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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of:

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STAFF WORKSHOP:

2025 ENERGY CODE SINGLE-FAMILY PEAK COOLING REQUIREMENTS

REMOTE ACCESS VIA ZOOM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

9:00 A.M.

Reported by:

Martha Nelson

APPEARANCESCEC STAFF

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Javier Perez, Project Manager

Haile Bucaneg, Senior Mechanical Engineer

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Bob Raymer, California Building Industry Association

Jon McHugh, McHugh Energy Consultants

Ronnen Levinson, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Steve Strawn

Nick Brown, Build Smart Group

Dan Johnson, Beyond Efficiency

P R O C E E D I N G S

9:05 a.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Good morning everyone. Let's get started here. Thank you everyone for joining us for one of the 2025 Pre-Rulemaking Workshop. The agenda for today is only one topic and that's the single-family peak cooling that we're going to be talking about.

My name is Payam Bozorgchami. I'm one of the senior engineers here at the Building Standards Branch within the California Energy Commission.

But before we start, like always, we're going to have to go through some housekeeping rules.

This workshop is being recorded and we do have a transcriber on the call today who's going to be taking notes and taking down all comments and everything that you guys say to us.

So we do want -- when you guys have an opportunity to provide your public comments, please raise your hand and I will unmute you and you can state your name and your affiliation. And if you're the first time speaking, please spell your name out, first name, last name, and what affiliation you're with. And if you're on the phone and you would like to ask a question, you could press star nine to raise your hand and I will unmute you.

1 But you're going to also have to probably hit star six to
2 mute and unmute yourself from your end.

3 Like I said, this is a recorded workshop today.
4 Depending on the number of comments that we get from
5 today's workshop, we may put a two minute limitation for
6 speaker.

7 And in case of an emergency, a few of us are here
8 in the office today, we're on the 15th floor, if the
9 emergency bell goes off, we will evacuate. We will not
10 turn off the recording. We will pause it, but we will come
11 right back. I'll throw up a screen that says the National
12 Resource Agency office has been evacuated. And as soon as
13 we get the clear signal to come back in, we'll come right
14 back in and we'll continue the workshop.

15 What else am I missing?

16 With that, the agenda for today, it's only one
17 topic that we're going to be talking about and that's the
18 single-family peak cooling and there's going to be an
19 introduction. From the introduction, we're going to go
20 straight into the topic. I think it just flows better.
21 And then at the end, we will allow everybody to raise your
22 hand, or put a question in the Q&A and we will read them
23 out or we will unmute you and you can state your name and
24 affiliation and we can go from there.

25 On the bottom of this page -- and this

1 presentation also will be posted tomorrow or Monday. We'll
2 try to get it out to you by tomorrow. As best as we can.
3 But this website here -- this link, excuse me, will take
4 you to our past events workshops. And there's a lot of
5 stuff in here and if -- that's happened at the Energy
6 Commission. It's not just for Title 24, Part 6. This is
7 about all the other proposals, all the other workshops
8 that's happened.

9 But you'll notice there will be a staff workshop
10 2025 Energy Code. And on this one is the commercial
11 kitchen laboratories. And if you click that, you come to
12 the main web page for that date and you'll see the notice,
13 the presentation that's going to be posted, and the
14 recording. So if I said something and don't remember, you
15 can always go back to the recording and try to capture
16 that.

17 And if you cannot submit your comments today,
18 it's not the end of all things. You do have time. You do
19 have to October 12th to submit your comments in writing and
20 we will, depending on the comments that comes in, we will
21 respond to you either by writing or email or just give you
22 a phone call. So if possible, when you do that, submit
23 your comment to our comment into the docket, please at the
24 end, a signature, put your contact information, email,
25 phone number. It will be the best way for us to reach out

1 to you and have a quick, productive discussion about the
2 comment that you've made.

3 With that, I'm going to go right into the
4 workshop and I'm going to pass the baton over to Javier
5 Perez, our project manager for the 2025 Energy Code and he
6 will do his presentation.

7 Javier?

8 MR. PEREZ: Thanks, Payam. I'm going to get my
9 screen sharing up. Standby. All right, looks like you can
10 see my screen so let's get going.

11 Hi, my name is Javier Perez and I'm with the
12 California Energy Commission. I'm the project manager for
13 the 2025 Energy Code. And for this segment, I'll briefly go
14 over our authority and process, some of the drivers behind
15 the California Energy Code, the underlying energy metrics
16 of our Code, and finally timelines for the 2025 Energy Code
17 update.

18 I do want to take a second to thank you all for
19 taking time out of your day to participate in this pre-
20 rulemaking workshop and hope that through your
21 participation, through your collaboration with us, that we
22 can make great strides in terms of energy efficiency and
23 our long-term state goals with the 2025 Energy Code update.

24 All right, let's start with the Energy
25 Commission's authority and process. This slide is a little

1 bit loaded, so I'm going to bring it up in segments and
2 hopefully train your eyes to what I'm speaking to.

3 Two California assemblymen, Charles Warren and Al
4 Alquist, co-authored the Warren-Alquist Act. And this Act
5 authorizes the Energy Commission to develop and update the
6 Energy Code on a triennial basis and for local
7 jurisdictions to enforce the Energy Code through the
8 building permit process. And the Energy Code was developed
9 at the direction of the Warren-Alquist Act to reduce the
10 wasteful and economic, inefficiency, or unnecessary
11 consumption of energy.

12 On the right, you're now seeing a chart that
13 compares the site energy consumption of a single-family
14 residential building when built to the 2021 International
15 Energy Conservation Code, in blue. And then that same
16 building built to the 2022 Energy Code requirements, in
17 green. nonresidential buildings are a lot more complex, a
18 lot more variables, and we'll take multiple slides, so for
19 this session we'll just go over residential buildings.

20 Now if you take a few points away from this
21 graph, one is that averaging across all climate zones,
22 single-family buildings built to California's Energy Code
23 use an estimated 52 percent less site energy than those
24 built to the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code.
25 Now for the 2022 cycle, we use time-dependent valuation, or

1 TDV, energy as the underlying energy accounting metric.
2 And in TDV, which values energy differently depending on
3 the time of day and the day of the year, the Energy Code
4 requirements led to single-family buildings consuming 45
5 percent less TDV energy than if they were built to the 2021
6 IECC.

7 Now the last takeaway we'd like to leave this
8 slide with is that while our buildings are becoming
9 increasingly more efficient over time and outpacing
10 national standards, our buildings' natural gas consumption,
11 the light green bars or light green segments of those bars,
12 are a large portion of our buildings' overall energy
13 consumption. Our state has lofty greenhouse gas emissions
14 reduction goals, and buildings play a part in achieving
15 those goals. And our state also has clean energy
16 requirements for electricity retail sales over the next
17 couple decades that we'll go over on the next slide.

18 Now if you'd like to learn more about how the
19 2022 Energy Code compares to federal standards, our 2022
20 Impact Analysis Report can be found on the link below.

21 Now these slides will be posted as soon as
22 possible. Hopefully, by the end of the week here, a lot
23 less slides for this workshop relative to ones in the past,
24 so fully expect to have that done by tomorrow.

25 Now let's talk about these state-level drivers

1 and some of the themes of the 2025 Energy Code.

2 Now, we're obligated to contribute to the state's
3 greenhouse gas reduction goals, and one of those being
4 Senate Bill 100, or the 100 percent Clean Energy Act of
5 2018, which states that by 2045, 100 percent of electricity
6 retail sales must come from clean energy sources. Now this
7 will make electricity significantly cleaner over time and
8 will also have substantially positive impacts on the
9 state's greenhouse gas reduction goals. Now another driver
10 is Governor Brown's carbon neutral executive order to
11 achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

12 So the Energy Code is tasked with contributing to
13 these goals and must do so by increasing building energy
14 efficiency requirements, all while proving measures to be
15 cost effective and technically feasible.

16 Now, how do we plan to contribute to these state
17 goals with the 2025 Energy Code?

18 Now we'll continue to explore where highly
19 efficient heat pumps can be introduced as a prescriptive
20 baseline for space and water heating systems. We'll
21 continue to promote demand flexibility. And in 2019 we
22 introduced solar photovoltaic system requirements for low-
23 rise residential buildings, and in 2022 we introduced
24 similar requirements for nonresidential, high-rise
25 residential, and hotel motel buildings, and also added

1 energy storage system requirements. And in 2025 we'll
2 continue to work towards including these systems and
3 considering where their use can be expanded.

4 Now for the purposes of the Energy Code, a
5 process is an activity or treatment that is not related to
6 human occupancy, and a covered process is just one of those
7 processes that we have requirements for. Processes can
8 consume large amounts of energy. And as with all items
9 identified on this list, we're going to continue to look at
10 these systems to find efficiencies where possible.

11 We'll also continue to make sure that our
12 standards continue to serve as protection for affordable
13 housing. Now, when our standards increase energy
14 efficiency, they raise the bar for newly constructed
15 buildings, and in doing so, they bring affordable housing
16 construction along with them. We're looking at affordable
17 housing programs and the compliance tools that they use and
18 hope to streamline some of their efforts to make it easier
19 for the designers of these buildings to demonstrate
20 compliance with our code and demonstrate compliance with
21 the requirements of affordable housing programs.

22 Existing buildings will continue to be a focus of
23 the Energy Code. And we're also looking at smaller homes
24 or ADUs and how our requirements fit for these smaller
25 dwellings.

1 And we'll continue to collaborate with the Air
2 Resources Board, Department of Housing and Community
3 Development, and the Building Standards Commission to
4 ensure that our buildings continue to meet acceptable
5 levels of indoor air quality. And we'll also support these
6 agencies as the transportation industry continues to move
7 towards electrification.

8 Now let's go over our underlying energy metrics
9 that help determine energy savings.

10 For the 2025 Energy Code, we're pivoting from
11 using time-dependent valuation energy, or TDV energy, to
12 using long-term system costs. Long-term system costs, or
13 LSC, is the cost effectiveness and energy valuation
14 methodology used in development and implementation of the
15 Energy Code. LSC factors are used to convert predicted
16 site energy use to long-term dollar costs to California's
17 energy system.

18 Now the underlying varying valuation of energy,
19 depending on the time of day and the day of the year, that
20 was used in TDV still remains, but we've just converted
21 those energy savings into long-term system cost savings to
22 better reflect the actual cost of energy to consumers, the
23 utility system, and to society. This graph represents an
24 average day's dollar per megawatt hour, and how that cost
25 varies by time of day, and the different inputs that go

1 into that cost.

2 Now the source energy metric was introduced
3 during the 2022 Energy Code cycle and is defined as the
4 source energy of fossil fuels following the long-term
5 effects of any associated changes in resource procurement.
6 It focuses specifically on the amount of fossil fuels that
7 are combusted in association with the demand side energy
8 consumption of any given building. To calculate source
9 energy for a given hour, the value in that hour for each
10 forecasted year is average, a lifetime average source
11 energy.

12 And because a building's energy use depends
13 partly on weather conditions, which differ throughout the
14 state, the Energy Commission established 16 climate zones
15 representing distinct climates within California. This
16 isn't new for the cycle, but hopefully it serves as a
17 refresher if you're already up to speed on California's
18 Energy Code. And as a result of having 16 climate zones,
19 requirements can vary significantly from zone to zone,
20 which may lead to variance in requirements for buildings in
21 different areas of California where measures are found to
22 be more or less cost effective.

23 If you'd like to get more detail on the energy
24 accounting work that was done for this 2025 cycle update,
25 you can find recordings and slides for the two workshops we

1 held in 2022 on the links on this slide. We'll have final
2 reports on this effort posted in the coming months.

3 All right, now let's talk about timelines and go
4 over where we are in this cycle and then where we're going
5 over the next few years.

6 From June of 2021 to May of 2022, the Codes and
7 Standards Enhancement Team, or the CASE Team, requested and
8 received over 700 measure proposal ideas. In the months
9 that followed, the Energy Commission collaborated with the
10 CASE Team to get that listed on the 80 measures and further
11 down to 40 or in the 40s as this work has progressed.

12 From March to November of 2022, the Energy
13 Commission updated weather data, LSC and source energy
14 metrics, and the CASE Team then held their welcome webinars
15 in October of 2022 and followed that with workshops on
16 measure proposals through May of this year.

17 And from May to July of this year, the CASE Team
18 published a draft measure proposal report and held public
19 comment periods to solicit feedback on these measures. If
20 you'd like to view those draft reports and final reports,
21 they're available on the Codes and Standards Enhancement
22 Team's website at the bottom of this page. And they've
23 also been docketed on the Energy Commission's docket. We
24 expect to have slightly modified or updated final versions
25 of all reports updated in the coming days, so stay tuned

1 for that. But, yeah, everything related to that work is
2 finalized.

3 Now what's to come?

4 The Energy Commission will be publishing measure
5 proposal reports for the 2025 heat pump baselines and
6 photovoltaic and energy storage system requirements in
7 October. The Commission will then publish draft updates to
8 the 2025 Energy Code, or draft express terms, in October,
9 which starts in a few days but ends 31 days after that.
10 And we expect to open rulemaking in 2025, rulemaking for
11 the 2025 Energy Code in January of 2024.

12 Now we expect to adopt the 2025 Energy Code in
13 June of 2024 or next year, and the Building Standards
14 Commission should have their approval of all updates to
15 Title 24 in December of next year. And the effective date
16 of the 2025 Energy Code will be January 1, 2026.

17 Now for this cycle, this is a list of senior
18 staff in the Building Standards Branch at the Energy
19 Commission. And if you're bad with names, again, my name
20 is Javier Perez and I'm the project manager of the 2025
21 Energy Code. Payam Bozorgchami is our technical lead and
22 the backbone for everything we do. He specializes in
23 building envelope additions and alterations to existing
24 buildings and accessory dwelling units or smaller dwelling
25 units. Haile Bucaneg is our lead on covered processes,

1 demand response controls, and our nonresidential and
2 residential alternative calculations methods work.
3 Mohammed Saeed is our solar PV and energy storage systems
4 lead. And Bach Tsan is our lead on HVAC systems and
5 refrigeration. Now if you'd like to reach out, our email
6 convention at the Energy Commission is just
7 `firstname.lastname.energy.ca.gov`.

8 Now our goal is to build consensus through these
9 workshops and through this public process and your
10 participation, your comments, they all go a long way in
11 helping with that goal. So thanks again for making time
12 today and let's get on to the next segment here.

13 All right, so again, really short agenda, not a
14 lot of slides here. We're going to be talking about peak
15 cooling and what we're looking at for single-family
16 buildings with the 2025 Energy Code.

17 So the intent of today's workshop and what's
18 being proposed is to ensure that newly constructed
19 buildings don't unnecessarily exacerbate challenges related
20 to weather driven peak events. We're looking at weather
21 patterns showing higher frequencies and peak events in the
22 foreseeable future. And these events result in higher
23 demand on the grid and can have negative effects on grid
24 resiliency. And they can also result in higher cost to
25 consumers since peak events coincide with higher time of

1 use utility rates.

2 Now for the purposes of this proposal, peak
3 cooling is going to be defined as mechanical cooling during
4 the hours of 4:00 and 9:00 p.m. or between 4:00 and 9:00
5 p.m.

6 All right, now this is a comparison of the
7 average value of electricity shown in long-term system cost
8 dollars during winter between the 2025 Energy Code cycle,
9 on the left and the 2025 cycle, on the right, '22 on the
10 left, '25 on the right. Now the 2025 updates to our LSC
11 metrics assumed significantly higher amounts of
12 electrification over the 30-year period that is used in our
13 analysis of our proposed measures.

14 Now, the most impactful difference between 2022
15 and 2025 assumptions is that the highest annual demand is
16 now forecasted to happen in the winter evenings. Now this
17 is reflected in the new winter peak that you're seeing, on
18 the right, and that's driven by transmission and
19 distribution costs which track with highest demand times.
20 This is a notable change from previous code cycles which
21 had highest peaks occurring in the summers constantly
22 throughout, I think, probably every code cycle we've had.

23 Now, for reference, on the left, you can see the
24 2022 LSC or TDV summer average electricity costs, and on
25 the right, you can see transmission and distribution costs

1 decreasing, shifting to the winter peak on the previous
2 slide. Now we're really in a transitional period, you
3 know, where the value of summer electricity in the near
4 term is very high, but over a 30-year period of analysis,
5 winter is becoming increasingly more important. Now from a
6 building performance perspective, a lower summer LSC peak
7 could result in significantly higher summer peak cooling
8 for some buildings when demonstrating compliance with the
9 performance approach and trading away measures that save
10 peak cooling energy.

11 So our intent is to try and ensure that these
12 buildings don't create unnecessary demand during these peak
13 cooling periods. Now how do we address this potential
14 issue?

15 Well, step one of the strategy was to isolate the
16 periods that we're looking to affect. These challenges and
17 changes in time of use rates generally occur between 4:00
18 and 9:00 p.m., and that was the window that we chose to
19 focus on.

20 Now step two was to identify the types of
21 buildings that could have high variances in mechanical
22 cooling loads. Our modeling showed that some buildings
23 could have significantly higher mechanical cooling demand
24 than that of a building that met prescriptive requirements.

25 Step three was to zero in on the climate zones

1 that have meaningful cooling demand, and where mechanical
2 cooling demand is small, perhaps the limit there would not
3 be necessary.

4 And step four was to determine a performance
5 target for buildings to be covered by this peak cooling
6 limit.

7 So which buildings had a high variance in
8 mechanical cooling with performance tradeoffs?

9 Now we found that single-family buildings could
10 trade away multiple measures that save peak cooling energy.
11 This could result in an increase of more than four times
12 the mechanical cooling side energy use of a building that
13 met prescriptive requirements when compared to a building
14 that met the prescriptive requirements of the Energy Code.

15 Now when analyzing multi-family and
16 nonresidential buildings, we didn't find significantly
17 higher peak cooling loads when similar tradeoffs were made.
18 So there's no intent to pursue a peak cooling limit for
19 multi-family buildings and nonresidential buildings.

20 Just for a little background on that,
21 nonresidential buildings generally have schedules that
22 don't get into the evening hours, you know, the 4:00 to
23 9:00 period that we're looking to affect. And multi-family
24 building envelopes are a little bit different than single-
25 family, and we found that the effects of removing some of

1 these measures were highly more impactful on single-family
2 buildings than they were on multifamily buildings.

3 We then looked at peak cooling energy use for
4 single-family buildings by climate zone, based on the 2025
5 proposed standard design, and as a result further zeroed in
6 on the buildings that should be covered. We found that
7 Climate Zones 4 and 8 through 15 have high enough peak
8 cooling energy use that were they to double or even triple,
9 for example, the impact would be significant. Now Climate
10 Zones 1 through 3 and 5 through 7 are the coastal climate
11 zones, which just don't really see mechanical cooling needs
12 and or not significant mechanical cooling needs. And then
13 Climate Zone 16 is our coldest climate zone, think Lake
14 Tahoe, think Yosemite, think snow, think Shasta. Those
15 areas just don't have the mechanical cooling demand that we
16 see in the climate zones that we're looking to regulate,
17 which is 4 and 8 through 15.

18 So what are we proposing that this peak cooling
19 limit look like?

20 Now we're looking to apply it to single-family
21 buildings in climate zones 4 through 15, as you saw on the
22 last slide. We're proposing to set a performance target to
23 the resulting peak cooling energy use of the 2025 standard
24 design building. And what that means is that your proposed
25 building size and orientation, meaning the prescriptive

1 requirements, would be what sets the peak cooling limit in
2 the performance approach. And if your proposed design's
3 peak cooling kilowatt hours is equal to or less than the
4 standard design peak cooling limit, then your building is
5 in compliance.

6 All right, now let's talk about next steps. An
7 updated version of the 2025 CBECC-Res research version,
8 including the proposed peak cooling limit, will be
9 available for download in the coming weeks. It'll be
10 available for download at the link on this page. And when
11 it is available, you know, we intend to send out a notice
12 on the docket so that people get notification that it's
13 available for download.

14 I think one of the things that we would like to
15 ask is that stakeholders kick the tires. You know, I
16 think, you know, this is going to affect, again,
17 specifically single-family buildings and a portion of those
18 in certain climate zones; right? So designers that have
19 experience with software and that do this work certainly
20 want to hear your feedback on this in the coming months
21 here.

22 The docket where we'll have the notices linked on
23 this page and language that will describe this peak cooling
24 limit will be added to the single-family residential ACM
25 reference manual. And we'll share that language or that

1 draft language as it's developed.

2 I think we expect to have at least a couple more
3 of these workshops over the next few months, likely early
4 next year, and, you know, hope to continue to engage once
5 stakeholders have had a chance to download the updated
6 software and provide feedback about what they're seeing as
7 a result of trade-offs in that limit.

8 So, you know, appreciate that we have a common
9 period that's in two weeks for this workshop. But for the
10 purposes of this change, I think we'll be having longer
11 discussions over the months that are to come. So I don't
12 want you to feel like this two-week window is your only
13 chance to provide any feedback or to have meaningful input
14 here.

15 And with that, I started this by saying, you
16 know, we had only a few slides here and I spoke faster than
17 I meant to, so we're now at the questions portion. So if
18 anyone has questions, Payam, perhaps I'll pass it to you
19 and see if you can coordinate that.

20 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Javier.

21 With that, we do have a couple of raised hands
22 and a comment in the Q&A. So I'm going to go straight to
23 the raised hand.

24 And I think the first one is Bob Raymer. Go
25 ahead and state your name and affiliation, Bob.

1 MR. RAYMER: Thank you, Payam and Javier. This
2 is Bob Raymer representing the California Building Industry
3 Association. And, wow, there's a lot to take in today, and
4 I know I'm not going to get this done in two minutes, we
5 definitely will get you some comments. We'd probably like
6 to have, you know, a chew-the-fat session with staff
7 because there are going to be a ton of questions.

8 We need to get our hands on that beta version as
9 soon as possible because we've started doing analysis. And
10 I don't want console doing analysis on something that's
11 inherently going to change. And so, and as always, we will
12 work with you with our findings and all that.

13 Going back to those charts, I'd like to
14 understand a little bit better the transmission and
15 distribution spikes that we've seen. Yeah, right,
16 particularly that one.

17 I'm assuming this is EV charging and, you know,
18 space heating in the winter.

19 MR. PEREZ: Yeah.

20 MR. RAYMER: And what I don't understand is that
21 there seems to be a disjunction where at one point in time,
22 the Energy Commission was saying and ARB was saying that
23 this is -- that EV was not going to have much of an impact
24 at all on the grid and now it is, apparently, a huge one
25 here. And we know that that's not really the case. I

1 mean, the summer peak load is still going to be the summer
2 peak load. We're going to get hot, very hot summers. It's
3 going to be probably the priority for the regs. And what
4 I'm seeing here is, you know, the course first and second
5 place will now be occurring in the winter where the fact is
6 in California, we're going to be having milder winters. I
7 mean, you could probably see a lot of rain instead of snow
8 or whatever, but which is its own problems. But there's a
9 lot of questions here.

10 So, you know, we'll, you know, we'll get our
11 written comments into you. It's just, you know, we're
12 heading into the formal rulemaking stage and it leaves me
13 very queasy trying to figure out how can we let you know
14 what we really feel about the standards if we can't do the
15 total analysis. As always, CBI looks for, you know, what
16 does compliance look at the end of the day? You know, what
17 are the most cost effective ways, the lowest cost, the most
18 cost effective ways to get from A to B? And right now for
19 most of the climate zones, we can't really give you any
20 kind of accuracy on that.

21 So, wow. Aye yai yai. Okay, we need to chat
22 afterwards, so I'll reach out to you over, Javier. Thank
23 you.

24 MR. RAYMER: Thank you, Bob. And we look forward
25 to that discussion.

1 MR. PEREZ: Yeah. Yeah, thanks, Bob. I think
2 we've met a few times already and I think we'll continue to
3 meet to make sure that we can get on the same page on these
4 efforts here. So really appreciate your feedback. I think
5 we want to make sure we're all on the same page as we keep
6 moving forward, so appreciate your engagement.

7 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you.

8 Next, Jon McHugh. Go ahead and state your name
9 affiliation.

10 MR. MCHUGH: Hi, Jon McHugh, McHugh Energy. Very
11 interesting presentation today.

12 You know, similar to Bob's comments, I used to
13 work for a winter peaking utility. I know that things have
14 changed, but I kind of wonder if you know what Bob's
15 bringing up about EVs, if you know right now rates are low
16 in the middle of the night. And the projection is that
17 rates are going to be high, higher in the middle of the
18 night and, you know, there will be more emphasis on
19 workplace charging. And, of course, there's more people
20 whose workplaces are at their homes, so that will be more
21 EV charging in the middle of day.

22 I'm actually very supportive of, you know, the
23 approach that's being considered. We are moving into a
24 hotter environment. We're expecting temperatures to get
25 hotter. We don't want buildings to lose the features that

1 keep them not only saving on utility bills but also
2 preventing blackouts, and also if a blackout does occur,
3 the life, safety, and health issues associated with
4 buildings that are able to ride through, you know, a hot --
5 heat storm in the summer and loss of power.

6 The other comment I have is I think it would
7 behoove the Commission to take a look at other building
8 types, and in particular hotel/motel which has that same
9 kind of bi modal peak for water heating, which is both in
10 the evening and in the morning. And, you know, also, you
11 know, has sort of a residential dwelling units that, you
12 know, potentially are also not so internally low dominated
13 but more envelope dominated.

14 And then finally, this kind of approach,
15 actually, I think aligns well with the national standards.
16 If you look at ASHRAE 90.1, if you're using the performance
17 approach that performance approach has a requirement that
18 the -- that there's not excessive tradeoffs between
19 envelope requirements and the other, and the, you know,
20 mechanical and lighting and that sort of thing. So what's
21 being proposed I don't think is really that new.

22 Similarly, for the ICC for the residential
23 requirements, there's also, when you're looking at the
24 performance approach, there's also a limit on SHGC. So the
25 SHGC, the, you know, the area weighted average SHGC, is not

1 great, you know, in Climate Zones 0 through 3, and
2 California is primarily in the ICC Climate Zone 3. Their
3 residential standard says the average at SHGC can't be any
4 higher, and actually -- and the area. And then it's total
5 thermal conductance is also not higher, so actually fairly
6 well aligned with what's happening in the national
7 standards.

8 I'll stop there but thank you very much for this
9 opportunity.

10 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Jon. We'll be
11 talking. Thank you so much.

12 Next we have Ronnen Levinson from LBNL. Please
13 state your name affiliation, and if you can spell your name
14 for the first time.

15 MR. LEVINSON: Sure. Good morning. My name is
16 Ronan Levinson R-O-N-N-E-N L-E-V-I-N-S-O-N. I'm a staff
17 scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. And
18 thanks for sharing this strategy for trying to limit the
19 cooling demand. A few comments.

20 First, I want to make sure that we're
21 considering, not just the cost to the system but the
22 potential hazards that we might be inducing in homes or
23 other buildings, why anything that pushes our buildings to
24 become hotter in summer, and so that means hotter roofs or
25 windows that are admitting more solar heat gain? Because

1 we have to worry about the consequences in the event of
2 either a public safety power shutoff or grid failure, or
3 just in disadvantaged communities where there might not be
4 economic access to air conditioning.

5 So, that's one point. We need to think a little
6 bit beyond just cost to the system but the effects on
7 people.

8 The second is some of the envelope provisions in
9 Title 24, Part 6 really have the greatest effect when it
10 comes to major alterations. And here I'm thinking about
11 roof coverings because the vast majority of the roof
12 covering market, which I mean roofing products like
13 shingles or tiles or such, those go to existing buildings.
14 And the requirements that are in Title 24 for both
15 residential and commercial buildings do largely stem out of
16 the analysis that's done for new construction with some
17 modifications for major alterations.

18 But my point is that if we wind up in a situation
19 where the cool roof requirements in Title 24 are based on
20 assumptions tied to new construction, for example, they
21 assume that the buildings have heat pumps, whereas, in
22 fact, the buildings have electric cooling and gas heating
23 because they're existing buildings and that heat pumps
24 haven't been installed yet, we're going to wind up with the
25 wrong recommendations for minimizing the energy use of

1 these retrofitted buildings.

2 And the third point is, I noticed that the focus
3 here was on single-family residential. And one of the
4 points that was made is that other types of buildings, such
5 as nonresidential or multifamily, might not be using
6 cooling so much during the peak hour window of 4:00 to
7 9:00. But this is a little surprising because, certainly,
8 retail buildings are open well into this window, and many
9 office buildings, too, are open well into this window as
10 well. So I'm not quite sure I understand why the idea to
11 cap the cooling demand isn't considering those other sorts
12 of buildings.

13 So, just a few thoughts. And thank you very much
14 for the opportunity to share them.

15 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Ronnen. I think
16 we're going to have to have some discussions with you about
17 the alterations versus new construction and that point.

18 MR. LEVINSON: Happy to.

19 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Wonderful.

20 Next, we have Steve Strawn.

21 Steve go ahead and state your name affiliation
22 and if you can, just spell your last name.

23 MR. STRAWN: Good. Good morning, everyone.
24 Thanks, Payam, and Javier. My name is Steve Strawn,
25 S-T-R-A-W-N, I'm from Kettleman (phonetic) Windows and

1 Doors. And as you might imagine, my focus is a little bit
2 singular in the envelope considerations.

3 And so just listening to -- I mean I agree with
4 Bob and his initial comments, there's a lot of time to go
5 back here. But in continuing to listen, it looks to me
6 like maybe part of the problem, at least, is focused on
7 fenestration or windows and doors skylights. The tradeoffs
8 maybe causing us some heartburn.

9 Is there -- you know, if we look at the envelope
10 load and the excessive tradeoffs that may be allowed, and
11 I'm not sure exactly how high they can go or what's even
12 reasonable, certainly want to leave some flexibility in
13 design which is why we use a performance approach to offer
14 that flexibility for well-designed passive homes, for
15 example, but if that is causing the problem, certainly
16 limiting the amount of solar heat gain, rated solar heat
17 gain for the windows might help to reduce some of that
18 discomfort in the heating load that causes a discomfort.

19 I don't really know where you want to go with
20 this. I'd like to get a little bit more information.

21 And, you know, Payam, you and I have talked a
22 little bit about this, but I think that, at least from my
23 view, understanding where you want to go with the solar
24 heat gain tradeoffs, particularly with windows and doors,
25 I'd like to learn a little bit more about that.

1 That's all. Thank you.

2 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, thanks. Thanks, Steve. Yeah,
3 the idea is that these buildings are -- they perform as a
4 system; right?

5 MR. STRAWN: For sure.

6 MR. PEREZ: So where you trade -- where one
7 trades away solar heat gain efficiencies, then something
8 should be made up to ensure that the buildings peak cooling
9 load doesn't increase beyond that building if it had met
10 the prescriptive requirements. So setting this up as a
11 performance target does allow some variability or some
12 flexibility for designers to still, perhaps, trade solar
13 heat gain for insulation or vice versa, but it generally
14 still sets a cap to not allow these buildings to have
15 runaway peak cooling loads as --

16 MR. STRAWN: Agreed. Absolutely.

17 MR. PEREZ: -- those trade-aways happen.

18 MR. STRAWN: Yeah.

19 MR. PEREZ: Thanks, Steve.

20 MR. STRAWN: Thank you.

21 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Steve. And as soon
22 as the program is available, I will walk you through and
23 we'll discuss further.

24 MR. STRAWN: Oh, great. Thank you.

25 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: You're welcome.

1 Next we have Nick Brown.

2 Nick, go ahead and state your name and your
3 affiliation.

4 MR. BROWN: Hi, I'm Nick Brown. I run Build
5 Smart Group, a energy consultancy in Long Beach, so my
6 experience is advising builders and architects on the
7 tradeoffs and the most cost effective set of features to
8 achieve code compliance.

9 So, you know, we added a third compliance metric
10 in 2022, the source efficiency, and it's already somewhat
11 challenging to have a set of features meet all three
12 compliance metrics concurrently. So with this proposal
13 that we add a fourth metric that also needs to be met, my
14 concern is that we've got really got to make sure that this
15 added complexity solves a very real problem.

16 So I would like to see the problem more clearly
17 shown than the single bullet that you had saying you could
18 have up to four-time peak cooling energy use with a certain
19 set of features. My question would be: Moving to these
20 2025 LSC factors, what set of features lead to higher peak
21 cooling energy use, and how much?

22 I'd like to better understand that because, to
23 me, one of the reasons Title 24 works with builders like
24 Bob's, you know, members and architects, like all the
25 clients I work with, is that it allows for these tradeoffs.

1 It's always allowed for us to find a pathway that the
2 design and builder can live with that meets their aesthetic
3 and functional goals while still supporting the state's
4 climate goals.

5 And I'm afraid that if the standard design of
6 peak cooling energy use is that target, then we're really
7 taking away the ability to creatively come up with sets of
8 features that meet the code. We're going to end up getting
9 closer and closer to prescriptive standard design without a
10 whole lot of flexibility to deviate from that.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. PEREZ: Very much appreciate that feedback,
13 Nick. I think we can certainly follow up with more detail
14 on things that can be traded away.

15 Just for reference, you know, increasing HSPF and
16 water heating efficiency results in sizable credits and,
17 from there, measures that save peak cooling are generally
18 envelope related. You know, ventilation cooling are
19 measures that are designed to reduce that.

20 I mean, I'm sure you've got a sense to that,
21 Nick, but I do appreciate that you're asking that we
22 outline that in much more detail. So certainly we'll take
23 that back and we'll have something for you.

24 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Nick. Thank you,
25 Javier.

1 We have Bob Raymer.

2 Go ahead, sir. It's Bob Raymer from CBIA. Go
3 ahead, sir.

4 MR. RAYMER: Yeah, thank you. Bob Raymer with
5 CBIA.

6 And I really concur with Nick's comments just
7 now. You know, for one thing, we've always seen the
8 mechanical. Particularly, super efficient mechanical
9 systems can play a great role in shaving the peak load.
10 You know, those above and beyond the minimum requirements
11 have always been a great way to do that. I've got personal
12 experience in Sacramento where, you know, we moved to a
13 higher efficiency air conditioner and cut my summer bill in
14 half. It was stunning. And so it plays out quite well.

15 I think we, as Nick said, we need to look further
16 into what these tradeoffs will continue to be, but CBIA is
17 a big fan of mechanical tradeoffs.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, and that's still available,
20 Bob. I appreciate that point. You know, I think
21 increasing SEER or EER efficiencies on mechanical systems
22 that reduce cooling load will result in lower peak cooling,
23 and then that does give you buffer to trade other things
24 away.

25 MR. RAYMER: Exactly.

1 MR. PEREZ: So that still does exist, Bob, it's
2 just the concerns we have around the winter savings and
3 that variability resulting.

4 MR. RAYMER: Sure. Sure.

5 MR. PEREZ: So appreciate the feedback, Bob. I
6 definitely look forward to trying to zero in on this.

7 MR. RAYMER: All right. Thanks.

8 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you.

9 Next, I'm going to go -- I think we're going to
10 take a quick pause from the raised hand and go right to the
11 questions and answers. We have Haile Bucaneg that's going
12 to read those and we will try to answer those.

13 MR. BUCANEG: Thanks, Payam.

14 We do have a few comments online from, or
15 questions online from Dan Johnson, Beyond Efficiency.
16 First, "Could you clarify why is peak cooling in kilowatt
17 hours over what time interval and shouldn't peak cooling be
18 in kilowatts or power limit?"

19 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Haile, I apologize. Can we
20 take a quick 15-minute break? We're having a little bit of
21 a technical difficulty. A few of our computers just died.
22 Stay tuned. We're going to take a quick five minute break.
23 I apologize.

24 MR. BUCANEG: No problem.

25 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Sorry about that.

1 MR. BUCANEG: (Indiscernible.)

2 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: And, please, let the Q&As come
3 in and let the raised hands go up and we will take care of
4 it ASAP. Apologize.

5 (Off the record at 9:51 a.m.)

6 (On the record at 9:54 a.m.)

7 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Okay, I think we're back on.
8 And I sincerely apologize for that. We had one of our
9 power sources for one of our laptops die, and we weren't
10 able to hear some of the discussions.

11 So, Haile, could you start with that one more
12 time? Apologize.

13 MR. BUCANEG: No problem. So the first question
14 from Dan Johnson, Beyond Efficiency,

15 "Could you clarify, why is peak cooling in
16 kilowatt hours, over what time interval, and shouldn't peak
17 cooling be in kilowatts or power limit?"

18 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Javier, do you want to answer
19 that or should we come back?

20 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, I'm sorry. Can you read that
21 one more time? I'm just getting my headset back going.

22 MR. BUCANEG: No problem, Javier.

23 So the question is: "Could you clarify, why is
24 peak cooling in kilowatt hours, over what time interval,
25 and shouldn't peak cooling be in kilowatts or power limit?"

1 MR. PEREZ: It's about site energy use during
2 4:00 to 9:00, and that's the window that we're looking at.
3 Again, with peak weather events, as well as time-of-use
4 rates, you know, that's been the driver for this measure.

5 You know, I don't know if Danny Tam might have
6 anything to add there, but I think that might answer your
7 question.

8 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Danny, do you want to respond
9 to Javier's comments?

10 MR. TAM: Give me a minute to think about it.
11 Sorry.

12 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Okay. Okay, so stay tuned on
13 that one. We'll come back.

14 Haile, leave that one on. We'll try to respond
15 to it. If not, we're going to have to contact Dan and
16 directly talk to him about this.

17 But do you want to read his next comment?

18 MR. BUCANEG: Sure. Second comment from Dan
19 Johnson at Beyond Efficiency.

20 "In our compliance work, we have proposed designs with
21 10 kilowatt hour per year cooling energy, compared to
22 standards at 5 kilowatt hour per year. These are
23 coastal projects. Would these fail based on peak
24 cooling?"

25 MR. PEREZ: The coastal climates are likely 1, 3,

1 5, 6, and 7, as well as 2, which is somewhat coastal, but
2 north. The limit that we're looking -- or that we're
3 proposing is for Climate Zones 4 and 8 through 15. And I
4 think that's part of the reason that we're not looking at
5 coastal climate zones, Dan, is that those loads are so
6 small that imposing a limit is likely not necessary.

7 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Okay. Thanks, Javier.

8 I think Dan has got a couple more.

9 MR. BUCANEG: Yes. Next question:

10 "Why is the winter 2025 T&D peak in the evening, not
11 in the morning during building warm-up period? What
12 grid loads are driving a winter evening peak?"

13 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, space heating, the amount of
14 electrification that we're seeing over that 30-year
15 interval, you know, we've got some changes that are
16 happening. You know, 2045 is one of those biggest goals,
17 one of the bigger goals around building decarbonization,
18 and that results in mechanical heating leading to
19 electricity significantly; right? And that period of
20 analysis of the 2025 Energy Code is 2026 to 2056; right?
21 So this is that transitional period where we're beginning
22 to see the back end of those years significantly affect the
23 larger average.

24 So I hope I'm answering your question. Let me
25 know if you have any follow-up.

1 MR. BUCANEG: Okay, and the final question from
2 Dan: "If there will be no LSC penalty on summer evenings,
3 then why do we care about this at all?"

4 MR. PEREZ: I wouldn't say there's no LSC penalty
5 on summer evenings. I would say that, you know, that the
6 peak shifting to winter reduces the severity of that
7 penalty to the point that in some scenarios, and I
8 appreciate Nick's comment about getting into more detail
9 about the scenarios and we'll follow up with that, you
10 know, it leads to doubling or tripling or even more of peak
11 cooling loads, mechanical cooling loads. And that, with
12 trading efficiencies that save heating energy, could still
13 be in compliance.

14 In other words, you'd have a building that
15 performs fairly well during winters, but during summers
16 could perform very, very poorly. And any time use rates as
17 they are and as they'll continue to be in weather as it's
18 continuing to go, you know, pointing towards summers are
19 continuing to be challenges, both on utility grid as well
20 as on consumers and time-of-use rates. So where LSC
21 doesn't protect those scenarios, that's why we're trying to
22 limit this.

23 Again, we've isolated this to single-family
24 buildings in Climate Zones 4 and 8 through 15; right? So
25 this is a subset of a subset of California's new

1 construction building stock. It's not something that's
2 being applicable across the board here.

3 I do appreciate suggestions to look at hotels
4 and other types of buildings, and I think we will analyze
5 that. Like I said, in the coming months we will have
6 workshops to continue to unpack this and see if we can get
7 on common ground with where we go.

8 But I think we can all agree that these summers
9 aren't getting cooler. You know, we had our peak event in
10 September of last year during Labor Day. People at the
11 Energy Commission were working, you know, through that
12 holiday weekend. And we're not here to make sure those
13 people can enjoy holiday weekends. The point of that is to
14 say that these challenges exist and they're existing with
15 much more frequency. And where we have an opportunity to
16 ensure that we can limit the effects of these buildings on
17 those challenges, we're going to attempt to do that.

18 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Javier.

19 Before we go to Ronnen's question, two other
20 points that he forgot to mention, I'm going to jump in and
21 ask Danny, could you respond to Dan's first comment that he
22 made about the KWs?

23 MR. TAM: Yeah. Hi. Danny Tam, CEC staff.

24 Yeah, we don't use kilowatt because that's just,
25 you know, something that happened in an instance. It could

1 be, you know, just kilowatt power draw in one second, but
2 that's not a unit measurement for energy. We're more
3 concerned about, you know, how much energy, peak cooling
4 energy use over a period, so that's why we use kilowatt
5 hour.

6 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you.

7 And I see Dan has his hand raised. We'll come
8 right back to the raised hands one more time.

9 I think, Haile, you have another comment from
10 Ronnen, so go ahead.

11 MR. BUCANEG: Yes. Our last Q&A comment at the
12 moment is from Ronan Levinson at LBNL.

13 "Two other points I forgot to mention earlier. One,
14 existing or potential cool envelope measures, for
15 example, reflective roofs, reflective walls, mitigate
16 the urban heat island effect, UHIE, which lowers
17 outside air temperature and thereby provides
18 additional peak demand reduction and energy savings.

19 And his second point is, "These same measures
20 would also provide global cooling, negative radiative
21 forcing, to offset the atmospheric warming effects of
22 greenhouse gas emissions."

23 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Sorry, I've been talking on
24 mute. I apologize.

25 Thank you, Haile. Thank you, Ronnen, for the

1 comment, and thank you, Haile, for reading. We will take
2 those into consideration as we move forward.

3 I'm going to go back to the raised hands, and I
4 think Jon McHugh, I'm going to unmute you, and go ahead and
5 state your name and affiliation. Thank you.

6 MR. MCHUGH: Jon McHugh, McHugh Energy. Can you
7 hear me?

8 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Perfect. Thank you.

9 MR. MCHUGH: Okay. Great. Yeah.

10 I wanted to circle back to a couple of comments
11 made by, I think it was Nick Brown and Bob Raymer, talking
12 about flexibility associated with a performance approach.
13 And Nick, you know, was concerned about the flexibility./
14 And Bob Raymer brought up the issue about, well, are we
15 just talking about envelope? And he gave the example of,
16 for instance, air conditioning units that were highly
17 efficient and then provided flexibility in terms of
18 tradeoffs.

19 In terms of your definition of peak cooling, are
20 you actually talking about peak cooling loads, or are you
21 talking about peak cooling air conditioning, or essentially
22 summer energy consumption during the 4:00 to 9:00 period?
23 And that energy consumption during that summer period we're
24 calling the peak cooling is actually an energy, you know,
25 is sort of a time-of-use energy consumption during that

1 period, so it includes both the cooling loads, but then
2 also the efficiency of the equipment that's mitigating
3 those cooling loads. Is that correct, that we're actually
4 looking at energy consumption and not cooling loads per se?
5 Is that correct?

6 MR. PEREZ: Yeah. Yeah, thanks, Jon. Yes. You
7 know, ultimately, we're looking at the period of 4:00 to
8 9:00 and mechanical cooling loads. So in other words, if
9 you have a higher SEER or higher EER, then your mechanical
10 system will consume -- will run less in theory, assuming
11 your envelope is sufficient enough to make sure that it
12 doesn't run throughout that entire period; right?

13 But, yeah, to answer your question, it is about
14 the energy consumption and mechanical cooling system.

15 MR. MCHUGH: I see. And so as a result,
16 equipment efficiency is one of those tradeoffs that --

17 MR. PEREZ: Yeah.

18 MR. MCHUGH: -- will be available through this?
19 Thank you so much.

20 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, sure thing, Jon.

21 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Jon. Thank you,
22 Javier.

23 Next, we've got Dan Johnson. Go ahead and state
24 your name affiliations. And for the first time, please
25 spell your name out.

1 MR. JOHNSON: Hello, this is Dan Johnson, Beyond
2 Efficiency. We're an energy consulting company. Thank you
3 for responding to my typed questions. That's all clear.
4 Thank you.

5 I'm a little confused by the nature of this
6 measure. It seems kind of unprecedented in the sense that
7 all energy -- all building optimization up to this point
8 has been to minimize total annual LSC. And if LSC is
9 changing in terms of which hours of the year are most
10 penalized, it seems like we're arbitrarily picking some
11 hours that have no penalty anymore compared to what it used
12 to be and saying, oh, wait, wait, wait, but we still want
13 to incentivize these hours. But if there were a reason to
14 incentivize those hours, why doesn't the LSC continue to
15 weight them? And from the answers given previously, it
16 sounds like, well, there's a divergence now between retail
17 electric rates and actual LSC or grid costs in some sense.

18 So this is really like a consumer protection
19 measure where we're trying to reduce consumer costs during
20 these hours because they're so divergent from LSC, and so
21 that seems kind of unprecedented. I'm wondering if you
22 could comment more on that?

23 And then, also, is there a cost effectiveness
24 justification for this? Because costs have traditionally
25 been done in LSC dollars, not consumer retail rate dollars.

1 So thanks a lot.

2 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, I mean, setting a standard
3 design to the prescriptive requirement doesn't inherently
4 change the cost of any requirement; right, Dan? We're not
5 requiring a more efficient building than one that meets the
6 prescriptive requirements. And all prescriptive
7 requirements have already gone through that spiel for costs
8 and benefits.

9 You know, I think one of the things that we're
10 looking towards in 2028, and perhaps you've been an
11 advocate for this, is for the 2028 cycle, we're looking to
12 analyze future or forward-facing weather rather than doing
13 typical meteorological years based on previous 20 years of
14 weather data. I'm pretty sure you may have had comments
15 suggesting that we do this. And I think this is -- this
16 may be, if we are successful in using future weather for
17 2028, that may dampen or more appropriately recognize the
18 value of summer electrons; right? But absent of that work,
19 you know, this is the position that we're in.

20 But, Dan, I hope I'm not misattributing the
21 future weather to you. But I feel like that might have
22 been something that you had suggested in the past. And
23 you're still unmuted if you're there.

24 MR. JOHNSON: Oh, yes, I have suggested future
25 weather. Thanks for pursuing that.

1 Yeah, I guess it sounds like you're trying to
2 pre-solve for the future LSC time series that we'll have
3 another code cycle.

4 MR. PEREZ: Well, I would say that, you know, the
5 resiliency issues that we have are real; right? I
6 appreciate that you're focusing on the consumer aspect.
7 And that is one aspect of it.

8 But, you know, having buildings consume multiple
9 times more electricity than one that meets the prescriptive
10 compliance is something that I think everyone can agree is
11 real problematic. And, you know, over a three-year period,
12 that's maybe somewhere in the 150,000 homes that
13 theoretically might be constructed, assuming construction
14 trends follow where they are. And there's a lot of
15 stakeholders that are affected by that. Obviously, not
16 just those who pay utility bills, but the grid as a whole.

17 So do appreciate your comment. I agree with you.

18 MR. JOHNSON: Can I say one --

19 MR. PEREZ: Please.

20 MR. JOHNSON: I'm sorry. Can I say one more
21 thing?

22 MR. PEREZ: Yes.

23 MR. JOHNSON: In order to pass the Energy Code
24 under current rules, those homes that might have higher
25 peak cooling during 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. for a handful of

1 hours a year, they would have been optimized to have lower
2 LSC than the standard design in the year as a whole in
3 order to pass code and be built.

4 MR. PEREZ: Yeah.

5 MR. JOHNSON: So why are we cherry picking a
6 particular time of year and going outside of the whole LSC
7 construct to impose new conditional requirements?

8 MR. TAM: This is Danny again.

9 So as you see on those LSC curves, basically,
10 winter measures way overwhelm cooling measures. So in that
11 sense, just a higher HSPF equipment can trade away really
12 significant traditional envelope measures. So in the near
13 term, that is a significant problem for the homeowner
14 because it would greatly increase their, you know, cost for
15 cooling.

16 MR. JOHNSON: But the LSC time series that you're
17 feeding to these designers has them designing that building
18 that has higher costs for homeowners. So that's what's
19 really confusing here. I'm sorry, I can't articulate it
20 well enough. You're telling people to design this winter-
21 optimized building under this LSC time series that you've
22 shown. Why doesn't the LSC time series put more penalty on
23 the peak cooling if that's a concern to you?

24 MR. PEREZ: I think that's the challenge that
25 we're in, Dan. And similar to you, I'm probably not the

1 best on my feet in some moments, so I do want to recommend
2 that we maybe get a second call and talk through these
3 things. You know, I think this is intended to be a stopgap
4 between now and the next cycle where we do anticipate LSCs
5 will -- if future weather is what we think it might be, it
6 might be reflecting the value of all of these electrons a
7 little bit differently.

8 But yeah, it's a tough riddle to solve, Dan. But
9 if you don't mind, I would like to maybe schedule a call
10 with you and our team to go over this.

11 MR. JOHNSON: Sure, thank you for the dialogue.
12 I appreciate it. Thanks.

13 MR. PEREZ: Thanks.

14 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: So Javier and Dan and others,
15 let's do a side discussion on this. And Javier, let's
16 invite our consultant team that worked on this, including
17 Danny and Bruce Wilcox, and we could discuss this further
18 with Dan. Thank you.

19 While talking, I noticed there's a couple more
20 Q&As that came.

21 Haile, do you want to take over those?

22 MR. BUCANEG: Sure thing.

23 First question, Kevin McFadden.

24 "Following up on the questions from Jon and Dan, does
25 this mean the requirement will be based on total

1 cooling kilowatt hours consumed between 4:00 to 9:00
2 p.m.?"

3 MR. PEREZ: Yes. Yeah, I think that's a pretty
4 clear question.

5 MR. BUCANEG: Perfect. Thank you, Javier.
6 And then moving on, Natalie Seblom (phonetic)
7 from AHRI. "Just to clarify, are you deviating from the
8 LSC analysis?"

9 MR. PEREZ: I'm not sure what that question
10 means. But what I would say is that LSC analysis is done,
11 that work wrapped up in November, so that's still there.
12 That's still the underlying analysis. But again, for
13 single-family in some climate zones, we're looking to set a
14 peak cooling limit.

15 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: So the numbers are not really
16 changing, the base numbers? It's just that we're --

17 MR. PEREZ: Right.

18 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: -- dealing with the peak?
19 Okay. Cool. Thank you.

20 MR. BUCANEG: And that's it for the Q&A's right
21 now.

22 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Thank you, Haile.

23 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: I don't see any raised hand. I
24 mean, this is an opportunity to ask questions and us trying
25 to make an attempt to answer them. We have until three

1 o'clock.

2 Oh, we got one more question that came in through
3 the question and answer, Haile.

4 But please ask your questions, because we really
5 do want to get this right. I mean, this is one part of the
6 code that we need to get right, so please, or I'll go put a
7 slide on the screen right now.

8 Or, Javier, if you could move down to your next
9 slide?

10 You could submit your comments to that one right
11 there. You could submit your comments by October 12. And
12 I think earlier, Javier said that October 12 is just for
13 this workshop and we've still got time. And there's going
14 to be more workshops and discussions on this topic. But
15 let's start asking our questions sooner so we get those
16 answers faster.

17 I did see one raised hand. Bob, I saw you raise
18 your hand. Oh, there you are. Cool. Thank you. Go
19 ahead, sir.

20 MR. RAYMER: Yeah. Bob Raymer with CBIA.

21 Payam, I just wanted to impress upon the Energy
22 Commission how important it is that we get our hands on the
23 updated version of CBECC with the back stops.

24 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Sure.

25 MR. RAYMER: You know, the consul is doing their

1 analysis but, you know, we tend to focus on the climate
2 zones that are actually the ones having the backstops. So
3 to the extent we can get our hands on that ASAP, it would
4 be fantastic. Thanks a lot, Payam.

5 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Sure. Thanks, Bob. Right now,
6 we do have our programmers on the call, too, and they know
7 the dire need for this. They're working. And hopefully,
8 we get this out in the next few weeks for you guys, as
9 Javier says, to kick the tires and ask questions and have a
10 dialogue with us. After this meeting, we will probably do
11 a huddle and try to get to see how fast we can get this
12 program out for everyone to, as Javier says, kick the tires
13 on.

14 But meanwhile, I saw three Q&As that came up.
15 Haile, do you want to take those?

16 MR. BUCANEG: Sure thing. From Natalie Seblom at
17 AHRI. "When will the technical report be published for the
18 peak cooling load proposal?"

19 MR. PEREZ: I don't have a timeline for that.
20 You know, this is Javier. You know, because this is going
21 to be part of the ACM Reference Manual, it can lag a little
22 bit behind the Energy Code rulemaking process. You know,
23 we hope to have updates here in the coming months, but stay
24 tuned. You know, I think we're expecting to get
25 significant feedback similar to today's workshop; right?

1 And I think that will feed our analysis and more refine
2 where we land with this. But, yeah, stay tuned.
3 Appreciate the question.

4 MR. BUCANEG: Thank you, Javier.

5 From Kevin McFadden. "When selecting a piece of
6 equipment to meet these requirements, is this envisioned to
7 be based on EER or SEER?"

8 MR. PEREZ: The SEER, both on heat pumps and air
9 conditioners, have federal minimums. So the standard
10 design for SEER will be based on those federal minimums.

11 For EER and air conditioners, there's a federal
12 minimum. So similarly, there's a backstop there. And that
13 standard design where an air conditioner is simulated will
14 be based on that EER of whatever the federal minimum is,
15 which is to say, if you install an EER that's higher than
16 that air conditioner's federal minimum, then you'll get a
17 credit, right, because EER targets vary depending on
18 capacity.

19 Now for heat pumps, there is no federal minimum
20 for EER. And the software currently tracks proposed and
21 standard design when it comes to demonstrating compliance
22 with LSC in source or TDV in source energy, right, under
23 2022. What that means is if you install a system with a
24 heat pump with an EER of 10, then the proposed and standard
25 design are based on an EER of 10.

1 Now for peak cooling, the same logic will follow
2 through. In other words, for all of our performance
3 metrics, that LSC source and for peak cooling, the EER
4 that's proposed matches the EER that -- the standard design
5 matches the EER that's proposed.

6 Now having said that, where an EER does go above
7 those federal minimum numbers that we talked about, air
8 conditioners, I think it's 11.2 or 11.7, depending on
9 capacity. If one goes beyond that, let's say you install
10 EER 12 or EER 13, whether it's heat pump or air
11 conditioner, then now there will be a credit, because now
12 you're beyond that federal minimum that is there for air
13 conditioners. And we're trying to make that line be
14 symmetrical across air conditioners and heat pumps for peak
15 cooling, as well as LSC in source.

16 So, Kevin, that was a long answer to your
17 question. I hope it was clear, but if not, just
18 Javier.Perez@energy.ca.gov is my email address.

19 MR. BUCANEG: Thank you, Javier.

20 And finally, from Deborah Gaye-Regi (phonetic).

21 "When will a recording of this meeting, along with the
22 updated software, be available? Appreciate all that
23 you do."

24 The recording, historically, we've gotten the
25 recordings the same day as of late. No promises but, you

1 know, I think that likely can be posted this afternoon on
2 the workshop page.

3 Your other question has already escaped me.

4 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Yeah, the presentation will be
5 available either by tomorrow. And then the --

6 MR. BUCANEG: The software.

7 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: -- yeah. And the software,
8 we're hoping within the next two weeks or so. I think
9 earlier on, Javier brought that up. We will be doing a
10 discussion with our programmers to see if we can get that
11 out sooner as possible.

12 MR. PEREZ: Yeah. And, you know, we've got some
13 really urgent deadlines with the 2022 software, and that's
14 priority one. But this likely should follow shortly after.
15 So again, likely in the two-week window, we hope. But the
16 moment that it gets -- that it's available for download,
17 we'll put a notice on the docket to let anyone who
18 subscribed to the docket know that that software is
19 available for download. So appreciate your patience with
20 that, and stay tuned.

21 MR. BUCANEG: Thank you.

22 And we have one more come in from Patrick Riley.
23 "Besides higher efficiencies, EER and SEER, are there
24 other aspects of the HVAC products that are a trade-
25 off for this requirement, i.e. demand response

1 capabilities?"

2 MR. PEREZ: We have a credit for pre-cooling. I
3 don't know very much about it, but Danny might be able to
4 speak to it. You know, duct insulation, obviously, if you
5 have your ducts in unconditioned space, can affect
6 mechanical loads. So where you increase insulation, that
7 can have effects.

8 But outside of that, I don't believe we have --
9 your question on demand response, I don't believe we have a
10 credit.

11 But, Danny, sorry to pick on you. It's the first
12 name that comes to mind.

13 MR. TAM: Yeah, anything that affects mechanical
14 cooling, low-leakage air handler, increased duct
15 insulation, we do have pre-cooling, but I think that might
16 only reduce the total, not the efficiency. But we can
17 talk.

18 MR. BUCANEG: Yeah, I think pre-cooling is the
19 only thing we have for single-family. The other demand
20 response items are nonresidential, I believe.

21 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Okay. Thank you, Danny. Thank
22 you, Haile. Javier, thank you.

23 As of now, I don't see any other comments or
24 concerns or questions, either in the Q&A portal or in the
25 participants raised hands. I'm going to give it about

1 another two minutes or so, let people digest a little bit
2 of this, and see if there's any further questions. If not,
3 there's no other topics for today. This will be the end of
4 it.

5 But stay tuned. As Javier alluded earlier in his
6 presentation, there will be more workshops as we move
7 forward with the LSC metric and the single-family peak
8 cooling. We will be releasing the 2025 version again here
9 shortly. It all depends on how much work is still left for
10 the 2022. That needs to get out as soon as possible, I
11 think by next week or so. And the programmers will be
12 directing their focus and trying to get the 2025 version
13 for you folks here right after.

14 While talking, I noticed that there was one more
15 Q&A that came up, Haile.

16 MR. BUCANEG: Yes, from Steven -- Steve Strawn.
17 "Thanks for the update today, and look forward to continued
18 discussion."

19 MR. BOZORGCHAMI: Wonderful. Thank you, Steve.
20 Yeah, you have my number on speed dials, so I'm more than
21 happy to talk to you.

22 With that, and I don't see any other comments or
23 any other raised hands or concerns or questions, again,
24 it's not the end. You've still got time, October 12, to
25 submit your comments to our docket. And we will be taking

1 those seriously. And we will be reviewing and coming up
2 with a solution. And, also, we will be posting the program
3 here shortly.

4 With that, thank you for your time.

5 MR. PEREZ: Thanks, everyone.

6 (The workshop adjourned at 10:29 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 11th day of October, 2023.



MARTHA L. NELSON, CERT**367

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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.

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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

October 11, 2023