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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

STAFF WORKSHOP

REMOTE VIA ZOOM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 10:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Martha Nelson

APPEARANCES

CEC STAFF

Joe Loyer, Efficiency Division, Senior Mechanical Engineer

Matthew Haro, Efficiency Division, Standards Compliance Office

Mary Trojan, Efficiency Division, Ed Administration

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Chris Ruch, National Energy Management Institute Committee

Philip Wilbur

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Lori Schiavo

1

1 PROCEEDINGS

- 10:00 A.M.
- 3 TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021
- 4 MR. LOYER: This is Joe Loyer from the
- 5 California Energy Commission. It's now ten
- 6 o'clock. We do seem to be getting more attendees
- 7 here, so I'm just going to give that another
- 8 minute or so before we really get going.
- 9 There was a comment in the Q&A about how
- 10 many participants were going to be on the line
- 11 today. You can -- you should be able to open up
- 12 your participants window and see the number.
- 13 Right now I'm at about 52 attendees and five
- 14 panelists. And the panelists, mainly -- are
- 15 mainly myself, Joe Loyer, Matt Haro, and then
- 16 Mary Trojan, and Tajanee Ford-Walen, as well as
- 17 our Court Reporter, Marlee Nelson.
- 18 So in total we have -- we just ticked up
- 19 to 60. So as far as what the peak will be, I'll
- 20 try to keep an eye on it. And we will report
- 21 that if it's -- if we can keep track of it.
- 22 (Pause)
- 23 MR. HARO: Okay, Joe, it looks like the
- 24 attendees have limited access to some of the
- 25 information. They can't see the number of

- 1 participants on our -- on the call. So --
- 2 MR. LOYER: Oh.
- 3 MR. HARO: -- so we will try and keep --
- 4 MR. LOYER: That's unusual. Yeah.
- 5 MR. HARO: And there's another question
- 6 in Q&A. "Will there be a recording available of
- 7 this Zoom call?"
- 8 MR. LOYER: Yes, there will be. We'll
- 9 actually get into some of the details, actually,
- 10 kind of right now. I thought we'd go ahead and
- 11 start it off.
- 12 So I'd just like to, first and foremost,
- 13 welcome everybody. This is the workshop for the
- 14 Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician
- 15 Certification Implementation. I'm Joe Loyer,
- 16 Senior Mechanical Engineer at the California
- 17 Energy Commission.
- 18 Let's see. Make this screen work. There
- 19 we go.
- 20 So, first and foremost, we have a couple
- 21 of housekeeping items. We always begin with
- 22 housekeeping at the Energy Commission workshops.
- 23 And then, of course, in this situation, we are
- 24 all accessing things remotely. This is a remote
- 25 access only workshop by order of the Governor.

- 1 Everyone is muted on entry. We will un-mute you
- 2 for comments or questions.
- 3 So for the comments and questions -- (cat
- 4 meows). Go on now. Sorry. My cat is
- 5 interrupting. Go on. Go on. Shoe. There we
- 6 go. All right.
- 7 So for comments and questions, raise your
- 8 hand, or use the star nine on your cell phone.
- 9 We'll be using the Q&A box to submit your
- 10 questions. Matt Haro will be, mostly, answering
- 11 those questions or giving, you know, giving me a
- 12 heads-up when needed. You can also submit your
- 13 questions to the docket. Our Docket Number is
- 14 20-ATTCP-01. There will be a link to the docket
- 15 at the end of the presentation. You can also
- 16 find that link in the notice to this workshop.
- We will be recording this workshop. We
- 18 have a court reporter on hand. After the
- 19 workshop is over, we will be posting the
- 20 transcript of the workshop, as well as the
- 21 recording itself.
- To that, it is very important that when
- 23 you do speak you state your name and your
- 24 affiliation each time you're beginning your
- 25 comments. Otherwise, it's very difficult to

- 1 determine who you are and who you represent or,
- 2 you know, who is saying what.
- 3 So for the introduction here we have,
- 4 let's see, our agenda. Basically, we are going
- 5 to be going over the purpose of this workshop,
- 6 some background information, the requirements for
- 7 the industrial certification threshold, and the
- 8 potential impacts to industry, the Implementation
- 9 Plan, and then we will come to questions and
- 10 answers.
- 11 So the intent of this workshop is to
- 12 discuss the Energy Commission's determination to
- 13 require mechanical ATTs to be certified in
- 14 California. And what this essentially means is
- 15 that to perform the acceptance test for
- 16 mechanical systems in either newly constructed
- 17 buildings or additions or alterations to
- 18 buildings -- to non-residential buildings, I'm
- 19 sorry, the acceptance test must be performed by
- 20 an ATT that has been certified by one of our
- 21 acceptance test technician certification
- 22 providers.
- 23 What we will be providing here, to a
- 24 certain extent, and in a Staff Report is the
- 25 evidence that the minimum requires for the

- 1 threshold have been met, background information,
- 2 and the Implementation Plan.
- 3 So beginning with background information,
- 4 starting with the acceptance testing and the
- 5 basic requirements here, acceptance testing has
- 6 been required since the 2005 Energy Code cycle.
- 7 Now the acceptance testing that was required then
- 8 was pretty minimal but it has -- it serves as
- 9 history there.
- 10 Acceptance testing is at the final stage.
- 11 The equipment has been installed. And it is
- 12 sometimes inspected by the authority having
- 13 jurisdiction, the building department or AHJ.
- 14 The technician then performs the acceptance test
- 15 as prescribed by the Energy Code. And these are
- 16 a set of procedures that the Energy Code has
- 17 outlined in the appendices. They're in
- 18 Nonresidential Appendices NA-7. They typically
- 19 start with a construction inspection and then
- 20 move on to a functional test.
- 21 So one of the things that kind of
- 22 continually comes up is you have a technician who
- 23 did the installation work now doing instruction
- 24 inspection. Does that make them an inspector?
- 25 And the answer is, no, they are not an inspector.

- 1 They work for the builder. So they are doing an
- 2 inspection to verify that what has been installed
- 3 -- what is required to be acceptance tested has
- 4 bee installed and is ready to be acceptance
- 5 tested, and that installation is compliant with
- 6 the Energy Code.
- 7 So each acceptance test includes a
- 8 construction inspection prior to functional
- 9 testing. The construction inspection includes
- 10 verification that the design documents are
- 11 available to the technician and that the device
- 12 or construction element is in place and ready to
- 13 be tested.
- 14 Functional testing is a step-by-step
- 15 instruction for actively testing the installation
- 16 as prescribed in Code. Typically, testing
- 17 control systems is a simple matter of verifying
- 18 that the controls respond appropriately.
- 19 The goal for design compliance and
- 20 functionality, the goal of acceptance testing is
- 21 threefold. First, verify the installation is
- 22 complete with the approved design. And that's a
- 23 point that a lot of people do miss. This is --
- 24 the acceptance test is to take into consideration
- 25 the approved design and make sure that what is

- 1 installed is compliant with that approved design.
- 2 This is where the ATT must review the
- 3 nonresidential certification of compliance, or
- 4 NRCC, that it's the project the applicant
- 5 submitted to the AHJ for approval when the AHJ
- 6 approved the permit application. The NRCCs are
- 7 approved, as well, and represent compliance with
- 8 the Energy Code. So the ATT must first verify
- 9 that the installation was installed to design
- 10 requirements.
- 11 Secondly, the installation must be
- 12 functional. The goal is that the installation
- 13 must be functional appropriately and meet the
- 14 requirements of the design. The mechanical
- 15 installations -- for mechanical installations
- 16 this means passing the inspection and functional
- 17 testing, typically delivering the minimum air
- 18 required to -- you know, required in the NRCC.
- 19 And that's primarily for the outdoor air
- 20 acceptance test.
- 21 Thirdly, the installation must be tested
- 22 in accordance with the functional testing
- 23 required in the Energy Code. The installation
- 24 can be additional tested to the manufacturer
- 25 requirements but must be tested in accordance

- 1 with the Code. So as far as the Code is
- 2 concerned, you have to do the functional testing
- 3 that the Code requires but you can do more if the
- 4 manufacturer requires you to do more.
- 5 So performance and documentation by the
- 6 installing technician, so this is one of the
- 7 areas where the ATTCP Program and acceptance
- 8 testing very much diverges from the HERS world.
- 9 In the HERS world, acceptance testing or the
- 10 installation testing, or field verification or
- 11 diagnostic testing, as it's accurately called, is
- 12 performed by a third party. Acceptance testing
- 13 is performed by the installing technician. It
- 14 has always been the responsibility of the
- 15 installing technician and remains so. However,
- 16 it is permissible to use a third party in this
- 17 instance.
- 18 When we do eventually pull the trigger,
- 19 and for right now lighting controls is required
- 20 to be an acceptance test technician certification
- 21 to perform those acceptance tests, if the
- 22 installing technician does not have the
- 23 certification, they can go to a third party who
- 24 does that certification to perform the acceptance
- 25 test for them. But this is, you know, not in

- 1 keeping with the intent, original intent, but it
- 2 is allowable.
- 3 The acceptance is signed by the
- 4 technician and the responsible person. The
- 5 responsible person is typically an engineer,
- 6 architect, general contractor, or project owner.
- 7 The responsible person is responsible for making
- 8 the acceptance test compliance document, the
- 9 NRCD, available to the AHJ. However, this can be
- 10 delegated to the technician as well.
- 11 So the ATTCP Program, Acceptance Test
- 12 Technician Certification Provider Program -- it's
- 13 a mouthful, definitely -- it was established in
- 14 the 2013 Energy Code. The purpose of the program
- 15 is to improve acceptance test compliance. It is
- 16 limited to lighting controls and mechanical
- 17 systems. It does not include acceptance tests
- 18 for envelope or covered processes. In the actual
- 19 Code the sections that cover lighting controls is
- 20 Section 130.4. And for mechanical, it's Section
- 21 120.5. And those two sections dictate exactly
- 22 what acceptance tests are covered under the
- 23 mechanical ATTCP and what are covered under the
- 24 lighting controls ATTCP. But there are more
- 25 acceptance tests than just those. There is

- 1 envelope, as I said, and covered processes as
- 2 well.
- 3 Private organizations are approved by the
- 4 CEC. Right now there are six total ATTCPs
- 5 approved, two are lighting controls and four are
- 6 mechanical. They provide the training
- 7 certification and oversight for the ATTs and
- 8 their employees, the ATT/ATEs, acceptance test
- 9 employer.
- 10 The oversight includes a significant
- 11 quality assurance program that each ATTCP is
- 12 responsible for performing. It has, basically,
- 13 three levels of Q&A.
- 14 First level is the data entered into the
- 15 system is screened for being an appropriate value
- 16 to enter into a particular field.
- 17 The second level is a paper or desk audit
- 18 where the ATTCP uses the NRCCs that the -- that
- 19 must be submitted, as well, to verify that the
- 20 acceptance test that is eventually filed by the
- 21 ATT lines up with the NRCCs.
- The third level is an onsite audit.
- 23 Mechanicals typically do what's called a shadow
- 24 audit. They will show up unannounced to the
- $25\,$ project site as the acceptance test is being

- 1 performed and shadow the ATT to verify that they
- 2 not only know what they're doing but are,
- 3 essentially, caught in the act of doing the job
- 4 right.
- 5 To make sure that all of this works, each
- 6 of the ATTCPs, all six, in fact, use an internal
- 7 database forms tracking system. Now, again, this
- 8 is different than what the HERS Program uses.
- 9 They use what is called a data registry. And a
- 10 data registry is a different animal entirely from
- 11 a database forms tracking system. The data
- 12 registry has to comply, to be simply about it,
- 13 the data registry must comply with all
- 14 requirements in Appendix JA-7, Joint Appendix
- 15 JA-7. This is a significant undertaking. It
- 16 requires -- well, not to go too deep into what it
- 17 really requires, but it is a significant
- 18 undertaking that is not required for the database
- 19 forms tracking system.
- 20 This forms tracking system is tied
- 21 directly to the Quality Assurance Program that
- 22 allows the ATTCP to enforce the requirements.
- 23 Only ATTs are allowed access to the database to
- 24 complete the NRCAs (phonetic). One completed,
- 25 these NRCAs are issued to the ATTs -- or issued

- 1 from the ATTCP with its watermark and logo to
- 2 await enforcement by the AHJs.
- 3 So these are the six ATTCPs that have
- 4 been approved by the Energy Commission. The two
- 5 lighting controls, National Lighting Contractors
- 6 Association of America, NLCAA, California
- 7 Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program,
- 8 CALCTP. And then the four mechanicals are the
- 9 California State Pipe Trades Council, CSPTC, the
- 10 National Energy Management Institute Committee,
- 11 NEMIC, the National Energy Balancing Bureau,
- 12 NEBB, and the Refrigeration Service Engineers
- 13 Society, RSES.
- MR. HARO: Joe, we do have a couple of
- 15 questions here before we --
- MR. LOYER: Sure.
- MR. HARO: -- get too far away.
- MR. LOYER: Yeah.
- 19 MR. HARO: One is, "Is it the expectation
- 20 for the ATT and CXP be separate?" I don't --
- MR. LOYER: One more time.
- MR. HARO: "Is it the expectation for the
- 23 ATT and CXP be separate?" The CXP --
- MR. LOYER: Oh, commissioning --
- MR. HARO: -- (indiscernible).

- 1 MR. LOYER: Yeah. So there is no
- 2 expectation of the interaction. We're not
- 3 dictating the interaction between the
- 4 commissioning agent and the ATT. That's up to
- 5 however each project wants to make that work.
- 6 Commissioning agents are one of the
- 7 industry professionals that are eligible for ATT
- 8 certification. So you can sign up for the
- 9 training as a commissioning agent. And once they
- $10\,$ have -- one the ATTCP has verified your
- 11 experience, they can accept you into their
- 12 program and give you the training to be an ATT.
- 13 As far as what your interaction is meant
- 14 to be or is intended to be, the way we personally
- 15 see this is on the projects that are large enough
- 16 to require a commissioning agent, we think that
- 17 the commissioning agent probably will maintain a
- 18 certain level of control of who is doing what
- 19 acceptance testing on the project site. So
- 20 that's the way we expect it probably will run.
- 21 But as far as it being a mandatory to be that,
- 22 that is not the case at all.
- 23 MR. HARO: And we do have one more
- 24 question that came in. "Will the shadow
- 25 oversight only be present during the

- 1 certification or can they arrive after the
- 2 certification process is complete, say six months
- 3 later?"
- 4 MR. LOYER: Oh, so the shadow audit is
- 5 only done during the acceptance test. So I'm
- 6 guessing that certification means during the
- 7 acceptance test. So it is done as it is being
- 8 completed by the ATT on the project site. And we
- 9 are well aware that this actually presents a
- 10 pretty significant problem for the ATTCPs. We
- 11 have had a lot of discussions about this. So I
- 12 hope that that answers that question. Okay.
- 13 All right, so we'll go ahead move on
- 14 here.
- 15 So the industry certification thresholds,
- 16 these are the conditions that the Energy
- 17 Commission must verify have been met in order to
- 18 make the certification mandatory for performing
- 19 mechanical acceptance tests. So there are two.
- 20 And everybody is always confused about the second
- 21 one here.
- 22 So the first one, so before the Energy
- 23 Commission can require ATT certification to
- 24 perform mechanical acceptance testing the CEC
- 25 must find that the following two are met, and

- 1 this is from Section 10-103.2(b), "There are a
- 2 minimum of 300 certified ATTs statewide," and
- 3 that's considering all ATTCPs, so the -- it's not
- 4 just each ATTCP has to have 300, it's all in
- 5 total have to be 300 or more, "and all eligible
- $6\,$ professionals must have reasonable access to the
- 7 requisite training to become a certified ATT."
- 8 And the regulations do go in a little bit as to
- 9 what constitutes being reasonable. And it
- 10 basically is, is it within a reasonable
- 11 geographic limitation?
- 12 And that's usually where the confusion
- 13 comes up. This is are eligible professionals, do
- 14 they have access to the training, not do builders
- 15 have reasonable access to the ATTs? And that's
- 16 the confusion that usually comes up with this
- 17 second requirement. This is for the eligible
- 18 professionals to go and get their certification.
- 19 Do they have reasonable access?
- 20 So the evidence of the threshold
- 21 compliance, essentially, the results are we have
- 22 more than 350 certified ATTs. And we have access
- 23 for all eligible professionals to the training.
- 24 Essentially, Staff required all necessary
- 25 information from the mechanical ATTCPs to verify

- 1 that the threshold requirements have been met.
- 2 These reports are all available in our docket, by
- 3 the way. There are currently, I believe the
- 4 exact number was, 365 when I originally started
- 5 this, I suspect there are probably more at this
- 6 point, capable of performing all the required
- 7 acceptance tests.
- 8 All eligible professionals have
- 9 reasonable access to certification training while
- $10\,$ NEMIC and CSPCT are restricted to membership.
- 11 NEBB and RSES are not. Even so, NEMIC has
- 12 identified that they have many professionals,
- 13 actually, all the professions represented in the
- 14 requirements available to be able to take their
- 15 certification training.
- 16 So the Staff Report, when the Staff
- 17 Report is made publicly available, it will be
- 18 attached to the docket, as well. And again, that
- 19 is Docket 20-ATTCP-01.
- 20 So the second element here is the
- 21 potential impacts to industry. And this is, to
- 22 be clear, this is not a restriction in Code. The
- 23 Code requirements are the prior slide here, these
- 24 two requirements, 350 certified ATTs and eligible
- $25\,$ professionals having access to the ATT training.

- 1 That's what is required in Code. However, the
- 2 Energy Commission does have a duty to actually
- 3 look at and consider impacts to industry whenever
- 4 we do anything.
- 5 So the concerns, we've had several
- 6 workshops where these concerns were raised. We
- $7\,$ had one in February of 2017 and one in July of
- 8 2019. And we basically boil it down to these
- 9 four concerns.
- 10 So access to the ATTs. Now this is not
- 11 to be confused with the, again, the training
- 12 availability. This is the builders access to
- 13 ATTs. So the way we originally looked at this,
- 14 we looked at every county in California should
- 15 have access to an adequate number of ATTs to
- 16 perform their required mechanical acceptance
- 17 tests. The Staff Report goes into a significant
- 18 detail regarding this issue.
- 19 The workload and workforce are depicted
- 20 on graphics which demonstrate the majority of
- 21 both are focused in the Los Angeles area and Bay
- 22 Area. So, currently, builders outside of these
- 23 areas must address technician availability right
- 24 now, regardless of ATT certification.
- 25 The real concern is how this

- 1 certification requirement affect that existing
- 2 condition? The Staff Report shows that the
- 3 individual mechanical installers operate all over
- 4 California with very little differential pay.
- 5 Since there is -- since these same installers
- 6 work in build centers, Los Angeles and Bay Area,
- 7 as well as outside these areas, they will need
- 8 the ATT certification. Since the ATT
- 9 certification is good statewide, there should be
- 10 very little impact to the current availability of
- 11 technicians outside of the builder areas.
- 12 So the second concern, too few
- 13 technicians are seeking certificate. This is
- 14 definitely a concern. So current, there are too
- 15 few technicians seeking certification because it
- 16 is not yet a requirement. And it's sort of a
- 17 Catch 22. Staff and the providers have been
- 18 advising industry for four years, actually
- 19 rolling on to five years now, that ATT
- 20 certification would be required. There has not
- 21 been a mad dash of technicians seeking ATT
- 22 certification because the CEC has not been able
- 23 to verify that the minimum thresholds have been
- 24 met.
- The common wisdom is that the CEC makes

- 1 ATT certification mandatory, that when we do
- 2 there will be a mad dash. The Staff Report
- 3 recognizes this issue and recommends that the CEC
- 4 set a hard date for enforcement. However, the
- 5 only hard date that Staff can recommend is the
- 6 date that the CEC finds that the threshold
- 7 conditions have been met, which, for right now,
- 8 our intent is that that be at the March business
- 9 meeting.
- 10 However, there are suggestions that the
- 11 Energy Commission may decide that the
- 12 implementation date will be different from the
- 13 March business meeting determination that the
- 14 threshold conditions have been met. And that is
- 15 being considered by the Commission at this point.
- 16 I have no heard back from the Commissioner in
- 17 regard to that. We did have several meetings
- 18 discussing it but he has not given me a
- 19 definitive answer.
- 20 So smaller building centers may delay
- 21 Implementation Plan. This one, you have to kind
- 22 of go along with this logic on but it, actually,
- 23 isn't wrong. Stakeholders are concerned that CEC
- 24 may delay the implementation of certification
- 25 requirements if small counties that don't have a

- 1 significant amount of nonresidential construction
- 2 are not prepared, even when larger building
- 3 markets in California may be ready to proceed.
- 4 So if we take the position that we are --
- 5 the Energy Commission should not move forward
- 6 until everybody's ready to go, then, yeah, places
- 7 like Alpine County, which doesn't have a lot of
- 8 nonresidential construction, would be, basically,
- 9 holding up L.A. County. And that's, of course,
- 10 something that is probably unreasonable.
- 11 When Staff investigated this issue, as
- 12 well as the issue of access to ATTs across the
- 13 state, Staff found that the common business
- 14 practice of mechanical installations essentially
- 15 resolves this issue. So the same logic that
- 16 resolves the access to ATTs across California
- 17 also resolves this.
- 18 The lack of AHJ enforcement.
- 19 Stakeholders are concerned that some local
- 20 jurisdictions will not enforce the certification
- 21 requirement, which would put those contractors
- 22 who are certified at a disadvantage during the
- 23 bid process. Staff is preparing an educational
- 24 outreach effort for all 560-plus AHJs in
- 25 California. This effort will consist of a quick-

- 1 start training to demonstrate the simplest means
- 2 of enforcement and encourage the AHJ to question
- 3 the ATT, as well as demonstrate the acceptance
- 4 test as documented.
- 5 Additionally, Staff will prepare a simple
- 6 field sheet for the AHJ inspectors to look for
- 7 telltale signs of falsified NRCAs, and what logos
- 8 and watermarks the CEC approved. Staff will
- 9 provide email blasts to all AHJs to offer the
- 10 field sheets and quick-start training
- 11 individually, and through larger venues as they
- 12 are available. Staff is also going to be putting
- 13 on training and sending that invitation out to
- 14 the AHJs, as well. We haven't quite gotten that
- 15 together yet but we are in the process of
- 16 approving all the training. And once we get them
- 17 to a certain point we will be working, reaching
- 18 out to our providers to make sure that they are
- 19 onboard with everything that we are presenting.
- 20 Staff will also publish fact sheets and
- 21 blueprint articles. These are typically reviewed
- 22 by AHJs. We will also -- the ATTs are also
- 23 offering free training to AHJ inspectors,
- 24 approximately four hours, and include actual
- 25 laboratory demonstrations of the acceptance test.

- 1 So, finally, additionally, Staff will
- 2 reach out to industry, again advising them of the
- 3 implementation date and requirements. Staff will
- 4 work with its sister agency to email to
- 5 California licensed contractors, engineers and
- 6 architects. Staff will offer the same or very
- 7 similar training for industry.
- 8 So at this point, I can only make two
- 9 recommendations. We, essentially, can
- 10 acknowledge that the threshold has been met. And
- 11 we can bring this to a CEC business meeting. And
- 12 we can implement the Outreach and Education Plan.
- 13 But the recommendations that I can make at this
- 14 point are to set a hard date for enforcement
- 15 which, right now, is the business meeting. As
- 16 I've said, I am still waiting on the Commissioner
- 17 to give me direction on as to exactly what date
- 18 or if he wants to engage with a six-month delayed
- 19 implementation, which, actually, was a
- 20 recommendation that I supported as well.
- 21 Let's see, so the Implementation Plan --
- 22 hang on. Let me just get this right there. There
- 23 we go.
- 24 So Staff will begin its outreach effort
- 25 three months prior to the March 2021 business

- 1 meeting. We plan to start that in January.
- 2 However, at this point, it's probably going to be
- 3 late January. Staff will combine -- we'll use a
- 4 combination of statewide and local focus to
- 5 promote its educational and outreach efforts.
- 6 The statewide focus, we'll be using the
- 7 blueprinted fact sheets, listservs and email
- 8 services.
- 9 Staff will ensure -- (clears throat)
- 10 excuse me -- Staff will -- oh, shoot. Oh, okay.
- 11 Staff will ensure -- will work with
- 12 Energy Code, ACE, California utility training
- 13 venues, the CSLB, the Contractors State Licensing
- 14 Board, and other sister agencies to notify
- 15 licensed engineers, architects and contractors of
- 16 the enforcement date requirements and provide
- 17 training opportunities. Staff will work with the
- 18 ATTCPs, CALBO, local RENs, that's R-E-N, and
- 19 others to arrange large training venues and
- 20 membership advisements.
- 21 The local focus, Staff will contact the
- 22 local counties to arrange small venue
- 23 opportunities for outreach to small building
- 24 departments. This can go down to even the one-
- 25 man shops that we're more or less familiar with

- 1 in Northern California in the upper left and
- 2 upper right-hand corner of California. So we
- 3 will work with these partners to define -- to
- 4 refine tools, as needed, for them especially to
- 5 address special or difficult issues regarding ATT
- 6 training and enforcement. Staff will seek our
- 7 local promotional opportunities for builders and
- 8 local contractors, as well as AHJs.
- 9 So the intended audience is, initially,
- 10 going to be the building departments. However,
- 11 we will be reaching out to licensed HVAC
- 12 contractors, as well as other contractors,
- 13 licensed engineers, and architects. To the
- 14 extent possible, we'll also be including
- 15 builders' realtors where those opportunities
- 16 exist.
- 17 So the getting started -- hand on just a
- 18 second. So the getting started training is a
- 19 short presentation that includes the explanation
- 20 of acceptance testing, the ATTCP Program, the
- 21 ATTCP responsibilities, enforcement strategies
- 22 that AHJs can use, the logos that will appear on
- 23 the acceptance test forms. It would also include
- 24 resource links to the CEC and ATTs, including the
- 25 ATTs' four-hour training.

- 1 The counter cards, these are cards that
- 2 are typically put at the counter of the building
- 3 department so that when a contractor or an
- 4 engineer or an architect or their representatives
- 5 come in, these counter cards are available for
- 6 them to take away. And it's meant to be just a
- 7 quick information and resource link to more
- 8 detailed information for them. They will be
- 9 given to all the AHJs to display on their permit
- 10 application counters. They will be geared towards
- 11 contractors, technicians, engineers, architects,
- 12 or whomever is submitting a permit application
- 13 with the AHJ. They announce the program, the
- 14 ATTCP Program, for both lighting controls and
- 15 mechanical -- we want to tell them about
- 16 everything -- the enforcement date for both, the
- 17 available resources for further information.
- 18 The inspector sheet, this will be
- 19 exclusively for AHJ inspectors. They will carry
- 20 basic information regarding the ATTCP Program, as
- 21 well as the logos. It also helps them with
- 22 identifying when an acceptance test is to be
- 23 expected on a project. So in many instances what
- 24 we've been running into is that an inspector has
- 25 gone out to a project and found that somebody has

- 1 approved a project with no acceptance test when
- 2 there definitely should be one.
- And, Art, I'm just going to come to you
- 4 here and see if I can get this to work. Now
- 5 let's see, I need to switch to that. Let me see
- 6 if I can find you, Art. Well, you'd think this
- 7 would put you right on top.
- 8 MR. HARO: I've got him, Joe. Do you
- 9 want me to un-mute him?
- 10 MR. LOYER: Ah. Thank you. Yeah.
- 11 Please.
- MR. HARO: Okay, Okay, Art, you're un-
- 13 muted. I believe you have to un-mute yourself
- 14 now.
- MR. PHEND: I am concerned you may have
- 16 the wrong Art.
- 17 MR. HARO: I'm sorry. I saw an Art with
- 18 his hand raised.
- 19 MR. PHEND: Oh, let me lower my hand.
- 20 Sorry.
- MR. LOYER: All right then. Good.
- 22 And as everybody can tell, yeah, anytime
- 23 that we get a question, we are more than happy to
- 24 stop and answer that question. A lot of times
- 25 it's just easier to do that rather than go to the

- 1 very end and then try to remember back to where
- 2 we were.
- 3 So the inspector field sheets, basically,
- 4 these are going to carry the basic information
- 5 for the program and the logos. But, as well,
- 6 they are also going to carry the information to
- 7 identify when these projects do require an
- 8 acceptance test, as well as what some of the
- 9 exceptions to the requirement are.
- 10 The fact sheets, the fact sheets and
- 11 blueprint articles, we will be issuing both of
- 12 them as enforcement -- as the enforcement date
- 13 gets closer. They will describer the program,
- 14 the requirements, the training opportunities, and
- 15 the enforcement date.
- 16 The in-depth training that the ATTCPs are
- 17 offering to the AHJs, for the most part, these do
- 18 follow the similar -- a similar training that the
- 19 ATEs, the acceptance test employers, do get as
- 20 well. However, there are some definite
- 21 differences. The main difference is that these
- 22 are geared towards the inspector, essentially
- 23 giving them the inside look as to what to look
- 24 for when they are seeing an acceptance test
- $25\,$ performed, what to look for on the acceptance

- 1 test sheet to make sure that it is legitimate,
- 2 what good questions to ask of the ATT that should
- 3 be onsite to answer these questions.
- 4 So the training is approximately, about,
- 5 four hours long. They are, most commonly are
- 6 going to integratable into a learning management
- 7 system. But they include a basic overview of the
- 8 most common acceptance tests with advice on
- 9 sample enforcement tactics.
- Now, let's see here, so the process,
- 11 approval process from this point, the Staff
- 12 Report will be published. I don't know when. It
- 13 was to be published about, I believe, the first
- 14 week of December. But as is common this year
- 15 with COVID and just everything else that's going
- 16 on, things, essentially, have gotten delayed a
- 17 little bit. I have not gotten an approved Staff
- 18 Report back from the review process yet. And
- 19 when I do I will release that report. I will
- 20 send out notification. And I will extend the
- 21 comment period, which is the third bullet here.
- 22 The comment period will not end on January 28th.
- 23 The intended business meeting right now
- 24 is March 17th. But if the Staff Report gets
- 25 delayed much further, then we will move that to

- 1 April and, hopefully, not further than that.
- 2 Let's see. And that is it. We are at
- 3 the question and answers period.
- 4 I should also just quickly say that we
- 5 have comments and contact. Again, our Docket
- 6 Number is 20-ATTCP-01. And we also have this e-
- 7 comments available. This presentation will be
- 8 posted on our website, so you can find this and
- 9 use this link to get right to the comment page.
- 10 So with that, yeah, if we have any
- 11 questions?
- MR. HARO: Okay. I see a raised hand
- 13 here from Christopher Ruch. I'm going to allow
- 14 you to talk. Please go ahead and un-mute
- 15 yourself.
- 16 MR. RUCH: Hi. This is Chris Ruch with
- 17 National Energy Management Institute Committee.
- 18 Joe, I just want to thank you for your
- 19 work here. I want to thank you for this
- 20 presentation and the work that CEC Staff has
- 21 done. I know you've got a lot of things to --
- 22 concerns to juggle and take into consideration
- 23 here. Of course, I encourage the Staff Report to
- 24 come out as soon as possible. But NEMIC is ready
- 25 to move on this, and with our partners.

- 1 Thank you.
- MR. LOYER: Thank you, Chris.
- 3 MR. HARO: All right. We have next --
- 4 MR. LOYER: Thanks Joe. I appreciate
- 5 that. I stumbled over a couple of words and
- 6 phrases there. I hope it wasn't too bad.
- 7 MR. HARO: We do have another hand raised
- 8 here, Philip Wilbur.
- 9 I'm going to allow you to un-mute
- 10 yourself, so if you could do that, please, and go
- 11 ahead and talk?
- MR. WILBUR: How you doing, Joe? I've
- 13 got a couple questions.
- MR. LOYER: Yeah.
- MR. WILBUR: One is, could you go over
- 16 the process, just so we have -- at least I have a
- 17 better idea, from cradle to grave, of how the
- 18 test goes as it's taken, you know, from the
- 19 responsible party, it goes through the
- 20 MR. LOYER: Oh, sure. Like on a project
- 21 site?
- MR. WILBUR: Right. And then the other
- 23 would be on the AHJs. Do they have to witness
- 24 the entire test or is it the discretion of that
- 25 department? Because if you have multiple

- 1 projects going, does the AHJ have to stay there
- 2 for an hour or for every test to watch it, or
- 3 does he just or she just determine, based on
- 4 their experience, and sign off on the document?
- 5 MR. LOYER: So let's take that last one
- 6 first because that's the easiest one. There is
- 7 no chance that, as a regular course of business,
- 8 the AHJs are going to have an inspector oversee
- 9 an acceptance test, or even an acceptance test.
- 10 Now the intent there is that the
- 11 inspector could come to the ATT and just say, you
- 12 know, take the form from them, look at the
- 13 acceptance test and say, this is great, I'd like
- 14 you to run it again in front of me. They are
- 15 allowed to do that and they have that authority
- 16 anytime they want to use it. And we do encourage
- 17 them to do that if they want to see that test
- 18 done.
- 19 However, most of the time, and most of
- 20 the time being 99.9 percent of the time, the
- 21 AHJ's intention is to rely upon the ATTCP
- 22 Program. So once they get the form they verify
- 23 that the form is legitimate, that it's got its
- 24 watermarks, that hasn't been tampered with any
- 25 way, that it is a legitimate form.

- 1 And there are means by which they can
- 2 verify that through the ATTCP. If they want to
- 3 take it to that particular second step, they can.
- 4 If they, even beyond that, want to make sure that
- 5 this ATT action knows their business, then they
- 6 can go that extra step.
- But, as a common practice, they won't be
- 8 doing that. I can't imagine anyone. They simply
- 9 do not have that time. That's what's been
- 10 reported to us.
- 11 So as this is meant to go from cradle to
- 12 grave at a project site, so when we go from a
- 13 project conception to its property controls to
- 14 the initial design, when we finally get to the
- 15 point of putting together compliance documents,
- 16 and these are the -- these are going to be the
- 17 plans that are going to be submitted to the AHJ
- 18 for a permit to build, construction permit, those
- 19 plans, those documents, include NRCC, the
- 20 nonresidential certificate of compliance. And
- 21 this is -- right now, this is an electronic
- 22 document that the Energy Commission provides
- 23 through our partner, Energy Code Ace. This will,
- 24 to a certain extent, help the designer, the
- 25 engineer, the architect complete this form. It

- 1 will sort of lead you through it. And at the
- 2 bottom of this form, once it's complete, it will
- 3 actually list out the acceptance tests that are
- 4 required to be performed.
- 5 So those acceptance tests are what the
- 6 contractor, the HVAC contractor or the lighting
- 7 controls contractor or any of the contractors,
- 8 are essentially going to be taking into
- 9 consideration when they submit their bids. They
- 10 have to perform these acceptance tests. These
- 11 acceptance tests have to be performed today.
- 12 The change that we're talking about here
- 13 is that you have an ATT certification to perform
- 14 those acceptance tests. That's the change. The
- 15 acceptance tests right now have to be performed
- 16 today.
- 17 So you have this initial document, NRCC,
- 18 that is submitted with the permit documents to
- 19 the AHJ. When the AHJ does eventually approve
- 20 and issue a permit to construct, they have
- 21 approved the NRCC as well. Even if they don't do
- 22 it specifically, they have approved it with those
- 23 documents.
- 24 So at that point the ATT or, you know,
- 25 the contractor -- typically the contractor plays

- 1 the role of the employer, the ATE, and has a
- 2 technician who is an ATT on staff. So the
- 3 employer will bid against the job, hopefully win
- 4 it.
- 5 And then once they get to the point of
- 6 installing the equipment and getting it ready to
- 7 be acceptance tested, they then bring on their
- 8 ATT who will go through, verify that everything
- 9 complies with the construction inspection and
- 10 with the project design and is ready to be sent
- 11 through the functional testing, and then perform
- 12 the functional testing.
- Now if at any point during that
- 14 construction inspection or functional testing
- 15 something fails or goes wrong, the ATT does not
- 16 submit that to the ATTCP. They don't submit that
- 17 in terms of paperwork. They go and they fix that
- 18 problem. And then, once they've got the problem
- 19 fixed and the system passes, then they go to the
- 20 point of actually documenting that with the
- 21 ATTCP.
- The ATTCP goes through its initial QA and
- 23 will, eventually, sign up some of these
- 24 acceptance tests for the desk audit. And, even,
- 25 some of these will be signed up for the onsite

- 1 audit. And how the onsite audit essentially
- 2 works is, for the ATTCP and the employer, they
- 3 have to actually enter in that they expect
- 4 themselves to perform the acceptance tests. And
- 5 they have to renew those about 24 hours ahead, as
- 6 well. So the ATTCP communicates regularly with
- 7 the employer and the technician to verify that,
- 8 hey, you've told me you're going to be doing an
- 9 acceptance test tomorrow, is this true? And they
- 10 are required to respond.
- 11 The ATTCP uses this information to
- 12 dispatch their onsite QA personnel. Those
- 13 persons then go to the point of showing up on the
- 14 site and doing the shadow audit. And this only
- 15 happens about one percent of the acceptance test,
- 16 so it's not every acceptance test, not by a long
- 17 shot, but it's enough.
- 18 So once the ATT actually does complete
- 19 the acceptance test and has submitted that
- 20 information to the ATTCP, the provider, the
- 21 provider goes through the process of verifying
- 22 the document as it's -- or the information as
- 23 it's coming in, produces the acceptance test
- 24 documentation with their watermarks and logos,
- 25 and makes that available in a .pdf for the

- 1 technician to use.
- 2 That .pdf is submitted to the project
- 3 owner for a responsible person's signature and
- 4 then, once signed, is given to the building
- 5 department in whatever form that the building
- 6 department wants it. Most building departments
- 7 now are getting pretty sophisticated. They wall
- 8 want these kind of documents electronically.
- 9 They don't want to receive them on paper. But
- 10 there are still some that want to see it on
- 11 paper. So that's why it's in a .pdf, it can be
- 12 printed.
- 13 And, essentially, that's the end of the
- 14 interaction with the ATTCP Program. It all
- 15 hinges on the ATT, really, so there is,
- 16 essentially, one touch.
- Now you might think, okay, what about
- 18 this NRCC document that we have to do at the
- 19 beginning? You have to do that now. That's a
- 20 requirement now. You're supposed to be doing
- 21 that. So that doesn't, as far as the Energy
- 22 Commission is concerned, that doesn't count as
- 23 something new. That just may be something new to
- 24 you. But you are required to do that. And this
- 25 program, actually, is going to gently nudge you

- 1 into doing it.
- 2 So I think, you know, after that point,
- 3 you'd get your final inspections. And then once
- 4 you pass your final inspections you will,
- 5 eventually, get your certificate of occupancy.
- 6 And that's about it. I hope that helps
- 7 there, Phil.
- 8 And I see two more questions here. So
- 9 Matthew Schultz, so it has been clarified -- or,
- 10 "Has it been clarified whether a sampling of
- 11 spaces will require testing, like lighting
- 12 acceptance testing, rather than the current
- 13 language of 100 percent temperature zonal areas
- 14 must be tested?"
- 15 So for mechanical, generally speaking,
- 16 sampling has not ever been introduced in Code.
- 17 For lighting, it has. And this goes right
- 18 through the entire Code. So this has nothing to
- 19 do with acceptance testing, per se. this is just
- 20 the way the Code has been put together at this
- 21 point.
- 22 So we are not proposing to change
- 23 anything in regard to sampling for mechanical
- 24 installations.
- 25 And let's see, all right, do we have any

- 1 more questions; Matt? I see you're busily
- 2 answering questions on the Q&A.
- 3 MR. HARO: The ones that you had just
- 4 answered, I was trying to. And I don't see any
- 5 other hands raised at the moment here. So I
- 6 think unless this -- yeah.
- 7 MR. LOYER: Oh. Okay.
- 8 MR. HARO: I don't see anything else. I
- 9 don't know if --
- MR. LOYER: All right, if there's no
- 11 other questions, I'm going to go one more time
- 12 over -- let's see. I might just get this. I
- 13 have too many windows open at the moment. Let's
- 14 see.
- MR. HARO: (Indiscernible.)
- MR. LOYER: Oh, go ahead, Matt. Sorry.
- MR. HARO: I was going to say, just real
- 18 quick while you're -- before you do that, with
- 19 regards to the question we got at the beginning,
- 20 we have about -- we had about 70 attendees today.
- MR. LOYER: Yeah. I've got 72.
- MR. HARO: Yeah.
- 23 MR. LOYER: And give on the panel.
- MR. HARO: Oh, we did have one more
- 25 question coming through the Q&A box. The

- 1 question is, "So the AHJ is responsible for
- 2 contacting the CEC commissioning agent; correct?"
- 3 MR. LOYER: No. The AHJ is not
- 4 responsible for any of this. The AHJ may contact
- 5 the provider to verify the documents that they're
- 6 seeing are real. And there's a means by -- each
- 7 provider has a sort of different approach to it
- 8 but they're all, basically, the same. You
- 9 contact the provider, give them the critical
- 10 information, and they'll tell you over the phone
- 11 or via email whether those documents are real.
- 12 So they're not responsible for it.
- 13 The only thing that they're responsible
- 14 for is collecting the form and verifying that it
- 15 is visually real, that it hasn't been altered,
- 16 that it has the logos and the watermarks on it as
- 17 appropriate.
- 18 So the CEC formal approval requirement
- 19 here, we will be bringing this to a business
- 20 meeting either in March or April, hopefully
- 21 March. The Staff Report will be published,
- 22 hopefully, later in January. We have the public
- 23 workshop today.
- 24 We will be taking comments now. The
- 25 comment period will not end on January 28th. It

- 1 will be extended. But we will -- if you do want
- 2 to submit written comments, either supporting
- 3 this effort or with further concerns for us to
- 4 address, please feel free to do so. We'll take
- 5 both. Actually, we like both. And remember, our
- 6 Docket Number is 20-ATTCP-01.
- 7 And so we have plenty of time here. If
- 8 we have no other questions here and no other
- 9 hands raised --
- MR. HARO: We just got one more hand
- 11 raised here.
- MR. LOYER: Okay.
- MR. HARO: Tony Barbano, I am going to
- 14 allow you to talk. Please go ahead and un-mute
- 15 yourself.
- MR. BARBANO: Yeah. Can you guys hear me
- 17 okay?
- MR. LOYER: Yeah. Go ahead, Tony.
- 19 MR. BARBANO: Okay. I just wanted to
- 20 expand on the other question about the
- 21 commissioning agent. So I know you went over it
- 22 but I think it missed it. How exactly do they
- 23 know to show up at a certain job? Like who is
- 24 the one that calls them and lets them know?
- MR. LOYER: Oh, so it's not the

- 1 commissioning agent I think you're asking about.
- 2 And definitely stay un-muted, Tony, so let me
- 3 make sure I got this right.
- 4 MR. BARBANO: Yeah.
- 5 MR. LOYER: So you're not really asking
- 6 me about the commissioning agent. You're asking
- 7 me about the QA agent.
- 8 MR. BARBANO: Yeah. Yeah. Sorry. I
- 9 apologize.
- 10 MR. LOYER: Okay. All right. Yeah.
- 11 Good. Good.
- 12 So it seems a little complex because it
- 13 is. It's more complex than what it has been.
- 14 But each ATT and their employer has to bid on a
- 15 job. And once they bid on that job, they have to
- 16 actually disclose that they've won a job to the
- 17 ATTCP, who keeps this information extremely
- 18 private. They don't tell anybody this
- 19 information that they've got.
- 20 But at that point, once they tell the
- 21 ATTCP they've got this job, they have to actually
- 22 predict when they're going to do the acceptance
- 23 testing. So the ATTCP has a date by which they
- 24 expect an acceptance test to be performed on that
- 25 date. Now as that date draws closer, of course,

- 1 you know, nothing goes to plan originally --
- 2 MR. BARBANO: Right.
- 3 MR. LOYER: -- in any project. I've
- 4 never seen any project go, you know, right down
- 5 to a date six months -- you know, predicted six
- 6 months earlier. That's nutrients. But as you
- 7 get closer and closer to that date the ATTCP,
- 8 basically, reminds you that, hey, we have this
- 9 date coming up. And they have a 24-hour ahead
- 10 reminder saying tomorrow, you've told me that
- 11 tomorrow ,you're going to be doing an acceptance
- 12 test. And that's all they ask. They just ask
- 13 you to verify that tomorrow you are doing an
- 14 acceptance test. And if, basically, regardless,
- 15 if you say, no, then they take -- they ask you
- 16 for a new date and they register that new date.
- 17 But if you don't reply or if you reply,
- 18 yes, then your project is now in the pool that
- 19 could go to an onsite inspection.
- MR. BARBANO: Got it.
- 21 CHAIR LE MONS: And that's when the QA
- 22 agent may be dispatched to your locale.
- MR. BARBANO: Got it. Thank you.
- MR. LOYER: No problem.
- MR. HARO: Okay, we did have one more

- 1 question come in through the Q&A box. It says,
- 2 "The Title 24 acceptance testing is just that,
- 3 acceptance testing. You used the term functional
- 4 testing. And I'm not sure why as commissioning
- 5 is different than acceptance testing."
- 6 MR. LOYER: Yeah, there is, definitely,
- 7 this sort of confusion of terms between
- 8 commissioning and acceptance testing.
- 9 Very traditionally commissioning -- well,
- 10 it's hard to say traditionally with
- 11 commissioning. Commissioning has really not been
- 12 a part of the lexicon that long. And neither has
- 13 acceptance testing, for that matter. But,
- 14 basically, these two ideas sort of, you know,
- 15 overlap pretty significantly.
- 16 So we should really start with what we
- 17 see as commissioning. We see commissioning as a
- 18 commissioning agent that completes the required
- 19 documentations for commissioning, which there are
- 20 some. Many people don't know that. So we do
- 21 have commissioning forms that must be completed
- 22 prior to the project being -- even submitting
- 23 documents to the AHJ.
- 24 So the commissioning agent, basically,
- 25 goes from the -- takes the project from cradle to

- 1 grave to verify to make sure that the compliance
- 2 plan for -- or the plan for complying with the
- 3 state regulations is followed and modified as
- 4 need be throughout the project life.
- Now part of that can be that the
- 6 commissioning agent can perform the acceptance
- 7 testing. And that can be -- the acceptance
- 8 testing, in terms of what is required in code,
- 9 consists of the two parts, the construction
- 10 inspection and the functional test. But in a lot
- 11 of respects the commissioning agent is
- 12 continually doing construction inspection. And
- 13 so a lot of the times what has happened is the
- 14 commissioning agent performs the construction
- 15 inspection throughout the entire process and
- 16 then, in some instances we perform a functional
- 17 test, if not the state-required functional test.
- 18 So there is this definite confusion of
- 19 when that is to happen and what is to happen.
- 20 But, when it comes to lighting controls and
- 21 mechanical installations, the requirement will be
- 22 for both, that you have an ATT certification to
- 23 perform or to document, may be a better way to
- 24 think about it, to perform the acceptance test
- 25 and to document those results through the ATTCP.

- 1 So right now, an ATT is not allowed to
- 2 delegate the responsibility of performing the
- 3 acceptance test to another person. That has to
- 4 be the ATT that performs that acceptance test.
- 5 So if you are a commissioning agent, your
- 6 experience can qualify you to be an ATT.
- 7 So with that, you can also -- I should
- 8 also say that the commissioning agent can be the
- 9 acceptance test technician, the ATT. It can also
- 10 be the acceptance test employer, the ATE. And
- 11 they can be both in the same person, so both can
- 12 -- both -- one person can hold both an ATE and an
- 13 ATT certification. And that's important just
- 14 because of who has responsibility to do what?
- 15 But the commissioning agent can do the functional
- 16 testing as long as they're certified to do it.
- 17 So, yeah, there is a little bit of
- 18 confusion because it's a little bit confusing.
- 19 MR. HARO: Okay, Joe, that takes care of
- 20 all the Q&A boxes. And I see no more hands
- 21 raised at this time.
- MR. LOYER: Oh, shoot. We're not going
- 23 to be late enough for the Staff meeting. Darn
- 24 it. We have an 11 o'clock Staff meeting.
- 25 So I guess with that, we can go ahead and

- 1 end this workshop, unless anybody has any further
- 2 questions?
- 3 MR. HARO: Yeah. We have a hand raised.
- 4 Lori Schiavo, I apologize if I butchered
- 5 your name. I'm going to allow you to talk.
- 6 Please go ahead and un-mute yourself.
- 7 MS. SCHIAVO: Hi. Sorry for the last
- 8 minute. Just one quick question.
- 9 You said we're going to be able to
- 10 receive a reporting. Is this something we can
- 11 post to our Title 24 informational section on our
- 12 websites?
- MS. LOYER: Absolutely.
- MS. SCHIAVO: And then --
- MR. LOYER: I think probably the better
- 16 way to go is link to it. But --
- MS. SCHIAVO: Perfect.
- 18 MR. LOYER: -- I don't think you can
- 19 actually copy it off our website, but I'm not 100
- 20 percent sure. But, yeah, either way is fine.
- MS. SCHIAVO: Thank you. Sorry.
- MR. LOYER: That's okay.
- 23 So we'll be sending out, basically, a
- 24 notification when the Staff Report is available
- 25 and when this reporting has been posted.

- Okay, yeah, and Amber has got her hand
- 2 raised.
- 3 And when the transcript is posted, as
- 4 well.
- 5 MR. HARO: Hey, Joe, I'm having
- 6 trouble --
- 7 MR. LOYER: Oh.
- 8 MR. HARO: -- un-muting. Oh, did we lose
- 9 her?
- MR. LOYER: Let's see.
- MR. HARO: I lost the hand raise.
- MR. LOYER: Oh, okay. Okay, let's see,
- 13 it seems -- well, you'd think there was an easy
- 14 way to do this.
- MR. HARO: Yeah. You just have to scroll
- 16 around to try to find any raised hands. I don't
- 17 see Amber anymore. But I do see Art, Art Phend.
- 18 Just give me a second here.
- Okay, Art, please go ahead and un-mute
- 20 yourself.
- 21 MR. PHEND: Yes. Thank you so much for
- 22 taking my question. I did intentionally raise my
- 23 hand this time.
- I wonder if third-party acceptance
- 25 testing falls within the intent of the acceptance

- 1 program. Because I have done -- been doing
- 2 acceptance testing for some time for small mom-
- 3 and-pop shops that are doing individual PIs. And
- 4 they don't have the ability to get certified,
- 5 really, or have the equipment to do their own
- 6 testing. And it seems like there's a real need
- 7 for that. So as a third-party tester, I've been
- 8 a HERS tester for some time, I've been providing
- 9 that service to my clients.
- 10 MR. LOYER: So -- and I can tell you in
- 11 lighting controls there are more than one
- 12 company, I should say, that that's all they do is
- 13 provide third-party acceptance testing for
- 14 lighting controls. I expect that there will be
- 15 something similar happening for mechanical. The
- 16 provision is that it's not required under Code.
- 17 So it can still be the first party of the
- 18 technician who performed the installation. They
- 19 can still do their acceptance testing if they
- 20 want to do that.
- 21 But we don't have a restriction against
- 22 going through a third party if a company looks at
- 23 their bottom line, like you say, a mom-and-pop
- 24 shop that decided that, well, we just don't want
- 25 to send -- we can't afford to send somebody to

- 1 acceptance testing training and then have them
- 2 potentially walk away, or maybe they just cannot
- 3 afford the time away for that person from the
- 4 business of running the business.
- 5 So in those situations, yeah, it's
- 6 perfectly acceptable and legitimate to go and get
- 7 an ATT as a third party, absolutely.
- 8 MR. PHEND: So may I ask a second related
- 9 question?
- MR. LOYER: Sure.
- 11 MR. PHEND: In a case like that, who
- 12 would be expected to be the responsible party and
- 13 who would be, in your opinion, would be
- 14 responsible for payment? Who is actually your
- 15 employee when you're the third-party acceptance
- 16 tester?
- MR. LOYER: That's a really good
- 18 question. It depends. So employee-employer
- 19 relationship really depend on who hired who for
- 20 what job. So if a mom-and-pop shop hired the ATT
- 21 themselves just to say, okay, we're just going to
- 22 have this relationship with this particular
- 23 individual, when we need acceptance testing,
- 24 we're going to call their shop and have them send
- 25 somebody over, that's a contractual relationship

- 1 between them.
- If the project site, basically, wants a
- 3 particular shop to do acceptance testing for them
- 4 as a third party, then the general contractor or
- 5 the engineer or architect, whoever hired them for
- 6 that purpose, they're the employer.
- Now, who is the responsible party?
- 8 That's a completely different question. And that
- 9 requires who is actually eligible to be the
- 10 responsible party? The responsible party --
- MS. SCHIAVO: Right.
- MR. LOYER: -- is typically the
- 13 architect/engineer on larger projects. But it
- 14 can be the contractor on very small projects who
- 15 is -- basically, it's whomever has put together
- 16 the NRCC documents that are approved or the
- 17 permit application documents that are approved by
- 18 the AHJ. That is typically who is going to be
- 19 the responsible party. Oh, and it can also be
- 20 the property owner.
- 21 MS. SCHIAVO: Excellent. Thank you for
- 22 that clarification. Appreciate it.
- 23 MR. LOYER: Oh, my pleasure. Yeah, I
- 24 know that responsible party, these terms can be a
- 25 little confusing with these -- with the forms.

- 1 MS. SCHIAVO: So in general, you would
- 2 say the responsible party is either the
- 3 mechanical engineer or the contractor?
- 4 MR. LOYER: Well, in general, for the
- 5 larger projects, we're looking at the architect
- 6 and the engineer. Either one of them can play the
- 7 role of the responsible party. But in smaller
- 8 projects it can be the contractor. In larger
- 9 projects the contractor is usually not the
- 10 responsible party.
- MS. SCHIAVO: Right. Scope of the
- 12 project has a big factor in determining who is
- 13 the responsible party then?
- MR. LOYER: That's right, exactly right.
- MS. SCHIAVO: Thank you again.
- 16 Appreciate this presentation.
- MR. LOYER: No problem. Thank you, Art.
- 18 So I'm not seeing any more hands raised.
- 19 And I don't see any more comments in the Q&A.
- 20 Matthew?
- 21 MR. HARO: Just the second you said that,
- 22 Chris Walker spoke up. We have -- if you open
- 23 your Q&A box, it's a little long.
- MR. LOYER: Yes. Yeah. All right, fine,
- 25 I'll read this here.

- 1 "So nonresidential" -- spelled wrong --
- 2 "is different than residential when it comes to
- 3 third-party verification discussions. In
- 4 residential service the balance of interest is
- 5 not always as sophisticated as nonres and a third
- 6 party may be appropriate. In nonres it's 100
- 7 percent the financial interest of both the
- 8 contractor and the owner that the systems are
- 9 installed properly and function as designed.
- 10 Third-party verification isn't necessary."
- 11 And that's true. It's 100 percent true.
- 12 Yeah, third-party verification isn't necessary,
- 13 isn't required, but it is allowable.
- MR. HARO: Okay, I see no more hands
- 15 raised. And the Q&A box is cleared.
- 16 MR. LOYER: All right. Very good. All
- 17 right. So I guess that will be the end of this
- 18 workshop. I want to thank everybody for
- 19 participating in this, and especially the
- 20 questions I got. There were a lot of really good
- 21 questions. In fact, I think all the questions
- 22 were really good, so I very much appreciate your
- 23 interaction.
- 24 And I will remind everybody that the
- 25 Staff Report will be out later in January,

- 1 hopefully, knock on wood. And we will,
- 2 hopefully, get a lot of these remaining issues,
- 3 there's only one or two left, before we start our
- 4 outreach program with the -- starting with the
- 5 AHJs.
- 6 Additionally, if anybody has any kind of
- 7 group meeting of any kind that they feel that
- 8 group would benefit from a presentation such as
- 9 this, we are more than happy to engage with you
- 10 and come to those meetings and make those
- 11 presentations. So, please, if you do have
- 12 anything that you feel that we should be alerted
- 13 to in terms of a presentation opportunity, please
- 14 let us know.
- 15 And with that, we will go ahead and end
- 16 this meeting. All right. Thank you everybody.
- 17 (The workshop concluded at 11:13 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were reported by me, a certified electronic court reporter and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of January, 2021.

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

Martha L. Nelson

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIBER

I do hereby certify that the testimony in the foregoing hearing was taken at the time and place therein stated; that the testimony of said witnesses were transcribed by me, a certified transcriber and a disinterested person, and was under my supervision thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

And I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said hearing nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said caption.

I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

January 20, 2021