

Residential & Nonresidential Alternative Calculation Method (ACM) Approval Manual

Dee Anne Ross Building Standards Office Efficiency Division California Energy Commission DOCKETED 15-BSTD-01 TN 75253 MAR 05 2015

2016 Rulemaking Hearing March 2, 2015



Two ACM Manuals

Alternative Calculation Method (ACM)

ACM <u>Approval</u> Manual

- Under consideration
- Contains the process for approving software

ACM <u>Reference</u> Manuals

- Not being considered at this time
- Documents how the software models building components (algorithms, assumptions)
- Will be developed when 2016 details known



Compliance Manager

The term Compliance Manager means:

- Simulation and compliance rule implementation software
- Engine for all software, including public domain CBECC-Res and CBECC-Com

NOTE: Although Public Domain software is not an ACM, CBECC-Res and CBECC-Com follow the procedures in this manual.



2016 Overall Approach

- Combined Residential and Nonresidential into one ACM Approval Manual
- Submittal requirements
- Approval process for new software and updates
- Timelines
- Software tests moved to Appendix A and B



Types of Approval

- Functionality or Vendor Changes / no change in results
- Bug fixes / may change results
- Minor Compliance Manager updates
- Major Compliance Manager updates



- ✓ Bug fixes made to the Compliance Manager
- ✓ No Approval Required
- ✓ If combined with other changes it becomes a major or minor update
- \checkmark No expiration of previous version



Changes Initiated by Vendor

- No compliance manager update involved
- No change in results / examples include:
 - Error messages
 - Screens
 - New operating system
- No approval required
- Must notify the Energy Commission

Process for Compliance Manager Changes

Minor Updates

- Have 45 days or longer to incorporate
- Old version expires in 60 days

Major Updates

- Have 90 days or longer to incorporate
- Old version expires in 90 days
- Business Meeting or Executive Director approval (Management Decision)



Submittal Requirements

- Software tests
 - All tests required for initial approval
 - After which only affected tests required
- Software for review by the Commission capable of creating the HERS transfer file
- Fee for initial approval
- Fee may be required if an application is rejected or disapproved



- Included the language to cover the cases when new versions are approved and previous versions expire
- Decertification is limited to:
 - Major defects
 - Standards change



Basics of Compliance Manager

- How the standard design/energy budget is calculated
- Building features
- Appliance standards
- Source of Time Dependent Valuation
- Climate Zone details
- Reference Manuals



User Manual

- Energy Commission staff looking for:
 - Detailed help for user to model a building
 - A tutorial
- Will not require the resolution approving the software (which is posted on the Energy Commission's approved programs website)