

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



In the matter of:	)	Docket No. 07-SB-01
	)	
Revision of Guidelines for California's Solar	)	NOTICE OF COMMITTEE
Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1)	)	WORKSHOP
	)	RE: SB 1 GUIDEBOOK

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## Notice of Workshop on Proposed Changes to Guidelines for California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1)

The California Energy Commission's Renewable Division will conduct a workshop to receive comments on the proposed changes to the document: *Guidelines for California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1)*.

September, 16, 2016  
10:00 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 guidelines under Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) and to solicit comments from interested parties. The document, *Draft Guidelines for California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1), Sixth Edition*, contains proposed revisions to the existing guidelines and is posted on the Energy Commission website at:  
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1/documents/index.html>.

## **Agenda**

Several important changes were made in this edition of the *Guidelines for California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1)* as compared with the January 2013, Fifth Edition of the Guidelines. The Sixth Edition of the SB 1 guidelines will be considered by the Energy Commission at its October 12, 2016, Business Meeting and become effective upon adoption. The proposed changes are summarized below:

### **Equipment List Expiration Date added for Photovoltaic Modules:**

- Equipment expiration date added for photovoltaic (PV) modules listed on the Energy Commission's Eligible Equipment List.
- Equipment reaching the expiration date will be removed from the Energy Commission's Eligible Equipment lists, which requires manufactures to renew their PV module equipment every two years.
- Eligibility for a PV module can be renewed for another two year period, by providing the Energy Commission with evidence of valid product certification from a National Recognized Testing Lab (NRTL) indicating compliance with UL 1703.

### **Adds Option for "Flexible Installation Incentive (production homes with no shading):**

- Pays upfront incentive based on the relative expected system performance;
- Determines New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) incentive using a "flat" dollar-per-watt rate based on the AC system size, location, and energy efficiency level, rather than using the California Energy Commission's Photovoltaic calculation;
- Restricts eligibility to systems installed within an allowed azimuth range and tilt.

### **Third-Party Field Verification Adjustment (production homes with no shading):**

- Increase sample group size for HERS PV testing. (*1 in 15, vs. current 1 in 7*);
- Allow alternative testing procedure to accommodate FII.

### **Adds Energy Efficiency Option:**

- Includes a "Code Compliant" option for applications meeting current Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards.
- Code Compliant projects do not require energy efficiency field verifications beyond those required for Title 24 standard.

### **Adds an "Optional" Testing and Certification Option When Adding Photovoltaic Modules to the Energy Commission's Eligible Equipment Lists:**

- The Energy Commission Eligible Equipment list will identify photovoltaic modules which have voluntarily completed additional, optional testing beyond the required minimum testing for eligibility.

## Background

SB 1 (Murray, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2006) requires the Energy Commission to establish eligibility criteria, conditions for incentives and equipment rating standards for all ratepayer funded solar energy system programs in California, pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 25782. These ratepayer funded programs include those implemented by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and by local publicly owned electric utilities pursuant to Public Utilities Code Sections 2851 and 387.5, respectively.

SB 1 provides a framework for the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) California Solar Initiative (CSI) program, the Energy Commission's New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP), and publicly owned utilities' (POUs) solar energy system incentive programs. Furthermore, SB 1 directed expenditures of up to \$3,350,800,000 with goals to: install solar energy systems with a generation capacity equivalent of 3,000 megawatts (MW), establish a self-sufficient solar industry in 10 years so that solar energy systems are a viable mainstream option for homes and commercial buildings, and within 13 years put solar energy systems on 50 percent of new homes. The overarching goal is to help build a self-sustaining solar electricity market combined with improved energy efficiency in the state's residential and nonresidential buildings.

The initial "*California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs Pursuant to Senate Bill 1*" (SB 1 Guidelines) was released in December of 2007. The SB 1 Guidelines has subsequently been periodically updated to address various program modifications and market developments. While the CPUC's CSI program has ended and many POUs will close their programs by December 31, 2016, the NSHP will continue to accept applications until June 1, 2018. In an effort to streamline program guidelines the NSHP Guidebook must be updated. In addition, because staff is proposing fundamental changes to the incentive structure, as well as changes to the performance verification process for solar systems, the SB 1 Guidelines must also be updated.

## Public Comment

The Energy Commission will accept oral comments during the meeting. Comments may be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding. Written comments on the proposed Guidebook revisions must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23, 2016. Please include the docket number 07-SB-01 and indicate *Staff Workshop on the Proposed Revisions to the Draft Guidelines for California's Solar Electric Incentive Programs (Senate Bill 1)* in the subject line. All written comments will become part of the public record of this proceeding. Additionally, written comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for the proceeding. The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail. Please include your name and the name of the organization you represent if applicable. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). Please submit comments to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov) and [Jim.Folkman@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Jim.Folkman@energy.ca.gov) to ensure that staff receives a copy.

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

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 07-SB-1  
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's Office at [PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-4989. If you have questions on the subject matter of this meeting, please contact Jim Folkman, [Jim.Folkman@energy.ca.gov](mailto:Jim.Folkman@energy.ca.gov) or (916) 654-5116.]

## **Remote Attendance**

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If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

## **Availability of Documents**

Documents and presentations for this meeting will be available online at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sb1/meetings/index.html>.

DATE: September 16, 2016

Mail Lists:

NSHP listserv

Efficiency listserv

GoSolar listserv

PVCalculator listserv

Renewable listserv