, and**  
**Article 321: Energy Conservation Requirements for Certain Buildings**

§ 28-320.6.4 Penalty recovery.

Civil penalties provided for by this article may be recovered in a proceeding before an administrative tribunal within the jurisdiction of the office of administrative trials and hearings. Administrative summonses returnable to such tribunal for violations of this article may be issued by the department or by an agency designated by the department. Civil penalties provided for by this article may also be recovered in an action by the corporation counsel in any court of competent jurisdiction.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.7 Adjustment to applicable annual building emissions limit.

The department, in consultation with the mayor's office of long term planning and sustainability or any other agency designated by the mayor, may grant an adjustment of the annual building emissions limit applicable to a covered building in existence on the effective date of this article or for which a permit for the construction of such building was issued prior to such effective date, provided that the owner is complying with the requirements of this article to the maximum extent practicable.

1. Such an adjustment may be granted upon a specific determination that all of the following conditions in items 1.1 through 1.3 are met:

1.1. Capital improvements are necessary for strict compliance with the limit set forth in section 28-320.3 and it is not reasonably possible to make such improvements due to (i) a constraint imposed by another provision of law including but not limited to designation as a landmark, landmark site, interior landmark, or within a historic district pursuant to chapter 3 of title 25 of the administrative code, or (ii) a physical condition of the building or building site including but not limited to lack of access to energy infrastructure, space constraints, or lack of access to a space within a building covered by a lease in existence on the effective date of this section;

1.2. The owner has made a good faith effort to purchase greenhouse gas offsets to comply with section 28-320.3 but a sufficient quantity is not available at a reasonable cost; and

1.3. The owner has availed itself of all available city, state, federal, private and utility incentive programs related to energy reduction or renewable energy for which it reasonably could participate.

2. Such an adjustment may be granted upon a specific determination that all of the following conditions in items 2.1 through 2.4 are met:

2.1. The cost of financing capital improvements necessary for strict compliance with the limit set forth in section 28-320.3 would prevent the owner of a building from earning a reasonable financial return on the use of such building or the building is subject to financial hardship as defined in this article. In evaluating the ability of an owner to earn a reasonable financial return, the department may consider future savings expected from such capital improvements;

2.2. The owner is not eligible for any program funded by the city or enabled by a local law that provides financing for the purpose of energy reduction or sustainability measures. Proof of ineligibility for

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financing must be demonstrated by rejection from any such program funded by the city or enabled by a local law or an affidavit explanation why such owner could not reasonably participate in such programs;

2.3. The owner has made a good faith effort to purchase greenhouse gas offsets or renewable energy credits to comply with section 28-320.3 but a sufficient quantity is not available at a reasonable cost; and

2.4. The owner has availed itself of all available city, state, federal, private and utility incentive programs related to energy reduction or renewable energy for which it reasonably could participate. (L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.7.1 Effective period.

An adjustment granted pursuant to item 1 of section 28-320.7 may be effective for a period of not more than three calendar years. An adjustment granted pursuant to item 2 of such section may be effective for a period of not more than one calendar year.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.7.2 Application.

An application for such an adjustment shall be made in the form and manner determined by the department and certified by a registered design professional.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.8 Adjustment to applicable annual building emissions limit for calendar years 2024 through 2029.

The department may grant an adjustment of the annual building emissions limit for calendar years 2024 through 2029 applicable to a covered building in existence on the effective date of this article where such covered building emissions in calendar year 2018 exceeds the building emissions limit as prescribed by section 28-320.3.1 by more than 40 percent, as reported to the department by a registered design professional. The adjustment shall result in a required building emissions limit that is 70 percent of the calendar year 2018 building emissions for the covered building. Such adjustment may be granted where all of the following conditions in items 1 through 3 are met:

1. The owner of the covered building demonstrates that the building emissions in excess of the building emissions limit is attributable to special circumstances related to the use of the building, including but not limited to 24 hour operations, operations critical to human health and safety, high density occupancy, energy intensive communications technologies or operations, and energy-intensive industrial processes;

2. The owner of the covered building demonstrates that the energy performance of the covered building is equivalent to a building in compliance with the New York city energy conservation code in effect on January 1, 2015; and



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3. The owner of the covered building has submitted a plan to the department setting forth a schedule of alterations to the covered building or changes to the operations and management of the covered building sufficient to ensure that the covered building will be in compliance with the annual building emissions limits for calendar years 2030 through 2034, as required by section 28-320.3.2.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.8.1 Effective period.

An adjustment granted pursuant to section 28-320.8 may be effective for the reporting years 2025 through 2030, as prescribed by section 28-320.3.7, provided that the certificate of occupancy has not been amended after December 31, 2018.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.8.1.1 Extension of effective period.

The commissioner may also grant an extension of the effective period of the adjustment to applicable annual building emissions limit for calendar years 2030 - 2035, as prescribed by section 28-320.3.8. Such extension may be granted upon submission of a schedule of alterations to the covered building or changes to the operations and management of the covered building in accordance with section 28-320.8 sufficient to ensure that by 2035 the covered building will comply with a required building emissions limit that is 50 percent of the reported 2018 building emissions for the covered building.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.8.2 Application.

An application for an adjustment shall be submitted to the department before July 1, 2021 in the form and manner determined by the department and certified by a registered design professional.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.9 Adjustment to applicable annual building emissions limit for not-for-profit hospitals and healthcare facilities.

The department shall grant an adjustment of the annual building emissions limits for calendar years 2024 - 2029 and 2030 - 2034 where all of the following conditions in items 1 and 2 are met:

1. The building is classified as a not-for-profit hospital, not-for-profit health center, or not-for-profit HIP center, in existence on the effective date of this article; and

2. By no later than July 21, 2021, the owner of the covered building submits an application to the department for such adjustment in a form and manner prescribed by the department.

For calendar years 2024 through 2029, the adjustment shall result in the covered building being subject to an emissions limit that is 85 percent of the calendar 2018 building emissions for such covered building. For calendar years 2030 through 2034, the adjustment shall result in the covered building being subject to an emissions limit that is 70 percent of the calendar 2018 building emissions for such covered building.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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§ 28-320.10 Fee schedule.

The department may establish by rule a schedule of fees that shall be paid upon the filing of a report or an application for an adjustment to the applicable building emissions limit pursuant to this article. Such schedule may include a fee for the late filing of a report.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-320.11 Carbon trading study.

The office of long term planning and sustainability shall conduct a study on the feasibility of a citywide trading scheme for greenhouse gas emissions from buildings and submit a report and implementation plan with the findings of such study to the mayor and the speaker of the council no later than January 1, 2021. Such study shall include methods to ensure equitable investment in environmental justice communities that preserve a minimum level of benefits for all covered buildings and do not result in any localized increases in pollution. Such study shall also include an approach to a marketplace for credit trading, pricing mechanisms, credit verification, and mechanisms for regular improvement of the scheme. Such study should also consider the reports and recommendations of the advisory board.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

**Article 321: Energy Conservation Measure Requirements for Certain Buildings**

§ 28-321.1 Definitions.

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

**COVERED BUILDING.** The term "covered building" means a building that is (i) a rent regulated accommodation, (ii) a building whose main use or dominant occupancy is classified as occupancy group A-3 religious house of worship, (iii) owned by a housing development fund company organized pursuant to the business corporation law and article 11 of the private housing finance law, or (iv) a building that participates in a project-based federal housing program and, as it appears in the records of the department of finance, such building (i) exceeds 25,000 (2322.5 m<sup>2</sup>) gross square feet, or (ii) is one of two or more buildings on the same tax lot that together exceed 50,000 gross square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>), or (iii) is one of two or more buildings held in the condominium form of ownership that are governed by the same board of managers and that together exceed 50,000 gross square feet (4645 m<sup>2</sup>).

Exceptions:

1. Real property, not more than three stories, consisting of a series of attached, detached or semi-detached dwellings, for which ownership and the responsibility for maintenance of the HVAC systems and hot water heating systems is held by each individual dwelling unit owner, and with no HVAC system or hot water heating system in the series serving more than 25,000 gross square feet (2322.5 m<sup>2</sup>), as certified by a registered design professional to the department.

2. An industrial facility primarily used for the generation of electric power or steam.

**RENT REGULATED ACCOMMODATION.** The term "rent regulated accommodation" means a building in which more than 35% of dwelling units are required by law or by an agreement with a governmental

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entity to be regulated in accordance with the emergency tenant protection act of 1974, the rent stabilization law of 1969, or the local emergency housing rent control act of 1962.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2019/147, 7/27/2019, eff. 11/15/2019; Am. L.L. 2020/116, 11/17/2020, eff. 11/17/2020)

§ 28-321.2 Required energy conservation measures for certain buildings.

A covered building must comply with either section 28-321.2.1 or section 28-321.2.2.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-321.2.1 Energy compliant buildings.

The owner of a covered building shall demonstrate that, for calendar year 2024, the annual building emissions of such covered building did not exceed what the applicable annual building emissions limit would be pursuant to section 28-320.3.2 if such building were a covered building as defined in article 320 of this chapter.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-321.2.2 Prescriptive energy conservation measures.

By December 31, 2024, the owner of a covered building shall ensure that the following energy conservation measures have been implemented where applicable:

1. Adjusting temperature set points for heat and hot water to reflect appropriate space occupancy and facility requirements;
2. Repairing all heating system leaks;
3. Maintaining the heating system, including but not limited to ensuring that system component parts are clean and in good operating condition;
4. Installing individual temperature controls or insulated radiator enclosures with temperature controls on all radiators;
5. Insulating all pipes for heating and/or hot water;
6. Insulating the steam system condensate tank or water tank;
7. Installing indoor and outdoor heating system sensors and boiler controls to allow for proper set-points;
8. Replacing or repairing all steam traps such that all are in working order;
9. Installing or upgrading steam system master venting at the ends of mains, large horizontal pipes, and tops of risers, vertical pipes branching off a main;

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10. Upgrading lighting to comply with the standards for new systems set forth in section 805 of the New York city energy conservation code and/or applicable standards referenced in such energy code on or prior to December 31, 2024. This provision is subject to exception 1 in section 28-310.3, provided that July 1, 2010 is replaced by January 1, 2020 for the purposes of this section;

11. Weatherizing and air sealing where appropriate, including windows and ductwork, with focus on whole-building insulation;

12. Installing timers on exhaust fans; and

13. Installing radiant barriers behind all radiators.  
(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-321.3 Reports.

By May 1, 2025, an owner of a covered building shall submit a report to the department to demonstrate compliance with this section in accordance with section 28-321.3.1 or section 28-321.3.2.  
(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-321.3.1 Energy compliant buildings reports.

The owner of a covered building shall file with the department a report, certified by a registered design professional, prepared in a form and manner and containing such information as specified in rules of the department, that for calendar year 2024 such building was in compliance with the applicable building emissions limit established pursuant to section 28-320.3.2.  
(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

§ 28-321.3.2 Prescriptive energy conservation measures reports.

A retro-commissioning agent, as defined in article 308, shall prepare and certify a report in a form and manner determined by the department. The report shall include such information relating to the completion of the prescriptive energy conservation measures as shall be set forth in the rules of the department including, at a minimum:

1. Project and team information:

1.1. Building address.

1.2. Experience and certification of persons performing the prescriptive energy conservation measures and any staff involved in the project.

1.3. Name, affiliation, and contact information for persons performing the prescriptive energy conservation measures, owner of building, and facility manager of building.

2. Building information:

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2.1. List of all HVAC, domestic hot water, electrical equipment, lighting, and conveyance equipment types serving the covered building.

(L.L. 2019/097, 5/19/2019, eff. 11/15/2019)

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<i>LL97/2019</i>	<i>Building Energy and Carbon Emissions Limits</i>
<i>LL147/2019</i>	<i>Amends LL97 - Technical Amendment</i>
<i>LL95/2020</i>	<i>Amends LL147 - Marginal Emissions and Natural Gas Powered Fuel Cells</i>
<i>LL116/2020</i>	<i>Amends LL147 - Rent Regulated Accommodations</i>
<i>LL117/2020</i>	<i>Amends LL97 - GHG Emission Reduction Methods and Outreach &amp; Education</i>