

Fossil Fuel Ban Demonstration Projects

[2022 MASS. ACTS CH. 179, § 84](#)

- Department of Energy Resources (DOER) shall create a demonstration project to allow up to 10 municipalities to ban fossil fuels in new building construction or major renovation projects
- The legislation exempts the following types of construction:
 - Research laboratories for scientific or medical research
 - Hospitals
 - Medical offices
- Municipality must receive local approval and submit a home rule petition to be able to participate

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- In the “interest of increasing housing production,” a municipality can only participate if:
 - Has met 10% threshold on Subsidized Housing Inventory or received safe harbor status through an approved Housing Production Plan; or
 - Has approved zoning that provides for at least 1 district of reasonable size where multi-family housing is permitted as of right
 - Communities have 18 months to achieve compliance

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- DOER shall monitor impacts on building costs, operating costs, number of building permits, housing affordability, and other criteria
- DOER shall issue report by Sept. 30, 2025, with recommendations for continuation or termination of the demonstration project
- DOER may promulgate regulations to implement the demonstration, no later than July 1, 2023