What are the Requirements?

2022 Denver Energy Code (DEC) Section C503.3.3 Partial Electrification for Space Heating

Requirements requires TWO of the following when replacing an existing gas furnace with a gas furnace and ONE of the following when replacing an existing A/C unit with an A/C unit serving a heated space:

- An Electrification Feasibility Report.
- Equipment sized per 2022 DEC Section C403.3.1 Equipment Sizing. This must be prepared by an engineer.
- All gas piping must be tested per Section 406 of the International Fuel and Gas Code (IFGC).

There are exceptions to this requirement for emergency equipment replacement and for gas-fired boilers.

2022 DEC Section C503.4.1 Partial Electrification for Water Heating Requirements, requires that when replacing a gas-fired water heater, one of the following must be met:

- An Electrification Feasibility Report.
- All gas piping must be tested per Section 406 of the IFGC.

There are exceptions to this requirement for emergency equipment replacement and for gas-fired boilers.

How Does this Apply to Your Project?

When project teams are replacing equipment, they must meet these requirements. To do so, the project team will need to complete an Electrification Feasibility Report, equipment sizing, and/or test all the gas piping. If the gas-fired equipment is being replaced with an electric equivalent, these requirements do not apply.

Quick permits, permits that can be issued without the need for a plan review, will no longer be available for affected equipment. Affected equipment replacements will require a plan review including submitting additional documents like an Electrification Feasibility Report (EFR) during the permitting process. Boilers are not affected by this requirement until 2025.

More information can be found at denvergov.org/quickpermits. For questions contact mechplumb.review@denvergov.org.

Why is this Important?

The goal of these sections is to align the Denver Energy Code with the Energize Denver Electrification Program and to future-proof buildings so they can more easily electrify in the future.

Complying with this requirement helps buildings align with Energize Denver’s Electrification Program and can help buildings 25,000 sq. ft. or larger achieve their building performance target. Buildings can receive a 10% Energize Denver performance target adjustment if they are at least 80% electrified. Learn more about Energize Denver at denvergov.org/energizedenver.

What is the Climate Impact?

The 2022 Denver Energy Code will reduce operational carbon emissions for commercial new construction by 15% over the 2021 IECC. These code sections do not directly reduce carbon emissions but support the overall climate goals for Denver.

ELECTRIFICATION FEASIBILITY REPORT: A report that analyzes the feasibility of using an electric heat pump when certain gas-fired appliances in existing buildings are proposed to be replaced with another gas-fired appliance. The Electrification Feasibility Report also lists the following: the cost of the appliance with and without an electric heat pump, the annual energy cost of the appliance with and without an electric heat pump, and the social cost of carbon dioxide over the life of the appliance with and without an electric heat pump. Learn more about Electrification Feasibility Reports at newdaynewcode.com