



FAQ

- **Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008**
[Regulatory Requirements for New Buildings and Existing Buildings Undergoing Major Additions and Alterations (A&A)]
 - **Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2013**
[Regulatory Requirements for Existing Buildings]
 - **Periodic Energy Audit and BCA Energy Auditor Scheme**
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1. FAQ on Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008

i) General

Q1. How do I know which edition of the Code for Environmental Sustainability (ES) of Buildings to adopt?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. The applicable ES code to adopt is based on first submission date to URA for planning permission (PP). For project with URA's PP submission date on or after 01 Dec 2021, it shall adopt the ES Code (4th Edition). For project with earlier PP date, please refer to the schedule at <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/minimum-environmental-sustainability-standard-for-new-buildings-and-existing-buildings-undergoing-major-additions-and-alterations>.

Q2. Which building types need to comply with the Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2. The Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008 applies to ALL building types including industrial, institutional, commercial (office, hotel, retail and mixed development), stations, port facilities, residential and residential landed, simple structures such as farms and bridges etc.

For all buildings, facilities and offices that are owned, occupied, and/or operated by the public sector (with exception for those consultancy tender awarded before 22 July 2021), higher environmental sustainability requirement under the GreenGov.SG shall apply. In addition, the GreenGov.SG requirements shall apply to public infrastructure and government-funded premises. Please refer to <https://www.mse.gov.sg/resource-room/category/2021-07-12-press-release-on-greengov> for more details.

Q3. What does 'major retrofitting works' mean in Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A3. Major retrofitting works refers to building works involve provision, extension, or substantial alteration of the building envelope (i.e. façade and/or roof) AND building services (air-conditioning system) in connection with an existing building. For further evaluation by BCA, please submit detailed scope of works using [ES \(ND\) evaluation form](#).

Note: For building involves ONLY chiller retrofit, please refer to Building Control (Environmental Sustainability for Existing Buildings) Regulations 2013. Details can be found at [link](#)

Q4. Do buildings subject to GreenGov requirements required to make separate submission for compliance to Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulations 2008?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A4. Yes, apart from submitting a Green Mark application, the projects are required to submit the Environmental Sustainability (ES) submission form generated from [ES Online Portal](#) for compliance with the minimum environmental sustainability standard under the regulation during Building Plan (BP) and Temporary Occupation Permit (TOP) application via CORENET.

Q5. What are the submission requirements for project falls under Government Land Sales (GLS)?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A5. There is no need for Qualified Person (QP) to submit his declaration and ES Submission Form (aka GM score) for these projects during BP application. Instead, the QP should:

- Before submitting the building plan, make an application to BCA for the project to be assessed and certified under the GM certification standards
- Upon completion of building works, inform BCA early to initiate the Green Mark verification audit so as to facilitate the temporary occupation permit (TOP) and certificate of statutory completion (CSC) process
- Submit the relevant clearance showing that the project has been verified and met the prescribed Green Mark Certification rating, along with the application for TOP or CSC.

For more details, please refer to

<https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/minimum-environmental-sustainability-standard-for-new-buildings-and-existing-buildings-undergoing-major-additions-and-alterations/mandatory-higher-green-mark-standard>

Q6. My A&A project retrofitting area consists of 6,500m² thus subject to ES Regulations. Does the Code requirement applies to the whole development or only to the 6,500m² retrofitting area?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A6. The Code requirement applies to the retrofitting area only. Hence, energy savings requirement such as lighting, aircon system, electrical sub-metering and the carbon reduction measures apply to that 6,500m² retrofitting area.

Q7. I have demolished an existing building with GFA of 5,000m² and rebuild with a new building of 6,000m². Could I assume that this project does not subject to Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulation 2008 as the project Nett GFA is 1,000m² (6,000m² - 5,000m²).

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A7. BCA base on New GFA but not Nett GFA to determine whether the project is subject to Building Control (Environmental Sustainability) Regulation 2008. Therefore, this project still subject to this ES Regulation as the New GFA is 6,000m².

Q8. Project is coming in for 1st Partial TOP, could the ES Submission Form/ GM Score (GM02) be submitted on last partial TOP?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A8. As-built ES Submission Form/ GM Score (GM02), together with the relevant documentary evidence are still required to be submitted even if you plan to submit an application for 1st Partial TOP. However, you are only required to re-submit these documents if there is subsequent deviation to your earlier submission and As-built ES Submission Form/ GM Score (GM02).

Note: if there is no deviation to the last submitted As-built ES Submission Form/ GM Score (GM02), please provide a confirmation letter when you are applying for subsequent partial TOP.

Q9. For project with different phases of TOP, what is the submission requirements for compliance with ES regulations?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A9. As-built ES submission form together with relevant supporting documents is required to be submitted during 1st partial TOP. Should there be changes in the subsequent phases of TOP, the QP needs to resubmit revised as-built ES submission form with updated documents. Otherwise, please provide a non-deviation declaration letter endorsed by QP without the need to resubmit documents.

a) FAQ on ES Code (4th Edition)

i) General

Q1. I have a mixed-use development that is more than 5,000m² but the residential component is less than 2,000m², do I need to submit for ES Regulation 2008?

[Updated on 10 November 2022]

A1. For projects with 1st URA PP submission on or after 1 Dec 2021 onwards, the project will require to comply with the non-residential requirement under the 4th edition ES code. For more information, please refer to this code: [Link](#).

ii) Base requirement

Q1. Under the Base requirement RB01-1 and NRB01-1 Building Envelope, do I need to comply to both the RETV/ETTV and the deem to satisfy criteria?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. You will only need to comply to either RB01-1 or NRB01-1. The deem to satisfy criteria is formulated for projects with simple façade design that helps the project team to fulfil the requirement.

Q2. Under the Base requirement NRB03 -Building Energy Performance, do I need to use Energy Modelling as well as meeting the energy savings requirement for the key building systems?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2. You can use either methodology to demonstrate the 50% energy savings from 2005 baseline. However, please note that for both methodologies, you will need to fulfil the Total System Efficiency (TSE) and the minimum chiller plant and unitary efficiency specified in NRB03-2 Air-Conditioning System.

Q3. If the Total System Efficiency (TSE) of my water-cooled chilled water plant in my new commercial building project is 0.80 kW/RT but the chiller plant efficiency is 0.65 kW/RT, is it acceptable?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A3. For new commercial buildings, the required Water-Cooled Chiller Plant System Efficiency is 0.63 kW/RT. Although your project meets the TSE minimum requirement, it did not meet the minimum Water-Cooled Chiller Plant System Efficiency requirement. A design review of your chiller plant is necessary, so that it meets the 0.63 kW/RT requirement.

Q4. Air side pressure drop adjustment.

[Added on 14 September 2023]

A4. The baseline for pressure adjustment is the MERV13 filter pressure. If using MERV14-15 filters, a 100Pa adjustment can be used. For other situations, such as when using MERV16 filters or when dealing with a full return air duct, the adjustment method outlined in SS553 should be referred and evaluated on a case-by-case basis. It's important to note that pressure drop adjustments should only be applied to items that are installed beyond the standard air distribution design.

AHU	Description	CMH	Input kW	Proposed W/CMH	Baseline W/CMH [b]	Additional pressure drop over MERV 13	Adjusted W/CMH [b + A] where A = (Sum of PD)/2340	Baseline Power	Adjusted Power
AHU 1	Use of MERV 13 filter	20000	10.5	0.53	0.58	0	0.58	11.6	11.6
AHU 2	Use of MERV 13 filter	20000	10.5	0.53	0.58	0	0.58	11.6	11.6
AHU 3	Use of MERV 13 filter	20000	10.5	0.53	0.58	0	0.58	11.6	11.6
AHU 4	Use of MERV 14 filter	15000	9	0.60	0.58	100	0.623	8.7	9.3
AHU 5	Use of MERV 14 filter	15000	9	0.60	0.58	100	0.623	8.7	9.3
AHU 6	Use of MERV 14 filter	15000	9	0.60	0.58	100	0.623	8.7	9.3
AHU 7	Use of MERV 14 filter	15000	9	0.60	0.58	100	0.623	8.7	9.3
AHU 8	Use of MERV 16 filter and fully ducted return	30000	20	0.67	0.58	230*	0.678	17.4	20.3
AHU 9	Use of MERV 16 filter and fully ducted return	30000	20	0.67	0.58	230*	0.678	17.4	20.3
AHU 10	Use of MERV 16 filter and fully ducted return	30000	20	0.67	0.58	230*	0.678	17.4	20.3
	Total	210000	127.5					121.8	133.2
		kW/RT	0.255					0.244	0.266
		Delta kW/RT	0.023						

*Example only

Revised baseline for new development
 = baseline + delta kW/RT
 = 0.85kW/RT + 0.023kW/RT
 = 0.873kW/RT

Revised baseline for Existing building
 = baseline + delta kW/RT
 = 0.90kW/RT + 0.023kW/RT
 = 0.923kW/RT

Q5. For VRF systems, how should we calculate the value of TSE or can we measure it through permanent M&V?

[Added on 14 September 2023]

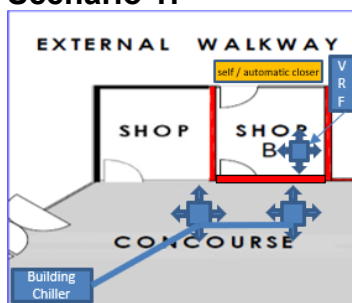
A5. During the design submission, the TSE for VRF systems can be calculated using the IEER formula stated in ESM code 3.0 and ES code 4.0 for CU efficiency plus air distribution system efficiency. For as-built submission, please include a screenshot to show that the TSE can be measured through permanent M&V. For new developments or existing buildings (including multi-tenanted buildings) undergoing major retrofitting, M&V for VRF systems is required if the VRF serving an aggregated aircon area greater than or equal to 2000m² belongs to a single tenant or landlord.

Q6. What is the requirement on door openings to building exterior or non-air-conditioned spaces and the like?

[Added on 14 September 2023]

A6

Scenario 1:

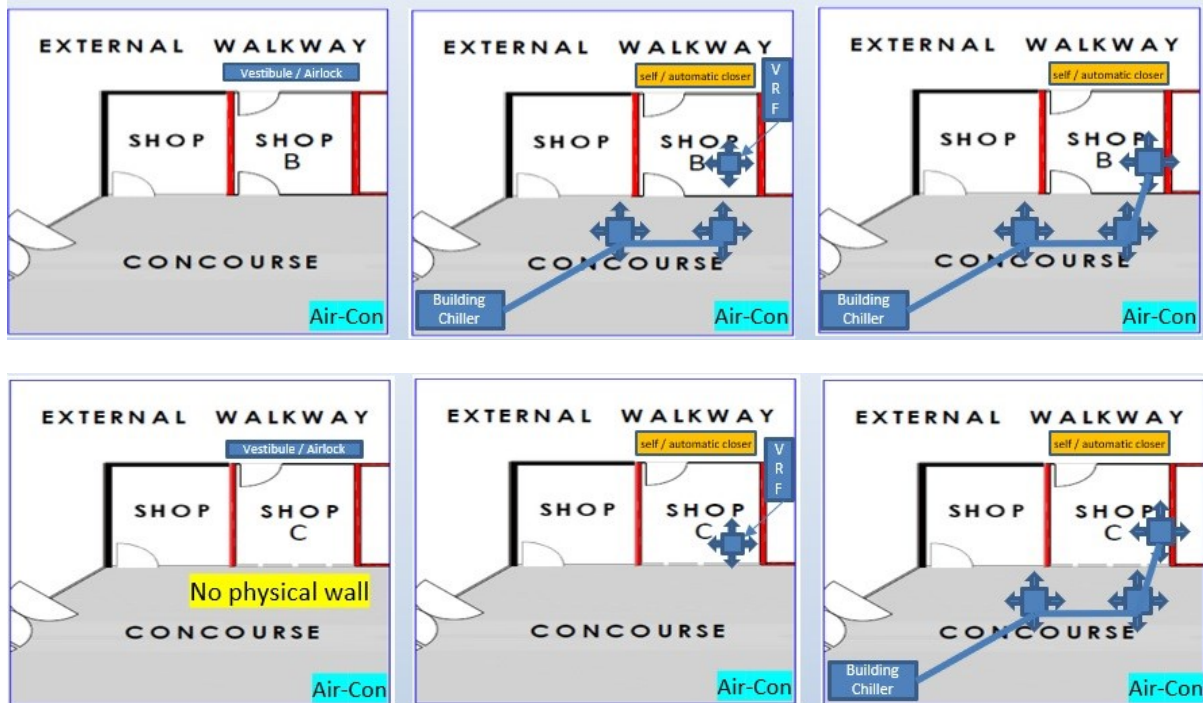


- Shop B is acceptable if it is completely separated from the other parts of the building; and
- Its air-conditioning system is separated from and independent of the central system; and
- Exterior door provided with self / automatic closer*

* Only existing buildings undergoing major A&A with affected areas may use high efficient air curtain in place of self/automatic closer. The air curtain requires performance tested in

accordance with ANSI/AMCA Standard 220 to ensure it provides a minimum 2m/s airstream velocity at the floor.

Scenario 2:



- Equipped with vestibules or airlock;
Or
- Exterior door provided with self / automatic closer*,
AND
- Unit system equipped with:
 - Dedicated energy meter to monitor consumption;
 - Stage 1: Audible alarm triggered within unit if any exterior door for customers'/visitors' entry/exit is opened for longer than 10 mins; and
 - Stage 2: Automatic cut off CHW flow to chilled water FCUs/AHUs (if exterior door remains open for 15 min);

* Only existing buildings undergoing major A&A with affected areas may use high efficient air curtain in place of self/automatic closer. The air curtain requires performance tested in accordance with ANSI/AMCA Standard 220 to ensure it provides a minimum 2m/s airstream velocity at the floor.

iii) Carbon reduction measurement

Q1. Under the carbon reduction measures, for example NRBE01-1 Enhanced Building Envelope Performance, we have three sustainability indicators under (a), (b) and (c). Do I need to comply to all three indicators to qualify as fulfilling one Carbon Reduction measure?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. You will need to comply with only one out of the three indicators. So based on the case where the building's ETTV is 38 w/m², you will meet the base requirement NRB01 as well as one carbon reduction measure NRBE01-1(a).

Q2. What does it mean with “selection of 4 Carbon Reduction measures as listed in Table 4.2 of the ES Code?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2. Minimum 4 items are required to be selected and complied in this Carbon Reduction Measures Section. Out of these 4 items, minimum 2 of them shall be from the Section 2 - Sustainable Construction (See below screenshot taken from the 4th edition ES Code).

Residential Buildings	Non-Residential Buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ All Base Requirements as listed in Table 4.1(a), where applicable. ■ A selection of four (4) Carbon Reduction Measures in total as listed in Table 4.2(a) including a minimum of two (2) measures from Section 2 - Sustainable Construction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ All Base Requirements as listed in Table 4.1(b), where applicable. ■ A selection of four (4) Carbon Reduction Measures in total as listed in Table 4.2(b) including a minimum of two (2) measures from Section 2 - Sustainable Construction.

Q3. Can we select item NRBE01-1 (a) ETTV as 1 of Carbon Reduction measures? OR do we have to select all inside NRBE01-1 (including a, b, and c) to be counted as 1 Carbon Reduction measure?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A3. Yes, if you select item NRBE01-1 (a) ETTV, it will consider as 1 Carbon Reduction Measure under Sustainable Design Strategies.

b) FAQ on Farm Structure

Q1. Under ES Code 4th Edition (1st PP date from 1 Dec 2021 onwards), what are considered as Simple Structures/Buildings and will naturally ventilated or mechanical ventilated greenhouses be required to meet requirements similar to other Non-Residential Buildings?

[Added on 10 November 2022]

A1. The list of Simple Structures and Buildings that are solely used for specified functions are listed on Page 4 of [ES Code \(4th Edition\)](#). Simple Structures and Buildings such as Farm Structures are only required to fulfil base requirements where applicable. For NV/MV greenhouses, QPs will only need to ensure that their (1) lighting and (2) mechanical ventilated system provision, if any, are energy efficient. Please see table below for clarification.

Non-Residential Buildings	Simple Structures/Buildings such as Farm Structures	
	Farm Structures (other than NV/MV greenhouses)	NV/MV Greenhouses*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Base Requirements as listed in Table 4.1(b), where applicable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ NRB01 Envelope and Roof Thermal Transfer ➢ NRB02 Air-Tightness and Leakage ➢ NRB03 Building Energy Performance ➢ NRB04 Measurement and Verification (M&V) Instrumentation ➢ NRB05 Electrical Submetering ➢ NRB06 Maintenance of Building Cooling System Performance • A selection of four carbon reduction measures in total as listed in Table 4.2(b) including a minimum of two measures from Section 2 - Sustainable Construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Base Requirements as listed in Table 4.1(b), where applicable. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ NRB01 Envelope and Roof Thermal Transfer ➢ NRB02 Air-Tightness and Leakage ➢ NRB03 Building Energy Performance ➢ NRB04 Measurement and Verification (M&V) Instrumentation ➢ NRB05 Electrical Submetering ➢ NRB06 Maintenance of Building Cooling System Performance 	<p>The base requirements that would be applicable would be: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ NRB03 Building Energy Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NRB03-2(b) Lighting System - NRB03-2(c) Mechanical Ventilation System <p>*Excluding spaces abutting/within the greenhouses that are A/C.</p>

Q2. Under ES Code 3rd Edition (1st PP date from 15 January 2013 to 30 November 2021), what are the common items that farm structures scored to meet regulation?
[Added on 10 November 2022]

A2. Please refer to the table below (for reference only):

List of common sections scored to meet min 50 points	Remark
NRB 1-1 ETTV	≤ 50W/m ²
NRB 1-2 Air-Conditioning System	Energy efficient A/C ≤ 0.8 kW/RT.
NRB 1-3 Building Envelope - Design/Thermal Parameters	West facing façade/ Window Opening/ U-Value of roof.
NRB 1-4 Natural Ventilation / Mechanical Ventilation	NS facing with cross ventilation.
NRB 1-6 Artificial Lighting	Using LED/ T5 Lightings.
NRB 1-7 Ventilation in Carparks	Naturally ventilated.
NRB 1-8 Ventilation in Common Areas (e.g. toilet, staircase, corridor)	Naturally ventilated.
NRB 1-9 Lifts	VVVF motor drive and sleep mode features.
NRB 2-1 Water Efficient Fittings	PUB WELS Ratings.
NRB 2-2 Water Usage and Leak Detection	Private meter.
NRB 3-1 Sustainable Construction	CUI Computation
NRB 3-2 Sustainable Products	Drywall Partition, False ceiling, Waterproofing, External Paint, Floor Screed, Skim Coat, Toilet Cubicle etc.
NRB 3-4 Environmental Management Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement effective environmental management programmes. • Green and Gracious Builder Award. • Firms ISO 14000 certified. • Recycling bins.
NRB 3-5 Green Transport	Good access to nearest MRT/LRT stations or bus stops.
NRB 3-6 Refrigerants	Compliance.
NRB 4-1 Thermal Comfort	Compliance.
NRB 4-2 Noise Level	Compliance.
NRB 4-3 Indoor Air Pollutants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGBP/SGLS low VOC paint. • SGBP/SGLS adhesives.
NRB 4-5 High Frequency Ballasts	T5 with high frequency ballast or LED with <30% flicker
NRB 5-1 Green Features & Innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of air-cooled variable refrigerant flow (VRF) systems as the main air-conditioning system. • Bscore > 3 points above minimum requirement. • Computation of Concrete Usage Index (CUI) of the development.

2. FAQ on Building Control (Environmental Sustainability Measures for Existing Buildings) Regulations 2013

i) General

Q1. Do I need to apply for Green Mark certification if the building is retrofitting chiller/s?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. No. Building owner only need to submit for design score application under the BC Regulations (Environmental Sustainability Measures for Existing Buildings 2013 prior to any installation/replacement of chillers*.

Green Mark certification is a voluntary scheme if building owner wishes to certify their building to achieve higher environmental sustainability performance.

For Design score submission (existing buildings undergoing major energy use change) and prevailing Code, please refer to the following link: <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/regulatory-requirements-for-existing-buildings>

For Green Mark certification scheme, please refer to the following link: <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-mark-certification-scheme/green-mark-assessment-criteria-and-online-application>.

For any enquiry relating to Green Mark Online application, please email to bca_greenmark@bca.gov.sg
(*includes any installation or replacement of standby or night chillers)

Q2. How do I make payment for design score application?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2. Payment can be made either by credit card or bank transfer.

For credit card, the maximum amount per payment is \$5000.

For bank transfer, BCA bank account details as follows:

Bank Name : DBS BANK LTD
Bank Address : 12 Marina Boulevard, DBS Asia Central, Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 3, Singapore 018982
Account Number : 0010218719
Account Name : Building and Construction Authority
Bank Code : 7171
Branch Code : 001
Swift Code : DBSSSGSG

Please email the bank transfer details to <https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/> after payment is made.

Note: Plan fee is based on GFA, \$8,900 for the first 15,000m² or part thereof, and \$0.15 for every subsequent square metre or part thereof [GST is not required]

a) FAQ on Environmental Sustainability Measures (ESM) Code 2021

Q1. Which version of the Code on ESM for Existing Buildings should I use?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. For existing buildings, if the application is submitted before 1 June 2022, it will be subjected to the Code on ESM for Existing Buildings (Edition 2).

If the application is submitted on or after 1 June 2022, it will be subjected to the Code on ESM for Existing Buildings (Edition 3)

Please refer to the regulatory requirements for existing building at the following link: <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/regulatory-requirements-for-existing-buildings>

Q2. Is there any E-calculator to calculate the minimum Green Mark score of 50 points?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2 For Design and As-built score submission in compliance with the [Code on ESM for Existing Building \(Edition 3\)](#), [E-calculator is not required. The mandatory base requirements plus the Carbon Reduction Measures specified in the Code is deemed to have met the minimum Green Mark score of 50 points.](#)

Q3 Is it a requirement to apply for design score approval before replacing the existing back-up/standby air-cooled chiller for an office building?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A3 Yes. BCA's approval is required before replacing any chillers, duty or standby air-cooled or water-cooled chiller(s). Unless the building falls under exclusion list specified under Type A and Type B buildings. (Refer to ESM Code Section 1: Scope)

Q4. How to determine the total system efficiency (TSE) of the building cooling system inclusive of the air-side system?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A4. Please refer to the [Code on ESM for Existing Buildings \(Edition 3\)](#). [The minimum efficiency requirement and methodology to derive the TSE for central chilled water and unitary systems inclusive of the air-side components is shown under Section ENRB01-2\(a\).](#)

Q5 An existing commercial office building served by a water-cooled chilled water system has a secondary chilled water loop serving the upper floors of the building. Does the energy consumed by the secondary chilled water pumps need to be considered in the calculation of the TSE?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A5 Yes. All equipment, inclusive of the secondary chilled water pumps, must be included in the TSE calculation.

Q6. Is it a requirement to meet the lighting power budget with at least 40% from the code even though no intention of replacing lighting?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A6. Yes. It is a requirement to meet the lighting power budget with at least 40% for all spaces (excluding tenanted areas) as prescribed in SS530-Code of Practice for Energy Efficiency Standard for Building Services and Equipment even there is no lighting replacement works.

Q7. Is it required to comply with sections ENRB01-2 (c) MV fans and ENRB01-2 (d) Lifts/Escalators?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A7. No. Section ENRB01-2 (c) and ENRB01-2 (d) is not required if there is no replacement of MV fans and Lifts/Escalators respectively.

Q8. It is challenging to fulfil the requirements under carbon reduction measures if a building owner only upgrades the chiller plant in an existing building.

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A8. We acknowledge the constraint for existing buildings, hence only a selection of three (3) carbon reduction measures appropriate for the building development from the suite of environmental sustainability indicators provided in Table 4.2 of the Code on ESM will be required. Additionally, there must be one (1) measure from Section 2 – Sustainable Operation and Management as part of the requirements to meet the minimum ESM.

Q9. Should IAQ audit report be submitted during design score or As-built score application?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A9. IAQ audit shall be conducted by an accredited lab and the IAQ report shall be submitted during the As-built score application. However, the QP will need to declare the works in the Design score application form.

Fine-tuning of the building ACMV controls may be required to ensure all measured IAQ parameters are within the acceptable limits stated in Table 1 of SS554-Code of Practice for indoor Air Quality for Air-Conditioned Buildings.

Q10. For air-side equipment, is there a need to install a digital meter or is the reading from VSD acceptable? What is the required accuracy class?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A10. It is recommended to have all AHUs grouped under 1 power meter if it is not feasible to be installed at individual AHUs. It is recommended to have power meters of IEC Class 1 or better. The power consumption for FCUs is generally low, thus the nameplate power or spot measurement (kW or Amp) is acceptable. It is encouraged to have all FCUs grouped under 1 power meter or at individual FCUs.

VSD reading downloaded from VSD or BMS is acceptable.

Refer to page 35 of Code on ESM for more details on Measurement of Air-Distribution Efficiency.

Q11 The spot measurement for air-side component (i.e. AHUs and FCUs) using portable power meters to be taken at 10am or 3pm where peak load typically occur might not be applicable to retail malls as the chillers start operation at 10-11am, which might not be indicative of the peak load.

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A11. The duration specified in the code is recommended timing which may be different for various building typologies

Q12. If EC fan already has a meter for power consumption, do I need to install another power meter.

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A12. It is not required to install an additional power meter if the readings can be extracted from the EC fan's meter. For FCU units, the power consumption can be based on nameplate or through spot measurements.

Q13. Is it required to have continuous monitoring for air-side component efficiency?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A13. It is encouraged to have continuous power measurement for the monitoring of energy performance, hence power meter is a requirement. This also aids in the verification after the project is completed.

Q14: For VRF systems, how should we calculate the value of TSE or can we measure it through permanent M&V?

[Added on 14 September 2023]

A14: During the design submission, the TSE for VRF systems can be calculated using the IEER formula stated in ESM code 3.0 and ES code 4.0 for CU efficiency plus air distribution system efficiency. For as-built submission, please show that the TSE measured through permanent M&V. For applicable existing buildings with major energy use change, M&V for VRF systems is required if the VRF serving an aggregated aircon area greater than or equal to 2000m² belongs to a single tenant or landlord and has undergone system replacement.

3. FAQ on Periodic Energy Audit and BCA Energy Auditor Scheme

Q1. Why should the energy efficiency of building cooling systems be audited?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A1. The system performance of any building cooling system, including the energy efficient ones, may deteriorate over time if not properly operated and maintained.

The aim of the periodic energy audit is to ensure that the building cooling system continues to operate as efficiently as per its initial design throughout its life cycle and comply with the minimum standards stipulated.

Q2. Which buildings are subjected to the energy audit?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A2. The following buildings will have to carry out the energy audit:

- Existing buildings that have undergone Major Energy Use Change*; and
- New buildings that have applied for planning permission on or after 1 December 2010.

The following building types are not covered under the *Code on Periodic Energy Audit of Building Cooling System*:

- Data centres;
- Religious buildings;
- Residential buildings (other than service apartments);
- Utility buildings;
- Industrial buildings;
- Railway premises;
- Port services and facilities; and
- Airport services and facilities.

* - A major energy use change refers to the installation, substantial alteration or replacement of a building/ development's water-cooled/ air-cooled chiller(s).

Q3. Will building owners be informed if they are subjected to the energy audit?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A3. BCA will issue notices to building owners and allow a reasonable timeframe for them to complete the energy audit.

Q4. Is there requirement for the energy audit to achieve a certain result?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A4. Building owners must ensure that the building cooling system efficiencies meet the minimum system efficiencies stipulated in the *Code on Periodic Energy Audit of Building Cooling System*.

Q5. What must the building owner do if the result of the energy audit fails to meet the minimum design system efficiency?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A5. The owner needs to carry out appropriate remedial and maintenance works to bring the system efficiency back to its design standard or the prescribed minimum system efficiencies.

Q6. Can the building owner's own employee, such as the facility manager, carry out the energy audit of the system?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A6. Yes, provided that the employee is a Professional Mechanical Engineer (PE(Mech)) or an Energy Auditor registered with BCA.

Q7. Who are qualified to carry out the energy audit of the cooling systems?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A7. The energy audit shall be carried out either by a Professional Mechanical Engineer (PE(Mech)) who has in force a practising certificate, or an Energy Auditor registered with BCA.

An Energy Auditor is a competent person registered with BCA who may be appointed to carry out the energy audit on the building cooling systems required under the Building Control Act. Professional Mechanical Engineers are not required to register with BCA as an Energy Auditor.

For more information on the duties, criteria and application process to register as an Energy Auditor, please visit:

<https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-professionals/bca-energy-auditor-scheme>

Q8. What are the requirements for the application of an Energy Auditor?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

- A8. The registration criteria for application are as follows:
- Possess at least an engineering or a building-related degree in architecture, building science, facility management, and sustainable building design or any equivalent professional qualification acceptable by the Commissioner of Building Control;
 - Have at least three (3) years of relevant practical experience in central air-conditioning design and installation, or operation, after attaining the abovementioned degree or equivalent professional qualification;
 - Completed two (2) ASHRAE Level III Energy Audits or three (3) Periodic Energy Audits on Building Cooling Systems under the supervision of a PE(Mech) or an Energy Auditor registered with BCA; and
 - Successfully passed an interview by the Energy Auditor Registration Committee.

For more information on the duties, criteria and application process to register as an Energy Auditor, please visit:

<https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-professionals/bca-energy-auditor-scheme>

Please ensure that **ALL** the qualifying criteria are met before submitting the application form and ensure that all sections are completed with the required supporting documents.

For applicants who have applied before and were rejected or failed the interview, please note that you are not allowed to use the same projects that have been used previously to support your previous application.

Please note that the Energy Auditor Registration Committee's decision is final.

Q9. Can a non-engineering or building-related degree be considered as a basic qualification?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A9. Applicants should possess either an engineering or a building-related degree (in architecture, building science, facility management, and sustainable building design) that is awarded by a local university, or any equivalent professional qualification deemed acceptable by the Commissioner of Building Control. Overseas degrees and courses conducted by distance learning will not be accepted unless accredited by BOA, PEB, SISV or IES.

Q10. When can one start counting relevant experience from?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A10. Work experience accumulates from the day the applicant starts the relevant job, after attaining either an engineering or a building-related degree (in architecture, building science, facility management, and sustainable building design) that is awarded by a local university, or any equivalent professional qualification deemed acceptable by the Commissioner of Building Control. Overseas degrees and courses conducted by distance learning will not be accepted unless accredited by BOA, PEB, SISV or IES.

Q11. Will I be allowed to use the title of “BCA-Registered Energy Auditor” on my business card?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A.11 The relevant title can be printed on the business card as long as your application as an Energy Auditor has been endorsed by BCA and in accordance with the validity stated in the certificate you have been awarded. The wordings of the title to be printed on your business card have to strictly adhere to “BCA-Registered Energy Auditor”.

Q12. Is there a validity period for my certification as an Energy Auditor?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A12. To maintain high standards of professional competency, the validity period of an Energy Auditor registered with BCA is three (3) years. A renewal application is required to be submitted with a record of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities and the corresponding documentary evidence of participation, upon receiving a Notice from BCA at least two (2) months before expiry of the current certificate.

For more information and submission forms for renewal and CPD record, please visit: <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-professionals/bca-energy-auditor-scheme>

Q13. What are the requirements for the renewal of an Energy Auditor and its objectives?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A13. The Continuing Professional Development (CPD) renewal requirements aim to enhance professionalism, promote and ensure continuous learning by the Energy Auditors to maintain competency and achieve their professional goals. The continuing professional development enables the Energy Auditors to acquire knowledge and skills to stay relevant and be kept abreast of prevailing procedures and standards as well as advances in technologies.

CPD points are obtained from participation in CPD activities which the Energy Auditor chooses to participate in. The range of activities in this CPD framework (see Table below) is not intended to be inclusive but to act as a general guide.

As part of the CPD renewal framework, Energy Auditors are required to keep their own record of the audit projects and CPD activities claimed and submit it upon renewal every three (3) years, together with documentary evidence of participation in the various CPD activities for validation. CPD renewal submission, together with the renewal application form, should be made upon receiving a Notice from BCA which is at least two (2) months before expiry of the current certificate. The activities that are accorded CPD points are listed in the Table below for guidance.

Our CPD scheme requires an Energy Auditor to chalk up at least **30 CPD points** over a 3-year period, or about 10 CPD points a year.

The renewal application and CPD record forms are downloadable from <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-professionals/bca-energy-auditor-scheme>

Table – Determination of CPD

No.	Activities	Min. CPD Points For 3-Yearly Renewal = 30 (i.e. min. 10 CPD points per year)
<u>Part 1: Energy Audit Project Experience</u>		
	Submission of OSE audit reports prepared/ endorsed by renewing Energy Auditor in past 3 years	1 report = 2 CPD points (max 6 points per year)
<u>Part 2: Green Building or Energy Related Training and/or Courses *</u>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal study courses (post-grad/ diploma) • Lectures, short courses, conferences, workshops & seminars • In-house training <p><i>* Including overseas and e-training</i></p>	1 CPD point = 1 contact hour
<u>Part 3: Participation in Professional Associations, Committees & Societies</u>		
	Members of technical/ working committees of professional associations/ government agencies	3 CPD points per Committee (max 6 points over 3 years)

Part 4: Contribution to Engineering/ Management Knowledge

a	Conduct lectures, seminars, conferences or training courses	2 CPD points each lecture hour or part thereof
b	Write/ edit published technical articles or papers	2 CPD points per topic (max 6 points over 3 years)

Note:

1. *Documentary evidence of participation for above items are to be submitted for validation.*
2. *Renewal submission to be made at least two (2) months prior to certification expiry.*
3. *Contact hour refers to an attendance or involvement lasting one clock hour of not less than 50 minutes. One (1) CPD point is awarded for one (1) contact hour. No CPD point is awarded for an activity/ course lasting less than 50 minutes.*
4. *Committee work submissions to be considered after completion of the committee term.*

Q14. What happens if I am not able to meet the number of CPD points required for renewal?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A.14 A conditional renewal, for a period of one (1) year, is allowed for Energy Auditors whose Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points fall short of the requirements upon renewal submission every three (3) years.

If the Energy Auditor does not or is unable to make up for the shortfall of points and submit the relevant documentary evidence of CPD participation accordingly by the deadline, the Energy Auditor will automatically not be renewed and his/ her name will be removed from the Energy Auditor Registry.

The conditional renewal grants the Energy Auditor additional time to fulfil the shortfall of CPD points under the renewal requirements, but it does not extend the renewal cycle of the certificate. The Energy Auditor is still required to meet the three-yearly renewal requirements stipulated.

Q15. Under the renewal requirements, can I carry over excess CPD points?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A15. Any excess CPD points (up to a maximum of 10 CPD points) accumulated can be carried over to the immediate subsequent year. For example, for an Energy Auditor registered on 1 Jan 2020, 30 CPD points are required for renewal by 31 Dec 2023. The CPD points obtained during the period of 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2023 is 13 points, 3 points can be carried forward to the next renewal cycle.

Q16. What should I submit for my obtained CPD activities?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A16. The documentary evidence of the obtained CPD activities may take any one of the following forms:

- a. OSE audit reports with endorsement by the renewing Energy Auditor
- b. Course/seminar leaflet with course synopsis and speaker profile, including duration of course
- c. Course enrolment record
- d. Receipts
- e. Validated/ authenticated Certified True Copy Proof of attendance such as Certificates of attendance or achievement
- f. Attendance list from course organiser
- g. Appointment Letter from respective Committee
- h. Invitation Letter to speak or conduct training
- i. Employer’s report or certification
- j. Statutory declaration

Please ensure that **ALL** the renewal requirements are met before submitting the renewal application form and documentation and ensure that all sections are completed with the required supporting documents. Upon submission of all the relevant documents, the Energy Auditor Registration Committee will review the renewal application(s) accordingly. The Energy Auditors will be informed upon approval of their certification renewal and issued a new certificate.

Please note that the Energy Auditor Registration Committee’s decision is final.

The renewal application and CPD record forms are downloadable from <https://www1.bca.gov.sg/buildsg/sustainability/green-professionals/bca-energy-auditor-scheme>

Q17. How does the energy efficiency measure under the Building Control Act and the Energy Conservation Act compare with one another?

[Added on 22 August 2022]

A17. Refer to the table below:

Measures	Building Control Act	Energy Conservation Act *
Requirement and Target Groups	<p>1. Submission of Energy Consumption and Building-related Information</p> <p><u>Building owners of hotels, office buildings and retail buildings</u> shall submit their building information and energy consumption data</p>	<p>1. Registration with NEA</p> <p><u>Energy intensive companies in the industry sector</u> shall register with NEA within 6 months of qualifying as a registrable corporation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has operational control over a business activity which has attained the energy use threshold (54TJ of energy used per

	<p>annually to BCA, via the online Building Energy Submission System (BESS).</p> <p>2. Minimum Environmental Sustainability Standard for Existing Buildings Undergoing Installation or Replacement of the Building Cooling System</p> <p><u>Building owners or MCSTs of hotels, office buildings and retail buildings with gross floor area (GFA) of 15,000 m² or more, and who are planning to install or replace the building cooling system(s),</u> shall meet minimum environmental sustainability standards for existing buildings.</p> <p>3. Periodic Energy Audit of Building Cooling System</p> <p>Upon receipt of the Notice issued by the Commissioner of Building Control under the Act, <u>building owners of the following 2 types of buildings shall engage a Professional Mechanical Engineer (PE(Mech)) or Energy Auditor registered with BCA</u> to carry out an energy audit on their chiller system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any building in respect of which an application for planning permission is submitted on or after 1st December 2010; or • Any building installing or replacing its air-cooled or water-cooled chiller and subject to the minimum standard under the Building Control 	<p>calendar year) in at least 2 out of 3 preceding calendar years; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The business activity is carried out at a single site and is attributable to one of the following sectors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ manufacturing and manufacturing-related services; ○ supply of electricity, gas, steam, compressed air and chilled water for air conditioning; and ○ water supply and sewage and waste management. <p>Once registered, corporations will be required to implement the following energy management practices:</p> <p>2. Appointment of Energy Manager</p> <p>A registered corporation shall appoint from among its employees not less than one energy manager and notify NEA of the appointment of its first energy manager not later than 30 days after registration.</p> <p>3. Periodic Reporting Energy Use</p> <p>A registered corporation shall submit an annual energy use report, covering each business activity under the operational control of the corporation.</p> <p>4. Energy Efficiency Improvement Plan</p> <p>A registered corporation shall submit an annual energy efficiency improvement plan (period of not less than 1 year and not more than 5 years), covering each business activity under the operational control of the registered corporation.</p> <p>5. Energy Efficiency Opportunities Assessment</p> <p>A registered corporation shall, for each relevant business activity under its operational control, be required to conduct an energy efficiency opportunities assessment, and submit an assessment report to NEA before the expiry of the respective assessment period. Each relevant</p>
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	<p>(Environmental Sustainability Measures for Existing Buildings) Regulations 2013.</p>	<p>business activity shall have an assessment period of not more than 6 years, and the assessment report shall be made using the relevant form</p> <p>6. Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) for water-cooled Chilled Water System A registered corporation with water-cooled chilled water systems installed shall be required to submit a first report by 1 December 2025 to show that its operating chilled water system performance meets the MEES threshold and its M&V system is accurate. Other existing industrial facilities that are not regulated under the ECA will be required to conform to MEES and submit a first report by 1 December 2029</p>
<p>* Source: https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/climate-change-energy-efficiency/energy-efficiency/industrial-sector/mandatory-energy-management-practices-for-existing-industrial-facilities</p>		