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*Comment Received From: John Flores
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Response Letter

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Valley Duct Testing

To the CEC,

May 11, 2020

I want to submit this letter to support your decision on Cal Energy name change back to Cheers. I feel you need to keep the playing field fair for all Providers in the state.

I have been a HERS rating firm since 2005 and feel that if a provider is to take on that position it must follow all the rules that the CEC set up. I as a larger HERS rating firm relies on my provider to QA my raters on a regular basis (I believe it is at a rate of 1 every 100). This allows me to understand if a rater is doing a good job or I need to work with them to get better. I moved all of my New Construction business to Cheers during the 2010 code cycle and never had a QA done on my raters. I hope that is not still the case as during the 2013 code cycle I moved back to my current provider and have been there since. I know a lot of raters like this because they never fail a QA but for me I like the QA's done and they make my company better. How does a provider know if a rater is doing his job correctly unless they check on them? That is their job.

We as HERS Raters are to test based on the CEC rules and if a house fails then it fails. If we sample a group of homes they need to be done properly. Not because it saves the HERS rating firm money but because the homes pass on a regular basis.

I hope this process of the name change will start the ball rolling to make sure all providers are doing their job properly and not just dropping pricing for certs to get more business. Our job as a HERS rater is to make sure the end homeowner gets an energy efficient home and if a rater is not checked on a regular basis how does the Builder and the end Homeowner know they are getting what they paid for.

I want to thank you again for stepping up and making this industry a fair and equal opportunity for all providers and also to make raters better by holding the providers to the rules you set up. I feel the provider I use is doing that and that is why they cost more but in the long run it is worth the extra cost to have them making sure we are doing are job correctly.

Sincerely,

John Flores

