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Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider 2019 Update Review: National Energy Management Institute Committee

**Compliance Review for the 2019 California
Building Energy Efficiency Standards**

**Gavin Newsom, Governor
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ABSTRACT

Per the requirements in Section 10-103.2(d) of the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*, approved mechanical acceptance test technician certification providers must report to the California Energy Commission (CEC) adjustments that they have made to the training curricula to address adopted updates to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The CEC adopted the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards* on May 9, 2018, and they went into effect January 1, 2020. CEC staff notified the National Energy Management Institute Committee on January 10, 2019, that it must develop a report of adjustments it will make to its training curricula and application to address new and modified requirements in the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*. The National Energy Management Institute Committee submitted its updated report April 1, 2019.

Staff evaluated the training curricula adjustments and application amendments and determined they met the requirements of Section 10-103.2(c). Staff recommends that the CEC approve the National Energy Management Institute Committee training curricula adjustments and other application amendments.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mechanical acceptance test technician certification provider program provides training, certification, and oversight of technicians and their employers who perform acceptance tests required by the Building Energy Efficiency Standards. Providers are professional organizations approved to provide training curricula, as well as certification procedures, complaint resolution services (including disciplinary procedures), quality assurance, and accountability measures to technicians and their employers. Acceptance testing ensures that the technician installs and makes operational the equipment, controls, and systems in nonresidential buildings as required by the Building Energy Efficiency Standards.

Pursuant to Section 10-103.2(d) of the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*, providers are required to report to the California Energy Commission (CEC) adjustments that they made to training curricula to address changes to acceptance testing requirements or to adopted updates to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards. The mechanical acceptance test technician certification provider must submit the update report no less than six months before the effective date of any newly adopted Building Energy Efficiency Standards. All reports shall contain a signed certification that the mechanical acceptance test technician certification provider meets all requirements in Section 10-103.2(c).

A provider must also demonstrate to the CEC that its acceptance testing certification services will comply with any applicable updates if its previously approved application does not comply with new or modified requirements. The training curricula adjustments and any other application amendments must be reviewed by the CEC according to criteria in Section 10-103.2(f) to determine if a provider has satisfied the requirements under the Building Energy Efficiency Standards.

The CEC approved the National Energy Management Institute Committee as a mechanical acceptance test technician certification provider on March 15, 2015. On January 10, 2019, CEC staff notified the National Energy Management Institute Committee it would need to develop its 2019 update report detailing adjustments it will make to its training curricula and application to address new and modified requirements in the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*.

CEC staff reviewed the 2019 update report and found that the training curriculum adjustments and other application amendments meet the requirements of Section 10-103.2(c)3 of the *2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards*, and determined that the report is approvable. Therefore, staff recommends that the CEC approve the National Energy Management Institute Committee 2019 update report.

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CHAPTER 1:

Background

Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider Program

Acceptance testing ensures that technicians install and make operational the equipment, controls, and systems in nonresidential buildings as required by the Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code). The California Energy Commission (CEC) developed the acceptance test technician certification provider (ATTCP) program to improve compliance with lighting controls and mechanical acceptance test requirements.

The ATTCP program provides training, certification, and oversight of acceptance test technicians (ATTs) who perform the acceptance tests required by the Energy Code and their acceptance test employers (ATEs). ATTCPs are professional organizations approved by the CEC to develop and implement the training. They also provide certification procedures, complaint resolution (including disciplinary procedures), quality assurance, and accountability measures.

Requirements for 2019 Update Report

In accordance with Section 10-103.2(d) of the 2019 Energy Code, mechanical ATTCPs (M-ATTCPs) are required to report to the CEC adjustments made to the training curricula to address changes to mechanical system acceptance testing requirements or any adopted updates to the Energy Code. The M-ATTCPs must submit the update reports no less than six months before the effective date of any newly adopted Energy Code and shall include a signed certification that the M-ATTCP meets all requirements for this program. M-ATTCPs must also demonstrate to the CEC that their acceptance testing certification services will comply with any applicable updates to the Energy Code.

These 2019 update reports submitted by M-ATTCPs are application amendments. According to Section 10-103.2(f) of the 2019 Energy Code, "Amendments that contain any substantive changes shall be subject to the application review and determination process specified in §10-103.2(e)." According to Section 10-103(f)1B, "A substantive change is a change that substantively alters the requirements of the application materials for the ATTCP, ATT, or ATE." As such, staff will evaluate the training curricula adjustments and other application amendments contained within 2019 update reports to determine if an M-ATTCP's training, certification, and oversight services comply with the criteria and procedures set forth in Section 10-103.2(c)3 of the 2019 Energy Code.

Scope of 2019 Update Report

The 2019 Energy Code includes significant changes that affect the training requirements of M-ATTCPs. The most significant of these changes include the addition of a new acceptance test and substantial alterations to existing acceptance tests. These changes will substantively alter the requirements of the M-ATTCP application materials for the M-ATTCP, ATT, and ATE. Therefore, the CEC must approve each M-ATTCP 2019 update report at a public business meeting. On January 10, 2019, staff issued a letter to all M-ATTCPs outlining the expected scope that the M-ATTCPs must address in their 2019 update reports. This scope includes:

1. Required updates to training materials for technicians performing work to reflect the 2019 Energy Code:
 - a. Substantive Changes:
 - i. Occupant-sensing zone controls acceptance testing
 - ii. Functional testing for air-handling unit (AHU) valves
 - iii. Mandatory requirements for demand management controls
 - b. Nonsubstantive Changes:
 - i. Constant-volume, single-zone, air conditioners, and heat pumps
 - ii. Automatic fault detection diagnostics (FDD) for AHUs and zone terminal units (ZTU)
 - iii. Changes to definitions for the 2019 Energy Code
2. Voluntary Changes:
 - a. Duct Leakage Testing:
 - i. The voluntary addition of air distribution acceptance testing for ATTs as a replacement of the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) rater
 - b. Other Changes:
 - i. Other voluntary changes that the M-ATTCP may propose for staff to evaluate

Evaluation and Success Criteria

Staff must evaluate each change (required or voluntary) that an M-ATTCP makes to its application through the approval process for the update report, as described in the Energy Code. The staff evaluation includes two basic criteria: validation of submitted changes and compliance of those changes with the Energy Code.

Validation includes using third-party sources or filings, site visits to training centers, demonstration of software operability, and other methods as appropriate to ensure that

the proposed changes are actual changes and consistent within the M-ATTCP application.

Staff determines compliance with the Energy Code by starting with Section 10-103.2(c), qualification and approval of certification providers. This section lays out the basic requirements for all functions of the M-ATTCP. In addition to training curricula, laboratory training, minimum experience of ATTs, testing, recertification, training for ATEs, complaint procedures, revocation procedures, quality assurance and accountability, and certificate identification requirements (for ATTs and ATEs), the section also requires that all M-ATTCPs provide training and certification for all acceptance tests listed in Section 120.5 of the Energy Code. M-ATTCP training must comply with all requirements in the Energy Code, including Part 6 and the Nonresidential Appendix (as referenced in Section 120.5).

Staff will recommend approval of amendments that can be validated successfully and demonstrate compliance with the Energy Code. In terms of validation, staff must be able to determine if the proposed amendment is real. For example, if an M-ATTCP states that it will use a training center for the required laboratory training/testing, staff will visit the center to ensure that it is real and has the necessary training facilities, equipment, and personnel to train and test ATTs. Staff validates training materials and specifically, the training presentations for completing the acceptance test by their incorporation into the existing framework created by the original M-ATTCP application. For example, most M-ATTCPs use live training and proctored exams. Therefore, a presentation must fit within that framework created by the application. M-ATTCPs have also used classroom recordings as an alternative to live instruction. In those instances, staff reviews the recordings to make sure that they follow the approved presentations.

Demonstrating compliance with §10-103.2 and §120.5, NA7.5, and other sections, is done by comparing the presentations with the requirements in the Energy Code. First, the presentation needs to be categorized by the requirements in §10-103.2; then presentations are compared to the requirements in §120.5 and NA7.5. These sections may include references to other requirements within the Energy Code, and may add further requirements that need to be reflected in the training. These sections describe the procedures to perform the acceptance test and under what conditions.

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CHAPTER 2:

M-ATTCP 2019 Update Report Evaluation

Introduction

National Energy Management Institute Committee (NEMIC) is a 501(c)(6) organization that provides, among other things, education, training, and certification preparation for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) professionals. NEMIC is a CEC approved M-ATTCP in good standing since its original approval on March 15, 2015. The CEC adopted the 2019 Energy Code on May 9, 2018, which went into effect on January 1, 2020. CEC staff notified NEMIC on January 10, 2019, that it must develop a 2019 update report detailing the adjustments it would make to its training curricula and application to address the new and modified requirements in the 2019 Energy Code.

NEMIC submitted their 2019 update report on April 1, 2019. CEC staff determined that NEMIC's 2019 update report was complete on February 25, 2020. Staff reviewed NEMIC's 2019 update report according to the specified in §10-103.2(e) of the 2019 Energy Code and found that NEMIC's proposed application amendments are valid and in compliance with the 2019 Energy Code.

Amendments Proposed by NEMIC

The 2019 NEMIC update report includes the following scope of amendments to its M-ATTCP application:

1. Required updates to training materials for technicians performing work to reflect the 2019 Energy Code
 - a. Substantive Changes:
 - i. Occupant sensing zone controls acceptance testing
 - ii. Functional testing for AHU valves
 - iii. Mandatory requirements for demand management controls
 - b. Nonsubstantive Changes:
 - i. Constant-volume, single-zone, air conditioners, and heat pumps
 - ii. Automatic FDD for AHUs and ZTUs
 - iii. Voluntary minor updates to all training and testing materials.
 - c. No proposed amendments needed to reflect changes in the 2019 Energy Code definitions
2. Voluntary Changes:

- a. The voluntary addition of air distribution acceptance testing for ATTs as a replacement of the HERS rater
- b. Introduction of two levels of Mechanical ATT (MATT Level 1 and MATT Level 2) in the NEMIC ATTCP program.

NEMIC submitted a confidentiality request for these materials, which the CEC approved. Therefore, staff cannot discuss the specifics of the material submitted by NEMIC in this public document. The overall scope of the classroom training materials follows and explains the application of, and acceptance test process for, the acceptance test requirements. The laboratory training follows the acceptance testing procedures. The classroom testing and test questions address both the basic knowledge of the prospective ATT regarding HVAC installation, code requirements, and specifically the acceptance test procedures. The laboratory testing procedure enables the proctor to evaluate the prospective ATTs knowledge and ability to execute the acceptance test procedure. The training and testing materials are consistent with the framework developed by the original NEMIC application and will enable NEMIC to use them for live instruction and proctored testing.

Required Updates to Training Materials

Substantive Changes

This section discusses the regulatory changes that staff deemed substantive based on the associated effect on M-ATTCPs at the organizational level.

Occupant Sensing Zone Controls Acceptance Testing

Regulatory Requirements

The CEC added this new acceptance test under the 2019 Energy Code for occupant sensing zone controls for space conditioning systems. The application of these systems is limited to spaces that are required to have occupant sensing controls (§130.1(c) and Table 120.1-A) where occupancy category permits ventilation air to be reduced to zero when the space is in occupied-standby mode. ATTs must become familiar with the situations under which the new standard is required as described by §120.2(e)3, §130.1(c), and Table 120.1-A. Additionally, the ATT needs to be familiar with the code sections referenced by Table 120.1-A including: §120.1(d)4E, §120.1(c)3, and the exception to §120.1(g).

The ATTCP must provide the ATT with the appropriate training, testing, and certification to conduct the occupancy sensing zone controls acceptance test as prescribed in NA7.5.17, including the construction inspection and functional testing.

NEMIC Amendments

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes both classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for occupant sensing zone controls acceptance testing for the ATT and ATE. As described earlier, this material is confidential.

Staff Evaluation

The staff evaluation of the training and testing materials submitted in the NEMIC 2019 update report, specific to occupant sensing zone controls, included the following elements:

- Comparison of the NEMIC training and testing materials to the requirements in §120.2(e)3, §130.1(c), Table 120.1-A, §120.1(d)4E, §120.1(c)3, and the exception to §120.1(g). The training includes each of these sections and its impact on the acceptance test procedure and compliance documentation. The ATT checks these requirements during construction inspection by referencing the mechanical nonresidential compliance certification (NRCC-MCH-E) as approved by the AHJ.
- Comparison of the training and testing procedures to the requirements in NA7.5.17, including the construction inspection and functional testing. The training materials follow the procedures in NA7.5.17 including the additional necessary referenced requirements in §120.2(e)3.
- Comparison of the classroom, laboratory, and testing materials to the compliance document for occupancy sensing zone controls, 2019-NRCA-MCH-19-A. The training includes screenshots of the 2019-NRCA-MCH-19-A to describe the procedures for the acceptance test and the means of completing the compliance document.

The training and testing materials for ATTs and ATEs are consistent with the requirements of the 2019 Energy Code and compliance documents for occupancy sensing zone controls.

Functional Testing for Air Handling Unit Valves

Regulatory Requirements

The CEC added a functional test to an existing acceptance test procedure under the 2019 Energy Code. The existing acceptance test procedure is for FDD for AHUs and ZTUs (NA7.5.12). The construction inspection portion of the acceptance test procedures is unchanged, consisting of one requirement (NA7.5.12.1). The requirement is to verify on the submittal documents or sensor specifications that locally installed supply air, outside air, and return air (if applicable) temperature sensors have an accuracy of $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ over the range of 40 $^{\circ}\text{F}$ to 80 $^{\circ}\text{F}$.

In addition to the existing functional test procedures for AHU economizers (NA7.5.12.2) and ZTUs (NA7.5.12.4), the 2019 Energy Code includes a functional test for AHU valves (NA7.5.12.3).

The ATTCP must provide the ATT with the appropriate training, testing, and certification to conduct the new functional test for AHU valves as prescribed in NA7.5.12.3. This is a component of the overall acceptance test procedures for the Automatic FDDs for AHUs and ZTUs as prescribed in NA7.5.12, including the construction inspection.

NEMIC Amendments

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes both classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for AHU valves functional testing for the ATT and ATE. As described earlier, this material is confidential.

Staff Evaluation

The staff evaluation of the training and testing materials submitted in the NEMIC 2019 update report, specific to AHU valves, included:

- Comparison of the written training and testing materials to the functional testing requirements in NA7.5.12.3. The training material follows the procedures laid out in NA7.5.12.3, which includes the construction inspection and functional testing for FDDs, AHUs, and ZTUs.
- Comparison of the written and laboratory training and testing procedures to the requirements in §120.2(i), which requires the ATT to verify that the FDD is listed with the CEC or complies with a prescribed alternative procedure. The training includes the CEC web site link to listed FDDs and the procedures if the list does not include the device.
- Comparison of the classroom, laboratory, and testing materials to the acceptance test compliance documents for AHU valves, 2019-NRCA-MCH-13-A. The training includes screenshots of the 2019-NRCA-MCH-13-A to describe the procedures for the acceptance test and the means of completing the compliance document.

The training and testing materials for ATTs and ATE are consistent with the requirements of the 2019 Energy Code and the compliance document for Automatic FDDs for AHUs and ZTUs, and AHU valves.

Mandatory Requirements for Demand Management Controls

Regulatory Requirements

The CEC moved the requirements for demand management controls from the JA to Part 6 of the 2019 Energy Code, specifically JA5 to §110.12, and added the requirement for demand management controls to be compliant with OpenADR protocols. The most significant change was the requirement for ATTs to verify that the installed controls conform to the OpenADR protocols. The ATTs can verify conformance in two basic ways:

1. A printed copy of the OpenADR 2.0a or OpenADR 2.0b VEN certificate for the demand response control system, or
2. A certificate from the manufacturer stating that the demand response control system is capable of responding to a demand response signal from a certified

OpenADR 2.0b VEN by automatically implementing the control functions requested by the VEN for the equipment it controls.

Note: Demand responsive controls may incorporate and use protocols in addition to (not instead of) the protocols listed above.

To comply with this new requirement, the CEC modified the following compliance documents for the 2019 Energy Code:

- NRCA-MCH-03-A, Constant Volume, Single Zone, Unitary (Packaged and Split) Air Conditioner, and Heat Pump Systems
- NRCA-MCH-11-A, Automatic Demand Shed Control
- NRCA-MCH-18-A, EMCS

NRCA-MCH-03-A and NRCA-MCH-11-A have the following additional requirements in the construction inspection procedures:

1. Verify that the manufacturer of the demand response control system has certified the device to the CEC as meeting all of the requirements in JA5 (§110.12(a)5).
2. Verify that the demand responsive controls are capable of communicating using one or more of the following for communications that occur within the building: Wi-Fi®, ZigBee®, BACnet®, Ethernet, or hard wired (§110.12(a)2).
3. Verify that when the demand responsive control communications are disabled (or unavailable), all demand responsive controls shall continue to perform all other control functions provided by the control (§110.12(a)4).
4. Verify the programmed controls provide an adjustable rate of change for the temperature setup increase, decrease, and reset (§110.12(b)4).
5. Verify that the controls have the following requirements in (§110.12(b)5):
 - a. Disabled by authorized facility operators (§110.12(b)5A).
 - b. Manual control by authorized facility operators to allow adjustment of heating and cooling set points globally from a single point in the EMCS (§110.12(b)5B).

NEMIC Amendments

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes both classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for demand management controls for the ATT and ATE. As described earlier, this material is confidential.

Staff Evaluation

The Energy Code does not have explicit acceptance test requirements for EMCS. In §120.5 an EMCS must be compliant with the Energy Code. However, an EMCS compliance document has existed since the 2005 Energy Code. Additionally, the Energy Code makes many references to EMCS as an alternative to other localized control

systems. Staff addressed this issue by revising the EMCS compliance document. The compliance document is now limited to construction inspection that relies on the completion of other compliance documents for lighting controls, mechanical systems, and lab exhaust ventilation systems.

The staff evaluation of the training and testing materials submitted in the NEMIC 2019 update report specific to EMCS included the following elements:

- Comparison of the training and testing materials to the construction inspection requirements consistent with §110.12. The training directs the ATT to the documentation that must be provided to verify the system is compliant with OpenADR protocols.
- Comparison of the training and testing materials to the requirements in the Energy Code that provide a compliance option for using an EMCS. The training directs the ATT to verify that the completion of compliance documents 2019-NRCA-MCH-03-A, 2019-NRCA-MCH-11-A, 2019-NRCA-LTI-02-A, 2019-NRCA-LTI-03-A, 2019-NRCA-LTI-04-A, 2019-NRCA-LTI-05-A, 2019-NRCA-LTO-02-A, and 2019-NRCA-PRC-14 as prescribed by the design documents and approved by the AHJ.
- Comparison of the training and testing materials to 2019-NRCA-MCH-18-A. The training materials include screen shots of the 2019-NRCA-MCH-18-A to describe the procedures for the acceptance test and the means of completing the compliance document.

The training and testing materials for ATTs and ATE are consistent with the requirements of the 2019 Energy Code and acceptance test compliance document for demand management controls as specified in §110.12.

Nonsubstantive Changes

This section discusses changes that staff deemed nonsubstantive because they do not substantively alter the requirements of the application materials for the M-ATTCPs, ATTs, or ATEs.

Constant-Volume, Single-Zone, Air Conditioners, and Heat Pumps

The acceptance test requirements for constant-volume, single-zone, air conditioners, and heat pumps (NA7.5.2) have not changed. However, the construction inspection requirements include verification and documentation of thermostat temperature adjustments (§120.2(b)) and pre-occupancy purge requirements (§120.1(d)2). Section 120.2(b) includes requirements for thermostatic controls for all single zone air conditioners and heat pumps. These requirements have changed to include new demand responsive controls certification specified in §110.2(c), §110.12(a), and, if equipped with digital direct control to the zone level, §110.12(b).

Automatic FDD for AHU and ZTU.

The 2019 Energy Code includes minor changes to the FDD, AHU, and ZTU acceptance test procedures. The AHU acceptance test procedures include a construction inspection requirement. The ATT must verify on the submittal documents or sensor specifications that locally installed supply air, outside air, and return air (if applicable) temperature sensors have an accuracy of $\pm 2^{\circ}\text{F}$ over the range of 40°F to 80°F . The functional testing procedures for AHUs with FDDs has minor changes, primarily for clarification. The 2019 Energy Code also includes a new functional test for AHU valves (as noted in the Substantive Changes above). The CEC did not modify the functional test for ZTUs.

Changes to Definitions for the 2019 Energy Code

Changes to definitions may have an impact on the training material provided by an M-ATTCP. The CEC updated the references to the most recent procedural standards from the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI), American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), and Underwriters Laboratory (UL).

NEMIC Amendments

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes both classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for the ATT and ATE. NEMIC submitted a confidentiality request for these materials, which the CEC approved; therefore, staff cannot discuss the specifics of that material in this document. NEMIC updated the classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for these nonsubstantive changes.

Staff Evaluation

Staff has confirmed that, where necessary, the NEMIC training and testing materials have been updated to address these nonsubstantive changes.

Voluntary Adjustments

Air Distribution Acceptance Testing for ATTs

Voluntary Provision

The 2019 Energy Code allows, but does not require, an M-ATTCP to provide training, certification, and oversight for ATTs to provide duct leakage test verification services normally provided by a HERS rater. An M-ATTCP must demonstrate compliance with all the following requirements, in addition to all the requirements of §10-103.2(c):

1. The M-ATTCP shall be approved and in good standing with the CEC in accordance with §10-103.2.
2. The M-ATTCP shall maintain, or cause to be maintained by suitable contractual requirements, an electronic database approved by the CEC that can record and hold for no less than five years duct leakage compliance documentation as performed by its own certified ATTs.

3. The M-ATTCP shall be capable of providing a print copy of each completed duct leakage acceptance test to the ATT that performed the test.
 - a. The copy shall bear the logo or other identifying insignia as approved by the CEC on all pages of each duct leakage compliance document.
 - b. The M-ATTCP shall provide a means of electronic verification of any duct leakage acceptance test compliance document to the AHJ in accordance with NA 1.3.4.
4. The M-ATTCP shall allow the CEC to access its electronic system with the authority to inspect all records.
5. The M-ATTCP shall provide all summary reports regarding the duct leakage compliance documents as requested by the CEC.
6. The M-ATTCP shall provide all training, certification, and oversight necessary to certify ATTs to perform the acceptance test as required in NA7.5.3 and NA2.
 - a. All training and testing materials must comply with the applicable requirements in §10-103.2 and must be approved by the CEC.

Prior to performing the duct leakage test, the ATT must verify and document that the installed ducting is sealed in compliance with §120.4. Therefore, the ATT training needs to have a reasonable understanding of the following standards and their application (required in §120.4):

- *California Mechanical Code* (CMC) Sections 601 through 608.
- ANSI / Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA) 006-2006 3rd Ed;
- UL 181, 181A, 181B, and 723;
- ASTM C177, C518, C731, C732, and D2202; and
- How to recognize and verify a certificate issued by Department of Consumer Affairs, Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair, and Home Furnishing and Thermal Insulation that the insulation conductive thermal performance is approved pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 12, Chapters 12-13, Article 3, "Standards for Insulating Material."

NA2.1 contains the procedural requirements to perform the duct leakage testing. NA2.1 contains several references that the ATT must know to perform the duct leakage test consistently and in the appropriate situations. The referenced sections include §140.4(I)1, §140.3(a)1B, §141.0(b)2D, and §141.0(b)2E.

If the M-ATTCP does not make use of this voluntary provision, the M-ATTCP must still provide training, certification, and oversight for ATTs performing the duct leakage test. The installing technician (the ATT in this case) must perform the duct leakage test when required by the Energy Code (§140.4(I)1, §140.3(a)1B, §141.0(b)2D, and

§141.0(b)2E). The HERS rater is then required to perform the verification of those duct leakage tests by sampling (NA1 & NA2).

Voluntary Change Proposed by NEMIC

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes the amendments to allow ATT certified technicians to perform air duct leakage testing in lieu of a HERS rater. The NEMIC 2019 update report includes the following statements of compliance:

1. NEMIC is an M-ATTCP that has been approved and is in good standing with the CEC in accordance with §10-103.2 since its original approval on January 13, 2016, to present.
2. NEMIC, through suitable contractual requirements, will maintain an electronic database approved by the CEC that can record and hold for no less than five years duct leakage acceptance test compliances documentation as performed by NEMIC certified mechanical ATTs.
3. Through the electronic database, NEMIC is capable of providing a print copy of each completed duct leakage acceptance test to the ATT that performed the test.
 - a. The copy bears the logo or other identifying insignia as approved by the CEC on all pages of each duct leakage compliance document.
 - b. Through the electronic database, NEMIC provides a means of electronic verification of any duct leakage acceptance test compliance document to the AHJ in accordance with NA 1.3.4.
4. The CEC staff have a user account to the NEMIC electronic system with the authority to inspect all records.
5. NEMIC has agreed to provide all summary reports regarding the duct leakage compliance documents as requested by the CEC.
6. NEMIC has developed and submitted all required training materials, testing materials, and oversight procedures necessary to certify ATTs to perform the acceptance test as require in NA7.5.3 and NA2.

Staff Evaluation

Staff has verified that NEMIC is a CEC approved M-ATTCP in good standing since their original approval on January 13, 2016, to present.

Staff has reviewed the written description of the database system that NEMIC developed. On January 31, 2020, NEMIC demonstrated that the database system is operational and compliant with the NA1.9.3 requirements. Staff has a user account for the NEMIC database system allowing access to all records. The NEMIC database system is capable of storing and producing the compliance documents with suitable watermarks. NEMIC has agreed to produce summary reports as requested by the CEC.

The NEMIC 2019 update report includes both classroom and laboratory training and testing materials for duct leakage testing for the ATT and ATE. As described earlier, this material is confidential. Staff reviewed the training and testing materials that consist of presentation slides for live instruction, which is consistent with the originally NEMIC M-ATTCP application as approved by the CEC. Staff compared this material to the requirements in §140.4(l)1, §140.3(a)1B, §141.0(b)2D, and §141.0(b)2E, as well as to the acceptance test procedures in NA2.1, and the compliance documents 2019-NRCA-MCH-04a-A and 2019-NRCA-MCH-04b-A. The training materials make direct reference to the Energy Code sections identified that would trigger a duct leakage test and follow the procedure requirements for construction inspection and functional testing prescribed in NA2.1 and the compliance documents. The training materials also references the CMC, ANSI, ATSM, SMACNA, and duct insulation labeling for the installation of new ducting. Finally, the training material includes a discussion of the circumstances for completing either 2019-NRCA-MCH-04a-A or 2019-NRCA-MCH-04b-A, which is an option for the builder.

Introduction of two levels of Mechanical ATT (MATT Level 1 and MATT Level 2)

Voluntary Provision

There is no provision or regulation associated with this proposal.

Voluntary Change Proposed by NEMIC

NEMIC proposes to provide two levels of Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician (MATT Level 1 and MATT Level 2). MATT Level 1 is certified to perform a specified subset of the most common mechanical acceptance tests, while MATT Level 2 is certified to perform all mechanical acceptance tests.

The new dual certification structure is intended to allow for a significant expansion of the number of certified MATTs for the most common types of mechanical acceptance tests, while providing a more comprehensive and higher standard of training for the less common and more specialized types of acceptance tests.

The NEMIC website and certification numbers will clearly indicate whether a technician is MATT-1 or MATT-2 certified. The NEMIC quality assurance procedures will ensure that MATT-1 technicians do not perform or submit acceptance tests for which they are not certified.

NEMIC's currently-approved application requires all NEMIC-certified MATTs to also be ICB-certified TABB testing, adjusting, and balancing technicians. In NEMIC's opinion, this requirement greatly exceeded the qualification requirements of any other approved ATTCP. The dual certification continues to require MATT-2 technicians to also be ICB-certified TABB testing, adjusting, and balancing technicians. MATT-1 technicians are not required to be ICB-certified TABB Technicians, but still must demonstrate that they have the relevant experience and expertise necessary to be eligible to take the MATT-1

certification exam. The MATT-1 eligibility requirements meet or exceed CEC requirements and the requirements of other approved mechanical ATTCPs.

Staff Evaluation

This proposal does not violate any provisions or regulation known to staff regarding the ATTCP program. The NEMIC proposal is similar to other CEC approved ATTCP applications. It does not weaken existing Energy Code requirements. Further, it may provide a more accessible training program for qualified applicants that would otherwise be rejected by NEMICs requirements, which are more restrictive than the 2019 Energy Code requirements.

CHAPTER 3:

Staff Recommendations

Under §10-103.2(f)2 of the 2019 Energy Code, staff completed its evaluation of the application amendments NEMIC reported in its amended 2019 update report. Staff determined that the required substantive, nonsubstantive, and voluntary changes to NEMIC M-ATTCP program meet the requirements in §10-103.2(c) of the 2019 Energy Code. Staff recommends that the CEC approve the NEMIC 2019 update report and all application amendments.

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APPENDIX A:

Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute AHRI	A North American trade association of manufacturers of air conditioning, heating, and commercial refrigeration equipment.
Authority Having Jurisdiction AHJ	A governmental entity having the authority to issue a building permit.
Air Handling Unit AHU	A device used to regulate and circulate air as part of a HVAC system.
American National Standards Institute ANSI	A private non-profit organization that oversees the development of voluntary consensus standards for products, services, processes, systems, and personnel in the United States.
American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers ASHRAE	Founded in 1894, ASHRAE is a global society focused on building systems, energy efficiency, indoor air quality, refrigeration, and sustainability. It serves as a source of technical standards and guidelines.
American Society for Testing and Materials ASTM	An international standards organization that develops and publishes voluntary consensus technical standards for a wide range of materials, products, systems, and services.
Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider ATTCP	An agency, organization, or entity approved by the CEC to train and certify acceptance test technicians and acceptance test employers.
Acceptance Test Technician ATT	A field technician certified by an authorized acceptance test technician certification provider.
Acceptance Test Employer ATE	A person or entity that employs an acceptance test technician and is certified by an authorized acceptance test technician certification provider.

TERM	DEFINITION
BACnet® (Trademarked name)	A communications protocol for Building Automation and Control.
California Energy Commission CEC	The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency.
California Mechanical Code CMC	Title 24, Part 4 of the California Building Code.
Digital Direct Controls	Automated control of a condition or process by a digital device (computer). It is often used to control HVAC devices such as valves using microprocessors and software to perform the control logic.
Energy Management Control System EMCS	A computerized control system designed to regulate the energy consumption of a building by controlling the operation of energy consuming systems, such as the HVAC, lighting, and water heating systems.
Building Energy Efficiency Standards Energy Code	State regulations contained in Title 24, Parts 1 and 6 of the California Code of Regulations and the Reference Appendices.
Ethernet	A system for connecting a number of computer systems to form a local area network, with protocols to control the passing of information.
Fault Detection Diagnostics FDD	Embedded devices measuring a subset of temperatures, pressures, and humidity levels in several stages of the HVAC system.
Home Energy Rating System HERS	A program that provides the testing and rating procedures to measure the energy performance of a home, as well as addressing construction defects and poor equipment installation, including HVAC systems and insulation.

TERM	DEFINITION
Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning HVAC	A mechanical system used to provide heating and cooling services to a building.
Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider M-ATTCP	An agency, organization, or entity approved by the CEC to train and certify acceptance test technicians and acceptance test employers specifically for mechanical acceptance testing.
Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician Level 1 (MATT Level 1 or MATT-1) and Level 2 (MATT Level 2 or MATT-2)	NEMIC proposes to provide two levels of Mechanical Acceptance Test Technician (MATT Level 1 and MATT Level 2). MATT Level 1 is certified to perform a specified subset of the most common mechanical acceptance tests, while MATT Level 2 is certified to perform all mechanical acceptance tests.
Joint Appendix JA	A supplementary code to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards.
National Energy Management Institute Committee NEMIC	An ATTCP approved by the CEC.
Non-Residential Certificate of Compliance for Mechanical systems, completed by the design Engineer NRCC-MCH-E	A dynamic compliance document required to be completed by a professional engineer or other responsible person (as defined by §10-103(a)) to be submitted with the application for building permit to the AHJ.
Nonresidential Appendix NA	A supplementary code to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards applicable to nonresidential building projects.
Open Automated Demand Response OpenADR	A research and standards development effort for energy management led by North American research labs and companies.
Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association SMACNA	An international trade association.

TERM	DEFINITION
Underwriters Laboratory UL	An ANSI accredited audited designator that develops laboratory technical procedures and test methods for a variety of industrial and commercial product for the purpose of comparison and demonstration of compliance.
Virtual End Node VEN	Used in conjunction with OpenADR systems, a virtual end node is typically a "client" and can be an "Energy Management System," a thermostat or other end device that accepts the OpenADR signal from a server.
Wi-Fi® (Trademarked name)	A wireless networking technology that uses radio waves to provide wireless high-speed Internet and network connections.
ZigBEE® (Trademarked name)	A high-level communication protocol used to create personal area networks with small, low-power digital radios, designed for projects that need wireless connection.
Zone Terminal Unit ZTU	A small component that contains a heating coil, cooling coil, or automatic damper, or some combination of the three. Used to control the temperature of a single room.