

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

Notice of Staff Webinar

Draft Evaluation Report of **COMPLIANCE OPTION FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE USE OF MEASUREMENT ACCESS HOLES FOR VERIFYING REFRIGERANT CHARGE IN RESIDENTIAL AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS**

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct a public webinar to discuss the Draft Evaluation Report recommending a compliance option to provide an alternative to drilling temperature measurement access holes (TMAH) into space conditioning equipment in residential buildings for verifying the cooling system is correctly charged with refrigerant. Proper refrigerant charge is necessary for compressor air conditioning systems to operate at full capacity and efficiency.

The compliance option proposed in this report meets the compliance options procedures in Section 10-109 of the Building Energy Efficiency Standards. This proposed compliance option will provide an alternative to meeting the third-party verification for correct refrigerant charge when the system's design or its installation prohibits drilling temperature measurement access holes to measure the temperature difference between the supply and return sides of the air coil.

November 15, 2012
10 am – 12 noon
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Webinar only

Audio from this meeting will be broadcast over the Internet.

For details, please go to:

www.energy.ca.gov/webcast

Remote Attendance and Availability of Documents

Internet Webcast - Presentations and audio for the meeting will be broadcast via the Energy Commission's WebEx web meeting service. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the "Remote Attendance" section toward the end of this notice.

This notice, the workshop agenda, and other related documents will be posted to the project website: www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2008standards/special_case_appliance/. Interested persons may sign up on a list server at that website to receive email updates about the review of this Compliance Option application.

Purpose

Many air conditioners in California fail to achieve their rated efficiency and provide cooled air in an efficient manner due to improper amounts of refrigerant, improper removal of moisture and air from refrigerant lines, metering device malfunctions, and other related problems. To reduce air conditioner energy consumption and peak demand, the Building Energy Efficiency Standards require specific procedures for installers to use and for third-party HERS raters to verify the correct refrigerant charge and proper air conditioner system operation in residential buildings. These field verification methods were developed using manufacturers' specifications and verification protocols, and are specified in Section RA 3.2 of the Reference Appendices to the Building Energy Efficiency Standards.

Background

Title 24, Part 1, Section 10-109, allows for the introduction of new compliance approaches, which cannot be properly accounted for in the current adopted regulation. The Energy Commission encourages the use of energy saving techniques, designs, and procedures for showing compliance with the Standards that are approved by the Energy Commission through the Compliances Options approval process.

Written Comments

Written comments should be submitted to the Dockets Unit by 4:00 p.m. on December 13, 2012. All comments will become part of the public record of this matter. Additionally, comments may be posted to the Energy Commission's website for this matter.

The Energy Commission encourages comments by e-mail and electronic submission, up to 5 MB. Please include your name and any organization name. Comments should be in a downloadable, searchable format such as Microsoft® Word (.doc) or Adobe® Acrobat® (.pdf). 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/dockets/documents/2011_Standing_Order_for_Documents.pdf.

Please include the docket number 12-BTSD-04 and indicate "Compliance Option for Measurement Access Holes" in the subject line. Send comments to: docket@energy.ca.gov.

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

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
Re: Docket No. 12-BTSD-04
Compliance Option for Measurement Access Holes
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

In addition, the Energy Commission will accept oral comments during the workshop on November 15, 2012. Comments may be limited to three minutes per speaker. Any comments will become part of the public record in this proceeding.

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

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at PublicAdviser@energy.ca.gov. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov. If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please call David W. Ware at (916) 654-4168.

Remote Attendance

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Computer Log-on with Telephone Audio:

Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number: 924 128 164.

1. When prompted, enter your name other information as directed and the meeting password: meeting@10.

2. After you log-in, a prompt will ask for your phone number. If you wish to have WebEx call you back, enter your phone number. This will put your name on the participating by WebEx. If you do not wish to do that, click cancel, and go to step four. Or, if your company uses a switchboard-type of phone system where your line is an extension, click cancel and go to step 4.
3. If you do not want WebEx to call you back, then call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number, which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login via computer. International callers can dial in using the "Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

Telephone Only (No Computer Access):

1. Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the unique meeting number above. International callers can select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>.

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

Date: November 5, 2012

List Servers: Efficiency, Blueprint, Title 24-Enforcement, Building Standards