

# Carbon Neutral Buildings Roadmap

## Frequently Asked Questions



**NYSERDA**

### When will the Roadmap be finalized?

NYSERDA presented draft preliminary findings from the first iteration of the Roadmap to the public on June 15th and 16th of 2021. Public comments may be submitted until August 6th, 2021. This feedback will be considered for incorporation into the final draft, which is expected to be released toward the end of 2021.

### What is the scope of this Roadmap?

The Roadmap is both a long-term planning document for New York's buildings sector to reach carbon neutrality by 2050 and an action plan in the short-term. It covers both new construction and existing building retrofits, with a strategic focus on four building types which represent over 50 percent of the building sector's energy use: single-family residential, low- and mid-rise multifamily residential, low- and mid-rise commercial office buildings, and higher education (with midrise being defined as up to 20 stories).

### What will be included in subsequent iterations of the Carbon Neutral Buildings Roadmap?

Further iterations of the Roadmap will factor in new policy, market, and technological developments, focus more intensively on embodied carbon and low greenhouse warming potential (GWP) refrigerants, and expand to additional building typologies. The next iteration(s) will likely include K-12 schools, big box retail stores, warehouses, hotels, and hospitals. Building types that also require additional analysis are skyscrapers, restaurants and commercial kitchens, and grocery stores.

### How often will the Roadmap be updated?

This is a working document that will be updated every few years to account for policy, market, and technological developments and to analyze additional building typologies.

### How does this Roadmap integrate with other NYSERDA and utility initiatives for the building sector?

The Roadmap is intended to be an overarching policy document that will inform the direction of NYSERDA's building-related programmatic activities. Several existing NYSERDA program offerings are already working to support the goals of the Roadmap, including [RetrofitNY](#), the [Buildings of Excellence Competition](#), the [Regional Clean Energy Hubs](#), the [Clean Heating and Cooling Communities Program](#), the [Low Carbon Capital Planning Support for Multifamily Buildings](#), the [Carbon Neutral Community Economic Development Program](#), the [Heat Pump Program \(NYS Clean Heat\)](#), and the [Community Heat Pump Systems](#). There are also a number of other programs and initiatives already underway or under development that will be launched soon to help stimulate the market for carbon neutral buildings and a decarbonized economy.

### Once the Roadmap is finalized, what happens next?

Once the Roadmap is finalized, the recommendations will be shared for consideration by the Climate Action Council (CAC) in their development of the draft Scoping Plan, which will lay out the Council's recommendations for implementing New York's economy-wide plan to reach the goals set in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

Upon completion of the Roadmap, we intend to launch a community-based outreach campaign to raise awareness and build support for a decarbonized built environment. Through this work, we will empower all New Yorkers with the knowledge, tools, and support needed to realize a carbon neutral future.

The Roadmap's final findings and recommendations will also continue to inform the development of various programs and initiatives within NYSERDA and other applicable state agencies

The Roadmap will continue to be updated and expanded upon as a long-term planning document.

### When are comments due?

Comments are due by 11:59 PM ET on August 6th, 2021.

### How will comments be used?

Public comments are intended to inform the development of the final Roadmap. We are very interested in understanding where there may be areas for improvement, potential adverse impacts, or other information that should be considered or changed in the final version. The comments will be carefully reviewed by staff to inform changes to specific sections or suggested strategies or tactics.

### Will my comments be visible for others to see?

Comments will be posted anonymously on the Carbon Neutral Buildings webpage. As a State Authority, we are also subject to the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL).

### Will NYSERDA be providing responses to submitted comments?

NYSERDA will be following up with commenters for additional information as needed but will not be providing formal responses to comments. If you have questions, please contact [CarbonNeutralBuildings@nyserdanyc.gov](mailto:CarbonNeutralBuildings@nyserdanyc.gov).

### How is the Roadmap different from the Climate Action Council/Energy Efficiency & Housing Advisory Panel?

The CNBR is a NYSERDA work product, intended to inform state planning and published in time to inform the CAC's draft Scoping Plan, due at the end of 2021. The CAC is the body responsible for planning how to reach the goals set in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act.

### What role does the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) play?

The NYISO is a not-for-profit, independent company responsible for managing New York's electric grid and its competitive wholesale electric marketplace. They do not generate power or own transmission lines. Review the [2019 Congestion Assessment and Resource Integration Study](#) to learn more about potential impacts to the power system from electrification and increased renewable penetration.