



Buy Clean Colorado Act: Max. Acceptable Global Warming Potential (GWP) Limits

The Buy Clean Colorado Act (C.R.S. 24-92-117) applies to state public projects (C.R.S. 24-92-102 (8)) over \$500,000 solicited as of January 1st, 2024.

Material¹	2026 OSA GWP Limits²
Asphalt & Asphalt Mixtures³	Asphalt Mixtures: 85 kg CO ₂ e/t
Cement & Concrete Mixtures⁴	ReadyMix Concrete (in kg CO ₂ e/m ³) at 28 days:
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	a. 2,500 psi: 232
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	b. 3,000 psi: 255
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	c. 4,000 psi: 301
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	d. 5,000 psi: 358
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	e. 6,000 psi: 379
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	f. 8,000 psi: 440
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	g. Lightweight (LW) 3,000 psi: 484
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	h. LW 4,000 psi: 532
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	i. LW 5,000 psi: 580
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	Cement: 1,112 kgCO ₂ e/t
Cement & Concrete Mixtures	Concrete Masonry Units (CMU): 395 kg CO ₂ e/m ³
Glass⁵	Flat Glass: 1,510 kg CO ₂ e/t
Post-Tension Steel⁶	No sufficient data to set a valid threshold at this time
Reinforced Steel⁷	Fabricated Steel Reinforcing Bar "Rebar": 1,030 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel⁸	Fabricated Hot-rolled steel: 1,220 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel	Fabricated Plate steel: 1,730 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel	Fabricated Hollow Structural Sections: 1,990 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel	Cold-Formed Steel Framing and Accessories: 2,843 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel	Steel Roof and Floor Deck: 2,350 kg CO ₂ e/t
Structural Steel	Open-web Steel Joist and Joist Girders: 1,450 kg CO ₂ e/t
Wood Structural Elements⁹	Plywood: 219.32 kg CO ₂ e/m ³
Wood Structural Elements	Oriented Strand Board (OSB): 242.58 kg CO ₂ e/m ³
Wood Structural Elements	Laminated Strand Lumber: 274.90 kg CO ₂ e/m ³
Wood Structural Elements	Laminated Veneer Lumber: 361.45 kg CO ₂ e/m ³
Wood Structural Elements	Glued Laminated Timber: 137.19 kg CO ₂ e/m ³

¹ Only consider permanently installed materials.

² OSA subcategories align with available products, product categories, and building codes.

³ Inclusive of all paving asphalt mixes supplied. GWP limit is in kg CO₂e per metric ton (kg CO₂e/t).

⁴ Subcategories based upon regional compressive strength specifications at 28 days. Cement GWP impact is considered within each strength category.

⁵ Designs specify processed glass and flat glass is a component of processed glass assemblies.

⁶ Zero post-tension steel subcategories identified at this time.

⁷ Rebar is the only identified subcategory for Reinforced Steel at this time.

⁸ Structural steel subcategories as defined by AISC Code of Standard Practice (ANSI/AISC 303-16). Premanufactured HVAC equipment does not need to conform.

⁹ Subcategories based upon available IW-EPDs. Only consider permanently installed wood products.



2026 Updates

The BCCO Act targets carbon emissions associated with the production or manufacturing of eligible materials, further defined as asphalt and asphalt mixtures, cement and concrete mixtures, glass, post-tension steel, reinforcing steel, structural steel, and wood structural elements. When used in eligible projects, these materials must have a GWP that does not exceed the limits set by the OSA. The BCCO Act focuses on these materials due to their high carbon emissions impact, and reducing the impact of these materials will provide the greatest greenhouse gas emissions reduction during the construction of Colorado public projects. For further information regarding this program, please refer to the OSA policy and resources available on the OSA [Buy Clean Colorado Act \(BCCO\)](#) webpage. Please refer to the [CDOT website](#) for projects under their purview.

The information utilized to determine the eligible material GWP thresholds is subject to change due to background data updates. EPDs, both product-specific and industry-wide, expire after 5 years. Therefore, each industry may improve its data and EPD information within the 5 years, resulting in more accurate EPDs. However, improving the background EPD information may result in increased GWP values as reported in an EPD. The OSA is utilizing current EPD information to determine its GWP thresholds. The OSA takes precautions to set the GWPs as feasible thresholds that incorporate room for improvement in background data sources. However, if background data improvements result in increased GWP reporting above the OSA's limit, then the OSA will make necessary adjustments to improve the feasibility of the GWP limits for State public projects.

The existing OSA GWP limits for 2026 are the same as the 2025 GWP limits. New eligible material subcategories (with GWP limits) for 2026 include: **Concrete Masonry Units (CMU)**, **Steel Roof and Floor Deck**, and **Open-Web Steel Joist and Joist Girders**. OSA is required to review the industry average GWP limits every four years; however, industry data is reviewed, and GWP limits may be reduced on an annual basis.

By January 1st, 2026, OSA reviewed the maximum acceptable GWP limits for each category of eligible materials. Through this review, OSA determined that there is potential to reduce the current GWP limits for the following eligible material subcategories: Asphalt Mixtures, Cement, Flat Glass, Rebar, Cold-Formed Steel Framing and Accessories, and Oriented Strand Board (OSB). However, few projects have been completed. More project completions are needed to ensure these limits are achievable. Therefore, due to insufficient project compliance information available at this time, OSA is maintaining the current GWP limits.