

**DOCKETED**

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September 28, 2020

To: California Energy Commission

Docket: 19-BSTD-03

Project: 2022 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking

Re: NLCAA comments on the Staff Recommendations for the 2022 Energy Code Acceptance  
Test Technician Certification Provider Program

NLCAA is one of the two approved Lighting Controls Acceptance Test Technician Certification Providers (ATTCP) that train, certify and provide oversight of Acceptance Test Technicians (ATT) and their employers. NLCAA appreciates all the efforts that the CEC staff has consistently strived to improve the ATTCP program. Equally, NLCAA enjoys working with the CEC staff to support their efforts to improve California's energy efficiency requirements.

NLCAA would like to provide additional comments on the NRCA compliance documents. We apologize for the late submission, staff was unavailable to submit by the deadline.

NRCA-LTO-02-A

A-1. Photo Control Construction Inspection (NA7.8.3)

- a. The photo control is installed. (NA7.8.3)

A-2. Automatic Scheduling Control Construction Inspection (NA7.8.7)

- a. The automatic scheduling control is installed. (NA7.8.7(a))

"The photo control is installed" and "The automatic scheduling control is installed" This language only resides on the NRCA-LTO-02-A form. In the interest of being consistent, NLCAA recommends that the CEC add this language to the other NRCA forms.

Adding this language to all NRCA forms would be helpful in situations where a control was called out on the plans that were approved by the Enforcement Agency but were not actually installed in the field. Currently, an ATT can only test the lighting control devices that were installed regardless of what the approved plans call out for. This is also true for any of the mandated energy codes requirements in the design.

In a realistic scenario, if an Enforcement Agency approved a set of plans that included occupancy sensors and daylight controls, but the installer only installed the occupancy sensors, the ATT would only test the installed occupancy sensors. The project would be passed and the NRCA forms would be generated by the ATT without the required daylight controls. This is because the ATT does not have the authority to enforce the installation of required devices. That responsibility resides with the Enforcement Agency. When a field inspector for the Enforcement Agency receives the ATT generated NRCA forms, they commonly assume that the forms document that the project has been acceptance tested and the projects lighting controls are fully Title 24 compliant, including the missing daylight controls. There is no mechanism for the ATT to communicate to the Enforcement Agency that the daylight controls were not installed.

ATTs are trained and very knowledgeable on the mandatory requirements for lighting controls and are the best entity to assist in ensuring that the mandatory requirements are being followed. By adding the proposed installed controls



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language above, the ATT would not generate the NRCA forms unless the controls were installed. This would not override the authority of the Enforcement Agency but would assist them in what they already believe the ATT is doing, providing the forms on a compliant project, which is quite often not the case. In the example above, the forms would not be generated without the required daylighting controls installed unless the Enforcement Agency made an exception allowing for the controls to not be installed.

This would support the Enforcement Agency inspection process to ensure that the approved plans and the installation are aligned with each other. This would ensure that the owner will have an energy efficient project that matches the Title 24 plan design approved by the Enforcement Agency. The 2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2019 EE Action Plan) charts the progress toward doubling energy efficiency savings in buildings, industry, and agriculture; achieving increased energy efficiency in existing buildings and reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) from buildings. Energy codes and Standards go a long way to support the EE Action Plan effort, but the installation and inspection process need to ensure that the requirements are being implemented. Energy compliant designs look great on paper, but currently many designs are not being followed in the installation process which is detrimental to California achieving its progressive energy goals.

The 2019 California Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2019 EE Action Plan)

[https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/business\\_meetings/2019\\_packets/2019-12-11/Item\\_06\\_2019%20California%20Energy%20Efficiency%20Action%20Plan%20\(19-IEPR-06\).pdf](https://ww2.energy.ca.gov/business_meetings/2019_packets/2019-12-11/Item_06_2019%20California%20Energy%20Efficiency%20Action%20Plan%20(19-IEPR-06).pdf)

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