

# Working Group Series for Participating Contractors and Industry Partners

## Session #28 | March 12, 2026, 9:00am-10:00am

### Summary Report

*\*Note: This document is intended to be a supplement to the slide deck presented during the webinar on March 12<sup>th</sup> and posted to the Resources for Applications webpage.*

## Agenda

- Meeting Procedures
- Welcome
- Safety Message
- Joint Management Committee (JMC) Updates and Discussion
  - Weatherized Tier for September 1, 2026
  - New “Paused” Contractor Status
  - Con Ed Update on Contractor Allocations
  - Upcoming Training Opportunities
- Stakeholder Topic(s)
  - Treatment of Two-Family Homes
  - Open-Loop Geothermal
- Clean Heat Resources and Next Steps

## Program Representatives

- JMC Co-Chairs: Toby Hyde (Con Edison), Caroline Hazard (NYSERDA)
- JMC Members: Ray Cotto (Central Hudson), Pablo Colon (Con Ed), Ryan Bauer (National Grid), Joshua Sentiff (NYSEG/RG&E), Sean Dooley (NYSEG/RG&E), Chris Trenard (Orange & Rockland)
- Implementation Team (ICF): Kenn Latal, Tim Walsh, Matt Siano
- Working Group Support Team (Concentric Energy Advisors): Ben Davis, Clara-Ann Joyce, Sam Farrell

## Introduction

- The intent of this Working Group Series is to create a forum for working meetings among 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.*

- **Weatherized Tier for September 1, 2026**
  - The Program Administrators released a new Program Manual for 2026-2030 on March 2, 2026 to reiterate that release of the Weatherized Tier has been extended to September 1, 2026.
  - The Program Administrators currently plan to adjust incentives for projects that do not qualify for the Weatherized Tier on September 1, 2026.
  - Beginning in 2028, weatherization will be a requirement for NYS Clean Heat projects.
  - The document has been filed on the NYS DPS DMM website and will also be posted on the Resources for Applications webpage.
- **New “Paused” Contractor Status**
  - A new contractor status of “Paused” will be introduced for contractors working in non-Con Edison service territories.
  - Participating Contractors may be placed in Paused status for accumulating five or more corrective action notices that remain unresolved for more than 30 days.
  - First warnings for any contractors that are subject to Paused status will start to go out on or after April 1, 2026.
  - Please see the presentation slides for what to expect during Paused status.
- **Con Edison Contractor Allocations**
  - Participating Contractors serving Con Edison territory received their Q2 2026 allocations on March 9, 2026. Contractors should only submit applications for incentives within their allocated incentive budget.
  - Please see the presentation slides for additional detail
- **NYS Clean Heat Training Opportunities**
  - There are several upcoming School of Clean Heat Trainings in March for both residential and non-residential projects. Please see the presentation slides for dates and registration links.
  - School of Clean Heat Webinar recordings and Shorts are accessible anytime at the links provided in the presentation slides.
- **Stakeholder Topic: Two-Family Homes**
  - A proposal was submitted to better define two-family homes for ground-source projects (“doubles”) so it is clear how they fit into the “single-family attached” dwellings definition in the Program Manual.
  - The JMC will reengage with stakeholders and keep this proposal in consideration for the Program Manual update scheduled for September 1, 2026.
  - Companies for whom the apartment rate is less than half of the single-family rate will incentivize doubles at the single-family rate.
- **Stakeholder Topic: Open-Loop Geothermal**
  - A proposal for re-inclusion of open-loop geothermal projects in the Clean Heat program was raised by stakeholders at NY-GEO
  - The JMC will reengage with stakeholders and keep this proposal in consideration for the Program Manual update scheduled for September 1, 2026.

## Q&A

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

**Question:** For 3-4 family buildings, are incentives capped at the single-family rate? For example, would the incentive for a 4-unit building be capped at the incentive for a single-family building?

**Response:** 3-4 family homes are not capped at the single-family incentive rate. These buildings would receive 3x or 4x the apartment rates – whichever is applicable.

**Question:** What is the difference between the Weatherized Tier being released on September 1, 2026 and the Regional Weatherization Plans for January 2027? Will one or both of these replace the Comfort Home program?

**Response:** Final plans for weatherization incentives for 2026 and 2027 have not been finalized. The May 15, 2025 EE/BE Order calls for Comfort Home to transition to the Regional Weatherization programs in 2027.

**Question:** What are the most current incentive offerings?

**Response:** The most current incentive offerings for each utility service territory can be found in the Program Manual, which is posted on the Contractors webpage: <https://cleanheat.ny.gov/contractors/>.

**Question:** The original messaging made it seem like the Weatherized Tier would provide additional funding if a customer had already completed weatherization measures. Then, in 2028, there would be additional funding since the weatherization would become mandatory. The messaging today sounded like maybe the opposite is happening. Can you provide some clarity?

**Response:** As of today, there are weatherization programs in the market that are run by NYSERDA and those that are run by specific utilities, such as NYSERDA Comfort Home, NYSEG HIASP, and Con Edison WeatherReady. Per the Commission's Regional Weatherization Order, these will transition to the Regional Weatherization programs run by the utilities. The Clean Heat program offers incentives for clean heating and cooling technology. The Program Administrators are seeking to get to a place where these programs work together. The Commission's Non-LMI EE/BE Order requires that as of March 1, 2028, all space heating projects in NYS Clean Heat must meet a specified minimum weatherization standard to be eligible for incentives for heat pumps. The Program Administrators currently plan to lower incentives for projects that do not qualify for the Weatherized Tier on September 1, 2026.

**Question:** Many homeowners or building owners need shell upgrades as a prerequisite to installing heat pumps so that the systems are not oversized. The incentives are not proportionate to meet the total need.

**Response:** The Program Administrators expect the Commission to rule on the Regional Weatherization Programs this spring. After that time, the NYS Clean Heat program will be finalizing incentive amounts for the Weatherized Tier.

## Resources and Next Steps

- The next PC&IP meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> (9:00-10:00am)
  - All program-related inquiries can be submitted to [nyscleanheat@ceadvisors.com](mailto:nyscleanheat@ceadvisors.com)

- All project-specific inquiries can be submitted to [nyscleanheat@icf.com](mailto:nyscleanheat@icf.com) or (844) 212-7823
- Links to additional program resources are included in the presentation slides

The JMC thanks all attendees for their participation and engagement.