

## **Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Incentive for Residential Projects Less Than 10 kW**

The Customer Onsite Renewable Energy (CORE) program has initiated an incentive for customers who participate in both the CORE and the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR (HPwES) programs. The incentive rate is an additional \$0.25/W of installed DC capacity.

The purpose of the extra incentive is to provide a program mechanism that rewards the installation of a renewable energy system on homes that are energy efficient and to promote participation in the Home Performance program for customers considering installing solar systems.

### **Qualification Requirements:**

- A Home Performance assessment to be performed on the customer's home
- Submit notification of applicant's intention to use this incentive through the Work Scope Approval process for Tier 3 approved projects.
- The applicable system size reductions and incentive amount will be forwarded to the Program Manager to ensure funds are available.
- The Program Manager will notify the applicant that funds are available and work can begin.
- Completion of all Tier 3 cost-effective efficiency upgrades documented by copies of the audit report and the contract for the upgrades
- A HPwES Certificate of Completion must be provided to the CORE processing staff along with final paperwork for the solar system.
- Projected electrical savings will be compared to current electric consumption to see if the solar system size reduction is necessary
- Eligible projects can receive either the CORE incentive or the Homeowner Financing Incentives, but not both.
- HVAC replacement incentives or CORE HPwES incentives are available, but not both.

The Home Performance assessment gives a comprehensive picture of how the home is performing. It measures air leakage empirically, and the analysis software calculates thermal envelope losses based on how well the attic and walls are insulated. It calculates the cost effectiveness of individual measures offered by the program. The audit report lists each eligible program measure, with its corresponding savings-to-investment ratio (SIR). Typical measures include attic insulation, air sealing, and/or heating system upgrades.



To qualify for the extra CORE HPwES incentive the Incentive Tier 3 requirements must be met. The Tier 3 requires the installation of all recommended efficiency measures with a cumulative SIR or 1.0 or above and the package has a projected heating energy savings of at least 25%. However, renewable energy systems that receive an incentive under the CORE program will not be eligible for subsidized loans or Homeowner Financing Incentives from HPwES. Additionally, customers replacing heating and/or central cooling systems will be eligible for either incentive under the Home Performance program or those available under the HVAC program, but not both.

NOTE: In order to reserve funds for this CORE HPwES incentive the applicant must notify the CORE Program Manager of their intention to participate in this incentive prior to commencing work to ensure incentive funds are available. The HPwES work scope approval is how the CORE program will be notified. This notification shall include current system size, the projected system size after HPwES upgrades are installed and the anticipated HPwES incentive being applied for.

HPwES participants will be issued a Certificate of Completion when the work is done and any required inspections performed. The Certificate of Completion shall be used as proof of program participation in order to qualify for the additional CORE HPwES rebate. The Certificate will also project the energy savings associated with the efficiency upgrades. Any efficiency upgrade that reduces customer consumption below the production of the renewable energy system will require the reduction of the renewable energy system to an output below the new expected consumption of electricity.

Once the Certificate of Completion with the associated projected consumption data is forwarded to the CORE rebate staff the system size will be compared to consumption. If a system downsize is required the installer shall supply a new technical worksheet that reflects the new system size and, if necessary, an adjusted CORE rebate with the HPwES incentive will be calculated and the results forwarded to the installer.

The extra incentive will be available only to current or potential CORE participants. Customers who have already received a CORE incentive, or who have installed systems and received a CORE inspection but not yet been paid, will not be eligible for the extra incentive.

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New Jersey's **Clean Energy** Program™

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