

Working Group Series for Participating Contractors and Industry Partners

Session #22 | September 12, 2024, 9:00am-10:00am

Summary Report

**Note: This document is intended to be a supplement to the slide deck presented during the webinar on September 12th and posted to the Contractor Resources webpage.*

Agenda

- Meeting procedures
- Welcome
- Safety Message
- Joint Management Committee (JMC) updates and discussion
 - Green Jobs Green New York (GJGNY) Program Updates
 - Program Manual Updates and Announcements
 - Field Assessment Best Practices
 - Upcoming Training Opportunities
- Stakeholder Presentation(s)
 - No submissions provided this quarter
- Resources, support, and next steps

Program Representatives

- JMC Co-Chairs: Ray Cotto (Central Hudson), Karen Kao (NYSERDA)
- JMC Members: Sam Howe (National Grid), Julie Hawkins (National Grid), Chris Trenard (Orange & Rockland), Sean Dooley (NYSEG/RG&E), Dan Krupa (Con Ed), Pablo Colon (Con Ed)
- Implementation Team (ICF): Kenn Latal, Tim Walsh
- Working Group Support Team (Concentric Energy Advisors): Ben Davis, Clara-Ann Joyce, Will Roberts

Introduction

- The intent of this Working Group Series is to create a forum for working meetings between participating contractors, industry partners, and other stakeholders with the NYS Clean Heat Program Administrators.
- The JMC wants to promote dialogue and discussion with a focus on transparency and communication. The intent is to drive toward solution development.
 - The emphasis here is on open communication within the industry. The JMC wants this to be a two-way process in terms of flagging and communicating issues.

JMC Updates – Key Takeaways

The following section provides a summary of key points from the content presented by the JMC.

- Green Jobs Green New York (GJGNY) Program Updates:

- In order for contractors to actively participate in the GJGNY Residential Financing Program (a NYSERDA program) they must submit a [Combined Residential Contractor Application](#) and receive approval prior to being able to offer NYSERDA GJGNY loans to customers. Regardless of prior GJGNY status, all contractors must have a submitted and approved version of this application on file with NYSERDA to be eligible for participation within the program moving forward.
- Contractors must be approved by both the GJGNY Residential Financing Program and Slipstream (Loan Origination Partner), in that order, to be able to offer NYSERDA GJGNY Loans to their customers.
- Point of clarification: The GJGNY Residential Financing Program, NYS Clean Heat Program, Comfort Home Program, and PSEG LI Home Comfort Program are all separate programs with distinct rules, regulations, applications, and document submission requirements.
- Contractors should include Lucia Cappiello (lucia.cappiello@nyserda.ny.gov) on emails to the Residential Programs inbox to expedite responses
- Please see the presentation slides for additional details on the GJGNY Residential Financing Program
- Program Manual Updates and Announcements:
 - General reminders:
 - Contractors will move to inactive status if they have not had an approved project in 6 months
 - National Grid and Avangrid are currently offering LTOs. Please see the presentation slides for additional information.
 - When projects are eligible for both NYS Clean Heat program incentives and NYSERDA program funding sources, they may be eligible to receive funding independently from each respective program. However, NYS Clean Heat and NYSERDA incentives cannot be combined towards the cost of the same installed measure.
 - Central Hudson, National Grid, NYSEG, O&R, and RG&E have added new incentive categories for multifamily buildings in Category 4b and Category 6a (Con Edison already offers these incentives under their Category 2c and Category 6a). The Companies have also added a new Category 10 for Custom Partial Load Space Heating, clarifying existing guidelines previously found in Category 4.
 - Eligibility requirements for certain Large Unitary Heat Pump systems have been adjusted – the new criteria are included in the presentation slides
 - The current NYS Clean Heat program period ends at the end of 2025. The Public Service Commission is currently reviewing proposals from the utilities for the period 2026-2030 as part of the New Efficiency: New York Interim Review process. Contractors are encouraged to contact their Program Administrator regarding any projects that will be completed after 2025.
 - Con Edison has released Version 6 of their Program Manual, which is available on the NYS Clean Heat [website](#). More details regarding changes made in this Program Manual will be shared during a Con Edison-specific Clean Heat Webinar on September 24th from 9:00-10:30 AM

- A registration link can be found here:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5759606284612663642>
- Field Assessment Best Practices:
 - TRC, one of the Quality Service Providers for the NYS Clean Heat program, presented some examples of installation best practices and common nonconformances observed during post-installation field assessments. Photographs and additional detail are included in the presentation slides.
 - The following common nonconformances were addressed:
 - Refrigerant line protection and insulation
 - Manual J load calculations
 - Snow protection of outdoor unit
 - Indoor and outdoor unit clearances
 - Links to field assessment checklists and other helpful resources are also included in the presentation slides
- Information about additional training opportunities is outlined in the presentation slides
 - Additionally, School of Clean Heat Webinar recordings and the School of Clean Heat YouTube Shorts channel are accessible at any time to use as training reference material

Q&A

Questions were asked and responses given both verbally and through the written Q&A function.

Question: Within the NYS Clean Heat Program Manual, where are details on the requirements for 3D or 2D floor plans for residential retrofits located?

Response: The requirement is outlined in Section 4.3.3.4 of the Con Edison Program Manual, which refers to small to medium business (SMB) projects.

Question: Is National Grid removing HPWH incentives from the NYS Clean Heat program?

Response: National Grid is not removing HPWH incentives. Information in the presentation slides refers to National Grid's High Priority Electrification zip codes, where an extra 25% kicker is available for eligible customers. National Grid will be discontinuing the 25% kicker for HPWH projects.

Question: Are the new incentive rates for Category 4b higher than existing Category 4 rates?

Response: The incentive rate for Category 4b has been designed to be neutral with the existing Category 4 rates. There may be instances where incentives for Category 4b could be higher or lower than incentives for Category 4, but generally they are designed to be equivalent.

Question: Does the LTO extension apply to the Con Edison Multifamily Clean Heat program?

Response: The LTO extension only applies to National Grid Clean Heat projects.

Question: Is there a time frame in which a response is expected from the Public Service Commission on the status of the NYS Clean Heat program for 2026-2030?

Response: At this time, the Public Service Commission has not provided a firm date for a response. The Joint Management Committee will provide updates with more detail on next steps as more information is available.

Question: Are the new incentives for Category 4b and Category 6a incentives only available through the end of 2025? Are projects that will start and/or finish after the end of 2025 eligible for the new incentives?

Response: The Category 4b and Category 6a incentive offerings will only be available through the end of 2025.

Resources, Support, and Next Steps

- The next PC&IP meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12th (9:00-10:00am)
 - All program-related inquiries can be submitted to nyscleanheat@ceadvisors.com
 - All project-specific inquiries can be submitted to nyscleanheat@icf.com or (844) 212-7823
- For project inquiries, the first step should be to contact your account manager at ICF. If the account manager does not respond within three days, please contact nyscleanheat@icf.com or reach out to the utility's Program Manager. Contact information is listed in the presentation slides.
- Links to additional program resources are included in the presentation slides.

The JMC thanks all attendees for their participation and engagement.