## Program Overview

#### Program Budget and Savings

#### 1. PROGRAM NAME

SDG&E's Comprehensive Energy Management Solutions (CEMS) Program

#### 2. PROGRAM ID NUMBER

SDGE4004

#### 3. PROGRAM BUDGET TABLE

Cost Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Administration	\$28,500	\$828,762	\$828,762	\$828,762	\$2,514,786
Marketing/Outreach	\$32,500	\$414,381	\$414,381	\$414,381	\$1,275,643
Direct	\$39,000	\$3,139,965	\$3,139,965	\$3,139,965	\$9 <i>,</i> 458,895
Implementation –					
Non-Incentive					
Direct	\$0	\$9,429,587	\$9,429,587	\$9,429,587	\$28,288,761
Implementation –					
Incentive					
Total	\$100,000	\$13,812,695	\$13,812,695	\$13,812,695	\$41,538,085

#### 4. PROGRAM GROSS/NET IMPACTS TABLE

CEMS Goals	2021	2022	2023	Total
Gross Electric Savings (kWh)	26,211,390	26,211,390	26,211,390	78,634,170
Net Electric Savings (kWh)	19,505,377	19,505,377	19,505,377	58,516,131
Gross Demand Reduction (kW)	2,724	2,724	2,724	8,172
Net Demand Reduction (kW)	2,185	2,185	2,185	6,555
Gross Gas Savings (therms)	1,405,341	1,405,341	1,405,341	4,216,023
Net Gas Savings (therms)	757,399	757,399	757,399	2,272,197

#### 5. PROGRAM COST EFFECTIVENESS (TRC)

Program Year	TRC
2021	1.60
2022	1.64
2023	1.68

#### 6. PROGRAM COST EFFECTIVENESS (PAC)

Program Year	PAC
2021	1.74
2022	1.79
2023	1.83

#### 7. TYPE OF PROGRAM IMPLEMENTER

Third-Party Delivered

#### 8. MARKET SECTOR(S)

Large commercial sector. The large commercial sector is defined as non-residential customers above 20 kW, excluding commercial customers located in the Port Tidelands and non-residential customers defined as public, industrial and agricultural.

#### 9. PROGRAM TYPE

Resource

#### 10. MARKET CHANNEL(S) AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES:

Downstream; Direct Install, Incentive, Finance, Audit, Technical Assistance

#### Implementation Plan Narrative

#### **1. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The CEMS Program provides end-to-end program implementation services, including marketing, outreach, engineering, operations, customer service, and data management and reporting, to large commercial electric and gas customers on qualifying rates schedules with a monthly demand greater than 20 kW in SDG&E's service territory. The Program leverages the implementer's outreach staff, team of subcontractors, and network of trade professionals to provide customers with a single program that addresses all their energy efficiency needs.

#### **PROGRAM RATIONALE**

In terms of market size and energy savings opportunities, the commercial sector is one of the largest components of SDG&E's energy efficiency portfolio. As a result, this program will be a critical part of SDG&E's efforts to achieve the goals established by the California Long-Term Energy Efficiency Strategic Plan. The program also contributes to SDG&E's efforts to comply with the requirements of the California Public Utility Commission's (CPUC) Decision 16-08-019, which directed program administrators to transition to a majority of third-party designed and implemented programs.

#### **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

The CEMS program was designed to facilitate the achievement of SDG&E's Business Plan objectives and fulfill the CPUC's chief objective of encouraging innovation and producing program delivery cost savings. Specific objectives include:

• Engaging customers who have previously had low or no participation in the energy discussion and creating a desire to stay connected through repeat program participation that promotes the journey to Zero Net Energy (ZNE).

- Improving the penetration of energy efficiency in the property management marketplace by overcoming the tenant/landlord split incentive.
- Increasing savings and encouraging program participation by equipping trade professionals with the tools and training needed to promote effective program delivery and ensure customer satisfaction.
- Collaborating with stakeholders to maximize savings and efficiency by executing new approaches that provide customers with a comprehensive energy solution.

#### 2. PROGRAM DELIVERY AND CUSTOMER SERVICES

Energy savings will be delivered through strategic communication and direct customer outreach of targeted offerings:

- **Direct Install** Offers customers installation of low-cost/no-cost measures with encouragement for additional future projects. This offering will be focused on smaller and hard to reach customers.
- **Deemed** Offers incentives for the installation of select measures based on approved workpapers.
- **Custom/Custom Express** Offers customers with unique needs access to incentives that do not align with the Deemed offering.
- Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) Offer available to appropriate, eligible customer sites that meet specific site-level criteria.

The implementer's outreach staff will leverage relationships with trade professionals and customers to identify and prioritize applicable measures and retrofit opportunities. The program will also assist customers with creating personalized Energy Plans. The Energy Plans encourage customers to implement comprehensive multi-measure projects through a staged, step-by-step process. The following strategies will support the implementer in reaching program goals:

- Align program incentives with tenant and landlord motivations.
- Prime individuals to help influence decisions and transform them into "Energy Champions" (staff within a multi-layered organization who advocate for energy projects by navigating through complex decision-making processes, influencing decision makers, and acting as an internal representative for the proposed project).
- Offer program support resources throughout the customer's energy efficiency journey.
- Educate financial stakeholders on financing options provided through the Program.

The commercial sector customer base primarily consists of Wholesale/Retail/Office and Hospitality/Services segments. The Wholesale/Retail/Office segment will be specifically targeted through the implementer's subcontractors, who will focus primarily on the property management and offices portion of the segment as well as the grocery segment. In addition to subcontractors, the implementer will work with its network of trade professionals to round out the other segments. The program has a multi-pronged marketing approach for reaching customers:

- Mass Market A broad mass-market approach will drive general awareness of the program to eligible commercial customers in the service territory.
- **Trade Professionals** A leveraged marketing approach will be aimed at recruiting and equipping trade professionals with program information, to help them promote the program to their customer base.
- **Targeted Sectors** Targeted marketing campaigns will focus on those sectors identified as having the highest savings potential, based on market research and benchmarking data, including grocery, retail, entertainment, and property management.
- Hard-to-Reach Customers/Disadvantaged Communities Demographic analytics will help target and develop outreach strategies for hard to reach customers and disadvantaged communities within the SDG&E service territory using multilingual collateral.

Direct and indirect outreach efforts include cold calls, email blasts, leveraging prior participation data, leveraging local trade professionals' relationships, community events, and digital content.

In addition to delivering energy savings through qualifying measures, TRC will offer the following tools and services to SDG&E's Large Commercial customers:

- **Project Management Concierge** In-house implementation specialists will serve as the customer's single point of contact for all program related matters.
- **Customized Outreach & Technical Services** A "trusted advisor" will support the customer to make informed decisions and overcome any technical barriers. Support includes analyzing benchmarking output, identifying energy efficiency opportunities, and assisting with program applications and project development to improve the customer's access to energy offerings and eliminate confusion. Once the project is approved for implementation, the implementer will provide additional services as required (i.e. vendor selection support) to overcome any additional technical, time, or financial barriers that may exist.
- Web Portal Customers will receive instant access to program literature, a project dashboard linked to real-time project status, and all submitted project documentation through the CEMS Program website. This website will host several additional features to support the customer's journey to ZNE such as links to benchmarking and online energy assessment tools, a "Find a Contractor" feature, and a Trade Pro rating system. A live chat feature will further ensure that customers are helped at the time and in the way needed to act on energy efficiency opportunities.
- **Direct Installation** The program will offer installations of approved measures at no- or lowcost to qualifying customers through its Direct Install Service, removing the participation hurdles associated with available capital, labor, and coordination of product installation.
- Network of Managed Trade Professionals The implementer will actively manage a network of sales reps, contractors, and other firms, providing ongoing training on program offerings and requirements and ensuring that quality of workmanship and certain qualification requirements are met. For the customer, this provides continuity of valued relationships with their chosen contractors.
- Suite of Financing Options The program provides a suite of financing options to help address customer capital concerns.

#### **3. PROGRAM DESIGN AND BEST PRACTICES**

TRC and its partners have developed a multi-faceted approach to addressing each of the barriers outlined in SDG&E's Business Plan. The program's approach was designed based on best practices and lessons learned from the implementer's seasoned experience and deep understanding of the unique challenges California businesses face. The strategies and tactics below consist of innovations designed to tackle SDG&E's unique barriers paired with proven methodologies deployed across the nation.

#### 3.1 SPLIT INCENTIVE (TENANT/LANDLORD LEASING)

Providing monetary incentives that do not consider the relationship between tenants and landlords have not yielded strong adoption within these spaces. Motivations between a tenant and a landlord typically contrast; for example, energy savings may be irrelevant to landlords due to tenants paying for utilities, while tenants are often hesitant to perform upgrades to a property they do not own. Program innovations such as Flex Incentives and financing options seek to address these barriers. Flex Incentives can be combined with financing options to eliminate upfront cost for tenants to realize non-energy benefits, such as increased comfort, without going out-of-pocket. Flex Incentives may also be used to address the split incentive barrier through a property owner incentive. The design provides a scaling incentive to the property owner based upon the incentive amount the tenant's project receives. It has been proven that rewarding both tenant and landlord directly contributes to reducing the barrier to participation for each party.

Achieved energy savings by the tenant will transform into asset value for the landlord through facility benchmarking. Recognizing AB802 requires commercial buildings greater than 50k square feet are required to perform benchmarking, program staff will encourage this practice for all large commercial customers and will assist customers in analyzing the results. As the practice of benchmarking continues to proliferate, prospective tenants will begin to consider a building's operating costs and environmental impacts, commercial properties with a high benchmarking score will be more desirable than properties with lower scores, and this will result in increased asset value. Landlords are educated through outreach channels including program staff, partners, and trade professionals, along with targeted marketing campaigns which reinforce these non-energy benefits such as, increased property value, greater tenant comfort, and improved tenant retention. Landlords will also be encouraged to use energy efficiency upgrades paired with program incentives as a bargaining chip in renewing single tenant lease agreements.

#### 3.2 MULTIPLE LEVELS OF DECISION MAKING

Getting to the correct staff early in the project timeline is critical to a project's success. TRC will create an effective point of entry within the customer's decision-making framework by leveraging existing relationships through program partners and trade professionals. Staff regularly interact and maintain relationships at decision making levels creating an effective point of entry for program sales staff to propose energy efficiency solutions.

The program outreach strategy nurtures projects through the sales process, documenting program influence and ensuring program integrity along the way. Identified project stakeholders are included in the customer journey through project tracking, program updates, and "before

and after" project results. This strategy aims to acquire and retain decision makers to maintain a low cost of customer acquisition and increase program cost-effectiveness.

#### 3.3 MISPERCEPTION OF EE VALUE

The CEMS program design includes tools and program innovations to help accurately determine project savings before and after project implementation. Custom Express is an innovation which uses program approved tools, documentation and savings methodologies to quickly and credibly calculate proposed project savings for common complex measures. Project information can be input into the Custom Express calculator to generate estimated savings, validated by Program staff prior to installation approval. Due to this standardized and vetted process, Custom Express brings an accelerated program experience to customers without sacrificing engineering quality and savings calculation rigor.

Even with decision-maker support of EE initiatives, customers face capital limitations that often stall or inhibit project implementation. To enable participation, program design integrates the "Efficiency-as-a-Service" (EaaS) financing model in addition to OBF. EaaS circumvents the capital approval hurdle by funding EE improvements from operating budgets and provides immediate positive cash flow. The financier retains ownership of installed efficiency assets and provides customers with a managed service tied to a pay-per-kWh saved billing model. Each kWh billed is contracted to be less than the utilities going kWh rate. This financing approach ensures customers achieve bill savings from the date of implementation until the measure is fully paid.

The CEMS program will promote non-energy benefits and greater transparency and control over customer energy usage. Reliance on energy cost savings alone ignores vital co-benefits associated with energy efficiency implementation such as carbon emission reductions, maintenance cost reductions, safety, and improved productivity, among other intangibles. The Program will quantify these co-benefits and integrate them into program support and marketing materials aimed to resonate with relevant project stakeholders. Non-energy benefits are also reinforced by our partners and trade professionals through marketing channels.

Energy savings measures can also be paired with fault detection instrumentation and software. As an example, in the Grocery subsector, fault detection is capable of alerting refrigeration technicians of faulty equipment or unstable temperature readings. Provided that the fault detection feature is well-managed, technicians and store owners will experience bountiful energy savings with the non-energy benefit of heightened preservation of their valuable merchandise.

#### 3.4 PROGRAM COMPLEXITIES DIMINISHED VALUE

Customer focused program staff continuously manage customer expectations through customer touch points and create a clear channel of communication as the customer progresses through their energy journey. Both trade professionals and outreach staff are trained to seamlessly document program influence through customer interaction, flag industry standard practice, and insulate program complexities from the customer experience.

A customized Energy Plan is developed for key accounts which directs customers through available program offerings, further reducing confusion caused by multiple options. The program follows an approach which focuses on "quick win", low-cost, simple measures, such as retro commissioning. As customer trust is gained, a collaborative road map is developed to identify and implement measures across the customer's facility achieving deeper energy savings.

The program offers multi-lingual staff who can inform customers about program options and process in their native language. Program documentation is explained by program staff to minimize customer confusion for customer's whose primary language is other than English.

#### 3.5 CONTRACTORS ARE OFTEN SINGLE END-USE FOCUSED

During the sales process, a single end-use focused contractor may recognize additional energy savings opportunities, or a customer in need of a comprehensive energy assessment. Trade professionals are encouraged to notify program staff of these opportunities. The program partners will also look for comprehensive energy savings opportunities. The program will offer energy savings plans, which will encourage the adoption of multiple measures. Program staff, partners, trade professionals will all receive training, tools and support to encourage identification of all EE opportunities, not just the single end use they know/sell. Customers will be armed with program information and training to ask the right questions of the trade professionals.

#### 4. INNOVATION

Customer focus, innovation and purpose are built into the CEMS Program. The CEMS Program is designed with these key needs in mind: enhanced customer experience, increased attainment of cost-effective energy efficiency savings, and integration of additional demand side technologies. To this end, the CEMS Program incorporates several delivery strategy innovations to address observed customer challenges while promoting cost-efficient savings attainment. These innovative delivery strategies not only enhance the customer experience, but also deliver real cost-efficiencies that are realized through increased participation or improved cost-effectiveness over traditional approaches:

#### 4.1 FLEX INCENTIVES

A flexible incentive structure customizes offerings to meet customers' required investment criteria and guarantees receipt of the approved incentive upon project completion. This approach balances customer financial needs within regulatory constraints while enhancing the customer experience and enabling participation. Tailoring incentive offers to customers based on need rather than fixed rates allows the program to distribute incentive funds to affect higher levels of participation.

#### 4.2 EFFICIENCY-AS-A-SERVICE (EaaS)

To enable participation, the program integrates the "Efficiency-as-a-Service" financing model into an existing suite of financing options. EaaS circumvents the capital approval hurdle by funding EE improvements from operating budgets and provides immediate positive cash flow. In this approach, the financier relies on savings for repayment, which also supports persistence of claimed savings.

#### 4.3 DATA-DRIVEN TARGETING

Analyzing customer data and participation patterns, the program will identify high-potential sectors, measure-specific applications, and stranded opportunities to ultimately reduce customer acquisition costs and improve customer engagement. By creating data-based market personas, tailored and personalized messaging will encourage participation, strengthen program relationships and drive deeper energy savings. The data-driven targeting innovation aims to deliver tailored program messaging to mid-sized commercial customers to garner interest that program staff can act on to develop into real project opportunities.

#### 4.4 SAVINGS PERSISTENCE MONITORING

The persistence innovation is a multi-track, real-time protocol that more accurately accounts for net savings over equipment life rather than one-and-done Measurement & Verification (M&V) plans focused on first-year savings. Persistence protocol maintains customer engagement for years after initial program participation: providing ongoing guidance and support for project performance, establishing SDG&E and the program team as trusted energy advisors, and offering numerous opportunities to promote repeat program participation. This approach includes ongoing checkups on select projects to ensure equipment is operating as intended throughout the measure life. These checkups may range from phone calls with the customer, review of utility usage data, or M&V. The innovation is scalable and is applicable across all sectors.

#### 4.5 NORMALIZED METERED ENERGY CONSUMPTION (NMEC)

The program will incorporate NMEC, a CA legislative (AB802) and CPUC approved method to quantify energy savings. This approach assists customers with deciphering actual energy savings. With NMEC, savings are verified at the meter, are visible to the customer, and are well-aligned with utility bill reductions. NMEC savings receive existing conditions baseline per CPUC (E-4818 and others) and a net to gross (NTG) equal to 0.95 per CPUC proceedings. With these conditions, automated data collection ability and no requirement for M&V equipment, NMEC is a cost-effective M&V method that increases overall claimable savings for no net increase in implementation cost. NMEC is most applicable for customers who achieve enough energy savings to verify at the meter level, often a minimum of 10% meter savings, have predictable operating patterns, and who have an accessible metering platform. The program will review projects on a case-by-case basis to determine NMEC suitability.

#### 4.6 MEASURE GRADUATION

To accommodate projects with expedited schedules, the program will introduce simplified custom applications, along with approved calculation tools, defined influence documentation, and clear measurement and verification requirements that accelerate the approval process. The Custom Express platform will be utilized to cost-effectively expand proliferation of traditional custom measures beyond large customers, enable data collection for full workpaper development and ultimately, graduate the measure to the deemed platform. This innovation is applicable to all sectors and segments but will be applied only to select measures with typical operating profiles and system configurations.

#### 5. METRICS

The implementer will record all project data in their project and customer tracking system and track program performance by capturing the following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- Program Performance
  - Savings to Goal (kWh, kW, therms)
  - TRC Ratio
  - Passed Inspections
- Financials/Savings
  - Savings Claimed
  - Budget Spent
  - Savings/Budget Alignment
- Customer Satisfaction
  - Customer Satisfaction Survey Scores
  - Complaints Received
- Compliance
  - Reporting Accuracy
  - HTR/DAC Penetration
- Innovation
  - EaaS Participation
  - Unique Market Personas
  - Measures Graduated

#### 6. FOR PROGRAMS CLAIMING TO-CODE SAVINGS

The program will not claim to-code savings.

#### 7. PILOTS

Pilot projects are not part of the program at this time.

#### 8. WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The program will engage SDG&E's Workforce Education & Training (WE&T) program where possible to help promote the creation of a valued, skilled workforce. The program team will encourage customers and Trade Professionals to consider providing job access to Disadvantaged Workers through the application process. The program team regularly works with local associations, training organizations and colleges to support recruitment and training of a diverse industry workforce. Additionally, workforce education and training requirements will be incorporated into any program subcontract agreements.

#### 9. WORKFORCE STANDARDS

#### 9.1 HVAC

The availability of competent hourly craft personnel possessing the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the installation, modification and maintenance of HVAC measures will support improved program outcomes over time as well as increase the number of qualified and appropriately trained trade professionals. Accurate installation, appropriate maintenance, and operational training ensures energy savings are realized.

Workforce standards incorporated into the program include ensuring HVAC installation technicians obtain one or more of the following: Completed an accredited HVAC apprenticeship; are enrolled in an accredited HVAC apprenticeship; have completed at least five years of work experience at the journey level as defined by the California Department of Industrial Relations (Title 8, Section 205 of the California Code of Regulations), passed a practical and written HVAC system installation competency test, and received credentialed training specific to the installation of the technology being installed; or hold a C-20 HVAC contractor license from the California State Contractor's Licensing Board (CSLB).

These requirements apply to all the individuals that perform the installation, modification, and maintenance work on all HVAC projects, regardless of incentive value. Notification and communication of this requirement will be incorporated into regular marketing and outreach efforts to customers, Trade Professionals and other program partners. To ensure compliance, this requirement will also be incorporated into all project application Terms & Conditions.

#### 9.2 LIGHTING

The availability of competent hourly craft personnel possessing the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the installation of advanced lighting control measures will support improved program outcomes over time as well as increase the number of qualified and appropriately trained trade professionals. Accurate installation, appropriate maintenance, and operational training ensures energy savings are realized.

Workforce standards incorporated into the program include ensuring lighting installation technicians possess certification from the California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP) as either CALTCP Technical Installer or CALCTP Acceptance Test Technician.

These requirements apply to all the individuals that perform the lighting controls installation work, regardless of incentive value. Notification and communication of this lighting controls requirement will be incorporated into regular marketing and outreach efforts to customers, Trade Professionals and other program partners. To ensure compliance, this requirement will also be incorporated into all project application Terms & Conditions.

#### **10. DISADVANTAGED WORKER PLAN**

The Program will track Disadvantaged Worker, as defined in D.18-10-008, participation where appropriate. Periodic surveys of participating Trade Professionals will ask for self-reporting of disadvantaged workers' participation on specific projects. Customers performing their own installations will also be asked to self-report Disadvantaged Worker details through project applications and surveys. All information will be recorded in the program's tracking system and masked to remove any potential personal identifiable information. Participation data can be reported on in an ad-hoc manner or be provided as part of our regular reporting cycle.

The program will advise Trade Professionals and subcontractors to post job openings in zip codes with high unemployment per the CalEnviroScreen tool.

#### **11. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

No additional information to provide.

## Supporting Documents

The following documents are attached to the Implementation Plan.

- **1. PROGRAM MANUALS AND PROGRAM RULES**
- 2. PROGRAM THEORY AND PROGRAM LOGIC MODEL
- 3. PROCESS FLOW CHART
- 4. INCENTIVE TABLES, WORKPAPERS, SOFTWARE TOOLS
- 5. QUANTITATIVE PROGRAM TARGETS
- 6. DIAGRAM OF PROGRAM
- 7. EVALUATION, MEASUREMENT & VERIFICATION (EM&V)
- 8. NORMALIZED METERED ENERGY CONSUMPTION (NMEC)



10/12/2020

# SDG&E COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS PROGRAM Program Manual

## Table of Contents

Introduction	3
About CEMS	3
Customer Eligibility	3
Incentive Exclusivity	3
Contractor Eligibility	
Measure Eligibility	5
Inspections	
Virtual Inspections	6
Additional Services	6
Quality Assurance	7
Program Metrics	8

## Introduction

Comprehensive Energy Management Solutions (CEMS) is a non-residential retrofit program offering cash incentives to large commercial customers installing energy-efficient equipment at their businesses. Installing energy-efficient equipment can help reduce energy consumption and operating expenses, which leads to greater profitability, productivity and efficiency. Incentives are designed to encourage these installations by offsetting the incremental cost of higher efficiency equipment. Using energy-efficient equipment can positively impact a business' bottom line while helping the environment by reducing air pollution and preserving natural resources. All utility customers benefit, because reduced electrical system demand helps keep energy costs down.

## About CEMS

CEMS is administered by SDG&E under the auspices of the CPUC and implemented by TRC. The CEMS Program provides end-to-end program implementation services, including marketing, outreach, engineering, operations, customer service, and data management and reporting to qualified customers. The Program leverages TRC's outreach staff, team of subcontractors, and network of trade professionals to provide customers with a single program that addresses all their energy efficiency needs.

CEMS runs from January 1, 2021 until December 31, 2023. Incentive applications cannot be submitted prior to January 1, 2021. Project installations must be completed by the date specified in the most current program application terms and conditions. Applications that do not require pre-approval must be submitted within 30 days of the project's installation date or final invoice date, whichever is later, in order to qualify for an incentive. The program budget is limited, and incentives are paid to qualifying customers on a first-come, first served basis until funds are no longer available or December 31, 2023 — whichever comes first. Priority is determined by the date the complete application and all required supporting documentation is received by TRC.

## Customer Eligibility

The CEMS Program provides services and incentives to large commercial (>20 kW) electric and gas customers in SDG&E territory, excluding commercial customers located in the Port Tidelands and non-residential customers defined as Public, Industrial and Agricultural. Rates served by this Program include eligible customers on Schedules AL-TOU, AL-TOU2 and/or Schedule GN-3. Applicant utility accounts and rate codes are verified to ensure the building is on a Public Purpose Program (PPP) paying, qualifying large commercial account.

## **Incentive Exclusivity**

Program offerings will be continually evaluated for potential overlap with other programs. If a customer has received an incentive or services from another statewide or local program, they are ineligible to receive an incentive or services through CEMS for the same measure(s). Conversely, if a customer receives an incentive from CEMS, they are ineligible to receive incentives from any other statewide or

CEMS Program Manual

local program for the same measure(s). As a result, all project site and customer participation records will be tracked and reviewed prior to enrolling a customer in CEMS. In addition, all customers must certify that they have not received other incentives or funding related to the application's measure or service in order to qualify for the program.

## Contractor Eligibility

Accurate installation, appropriate maintenance, and operational training ensures customers realize energy savings. To encourage these practices, the program manages a network of qualified, trained trade professionals as a part of the additional services offered to customers. The trade professional network is for companies that provide guidance, products and services to assist SDG&E large commercial customers with implementing energy efficient measures. Use of a network member is not required to qualify for incentives.

To be eligible for the program's trade professional network, trades must:

- Complete a trade professional network application (available on the program website);
- Submit supporting documentation as outlined in the application (including W9, proof of insurance, etc.);
- Attend required program training; and
- Abide by all program rules and regulations as detailed in the trade professional network and customer application Terms & Conditions.

In addition to the above network participation requirements, the following apply to all HVAC and Advanced Lighting projects.

**HVAC.** HVAC installation technicians must obtain one or more of the following: Completed an accredited HVAC apprenticeship; or are enrolled in an accredited HVAC apprenticeship; or have completed at least five years of work experience at the journey level as defined by the California Department of Industrial Relations (Title 8, Section 205 of the California Code of Regulations), passed a practical and written HVAC system installation competency test, and received credentialed training specific to the installation of the technology being installed; or hold a C-20 HVAC contractor license from the California Contractor's state Licensing Board. These requirements apply to all the individuals that perform the installation, modification, and maintenance work.

**LIGHTING.** Lighting installation technicians must possess certification from the California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP) as either CALTCP Technical Installer or CALCTP Acceptance Test Technician. These requirements apply to all the individuals that perform the installation work.

Both the HVAC and Lighting contractor requirements are incorporated into all project application Terms & Conditions to ensure compliance.

## Measure Eligibility

The program requires that all measures have strong technical support for claimed energy savings. This technical support may come from the Database for Energy Efficient Resources (DEER) or through new or existing CPUC approved Workpapers. The program utilizes Deemed, Custom, and meter-based savings platforms to influence, calculate, and incentivize customers for energy savings.

Deemed measures, or prescriptive measures with predefined attributes, must have current, approved technical workpapers and be listed in the current DEER or electronic Technical Resource Manual (eTRM). Deemed measures include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Pipe Insulation
- Combination Oven/Steamer
- Conveyor Broilers
- Conveyor Oven
- Fryer
- Convection Oven
- Ice Machines
- Pool Heaters
- Rack Oven
- Steam Cooker
- Reach-in Refrigerator/Freezer

- Griddle
- Cogged V-Belt
- Insulated Holding Cabinet
- Laminar Flow Restrictor
- Dishwashers
- Modulating Gas Valve
- On-Demand Hand Wrap Machine
- Coffin Reach-in
- Open Case Refrigeration
- VFD/VSD HVAC Fans
- Instantaneous Water Heater

Custom measures, or measures developed for a specific project using a site-specific analysis and not identified as a Deemed measure, will follow the Statewide Custom Project Guidance Document and all other statewide documentation and workbooks. All custom measures must save kW, kWh, and/or therms and must adhere to cost-effectiveness thresholds. Custom offerings using a meter-based approach will require pre-screening to determine whether a Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) approach is suitable for the customer.

Incentives will not be paid in excess of the installed cost of the measure(s). Installed cost includes material cost, installation labor, sales taxes, and shipping. Customers who self-install may include installation labor cost with proper documentation.

### Inspections

Project inspections will be performed for a defined percentage of projects as well as for any project installing "unique" technology solutions or incentive amounts that exceed a defined threshold. By participating in the program, customers are agreeing to allow all inspections required by the program, TRC, and SDG&E to be conducted. Although not all projects will receive inspections, they all are subject to inspection at program discretion. Site inspections involve documenting equipment eligibility and onsite equipment operation information with pictures and/or other documentation. Site inspections can be done either in person or virtually.

CEMS Program Manual

Inspection timing:

- Prior to initiation of the efficiency project
- After installation of efficiency measure(s), but prior to payment of incentive
- After installation and payment of incentive

#### **Virtual Inspections**

When applicable, a virtual inspection can be performed in lieu of an in-person inspection. In a virtual inspection, the customer participates in the process by gathering and documenting information on behalf of the inspection team. Using the customer's staff eliminates the need to be on-site. It is intended to provide a positive and educational experience for the customer as well as fulfill the program inspection obligations.

The virtual inspection process has four parts:

- 1. **Planning:** Determine whether the customer is a good candidate; define roles and responsibilities and establish a timeline.
- 2. **Preparation:** Build a plan to inspect the site for data collection and documentation via videoconference.
- 3. Virtual Inspection: Inspect the site with the customer using videoconference to observe existing conditions and/or confirm installation details.
- 4. **Analysis:** Use the information collected to fulfill pre- and/or post-installation inspection requirements and documentation.

The decision to use virtual or in person inspection approach will be determined on a case by case basis at the sole discretion of the program staff.

## Additional Services

In addition to delivering energy savings through qualifying measures, the program also offers the following tools and services to SDG&E's large commercial customers:

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONCIERGE.** A dedicated program representative will serve as the customer's single point of contact for program issues or questions including project status inquiries, program navigation, and application assistance. Even as customers engage Trade Professionals to implement projects, program staff will be ready and available to assist the customer with questions and drive any potential issues to resolution. This individualized approach to customers' needs promotes effective program delivery by ensuring customer satisfaction and driving process improvements where needed to improve the customer experience.

**CUSTOMIZED OUTREACH & TECHNICAL SERVICES.** A trusted program advisor will support the customer to make informed decisions and overcome any technical barriers. Support includes:

- Analyzing benchmarking output
- Identifying EE opportunities
- Assisting with program
- Energy auditing and retro-commissioning studies
- Streamlining data collection efforts
- Vendor selection support

#### CEMS Program Manual

**WEB PORTAL.** Customers will receive instant access to program literature, a project dashboard linked to real-time project status, and all submitted project documentation through the CEMS Program website. This website will host several additional features to support the customer's journey to ZNE such as links to benchmarking and online energy assessment tools, a "Find a Contractor" feature, and a Trade Professional rating system. A live chat feature will further ensure that customers are helped at the time and in the way needed to act on energy efficiency opportunities.

**DIRECT INSTALLATION.** The program will offer installations of approved measures at low- to no-cost to the customer through a Direct Install Service. Offered to small-medium and hard to reach customers, the Direct Install offering removes the participation hurdles associated with available capital, labor, and coordination of product installation. Program partners will assist customers by completing all incentive application paperwork, purchasing efficient products, and installing the proposed measures. This service will be provided at low to no out-of-pocket cost to the customer and will improve program effectiveness by providing an entry point for customers that have been traditionally hard to reach.

**TRADE PROFESSIONALS NETWORK.** The program will offer a network of trade professionals trained on program offerings and requirements and meeting certain qualification requirements. This provides a network of knowledgeable trades to support customers with their energy efficiency projects.

**SUITE OF FINANCING OPTIONS.** The program recognizes that capital limitations can severely dampen program participation. To overcome this barrier, the program will offer a suite of financing options including our innovative flexible incentive structure, on-bill financing, and Efficiency-as-a-Service. These financing mechanisms give property owners, managers, and lessees the opportunity to embrace energy efficiency while still allowing for capital improvements normally prioritized above efficiency.

## Quality Assurance

The program has a Quality Assurance (QA) team focused on specific parameters that define measure eligibility, energy savings, and required documentation throughout all aspects of the program. The QA team will be comprised of members from the engineering, operations and outreach teams to ensure holistic program quality. Members of the team bring several accreditations and certifications including LEED AP, PE, CEM, and IPMVP.

The review methodology will be established to examine processes against quality factors, tracking results such that the QA checks and results must be recorded for the project to move to the next stage. Examples of quality factors for Deemed, Custom Express, and Custom sub-programs are summarized below. QA practices for projects utilizing NMEC are outlined in the program-level M&V plan and will conform to the latest versions of the Meter-Based NMEC Rulebook and the LBNL Site Level Technical Guidance.

Sub-Program	QA Focus	Correctness	Timeliness	Reliability
Deemed	<ul> <li>Measure eligibility</li> <li>Energy savings variations</li> </ul>	The extent to which a deliverable satisfies the	The deliverable is provided when required.	The extent to which a deliverable is

Sub-Program	QA Focus	Correctness	Timeliness	Reliability
	<ul> <li>Required documentation</li> <li>Alignment with approved Workpaper</li> </ul>	requirements and the stated objectives.		provided on a consistent basis.
Custom Express	<ul> <li>Alignment with CPUC CMPA review protocols</li> <li>Measure eligibility</li> <li>Appropriateness of inputs and assumptions</li> <li>Adherence to M&amp;V activities</li> </ul>	The extent to which a deliverable satisfies the requirements and the stated objectives.	The deliverable is provided when required.	The extent to which a deliverable is provided on a consistent basis.
Custom	<ul> <li>Compliance with CPUC policies</li> <li>Baseline operation approach</li> <li>Confirmation of measure implementation approach</li> <li>Compliance with Statewide Custom Review Guidelines</li> <li>Review of energy savings</li> </ul>	The extent to which a deliverable satisfies the requirements and the stated objectives.	The deliverable is provided when required.	The extent to which a deliverable is provided on a consistent basis.

For all projects, the program will maintain a clear record of all project documents relevant to the applicable program characteristics. Secondary review of randomly selected projects will periodically check the QA process to ensure that:

- The QA process has been followed, verified by checking that all data and required checks are recorded.
- The project results are reasonable, verified by recalculating results using a secondary methodology such as engineering calculations.
- Project documentation is complete.

## **Program Metrics**

Documentation and data used to calculate Program Metrics include but are not limited to:

CEMS Program Manual

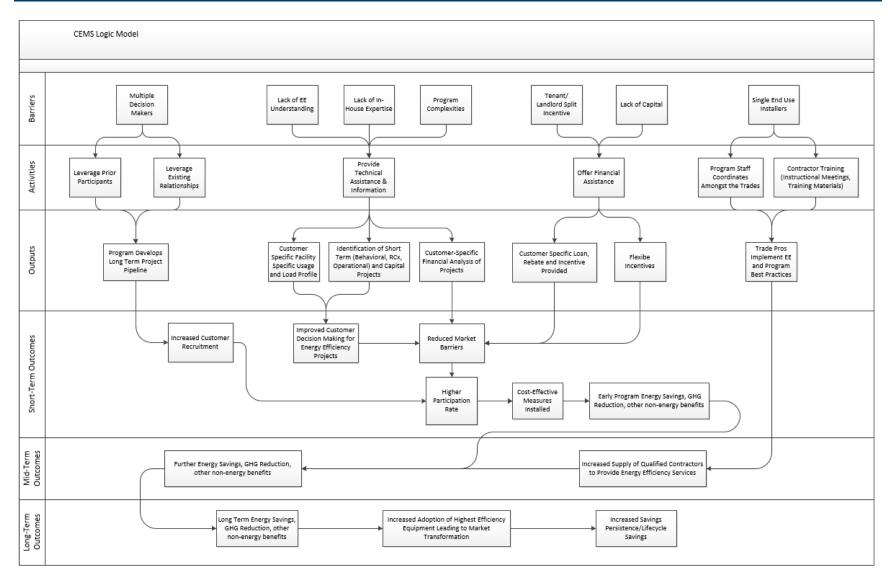
- kWh savings
- kW savings
- Therm savings
- Measures installed
- Budget spend
- Total inspections
- Inspections that pass
- Inspections that fail
- Customers reached through specific marketing efforts
- Customer responses to specific marketing efforts
- Customer complaints
- Customers enrolled in program
- Historical forecast values
- Forecast variance
- Achieved energy savings against forecasted energy savings
- Number of projects participating in new program innovations
- HTR/DAC participation.

## Program Theory

The program theory indicates that providing downstream incentives to commercial customers to offset the incremental cost of energy efficient equipment will:

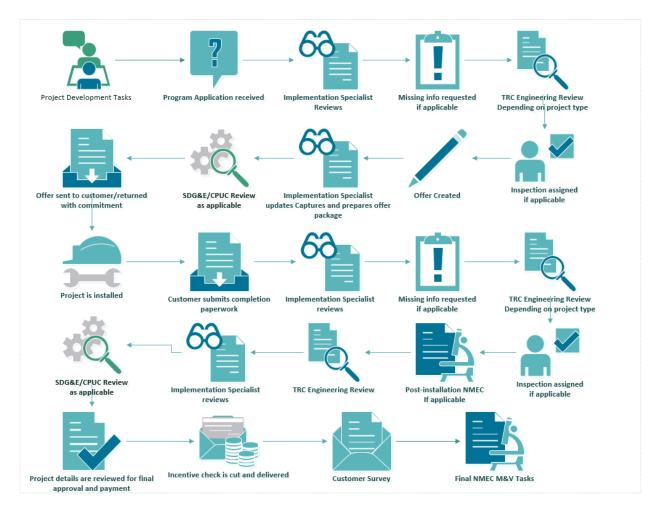
- Increase customer awareness of higher efficiency equipment;
- Create motivation for customers to buy and install more efficient equipment;
- Improve customer energy efficiency decision making;
- Reduce market barriers leading to an overall increase in the purchase of more efficient products;
- Result in energy savings over the short, mid and long term;
- Increase broader adoption of higher efficiency equipment leading to market transformation;
- Contribute to the collective achievement of energy savings; and
- Move California closer to the target of doubling statewide energy efficiency savings in electricity and natural gas end uses by 2030 as set by The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act (Senate Bill 350)

## Program Logic Model



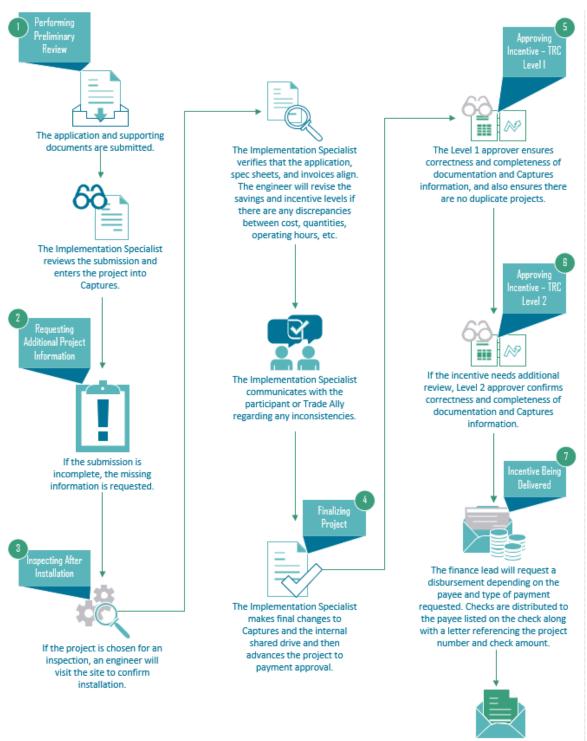
## Program Process Flow Chart

The process flow for the CEMS program appears below:



## **Deemed Process Flow Chart**

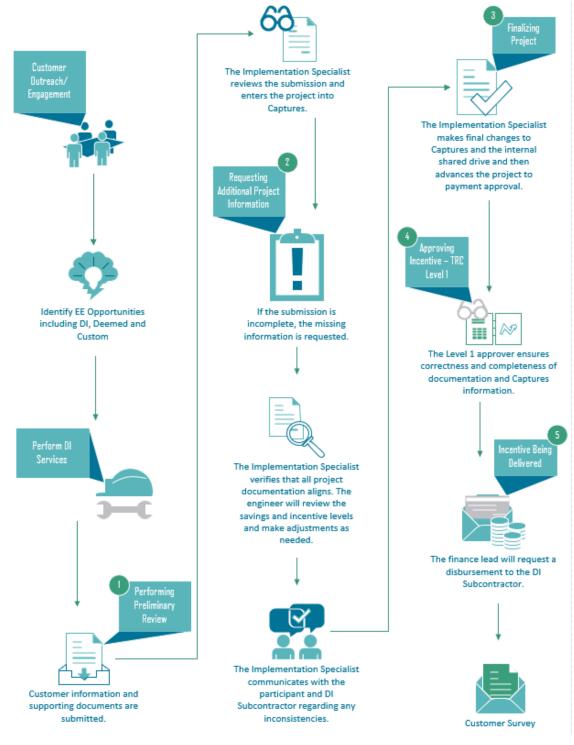
The Deemed Process Flow Chart appears below:



Customer Survey

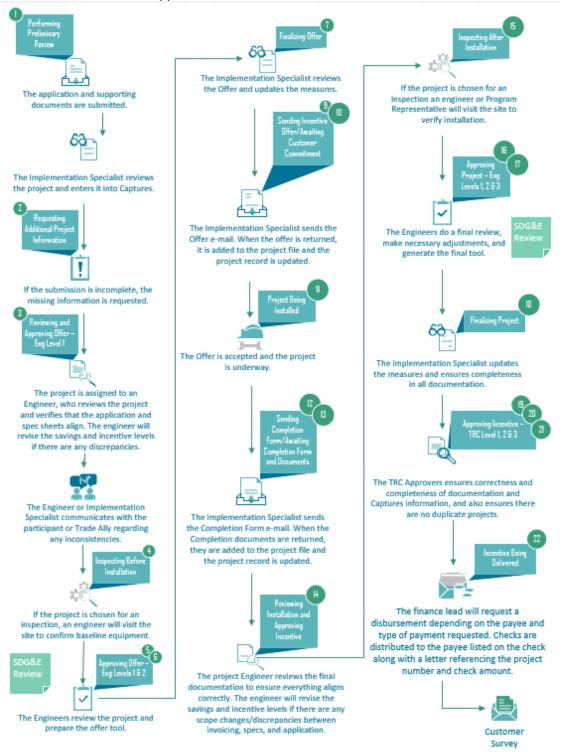
## **Direct Install Process Flow**

The Direct Install Process Flow appears below:



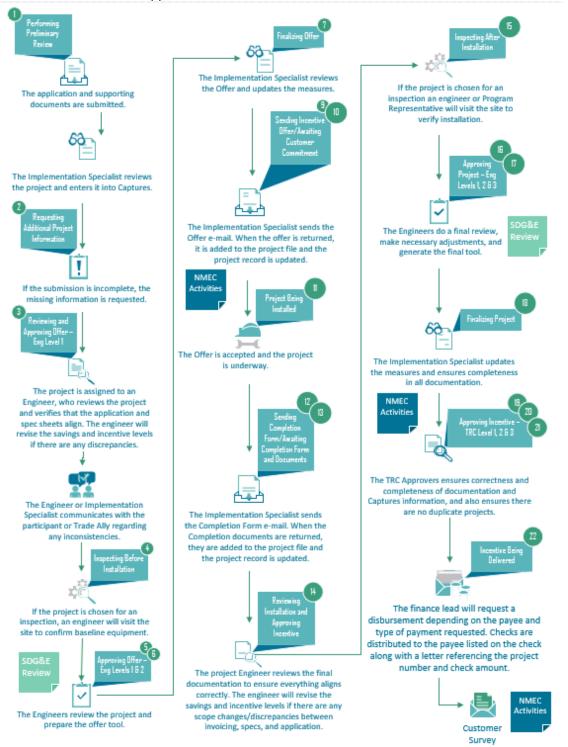
## **Custom Process Flow**

#### The Custom Process Flow appears below:



## NMEC Process Flow

#### The NMEC Process Flow appears below:



## Incentives and Workpapers

The following table provides a summary of the deemed measure offerings and associated workpapers. Custom offerings include any cost-effective measures not eligible under the deemed platform. Custom offerings using a meter-based savings approach will require pre-screening to determine whether a Normalized Metered Energy Consumption (NMEC) approach is suitable for the customer.

Measure	Workpaper
Cogged V-Belt for HVAC Fan	SWHC024
Convection Oven	SWFS001
Conveyor Broiler	SWFS017
Conveyor Oven	SWFS008
Dishwasher	SWFS002
Fryer	SWFS011
Gas Dryer Modulating Valve	SWAP012
Griddle	SWFS004
Ice Machine	SWFS006
Instantaneous Water Heater	SWWH006
Insulated Hot Food Holding Cabinet	SWFS007
Laminar Flow Restrictor	SWWH004
Low-temperature Coffin to Reach-in Display Case Conversion	SWCR019
Medium Temperature Open Display Case	SWCR020
On-Demand Hand Wrap Machine	SWFS010
Pipe Insulation	SWWH017
Pool Heater	SWRE003
Rack Oven	SWFS014

Measure	Workpaper
Reach-in Refrigerator/Freezer	SWCR018
Steam Cooker	SWFS005
Steam/Convection Combination Oven/	SWFS003
VFD/VSD HVAC Fans	SWHC018

Incentive amounts will vary depending on a variety of factors, such as the measure application type and its associated cost basis (i.e. Incremental Measure Cost (IMC) and Full Measure Cost (FMC)), as well as the measure's cost effectiveness and payback period.

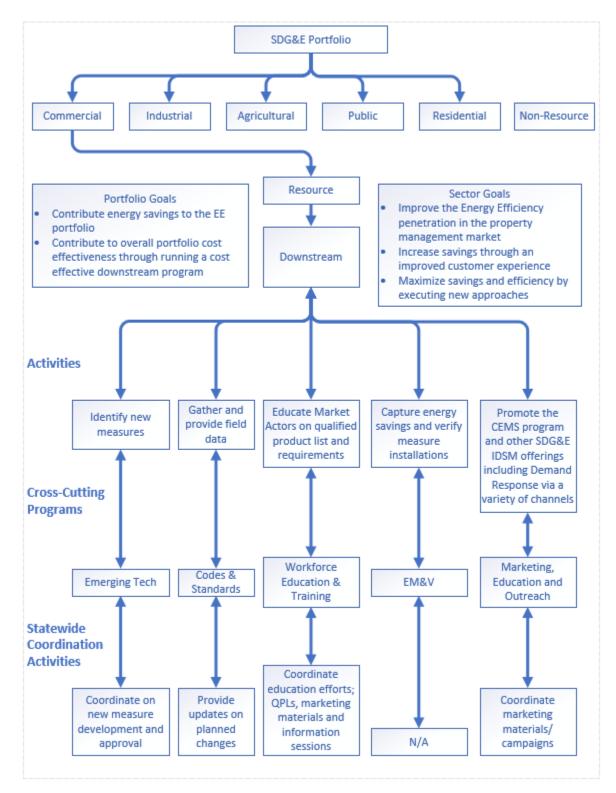
## Quantitative Program Targets

The following table provides the quantitative program targets.

Target	2021	2022	2023
Total customers served	973	973	973
Hard-to-Reach (HTR) customers served	140	140	140
Disadvantaged Community (DAC) projects	115	115	115
Unique marketing impressions	20,000	20,000	20,000

## Program Diagram

The program diagram for the CEMS program appears below:



## Evaluation, Measurement & Verification (EM&V)

The program's developed Quality Assurance (QA) plan ensures a structured approach to the defining, recording, and storing of documentation related to requirements, approvals, reviews, tests, decisions, actions, events, problems, and improvement measures to support verification, validation, and traceability. All applicable data points are recorded in the program's tracking system, which contains data validation mechanisms and is programmed to prevent incomplete or inaccurate project records from moving forward in the process. Throughout the life of the program, recurring and ad hoc data integrity checks are completed by program staff.

This data is also leveraged to conduct internal performance analysis during deployment and to generate and monitor progress towards program performance metrics.

The program's developed Measurement and Verification (M&V) plan covers M&V requirements and details for all NMEC projects. The plan follows the latest NMEC rulebook and will be updated as the rulebook is updated.



10/12/2020

## SDG&E COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS PROGRAM Program Level M&V Plan

## Table of Contents

Normalized Metered Energy Savings (NMEC) Program M&V Plan3
Appropriateness of Meter-Based Platform3
Methodology3
Software/Tools Employed7
Analytical Methods8
Key Data Points9
Data Collection Plan9
Precision of Program Savings Measurement10
Approach to Ensure Adequate Monitoring in Reporting Period11
Approach to Determining EUL Values11
Adjusting for Non-Routine Events (NREs)11
Method of Determining Program Influence and Net-To-Gross12
Savings vs. Normal Variations in Consumption13
Entity Conducting M&V Activities13
Entities Receiving Compensation at Each Project Stage13
Method(s) and tools utilized in the calculation of incentives and/or compensation at each stage of compensation
Eligibility Criteria and Target Population14
Quality Assurance Practices14

# Normalized Metered Energy Savings (NMEC) Program M&V Plan

## Appropriateness of Meter-Based Platform

Pursuant to the CPUC guidance issued on January 31, 2019, NMEC is approved for use in the commercial sector and TRC's Comprehensive Energy Management Solutions (CEMS) Program will use a site-level NMEC approach as applicable, and will conform to the latest versions of the Meter-Based NMEC Rulebook (currently ver.2.0), and the LBNL Site Level Technical Guidance<sup>1</sup>. In the site-level NMEC approach, savings are determined for each program participant after measures are installed, based on an analysis of pre- and post-installation meter data. In this approach, the post-installation energy use data provides important feedback to assure savings are achieved. This aligns the goals of customers and ratepayers, who both require assurance of the return on their investments.

Site-level NMEC follows the well-known International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol (IPMVP) Option C approach. Traditionally applied with billing data, this approach has been updated with advanced modelling methods applied to short-time interval data from California's advanced metering infrastructure (AMI data), enabling much more accurate savings analysis. Our approach allows multiple advanced modeling algorithms and independent variables to be assessed, to find the best fitting model for any NMEC project. This enables the methodology to be applied over a much wider range of building use types.

Several attributes of our site-level NMEC approach make it a robust and appropriate methodology for both the program and its customers:

- The savings methodology aligns with how customers think of their savings investments: at the meter.
- The short-time interval data and savings analysis provides fast feedback on a project's performance, enabling timely identification and resolution of issues that prevent savings.
- The approach focusses on achieving savings and verifying the return on the customer's and the program's investment.
- The method is scalable because it is applicable across multiple commercial building types and its uniform approach enables more participation by customers, implementers, and contractors.

## Methodology

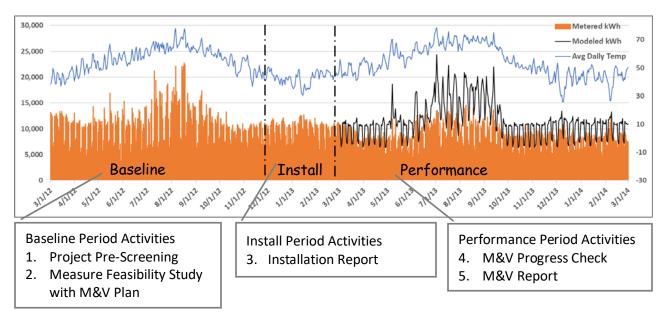
The NMEC M&V Plan describes the requirements for each participating customer. Below we first describe the overall site-level NMEC process that governs a customer's NMEC journey. This provides the context upon which the overall program M&V is based. While specific M&V plans for each participating customer are required, the program M&V Plan has a broader scope with additional elements including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=6442463695

customer pre-screening, measure savings analysis, and lifecycle cost requirements. This section describes the site-level NMEC M&V Plan.

Our approach to each site-level NMEC project has been designed following the guidance on measurement and verification (M&V) plans LBNL provided to the CPUC<sup>2</sup> (LBNL Guidance), while integrating requirements set forth in A.17-01-013 for measure cost-effectiveness, estimated useful life, measure verification, and BRO measure maintenance plans. Our approach assesses each potential NMEC project prior to acceptance, collects the necessary information at key milestones of the process, and manages the inherent risks with meter-based methods. Figure 1 provides an illustration of our site-level NMEC project process, showing how customer engagement, measure development, and verification is integrated with the overall M&V process. This approach has been successfully implemented in several projects.

The chart shows how baseline use was adjusted to performance period conditions (black line) and how much daily energy use was reduced (gap between black line and orange bars). In each phase, several reports document key project requirements and milestones. Each program report is based on a template to assure all the required information is collected.



#### Figure 1. NMEC Project Process

#### **BASELINE PERIOD**

<u>**Project Pre-Screening</u>**. For each potential NMEC Program participant, the NMEC M&V Plan requires an initial site visit and discussion with the building owner to assess the facility baseline condition including the presence of non-IOU energy sources, the efficiency measure opportunities and their savings potential, and to ascertain the potential for non-routine events (described below) occurring in the baseline period or planned in the future. A year of building energy use and weather data is collected,</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Guidance for Program Level M&V Plans: Normalized Metered Energy Consumption Savings Estimation in Commercial Buildings, version 1.0, March 1, 2018, available at: <u>ftp://ftp.cpuc.ca.gov/gopher-</u> <u>data/energy\_division/EnergyEfficiency/RollingPortfolioPgmGuidance/LBNL\_NMEC\_TechGuidance\_Draft.pdf</u>.

and an analysis completed to determine whether an energy model may be developed to meet the program's goodness of fit and accuracy requirements.<sup>3</sup> In the case of a building with on-site generation, the building energy use includes the energy supplied by SDG&E and the generation. This generation data is included in the data analysis which provides a mechanism to establish a baseline for the overall building energy use. This procedure would establish the baseline for the overall grid consumption of the building. The pre-screening activity is used to determine whether the project is an acceptable site-level NMEC candidate and site-specific procedures are included in the site-level M&V plan.

**Project Feasibility Study**. A more in-depth assessment of potential energy efficiency measures is provided in the measure feasibility study. This step may include an ASHRAE level I or II energy audit. Individual measure savings and costs are provided and estimated useful life (EUL) is determined for each measure. Measures will be described according to custom measure application types (MATs). Typical MATs expected include Normal Replacement, Accelerated Replacement, Add-on Equipment, New Construction, and BRO-RCx. The feasibility study provides a description of the baseline systems and equipment, their operations, energy use, and the list of measures, with their savings, costs, and EULs. A weighted average EUL for the group of measures is determined based on CPUC guidance. The study is submitted to SDG&E for approval and includes documentation of program influence and references the M&V Plan for the project.

The Site-Level M&V plan documents how savings will be determined. Following the LBNL Guidance and the NMEC Savings Procedures Manual,<sup>4</sup> it describes the building, the potential savings, the meters and data required for NMEC analysis, what modeling algorithms were chosen to develop baseline energy models, their acceptance criteria, expected savings uncertainties, how Non-Routine Events (NREs) will be identified and their impacts determined, how savings will be reported, and how often. The NMEC Savings Procedures Manual provides a template for the M&V Plan, which will be followed to capture all required information and provide complete descriptions of the savings analysis. General sections included in the templates are

- Project Description including Energy Conservation Measures,
- M&V Boundary,
- Baseline Model Development,
- Normalized Savings Calculation,
- Non-Routine Adjustments,
- Normalized Savings Determination,
- Energy Prices,
- Roles and Responsibilities,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Per the "Guidance for Program Level M&V Plans: Normalized Metered Energy Consumption Savings Estimation in Commercial Buildings" guidance document provided CPUC by LBNL for the NMEC rulings, these criteria are: CV(RMSE) < 25%, NMBE < 0.5%, and  $R^2 > 0.7$ , where CV(RMSE) is the coefficient of variation of the root mean squared error (a measure of model random error), NMBE is the net mean bias error (a measure of model bias error), and  $R^2$  is the coefficient of determination (an indication of how well the independent variables, e.g. temperature, 'explains' the dependent variable, e.g. energy use).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Normalized Metered Energy Consumption Savings Procedures Manual. SCE Emerging Technology Project ET15SCE1130, available at: <u>https://www.etcc-ca.com/reports/normalized-metered-energy-consumption-savings-procedures-manual</u>.

- Savings Report Format, and
- Quality Assurance.

1.

Data, spreadsheets, and analysis code will be provided for technical reviewers and evaluators to understand how models were developed and assessed.

#### **INSTALLATION PERIOD**

**Installation Report**. The NMEC M&V Plan requires measures to be verified as installed. Verification methods will include visual inspection with photos, receipt of contractor invoices and other cost information, and analysis of trend data from periods before and after measure installation, as available. Trend analysis provides direct evidence of the improvement in energy efficiency of building systems and equipment. These techniques for documenting measure performance may be used by building operators over time to demonstrate persistence. The installation report is submitted to SDG&E for review and approval.

#### **PERFORMANCE PERIOD**

<u>M&V Progress Check</u>. Periodic checks will be made throughout the performance period at a frequency determined by individual projects to ensure that energy savings are accumulating. To complete the check, energy use data will be collected, and a savings-to-date analysis conducted. This task is very short in duration but provides valuable project insight. The analysis will show whether the savings are accruing as expected and identify the presence of any NREs that must be addressed. This is an internal TRC team activity. Any savings adjustments seen from this effort will be included in Captures to provide an accurate program reporting forecast. SDG&E will be notified of this activity with the option to review the data and analysis.

<u>M&V Report</u>. The M&V report will document the raw data collected, preparations for its analysis, and analysis to determine savings, as described in the project's M&V plan. It will be based on the savings report template provided in the NMEC Savings Procedures Manual. Specific content of the Savings Report template from the NMEC Procedures Manual includes

- Project Description,
- Deviations from Planned M&V Activities,
- Verification of Measure Installation,
- Reporting Period Model Development,
- Performance and Savings, and
- Quality Control Activities.

All data, spreadsheets, and analysis code used in the analysis will be provided for technical review and evaluation. Savings reports will be issued at the end of the NMEC M&V period and will document program-claimed savings.

Additionally, the report shall discuss the "Goodness of Fit" statistics, model uncertainty, NREs, missing data and or "zeros", as well as relationships between weather data and net savings claims including any on-site generation analysis performed. The potential interactive effects, and possibility of fuel switching at the measure level should also be included.

## Software/Tools Employed

The TRC Team has developed an integrated suite of peer-reviewed and publicly available statistical data modeling algorithms to quantify savings achieved by energy efficiency projects following the NMEC approach. The suite enables the use of multiple modeling algorithms and quick assessment of their applicability and validity to determine the algorithm best-suited for each site. The diverse number of modeling algorithms available allow their application to a variety of building types. Moreover, the suite is extensible, designed to accommodate new modelling algorithms and other developments in the application of NMEC, including new capabilities based on kW Engineering's own experience and research efforts.

The public-domain R programming environment is the NMEC analysis platform. R is a programming language and free software environment for statistical computing and graphics. It is supported by the R Foundation for Statistical Computing.<sup>5</sup> Along with its integrated development environment RStudio, R is widely used by statisticians and data analysts in academic and professional environments. As an alternative to Microsoft Excel's limitations with large volumes of data and advanced regression analysis, kW Engineering selected R and RStudio because of its focus on statistics, its wide use and support, no-cost and ready availability, and most importantly its transparency to anyone tasked with reviewing the analysis methods in NMEC programs. Use of the R code has streamlined all of the analysis required by site-level NMEC projects. With every project, the data and R code used for pre-screening and savings analysis is provided for technical review, along with instructions for setting up R, RStudio, and running the analysis. This process has been successful in multiple technical reviews to date.

The following are the key features of our M&V analysis portfolio:

- 1. **Transparency**: The algorithms are coded in the R programming language (an open source programming language), making them transparent and reviewable.
- 2. **Model Applicability Assessment**: All site data and models are assessed, visually and statistically, to ensure that data integrity is upheld, and the underlying regression modeling assumptions are met. These include:
  - a. Linearity of data: The relationship between the predictor (e.g. temperature) and the predicted (energy use) is assumed to be linear.
  - b. Normality of residuals: The residuals are assumed to be normally distributed. Residuals are the difference between the predictor and predicted values.
  - c. Homoscedasticity: (homogeneity of residual variance): The residuals are assumed to have a constant variance.
  - d. Independence of residuals: The residuals are assumed to be independent of each other.
- 3. Quantification of the time value of energy saved: The analysis is performed on SDG&E AMI data or submetering (with short time intervals: 15 min or 1 hour), enabling time dependent valuation of savings.
- 4. **Timely feedback, reduced labor costs and improved accuracy**: The data-driven modeling algorithms are scripted in R and have run times in seconds. This upgrade from point-and-click

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> R Core Team (2016). R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. URL http://www.R-project.org/.

M&V software reduces analysis time and provides detailed feedback on savings as they accrue. Moreover, scripting of the M&V data analytics provides a high level of computational accuracy while reducing the associated labor costs.

5. **Risk Quantification**: Data-driven modeling enables quantification of the uncertainty and risk associated with the savings projections and is calculated in accordance with the formulations provided in ASHRAE Guideline 14.

## **Analytical Methods**

The following modeling algorithms are available in our analysis portfolio:

**Time-of-Week and Temperature (TOWT) Model**: The TOWT model<sup>6,7</sup> is a linear regression-based load prediction method that has a time-of-week variable to characterize the load of each interval within a week, and a piecewise linear and continuous outdoor air temperature variable to describe the temperature dependency of the load. LBNL provided R code for the model in its GitHub Repository<sup>8</sup> that included a weighting factor useful in demand analysis. Our team adapted the code to allow users to 'disable' the weighting factor and provide equal weight to all data points to remain in compliance with guidance provided by LBNL to the CPUC for NMEC programs.

**<u>Time Only Model</u>**: The Time Only model is a subset of the TOWT model, with the time-of-week variable as its sole predictor. As in the TOWT model, the time-of-week variable is developed to characterize the load for each interval within a week.

<u>Simple Linear Regressions with Outside Air Temperature and Change-Point Models</u>: The simple linear regressions and multi-parameter change-point models are based on the ASHRAE Research Project 1050-RP Inverse Modeling Toolkit<sup>9,10</sup>. It includes 2-parameter (linear regression), and 3-, 4-, and 5-parameter models.

<u>Heating and Cooling Degree Day Models</u>: Modeling algorithms based on heating degree days and cooling degree days are well known within the industry and have most widely been used in daily and monthly electric consumption/demand data analysis.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Mathieu, J.L., Price, P.N., Kiliccote, S. and Piette, M.A., 2011. Quantifying changes in building electricity use, with application to demand response. IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid, 2(3), pp.507-518.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Price, P., 2010. Methods for analyzing electric load shape and its variability. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Report LBNL-3713E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Touzani, S., RMV2.0 (2018), Github repository, https://github.com/LBNL-ETA/RMV2.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Kissock, J. K., Haberl J.S., Claridge, D.E., 2002. Development of a Toolkit for Calculating Linear, Change-point Linear and Multiple-Linear Inverse Building Energy Analysis Models.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Killick, R. and Eckley, I., 2014. changepoint: An R package for changepoint analysis. Journal of Statistical Software, 58(3), pp.1-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Multiple websites describe the methodology, for example: <u>https://www.degreedays.net/calculate-energy-</u> <u>savings</u>

## Key Data Points

The following data are required for site-level NMEC analysis:

- 1. **Energy Consumption Data**: This can be sourced from a whole-building meter or a submeter, and should ideally be short interval data, i.e. 15-minute or hourly. The customer is requested to authorize access for our Program via SDG&E's 'Green Button Connect My Data.' Data from a facility owner's submeters, along with calibration documentation, may also be requested to access energy consumption data.
- 2. **Outside Air Temperature Data**: This can be sourced from the facility's nearby weather station through National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOOA) or other similar weather data websites.
- 3. **Normalized Weather Data**: This data can be sourced from the California Energy Commission's CZ 2010 weather datasets, defined for 16 California climate zones, or the CZ 2018 weather dataset when it becomes available.
- 4. **Operating Schedule Information**: If a building has more than one operating mode, this information will be needed to model the separate operating modes appropriately. Examples of operating modes include school's holidays and summer sessions, different occupancy periods in office buildings, and so on.
- 5. *Additional Predictor Variables' Data*: For certain buildings, additional predictor variables, such as customers served, production rate, etc., may be essential to modeling the building's energy use. For these cases, we will determine the appropriate predictor variables (through interviews with building owners) and request data access for modeling.

## **Data Collection Plan**

As part of the participation requirement, customers must provide access to their utility data, or provide a year (minimum) of energy use data from their submeters. The program data collection plan is similar for each participant and includes the key data described above. For sites with on-site generation, this data would include generation data to understand the building's overall energy needs informing the data analysis of the net grid impacts. For individual projects, data parameters are determined based on the site-specific M&V plan. All data for estimating measure savings and measure verification analysis will be requested though a data request process. Conformance to the CPUC publication: Energy Efficiency Savings Eligibility at Sites with non-IOU Supplied Energy Sources—Guidance Document<sup>12</sup>; (current version 1.1, and with exceptions and examples) will be evaluated and each project (with on-site generation) will be shown to comply.

The NMEC process requires data from multiple sources, and there are always challenges in obtaining reliable data for analysis. Metering and network connectivity issues may result in sporadic loss or erroneous energy data. Weather data files are notoriously 'gappy' over a few time intervals or may be missing weeks of data. Often data sets have repeated values for many time instances.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=11610

Customer-owned energy meters may have resolution issues, requiring use of longer time interval models. Additional independent variables beyond weather must be collected from the participant. These data sources must be reliable throughout the project. Their forms and recording time intervals must coincident with the energy data to be made useful for the M&V analysis.

Depending on the duration, the missing data may be ignored, interpolated from adjoining data points, filled-in using data from nearby weather stations, or the monitoring period may be extended. Each data cleaning step will be reported.

Good modeling practice requires that models be developed from a dataset that includes the maximum range of energy and independent variable values. Models should not be used for predictions more than 10% beyond the range (max – min) of independent variables used in the baseline period. Weather coverage factors, which describe how much of the range of baseline period temperature data includes the range of normalized conditions temperatures, will be part of the model assessment.

We will use the most complete and representative weather dataset for each savings quantification.

## **Precision of Program Savings Measurement**

LBNL provided the "Guidance for Program Level M&V Plans: Normalized Metered Energy Consumption Savings Estimation in Commercial Buildings" document to the CPUC for the NMEC rulings. in section 3, a scenario analysis is recommended to demonstrate that the proposed modeling approach will produce results with acceptable levels of precision. The scenario analysis requires monthly billing data from a population of sites in order to proceed. Such a data request is not permitted in this solicitation. We note that research by LBNL under a PG&E Emerging Technology Project concluded that uncertainty estimation formulations for hourly and daily models underestimated the actual savings uncertainty, however they reliably estimated uncertainty for models developed from monthly data.

To assure that the TRC NMEC Program will provide savings estimates within the maximum allowable precision of 50% (90% confidence level), for each site-level NMEC project, we will estimate savings using monthly models by rolling up the energy consumption data to calendar months and performing the same analysis as we described above for daily or hourly models. We will do this only because the ASHRAE formula for savings uncertainty was shown to be valid for monthly models. Our process is to exclude projects that do not meet this 50% threshold from the NMEC program. As we complete more site-level NMEC projects, we will report the total program savings and savings uncertainty. The saving uncertainty will be reduced quickly at the program level as we add projects to the NMEC program, roughly by the inverse of the square root of the number of projects in the program.

We expect each site-level NMEC project in the program to generate savings at much lower levels of uncertainty than 50% and anticipate numerous participants in the program. Each of these factors will lead to an acceptably low program savings uncertainty, on the order of 10% or less.

The industry does need an accurate method to estimate individual site savings uncertainty with daily and hourly models. The collected data, modeling, and savings analysis in this program will enable further research in this area.

## Approach to Ensure Adequate Monitoring in Reporting Period

Monitoring in the reporting period is critical for two reasons: 1) to assure savings are accumulating as expected, and 2) to periodically check for the occurrence of NREs, determine their cause, and remove their impacts from the final savings analysis. For each project, the TRC NMEC Program will run simple savings checks every two to three months during the performance period, as described earlier. Requests for participating customer energy data will be made, and the progress checks will be completed quickly using the R code. Customers find the progress checks helpful and useful for reporting energy savings successes to management.

## Approach to Determining EUL Values

The feasibility study will identify and recommend energy efficiency measures for each NMEC project. Each measure's estimated useful life (EUL) will be determined or approximated from Database for Energy Efficient Resources (DEER) records. The feasibility study will determine a weighted useful life for the recommended measures. After installation, this weighted useful life will be updated based on the actual measures installed and reported with the final savings report. Additionally, the simple payback period will be compared to the weighted EUL for "measure" eligibility (SPP must be less than EUL).

## Adjusting for Non-Routine Events (NREs)

NREs can be short term, long term, or permanent changes in building energy use. They may be additions or subtractions of constant or variable loads. NREs occurring in the post-installation period are risks to the savings estimation. Savings progress checks will be used to identify the occurrence of NREs in the performance period. The following techniques to identify NREs with the metered energy use data will be used:

- 1. Visual Checks
- 2. Changepoint Analysis in R<sup>13,14</sup>
- 3. Breakout Analysis in R<sup>15</sup>
- 4. Anomaly Detection in R<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Killick, R., Fearnhead, P. and Eckley, I.A., 2012. Optimal detection of changepoints with a linear computational cost. Journal of the American Statistical Association, 107(500), pp. 1590-1598

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Killick, R. and Eckley, I., 2014. changepoint: An R package for changepoint analysis. Journal of Statistical Software, 58(3), pp.1-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> James, N.A., Kejariwal, A., Matteson, D.S., 2014. Breakout Detection via Robust E-Statistics, Github repository, <u>https://github.com/twitter/BreakoutDetection</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Vallis, O.S., Hochenbaum, J., Kejariwal, A., 2014. Anomaly Detection Using Season Hybrid Extreme Studentized Deviate Test, Github repository, <u>https://github.com/twitter/AnomalyDetection</u>

Once identified, the facility owner will be contacted to determine the cause of the NRE. The facility owner will also be required to communicate the presence of an NRE, which will then be identified and verified in the meter data.

Techniques for addressing NREs vary depending on their significance and characteristics. If the NREs are found to last a short duration, such as a day, they will be removed from the dataset. Impacts of significant NREs lasting weeks or months will be quantified and project savings will be adjusted. To manage costs, meter data analysis will first be used to resolve NRE impacts, followed by engineering calculations based on assumptions or based on data collected from the building through trends or data logging.

A short example of quantifying NREs with meter data is to develop a model using all data, except the data from the period in which the NRE occurred. We will use this model to estimate the 'usual' energy consumption in the period in which the NRE occurred. We will quantify the NRE by differencing the actual energy consumption and the estimated 'usual' energy consumption during the NRE period. Other methods we may employ are provided by BPA<sup>17</sup> and LBNL.<sup>18</sup>

## Method of Determining Program Influence and Net-To-Gross

Program influence is determined and documented similar to any other custom measure. We believe that diligence in documentation and asking the right questions throughout the entire project development process is key to minimizing program free ridership. While there can be single showstoppers with a project, usually, free ridership is determined by examining several different attributes surrounding the project development and the customer's decision to move forward.

Early screening for free ridership is extremely important. This reduces program costs by not developing ineligible projects but perhaps, more important, manages the customer's expectations and program experience. The longer the development, the more time the customer has invested in program support. The earlier that a project can be identified as a free rider and cease development, the less negative impact on the customer. Free ridership screening is about understanding "what would have happened in the absence of the program" by asking open-ended questions to assess the state of the project at intervention and the customer's motivations. Typical questions include:

- Timing of funding/budget allocation,
- Understanding the customer decision-making process,
- Current energy efficiency goals,
- Customer standard practice,
- Non-energy Benefits,
- Code requirements, and

<sup>18</sup> <u>https://github.com/LBNL-ETA/nre</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> SBW Consulting, April 30, 2018, Potential Analytics for Non-Routine Adjustments. Prepared for Bonneville Power Administration

• Equipment functionality and service.

The TRC NMEC Program will use the net-to-gross (NTG) ratio of 0.95 per CPUC Resolution E-4952. Should SDG&E desire, we may also implement the self-report method to estimate the program NTG ratio, using the standard NTG question battery and analysis instrument used in the evaluation of the 2013-2015 nonresidential programs.<sup>19</sup>

## Savings vs. Normal Variations in Consumption

Screening projects to assure savings can be determined with reasonable uncertainties is good practice to ensure individual projects generate valid savings estimates. Since savings uncertainty is inversely proportional to the amount of savings achieved, the higher the savings, the less the savings uncertainty. The TRC NMEC Program will seek projects with a high level of savings but will not turn away projects with low savings as long as the savings can be determined with uncertainties that meet accepted statistical requirements, lower than 50% (of savings) at a 90% confidence interval. As described earlier, monthly models will be developed, and ASHRAE's fractional savings uncertainty formulation<sup>20</sup> used to estimate the uncertainty for each project's estimated savings. The analysis will also yield the minimum detectable amount of savings, which will help assess how low savings can be and still meet the precision requirement. Each savings check will describe how savings are distinguishable from consumption variations, as based on this statistical analysis.

## Entity Conducting M&V Activities

Most M&V analysis for the TRC NMEC program will be performed by our NMEC partner, kW Engineering. TRC internal engineers and engineering consultants will also conduct NMEC M&V activities as needed to support program goals.

## Entities Receiving Compensation at Each Project Stage

The following major project milestones will be used to trigger customer incentive payment and contractor compensation:

#### 1. Project Feasibility Study -

 TRC anticipates receipt of a performance payment upon SDG&E review and approval of the feasibility study. Savings will be estimated as described in the "Methodology" section and payment terms will be subject to contract negotiation. Other program documentation (SW Custom Projects Guidance) located on the CPUC website<sup>21</sup> including Project Review Summary Report will be included, as applicable, with this submittal.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> 2013-2015 Program Performance Assessment of the Nonresidential Downstream Programs. Submitted to CPUC by Itron, December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> ASHRAE Guideline 14-2002, Appendix B. Fractional savings uncertainty for models with uncorrelated and correlated residuals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> <u>https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/General.aspx?id=4133</u>

- 2. Installation Report -
  - TRC anticipates receipt of a second performance payment upon SDG&E review and approval of the installation report. Savings will be estimated as described in the "Methodology" section and payment terms, including true-up provisions, will be subject to contract negotiation.
  - TRC will distribute customer incentives upon SDG&E review and approval of the installation report. While the installation report savings calculations will be based on a portion of the project/measure's performance period, TRC will assume the risk associated with the accelerated incentive payout at this stage and views this as extremely important to enhance the customer experience.

#### 3. M&V Report –

- TRC anticipates receipt of a final performance payment upon SDG&E acceptance of final project savings verification. Claimed savings will be estimated as described in the "Methodology" section and payment terms, including true-up provisions, will be subject to contract negotiation.
- Note there will be no true-up of customer incentives based on the project's final measured and verified savings. TRC assumes the risk of savings variation upon incentive disbursement at the installation report stage.

## Method(s) and tools utilized in the calculation of incentives and/or compensation at each stage of compensation

Methods and tools are described in "Analytical Methods" Section of this document.

The customer incentive will be calculated with the Flex Incentive which is the same manner as other custom measures. The Flex Incentive utilizes the customer payback requirement to adjust the incentive such that the incentive is "just enough" to reach the funding approval criteria. A minimum incentive level will be employed to keep the customer engaged throughout the process.

## **Eligibility Criteria and Target Population**

All commercial customers eligible for CEMs are eligible for the NMEC savings platform. The target population includes those customers that would likely meet the pre-screening criteria. Examples of customer segments that tend to have consistent operation with expected savings exceeding the normal variation include grocery stores, large offices, hospitals, and hospitality. Customers in other segments may be targeted throughout the Program.

## **Quality Assurance Practices**

Several quality assurance and quality control steps will be taken to assure savings estimations are reliable, transparent, and repeatable. These have been described above. In addition, other steps have been included in the process to assure the savings are due to the measures and not NREs. These include:

- Measure verification, based on site inspections, photos and trend analysis,
- Periodic tracking of savings progress throughout the reporting period
- Check-ins with building owners and operators when anomalous energy use is detected.

Report templates will be used throughout the NMEC project process, to assure the correct information is collected and analysis is properly explained.

Data quality checks are used to assure data integrity for each project. These include graphical checks for outliers, gaps, and repeated values, logical checks to assure the data makes sense, and statistical checks on distributions of data.

Each model will be evaluated by checking the assumptions underlying the modeling algorithm, such as normal distributions of points and patterns in the residual plots

Providing raw data, prepared data, and R code as part of M&V Plans and Savings Reports to assure all data and analysis is completely transparent and reviewable. To date, this process has been successfully implemented in two NMEC projects, where reviewers were able to set up the R environment and run our analysis on the prepared data sets to get the same results.

We will provide internal quality assurance by requiring each report be reviewed by an engineer not involved in the project. Comments will be addressed, and corrections made to each report prior to their delivery. All data and analysis R code for the specific project will be provided with each savings check. The TRC team will support every technical review and evaluation process.

To be noted, that no referenced document herein is to be construed as to supersede the CPUC NMEC Rulebook (latest version), but only to inform and enhance the project savings claims.