

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

# DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

100 CAMBRIDGE ST., 9<sup>th</sup> FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02114 Telephone: 617-626-7300

Maura T. Healey Governor Rebecca L. Tepper Secretary

Kimberley Driscoll
Lt. Governor

**Elizabeth Mahony**Commissioner

October 31, 2025 By Email

Chair Michael J. Barrett Senate Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy Room 312-B

Office of the Clerk of the House Honorable Steven T. James, Clerk Room 145 Chair Mark J. Cusack House Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy Room 43

Office of the Clerk of the Senate Honorable Michael D. Hurley Room 335

#### Dear Honorable Clerks and Chairs:

In 2022, the Legislature enacted G.L. c. 25A, § 20, requiring DOER to collect and share data on the energy use of buildings with a gross floor area of 20,000 square feet or greater. This letter constitutes DOER's annual report for 2025 under G.L. c. 25A, § 20(f) and 225 CMR 27.10(2). In 2024, DOER developed regulations on the reporting of this information (225 CMR 27.00) and hired a team to assist in communicating with constituents and collecting and collating usage data. The policy requires electric, gas, and steam utilities to report usage data for buildings directly to DOER and requires building owners to report any other energy usage, including delivered fuels and on-site renewable generation.

2025 is the first year of identifying and collecting energy data from buildings throughout the Commonwealth. As anticipated, and in spite of a wide-ranging outreach and education campaign, DOER found challenges along the way. So far, the data reported is incomplete and is still being vetted and validated for accuracy, but DOER, utilities, and building owners took significant steps to meet the statute's directives.

#### **Engaging Building Owners**

DOER identified over 35,000 buildings for its draft list of covered buildings. Over the course of a year, DOER sent 34,000 letters and 38,000 emails, processed over 22,000 unique owner inquiries, and held nine info sessions and eight office hours sessions to answer questions. DOER's Green Communities and Leading by Example Divisions conducted extensive outreach on reporting with their public building owner constituents. In addition, DOER also engaged with representatives of large building owners to explain the policy and to ensure understanding of the reporting process by presenting directly to the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Massachusetts Chemistry & Technology Alliance (MCTA), and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities. Finally, DOER and its vendor partner met regularly on an ongoing basis with individual building owners to assist them with navigating the program. DOER will continue to meet with stakeholders prior to the 2026 reporting season.

### **Initial Data Findings**

The final list of results covered 32,991 buildings (a total of 2,607,490,144 square feet of gross floor area). Owners of buildings on this list claimed 13,174 of them, providing DOER with upto-date owner contact information and taking the first step to engage with the program. To date, DOER has full or partial energy data for 14,014 buildings. Further, Table 1 shows the fuel used in buildings with reported data, broken down by fuel type, for these buildings. Table 2 shows total number of buildings, energy use, and emissions by building type. Interested stakeholders can find the complete dataset linked at mass.gov/buildingenergyreporting.

Table 1: Fuel Usage and GHG Emissions by Fuel Type

Fuel Type	Count of	<b>Total Annual Fuel Usage</b>	Total Annual
	Reported	(kBtu)	<b>GHG Emissions</b>
	Buildings		(MTCO <sub>2</sub> E)
Electricity – Grid	8,562	23,278,429,383	1,419,984
Natural Gas	9,816	639,914,746,574	33,985,872
District Steam	280	75,216,065,090	4,994,347
District Hot Water	52	6,509,759,062	432,248
<b>District Chilled Water</b>	107	1,288,759,514	95,226
Fuel Oil #1	9	18,472,779	1,358
Fuel Oil #2	245	548,514,264	40,705
Fuel Oil #4	11	22,195,752	1,671
Fuel Oil 5 & 6	2	5,830,140	439
Diesel	149	63,162,863	4,687
Propane	109	173,138,982	11,124

Wood Use	2	181,564,439	17,031
<b>Onsite Renewables</b>	252	259,708,413	
Total	Most buildings use at least two fuel types – total is not a building count	747,480,347,254	41,004,693

Table 2: Energy Usage and GHG Emissions by Building Type

<b>Building Type</b>	Number of Buildings	Total Annual Energy Usage Reported (kBtu)	Total Annual GHG Emissions
			Reported (MTCO <sub>2</sub> E)
Banking/financial services	72	186,559,775	10,927
Education	3,286	21,432,639,529	1,346,289
Entertainment/public assembly	883	959,602,256	54,616
Food sales and service	143	158,093,651	8,773
Healthcare	722	8,782,190,412	536,764
Lodging/residential	8,960	650,871,175,181	35,383,292
Manufacturing/industrial	2,512	7,602,701,290	430,165
Mixed use	320	861,609,637	49,222
Office	3,114	8,302,247,612	475,085
Other	5,916	6,375,619,034	373,963
Parking	153	228,679,206	13,319
Public services	773	1,173,856,970	66,647
Religious worship	597	200,449,707	11,189
Retail	2,249	4,437,880,932	258,269
Services	304	104,368,337	6,012
Technology/science	543	8,719,708,079	529,712
Utility	126	25,313,376,389	1,352,205
Warehouse/storage	2,318	1,769,589,257	98,244
Total	32,991	747,480,347,254	41,004,693

## Collecting Data from Partners

Consistent with the statute and associated regulation, DOER relies primarily on utilities to report these data. DOER and the investor-owned utilities (3 electric companies and 5 gas companies) continue to scrub data and seek opportunities for the streamlining of data sharing. DOER anticipates that with each year of the program, the quality, completeness, and ease of reporting will accelerate. Moreover, DOER continues to work with Municipal Light Plant communities to find the best way to collect and report on the data for buildings in their communities.

## **Next Steps**

Consistent with building energy reporting programs across the country, this inaugural year is simply the starting point. As program mechanics improve and reporting parties become more familiar with the program, DOER expects data to improve, participation to increase, and meaningful trends in fuel usage to emerge. To that end, DOER intends to make available more information in the coming months detailing the program design, challenges encountered, and plans for future improvements.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Mahony Commissioner

Glydlet Mahong