

Berkeley, California

Building Emissions Saving Ordinance

The Berkeley Building Emissions Saving Ordinance (BESO) requires large commercial and multifamily buildings to conduct annual energy benchmarking and comprehensive energy assessments every five years. Property owners may qualify for deferrals or exemptions based on recent energy certifications, demonstrated high performance or if major renovations are underway.

Learn More: [Regulation Text](#) [Program Website](#)

Covered Buildings

Multifamily and commercial buildings 25,000 sq. ft. or larger are required to comply with the comprehensive energy assessment requirements for BESO.

Compliance Pathways

Compliance

Annual benchmarking and 5-year assessments.

Standards/Targets

Buildings must be 25% below the National Median for their property type. For building types that are not eligible for an ENERGY STAR® Score, they can qualify for a Low Energy Use Deferral.

High Performing Buildings

High performance buildings may be exempt from energy assessment requirements but are still subject to annual energy benchmarking reporting. High performing buildings must demonstrate one of the approved certifications, programs and conditions outlined in the ordinance.

Exemptions & Provisions

Newly constructed or renovated buildings within 10 years may be deferred until 10 years following the completion of the construction or renovation.

Penalties & Enforcement

Penalties begin at \$100 per violation, per day, but may be increased to \$200-\$500.

Yardi Energy Solutions®

Yardi offers a comprehensive suite of energy solutions that simplify compliance, enhance operational efficiency, and reduce energy costs. Our offerings include:

- [Utility Invoice Processing](#) – Simplify the process of collecting and managing utility consumption data.
- [ENERGY STAR® Services](#) – Streamline benchmarking, verify whole-property data and achieve ENERGY STAR Certification for your properties.
- [Building Performance Standards](#) – Track and recover utility expenses with ease.
- [Energy Procurement](#) – Optimize energy costs and reduce carbon emissions.
- [Energy Efficiency](#) – Improve building energy performance with real-time data and timely alerts, detect HVAC system issues and reduce energy waste.

Disclaimer: This document is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or a comprehensive compliance guide.