

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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TN # 66197

JUL 12 2012



In the matter of the Design of the
New Solar Homes Partnership

) Energy Commission
) Docket No. 06-NSHP-1
)
) RE: Notice of Additional Program
) Funding

New Solar Homes Partnership Program Notice of \$25 Million in Additional Funding

This notice is being provided to inform stakeholders of an additional \$25,000,000 in funding that is now available for the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP). This funding became available as a result of a recent loan repayment to the Renewable Resource Trust Fund (RRTF) pursuant to the Governor's 2011-2012 Budget.

Background

The NSHP began in 2007 and is part of the California Solar Initiative, a comprehensive statewide solar program. The NSHP provides rebates to encourage the installation of eligible solar energy systems on energy efficient new homes and residential buildings. The goal of the NSHP is to install 400 MW of solar electric capacity on new homes and residential buildings by the end of 2016, helping to create a self-sustaining market for solar homes.

During the fall of 2011, the NSHP program experienced a temporary surge in the number of rebate reservation applications received for NSHP funding. The total amount of funding requested exceeded available program funds at that time. To address this issue the Energy Commission established a NSHP Waiting List and related criteria at its November 16, 2011 Business Meeting. Under the Waiting List criteria, all complete rebate reservation applications that had not received a reservation were placed on the Waiting List based on the application submission date. Reservation applications on the Waiting List were then processed off of the list and issued reservations using available program funds. Under the Waiting List criteria, unfunded rebate reservation applications will remain on the Waiting List until December 31, 2012, at which time the list and any unfunded applications on the list will be automatically cancelled, unless the Energy Commission acts in advance of this date to extend the list.

The NSHP Waiting List was last updated on June 29, 2012. At that time, the total amount of funding requested by reservation applications on the Waiting List was

approximately \$21.6 Million. The available program funds totaled approximately \$6 Million, leaving the NSHP program with a shortfall of approximately \$16 Million.

Additional Funding

The \$25 Million in additional program funding is expected to cover rebate reservation applications currently on the NSHP Waiting List, with approximately \$ 9 Million in funding left over for additional rebate reservation applications. Because the demand for program funding remains high, relative to funding availability, the Energy Commission will continue to utilize the NSHP Waiting List and related criteria to process and fund rebate reservation applications. This will ensure that complete rebate reservation applications are processed and funded on a first-come, first-serve basis, as funding is available.

If additional program funding becomes available in the future, the Energy Commission will inform stakeholders of the additional funding at that time.

For technical questions or program-related questions, please contact Le-Quyen Nguyen at (916) 654-4650, or by e-mail at [Le-Quyen.Nguyen@energy.ca.gov]. Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us].

Electronic Mail Lists: Renewable, Go Solar, PV Calculator, NSHP Communities

Date: July 11, 2012