Docket Number:	13-ATTCP-01
Project Title:	Acceptance and Training Certification
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Document Title:	Notice of Availability
Description:	Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Application Review: Refrigeration Service Engineers Society
Filer:	Cathy Hickman
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
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In the matter of:

Refrigeration Service Engineers Society Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Application Docket No. 13-ATTCP-01 Notice of Availability Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Application Review: Refrigeration Service Engineers Society

Notice of Availability

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The Refrigeration Service Engineers Society's application to be approved as an Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider for Nonresidential Mechanical Systems under Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10, §10-103.2(c) has been reviewed for compliance by staff and is now available for public comment.

This application will be considered for approval by the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) at its next business meeting on May 10, 2017.

Background

The Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider (ATTCP) program provides training, certification, and oversight of Acceptance Test Technicians¹ (ATTs) that perform acceptance tests required by the *2016 Building Energy Efficiency Standards* (Standards). ATTCPs are professional organizations that provide training curriculum for technicians and their employers, certification procedures, complaint resolution (including disciplinary procedures), quality assurance, and accountability measures. Acceptance testing ensures that installed equipment, controls, and systems operate as required by the Standards and as designed. The Refrigeration Service Engineers Society (RSES) submitted its application to the Energy Commission for approval as a Nonresidential Mechanical ATTCP on December 12, 2016.

RSES's application was reviewed and evaluated by staff pursuant to Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10, §10-103.2(e), which requires review of ATTCP applications according to the criteria and procedures set forth in Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10, §10-103.2(c). The relevant sections of the application as they pertain to Title 24, Part 1, Chapter 10, §10-103.2(c)1 through §10-103.2(c)3 were summarized, assessed, and determined to meet the criteria.

RSES proposed a nonresidential mechanical ATTCP program that allows technicians to certify on individual acceptance tests. This modular strategy is sensitive to the needs of small heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) commercial contractors, who

¹ Acceptance Test Technician is a Field Technician as defined in §10-102 who is certified by an authorized Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider pursuant to the requirements of §10-103-A or §10-103.2.

would not benefit from training that they will neither use nor require. Small HVAC commercial contractors that do not possess or require experience in complex systems-such as hydronics, chillers, thermal storage systems, or energy management systems-perform most of the light (small) commercial work, which is a large share of the available work in California. RSES's association is composed primarily of these small HVAC commercial contractors.

RSES will rely on an online data registry that will be operated by the ESCO Group. The registry, which is not to be confused with the Nonresidential Data Registry, will monitor technicians and employers and restrict them to only those acceptance tests that they possess certification for. Certification will require all technicians that apply to pass an entrance exam, complete the required training, and pass an exit exam for both classroom and laboratory material. The registry is a critical component of the application and will serve as:

- An application portal.
- A document archive.
- A mechanism for filing complaints.
- A certification status verification tool.
- A repository for the required information that providers, local building departments, and Energy Commission staff may request.
- The first level of quality assurance checks for all compliance documentation submitted by ATTs, and coordination of on-site audits of one percent of all compliance documents submitted by ATTs.

RSES will use the registry to perform continuous checks on the efficacy of compliance documents in process to compare like compliance documents and compliance documents completed by individual certified technicians. Any abnormalities flagged by the automated system will initiate an investigation. Scheduled and unscheduled audits will ensure consistency. Any audit findings will be reviewed by RSES for correction and/or possible disciplinary action. On-site audits of at least 1 percent of all compliance documents submitted by an ATT will be coordinated with the ESCO Group.

RSES does not directly control a training facility in California that is capable of performing the mechanical systems acceptance tests required by the Standards (§120.5). However, RSES has a memorandum of understanding with Brownson Technical School and the North American Training Center to provide the required hands-on training. RSES has developed the curriculum, training, procedures, and certification tests that will be used at these facilities. The facilities will provide training equipment, qualified instructors, and, if required, examiners who meet or exceed the requirements set forth by RSES and approved by the Energy Commission. Staff conducted an on-site visit of both facilities and has deemed them acceptable for the training and test requirements described in the application.

Recommendation for Conditions of Approval:

Staff recommends the following condition of approval. If this condition is violated, the Energy Commission may immediately suspend program approval.

In the event that the Brownson Technical School and/or the North American Training Center facilities become unavailable, RSES shall notify the Energy Commission within 10 working days. The issue shall be remedied within 90 days.

Written comments. Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by **5:00 p.m. on May 3, 2017**. Written comments will be also accepted up to and during the business meeting; however, the Energy Commission may not have time to review them before the conclusion of the meeting.

Please note that your comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g. your address, phone, email) become part of the viewable public record. This information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and other search engines.

The Energy Commission encourages use of its electronic commenting system. Visit the website at <u>https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=16-ATTCP-01.</u>

This will take you to the page for adding comments to this docket. Please enter your contact information, any organization name, and a title describing the subject of your comments. You may include comments in the box titled "Comment Text" or attach a file in a downloadable, **searchable format** in Microsoft® Word (.doc, .docx) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Maximum file size is 10 MB.

Written comments may also be submitted by emailing them (include docket number 13-ATTCP-01 and Refrigeration Service Engineers Society Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Application in the subject line) to the Docket Unit at <u>docket@energy.ca.gov</u>.

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

California Energy Commission Docket Unit, MS-4 Re: Docket No. 13-ATTCP-01 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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Remote Attendance

You may participate in the 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.

To join a meeting:

Specific instructions for joining the Energy Commission Business Meeting are posted on the Energy Commission website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/calendar/index.php?elD=2865.

Availability of Documents

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at <u>http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/attcp/</u>.

April 20, 2017

Signature on file Dave Ashuckian, P.E., Deputy Director Efficiency Division

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