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Home builder group mandates 50 percent energy reduction by 2020

East Bay Business Times - by [Jessica Saunders](#)

The Home Builders Association of Northern California has set a goal of reducing overall energy consumption in new homes 50 percent by 2020.

Member builders will be required to achieve the reduction compared with 1990 energy consumption levels within 14 years, the association's president, Joseph Perkins, said. They will also be asked to reduce carbon emissions by 30 percent from 1990 levels in the same time frame.

Additionally, HBANC said it supports all Bay Area local governments' adopting the green building standards created by the Berkeley-based nonprofit Build It Green. So far, 15 of the 101 cities and counties in the nine-county region have made Built It Green standards mandatory.

"We intend to help push that number significantly higher," Perkins said. "Build It Green's program exceeds the state's current standards for energy-efficient construction, is compatible with other national green building programs and is specifically tailored to address the Bay Area's unique housing marketplace."

Perkins announced the energy goals and the support for mandatory green building standards during a conference hosted by the **California Public Utilities Commission** Monday on growing the state's green energy economy. More details were to be announced within the next 60 days.

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