



Item 9: Update to Alternative Calculation Method Reference Manual for the 2025 Energy Code

September 9, 2026 Business Meeting

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Overview

Updates to ACM Reference Manual

- General Cleanup & Combining ACM Reference Manuals
- Peak Cooling
- Relocatable Public School Buildings
- Multifamily Infiltration



Source: California Energy Commission



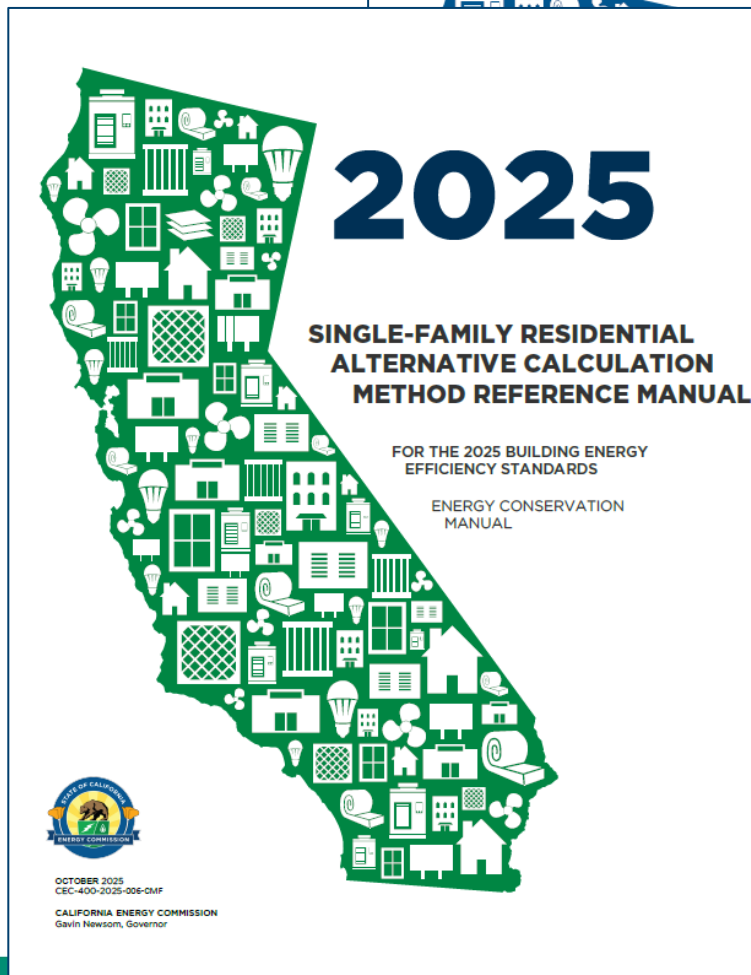
Benefits to Californians

Software methods based on 2025 Energy Code

- Public domain compliance software
- Third-party developed compliance software
- 2 Documents 560 to 1 document 520 pages
- Increase compliance software options and accuracy



General Cleanup & Combining ACM Reference Manuals

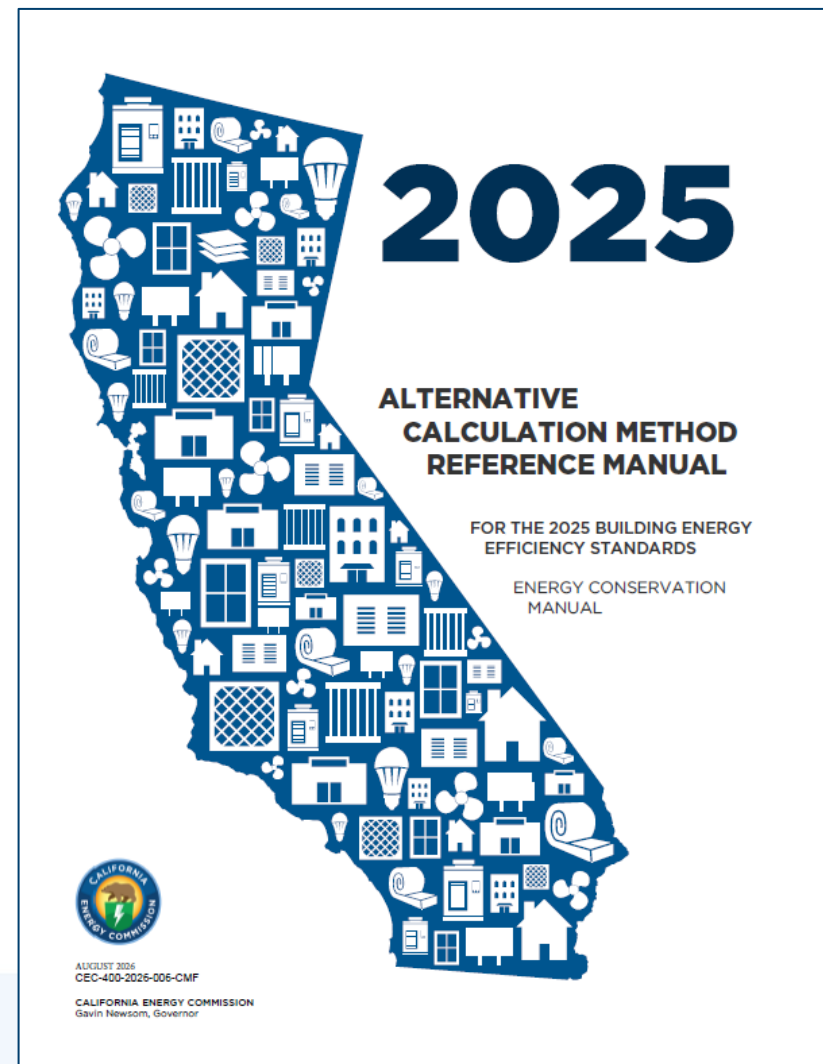
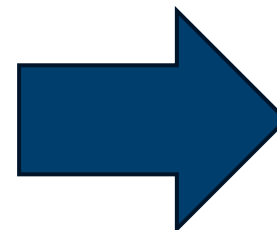


2025

RESIDENTIAL AND
MULTIFAMILY ALTERNATIVE
CALCULATION METHOD
REFERENCE MANUAL

FOR THE 2025 BUILDING ENERGY
EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

ENERGY CONSERVATION
MANUAL



Source: California Energy Commission



Peak Cooling

Climate Zone	Peak Cooling Threshold
10 and 14	25%
4, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 15	30%

When a battery energy storage system is installed:

- Up to 20% reduction peak cooling or
- Self-utilization credit



Relocatable Public School Buildings

Group	Climate Zones Included in Group	Representative Climate Zone
A	1 and 16	16
B	2, 3, 4, and 5	4
C	6, 7, 8, 9, and 10	10
D	11, 12, 13, and 14	14
N/A	15	15

- Describe multi-orientation analysis approved during July 8, 2026 Business Meeting
- Procedure PR 18-02 (DSA Staff 2025)

<https://www.dgs.ca.gov/-/media/Divisions/DSA/Publications/procedures/PR-18-02.pdf>



Multifamily Infiltration

Space	Infiltration rate (CFM50/ft ²)	Air Changes at 50 Pascals
Dwelling Unit	0.3	2.3
Common Use	0.9	7



Staff Recommendation

- Certify the updated Alternative Calculation Method Reference Manual for the 2025 Building Energy Efficiency Standards
- Adopt finding that certification of the updates to the Alternative Calculation Method Reference Manual is exempt from CEQA