

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814Main website: www.energy.ca.gov

New Solar Homes Partnership Program Notice of Incentive Decline

This notice of incentive decline is being provided in accordance with the California Energy Commission's *New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook, Third Edition* (Guidebook), which requires the Energy Commission to provide 30 days advance notice of incentive declines. Effective at 5:00 p.m. PST on September 12, 2011, the Energy Commission will revise the incentive levels for the New Solar Homes Partnership as follows:

Market-rate Housing:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Base Incentive:	\$2.50/watt	\$2.25/watt
Solar as Standard:	\$2.60/watt	\$2.35/watt

Affordable Housing:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Residential units:	\$3.50/watt	\$3.15/watt
Common areas:	\$3.30/watt	\$2.97/watt

The revised incentive levels are in accordance with the incentive decline schedules for market-rate housing and affordable housing as specified on pages 19 and 20 of the Guidebook.

Background

As part of Senate Bill 1 (Murray, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2006), the New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) offers incentives to new home builders to encourage the installation of solar energy systems on energy efficient homes, with a goal of 400 megawatts of installed capacity by the end of 2016. Incentives are designed to decrease over the ten year program as volumetric targets are achieved. NSHP program data indicates that Level 1 megawatt targets will likely be fully installed, and as the number of approved reservations has reached Level 2 megawatt targets, the incentive levels shall decline one level to Level 2 as specified in the Guidebook.

Incentive Decline Process

During the 30-day notice period, all previously submitted and newly submitted applications that are complete with consistent and accurate information will be eligible for the current incentive level unless they are withdrawn by the applicant, cancelled or

found ineligible by either Energy Commission staff or the NSHP Program Administrators.

NSHP applicants should be aware that their applications must be complete to be accepted under the current incentive levels. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review the Guidebook requirements to ensure they submit complete applications. A checklist to help facilitate the submission of complete applications is provided in Attachment 1 of this notice. A reference sheet on commonly made mistakes is provided in Attachment 2 of this notice. Additional information for submitting complete applications can be found in the NSHP training workshop presentations on the Go Solar California website at: [www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/nshp/training/].

To be eligible for the current incentive levels, all applications submitted through the online application tool must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. PST, September 12, 2011. Video tutorials on using the online application tool can be found on the Go Solar California website at: [www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/nshp/training/]. Mailed documents or applications must be postmarked by September 12, 2011. Due to the NSHP Program Administrators potentially receiving a high volume of packages during this 30-day period, delivery confirmation for mailed materials is highly recommended.

The next volumetric targets may be adjusted up or down depending on the megawatt volume installed at the first incentive level, to remain consistent with the overall program budget and megawatt goal.

The CEC PV Calculator Versions 2.4 and 2.5 will be de-certified at the end of the 30-day notice period and a new version will be released August 12, 2011 to reflect the new incentive levels.

If you have questions, please contact the NSHP Program Administrators: [www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/contacts/consumers.php].

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Energy Commission's Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us].

_____/Original Signed/_____
Carla Peterman
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Renewables Committee

_____/Original Signed/_____
James D. Boyd
Vice Chair and Associate Member
Renewables Committee

Attachments
Mailed to Lists: Go Solar and PV Calculator list-servs

Attachment 1

NEW SOLAR HOMES PARTNERSHIP DOCUMENT CHECKLIST		
RESERVATION APPLICATION REVIEW	YES	N/A
NSHP-1 FORM		
• All fields on the form are completed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Form signed by appropriate entities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FINAL SUBDIVISION MAP, if applicable		
• An official document with signatures from city/county officials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• All of the lots are illustrated on the map	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BUILDING PERMIT, if applicable		
• Approved permit for the address listed on the NSHP-1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• The job description is for the construction of a new home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• If the job description is for an existing structure/alteration/remodel/fire-rebuild, provide additional details on the work being performed to the Program Administrator.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• If the new construction permit has been finalized, the solar permit was issued before or up to 180 days after certificate of occupancy was issued.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CF-1R-PV		
• The PV Calculator and equipment libraries used are certified at the time the reservation application is submitted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Project address matches the NSHP-1	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Climate zone matches the CF-1R	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• The correct housing type is selected	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Equipment matches the equipment purchase agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• The form is signed by the appropriate entities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• The data in the .her file matches the data on the form	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT		
• List of the physical addresses for the system installations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Quantity, make and model of the modules, inverters, and meters to be installed at each address	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Equipment matches the equipment listed on the CF-1R-PV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• If micro-inverters are being installed, the standalone meter is listed on the CEC-eligible meter list: www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/equipment/system_perf.php	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Total system cost of the eligible equipment and/or labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Agreement executed within 24 months of reservation application being submitted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Signed by both the applicant and the retailer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Retailer is a CEC-registered retailer. Look up retailer here: www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/database/search-new.php	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• An invoice may be submitted showing that the equipment has been purchased.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Invoice should include equipment details and total cost.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Signed by both the applicant and the retailer (not required if homeowner buys their own equipment)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Equipment should still be sold by an Energy Commission-registered retailer. Look up retailer at: www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/database/search-new.php	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Invoice shows that a minimum of 10% of the cost or \$1000 has been paid, whichever is less	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• An equipment purchase agreement can be waived with a valid lease agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Attachment 1

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> or PPA that meets the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term of agreement is a minimum 10 years • Lessee provided the options to renew the lease, buy (purchase price) or remove the system at the end of the initial term of the lease • Shows how the NSHP rebate directly benefits the lessee (i.e., purchase price, NSHP rebate amount should be listed) • Agreements should be signed on or after July 1, 2009 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
LABOR CONTRACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name, address and contractor’s license number of the company performing the system installation • Site address for the system installation • Description of the work to be performed • Total agreed price to install the system; payment terms (payment dates and dollar amounts) • Printed names and signatures of the applicant and the installer • The installer must have an active A, B, C-10 or C-46 license. Look up license here: https://www2.cslb.ca.gov/OnlineServices/CheckLicense/LicenseRequest.asp • The installer is a CEC-registered installer. Look up installer here: http://www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/database/search-new.php 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
CF-1R/PERF-1 (pre-plan review)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CF-1R is created using compliance software for the Building Standards of which the project had applied a building permit under 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CF-1R states (or can be calculated) that the project is at a minimum 15 percent beyond the appropriate set of Building Standards 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project name and address, if provided, match that on the NSHP-1 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate zone matches that on the CF-1R-PV 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A CEPE/CEA is the documentation author and signed the CF-1R/PERF-1 • CEPE/CEA is qualified to author the CF-1R for the appropriate set of Standards. Look up CEPE qualification here: http://cabec.org/ceperosterall.php • A residential CEPE creates documents for residential projects. A non-residential CEPE creates documents for non-residential projects 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A .bld/.mp7/.mp8 file is submitted. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONSTRUCTION PLAN-SET (pre-plan review)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architectural, Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing (as applicable or available) • A window and door schedule that shows sizes and includes ALL skylights (if not shown on the floor plan) • Elevation, wall, roof, floor construction assemblies • Floor finish schedule (if CF-1R shows High Mass Design) • A list of lots and addresses • A site plan with a North arrow 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
REGULATORY AGREEMENT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agreement is executed 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The agreement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies the project, location, and the number of units subject to affordability requirements (at least 20 percent for extremely low, very low, lower or moderate income persons) • At a minimum, restricts affordability for 10 years 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Attachment 1

BUILD-OUT SCHEDULE, if applicable		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name and location of the project • A project timeline for when the homes with solar installed will have finished construction. • Dates that the solar PV is expected to begin and finish installation. • Expected dates that the payment claims will be submitted. 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
WEBTOOL ENTRY		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project information is consistent with the NSHP-1. • All attachments required of the project are uploaded. • Equipment, TDV and rebate amount match CF-1R-PV • Payee matches NSHP-1 • Compliance margin matches CF-1R 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Attachment 2

COMMON NEW SOLAR HOMES PARTNERSHIP (NSHP) APPLICATION MISTAKES

NSHP – 1 Form

- Custom home applications do not fill in the permit dates under “2. Project Description” on the first page of the form.
- Payee information on the bottom of the second page of the form is not completed.

Building Permit

- Inspection cards are submitted with no job description listed or building permit issue date. New residential construction building permits preferred.

CF-1R-PV (EPBI Documentation)

- The contact person signs under “homeowner/builder” when the homeowner/builder is the required party to sign in that area.
- The document is submitted unsigned.
- The equipment used for the incentive calculation does not match the equipment listed on the equipment purchase agreement and installation contract.
- Climate zone does not match the climate zone on the CF-1R.
- The shading function is used incorrectly. Information on how to calculate shading properly can be found in Appendix 2 of the NSHP Guidebook.
- No address is listed in the address field.
- .her file does not match the CF-1R-PV printout. For a tutorial on submitting the correct .her file, go to the following website and click on “How to find the EMF file step-by-step guide” at: www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/tools/nshpcalculator/download_calculator.php.

Equipment Purchase Agreement and Installation Contract

- Equipment is not listed.
- Contract/agreement is not signed by the homeowner/builder and the retailer/installer.
- The installer or the retailer is not registered with the Energy Commission. Installers and retailers can self-register on the Go Solar California website at: www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/installers/installer.php.

CF-1R (Energy Efficiency Documentation)

- CEPE does not sign the document.
- The CF-1R is not modeled as a new single-family residence.