New York City’s groundbreaking laws to dramatically reduce carbon emissions from buildings

The centerpiece, Local Law 97, requires buildings larger than 25,000 square feet to meet strict greenhouse gas emissions limits starting in 2024. This new law is expected to reduce cumulative emissions from large buildings at least 40% citywide by 2030 through building retrofits. In addition, the CMA establishes a new Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program to enable retrofits through long-term financing, and requires the installation of solar PV and green roofs on new buildings and major renovations.

In New York City, buildings are responsible for nearly 70 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. Focusing on the city’s largest buildings will promote energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, and renewable energy while creating new, good-paying jobs for New Yorkers. It will also discourage continued reliance on polluting fossil fuels, cut down on harmful air pollution that causes respiratory illnesses, and save building owners money over time by lowering operating expenses.

Highlights of Local Law 97:

Requires buildings larger than 25,000 square feet to meet greenhouse gas emissions caps, beginning in 2024

Applies to 50,000 buildings across New York City (those larger than 25,000 square feet) across 22,000 properties

Sets emissions limits based on occupancy classifications of spaces within a building

The Climate Mobilization Act is expected to:

Reduce New York City’s overall emissions 10 percent by 2030

Eliminate 6 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, the equivalent of taking 1.3 million cars off the road every year

Create 26,700 green jobs by 2030

Prevent 50 to 130 premature deaths annually by 2030

Prevent 150 hospital visits annually by 2030

Reducing emissions from buildings is a key strategy for achieving New York City’s ambitious climate change goals of achieving citywide carbon neutrality by 2050 and upholding the highest goals of the Paris Agreement.
Check out the NYC Energy & Water Benchmarking Map to estimate your building’s GHG intensity, including 2024 and 2030 targets: http://on.nyc.gov/benchmarkingmap

The NYC Retrofit Accelerator offers free, personalized advisory services that streamline the process of making energy efficiency improvements to your building. We can help your building develop an effective strategy to comply with the Climate Mobilization Act.

Free Help. Simple Fixes. Big Results.

Our trusted experts can help you make building improvements. These Efficiency Advisors:

- Work with you one-on-one to understand your needs
- Help you draft long term capital plans to save energy
- Can connect you with qualified contractors to do the job
- Find cash incentives and financing to help pay for your upgrades
- Train your building staff so your building runs efficiently for years to come
- Support you every step of the way, even after project completion

The Building Energy Exchange offers resources to support healthy, comfortable, and energy efficient buildings:

- Playbooks
- Case Studies
- Technology Primers
- Trainings
- Exhibits
- Events

Stay in touch with the Building Energy Exchange and be sure to attend the Climate Mobilization Act series of educational events, taking place throughout 2019. Visit: https://be-exchange.org

Contact the NYC Retrofit Accelerator today:
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