



Shaping Tomorrow's Global Built Environment Today

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Bill McQuade
ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026

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June 2, 2026

The Honorable Tim Hodgson
Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
Natural Resources Canada
580 Booth St,
Ottawa, ON K1A 0Y7

Re: Comments from ASHRAE on the National Strategy for an Electrified Canadian Economy

Dear Minister Hodgson:

I am writing on behalf of ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers. We are a professional and technical society of more than 55,000 members dedicated to energy efficiency, indoor air quality, resiliency, and sustainability in the built environment. Through our Society's research, standards writing, publishing, certification, and continuing education, ASHRAE shapes tomorrow's global built environment today. As one of the premier subject matter experts on the built environment, and on behalf of our over 5,500 ASHRAE members in Canada, we wish to share these comments regarding the recently published "Powering Canada Strong: A National Strategy for an Electrified Canadian Economy" paper published in May 2026.

The National Strategy calls for demand side programs such as Canada Greener Homes Grants and Canada Greener Affordable Housing programs, with the goal of providing energy-saving retrofits for up to one million households. The strategy is also supported by a broad commitment to improve the energy performance of buildings through work on building energy codes. These are areas that ASHRAE can offer expert advice on: ASHRAE is a premier subject matter expert on sustainable building practices, building energy efficiency, and building decarbonization. We sincerely hope to be a partner, consultant, and trusted subject matter expert in this process.

ASHRAE stands at the forefront in providing standards, guidance, technical resources, and education for building systems design, manufacturing, installation, and operation. ASHRAE's foundational position is that eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from the built environment is essential to addressing climate change, and that building electrification can be a pathway to decarbonization if electricity is produced from low- or zero-carbon sources.

ASHRAE standards that can be used as tools in Canada to advance building energy efficiency, sustainability, and decarbonization include:

- Standard 90.1-2025, *Energy Standard for Sites and Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings*: This standard provides the minimum requirements for the energy-efficient design of

sites and buildings except low-rise residential buildings. This standard is the basis for commercial and mid- to high-rise residential energy codes in the U.S.

- Standard 90.2-2024, *High-Performance Energy Design of Residential Buildings*: The purpose of this standard is to establish whole-building design requirements that enable high levels of energy and greenhouse gas emissions performance for residential buildings.
- Standard 90.4-2025, *Energy Standards for Data Centers*: This standard provides the minimum energy efficiency requirements for the design and operation of data centers.
- Standard 100-2024, *Energy and Emissions Building Performance Standard for Existing Buildings*: This standard establishes greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption performance levels for existing buildings. The standard provides compliance requirements to improve energy efficiency and reduce the GHG emissions of existing buildings.
- Standard 189.1-2023/2024 IgCC, *Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low Rise Residential Buildings*: This standard provides total sustainability guidance for designing, building, renovating, and operating high performance green buildings, and is the complete technical content of the International Green Construction Code.

On behalf of our more than 5,500 members in Canada, thank you for your consideration of ASHRAE's comments. We wish to work together on our shared goals of energy efficiency, sustainability, and decarbonization in the built environment. ASHRAE is eager to serve as a subject matter expert and resource to you during the consultations on the national strategy that will take place in the coming months. We can be reached at GovAffairs@ashrae.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill McQuade". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "M".

Bill McQuade
ASHRAE Society President, 2025-2026