

DOCKETED	
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ORDER NO: 26-0211-3a

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

2025 Energy Code Third-Party Compliance Software, Integrated Environmental Solutions Virtual Environment (IES VE) Title 24 2025 Version 1.0

Docket No.: 24-BSTD-03

Order to Approve the Integrated Environmental Solutions Virtual Environment (IES VE) Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 Alternative Calculation Method Compliance Software Application

I. BACKGROUND

The Warren-Alquist State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Act, Public Resources Code sections 25000 et seq., 25402.1(b), requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to, among other things, establish a process for certifying calculation methods for demonstrating compliance with its building energy efficiency standards.

As allowed by the 2025 Energy Code, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10, Section 10-109(c)3, Integrated Environmental Solutions has submitted an application requesting the Commission approve Integrated Environmental Solutions Virtual Environment (IES VE) Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 as an alternative calculation method (ACM) to demonstrate performance compliance with the nonresidential new-construction requirements of the 2025 Energy Code.

As specified by the 2025 Energy Code, Section 10-109(c)3, ACM applications must meet the applicable application requirements of Section 10-116(b) and provide documentation demonstrating that the candidate software meets the requirements, specifications, and criteria specified in Sections 10-109(c)1A, 10-109(c)1B, 10-109(c)1C, 10-109(c)1D and 10-109(c)1E, as appropriate.

CEC staff has reviewed the IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 ACM application submitted by IES and determined that it contains the documentation, building energy modeling functionality, and aligns with the current version of the 2025 ACM Reference Manuals as required by the above sections of the 2025 Energy Code.

II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

CEC staff has considered the IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 ACM application for the 2025 Energy Code and has concluded that it contains the applicable documentation and building energy modeling functionality and aligns with the current version of the 2025 ACM Reference Manuals as required by Sections 10-109(c)3 and 10-116(b) of the 2025 Energy Code. Therefore, staff recommends approval of IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 as an ACM to demonstrate performance compliance with the nonresidential new-construction requirements of the 2025 Energy Code.

Staff has also considered the application of CEQA to the proposed approval and concluded that the proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it can be seen with certainty that the approval of this application will not have a significant effect on the environment.

III. ENERGY COMMISSION FINDINGS

1. CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Section 10-109(c)3 requires third-party ACM compliance software be approved by the CEC through an application process.
2. IES submitted an ACM application for IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 in December 2025.
3. CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Section 10-109(c)3 requires that ACM applications include documentation demonstrating that the compliance software meets the requirements, specifications, and criteria specified in CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Sections 10-109(c)1A, 10-109(c)1B, 10-109(c)1C, 10-109(c)1D and 10-109(c)1E, as appropriate.
4. IES's IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 ACM application contained documentation which demonstrates compliance with the requirements, specifications, and criteria specified in CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Sections 10-109(c)1A, 10-109(c)1B, 10-109(c)1C, 10-109(c)1D and 10-109(c)1E for building performance compliance with the nonresidential new-construction requirements of the 2025 Energy Code.
5. CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Section 10-109(c)3 also requires that applications contain the application requirements of CCR, Title 24, Part 1, section 10-116(b).
6. CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Section 10-116(b) contains application requirements for ACM applications. The applicable requirements for the IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 ACM application include a compliance software vendor certification statement, computer runs and summary sheets as specified by the ACM Reference Manual, a user manual and changelog describing the functional and analytical capabilities of the ACM candidate compliance software, an executable of the candidate ACM compliance software, and an application fee deposit.
7. Staff evaluated the submitted application for compliance with the above applicable regulations to ensure that IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 would be compliant upon CEC approval.
8. The CEC confirms staff's recommendation and finds that the requirements of CCR, Title 24, Part 1, Sections 10-109 and 10-116 have been met. Therefore, IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 has met the requirements to be approved as a

third-party ACM used to demonstrate performance compliance with the nonresidential new-construction requirements of the 2025 Energy Code.

9. The CEC has considered and agrees with staff's CEQA findings. The proposed action is not a project because it does not impose any new requirements and, therefore, has no potential for resulting in either a direct physical or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. If it is considered a project, it can be seen with certainty that the approval of the applications will not have a significant effect on the environment and it is exempt under the common-sense exemption.

IV. CONCLUSION AND ORDER

The CEC hereby approves IES VE Title 24 2025 Version 1.0 as a third-party ACM for demonstrating performance compliance with the nonresidential new-construction requirements of the 2025 Energy Code.

The CEC also adopts staff's recommendation that this action is either not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or, if considered a project, it is exempt from CEQA under the common-sense exemption.

The CEC also directs the executive director or their designee to take all actions reasonably necessary to make the above-referenced software available and maintain the software in good form, including but not limited to reviewing and approving updates to third-party software consistent with bug fixes, correcting calculation and analytical errors, necessary ongoing software updates, user interface changes, and other minor updates.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the CEC held on February 11, 2026.

AYE: Hochschild, Gunda, Gallardo

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: McAllister, Skinner

ABSTAIN: NONE



Kim Todd
Secretariat