

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Continuation of the New Solar Homes Partnership Program
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Document Title:	Notice of the Workshop on Proposed Changes to the Guidebook for the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) 10th Edition
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



In the matter of:)	Docket No. 16-NSHP-01
)	
Revision of Guidebook for the New Solar)	NOTICE OF STAFF WORKSHOP
Homes Partnership Program (NSHP))	RE: NSHP GUIDEBOOK
)	

**Notice of
Workshop on Proposed Changes to the Guidebook for
the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP)**

The California Energy Commission's Renewable Energy Division will conduct a workshop to receive comments on the proposed changes to the document: *Draft New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook, Tenth Edition*.

January 6, 2017
9:00 AM
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 Ninth Street
First Floor, Charles Imbrecht Room
Sacramento, California 95814
Wheelchair Accessible

Remote Access Available by Computer or Phone via WebEx™
(Instructions below)

Purpose

The purpose of this workshop is to present information on the proposed changes to the *Draft New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook, Tenth Edition*, and to solicit comments from interested parties. The document, *Draft New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook, Tenth Edition*, contains proposed revisions to the existing guidebook and will be posted in advance of the workshop on the Energy Commission website at: <http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/16-NSHP-01/documents/index.html>.

Proposed Changes

The Tenth Edition of the NSHP Guidebook is anticipated to be considered by the Energy Commission at its March 8, 2017, Business Meeting for adoption. Several important changes and streamlining efforts are reflected in this *Draft New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook, Tenth Edition* as compared with the July 2015, Ninth Edition of the NSHP Guidebook. The proposed changes are summarized below:

Incentive levels:

- Ends Incentive level decline at step 8 for both Market-Rate and Affordable Housing projects.
- Increases incentive rates for Affordable Housing projects.

Incentive Calculations:

- Introduces the Flexible Installation (FI) calculator to determine the incentive for project submissions. This calculator will multiply the Alternating Current (AC) system size by the incentive level that applies to their project. This calculation will also adjust the incentive to take into account performance based on the project's geographic location and shading.
- Discontinues the California Energy Commission's PV Calculator.
- Discontinues the additional incentive for west-facing systems.
- Discontinues the partial payment incentive process.

Incentive Disclosure Form:

- Includes new form to ensure a realized incentive benefit to the end-use customer when the payee is the installer, equipment seller, or third-party system owner.

Energy Efficiency:

- Includes a code-compliant option only for projects meeting 2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, under Title 24, Part 6 (2016 code-compliant).
- Responds to changes to the 2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (2016 Standards) as it relates to NSHP. If a PV system is used for compliance under the 2016 Standards, only the portion of the system that exceeds the size required to claim the Title 24 PV compliance credit can be eligible for incentives.
- Removes 30 percent space cooling requirement in order to achieve the Tier II energy efficiency level for projects considered under 2013 Building Energy Efficiency Standards, (2013 Building Code projects).
- Enables code-compliant projects to provide proof of energy efficiency verification through either the Certificate of Occupancy or completion of the required CF-3Rs in an approved California Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Provider Registry.

- Restricts 2013 Building Code common area projects to code-compliant incentive level only.
- Restricts 2008 Building Code common area projects to Tier 1 incentive level only.

PV System Eligibility:

- Changes eligibility to include only systems installed with azimuths between 90 degrees and 280 degrees.
- Increases the amount of time that the solar permit may be applied for from 60 days to 120 days after the issue date of a certificate of occupancy.

PV Field Verifications:

- Increases allowed sample group size to 1 in 15 (open group) for the field verification sampling approach.
- Clarifies the HERS sampling approach.
- Defines the NSHP HERS Registry Approval Process.

NSHP Established Installer Designation:

- Creates the “Established Installer” designation for PV installers that meet specific criteria and submit a request to the Energy Commission.
- Allows “Established Installers” to submit the Established Installer Lease/PPA Form, which is an affidavit signed by the lessor that can be submitted in place of a final lease agreement certifying that the NSHP requirements have been incorporated into the lease agreement/PPA for each address.
- Allows “Established Installers” to complete an attestation for each site certifying the system meets program requirements and operates satisfactorily in lieu of the current NSHP PV-2 form.
- Establishes that the Energy Commission reserves the right to bar noncompliant installers from future program participation.

Affordable Housing Projects:

- Removes the requirement for tax-exempt status to allow all affordable housing residential projects to receive the affordable housing incentive rate for the residential units that are subject to the conditions of the regulatory agreement.
- Allows affordable housing common area projects to be eligible for the affordable housing residential incentive rate as long as 80 percent or more of the residential units in the project are subject to the conditions of the regulatory agreement.

Projects Located in Disadvantaged Communities:

- Offers an incentive bonus to affordable housing projects located in Disadvantaged Communities identified through CalEnviroScreen.

General Program Changes:

- Modifies program forms and general program processes.

Background

Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) (Murray, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2006), established the California Solar Initiative (CSI) with the goals of (1) installing solar energy systems with a generating capacity equivalent to 3,000 megawatts, (2) establishing a self-sufficient solar industry within ten years, and (3) placing solar energy systems on 50 percent of new California homes by 2020. The CSI is being implemented by the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and the state's local publicly owned electric utilities in different programs that share the same broad goals.

Launched in 2007, the NSHP Program is the Energy Commission's component of the CSI and is limited to solar on new residential construction. The program provides financial incentives for homeowners, builders, and developers to include solar energy systems on new, energy efficient homes that will contribute to the CSI goals.

In 2015, Senate Bill 83 (SB 83) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2015), and the subsequent CPUC Final Decision 16-06-006, extended the life of the NSHP and directed the investor owned utilities to collect additional ratepayer funds necessary to achieve the \$400 million in program funds originally authorized under SB 1. The NSHP seeks to achieve 360 megawatts of installed distributed solar photovoltaic electric capacity by the end of 2021.

This workshop will provide information on planned updates and solicit stakeholder input to ensure that the program design for NSHP adequately addresses stakeholder considerations, updates to the Energy Efficiency Requirements under Title 24, Part 6 in the California Building Code, and current market conditions in the solar photovoltaic and new construction industries. The NSHP requirements are set forth in the NSHP Guidebook. A copy of the *Draft NSHP Guidebook, Tenth Edition* will be available prior to the workshop at <http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/16-NSHP-01/documents/index.html>.

Public Comment

Oral comments are encouraged during the workshop, and may be limited to three minutes per speaker. All comments may become part of the public record in this proceeding. Written comments should be submitted to the Energy Commission's e-commenting online system no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20, 2017.

1. Go to the Energy Commission's website: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/e-filing/>.
2. Click "Comment on a Proceeding" in the Additional Information box.
3. Type "16-NSHP-01" into the Select a Proceeding field then hit Enter.
4. Click "Select" to Select a Proceeding.

5. Click “Continue” to Add a Comment.
6. Commenters are required to input their full name, email address, and comment title. Comment title should be “Jane Doe or Company Name Comment re NSHP Workshop.”
7. Type comments into the “Comment Text” field or upload a document with comments. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc or .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf).
8. Enter the CAPTCHA that is used to prevent spamming on the website. Then click on “Agree and Submit your Comments”.

Written comments will also be accepted before or at the workshop. However, Energy Commission staff may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the meeting. For additional information, see Standing Order re: Proceedings and Confidentiality Procedural Requirements for Filing, Service, and Docketing Documents with the Energy Commission, available at:

www.energy.ca.gov/commission/chief_counsel/docket.html

Additionally, written comments will be posted to the Energy Commission’s website for the proceeding. Please note that your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (for example, your address, phone, email, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and any other search engines.

If you prefer, you may send a paper copy of your comments to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 16-NSHP-01
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Public Adviser and Other Commission Contacts

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission proceedings. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4489 (toll free at (800) 822-6228).

If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Poneh Jones at poneh.jones@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Media inquiries should be sent to the Media and Public Communications Office at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-4989. If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Elizabeth Hutchison at: Elizabeth.Hutchison@energy.ca.gov or (916) 654-3838.

Remote Attendance

You may participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you may listen to audio via your computer or telephone. Please be aware that the meeting may be recorded.

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at: 1-866-569-3239 or <https://help.webex.com>.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at:
<http://energy.ca.gov/renewables/16-NSHP-01/documents/index.html>.

DATE: December 27, 2016

Mail Lists:

NSHP listserv

Efficiency listserv

GoSolar listserv

PVCalculator listserv

Renewable listserv