Residential cost-per-unit of energy— Code change and performance rating methods



This document provides Oregon's Statewide Average of Energy Prices of common fuels for use in analysis of energy code changes between the 2023 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC), Chapter 11 and the 2026 ORSC, Chapter 11.

These energy prices are also for use in complying with ASHRAE 90.1 "Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low Rise Residential," Section 12 "Energy Cost Budget Method", or Appendix G, "Performance Rating Method" for R-2, R-3 and R-4 multifamily housing. Commercial cost-per-unit of energy shall be used for all other occupancies.

Applicants must utilize the same energy costs, specified in Table 1, to determine the energy consumption costs for both the 2026 ORSC, or proposed design, and the 2023 ORSC, or budget building design. Rates from different sources may not be mixed in the same project. The applicant must demonstrate the accuracy and reliability of their calculations as outlined and defined in the standard.

TABLE 1: STATEWIDE AVERAGE OF ENERGY PRICES (2025)¹

Energy Source	BTU Unit Conversion	Unit of Measure	Price (\$) ²
Electricity	3,413 BTU/kWh	kWh	0.144
Natural Gas	100,000 BTU/Therm	Therms	1.37
Distillate Fuel Oil	138,800 BTU/Gallon	Gallons	3.67
LPG/Propane	91,300 BTU/Gallon	Gallons	2.69

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA) for Oregon. https://www.eia.gov/state/data.php?sid=OR#Prices

budget building design: a computer representation of a hypothetical design based on the actual *proposed design*. This representation is used as the basis for calculating the *energy cost budget*.

design energy cost: the annual energy cost calculated for a proposed design.

energy cost budget: the annual *energy* cost for the *budget building design* intended for use in determining minimum compliance with this standard.

proposed design: a computer representation of the actual proposed *building* design, or portion thereof, used as the basis for calculating the *design energy cost*.

distillate fuel oil: products known as No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 fuel oils are used primarily for space heating and electric power generation.

¹ These prices will be updated with the standard code change cycle, or, if significant changes in relative energy prices occur.

² <u>Electricity</u> & <u>Natural Gas</u> prices are data from EIA in April 2025. <u>\$ per Mcf divided by 10.38 equals \$ per therm.</u>
<u>Distalate Fuel Oil and LPG/Propane</u> are here: <u>Heating Oil and Propane Update - Energy Information Administration (eia.gov)</u>