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NEMIC Written Comments - Docket No 19-BSTD-03

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

NEMIC Written Comments

IN THE MATTER OF: 2022 Energy Code Pre-Rulemaking

September 10, 2020

Docket No. 19-BSTD-03

1. Any new database requirements should be deferred for ATTCPs until after the mandatory requirement for certified ATTS has been in place for a year. This will give Mechanical ATTCPs a year to work out any kinks in their QA programs and internal databases, will provide Mechanical ATTCPs an income stream to offset any additional costs that may be incurred to meet the final database requirements, and provide Mechanical ATTCPs the certainty that they will be investing in a program that will actually get off the ground. Imposing additional costs and requirements on mechanical ATTCPs prior to making certification requirements mandatory is unfair and unnecessary. The proposed database requirements and adjustments to the data registry are not connected to the Industry Certification Threshold 10-103.2(b). Implementation of the requirement that certified Acceptance Test Technicians (ATT) perform the acceptance testing of nonresidential mechanical systems needs to be decoupled from any new database and data registry requirements.
2. The ATTCP individual databases and the Central Nonresidential Data Registry (CDNR) should have the following objectives:

- a. Submitted acceptance forms can be efficiently accessed by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).
 - b. The California Energy Commission (CEC) is provided with submitted data that can assist in enforcement and determining compliance towards achieving California’s energy objectives.
 - c. Allowances to collect and efficiently use future data, such as equipment serial number tracking to identify equipment trends, identify problematic equipment, increase enforcement and ascertain compliance. We recommend amendment of the Title 24 requirements in order to require primary equipment (Air Handling Unit, Package Unit, Split System) manufacturer, model number and serial number be gathered for the following forms.
 - NRCA-MCH-02-A Outdoor Air Acceptance
 - NRCA-MCH-03-A Constant Volume, Single Zone Unitary (Packaged and Split) Air Conditioner and Heat Pump Systems
 - NRCA-MCH-05-A Air Economizer Controls Acceptance
 - NRCA-MCH-06-A Demand Control Ventilation Systems Acceptance
 - NRCA-MCH-12-A Fault Detection & Diagnostics (FDD) for Packaged Direct Expansion Units
 - NRCA-MCH-13-A Automatic Fault Detection & Diagnostics (FDD) for Air Handling Units
3. Data must be delivered and processed in a way to achieve the aforementioned objectives. For this reason, we support the following recommendations by the California Energy Alliance (CEA).¹
- a) *Combine proposed data registry and repository functions into a central nonresidential data registry/repository platform (CNDR) for all phases of construction – a universal data registry.*
 - b) *Utilize the 3rd option presented by the CEC at the March 10th meeting in regard to data exchanges and database access as modified: Add new requirements to JA7 to describe the authorized data exchanges between an ATTCP and a universal CNDR platform.*

¹ “A Central Nonresidential Data Registry.” *2022 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*, California Energy Alliance (CEA), 2020, caenergyalliance.org/s/CEA-Proposal-to-CEC-Code-Compliance-Improvement-CNDR-April-2020.pdf.

- c) *Develop future data exchanges for compliance and installation forms and information.*
 - d) *The CNDR should be run by the CEC, not a third-party.*
4. Recommendations for Database data sharing requirements with the CEC.
- a. Staff Recommendations for the 2022 Energy Code Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Program² need to include the following information so the requests can be properly assessed by the ATTCP and associated database provider.
 - i. Details on what data is being requested beyond the requirements of the annual report.
 - ii. Details on the format and intervals of data sharing.
 - iii. Detailed explanation on the objectives the data collection.
 - b. An open-ended requirement to provide unfettered access to proprietary ATTCP databases is not acceptable, reasonable or effective. Without identification of the specific information that will be requested by the CEC, ATTCPs have no direction on how to build a compliant database.
5. Recommendations for Database data sharing requirements with the AHJ.
- a. At the Database level, NEMIC recommends that the ATTCP database have the capability to share Acceptance test documents as follows:
 - i. The MATT can share the completed assessment forms as a PDF (and)
 - ii. Upon request, the MATT can share the complete assessment forms as a link to the live database.
- This will allow for a simplified transfer of acceptance forms during a commonly hectic process of preparing a project for occupancy.

² *Staff Recommendations for the 2022 Energy Code Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Program* . California Energy Commission (CEC), 13 Aug. 2020, 4:36.31, efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=234323&DocumentContentId=67171. Docket Number: 19-BSTD-03, TN#23432



Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Ruch".

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