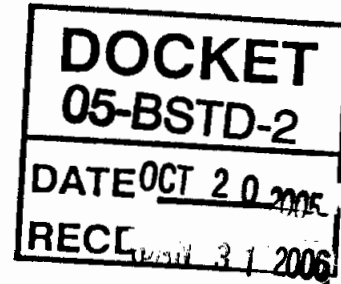


October 20, 2005

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Written Comments for First Workshop, 2008 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards,
October 24 and 25, 2005

Novitas is a manufacturer of lighting control devices.

We are submitting two comments for consideration during the October 24-25, 2005 Staff Workshop/2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards.

- The first is that announcement of the workshop was extremely late and will likely restrict participation by interested parties. We received an e-mail announcement dated on October 17, 2005. It took further research on the CEC's website to find out how to submit written comments. The deadline for submission of these comments was noon on October 20. This does not allow sufficient time for consideration and drafting of comments. We were unable to prepare comments before the afternoon of October 20 which we hope will be considered, but we would strongly urge the Commission to provide earlier notification in the future.

- Our second comment regards the Prescriptive Requirements for Indoor Lighting as described in Section 146.4.D which states:

For occupant sensors used to qualify for the Power Adjustment Factor in small offices of less than or equal to 250 square feet, the occupant sensor shall have an automatic OFF function that turns off all the lights, either an automatic or a manually controlled ON function, and have wiring capabilities so that each switch function activates a portion of the lights. The occupant sensor shall meet all the multi-level and uniformity requirements of Section 131 (b) for the controlled lighting. The first stage shall activate between 50-70% of the lights in a room either through an automatic or manual action. After that event occurs any of the following actions shall be assigned to occur when manually called to so do by the occupant.

- Activating the alternate set of lights.*
- Activating 100% of the lights.*
- Deactivating all lights.*

We feel it is a mistake to require the first stage activate between 50-70% of the lights in a room.

There may be situations when the occupant would prefer or require that less than 50% of the lights in a room lit. If they constantly have to manually activate the alternate set of

lights they will become frustrated with the occupant sensor, leading to complaints for the facility manager or even deactivation of the energy saving device. Occupant acceptance is the key to successful operation of any energy-saving device.

We believe that the ideal design for a multi-level occupant sensor would require that the switch remember which load was last lit when the lights were shut out and relight that load the next time lights are turned on either automatically or manually. If both loads were lit, then only the primary load would be lit when lights are next turned on. This ensures occupant satisfaction by recognizing the occupant's preferences.

Our recommendation is that the requirement that the first stage activate between 50-70% of the lights in a room either through an automatic or manual action be changed to require that the first stage activate between 30-70% of the lights in a room either through an automatic or manual action.

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