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Mandatory Requirement for Disadvantage or Low-Income Community Benefit

In the Group 3 section, there appears to be a mandatory requirement that "All demonstration sites are both located in and benefit disadvantaged or low-income communities." Since the size of the heat pumps are relatively large capacity, this mandatory restriction may significantly limit the applications related to commercial buildings. The heat pumps will also be more expensive to operate than natural gas fired heating equipment due to the significant difference between electricity and gas costs, which raises further barriers for adoption in disadvantaged and low-income communities. A suggestion is to make this requirement part of the scoring criteria instead of a mandatory requirement.