

Natural Gas Advisory Committee (NGAC)

Q4 2026 Meeting



DATE: Thursday, October 22, 2026

TIME: 9:30am-12:00pm Pacific

WEBINAR: [Click here to join the meeting](#) (Meeting ID: 287 650 332 983 429 | Passcode: vz7XM9iq)

(if needed) Call-in audio only: 971-323-0535 | Phone Conference ID: 576 140 346#

AGENDA (All Times Pacific)

9:30-9:50 (20 min)	Welcome, Agenda Packet Review, Introductions	Alisyn Maggiora	p. 1-2
9:50-10:10 (20 min)	Committee Round Robin General highlights: Big changes (programs/personnel); current challenges, lessons learned; how utility activities relate to NEEA's; sharable tools/materials; policy directives w/ customers; findings, filings, IRPs. <i>Desired Outcome: Committee members and NEEA staff are apprised of latest activities, plans, and organizational updates from alliance members.</i>	NGAC Members	--
10:10-10:30 (20 min)	Housekeeping, Looking Ahead - Previous Meeting Notes & Action Items: Sept 9 - Product Council Updates - Announcements & Reminders - Draft 2027 Operations Plan Feedback (Due Nov 2) - Leadership in EE Awards (Dec 4) - Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey (Due Oct 28) - Proposed 2027 NGAC dates – <i>now final</i> <i>Desired Outcome: Committee refreshed on previous meeting notes/action items and aware of significant upcoming items.</i>	Alisyn Maggiora Noe Contreras	--
10 min	BREAK	All	--
10:40-11:10 (30 min)	[Vote Prep] Program Expansion: Gas Advanced Performance DOAS - Update and context for the upcoming Program Advancement milestone for Advanced Performance DOAS in the Natural Gas portfolio - Review of milestone review timeline and ask of NGAC members <i>Desired Outcome: Committee prepared for their upcoming review of the Program Advancement milestone.</i>	Emily Moore Dave Hammond	p. 3-4
11:10-11:45 (35 min)	Portfolio Report Highlights - Highlights from Q2/Q3 - Coordination Opportunities <i>Desired Outcome: Committee apprised of gas program and portfolio developments.</i>	Melissa Mejia Jason Jones Deborah Sunada Neil Grigsby Noe Contreras Chuck Karras Mark Rehley	p. 5-16
11:45-11:50 (5 min)	Public comment, wrap up and adjourn	Alisyn Maggiora	--

Informational Updates:

- **Page 17:** LLLC+HVAC coordination opportunities memo
- [Q2 2026 Market Progress Report](#) - shared Sept 2 (Gas + Electric Programs – Annual goals progress)
 - Note: Q3 2026 report will be shared with Dec 9 packet materials

Additional Resources:

- [Newsletters on neea.org](#) (Emerging Tech | Market Research & Evaluation | Codes, Standards & New Construction)
- Most recent meeting notes, slides and agenda packets available on neea.org [here](#).
- [NGAC Charter](#)

PROPOSED 2027 NGAC MEETING DATES *(Reminder, no Q3 standing meeting)*

Quarter	Day(s)	Date(s)	TIME (PST)	LOCATION
Webinar	Wed	Jan 27	1-2pm	Virtual
Q1	Thurs	Mar 18	9am-4pm	Virtual
Webinar	Thurs	Apr 15	1-2pm	Virtual
Q2	Tues	June 1	9am-4pm	Hybrid (Seattle)
Webinar	Wed	Sept 22	1-2pm	Virtual
Q4	Thurs	Oct 28	9am-4pm	Virtual
Webinar	Wed	Dec 8	1-2pm	Virtual

REMAINING 2026 NGAC MEETINGS:

Quarter	Day(s)	Date(s)	TIME (PST)	LOCATION	ANTICIPATED TOPICS / NOTES
Webinar	Wednesday	Dec 9	1-2pm	Virtual	Gas expansion: AP DOAS vote

Memorandum – Agenda Item (Tier 1)



October 15, 2026

TO: Natural Gas Advisory Committee (NGAC)

FROM: Emily Moore, Director, Market Strategy & Execution
Dave Hammond, Manager, Program Management

SUBJECT: Upcoming Program Advancement milestone for Advanced Performance DOAS in the Natural Gas portfolio

Our Ask of You:

Please review the memo and bring any questions, feedback or concerns to the upcoming NGAC meeting, or contact NEEA staff listed below.

Brief Summary

NEEA staff are progressing on the opportunity to expand the existing electric Advanced Performance Dedicated Outside Air System (AP DOAS) program to include DOAS units paired with gas heating systems. This allows the gas portfolio to leverage the decade+ of work on the AP DOAS approach, including established market knowledge, relationships, and infrastructure, and reduce duplication, lower incremental risk, and accelerate entry into Market Development.

Following the October 22nd NGAC meeting, NEEA staff will provide NGAC with the Program Advancement milestone proposal for review and feedback ahead of the planned December 9th NGAC milestone vote. NEEA staff is asking NGAC members to review the proposal, socialize it with others in your organization as needed, and plan for a touchpoint with NEEA staff before feedback is due on **November 18th**. In the October 22nd meeting, NEEA staff will share an update on the Program Advancement and context for NGAC members to consider in their review of the proposal.

Proposal Context

In Q3, NEEA staff completed the assessment of market size, incremental costs, savings estimates and market baseline. The outcomes of the 3rd party review of the assumptions and baseline report will be reviewed by the Cost Effectiveness Evaluation Committee (CEAC) in their October 28th meeting. There are a couple of key outcomes of the analysis relevant to NGAC's review of the proposal:

- **Smaller than anticipated market size:** Analysis found AP DOAS (gas) to only be cost effective in larger building types - specifically secondary schools and large offices. Therefore, savings potential and forecasts in the proposal are limited to those cost-effective building types, amounting to a 20-year co-created savings forecast of 0.1 - 1.0 M therms. This estimate is based on limited market data and there is potential to demonstrate cost effectiveness in additional building types as we collect more data.
- **Washington code minimum:** In Washington state, AP DOAS (gas) is expected in school new construction to provide sufficient credits to satisfy fossil fuel pathway requirements in the commercial Washington State Energy Code (WSEC-C) 2021. Additional credits would be required for other building types beyond what AP DOAS (gas) can provide. This means that AP DOAS (gas) will be a viable HVAC system in many commercial buildings in Washington. However, AP DOAS (gas) is expected *meet* credit requirements, effectively operating as a "code minimum" system. So for the AP DOAS program savings analysis NEEA assumes that there will be no above-code energy savings

in Washington state. While savings in Washington may not be tracked and reported via the AP DOAS program, savings will be evaluated and reported via NEEA's Codes program.

While the program savings opportunity for natural gas is showing to be relatively small, there are several reasons NEEA staff believe this is a valuable investment for the regional gas portfolio, including:

- **Leveraged investment:** The gas portfolio can leverage the prior regional investment to add AP DOAS to the portfolio; from concept development beginning 10+ years ago, to recent market development investment, the electric portfolio has invested approximately \$8 million to-date, while the gas expansion investment to-date has been approximately \$650,000. Based on the NEEA funding share formula, the gas funding co-share going forward will be 10% of program costs; in 2027, this is \$116,500.
- **Market impact:** This change will help accelerate the overall market transformation effort by engaging building owners and designers regardless of their fuel choice and eliminates the unnatural distinction of fuel types, making the system less of a niche approach.
- **Code support:** The AP DOAS system design is a vetted and prescriptive approach that supports compliance with Washington's fossil-fuel pathway and, with the program interventions to build awareness and capability in the market, provides "insurance" that buildings that achieve code using the fossil fuel pathway will actually realize the intended code savings.
- **Non-energy benefits:** IAQ benefits are often noted for DOAS systems, but are not well-quantified. Also, general zonal control and comfort are a potential rationale for choosing this system type over alternatives.
- **Future proof design:** As designers consider the possibility of increasing Energy Usage Intensity (EUI) standards for new and existing buildings, AP DOAS presents a gas-fueled option that exceeds the projected EUI thresholds. This allows for a "no regrets" gas-fueled design solution.
- **Groundwork for future opportunities:** AP DOAS approach sets the gold standard for commercial HVAC design and performance. It complements the gas AP RTU program, and lays groundwork for future hydronic applications.

NEEA staff look forward to engaging with NGAC on the forthcoming Program Advancement proposal and hearing your feedback on the opportunity and value proposition for the regional natural gas portfolio.

Please contact Emily Moore (emoore@neea.org) or Dave Hammond (dhammond@neea.org) if you have questions about the planned program expansion or preparation for the Program Advancement milestone vote on December 9th.

Introduction

Twice annually, the NEEA Gas Team provides Activity Report updates for their respective programs, as well as Emerging Technology and Codes & Standards updates. These reports highlight key program activities, as well as coordination and stakeholder engagement opportunities.

Please take a moment to review the reports. If you have any questions or would like to discuss specific items further, feel free to reach out directly to the corresponding contact for that section.

- ***NEW*** Coordination Opportunities page 2
- Advanced Performance Rooftop Units pages 3-4
- Advanced Commercial Water Heating pages 5-6
- Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC pages 7-8
- Emerging Technology / Scanning pages 9-10
- Codes, Standards & New Construction pages 11-12

Contact:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Emily Moore | Director, Market Strategy & Execution |
| • Mark Rehley | Director, Codes, Standards, New Construction, Emerging Tech |
| • Neil Grigsby | Sr. Market Transformation Manager, Water Heating |
| • Melissa Mejia | Program Manager, Advanced Commercial Water Heating |
| • Deborah Sunada | Sr. Program Manager, Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC |
| • Jason Jones | Program Manager, Efficient Rooftop Units |
| • Noe Contreras | Sr. Product Manager, Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC |
| • Chuck Karras | Sr. Product Manager, Advanced Commercial Water Heating |
| • John Wilson | Sr. Product Manager, Commercial HVAC |

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

> [Quarterly NEEA Newsletters](#)

> [Quarterly Report / ED Update](#)

> [2026 Operations Plan](#)

Coordination Opportunities Summary

Purpose: In an effort to streamline coordination opportunities and requests from NEEA staff, please review this page and share inside your organizations to help identify opportunities in your territory. We are excited to collaborate with you!

Advanced Performance RTUs Jason Jones	- Continuing to work with Energy Trust's Existing Buildings program on projects in Salem and Multnomah County for planned RTU replacements. - The program is seeking to conduct field studies to validate the National RTU Energy Modeling (linked below) for gas-fired (gas or hybrid heating) RTUs. Please share any leads in your service territory. Contact Jason Jones at jjones@neea.org for more information.
Advanced Commercial Water Heat Melissa Mejia	- The program currently has two multifamily field demonstrations underway. If there are any specific data or research questions you're interested in addressing via these projects, please contact Melissa Mejia at mmejia@neea.org. - The program is seeking to test and validate gas heat pump performance in a hotel or full-service restaurant (such as an Olive Garden or Red Lobster) application in 2027. Sites should have high, consistent hot water loads of >2,000 gallons per day. If you have a viable site, NEEA will vet further and collaborate as needed to deploy test and monitor performance. Contact Melissa Mejia at mmejia@neea.org for more information.
Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC Deborah Sunada	Homeowner recruitment for Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC Field Research on switchover temperature impacting comfort/behavior ongoing and seeking support for HVAC contractor introductions.
Codes, Standards, New Construction Mark Rehley	Residential New Construction Performance Path V4 is now active. Please let Tess Studley, NEEA's New Construction Program Manager know if you have any questions.
Scanning Projects	LLLC + HVAC: NEEA is interested in partnering with utilities on pilots; utilities are typically leading site identification and recruitment, and funding the thermostat or communicating equipment purchase and installation. See page x in the packet or contact Suzi Asmus sasmus@neea.org.

ADVANCED PERFORMANCE ROOFTOP (RTUs) | HVAC Product Group

Jason Jones | Program Manager | jjones@neea.org

Market Transformation Goal: Ultimately, the Advanced Performance RTU (*reminder – program name changed from Efficient RTUs earlier in 2026*) program will provide evidence needed to support an updated federal standard by 2034 that requires at least 20% more efficient RTUs than the 2020 market average.

Product Description: A packaged rooftop unit, or RTU, is a type of HVAC system that contains all the components needed to provide conditioned air and ventilation in one concise unit and is located on the roof of a building. Packaged rooftop units are commonly found in light and large commercial applications. They are very popular with retail and industrial properties.

Program Status: Market Development Phase (Oct. 2022 – present)

Sectors: Commercial, gas HVAC

Target Markets: Commercial HVAC

Implementation Contractors: Energy350, Resource Innovations

Program Activities	Q2/Q3 2026 Highlights
Key 2026 Operations Plan Activity: RTUs Program HVAC Product Group Strategy	
NEEA-Identified Coordination Opportunities	- Continuing to work with Energy Trust's Existing Buildings program on projects in Salem and Multnomah County for planned RTU replacements. - The program is seeking to conduct field studies to validate the National RTU Energy Modeling (linked below) for gas-fired (gas or hybrid heating) RTUs. Please share any leads in your service territory. Contact Jason Jones at jjones@neea.org for more information.
Key Updates	<u>Program:</u> - Manufacturer representative outreach is ongoing (details in Market Progress Report). The program has identified multiple projects with reps to include advanced performance RTUs as a replacement for code-level equipment. - Manufacturer outreach is ongoing (details in Market Progress Report in Q4 packet). Working closely with manufacturers to increase uptake of qualified products in the region in partnership with the rep networks. <u>Market Research:</u> - Market Progress Evaluation Report (MPER) #2 contract is finalized and work has commenced. The report will be completed at the end of 2027 and published on neea.org. - Rooftop Unit Lead Time Study contract is finalized and work has commenced. Research objectives include: defining typical processes and timelines for RTU replacement projects and circumstances that

	trigger code or structural reviews. Report will be completed in early 2027 and published to neea.org. Other: Program continues to work with the Consortium of Energy Efficiency (CEE) to include expanded commercial HVAC values (including insulation, construction style, and ERV options) in the CEE Commercial Unitary Air-conditioning and Heat Pump Specification.
Resources for Utilities	Advanced performance RTUs: System requirements & compliant equipment Advanced performance RTUs - BetterBricks National Efficient Rooftop Unit Energy Modeling - Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA)
Anything else?	- Team members attended the CEE Summer Meeting (June) and CEE Industry Partners Meeting (August) to attend Commercial HVAC and RTU meetings. - Team attended and presented at ACEEE Summer Study on findings from the National Efficient RTU Energy Modeling that was completed in 2025.

Initiative Lifecycle



ADVANCED COMMERCIAL WATER HEATING (ACWH) | Water Heating Product Group

Melissa Mejia | Program Manager | mmejia@neea.org

Market Transformation Goal: Increased market adoption of efficient commercial gas heat pump and dual fuel water heating systems will provide the data necessary to influence federal standards that mandate progressively higher efficiencies for gas water heating equipment. Eventually, Thermal Efficiency values exceeding 1 will become the minimum standard for commercial gas water heaters.

Product Description: Gas Heat Pumps and Dual-Fuel Commercial Water Heating Systems

Program Status: Program Development Phase (Dec 2024 – present), Program Advancement Milestone planned for Q3 2027

Sectors: Commercial, gas & dual-fuel water heating

Target Markets: Multifamily, Lodging, Full-Service Restaurants

Implementation Contractors: N/A

Program Activities	Q2/Q3 2026 Highlights
Key 2026 Operations Plan Activity: ACWH Program Water Heating Product Group Strategy	
NEEA-Identified Coordination Opportunities	• The program currently has two multifamily field demonstrations underway. If there are any specific data or research questions you're interested in addressing via these projects, please contact Melissa Mejia at mmejia@neea.org. • The program is seeking to test and validate gas heat pump performance in a hotel or full-service restaurant (such as an Olive Garden or Red Lobster) application in 2027. Sites should have high, consistent hot water loads of >2,000 gallons per day. If you have a viable site, NEEA will vet further and collaborate as needed to deploy test and monitor performance. Contact Melissa Mejia at mmejia@neea.org for more information.
Key Updates	<u>Program:</u> • At the multifamily dual-fuel field demonstration, the heat pump water heater achieved a COP of 3.0 to 3.4 across output setpoints from 120°F to 140°F. The overall water-heating plant averaged a COP of 1.4 (roughly double the gas-only system), with ~24% cost savings. • The multifamily gas heat pump field demonstration installation is complete, including M&V equipment. • The expanded version of Ecosizer, allowing for the sizing of dual-fuel commercial water heating systems, was released. • Received draft Manufacturer and Key Stakeholder Engagement Plans. Facilitation of the plans will begin in Q4, targeting priority market actors and leveraging interviews to strengthen relationships and identify opportunities for support.

	<u>Market Research:</u> • The Commercial Dual Fuel and Electric Water Heating Market Characterization will kick off in early Q4. • Awarded vendor for the gas heat pump Market Baseline Validation, which will be completed by end of year.
Resources for Utilities	• Gas Heat Pump Field Test BetterBricks Article and Video • Dual-Fuel Field Test BetterBricks Article and Video • Dual-Fuel Domestic Hot Water Feasibility Study • Ecosizer • Modeling Commercial Water Heating System Report
Other Highlights	• Received the draft interim findings report for our field test work with Energy 350. • The dual-fuel controls optimization project in Lakewood, WA has kicked off, with metering to begin in Q4. The project will leverage three dual-fuel commercial water heating systems at a multifamily facility to test control and load flexibility strategies. • NEEA is co-funding a gas heat pump sizing tool development effort with GTI Energy. The beta for the tool is expected in Q4.

Initiative Lifecycle



DUAL-FUEL RESIDENTIAL HVAC | HVAC Product Group

Deborah Sunada | Sr. Program Manager | dsunada@neea.org

Market Transformation Goal: More efficient and grid-enabled dual-fuel systems will become the standard dual-fuel solution; manufacturers will produce and promote these systems; and contractors will design and install the most optimal systems, delivering reduced energy waste, grid flexibility, cost savings, and year-round comfort.

Product Description: The efficient product is a residential condensing forced air ducted gas furnace combined with a low-load efficient heat pump (HP). The dual-fuel system (DFS) requires a controller (which could be as simple as a thermostat) that determines when to operate the HP or furnace.

Program Status: Program Development Phase (September 2025 – present)

Sectors: Residential, gas HVAC

Target Markets: Single-Family Residential Homes

Implementation Contractors: TBD

Program Activities		Q2/Q3 2026 Highlights	
Key 2026 Operations Plan Activity: Dual-Fuel Res HVAC Program HVAC Product Group Strategy			
NEEA-Identified Coordination Opportunities		• Homeowner recruitment for Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC Field Research on switchover temperature impacting comfort/behavior ongoing and seeking support for HVAC contractor introductions who install dual-fuel systems. • Swift will work directly with the HVAC contractor to identify sites to participate in the study and is described as a NEEA/Swift study.	
Key Updates		<u>Program:</u> • Residential Dual-Fuel technology demonstration has been completed. Report is expected in Q4 2026. • A Dual-Fuel literature review and gap analysis are underway to determine additional pilots and demonstration opportunities. Final report sent to NGAC Dual-Fuel Workgroup. • GTI Energy lab testing of dual-fuel system (Heat Pump + Hydronic Air Handler Unit) underway completed and report to be issued in Q4 2026 • GTI Energy modeling dual-fuel systems with expanded analysis on retail price, performance, marginal emission factors and building size. Report to be issued in Q4 2026. • Dual-Fuel (Furnace + Heat Pump) lab testing complete (co-funded with Utilization Technology Development (UTD)). • Serving as an advisor to GTI Energy on the Cascade Natural Gas dual-fuel demonstration in Bend, Oregon.	

	<u>Market Research:</u> - Market Characterization study underway with expected completion in Q4 2026 <u>Other:</u> - Program continues to work with the Consortium of Energy Efficiency (CEE) to align on a Residential HVAC dual-fuel specification to inform utility program needs
Resources for Utilities	Dual-Fuel HVAC White Paper Dual-Fuel and Gas Heat Pump Market Research Dual-Fuel Heat Pump System Analysis
Technical Research	- TriMode Electric Monobloc ATW Heat Pumps with Gas Backup for Affordability and High Efficiency Lab study ongoing – (Co-funded with UTD) - Navien Residential Simultaneous Dual-Fuel System Heating (Co-funded with Emerging Technology Program (ETP))
Other Notable Highlights	
Manufacturer Engagement	Met with HVAC manufacturers through summer 2026, see Scanning section of this report for more details

Initiative Lifecycle



Scanning / Emerging Tech

Q2/Q3 2026 Highlights

Gas High Efficiency Dedicated Outside Air Systems (GHE DOAS)	- Following the October 22nd meeting, NGAC will receive the Program Advancement proposal for expanding the existing electric Advanced Performance DOAS program to include DOAS units paired with gas heating systems. Feedback is due November 18th and the committee will vote on the advancement at the December 9th webinar. - Please see memo on page 3 of the packet for context ahead of your review of the proposal.
Luminaire Level Lighting Controls (LLLC) with HVAC Control	Please see memo on page 17 of the packet for an update and ask related to field pilots for LLLC + HVAC.
Dual-Fuel Residential HVAC	- Dual-Fuel Utilization Efficiency Analysis. Manufacturers appear to be onboard. - A load calculation procedure widely used in the U. S. is Manual J, published by the Air-Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA). Investigating accuracy of this process and other approaches. - Working with manufacturers to understand commercialization readiness of OpenADR 3.1 and AHRI 1380 in a lab test.
Dual-Fuel Residential Water Heating	- GTI Energy has provided their final report on the Navien lab study and presented the findings at a NEEA Product Council in September. Report and recording posted to neea.org. - Baseline data collection for 2 WA Field testing sites to begin by November, 2026. - Navien DFWH product launch expected in Q4, 2026.
North American Gas Heat Pump (GHP) Collaborative (Commercial)	- Received approvals from all North American Gas Heat Pump Collaborative commercial committee members to publish the completed North American Gas Heat Pump Market Characterization report on neea.org - Continuing engagement with Beckett Commercial Solutions, who recently acquired Stone Mountain Technologies Inc (SMTI), to learn more about their product and market support plans. - Seven members of the commercial committee completed agreements with the Natural Gas Innovation Fund (NGIF) Accelerator to co-fund North American factory certification of two Vicot gas heat pump products. Next steps include collecting funder payments and developing a detailed work plan and timeline with Vicot and their manufacturer representative, Homy.

	• A half-day gas heat pump workshop was held during the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) Industry Partners meeting on 9/17 in Portland, OR. Key topics included: - Utility incentives and other strategies to reduce the first cost barrier - Contractor training and workforce readiness - Industry awareness and partnership growth For full notes from the meeting, contact your CEE representative or Neil Grigsby (ngrigsby@neea.org)
<i>Conferences / Events Highlights</i>	<u>Q2/Q3 Conference Highlights:</u> • See relevant programmatic highlights above. • Upcoming: ○ Hot Water and Hot Air Forum (March 23-25)

Codes, Standards, & New Construction

Q2/Q3 2026 Highlights

State Codes	• Washington ○ <i>Commercial</i> - In Q2, the State Building Code Council (SBCC) released its 2024 WSEC-Commercial Preliminary Cost Benefit Analysis, which was discussed at the Council's June meeting. This report provides proposal-level assessments for the 32 approved proposals deemed to have the largest cost impact. The 2024 WSEC-C final draft was posted on June 30, and a public comment period was open until August 7 to solicit any further input. SBCC also released final drafts and solicited public comment for its other building code updates in Q2 ○ <i>Residential</i> - In Q2, the State Building Code Council released its 2024 WSEC-R Preliminary Cost-Benefit Analysis, which was discussed at the Council's May and June meetings. This report provides proposal-level assessments for the 11 approved proposals deemed to have the largest cost impact. The 2024 WSEC-C final draft was posted on June 30, a 2024 WSEC-R final draft, and a public comment period was open until August 7 to solicit any further input. The 2024 WSEC-R final draft was posted on June 30, and a public comment period was open until August 7 to solicit any further input. • Oregon ○ <i>Commercial</i> - The Building Codes Division (BCD) proposed launching the 90.1-2025 adoption process this October and is targeting October 2027 for adoption and April 2028 for full enforcement of its 2028 Oregon Energy Efficiency Specialty Code. ○ <i>Residential</i> - The 2026 ORSC public hearing and final comment opportunity was held in August following the Building Codes Division's (BCD) advisory boards review and approval of the proposed energy code changes for 2026 ORSC in Q1. ○ Idaho - Following the state legislature's Q1 vote to disapprove the 2024 building codes rules package developed by the BCB (see docket 24-3930-2502), the state is exploring possible adoption of these codes into state statute. This was discussed at the June and August BCB meeting, with the resulting code update process likely delaying the effective date of any new code until no earlier than 2029. • Montana - In September, 2026, Montana's Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)'s Building Codes Program published and adopted a modified version of the 2024 IECC building energy codes for residential and commercial buildings. The codes go into effect in December 2026.
International Energy Conservation Code	• In Q2 2026, the IECC Commercial and Residential Consensus Committees finished reviewing and voting on the second round of code change proposals. Final balloting for the changes approved during this second round began in May, and as of July, all approved comments from the Updated Committee Action Report have met the thresholds for inclusion in the final 2027 IECC. As such, the technical code development committee work for the

	2027 IECC is complete. Following a few final process steps, including the appeals process, publication of the 2027 IECC is expected December 1, 2026.
<i>National Standards</i>	• After several quarters without activity, the US DOE restarted rulemaking in Q2 2026. NEEA staff responded to one docket regarding a petition to delay compliance dates for consumer furnaces and commercial water heaters.
<i>State Standards</i>	• Washington and Oregon are considering several possible state standards, but no schedule or timing for public comment have been released.
<i>New Construction</i>	• NEEA staff and the BetterBuiltNW team continued to work with the Regional Technical Forum (RTF) on the New Homes Protocol (Protocol). The Protocol defines the savings calculations for the Performance Path measure, which regional utilities can use to offer incentives on new homes. The Protocol review was extended was completed in Q3 2026. • The BetterBuiltNW training team delivered several training sessions at this year's BuildRight Conference + Expo in Portland, OR. • The monthly BetterBuiltNW newsletters published and distributed throughout Q2 focused on topics including passive building strategies, a review of the BuildRight Conference, and strategies for building front rooms over garages. Current and past newsletters can be found on the BetterBuiltNW website.

Memorandum – *Informational Update (Tier 2)*



October 15, 2026

TO: Natural Gas Advisory Committee

FROM: Suzi Asmus, Principal Program Manager, Luminaire Level Lighting Controls

SUBJECT: Luminaire Level Lighting Controls + HVAC Field Pilots

Our Ask of You:

Share the information in this memo with the relevant stakeholders in your organization for awareness of these efforts.

Brief Overview:

At the Q3 meeting (held Sept 9th), the Luminaire Level Lighting Control program [informed](#) this Natural Gas Advisory Committee about the work the team will be doing throughout the coming year to develop a program expansion opportunity, aiming for a Program Advancement vote in Q4 2027. The expansion opportunity builds on the existing electric LLLC program by adding a simple integration pathway between lighting occupancy sensors and commercial roof top units (RTUs) through a thermostat or other controls device to reduce HVAC run time.

As part of this work, NEEA is supporting on several field pilots to gather energy savings data, and collecting qualitative research information about the installation process, controls setting process, installation costs, installer and occupant training experiences, and occupant behavior and comfort. While each pilot structure is unique, generally utility partners in these pilots are leading site identification and recruitment, and funding the thermostat or communicating equipment purchase and installation. NEEA is conducting data collection, analysis and reporting to inform further program development.

What types of sites are we studying?

NEEA is prioritizing sites that meet the following criteria:

- Small and medium commercial sites (5,000-20,000 sq. ft)
- Single- or two-story building
- Existing LLLC or planning to install LLLC
- Space served by a single-zone RTU (4-15 tons)
- RTU is thermostat controlled (no BMS or EMS)
- Varied occupancy (i.e. not constant or consistent occupancy)

What is next?

NEEA will report mid-study results as available throughout 2027 and continue to use study results and findings to inform the program savings model and develop the program proposal for the Q4 advancement vote.

If you have questions about this memo, please contact Suzi Asmus (sasmus@neea.org). If your organization is interested in partnering on pilot sites, please reach out to NEEA's Principal Product Manager, Chris Wolgamott (cwolgamott@neea.org).