



Forestry Innovation  
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# The City of Vancouver's New Embodied Carbon Guidelines

## A CLF BC Webinar

### November 29, 2023



# RESOURCES

**Case Study**

**Passive House and Embodied Carbon**  
Sep 2023

Case Study: Passive House and Embodied Carbon

**Guide**

**Concrete: A Pragmatic Approach to Lowering Embodied Carbon**  
Sep 19, 2023

Concrete: A Pragmatic Approach to Lowering Embodied Carbon

**Past Event**

**Making the Case for Building Reuse**  
Aug 16, 2023

Making the Case for Building Reuse

**Past Event**

**Material Health and Embodied Carbon: At Odds or Aligned?**  
Mar 8, 2023

Material Health and Embodied Carbon. At Odds, or Aligned?

**Past Event**

**Q&A: City of Vancouver Embodied Carbon Modelling Guidelines**  
Jan 16, 2023

Q&A: CoV Embodied Carbon Modelling Requirements

**Past Event**

**Embodied Carbon Pathfinder Tool & Costing Study**  
Sep 16, 2022

Embodied Carbon Pathfinder Tool & Costing Study

**Past Event**

**Carbon Storing Buildings: A Gateway to Justice & Belonging**  
Jul 26, 2023

Carbon Storing Buildings: A Gateway to Justice and Belonging

**Case Study**

**Nelson Laneway**  
Sep 2023

Embodied Emissions Case Study: Nelson Laneway

**Past Event**

**Paving the Way to Carbon Negative Building Materials: A Manufacturer's Perspective**  
Jun 6, 2023

Paving the Way to Carbon Negative Building Materials: A Manufacturer's Perspective

**Past Event**

**Q&A for All Presenters - Embodied Carbon for Structural Engineers**  
Jan 20, 2021

Q&A for All Presenters – Embodied Carbon for Structural Engineers

**Past Event**

**Embodied Carbon Reductions in Practice and SE 2050 Commitment Program Actions**  
Jan 20, 2021

Embodied Carbon Reductions in Practice and SE 2050 Commitment Program Actions

**Past Event**

**Importance of Embodied Carbon and the Role of the Structural Engineer**  
Jan 20, 2021

Importance of Embodied Carbon and the Role of the Structural Engineer

**Past Event**

**BC Embodied Carbon Modelling Study**  
Aug 6, 2022

BC Embodied Carbon Modelling Study

**Past Event**

**Decarb Lunch**

Reducing Embodied Carbon for Step Code H

**Past Event**

**Disaster Resilience & Embodied Carbon**  
Oct 29, 2021

Disaster Resilience & Embodied Carbon

**Past Event**

**Circular Design for the Build Environment**  
Sep 9, 2021

Circular Design for the Build Environment

**Past Event**

**Improving How We Baseline Embodied Carbon**  
May 20, 2021

Improving How We Baseline Embodied Carbon

**Past Event**

**Responding to the SE 2050 Challenge**

Responding to the SE 2050 Challenge

# CLF British Columbia

CLF British Columbia (formerly CLF Vancouver) is a local hub of the Carbon Leadership Forum and is now part of the Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (ZEIC). Anthony Pak founded CLF Vancouver in 2019 as the Embodied Carbon Network (ECN Vancouver). In 2022, with funding from the City of Vancouver and Forestry Innovation Investment, CLF Vancouver was adopted as a program area of ZEBx. Since becoming CLF Vancouver, this regional hub of CLF (University of Washington) has been a role model for other CLF regional hubs across the world and has played a key role in the City of Vancouver's efforts to significantly reduce embodied carbon for new buildings by 2030. CLF British Columbia's reach has grown to extend well beyond the Metro Vancouver region.

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## Learn From Our Experts

Want to know more about embodied carbon and how you can make a difference?

[Request an Embodied Carbon 101 Presentation](#)

# Case Study



## Inlet View

Sep 2023

# Case Study



## Passive House and Embodied Carbon

Sep 2023

# Case Study



## Nelson Laneway

Sep 2023

# City of Vancouver Climate Emergency Action Plan

## 2030 targets

Carbon pollution from buildings will be half what it was in 2007

There will be **40%** less embodied emissions from new buildings and construction projects compared to 2018

In May 2022, City Council approved changes to the Vancouver Building By-law<sup>1</sup> (VBBL) to require designers to calculate, limit, and later reduce, embodied carbon in new Part 3 buildings.

By 2030, new buildings will be constructed with lower carbon material

# BC's Annual Embodied v. Operational Emissions

From the August 2022 CLF BC Webinar: BC Embodied Carbon Modelling Study

## Embodied Carbon

### Base Scope (Structure, Envelope)

Category	GHG (MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	% of Total Building GHG
Operational Carbon	8.31	68%
Embodied Carbon (Base Scope)	3.94	32%
Total	12.24	100%

## Embodied Carbon

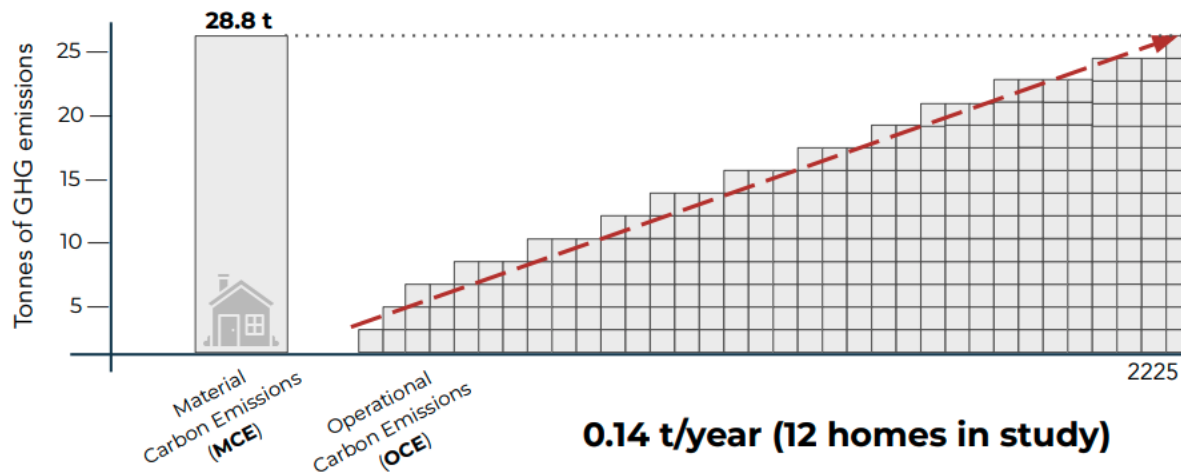
### Full Scope (Structure, Envelope, Interiors, MEP, Refrigerants)

Category	GHG (MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	% of Total Building GHG
Operational Carbon	8.31	54%
Embodied Carbon (Full Scope)	7.19	46%
Total	15.50	100%

## Benchmarking Report

# Establishing the Average Upfront Material Carbon Emissions in New Low-Rise Residential Home Construction in the City of Nelson & the City of Castlegar

**205 years** before today's <sup>lowest</sup> OCE matches MCE average



- March 2022 study included 34 new, Step 2, 3, 4 and 5 homes in Nelson and Castlegar
- 12 homes in the study had all-electric space and water heating and they averaged 0.14 t/year of operational carbon emissions

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POLL 1

Tell us about yourself!

Three-part anonymous poll



# City of Vancouver Embodied Carbon Guidelines

Nov. 29, 2023

Anthony Pak

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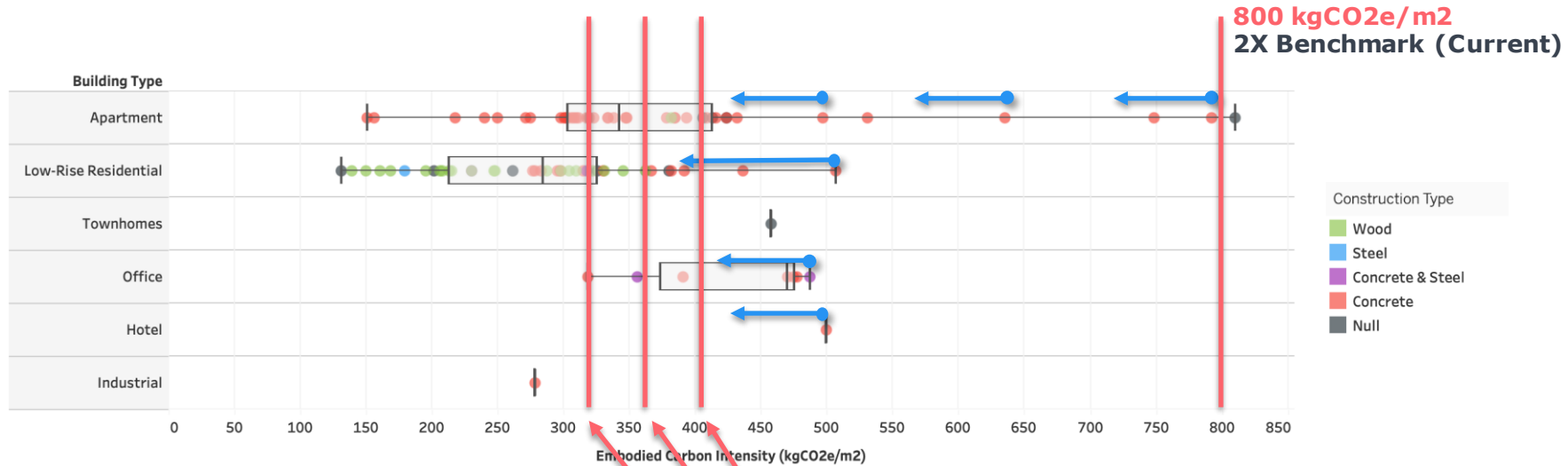
**PRIOPTA**



# Part 3

Baseline Definition, Assumptions,  
and Data Collection

# Absolute (kgCO2e/m2) or Baseline (% Reduction)



**400 kgCO2e/m2 – Benchmark**

**360 kgCO2e/m2 OR -10% – All Other Buildings (2025)**

**320 kgCO2e/m2 OR -20% – Low-Rise Wood (2025)**

# Baseline – Functional Equivalence

## Thermal Equivalence

- Baseline shall have functionally-equivalent thermal performance
- Can be approximated with clear-wall assembly R-value
- Detailed thermal bridging and thermal equivalence can be conducted but are not required

## Structural Equivalence

- Baseline shall have functionally-equivalent structural performance
- Does not need to be the same structural system
- Can reflect intentional material efficiency strategies (e.g. reduce column spans, avoiding transfer slabs, lighter structure / façade systems resulting in smaller foundations etc.)

## Geometry Equivalence

- Baseline shall have functionally-equivalent building geometry and program (i.e., services and function of the spaces, number of residential units and occupancy numbers for multi-unit residential buildings (MURBs), building shape and orientation).

# Approaches to Creating a Baseline

## Using an Early Design Iteration

- Use early iteration as basis for baseline
- Must meet functional equivalence requirements with proposed design. Use professional judgement.
- Slight variations in geometry from design iterations are acceptable
- If certain materials and/or building elements not specified in early design, must add to maintain equivalence with proposed design
- For materials/elements that are hard to quantify, can reference comparable projects or early-WBLCA software to estimate missing material quantities (e.g. Athena Assembly Builder or One Click LCA's Carbon Designer 3D)

## Using the Proposed Design

- Use current Proposed Design as starting point
- Change structure, assemblies, and/or materials to reflect typical practice with industry average values to reflect Baseline Design.
- Ensures Baseline is functionally equivalent to Proposed design and modelled with a similar level of detail

# EC Guidelines Aims to Account for Tool-Specific Nuances

## Part 9 Buildings



**PASSIVEHOUSE  
CANADA** Build better.  
Feel better.

PHribbon

## Part 3 Buildings



**Athena  
Impact Estimator**  
for Buildings



# Modelling Assumptions – Life Cycle Stage

- **Required Life Cycle Stages**
  - Life Cycle Stages A-C
  - Module D Reported Separately
- **Life Cycle Stage A1-A3:**
  - Industry average EPDs / generic data within tools should be used as default assumption.
  - Manufacturer/product-specific EPDs can be used when specified in project documents.
- **Life Cycle Stage A4-C4:**
  - Use default tool values or modify based on higher quality project-specific or regionally-specific data.
  - Modified assumptions must be described and justified in Design Report.
- **Missing Life Cycle Stages:**
  - If software tool is missing data for life cycle stages (e.g. EC3), can use the following placeholder values which are included in the Embodied Carbon Design Report (spreadsheet template).
  - **A4:** 4% of A1-A3 | **A5:** 6% of A1-A3 | **B1-B5:** 10% of A1-A3 | **C1-C4:** 5% of A1-A3
  - These estimates are intended as a temporary measures to address tool gaps that we anticipate will be addressed in the near future.

# Modelling Assumptions – Other Topics

- **Building Lifespan and Product Service Life**
  - Building Lifespan = 60 Years
  - Element/Product Service Life = Software Defaults **or** Appendix C Table 6 based on various sources
- **Reported Separately But Not Included in Main Calculation:**
  - Biogenic Carbon, Concrete Carbonation (naturally occurring), & Land Use Change.
- **Bill of Material Sources:**
  - Building Information Model (BIM), cost estimate, and/or takeoffs from drawings.
  - If these sources are missing required elements (e.g. foundations) or materials (e.g. rebar), they must be accounted for. (e.g. manual takeoffs, assumptions, tool assembly level estimates etc.).
- **Required vs Optional Scopes – Building Elements**
  - Refer to Appendix B2 Table 5 – Detailed breakdown of building elements that are required (structure and shell) and optional (interiors, MEP, site) by OmniClass Level 4.
    - Provided only to give clarity on which elements are required vs optional.
    - Building element classification may vary depending on software tool used. Omniclass not required.
  - Materials required for thermal, moisture, acoustic, and fire protection should be included.



# Default Assumptions by Building Element

Table 1: Default Common-practice Assemblies and Materials for the Key Building Elements

Building Elements (OmniClass)			Default Material and Product Assumption
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
Substructure	Foundations	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steel-reinforced Concrete*</li> <li>Subgrade Insulation: Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)</li> </ul>
	Subgrade Enclosures	Walls for Subgrade Enclosures	
	Slab-on-Grade	-	
Shell	Superstructure	Floor Construction: Vertical (i.e. columns)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steel-reinforced Concrete*</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Floor Construction: Horizontal (i.e. beams and floor plates)</li> <li>Roof Construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typical Span: Steel-reinforced Concrete*</li> <li>Long Span: Steel Trusses</li> </ul>
	Exterior Vertical Enclosure	Exterior Walls**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Office and Commercial Storefront: Aluminum Curtain Wall</li> <li>Residential (7+ storeys): Aluminum Window Wall</li> <li>Other: Steel Framed Wall</li> </ul> </li> <li>Framing: 6" deep steel framing @ 16" on-centre</li> <li>Sheathing: Gypsum Board***</li> <li>Thermal Insulation (Cavity): Mineral Wool Batt Insulation</li> <li>Thermal Insulation (Continuous): Heavy Density Mineral Board</li> <li>Cladding: Galvanized Steel</li> </ul>
		Exterior Windows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Window Frame: Aluminum</li> <li>Insulated Glass Unit (IGU): As required to meet the thermal performance</li> <li>Window-to-wall ratio: As required to meet the thermal performance</li> </ul>

Building Elements (OmniClass)			Default Material and Product Assumption
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	
	Exterior Horizontal Enclosures	Roofing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insulation:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conventional Roof: Polyiso</li> <li>Inverted Roof: Extruded Polystyrene (XPS)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Interior Sheathing: Gypsum Board***</li> <li>Membrane: 2-ply Styrene Butadiene Styrene (SBS)</li> </ul>
Interiors (Optional)	Interior Construction (Optional)	Interior Partitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Framing: 6" deep steel framing @ 16" on-centre</li> <li>Sheathing: Gypsum Board*** on Both Sides</li> <li>Acoustic Insulation (where required): Mineral Wool Batt Insulation</li> </ul>
		Wall Finishes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paint</li> </ul>
	Interior Finishes (Optional)	Floor Finishes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Office Units: Carpet</li> <li>Residential and Hotel Suites: Vinyl</li> <li>Retail: Ceramic Tiles</li> <li>Industrial: Exposed Concrete</li> <li>Healthcare: Ceramic Tiles</li> <li>All Building Types:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hallways (except for retail): Carpet</li> <li>Below-grade and Service Rooms: Exposed Concrete</li> <li>Bathrooms and Showers: Ceramic Tiles</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
		Ceiling Finishes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop Ceiling: Acoustic Tile</li> <li>Other: Gypsum Board*** with Skim Coat and Paint</li> </ul>

# Default Assumptions – Concrete

Table 2: Default Materials and Product Assumptions and EPD Selection

Material/Product	Default Material Type and EPD Assumptions
Concrete	<p>All concrete shall assume baseline mixes specified in the BC provincial industry-wide EPD<sup>16</sup>, with matching air entrainment and at equivalent strength to the proposed design, unless lower strengths are enabled by structural design efficiencies as described in “Design Structure for Material Efficiency” section of <a href="#">Table 3</a>.</p> <p>If no information is available on the proposed design, consider assuming the following compressive strengths can be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation, Footings, Slab-on-grade - 25 MPa</li> <li>• Exterior Walls, Interior Walls - 35 MPa</li> <li>• Suspended Floor and Roof Slabs and Beams - 35 MPa</li> <li>• Stairs, Columns, Shear Walls - 40 MPa</li> </ul> <p>If no information is available on air entrainment for concrete in the proposed design, air-entrained concrete mixes can be assumed for building elements exposed to exterior conditions (e.g., foundations, parkade slabs, exterior walls, slab-on-grade, etc.) and non-air entrained concrete mixes can be assumed for elements not exposed (e.g., interior concrete elements).</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>Athena Impact Estimator and tallyLCA tools currently do not include BC provincial industry-average concrete mixes EPDs in their database.</p> <p>Projects that use Athena tool can select the “Benchmark” mixes defined within older CRMCA 2017 Canadian Industry-Average EPD that is currently available in the tool.</p> <p>Projects using tallyLCA may use the national average values from the US-specific NRMCA 2019 data that is currently available in the tool.</p> <p>If in future BC-average EPDs become available, BC values shall be used.</p> <p>If the project teams wish to claim embodied carbon reduction for using low-carbon intensity concrete, using these tools, they shall follow the guidance provided in this <a href="#">Note</a> box.</p> </div>

# Default Assumptions – Insulation, Windows & Glazing

Material/Product	Default Material Type and EPD Assumptions
Insulation	<p>XPS:</p> <p>The newer generation of XPS are compliant with Canadian HFC regulation and shall be referenced (e.g., Owens Corning FOAMULAR NGX, SOPREMA SOPRA- XPS, KingSpan GreenGuard LG XPS, or DuPont's ST-100 XPS). The conventional XPS insulation products that use HFC blowing agents shall not be referenced, as those are banned in Canada due to new regulations that came into effect on Jan. 1, 2021.</p> <p>The CLF Baselines Report averages XPS from both HFC and HFO blowing agent products to derive an average GWP value (See Appendix A.1 (d) (i)). Since XPS insulations that use HFC blowing agents are banned in Canada, the baseline value for XPS in CLF Baselines Report shall not be used.</p>
	<p>Closed Cell Spray Foam:</p> <p>If the Closed Cell Spray Foam (ccSPF) insulation is proposed, it shall reference the newer generation of low-GWP blowing agents compliant with Canadian HFC regulation. Reference the SPFA Industry-wide EPD (2018) for Spray Foam using HFO blowing agents. The conventional ccSPF insulation products that use HFC blowing agents shall not be referenced, as those are banned in Canada due to new regulations that came into effect on Jan. 1, 2021.</p> <p>The CLF Baseline Report averages ccSPF from both HFC and HFO blowing agent products to derive an average GWP value. Do not use this baseline value.</p>
Windows and Glazing	<p>If the software tool does not have data specific to the window frame of the proposed design, a different window frame can be a proxy value.</p> <p>If the software tool does not have data specific to the triple-pane windows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the software tool allows it, window frame and glazing layers can be modelled separately.</li> <li>• If the tool only allows using EPDs that combine window frame and glazing, the emissions can be approximated by referencing a double pane window EPD with appropriate window frame and adding an additional pane of flat glass or processed glass with the same area as the proposed window.</li> </ul>

# Default Assumptions – Rebar & Other Steel

Material/Product	Default Material Type and EPD Assumptions
Steel Reinforcement (Rebar)	<p>The fabricated rebar EPD published by Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) shall be referenced.</p> <p>The user do not need to model recycled content in the rebar, as the CRSI EPD specifies the recycled-content steel, which is 98%.</p> <div data-bbox="629 330 1477 547" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p><b>Note:</b></p> <p>Post-tensioned slabs reduce rebar quantities in structural concrete. However, post Tension (PT) Tendons typically use much lower recycled content steel and have higher GWP impacts compared to conventional rebar. If no EPD is available for PT tendons, embodied carbon calculations shall approximate the impacts by doubling the PT tendon quantity and map to conventional rebar EPD (CRSI industry-wide EPD).</p> </div>
Steel	<p>For non-rebar steel including Plate Steel, Hollow Structural Section (HSS), Hot-Rolled Sections, Steel Framing, and Open Web Steel Joist, baselines shall reference the relevant industry-wide EPD.</p> <p>Where available in the software tool refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fabricated steel data instead of unfabricated steel</li> <li>• Canadian industry-wide EPDs over US industry-wide EPDs.</li> </ul> <p>Examples of organizations that have published industry-wide EPDs are Canadian Institute of Steel Construction (CISC), American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), American Galvanizers Association (AGA), Steel Framing Industry Association (SFIA), Metal Building Manufacturers Association (MBMA), Steel Joist Institute (SJI), Steel Tube Institute (STI), Steel Deck Institute (SDI), and Metal Construction Association (MCA).</p>

# Default Assumptions – Aluminum, Wood & MEP

Material/Product	Default Material Type and EPD Assumptions
Aluminum	<p>Aluminum products shall reference the relevant industry-wide EPD.</p> <p>Where available, reference Canadian industry-wide EPDs (e.g., AluQuebec) over US industry-wide EPDs. Examples of industry-wide EPDs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extruded Aluminum: Aluminum Extruders Council (AEC)</li> <li>• Curtain Wall: AluQuebec</li> <li>• Aluminum Windows: AluQuebec</li> <li>• Aluminum Sheet/Cladding: AluQuebec, Aluminum Association, Ceilings &amp; Interior Systems Construction Association (CISCA), Metal Construction Association (MCA)</li> </ul>
Wood	<p>Refer to Section 4.4 (a) on biogenic carbon calculation.</p> <p>Wood products shall reference relevant industry-wide EPDs from the Canadian Wood Council (CWC) or other relevant organizations.</p>
Services	<p>(Optional)</p> <p>Product-specific EPDs, Product Environmental Profiles<sup>17</sup> (PEPs), or industry-wide data shall be used.</p> <p>If none of the above data sources are available, the project team can calculate the embodied carbon of building services using guidance from TM65 Embodied Carbon in Building Services: A Calculation Methodology and TM65LA Embodied carbon in building services: Using TM65 outside the UK (See Appendix A.2 (d)).</p> <p>Refrigerant emissions shall not be included in the embodied carbon assessment or compliance<sup>18</sup>.</p>

# Baseline Definition – Build Less, Reuse More

Table 3: Calculating Embodied Carbon of the Baseline Relative to the Proposed Design

Baseline	Proposed Design
<b>1. Build Less, Reuse More</b>	
<b>Reduce Demolition</b>	
(Out of scope)	(Out of scope)
If the proposed design includes partial or complete removal of any existing building or building element on the site, the baseline shall not include the emissions from the demolition or deconstruction of the existing building.	See Section 4.3 (c) (vi)
<b>Reuse/Retrofit Existing Buildings</b>	
The baseline shall assume entirely new construction for all building areas, even if some portions of the building will be retained and reused in the proposed design.	See Section 4.3 (c) (vi)
<b>Use Salvaged or Refurbished Materials</b>	
The baseline shall assume entirely new materials for all materials and assemblies, even if salvaged materials are used in the proposed design.	See Section 4.3 (c) (vi)
<b>Design for Disassembly (DfD)</b>	
(Optional)	(Optional)
Even if DfD is incorporated in the proposed design, default module C and D assumptions in the software tool shall be used for the baseline.	See Section 4.3 (c) (vii)
The baseline module C and D data may be modified if the project team can provide more representative project-specific or regional data on these modules.	

Where reused materials in proposed design, assume new materials in baseline design

# Baseline Definition – Reduced Underground Parking

Baseline		Proposed Design
<b>2. Design Lighter and Smarter</b>		
Reduce Floor Area of Below-Grade Construction		
The baseline shall assume one of the following options to identify the parkade area of the baseline:		As per the proposed design
<p>Option 1. The minimum parking requirements in the City of Vancouver Parking By-law<sup>22</sup>;</p> <p>Option 2. The number of storeys provided in Table 4; or,</p> <p>Option 3. The same as the proposed design.</p>		
<b>Table 4: Assumptions for Below-Grade Parkade Levels in the Baseline</b>		
Above-Grade Storeys	Below-Grade Parkade Storeys	
Proposed Design	Baseline (Developments with Multiple Buildings over Parkade)	Baseline (All Other Developments)
1-3	1	1
4-6	RR zones: 1 All others: 2	RR zones: 1 All others: 2
7-12	2	2
13-18	3	3
19-24	3	4
25-30	3	5
31-36	3	6
37-42	3	7
43+	3	8

## Option 1:

CoV Minimum Parking Requirements  
(embodied carbon intensity per stall)

## Option 2:

number of below-grade storeys based on  
number of above grade storeys in Table 4  
(embodied carbon intensity per storey)

## Option 3:

Same as proposed design (no reduced  
underground parking in baseline)

# Baseline Definition – Structural Material Efficiency

Baseline	Proposed Design
Design Structure for Material Efficiency	
<p>The baseline may assume a typical structural design, appropriate to the building and functionally equivalent to the proposed design, as determined by the building structural engineer.</p> <p>Where intentional design choices are made that vary from a typical design and result in embodied carbon reduction, those may be reflected in differences between the baseline and the proposed design. Otherwise, both the baseline and proposed design shall have the same structural design assumptions. Examples of these design choices for the structural elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing bay sizing and column and beam spacing;</li> <li>• Reducing member cross sections;</li> <li>• Avoiding cantilevers and transfer slabs;</li> <li>• Reducing rebar and tendons quantities and concrete volume in structural concrete by using post-tensioned concrete slabs;</li> <li>• The knock-on effects of lighter structures, e.g., using void systems, timber structural elements, lighter enclosure and façade systems may result in smaller footings and foundations;</li> <li>• Allowing for the preservation of an existing structure;</li> <li>• Exposing structural materials where possible to avoid finishing.</li> </ul> <p>For more guidance, refer to <a href="#">Table 1</a> and <a href="#">Table 2</a> in this document. The Whole Building Life Cycle Assessment: Reference Building Structure and Strategies by ASCE/SEI can also be referred to for additional guidance (See Appendix A.2 (f) (i)).</p>	<p>As per the proposed design</p>

Where intentional structural material efficiency design choices have been made, baseline design can reflect typical design as determined by structural engineer



# Baseline Definition – Finishes, Minimized C&D Waste

Baseline	Proposed Design
Choose Finishes Carefully	
<p>(Optional)</p> <p>If included in the embodied carbon of the proposed design, the baseline may assume typical interior finishes, appropriate to the building and functionally equivalent to the proposed design, as determined by the building architect.</p> <p>See <a href="#">Table 1</a> for more guidance on interior material and assembly types.</p>	<p>(Optional)</p> <p>As per the proposed design</p>
Minimize Construction and Demolition Waste	
<p>As per the default scenarios in the software tools for modules A5 and C1-C4.</p> <p>The baseline data may be modified, if the tool allows it, and if the project team can provide more representative project-specific, city-wide or regional waste management data.</p>	<p>As per the proposed design</p>

Interior finishes are optional, but if lower carbon design choices have been made in interior finishes, baseline can assume typical finishes to show reductions

If efforts have been made to reduce construction waste on site (A5), proposed design can override default material waste percentages assumed in LCA software

# Baseline Definition – Low Carbon Alternatives

Baseline	Proposed Design
<b>3. Use Low-Carbon Alternatives</b>	
<b>Select Lower-Carbon Structural and Enclosure Materials and Assemblies</b>	
<p>The baseline structure and enclosure assemblies and materials shall reflect local typical practice for the building type and application. The project team should use their professional judgement to specify the local common practice for the building archetype and application.</p> <p>Refer to <a href="#">Table 1</a> for more guidance on common materials and assemblies in Vancouver local practices.</p>	As per proposed design
<b>Select Carbon-Storing Materials</b>	
<p>(Optional for reporting) (Out of scope for compliance)</p> <p>If reported for the proposed design, the baseline shall also report biogenic carbon. The results shall be reported separately and shall not be included in demonstration of compliance.</p>	<p>(Optional for reporting) (Out of scope for compliance)</p> <p>See Section 4.4 (a)</p>
<b>Select Lower-Carbon Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) Systems</b>	
<p>(Optional)</p> <p>If included in the proposed design, the baseline shall assume typical MEP design that meets the operational carbon requirements in VBBL, as determined by the building mechanical engineer.</p> <p>Refer to <a href="#">Table 2</a> for more guidance on calculating embodied carbon of services.</p>	<p>(Optional)</p> <p>As per the proposed design</p>

If designing with lower carbon structural system (e.g. mass timber) or envelope assemblies in proposed design, baseline design can follow Table 1 for baseline assemblies/materials.

Carbon storing materials can be reported separately, but not included in embodied carbon reduction calculations

MEP is optional scope for disclosure. If efforts made to reduce embodied carbon in MEP, then baseline can assume typical MEP design to account for reductions (CIBSE TM65)

# Baseline Definition – Procure Low Carbon Products

Baseline	Proposed Design
<b>4.Procure Low-Carbon Products</b>	
<b>Use Zero-carbon Construction</b>	
<p>For transportation to site and construction site emissions, the baseline shall be as per the default scenarios in the software tool for modules A4 and A5.</p> <p>The embodied carbon emissions from construction site (A5) tend to be under-reported in the software tools. If the project team intends to claim embodied carbon reduction from construction site, the user may replace the default values in the tool for the baseline with more comprehensive data that the project team may have from comparable recent projects.</p>	<p>See Sections 4.3 (c) (ii) and (iii)</p>
<b>Specify Lower-carbon Options</b>	
<p>The baseline shall use the industry-wide EPD available for a material or product, using the most recent version of the CLF Baselines Report (See Appendix A.1 (d) (i)). The most local EPD shall be selected, by order of priority: BC, Canada, and North America.</p> <p>Refer to Section 4.3 (c) (i) for more guidance on choosing the industry-wide EPDs for common materials and products.</p>	<p>See Section 4.3 (c) (i)</p>

Proposed design can have manual overrides for A4 transportation distances/modes and A5 construction site energy use, while baseline assumes software default values and/or comparable recent projects.

Proposed design uses manufacturer/product-specific EPD while baseline design uses industry average EPDs / datapoints.

# Spreadsheet Submission Template – Project Metadata

## City of Vancouver – Embodied Carbon Design Report

Embodied Carbon Design Report Part 3 Buildings		Version 1.0 Updated: 2023-10-20																								
<p><b>Instructions</b></p> <p><b>Applicability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Embodied Carbon Design Report (Design Report) is the reporting template designed to be used for demonstrating compliance with the embodied carbon requirements specified in Section 10.4 of the VBBL.</li> <li>These VBBL requirements apply to all <a href="#">new Part 3 buildings</a>.</li> <li>These requirements do not apply to alterations to existing buildings, unless alterations are so significant that they are generally treated as the construction of a new building. Applicants should consult with building officials to confirm the applicability in these cases.</li> <li>For guidance on applicability and embodied carbon emissions modelling refer to the corresponding version of Vancouver Embodied Carbon Guidelines (Guidelines).</li> </ul> <p><b>General Instructions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For additional submission requirements see Section 6.2 of the Guidelines.</li> <li>Projects with multiple buildings shall follow the guidance provided in Sections 2.4 (a) of the Guidelines to decide whether they should submit one Design Report per building or combine reporting in one report.</li> <li>This report shall be submitted in both Excel and PDF formats.</li> <li>Complete all fields that apply, using information that represents the current stage of design (For the City of Vancouver, submissions are required at Rezoning Permit and Building Permit).</li> <li>For fields that do not apply or for which there is no information available (e.g. at Rezoning Permit), leave them blank or enter "N/A".</li> <li>The row heights can be changed if more space is needed in any cell.</li> <li>For questions relating to this design report please email <a href="mailto:green.buildings@vancouver.ca">green.buildings@vancouver.ca</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Cell Legends</b></p> <p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required Field</li> <li>Required Field with Dropdown Options</li> <li>Optional Field</li> <li>Optional Field with Dropdown Options</li> <li>No Manual Entry Required</li> </ul> <p><b>Tabs Overview</b></p> <p>The user is encouraged to fill in the tabs in the following order, as answers to some questions will impact the following sections or tabs</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Tabs</th> <th>Requirement</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Instructions</td> <td>Informative</td> <td>(The current tab) Provides an overview of this design report</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Project Info</td> <td>Required</td> <td>General information about the proposed project and building(s)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. EC Modelling Info</td> <td>Required</td> <td>Information on the embodied carbon model, including the tool used and the scope</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Results &amp; Compliance</td> <td>Required</td> <td>Embodied carbon emissions results and compliance assessment with Vancouver Building By-law</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Carbon Storage</td> <td>Optional</td> <td>Biogenic carbon and concrete carbonation reporting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Raw Data</td> <td>Required</td> <td>File names and submission requirements of raw data from different embodied carbon assessment software tools</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7. Definitions</td> <td>Informative</td> <td>Definition of terms and description of the structural systems in "Project Info" tab</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Tabs	Requirement	Description	1. Instructions	Informative	(The current tab) Provides an overview of this design report	2. Project Info	Required	General information about the proposed project and building(s)	3. EC Modelling Info	Required	Information on the embodied carbon model, including the tool used and the scope	4. Results & Compliance	Required	Embodied carbon emissions results and compliance assessment with Vancouver Building By-law	5. Carbon Storage	Optional	Biogenic carbon and concrete carbonation reporting	6. Raw Data	Required	File names and submission requirements of raw data from different embodied carbon assessment software tools	7. Definitions	Informative	Definition of terms and description of the structural systems in "Project Info" tab
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### Project Information

*project name, address, submission date etc.*

### Building Information

*# of storeys above and below grade, GFA w/ & w/o parkade area, primary building use, design phase etc.*

### Design Information

*primary structural system, foundation type, seismic*

### WBLCA Modelling

*material takeoff source, software tool, scope of building elements, life cycle stages, non-standard data assumptions etc.*

### Reduction Strategy

*description of reduction strategies, differences between proposed vs baseline*

# Collect Raw Granular Results From WBLCA Tools

The image displays a collage of overlapping screenshots from WBLCA tools, showing various data tables and reports. The tables contain columns for material names, quantities, and other project-related data. One prominent screenshot in the upper right shows a table with a blue header and several rows of data, including a row with a green cell. Another screenshot in the lower right shows a table with a blue header and a red cell. The overall layout is a collection of these data-rich screenshots, illustrating the raw granular results collected from the tools.

# CoV ECDR – Raw Data Submission Instructions

<https://tinyurl.com/COV-ECDR>

## ▶ One Click LCA

## ▶ Athena

## ▶ Tally (tallyLCA)

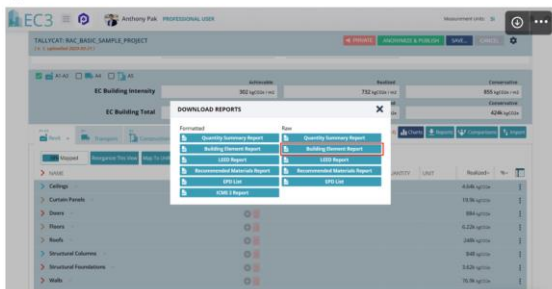
## ▶ EC3 or tallyCAT

### Instructions

#### • Results Export Sheets

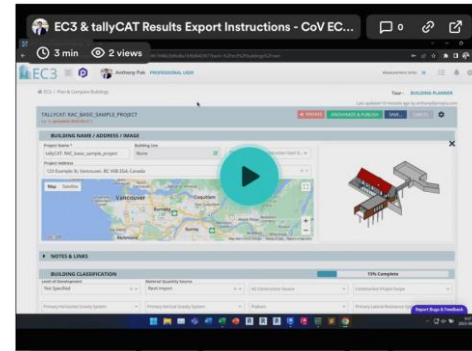
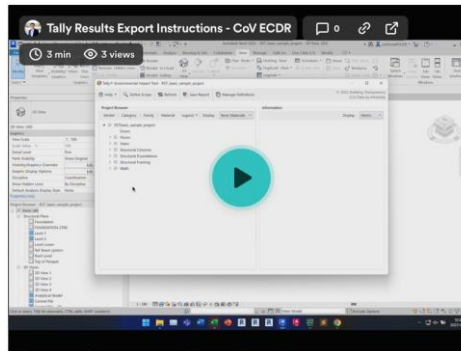
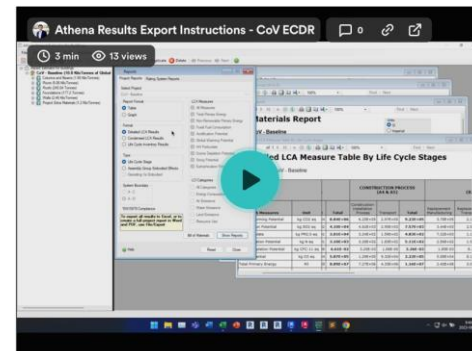
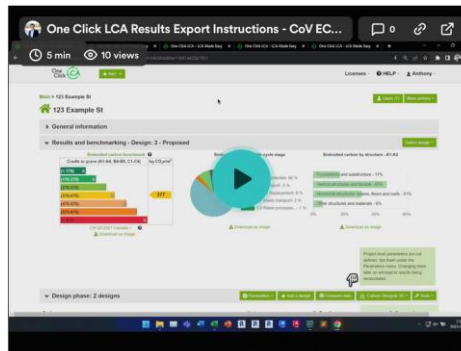
##### ◦ Required: Building Elements Report (Raw)

- Select **Reports** and under the Raw column, click on **Building Element Report** spreadsheet.



##### ◦ Optional: Building Elements Report (Formatted)

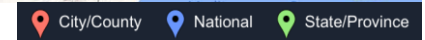
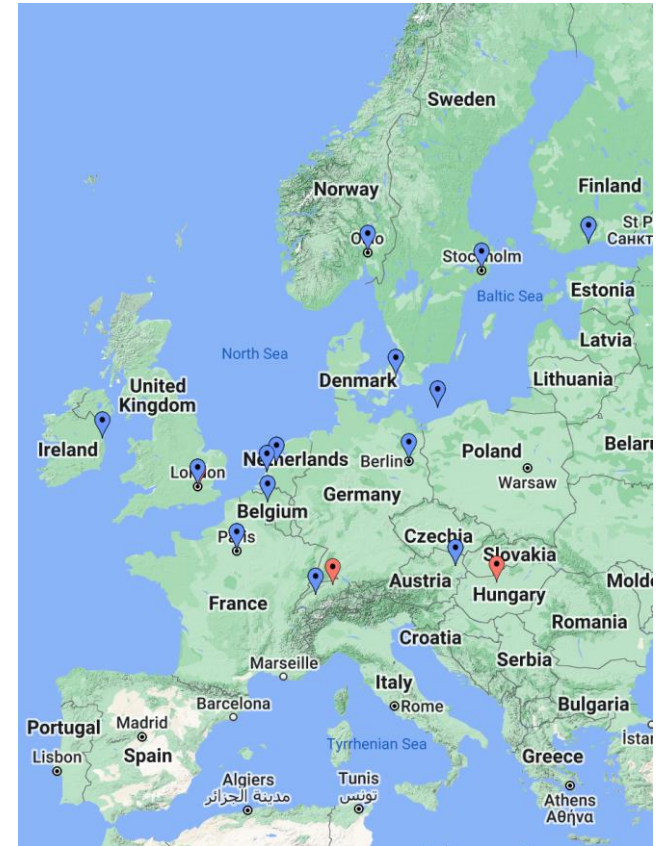
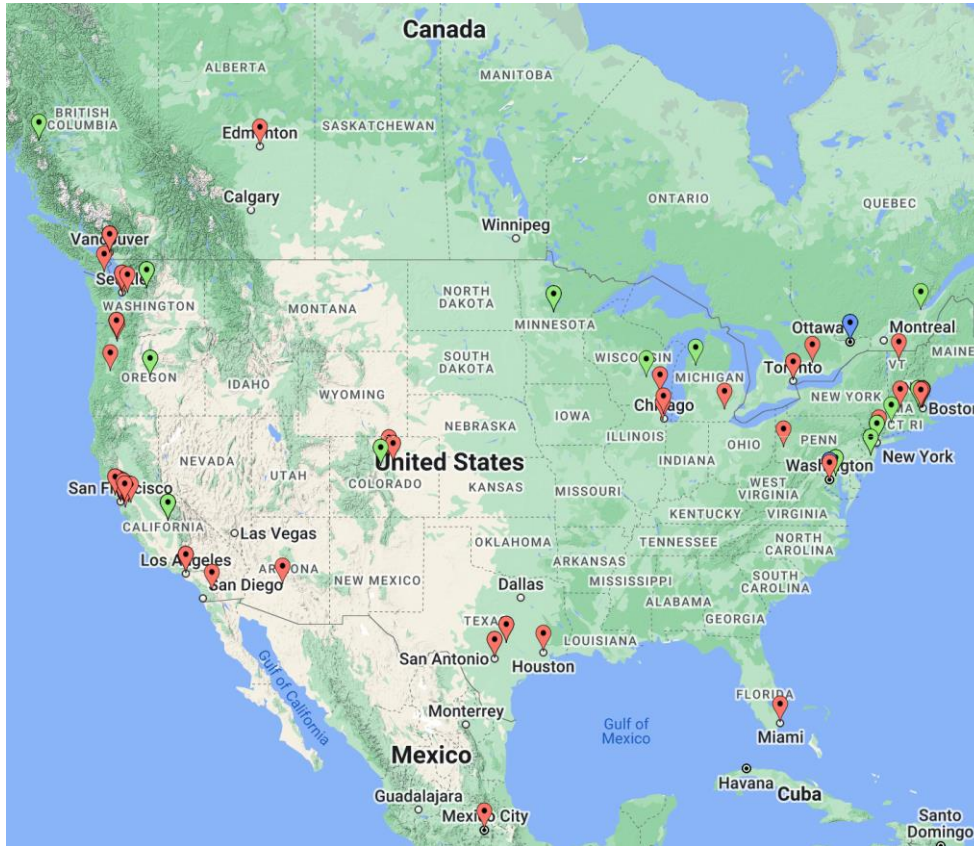
- Select **Reports** and under the Formatted column, click on **Building Element Report** spreadsheet.



An aerial photograph of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, showing the city skyline, the harbor, and the mountains in the background. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Key Developments Beyond The City of Vancouver" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the lower-left quadrant.

# Key Developments Beyond The City of Vancouver

# Embodied Carbon Policy in Canada, USA & EU



[Current Embodied Carbon Policy Map \(Carbon Leadership Forum 2023\)](#)



# Embodied Carbon Policies

- **Greening Government Strategy (TBS) – Federal Major New Construction**
  - **2022:** 10% Reduction in Embodied Carbon of Concrete
  - **2025:** 30% Reduction in Embodied Carbon of Structural Materials & WBLCA Disclosure
- **City of Toronto – TGS v4 EC Requirements for Municipal Buildings to be below 350 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup> (A1-A5)**
- **Embodied Carbon Technical Requirements to be Introduced in National Model Codes 2030 (CBHCC)**
- **CALGreen – California Requirement in June 2024 (10% Reduction WBLCA as 1 of 3 pathways)**
- **Pacific Coast Collaborative (Provinces/States and Municipalities Along West Coast)**
- **CaGBC Zero Carbon Building v4 (EC TAG - June 2024 Launch)**
- **LEED v5 (in development)**

# Embodied Carbon Standards/Guidelines/Studies

- **NRC – WBLCA Guidelines, LCI Database Development**
- **Embodied Carbon Harmonization and Optimization (ECHO) Project**
- **ASHRAE/ICC Standard 240p – Quantification of Life Cycle GHG Emissions of Buildings (in development)**
- **RICS v2 (UK) Whole Life Carbon Standard (published)**
- **CLF Benchmarking v2 Study (in development)**

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Vancouver, with a blue tint. The city is built on a peninsula or near a large body of water. In the background, there are mountains with some snow. The foreground shows a harbor with many sailboats and a few larger boats. The sky is overcast with blue-tinted clouds.

Q&A



# City of Vancouver's Embodied Carbon Guidelines

Nov 29, 2023

# Today's Agenda

**Part 1:** Context

**Part 2:** Embodied Carbon Guidelines  
Overview

**Q&A**

**Part 3:** Modelling: Assumptions, Baseline,  
& Data Collection

**Part 4:** Next Steps

**Q&A**



# Part 1 Context



# Climate Emergency 6 Big Moves

**1**

COMPLETE, WALKABLE  
NEIGHBOURHOODS

**2**

ACTIVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
& TRANSIT

**3**

ZERO EMISSIONS  
VEHICLES

**4**

ZERO EMISSIONS  
SPACE & WATER  
HEATING

**5**

LOW CARBON  
MATERIALS &  
CONSTRUCTION  
PRACTICES

**6**

RESTORED  
COASTS &  
FORESTS

**40% Reduction in  
New Buildings by 2030**

# Code Changes\*

## October 2023

- Reporting
- Equal or Less than 2x the Baseline
  - Follow the Embodied Carbon Guidelines for Assessment & Setting Baseline

## January 2025\*\*

- 20% Reduction: Up to 6-storeys, Can Be Built with Wood
- 10% Reduction: All Other Buildings
- 1 Responsible Materials Criteria  
(Sustainable and Ethical Materials; Healthy and Transparent Materials; Circular Materials)

**OR**

Double the Percent Reduction

\* Part 3 new buildings only (excludes 1-3 storeys residential)

\*\* Approved in principle. The City Council will approve the final 2025 code changes in 2024.



# Code Changes: October 2023

Division B: *Acceptable Solutions*

Part 10 – *Energy and Water Efficiency*

---

## Section 10.4. Low Carbon Materials and Construction

### 10.4.1. Low Carbon Materials and Construction

#### 10.4.1.1. Application

- 1) This Section applies to *buildings* described in Sentence 1.3.3.2.(1) of Division A.

#### 10.4.1.2. Low Carbon Materials and Construction

- 1) A *building* shall be designed and constructed to achieve whole-building embodied carbon impacts of not more than double that of a functionally equivalent baseline, as determined in compliance with the City of Vancouver Embodied Carbon Guidelines, or as *acceptable* to the *Chief Building Official*.

# Implementation

## Guidelines

- Compliance Pathways
- Standardized wbLCA Scope
- Standardized Quantification Methodology
- Standardized Baseline
- Standardized Documentation & Submittal

## Design Report

- Standardized Reporting
- Standardized Data Collection
- Simplified Compliance Review Process

Menu | CITY OF VANCOUVER | Contact | Online Services | Search

### Embodied carbon

Show all | Hide all

#### Embodied carbon in Vancouver Building By-law

The implementation of the embodied carbon requirements in the Vancouver Building By-Law (VBBL) have been in effect since October 1, 2023, as per the [administrative bulletin 2023-001-AD](#) (PDF, 183 KB).

These requirements apply to all new Part 3 buildings. A completed embodied carbon design report and supporting documents must be submitted at the time of a full construction building permit application. Refer to the Embodied Carbon Guidelines for more information.

#### Documents

- [Embodied carbon requirements in VBBL \(Section 10.4\)](#) [↗]
- [Embodied Carbon Guidelines](#) (PDF, 1.5 MB)
- [Embodied Carbon Design Report](#) (X, 154 KB)

#### + Reducing embodied carbon



# **Part 2**

## **Embodied Carbon Guidelines & Design Report**

# Compliance Paths

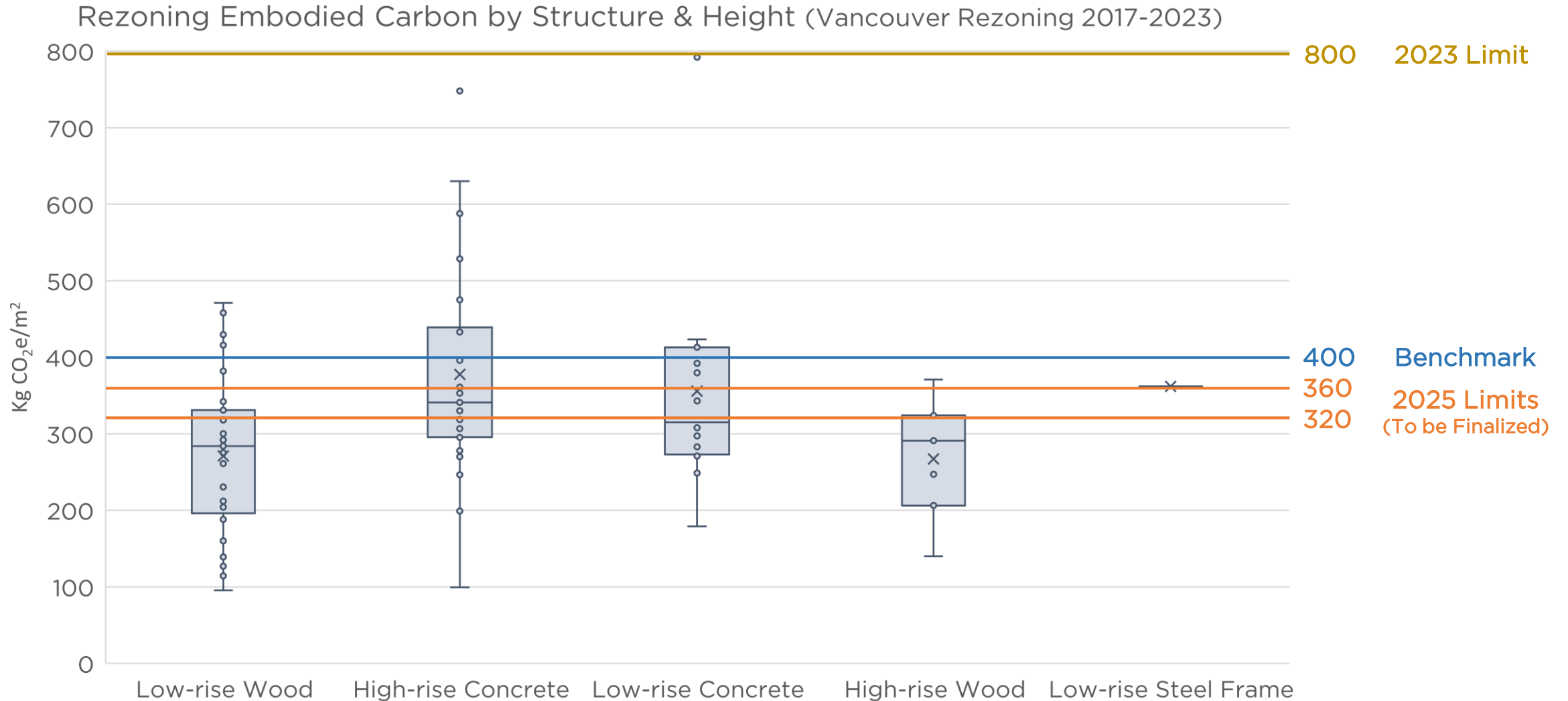
## 1. Absolute Path

Limits	Embodied Carbon (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ) (excluding parkade)
Benchmark	400
Oct 2023 (2x baseline)	800
Jan 2025 (20% reduction*) (Up to 6-storeys, Can Be Built with Wood Structure)	320
Jan 2025 (10% reduction*) (All other buildings)	360

\* Approved in principle. The City Council will approve the final 2025 code changes in 2024.

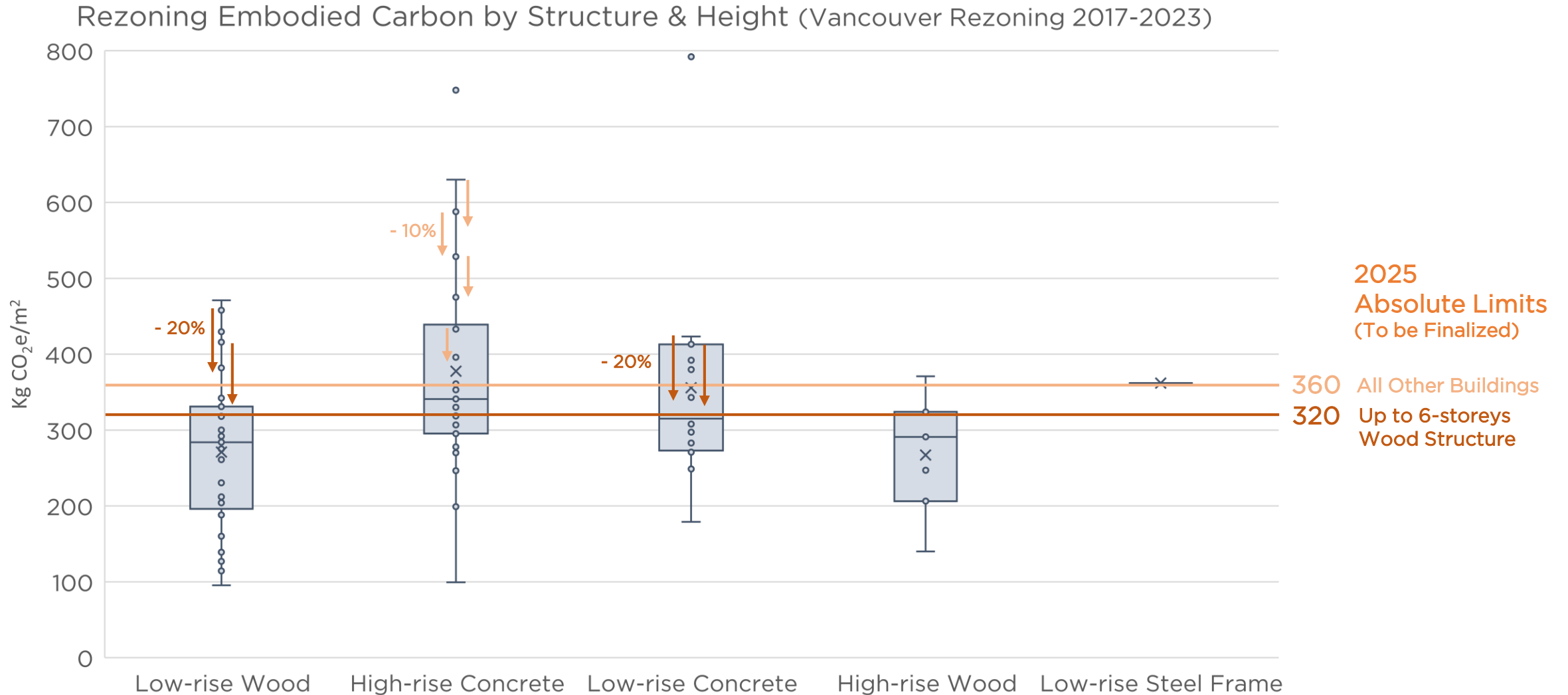
# Compliance Paths

## 1. Absolute Path



# Compliance Paths

## 2. Baseline Path



# Object of Assessment (Scope)

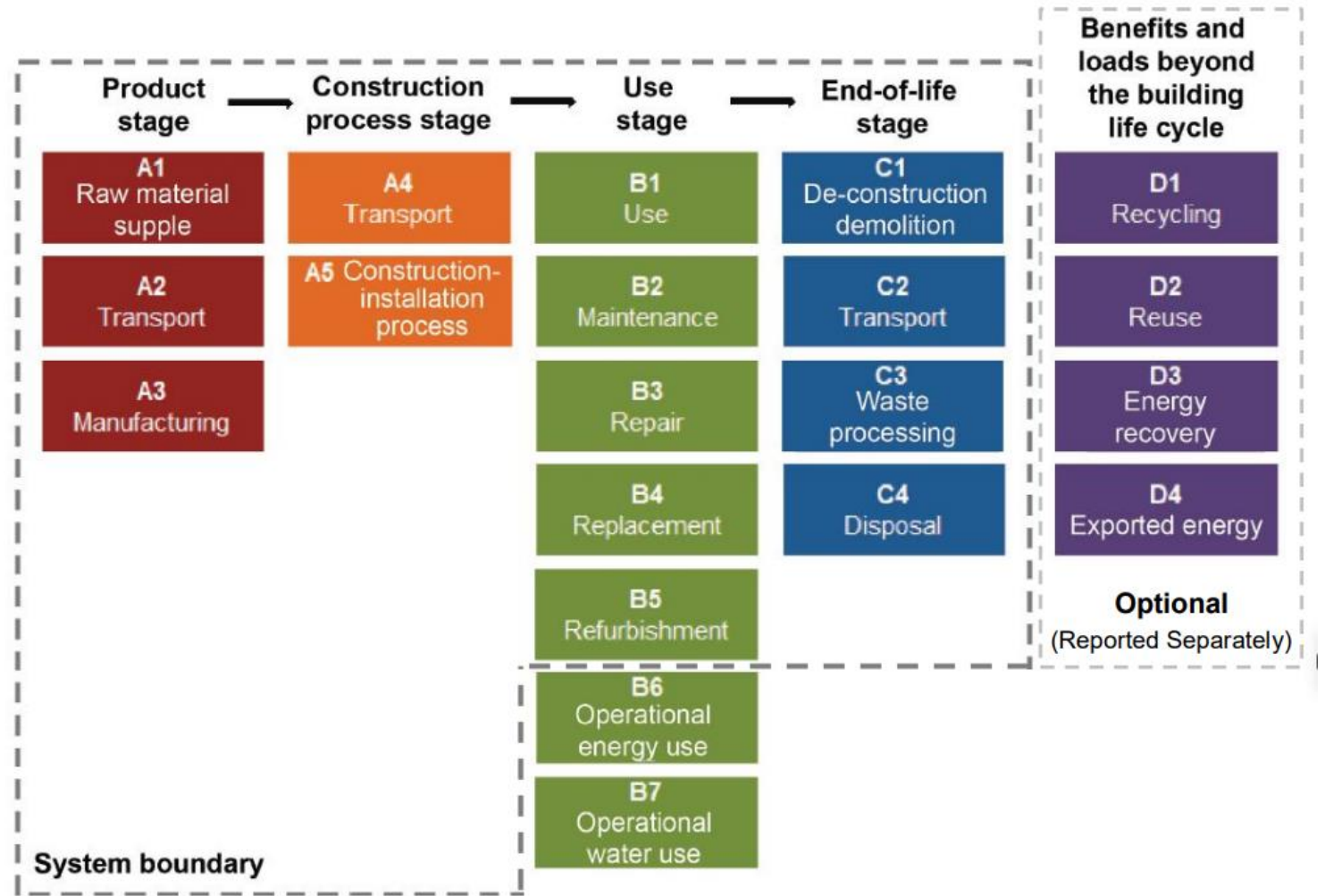
## Life Cycle Stages

Include any of the following modules available in wbLCA tool

- A1-A5
- B1-B5
- C1-C4

Optional, report separately, exclude from compliance

- D1-D4
- Biogenic carbon
- Concrete Carbonation



# Object of Assessment (Scope)

## Building elements

### Mandatory

- Structure
  - Below & Above Grade
- Shell

### Optional

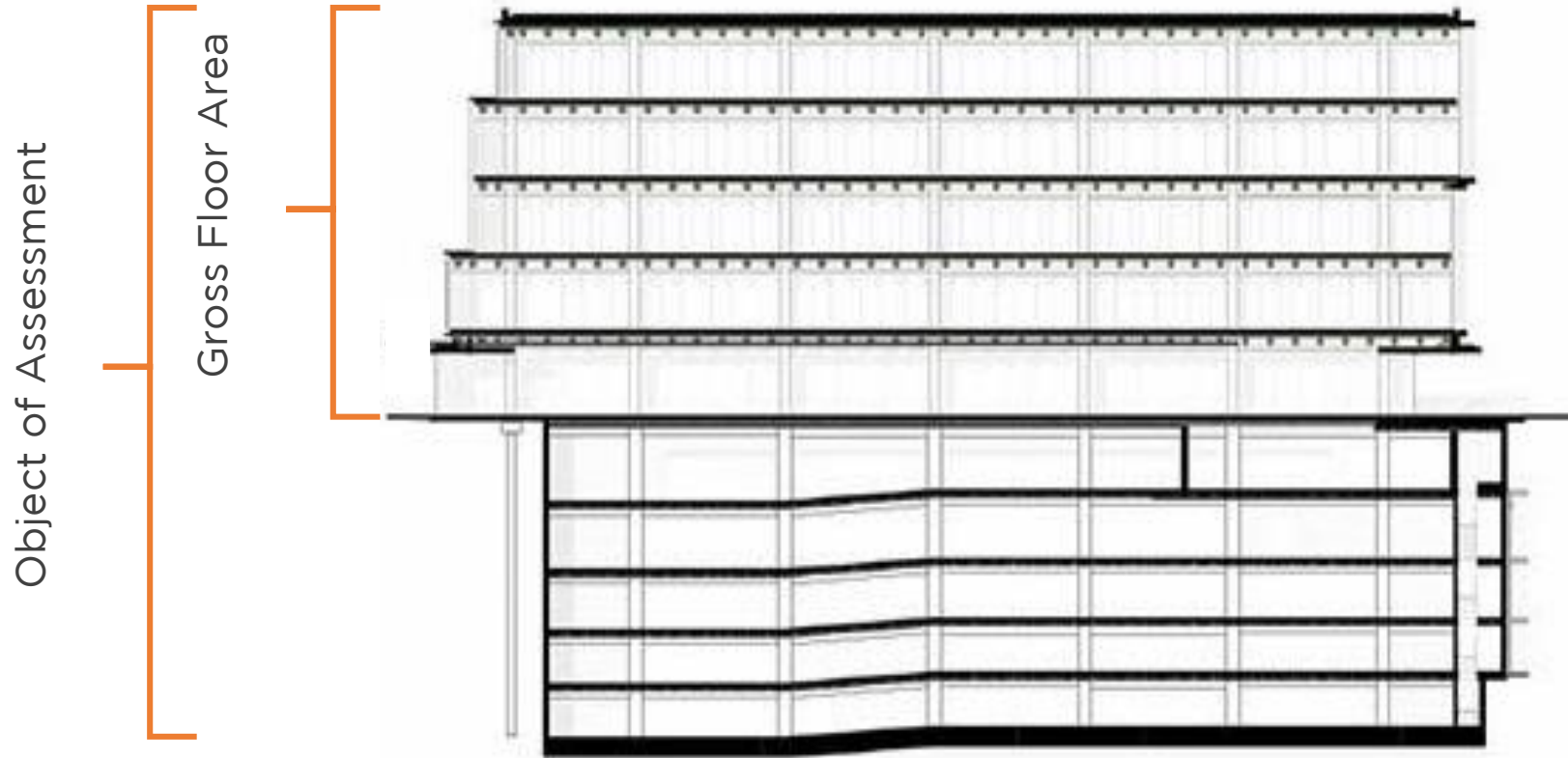
- Interior
- Services
- Equipment and Furnishings
- Special Construction
- Sitework





# Object of Assessment (Scope)

## Gross Floor Area



# Quantification: Bill of Materials

## Source

- Building Information Modelling (BIM)
  - Cost Estimate
  - Takeoffs from Drawings
- 
- BoM generated by early design tools are not acceptable for Building Permit (BP) but can be used for minor elements.

# Quantification: Bill of Materials

## Completeness: Sub-elements

Legend:

Required	Optional	Exclude
----------	----------	---------

UniFormat	OmniClass			Inclusion in Scope
Level 3	Level 3	Level 4		
A	01 00 00	Substructure		
A10	01 10	Foundations		
A 1010	01 10 10	Standard Foundations	01 10 10 10 Wall Foundations	Required
			01 10 10 30 Column Foundations	
			01 10 10 90 Standard Foundation Supplementary Components	Optional
A1020	01 10 20	Special Foundations	01 10 20 10 Driven Piles	Required
			01 10 20 15 Bored Piles	
			01 10 20 20 Caissons	
			01 10 20 30 Special Foundation Walls	Optional
			01 10 20 40 Foundation Anchors	
			01 10 20 50 Underpinning	
			01 10 20 60 Raft Foundations	Required
			01 10 20 70 Pile Caps	
			01 10 20 80 Grade Beams	
A20	01 20	Subgrade Enclosures		
A2010	01 20 10	Walls for Subgrade Enclosures	01 20 10 10 Subgrade Enclosure Wall Construction	Required
			01 20 10 20 Subgrade Enclosure Wall Interior Skin <i>(Include thermal, moisture, acoustic, and fire protection layers, if any)</i>	
			01 20 10 90 Subgrade Enclosure Wall Supplementary Components	Optional

UniFormat	OmniClass			Inclusion in Scope
Level 3	Level 3	Level 4		
A	01 00 00	Substructure		
A40	01 40	Slabs-on-Grade		
A4010	01 40 10	Standard Slabs-on-Grade	-	Required
A4030	01 40 20	Structural Slabs-on-Grade	-	Required
A4040	01 40 30	Slab Trenches	-	Optional
A4040	01 4040	Pits and Bases	-	Optional
A4090	01 40 90	Slab-On-Grade Supplementary Components	01 40 90 10 Perimeter Insulation	Required
			01 40 90 20 Vapor Retarder	
			01 40 90 30 Waterproofing	
			01 40 90 60 Subbase Layer	
			01 40 90 50 Mud Slab	Optional
A60	01 60	Water and Gas Mitigation		
A6010	01 60 10	Building Sub-drainage	01 60 10 10 Foundation Drainage	Optional
			01 60 10 20 Under-slab Drainage	
A6020	01 60 20	Off-Gassing Mitigation	01 60 20 10 Radon Mitigation	Exclude
			01 60 20 50 Methane Mitigation	
A90	01 90	Substructure Related Activities		
A9010	01 90 10	Substructure Excavation	01 90 10 10 Backfill and Compaction	Optional
A9020	01 90 20	Construction Dewatering	-	Exclude
A9030	01 90 30	Excavation Support	01 90 30 10 Anchor Tiebacks	Exclude
			01 90 30 20 Cofferdams	
			01 90 30 40 Cribbing and Walers	
			01 90 30 60 Ground Freezing	
			01 90 30 70 Slurry Walls	
A9040	01 9040	Soil Treatment	-	Exclude

# Quantification: Bill of Materials

## Completeness: wbLCA Classification

Source: KPMB Lab WBLCA Classification System, 2022 (Modified)

### WBLCA Methodology Classifications

CLASS	(D)	(C)	(B)	(A)
NAME	Indicative Estimate	Assembly Estimate	Design Estimate	As - Built Model
METHODOLOGY	Building area $\times$ typology-based estimates	Assembly definitions with GWPs $\times$ area of each assembly	Individual material and product quantities $\times$ material specific GWPs	Bills of lading for materials/products on construction site $\times$ EPDs for each product/material.
QUANTITIES	Building areas from RFP or concept model if available.	Assembly areas, from design model.	Quantity take-off from design model.	Bills of lading from construction site plus: -Construction Waste Haul Tickets -Utility/Fuel Bills for Site equipment (Crane/Bobcats/Excavators/Site Office).
GWP DATASOURCE	Typology-based estimates	Assembly GWP estimates, National LCI Data, and generic global EPDs.	Blend of national Generic EPD's, National LCI Data, and Product Specific EPD's.	Factory specific EPDs.
TYPICAL TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excel</li> <li>• Athena Impact Estimator</li> <li>• Carbon Designer 3D tool by OneClick</li> <li>• EC3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excel</li> <li>• One Click LCA</li> <li>• Athena Impact Estimator</li> <li>• Cardinal LCA</li> <li>• Tally LCA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BIM modelling software, e.g. Revit, ArchiCad, etc.</li> <li>• OneClick LCA</li> <li>• Tally LCA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excel</li> <li>• One Click LCA</li> </ul>
SUITABLE PROJECT PHASES	All	Concept Design or SD through completion.	DD or CD through completion.	Construction phase through completion.

Rezoning

Building Permit

# Quantification: Software

## Building Permit


- Athena
- One Click LCA
- tallyLCA
- tallyCAT
- EC3

## Rezoning Permit

- Athena (Assembly Approach)
  - One Click LCA (Carbon Designer)
  - Embodied Carbon Pathfinder
- + All other tools accepted in BP*

# Documentation and Reporting

- Design Report
- Raw Data from the Software Tool
- Manual Calculations (if applicable)
- Supporting Report (Optional)



## Embodied Carbon Design Report

Part 3 Buildings

Version 1.1  
Updated: 2023-12-01

---

**Instructions**

---

**Applicability**

- This Embodied Carbon Design Report (Design Report) is the reporting template designed to be used for demonstrating compliance with the embodied carbon requirements specified in Section 10.4 of the VBBL.
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- For questions relating to this design report please email [green.buildings@vancouver.ca](mailto:green.buildings@vancouver.ca)

---

**Cell Legends**

Legend	
Required Field	<input style="width: 100%; height: 15px;" type="text"/>
Required Field with Dropdown Options	<input style="width: 100%; height: 15px;" type="text"/>
Optional Field	<input style="width: 100%; height: 15px; background-color: #e6f2ff;" type="text"/>
Optional Field with Dropdown Options	<input style="width: 100%; height: 15px; background-color: #e6f2ff;" type="text"/>
No Manual Entry Required	<input style="width: 100%; height: 15px; background-color: #e6f2ff;" type="text"/>

---


**Tabs Overview**

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6. Raw Data	Required	File names and submission requirements of raw data from different embodied carbon assessment software tools
7. Definitions	Informative	Definition of terms and description of the structural systems in "Project Info" tab

# Design Report


## Project Info

 <b>Embodied Carbon Design Report</b> Part 3 Buildings		Version 1.0 Updated: 2023-10-20
<b>Project and Building Information</b>		
<b>Instructions</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the form below to provide the general information regarding the proposed project and building(s) included in this Design Report.</li> <li>See the definition of terms and description of the structural systems in "Definitions" tab.</li> </ul>		
<b>Project Information</b>		
Project Working Title / Name		
Address <i>(Street No., Street Direction, Street Name)</i>		
City	Vancouver	
Province/State	British Columbia (BC)	
Postal Code <i>(A9A 9A9)</i>		
Secondary Address <i>(Street No., Street Direction, Street Name)</i>		
Secondary Postal Code <i>(A9A 9A9)</i>		
Number of Buildings in the Project	3	
Number of Buildings included in this Design Report	2	
Projected Date of First Building Permit Application <i>(YYYY-MM-DD)</i>	2025-01-01	
Date wbLCA Model Completed <i>(YYYY-MM-DD)</i>		
Estimated Project Completion Year <i>(YYYY)</i>		
<b>Building(s) Information</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unless other guidance is provided below, specify the following information for the largest building included in this Design Report (by gross floor area).</li> </ul>		
Building Name <i>(If different from the Project)</i>		
Building Address <i>(If different from the Project)</i>		
Postal Code <i>(If different from the Project)</i>		
Project Phase	Construction Documents	
Permit Application Stage	Building Permit	
Percent of Project Phase Completed (%)		
Drawing Set Used for Embodied Carbon Modelling	Building Permit	
Primary Building Use	C (Residential Occupancies)	
Secondary Building Use		
Construction Type	New Construction	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the total floor area and parkade areas of all the buildings included in this Design Report.</li> </ul>		
Gross Floor Area without Parkade (m <sup>2</sup> )		50,000
Parkade Gross Floor Area (m <sup>2</sup> )		5,000
Gross Floor Area with Parkade (m <sup>2</sup> )		55,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the number of storeys and height for the tallest building included in this Design Report.</li> </ul>		
Storeys Above Grade		5
Storeys Below Grade		1
Parking Type	Below grade	
Building Height (m)		10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the total number of units and bedrooms in all the buildings included in this Design Report.</li> </ul>		
No. of Units		
No. of Bedrooms		

<b>Structure</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide this information for the largest building (by gross floor area) included in this Design Report.</li> </ul>	
Primary Structural System	
Primary Horizontal Gravity System	
Primary Vertical Gravity System	
Primary Lateral System	
Podium	
Foundation Type	
Seismic Design Category	
Risk Category	
Seismic Site Class	
Allowable Soil Bearing Pressure (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	
Typical Column Grid, Long Direction (m)	
Typical Column Grid, Short Direction (m)	
Typical Floor Live Load (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	
Ground Snow Load (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	
Ultimate Wind Speed (kph)	
<b>Multiple Buildings Information</b>	
Are the building(s) in this Design Report connected to other buildings in the project that are reported separately, i.e. are not included in this Design Report?	Yes
How is the common space allocated to the building(s) that their embodied carbon is reported in separate Design Reports?	Proportional to GFA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide the following information for each of the buildings included in this Design Report. Building Use Type; Storeys Above Grade; Storeys Below Grade; Gross Floor Area without Parkade; Parkade Gross Floor Area; and Primary Structural System.</li> </ul>	

# Design Report

## Embodied Carbon Modelling Info



### Embodied Carbon Design Report

Part 3 Buildings

Version 1.1  
Updated: 2023-11-29

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#### Embodied Carbon Modelling Information

#### Instructions

- Use the form below to indicate the optional scope included in embodied carbon reporting and compliance with the City of Vancouver's requirements.
- Unless specified in "Reporting" and/or "Compliance" columns below as "Yes", all the optional scopes will be assumed to be excluded from the embodied carbon reporting and compliance.
- Emissions and benefits from module D, biogenic carbon, and concrete carbonation can be reported. However, these should be reported separately and are excluded from the results used for demonstrating compliance with the City of Vancouver's requirements.
- All optional scopes are excluded from the compliance, if the "Absolute Path" is selected in tab "Results & Compliance".
- Optional scopes are included in the results used for compliance, if the "Baseline Path" is selected in tab "Results & Compliance" and if they are indicated to be included in the "Compliance" column below.

#### wbLCA Model

LCA Modeller (Company Name)

LCA Modeller (Contact Person Name)

Primary Material Quantity Source

Secondary Material Quantity Source

Software Tool

#### Green Building Rating System or Certification Pursued

Name of the Rating System or Certification Pursued

#### Building Life

Building Life Time

#### Life Cycle Stages

Specify the life cycle stages that you are including in your reporting, using data from your software tool or using project-specific or regional data.

- The "Reporting" column is automatically populated based on the software specified in cell #D16, except for when "Other" is selected.
- Do not modify the auto-populated responses, unless the project is reporting embodied carbon of the missing life cycle stages using project-specific or regional data.

	Reporting	Compliance
Product (A1-A3)	Yes	Yes
Construction Process - Transport (A4)	Yes	Yes
Construction Process - Construction (A5)	No	Yes
Use (B1-B5)	No	Yes
End-of-Life (C1-C4)	No	Yes
Benefits and Loads Beyond the Building Life Cycle (D1-D4)	Yes	No

#### Building Elements

- See Section 3.3 and Table 5 in Appendix B.2 of Vancouver Embodied Carbon Guidelines for a detailed list of required and optional elements and sub-element for compliance with VBBL.

#### Required Elements

	Reporting	Compliance
(Foundations, Subgrade enclosure, Slab-on-grade) Substructure	Yes	Yes
(Superstructure, Below-grade interior structure, Envelope, Roof) Shell	Yes	Yes
Are any required sub-elements excluded from the reporting or are any optional sub-elements within mandatory elements included in the reporting?		
		Yes

■ List the required sub-elements excluded from the reporting and a brief description of the reason.  
 ■ List the optional sub-elements included in the reporting of required elements.

#### Optional Elements

Are you including building elements other than substructure and shell (i.e. structure and enclosure) in your embodied carbon reporting?

Yes

*In the "Reporting" column below, specify the additional elements included in the embodied carbon reporting.*

Are the reported optional elements included in the compliance assessment?

A Selection

*Override the formula in the "Compliance" column below, to change the default answer from "Yes" to "No" for the optional elements that are not included in the compliance assessment.*

	Reporting	Compliance
(Interior Construction) Interior	Yes	Yes
(Interior Finishes) Interior		
(Plumbing) Services	Yes	Yes
(HVAC) Services		
(Electrical) Services	Yes	No
(Other) Services		
(Fixed Furnishings) Furnishings		
(Movable Furnishings) Furnishings		
(Landscaping) Sitework		
(Other) Sitework		
Other		

Provide any additional details regarding the optional elements and sub-elements that are included in the reporting and compliance.



# Design Report

## Embodied Carbon Modelling Info

Carbon Storage (Optional)	
Reporting	Compliance
Biogenic Carbon Reported <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No
Concrete Carbonation Reported <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	No

*Reporting carbon storage is optional and may be reported separately in the "Carbon Storage" tab.*

### Embodied Carbon Reduction Strategies

Describe any strategies used in the proposed design to reduce embodied carbon emissions.

(Optional) Were design for disassembly and adaptability (DfD) strategies incorporated in the proposed design, based on the CSA Z782 or ISO 20887 standards?  Yes

*Describe these strategies incorporated and the elements for which they are implemented for.*

SAMPLE

### Assumptions, Data Modifications, and Manual Calculations

■ *If the baseline compliance path is used, answer the following questions for the proposed design and baseline.*


Did you substitute any major material or component in the building design with a proxy, due to the lack of data availability in the software tool?  No

Did you modify any of default assumptions or data sources used in the software tool inside the tool or manually outside it?  No

Provide any additional information on the project, embodied carbon inputs, or outputs here.  
*Additional details may be provided in a supporting report, as described in Section 6.2 (d) of the Guidelines.*

# Design Report

## Results & Compliance



### Embodied Carbon Design Report

Part 3 Buildings

Version 1.0  
Updated: 2023-10-20

#### Results & Compliance

##### Instructions

- Use the form below to report the embodied carbon emissions and assess compliance with the embodied carbon requirements of Vancouver Building By-law.
- "Required Elements" should only include substructure and shell (i.e. structure and enclosure).
- "Optional Elements" shall include the other elements, indicated to be included in the "Building Elements" section of "EC Modelling Info" tab.
- Biogenic carbon and concrete carbonation shall not be included in this tab. They may be reported separately in "Carbon Storage" tab.

##### Compliance Path and Requirements

The embodied carbon of the proposed design should be 20% below the benchmark for Part 3 buildings that are up to 6 storeys and can be built with wood structure and 10% for all other Part 3 buildings. The benchmark is set based on the compliance path.

Compliance Path	Baseline Path
Gross Floor Area without Parkade (m2)	50,000
Projected Date of First Building Permit Application	2025/01/01
Storeys Above Grade	5
According to VBBL, is the building 1-6 storeys in height and can the primary building structure be wood or mass timber construction?	Yes
Is the project planning to achieve any of the "Responsible Material Sourcing" criteria?	Yes

Specify and describe the Responsible Material Sourcing criterion or criteria the project is meeting. Additional details may be provided in a supporting report, as described in Section 6.2 (d) of the Guidelines.

##### Compliance Assessment

Embodied Carbon Limit			
	Proposed	Benchmark	Limit
Total Embodied Carbon Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	42,300,000	55,400,000	44,320,000
Embodied Carbon Intensity (without Parkade) (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )	846.00	1,108.00	886.40

**Embodied Carbon Reduction from the Benchmark (%)**

The proposed design meets the embodied carbon limit	Yes
Minimum Reduction Required	20%
Reduction Achieved	24%
Required Scope Reduction (Substructure & Shell)	31%

Results			
Proposed Design			
	(Reporting)	(Compliance)	(Reporting)
	Required Elements	Required+Optional Elements (Partial)	Required+Optional Elements (All)
Total Embodied Carbon Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)			
Product (A1-A3)	20,000,000	30,000,000	40,000,000
Transport - Construction Process (A4)	5,000,000	6,000,000	7,000,000
Construction - Construction Process (A5)	1,200,000	1,800,000	2,400,000
Use (B1-B5)	2,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
End-of-Life (C1-C4)	1,000,000	1,500,000	2,000,000
Total (A-C)	29,200,000	42,300,000	55,400,000
Beyond the Building Life (D1-D4)			
Embodied Carbon Intensity (without Parkade) (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )			
Modules A-C	584	846	1,108
Modules D			
Embodied Carbon Intensity (with Parkade) (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )			
Modules A-C	531	769	1,007
Modules D			
Design for Disassembly and Adaptability (DfD) Credit (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)			
Report default values from the software tool for modules C1-C4 of elements designed with DfD strategies.			
End-of-Life (C1-C4) Elements Designed with DfD Strategies			
Contribution of DfD Credit to the Total Reduction Achieved	0%		
Baseline			
	(Reporting)	(Compliance)	(Reporting)
	Required Elements	Required+Optional Elements (Partial)	Required+Optional Elements (All)
Total Embodied Carbon Emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)			
Product Stage (A1-A3)	30,000,000	40,000,000	50,000,000
Transport - Construction Process (A4)	6,000,000	7,000,000	8,000,000
Construction - Construction Process (A5)	1,800,000	2,400,000	3,000,000
Use Stage (B1-B5)	3,000,000	4,000,000	5,000,000
End-of-Life Stage (C1-C4)	1,500,000	2,000,000	2,500,000
Total (A-C)	42,300,000	55,400,000	68,500,000
Beyond the Building Life (D1-D4)			
Embodied Carbon Intensity (without Parkade) (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )			
Modules A-C	846	1,108	1,370
Modules D			
Embodied Carbon Intensity (with Parkade) (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> )			
Modules A-C	769	1,007	1,245
Modules D			



# Part 4

## Next Steps

# Next Steps for Vancouver

## Compliance Assessment

- Support Applicants Through Permitting Process (Embodied Carbon & Mass Timber)
- Develop an Online Submission and Review Platform
  - Automate Quality Control and Compliance Assessment

## Code Expansion

- Add a Prescriptive-like Compliance Path for Part 3
- Biogenic Carbon
- Part 9
  - Learn from NearZero Program

# Next Steps for Vancouver

## Mass Timber Construction

- Zoning Incentives for Mass Timber
- Changes to VBBL to Enable Mass Timber in More Application

## Capacity Building

- Support CLF BC and Other Knowledge Sharing Initiatives
- Develop Case Studies of Best Practices
- Learn from City Owned Projects
- Support Educational Programs
- Coordinate with Other Organizations and Jurisdictions