

DOCKETED

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CalCERTS Request for Clarification Re: CHEERS Name Change Request

CalCERTS, Inc. (CalCERTS) submits the following request for clarification on the item designated by the Commission as “CHEERS Name Change Request.”

ConSol Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services, Inc. (CHEERS) Home Energy Rating System (HERS) has submitted a request for authorization to change its business name to California Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services.

The name change removes the reference to CHEERS’ parent company ConSol, Inc. from its public identifier.

CalCERTS is asking for clarification from the Commission on how it is addressing the conflict-of-interest issues:

- ConSol, Inc. the parent company of CHEERS works directly with builders and manufacturers. <https://www.consol.org/clients/builders-and-manufacturers>
- CHEERS as a HERS Provider is supposed to be fully independent from builders and manufacturers. 20 CCR 1673(j).
- The Commission has perfunctorily addressed these conflicts of interest in CHEERS’ approval to operate by offering the additional conditions of approval that “ConSol and CHEERS will be independent entities from the builder and from the subcontractor installer of energy efficiency improvements field verified or diagnostically tested on the same project.”

How does allowing CHEERS to remove reference to “ConSol” in its name, impact the Commission’s efforts to address the apparent conflicts-of-interests?

Will ConSol Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services, Inc.’s conditions of approval be amended in any way to address the transparency of “ConSol” being removed from its name?

How are consumers protected when the parent company of CHEERS has a direct financial relationship with builders, the same industry CHEERS is supposed to be independent from?

What conditions of approval, if any, does the Commission anticipate adopting to address the clients of CHEERS 45L (also ConSol, Inc.) from the conflict-of-interest provisions in the HERS Regulations? (<https://www.cheers451.com/>)

Thank you for considering these questions and our request for clarification as part of this issue before the Commission.

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