

Bringing transparency to energy use in New York City's buildings.

Building energy use accounts for nearly two-thirds of New York City's greenhouse gas emissions, but we seldom have a good picture of individual building energy performance. Under Local Law 33, owners of certain large buildings are required to publicly display

Building Energy Efficiency Rating labels. This law will give the public a snapshot of a building's energy performance relative to other New York City buildings. Building owners who aggressively pursue energy efficiency improvements will be rewarded with higher energy grades.

Bill specifics:

- Requires buildings larger than 25,000 square feet and subject to Local Law 84 to publicly display Building Energy Efficiency Rating labels.
- Rewards building owners who pursue energy efficiency improvements with improved energy grades.
- Incentivizes capital improvements to lower operating costs, improve tenant comfort, and save energy.
- Strengthens opportunities for building owners to increase marketability, improve brand reputation, and demonstrate commitment to tenants.
- Empowers tenants, co-op and condo owners, and other stakeholders to choose buildings that align with their environmental values.

At a glance:

Ratings include a 1–100 ENERGY STAR® score and corresponding A–D letter grade. ENERGY STAR® scores are assigned based on building occupancy type, with building performance measured against that of similar buildings.

Relationship with Local Law 97:

Building Energy Efficiency Ratings are based on energy performance, not emissions. While reducing energy consumption will in most cases result in reduced building emissions, having a high grade does not necessarily translate to Local Law 97 compliance. Building owners should take care to verify their buildings' emissions performance as well.

