CSI General Market Program Changes
October 2011

The California Public Utilities Commission has finalized the revised California Solar Initiative Handbook. Below are changes that affect the General Market program.

PBI Eligibility
Fixed tilt systems 10kW or smaller are required receive the EPBB incentive, while single-axis and dual-axis trackers of any size are still eligible to opt for PBI.

Performance Monitoring and Reporting Service (PMRS)
Projects less than 10 kW are not required to submit proof of PMRS and are no longer required to submit any exemption documentation.

All projects greater than 10 kW must install PMRS. All systems installing PMRS must contract with the provider for a minimum of 5 years and must report 15 minute interval production data quarterly to the Program Administrators. Please see the list of eligible PMRS providers on the Go Solar California site.

Removal of the Requirement to Submit the Printout of EPBB Tool Calculation
The EPBB calculator has been integrated with the CSI application tool PowerClerk, so applicants are no longer required to submit a printout of the EPBB Calculation.

High Volume Solar Contractor Probation and Removal Rates
For High Volume Solar Contractors (more than 200 projects completed within the previous 12 month rolling period)

- Probation will now be applied if all completed projects within the previous 12 month rolling period have received failures.
- Removal from CSI Program will be enforced if 2.5% of all completed projects within the previous 12 month rolling period have received failures.

Limitations on Installed Cost
The limitation on the installed cost requirement is changed from two standard deviations of the average cost per watt value to one standard deviation.

As before, if the system cost exceeds the soft cost cap, the Host Customer is required to sign the High Cost Justification and Acknowledgement Form that describes the reasons for exceeding the soft cost cap and explains to the customer that the cost of their solar energy system is much higher per watt than the larger majority of the solar energy systems submitted to the CSI Program for incentives.

Re-entry to the CSI Program Following Disqualification
Program participants who have previously been disqualified from participation in the CSI Program will be placed on probation status after the designated removal period is complete and are required to provide written notice to the Program Administrators explaining what actions were taken to reduce future failure and to ensure future program compliance.

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