What are the Requirements?

A junction box or receptacle must be located within one foot of all fossil fuel appliances and equipment. It must be capable of serving equivalently sized electric equipment. Labels on the junction box and electrical panel must indicate they are “For future electric equipment.” Exceptions are made for:

- Fossil fuel space heating equipment with a 40-amp capacity for cooling equipment
- Large capacity water heating equipment serving multiple dwelling or sleeping units

Why is this Important?

By installing the electric infrastructure up front, this requirement will make replacing fossil fuel appliances and equipment with electric equivalents much easier and more affordable for owners in the future. Electrification of space heating, water heating, and appliances is key to reaching Denver’s carbon emission goals. These end uses make up the majority of residential buildings energy use.

How Does this Apply to Your Project?

Projects installing any fossil fuel appliances or equipment will need to provide electric infrastructure meeting this requirements of Section R404.5. The additional cost of the electric-ready infrastructure should be considered when deciding between fossil fuel or electric appliances and equipment.

What is the Climate Impact?

The 2022 Denver Energy Code will reduce operational carbon emissions for residential new construction by 58% over the previous code. The electric-ready requirements of Section R404.5 do not directly reduce carbon emissions in Denver, but they have the potential to reduce future emissions by supporting future electrification.