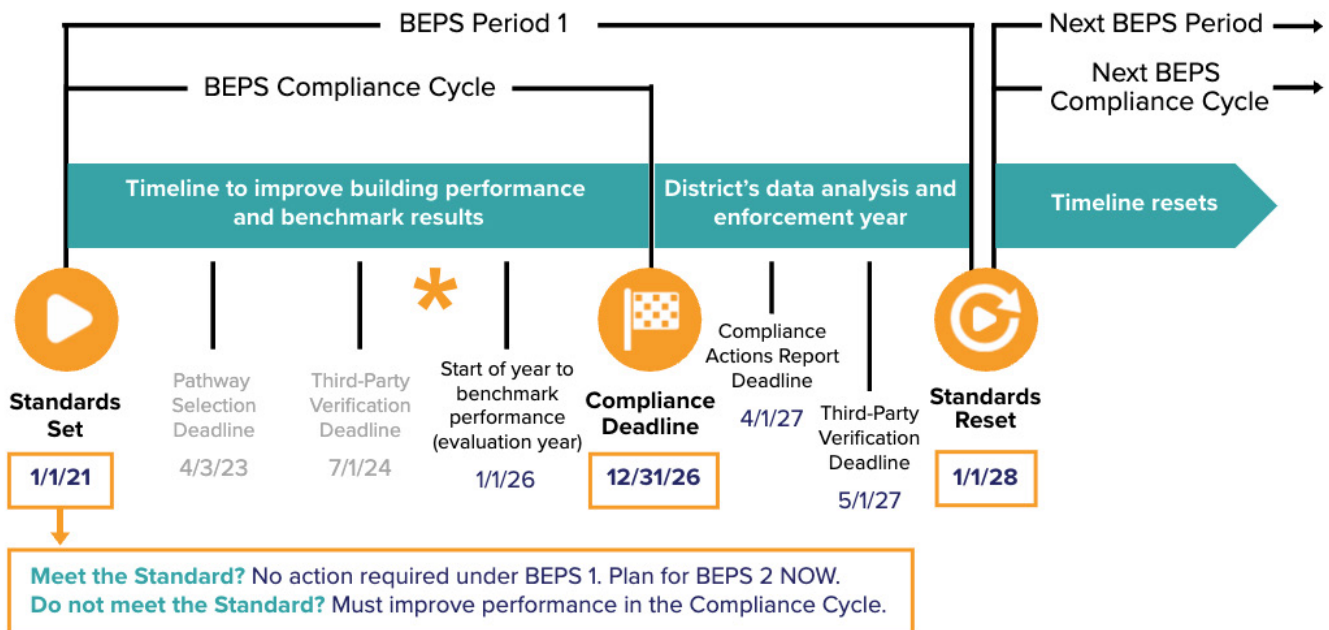


BEPS Cycle 1 Summary

Building energy use accounts for more than 70% of greenhouse gas emissions in the District of Columbia, making more efficient buildings a critical priority. In 2018, DC government passed legislation that calls for Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS). This regulation requires building owners of certain properties to increase the building performance (energy efficiency) of their buildings before future dates, depending on the size and type of property. The purpose is to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy consumption by 50% by 2032 in line with the energy and climate goals of the [Sustainable DC Plan](#).

Compliance Cycle Timeline



Where Are We Now



3rd Party Verification Benchmarking Requirements

The first step in improving energy efficiency is to understand how much energy a building is using. For many years, [DC's energy benchmarking program](#) has helped building owners and property managers report their energy use. While benchmarking is annual, DC is requiring third-party verification of that data every six years following the next deadline of May 1, 2027 for calendar year 2026 data to coincide with BEPS evaluation year. The first deadline was July 1, 2024 for calendar year 2023 data.

This means a third party must review all of the benchmarking data to generate an accurate [Portfolio Manager](#) entry for the property. This third party cannot be the owner, an employee of the building owner, or any individual employed by the benchmarking provider. While the benchmarking provider updates and maintains the Portfolio Manager entry for a property and annual benchmarking submissions, a third-party verifier is responsible for reviewing and determining that the information the benchmarking provider is using is correct and complete. You can't report that you've completed the verification until the third-party verifier signs a checklist confirming your benchmarking data is correct.

To help you successfully navigate this process click the links below for here for a how-to reference guide, and SOW. Think you're ready? visit the Hub's vendor match making portal for help with finding a qualified vendor and more FAQ's and resources from DOEE and the Building Innovation Hub.

Resources

- [How-to Guide for Data Verification](#). A guide for using the scope of work and confirming the accuracy of your building's data.
- [Owner Intake Form](#). This tool provides an easier way to share project opportunities with local service providers and contractors via an email distribution list.
- [Benchmarking Data Verifier Scope of Work](#). This resource is designed to support you as you navigate data verification compliance, the Hub has created a sample Third-Party Benchmarking Data Verifier scope of work (SOW).
- [Service Procurement Guide](#). This resource is a step-by-step guide designed to help you as a building owner make decisions about how to improve the operations and energy efficiency of your building while achieving triple-bottom line or high-road solutions (environmental, economic, and equity) through contracting by using your economic power.
- [High-Road Contracting](#). This document lays out elements of best practices for building owners to design their own high-road contracting standards and sample tools to help implement them.
- [DC Beam Portal](#). This DOEE tool helps answer additional questions for both the building owner and building service provider, such as District specific vendor qualification requirements and how to report incorrect findings.

Still need help? Reach out to the Hub Team at info@buildinginnovationhub.org.