

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	25-BSTD-01
Project Title:	2025 Energy Code Compliance Provider Applications
TN #:	271885
Document Title:	CHEERS Application for Confidential Designation - Ownership Amendment
Description:	N/A
Filer:	David Choo
Organization:	CHEERS
Submitter Role:	Applicant
Submission Date:	8/7/2026 3:53:32 PM
Docketed Date:	8/7/2026



Application for Confidential Designation

(Title 20 Cal. Code Regs., § 2505 et seq.)

Applicant: California Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services, LLC (CHEERS)

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Proceeding or Project Name: 2025 Energy Code Compliance Provider Application, Ownership Amendment

Docket Number: 25-BSTD-01

Date: August 7, 2026

CHEERS submits this application for confidential designation for the confidential filing accompanying its Post-Approval Amendment to its approved ECC Provider application under Section 10-103.3(c)7. The public cover letter filed concurrently serves as the non-confidential summary of the amendment for the public docket. This is a standard application for confidential designation under Title 20 CCR Section 2505(a)(1).

1. Contact Information (20 CCR 1208.1)

Applicant, contact, proceeding, and docket information appear in the block above. Direct questions to David Choo at dchoo@cheers.org.

2. Title, Date, Description, and Pages (20 CCR 1208.1)

Title: Exhibit A, 10-103.3(c)(3) Application Summary of Evidence (Amended August 7, 2026), including its attachments.

Date: August 7, 2026.

Description: The amended Summary of Evidence supporting CHEERS's approved ECC Provider application. It contains CHEERS's proprietary and trade-secret business information, as described in Sections 5 and 6.

Pages: 34.

3. Portions for Which Confidential Designation Is Requested (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(B))

The entire contents of amended Exhibit A are requested to be kept confidential. The document contains proprietary and trade-secret business information throughout, and no portion can be severed and released without exposing protected information. The concurrently filed public cover letter provides the non-confidential summary appropriate for the public docket.

4. Duration (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(C))

CHEERS requests confidential treatment for a minimum of 10 years. The 10-year term aligns with the 10-year data-retention period for ECC compliance records under Section 10-103.3(d)10, and the proprietary value of the protected information does not diminish over that period.

5. Legal Basis for Confidentiality (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(D))



The following provisions support confidential treatment:

Title 24 CCR Section 10-103.3(c)2, which provides that an ECC-Provider applicant may request confidential designation and submit a non-confidential summary of its application. CHEERS satisfies the non-confidential-summary requirement through the concurrently filed public cover letter.

Title 20 CCR Section 2505, and specifically the trade-secret and competitive-advantage showing under Section 2505(a)(1)(D).

California Government Code Section 7927.705, which exempts from disclosure records protected under other state law, including the trade-secret privilege in California Evidence Code Section 1060. Exhibit A contains trade-secret information of CHEERS.

California Government Code Section 7922.000, the public-interest balancing exemption. The public interest in withholding the proprietary and confidential business information in Exhibit A outweighs any interest in its disclosure, particularly where the public cover letter already provides the non-confidential summary of the amendment.

6. Competitive Advantage (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(D))

(a) The specific nature of the advantage. Exhibit A contains proprietary business information that CHEERS develops and maintains as confidential. This includes trade-secret technical and process information concerning the design and operation of CHEERS's data registry and program, and confidential business information concerning CHEERS's business relationships and internal corporate arrangements. This information is not publicly available.

(b) How the advantage would be lost. Public disclosure of the technical and process information would allow a competitor to replicate CHEERS's systems and processes without comparable investment. Public disclosure of the confidential business information would give competitors insight into business relationships and arrangements that CHEERS maintains as non-public and could use to CHEERS's disadvantage.

(c) The value of the information to the applicant. CHEERS has invested years and a substantial amount of resources in developing and maintaining this information, which derives economic value from not being publicly known.

(d) The ease or difficulty with which the information could be legitimately acquired or duplicated by others. The information could not be readily or legitimately acquired or duplicated by others without comparable investment, and the confidential business information is not available from public sources.

7. Aggregation or Masking (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(E))

The material is not suitable for aggregation or masking. The protected information is present throughout Exhibit A, and any aggregated or partially masked version would still expose protected information. The concurrently filed public cover letter already provides the level of non-confidential summary appropriate for the docket.

8. How the Information Is Kept Confidential (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(F))

The information in Exhibit A is maintained as confidential by CHEERS. It has been disclosed only to personnel

subject to confidentiality obligations and to the Commission in connection with CHEERS's application. It has not been publicly disclosed. No disclosure beyond these circumstances has occurred.

9. Certification (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(G))

"I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this application for confidential designation is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge."

10. Authorization (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(G))

CHEERS is a limited liability company. The undersigned is authorized to make this application and certification on behalf of CHEERS.

Respectfully submitted,



David Choo
CHEERS
Director of Compliance

David Choo is authorized to make the application and certification on behalf of CHEERS (20 CCR 2505(a)(1)(G)). For any questions regarding this submission, please contact David Choo at dchoo@cheers.org.