

Program Update

Changes to the New Solar Homes Partnership Program Guidebook July 25, 2007

The California Energy Commission adopted the second edition of the *New Solar Homes Partnership Guidebook* (publication # CEC-300-2007-008-SMF) at its July 11, 2007, Business Meeting. A copy of the latest Guidebook is now available online at:

<http://www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/documents/>

Major changes to the Guidebook include *affordable housing* provisions:

- Incentives for individual residential units: \$3.50/watt.
- Incentives for affordable housing common areas: \$3.30/watt
- A separate incentive adjustment mechanism from the regular NSHP program
- Remove 20% efficiency requirement above Title 24 for developments where systems would be installed in common areas
- A maintenance plan will be required
- More flexible metering requirements

Other Guidebook revisions include:

- Allow mixed-use developments, i.e., residential and non-residential, to be eligible. (This is for both affordable housing developments and market-rate housing developments)
 - NSHP will provide funding for the residential units only, but if non-residential space is 10% or less than total building space, NSHP will fund entire project.
- Clarification of definition of new residential construction
- Clarification that owner-installed systems are eligible
- Revised application forms to make them easier to understand
- Clarifying efficiency documentation requirements

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