



Embodied Carbon Intergovernmental Coordinating Council (ECICC)

Public Hearing #3

Updates on proposal & final opportunity for comment
November 20th, 2025

MEETING GUIDELINES

- This is a hybrid meeting and **will be recorded**
- The goal of this hearing is to share updates and seek feedback to help guide the Council's final set of recommendations
- The contents of these slides are a *proposal* for the Council's recommendations and do not reflect any final decisions or policy
- Please hold questions and comment until the end of the presentation

AGENDA

- Council's timeline for initial report
- Summary of current proposed recommendations
- Open Comment

TIMELINE

- The Council's "**Embodied Carbon Reduction Plan**" is set to be submitted to the Massachusetts Legislature by **January 1st of 2026**
- This is the final public hearing for the Council, final opportunity to provide comment before the report is published
- Following this initial report, the Council is required to publish an updated plan and progress report **every two years**

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1: AGENCY PROCEDURE

Require Commonwealth agencies that manage construction to undertake a comprehensive analysis of their construction processes and where there are decision points that influence EC. Agencies should use this analysis to develop organization-specific plans and revise specifications documents based on findings.

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 2: REPORTING

*In order to understand the relative EC intensity of different materials, require Commonwealth agencies to collect Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) for **ready-mix concrete, precast concrete, structural steel, steel rebar, asphalt** used in qualifying state-managed projects.*

RECOMMENDATION 3: THRESHOLDS & CERTIFICATION

*Require Commonwealth agencies to implement project-level Global Warming Potential (GWP) limits for **ready-mix concrete, precast concrete, structural steel, steel rebar, asphalt**. To further promote market uptake of low EC materials, the Commonwealth should also provide official definitions for certified "low-embodied carbon materials."*

PRELIMINARY GWP THRESHOLDS

Based on feedback received at and following the previous public hearing, recommendations for initial GWP limits are under review and may differ in the final plan from previous proposals.

Material	Threshold for Project-Average Maximum	Initial Target Year
Ready-Mix Concrete	<i>under review</i>	<i>under review</i>
Precast Concrete	<i>under review</i>	<i>under review</i>
Structural Steel	<i>under review</i>	<i>under review</i>
Steel Reinforcement	<i>under review</i>	<i>under review</i>
Asphalt Mixture	<i>under review</i>	<i>under review</i>

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 4: LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

To understand how design can be optimized to reduce EC, the Commonwealth should require cradle-to-grave whole building life cycle assessment (WBLCA) for vertical construction projects managed by the Commonwealth and requiring a certified study, on new construction or major renovations over 20,000 Square Feet.

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 5: TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

In order to review industry preparedness, market acceptance, and technology readiness for increased stringency in regulations, the Council shall convene a technical advisory committee that will:

- Review and, where appropriate, decrease GWP limits **every 4-years**;
- Develop baseline measure for the EC emissions associated with state projects and set long and intermediate term targets for overall reduction of the state's EC carbon portfolio.

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 6: BUILDING CODE

BBRS and the Council should work to develop a pathway towards adoption of EC reporting in base building code, first through incentive-based measures.

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 7: DECONSTRUCTION AND REUSE

Given the emerging nature of the field of deconstruction and reuse, the Commonwealth should develop protocols and implement exploratory pilot projects to better understand opportunities and challenges presented by reusing structures and building materials:

- Increase cross-agency collaboration to establish protocol for deconstruction and reuse of Commonwealth assets through formal participation on the MassDEP Deconstruction Workgroup;
- Increase pilot deconstruction projects within agencies that manage buildings and report to Council on learnings;
- Select DCAMM demolition projects should conduct salvage assessments for products and materials that may be sold, repurposed or reused; and
- Expand climate and clean energy workforce development programs to include deconstruction training programs.
- Supporting the development of a market for deconstructed materials.

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 8: MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Build awareness of existing state programs that support innovative low-embodied carbon (low-EC) technologies and identify opportunities to further catalyze business growth and market development.

- Drive awareness of available state programs for businesses developing low-EC technologies
- Explore opportunities for further catalytic support to help scale low-EC technologies

OVERVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 9: EDUCATION

Using the Council as a convener and making use of resources available from nonprofit and voluntary associations, the state should provide educational materials to stakeholders throughout the supply chain, both within and outside of state agencies.

OPEN COMMENT

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT
ADDITIONAL COMMENT, PLEASE SEND TO:

CLIMATE.OFFICE@MASS.GOV

THANK YOU!