

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	22-BSTD-03
Project Title:	2022 Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing OIR Proceeding
TN #:	250345
Document Title:	CEC-057 Notice of Availability - Revised Draft Staff Report, 2025 FV&DT Regulations
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Joe Loyer
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	5/25/2023 3:03:40 PM
Docketed Date:	5/25/2023

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814energy.ca.gov

CEC-057 (Revised 1/21)



Notice of Availability

Revised Staff Draft: 2025 Update of the Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing Requirements

CEC-400-2022-016-SD-REV

Abstract

The Warren-Alquist Act directs the California Energy Commission (CEC) to adopt and implement the Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code) as a primary means to reduce wasteful, uneconomical, and unnecessary uses of energy.

Poor installation of air ducts and conditioning equipment in residential buildings have been a concern since the 1980s. The CEC adopted provisions in the Energy Code to verify that these installations (and others) are consistent with Energy Code requirements. In 1999, the CEC promulgated the Home Energy Rating System regulations in California Code of Regulations, Title 20, sections 1670 through 1675. These regulations provided for and regulated raters to perform field verification and diagnostic testing services.

This [Revised Draft Staff Report: 2025 Update of the Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing Requirements](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=250297&DocumentContentId=85033) (https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=250297&DocumentContentId=85033) discusses updated proposed changes to the field verification and diagnostic testing (FV&DT) program to make the program more effective in ensuring compliance with the Energy Code. As California seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and, among other efforts, decarbonize buildings by installing six million heat pumps in buildings by 2030, clear and effective compliance program regulations are increasingly important.

The scope of the changes proposed in the revised draft staff report includes conduct, responsibility, training, and quality assurance for the FV&DT program, as well as increased oversight by the CEC to improve program performance and protect consumers. Additionally, the CEC is proposing to move all aspects of the FV&DT program requirements to the Title 24 Energy Code. The CEC intends to update the Energy Code with these proposed changes to implement improvements to this program during the 2025 Energy Code triennial code update cycle.

Summary of Revised Staff Proposed Changes

The revised draft staff report proposes the following updates from the prior draft staff report, which were updated in consideration of comments received:

- Naming Convention
 - Energy Code Compliance (ECC)
 - ECC-Provider, ECC-Rater, ECC-Rater Company
- Conflict of Interest
 - Register a consent form signed by the building owner
 - Produce a summary of FV&DT service performed at the project site
 - Certificates of verification are to be registered within 72 hours of the actual performance of the test.
 - Rater of Record when registering a failed FV&DT
- Quality Assurance Procedures
 - Allow for reduced quality assurance testing for “verified” raters
- Training
 - Clear minimum training requirements with more detail

Summary of Staff Proposed Changes – Not Revised

- Progressive Discipline
- Designation and Approval
- Regulatory Alignment

Document Availability

This document is available on the California Energy Commission website at: [Modifications to Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing Program Requirements](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-0), at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-0>.

CEC Staff is planning to hold a [workshop concerning this document on June 9, 2023](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=250332&DocumentContentId=85067), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=250332&DocumentContentId=85067>.

Public Comment.

The CEC encourages the use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the [e-commenting page](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-03) for this docket [22-BSTD-03](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-03), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-03>.

Enter your contact information and a subject title that describes your comment. Comments may be included in the “Comment Text” box or attached as a downloadable, searchable document in compliance with California Code of Regulations, Title 20, section 1208.1. The maximum file size allowed is 10 MB.

All comments submitted to the docket may be considered in the rulemakings.

Written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (including address, phone number, and email address) will become part of the public record of this proceeding with access available via any internet search engine.

Oral comments will be accepted at the workshop. Comments may be limited to three minutes or less per speaker and one person per organization. To comment via Zoom, use the “raise hand” feature so the administrator can announce your name and unmute you. To comment via telephone, press *9 to “raise your hand” and *6 to mute/unmute.

Written comments regarding topics discussed at this workshop or other comments and concerns regarding the proposed changes may be submitted to the Docket Unit by 5:00 p.m. on June 23, 2023.

Written comments may also be submitted by email. Include docket number 22-BSTD-03, as indicated, and “Update of the Field Verification & Diagnostic Testing Requirements” in the subject line and email to docket@energy.ca.gov. All comments submitted to the docket may be considered in the rulemaking.

A paper copy may be mailed to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 22-BSTD-03
“Update of the Field Verification & Diagnostic Testing Requirements”
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

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Media Inquiries. Email mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 654-4989.

General or Technical Subject Inquiries. Email Joe Loyer at joe.loyer@energy.ca.gov or call (916) 237-2546.

Availability of Documents: Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available at the CEC web page [Modifications to Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing Program Requirements](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-0) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-0>, or docket [22-BSTD-03](https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/building-energy-efficiency-standards/2025-building-energy-efficiency-0), at <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=22-BSTD-03>.

When new information is posted, an email will be sent to those subscribed to Building Energy Efficiency Standards. To receive these notices or notices of other email subscription topics, visit [Subscriptions](https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions), at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/subscriptions>.

Dated: May 26, 2023, at Sacramento, California.

S/Michael Sokol

Michael J. Sokol

Director, Efficiency Division