

From my perspective, CAHP and NSHP marry well and make both NSHP and CAHP simple and easy to package and "sell" to builders and developers. I would highly suggest a strongly collaborative approach to developing next year's NSHP program with the CAHP program team.

Last I heard the CAHP team still had not determined next year's minimum entry level score, but it may be as low as 10%. It would be ideal if both teams could work together to determine an entry point that made sense in the context of next year's building code. Once the new code is implemented, we will have entered a stage where all cost-effective improvements have already been mandated, so NSHP and CAHP will be "reach" programs moreso than ever before. Setting the entry point too low defeats the program's purpose, but setting it too high will choke off participation, hindering both NSHP and CAHP's abilities to serve the purposes of solar proliferation and advanced code prep.

On another note, there was much discussion about how the NSHP process could be streamlined, and I felt that an unfair amount of pressure was placed on HERS raters despite the fact that we cannot fully control the current paperwork stream. I suggest that the NSHP team first nail down which documents are specifically required for incentive payout, then ensure that those documents are independently accessible for completion by the necessary parties.

CHEERS has not enabled their NSHP module for general use yet, so I can't comment on their process, but as of now the CalCerts process is the only option available, and their paperwork stream functions linearly, like so:

CF-1R (by energy modeler) → Address, permit number, and plans inputted per lot (by HERS rater) → PV-IDs assigned (by solar installer; can happen anytime up until CF-6R-PVs are initiated) → CF-6R s completed (by HVAC and insulation trades) → CF-4Rs completed (by HERS rater) → CF-6R PVs completed (by solar installer) → CF-4R PVs completed (by HERS rater).

CF-1R-PV (by utility representative) and → PV-IDs uploaded are two steps that must happen anytime after the CF-1R upload step, and must happen before PV-IDs can be assigned by the installer. Plenty of CF-4R PVs are delayed by this bottleneck alone. Other than these two steps, the above process MUST happen to completion in the order listed.

So for example, if an HVAC installer fails to complete one of his CF-6Rs, we can't complete (or even access) our CF-4R forms regardless of whether or not our inspections are completed. Similarly, the solar installer cannot complete their CF-6R PVs and we can't complete our CF-4R PVs. As you can see, the paperwork process alone is quite convoluted and involves multiple parties who are not under any one party's oversight or jurisdiction. Decoupling forms your program does not specifically need, even if that decoupling only applies to the NSHP plan set, would help.