



CBSC

CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Date: October 20, 2026

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Interested Organizations, and Individuals

From: California Building Standards Commission

Contact: Havel Weidner, Associate Architect
2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130
Sacramento, CA 95833
(916) 263-0916

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for 2028 Amendments to the California Green Building Standards Code Pursuant to Senate Bill 745

In accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.4 and Section 15082 of the *State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines*, the California Building Standards Commission (BSC), as the Lead Agency, has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) for proposed 2028 Amendments to the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen) Pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 745 (Project). The purpose of this NOP is to inform agencies and interested parties that BSC will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), to solicit comments and suggestions regarding the scope and content of the EIR, and to provide notice of the public scoping meeting.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The BSC oversees the development, adoption, and publication of California's statewide building standards contained in Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations. In response to the Drought-Resistant Buildings Act (SB 745), the BSC is proposing amendments to CALGreen, Part 11 of Title 24. The proposed amendments are intended to reduce potable water use in new nonresidential buildings by elevating certain existing voluntary water-efficiency measures to mandatory requirements. The proposed requirements would provide multiple compliance options to accommodate varying building types and regional conditions throughout California. If adopted, the amendments would be incorporated into the 2028 CALGreen, scheduled for publication on July 1, 2028, and would take effect on January 1, 2029. As part of the proposed amendments to CALGreen, the EIR will evaluate the potential environmental effects of the Project, as well as reasonably foreseeable effects associated with potential future related amendments to the California Plumbing Code (CPC), Part 5 of Title 24. Although no amendments to the CPC are currently proposed, such amendments may be considered in the future to support or coordinate with implementation of the CALGreen revisions.

The Project consists of changes to building design and construction requirements that would apply statewide. Accordingly, the geographic scope of the Project encompasses the entire State of California. Although CALGreen establishes requirements applicable to new construction, the Project does not propose, authorize, or induce the construction of any new buildings or development. Rather, CALGreen regulates how applicable buildings and improvements are designed and constructed when such construction occurs; it does not determine where or when new construction takes place.





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PROJECT LOCATION

The project is a change to nonresidential building design and construction requirements that are applicable statewide.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE EIR

The Draft EIR will evaluate all of the following resource topics in accordance with Appendix G of the *State CEQA Guidelines*:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

In addition, the EIR will evaluate any significant and unavoidable project impacts, as well as potentially significant cumulative impacts. Consistent with the CEQA “rule of reason,” the EIR will identify and evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives capable of avoiding or substantially reducing significant environmental impacts while attaining most of the project's basic objectives. The EIR will also identify any alternatives considered but rejected as infeasible and describe the factors supporting that determination.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

Pursuant to California Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 21083.9, 21092.2, and California Code of Regulations, Title 14 (CEQA Guidelines) Sections 15082 and 15083, the BSC, as the Lead Agency, will conduct a scoping meeting for the purpose of soliciting oral and written comments from interested parties requesting notice, responsible agencies, agencies with jurisdiction by law, trustee agencies, and involved federal agencies, as to the appropriate scope and content of the EIR. The scoping meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: November 12, 2026

Time: 10 A.M.

Location: Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Join the Meeting: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/2912026474321254?p=1dx7xcYfzbLogFtWbe>

Meeting ID: 291 202 647 432 125 4

Passcode: xs922gD3





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Join by Phone: 949-266-9993

Phone Conference ID: 418 454 518#

RESPONSIBLE AND TRUSTEE AGENCIES

The BSC requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project, in accordance with *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082(b). Your response to this NOP, at a minimum, should identify: (1) significant environmental issues and reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures that your agency recommends be evaluated in the EIR; and (2) whether your agency will be a responsible or trustee agency for this project.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD

In accordance with PRC Section 21080.4 and the *State CEQA Guidelines* Section 15082, this NOP is being circulated for a 30-day comment period. The NOP comment period begins on October 20, 2026 and ends on November 19, 2026.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The NOP can be viewed on the California Department of General Service's website at:

https://bit.ly/DGS_CEQA_Info

SUBMITTAL OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The BSC requests your careful review and consideration of this notice, and invites written comments from interested agencies, persons, and organizations regarding the preparation of the Draft EIR.

Please send your written comments to:

Department of General Services
ATTN: Stephanie Coleman, Senior Environmental Planner
107 3rd Street, 4th Floor
West Sacramento, California 95605

Comments may also be sent by email to: environmental@dgs.ca.gov.

Please put "Amendments to the 2028 California Green Building Standards Project" in the subject line in any written or electronic correspondence.

Please include your name, address, and contact information in any written or electronic correspondence.

Your written comments must be received by 5:00 P.M. on November 19, 2026, the close of the public review period.



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