

2023 Implementation Manual (IM) Q&A

The following questions were asked in the [IM Rate Period Webinar](#) held on March 16. More information including [Promotional Incentive Level Flyer](#) and video are available on the [IM webpage](#). Slides from the webinar can be found [here](#).

If you have further questions, please contact your respective energy efficiency representative.

Promo Rates

Question: For promotional incentives to apply, the invoice has to be after 4/1/23, correct?

Answer: Promotional rates are for measures with completion dates after 4/1/2023.

Question: Will the early promotional incentive measures have a different reference numbers?

Answer: Yes, promotional measure incentives will have new reference numbers.

Measure Status

Question: Will expired measures receive new refno's?

Answer: Measures that are being retired but updated with new criteria or savings will receive new reference numbers. Measures that are fully expiring and have no replacement will still be available to be claimed with the same reference number for six months from the expiration date.

Question: Do you have a release date for the new UES Measure list?

Answer: The updated UES Measure list will be posted by April 1st.

Agricultural

Question: Are there Ag energy auditors available through the BPA like commercial and industrial?

Answer: We will compile a list of Ag energy auditors and also provide links to other Ag energy auditor lists, like from USDA NRCS. We will make that available to customer utilities via our Ag web page, so you'll be able to share that link with your ag producer customers when you are promoting this measure. We will have more information about that and other resources that will be available for this measure at our next AUG meeting scheduled for early June.

Question: For Agricultural VFD Pumps, are they limited to end-use type, or will it be for all pumps retrofitted with VFDs?

Answer: This measure pertains to pumps used to deliver, distribute or transport irrigation water.

Commercial

Question: How will the requirements for commercial heat pumps be changed in the October 2023 Implementation Manual?

Answer: The retrofit version of both Ductless Heat Pumps and Air-Source Heat Pumps measures will use current federal standards as the minimum requirement. The requirements for the Ductless Heat Pump upgrade measure will remain unchanged. The requirements for the new Air-Source Heat Pump upgrade measures will be announced with the publication of the October 2024 IM.

Industrial

Question: How will the new Multiyear Strategic Energy Management (SEM) measure impact baselines established using the existing SEM measure?

Answer: SEM projects with enrollment applications approved by 9/30/2023 may continue to use the existing SEM measure. SEM projects that previously reported savings using the existing SEM measure may continue to use the baseline model established in that engagement so long as the subsequent Annual Energy Savings values are calculated in alignment with the SEM M&V Guidelines.

Question: Can you provide a link to the SEM impact assessment that was the basis of the extended measure life?

Answer: <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/energy-efficiency/evaluation-projects-studies/230302-bpa-strategic-energy-management-persistence-study-results-presentation.pdf>

Residential

Question: Regarding energy saver kits expiring - does that include the direct install kits?

Answer: Yes - all kits, including direct install, will expire September 30, 2023.

Question: Are the direct install measures expiring?

Answer: Lighting and Power Strips, including the direct install delivery channel, will expire September 30, 2023. Measures with completion dates prior to September 30, 2023 can be reported for six months following this expiration.

Question: What is the HSPF2 federal minimum?

Answer: As of January 2023, the new federal minimum for HPSF2 is 7.5.

Question: Are the requirements on the slides for Residential ASHPs, DHPs and VSHPs the only changes so we can start communicating to the contractors in the region?

Answer: The requirements changes on the residential HVAC slides are effective October 1, 2023. Please refer to the IM for all measure requirements outside of the changes mentioned on these slides.

Question: With BPA expiring PTCS measures, and reducing non-ptcs measures to the federal minimum efficiency specs, is BPA considering a new measure for high efficiency or high performance heat pumps?

Answer: Yes. We are currently looking into cold climate heat pump options and are continuing to explore advancing variable speed heat pump technologies.

Question: Will there be a new program for new construction?

Answer: At this time, BPA has no plans to provide a new program for new construction.

Question: Will there be an update to the baseline for the new homes program prior to the sunset on Sept 30th?

Answer: No there will be no update to the baseline.

Question: Is prescriptive duct sealing not going away? I thought this was part of the PTCS program?

Answer: No, prescriptive duct sealing currently exists as a non-PTCS measure and will continue into the next rate period.

Question: What will the incentive levels be for windows, ASHPs and VSHPs?

Answer: A summary of promotional rates can be found at: <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/energy-efficiency/special-promotions/Promotional-incentive-level-flyer.pdf>

Question: Just to confirm, the primary heating system type for windows and insulation will still need to be included in their UES template when reporting the Any Heating Type correct?

Answer: Yes, that is correct.

Question: Will QA/QC on prescriptive duct sealing be up to the utility?

Answer: The new prescriptive duct sealing specification will reflect that the PTCS program will sunset on September 30, 2023. All references to PTCS will be removed. Our goal, as always, will be to provide all our customers with a useful measure that provides reliable savings and is desired in the market.

Question: Will Behavioral Home Energy Reports be only digital or also paper?

Answer: BPA is currently working to develop savings and incentive amounts for digital home energy reports. The paper reports will continue to be offered in the program.

Question: What are the new Residential heat pump offerings and incentives amounts?

Answer: This list is provided in the [presentation slide deck](#) - Residential Promotional Incentives and can also be found at: <https://www.bpa.gov/-/media/Aep/energy-efficiency/special-promotions/Promotional-incentive-level-flyer.pdf>

Question: Are there any planned changes for window u-value requirements?

Answer: There are no planned updates at this time.

Low Income

Question: Is there an opportunity to add PTHPs for low-income multi-family?

Answer: We are looking into all residential measures to see what would be appropriate to offer in our low-income measure suite, now that we know this is a priority we will take PTHPs for multifamily into consideration.

Question: Will the update on the LI heat pump incentives be before April 1st?

Answer: All promotional incentive payments will be effective April 1st.

Question: Will there be an increase in low-income windows?

Answer: Yes, we are planning to increase the payment cost caps for low-income windows in October.

Implementation Manual

Question: For those of us that requested the hard copy of the IM, will you be sending out updated pages for those?

Answer: BPA will provide a packet with instructions for utilities to print and insert revisions and new appendices.