INSTALLER and INSPECTOR QUICK-REFERENCE: 2025 NRCA-MCH-18-A Energy Management Control System Acceptance

Purpose and Scope of the Test

The purpose of this acceptance test is to ensure that when an energy management control system (EMCS) is installed for the purpose of compliance with the Building Energy Code, it is properly installed, operational, and in compliance with the relevant requirements in the Energy Code.

Test trigger

Newly Constructed and Additions/Alterations: Non-Residential Spaces with Energy Management Control Systems to address the requirements for multi-level lighting controls, automatic lighting shut-off controls, automatic daylighting controls, lighting demand response controls, or cooling tower water quality controls.

The NRCA-MCH-11 (Automatic Demand Shed Control) must be completed prior to performing this test.

Relevant Energy Code References and Required Compliance Documents

Title 24, Part 6 of the California Building Standards Code, Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Energy Code) sections 110.12(b), 110.2(e), 120.2(h), 120.5(a)17, 130.0(e), 130.1(b), 130.1(c), 130.1(d), 130.1(f), 130.4(b)2, 130.0-130.5, 140.6-150.0, 150.2, 160.3(d)1Q, 160.5(b)3; NA7.7.2; and NRCC-MCH-E Table I, NRCC-PRF-E, LMCC-MCH-E, LMCC-PRF-E; Table 120.1-A.

Who Can Perform the Test

This test must be performed by an acceptance test technician certified by a CEC-approved Acceptance Test Technician Certification Provider, using compliance document NRCA-MCH-18-A.

Required Tools

No additional instrumentation required for testing.

Estimated Time to Complete Test

Construction Inspection: 2 hours.

Potential Issues and Cautions

None

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Inspection Enforcement

Verify the inspector is in receipt of one NRCA-MCH-18-A for EACH system that must demonstrate compliance. All NRCA forms for Mechanical Systems must have a water mark logo from a certified Mechanical ATTCP Provider.

Required:

- Verify that the room (or zone) is installed with an occupancy sensor that is tied into both the lighting controls (section 130.1(c)) and HVAC controls (section 120.2(e)3). Refer to the ENFORCEMENT AGENCY approved designs, Compliance Documentation NRCC…, NRCI….
- Verify that the occupancy sensor is placed so that it can detect occupants in the room (or zone) without obstruction.
- Confirm that the mechanical system is served by an independent signal than the lighting controls.
- Verify that the room (or zone) is designated as eligible to shut-off ventilation while in occupied-standby mode for ventilation on Table 120.1-A (indicated by an "F" on the Table).

Acceptance Criteria

- The room (or zone) must pass the functional tests outlined on the NRCA-MCH-18-A.