



**2026**  
**Residential and Hard-to-Reach**  
**Standard Offer Programs**

**PROGRAM MANUAL**

Updated December 2025

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# **1 PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

## **1.1 Background**

Senate Bill 7, enacted in the 1999 Texas legislature, mandated that at least 10% of an investor-owned utility's (IOU) annual growth in electricity demand be met through energy efficiency programs. Due to the success of the programs, goals for energy efficiency were increased through House Bill 3693 during the 2007 legislative session.

Currently, the IOUs are required to achieve peak demand and energy savings by offering energy efficiency programs, including Standard Offer Programs such as the Texas-New Mexico Power Company (TNMP, or Program Manager) Residential and Hard-to-Reach Standard Offer Programs (Res/HTR SOPs or Program).

The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) has issued a wide range of rules and requirements for the Standard Offer Programs. This manual is a reference for Project Sponsors and identifies and explains the requirements pertaining to the TNMP Res/HTR SOPs.

## **1.2 Program Description**

The Res/HTR SOPs were developed by TNMP to provide incentives to suppliers of energy services. The primary objective of these programs is to achieve cost-effective reduction in summer peak demand, winter peak demand, and annual energy consumption for TNMP's residential and qualifying hard-to-reach customers.

TNMP has designed the Res/HTR SOPs to encourage electric energy efficiency improvements that go above and beyond the efficiency gains typically achieved in replacement-on-burnout projects. Energy savings for eligible measures are based on calculations as defined in the Texas Technical Reference Manual (TRM).

This program manual details all aspects of both Programs, including: participation requirements, eligibility, project requirements, incentives, application process, implementation process, performance periods, and other key information.

The Program participation process, in summary, is as follows:

1. **Project Sponsor Enrollment, Application, and Meeting:** Project Sponsors enroll and apply to participate in each program via the online program database application, P3®. Once application is pre-approved, Project Sponsors may be scheduled for a meeting with TNMP and Frontier Energy (Program Administrator).
2. **Project Initiation and Submittal:** Once application is accepted, Project Sponsors use P3 to determine customer and project eligibility, confirm budget availability, define and upload project specifications, calculate incentives, and submit eligible projects. Project Sponsors use P3 to submit eligible projects, providing appropriate documentation for each.
3. **Review, Inspection and Payment:** Program Administrator reviews all submitted projects, selects projects for inspections, conducts inspections, approves payment for completed projects, and pays incentives.

For definitions of terms used in this program manual, please refer to Texas Public Utility Commission 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §25.181.

### 1.3 Program Budgets and Limitations

2026 program incentive budgets and limits are listed in Table 1. Two set-asides will be available in 2026 with funding specifically reserved for HVAC projects and solar/storage/electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). Funding for these set-asides will be segregated from the Res SOP budget and may be approved for Res SOP qualifying homes.

**Table 1. Incentive Budgets and Limits**

	<b>Res SOP</b>	<b>HTR SOP</b>
Total incentive budget	\$1,200,000	\$550,000
Reserved for HVAC projects	\$100,000	-
Reserved for solar, storage, EVSE projects	\$100,000	-
Project Sponsor limit (% of incentive budget)	20%	20%
Maximum invoice limit (% of incentive budget)	20%	20%

### 1.4 Timeline and Key Dates

Key dates for the 2026 Res/HTR SOP programs are listed in Table 2.

**Table 2. Key Implementation Dates**

Program kick-off webinar	November 21, 2025
Project Sponsor application period begins	November 21, 2025
Project Sponsor application period ends	December 2, 2025
Project Sponsor notification of pre-approval	December 3-5, 2025
Project Sponsor interviews	December 8-11, 2025
Project Sponsor notification of approval	By December 15, 2025
Implementation period begins	January 12, 2026
Implementation period ends	November 30, 2026

All installations must be completed, and all implementation data and documentation reported to TNMP no later than November 30, 2026.

During the implementation period, Project Sponsors will be performing marketing activities, implementation activities, and reporting progress on a regular basis to TNMP. This allows TNMP to monitor each Project Sponsor's progress in a timely manner and allows TNMP to reallocate program funding, if necessary, to achieve its overall energy savings goals.

### 1.5 Program Information and Contacts

All program correspondence, reports, and any other required materials should be uploaded directly to [P3®](#). Project Sponsors may refer to the program tracking system training video on the website for help with the upload feature.

Key program contact:

**Rob Lovenguth**  
Frontier Energy Program Administrator  
(737) 443-7841  
[rlovenguth@frontierenergy.com](mailto:rlovenguth@frontierenergy.com)

## 1.6 Program Clarifications

This program manual is intended to provide a detailed and consistent reference on Program design and implementation processes to market participants but does not address every possible situation or complication which may arise during implementation. When instances requiring clarification are identified, the Program Manager will attempt to provide guidance consistent with Program intent as well as with other goals and priorities.

The Program Manager and the Program Administrator reserve the right to change Program guidelines, processes, requirements, budgets, incentive limits and other Program details at any time without prior notice to market participants if it is deemed necessary to achieve program objectives. TNMP will strive to provide timely notice of such changes to all program participants.

## 1.7 Public Disclosure

TNMP's RES/HTR SOPs are subject to oversight by the PUCT, which may request a copy of any SOP materials that TNMP receives. Sensitive information submitted by the Project Sponsor to TNMP will be treated confidentially to the fullest extent possible and will not be provided directly to outside parties other than the PUCT and the third-party Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V) contractor selected by the PUCT. TNMP will have no liability to any Project Sponsor or other party because of public disclosure of any submittals.

## 1.8 Key Points for Program Year 2026

- Program Participation Process Changes
  - 3 measures required per premise unless unable to install the measures (must be communicated to and approved by Program Manager).
- Set-asides
  - 2026 Residential Solar+ Program - Solar equipment, battery storage equipment, and electric vehicle supply equipment now eligible measures; available in sub program-qualified installation companies
  - 2026 Residential HVAC Program - HVAC measures now available in sub program to qualified installation companies
- Measure Eligibility
  - LEDs eligible in Res SOP (and HTR SOP)
  - Air Purifiers eligible in Res/HTR SOP
- Incentive Changes
  - APS incentives now \$40/\$45 in Res/HTR
  - Continuation of bonus for homes in Underserved Counties - 10% higher for all measures in underserved counties – see new list of underserved counties in section 3.2

## 2 ELIGIBILITY

### 2.1 Project Sponsors

A Project Sponsor is any organization, group, or individual who contracts through Frontier Energy to provide energy and demand savings under the Res/HTR SOPs. The following types of organizations are eligible to participate as Project Sponsors:

- Energy service companies (ESCOs);
- Local contractors or general contractors/project aggregators;
- Not-for-profit housing or social service organizations;
- National or local companies that provide energy-related products (e.g., lighting or HVAC); and,
- Retailers that install eligible energy-efficient products as part of this program.

Project Sponsors wishing to apply for the Res/HTR SOPs must meet the Applications criteria (explained in 4.2.1), comply with all Res/HTR SOPs rules and procedures, and execute the Res/HTR SOP Project Sponsor Participation Agreement (SOP Agreement).

Project Sponsors also must demonstrate their financial, technical, and managerial qualifications as part of the application process to help ensure that the proposed projects will be successful in delivering the estimated energy savings. Project Sponsors are required to carry all insurance required by law, and all insurance as described in the SOP Agreement. If a Project Sponsor utilizes one or more subcontractors, by participating in the program Project Sponsor affirms that each subcontractor also meets all licensing and insurance requirements of the program applicable to the work performed and must be prepared to provide documentation to that effect upon request.

Project Sponsors must also execute the Host Customer Agreement and Acknowledgement form which is available from TNMP/Frontier.

## 2.2 Customers

### 2.2.1 Residential Customers

All residential distribution customers of TNMP are eligible to have measures installed at their homes or owned residential premises as part of this program.

Owners of multifamily properties are also eligible; however, Project Sponsors working with multifamily or rented units must gain approval from program staff and building owners before installing any measures.

All program participants must enter into a Host Customer Agreement and Acknowledgement with the Project Sponsor for the installation of measures as a part of the project.

A map of TNMP's Texas service areas appears below. A more detailed version of this map, which contains enlarged versions of each region, may be found on <https://tnmp.com/about-us/service-areas>. A full map of utility service territories can be found here [Power To Save Texas – Home](#).



**Figure 2-1. TNMP's Texas Service Area**

### 2.2.2 Hard-to-Reach Customers

Eligible Hard-to-Reach (HTR) Host Customers are defined as residential customers meeting at the eligibility requirements listed on the PUCT's customer income eligibility forms. If the Project Sponsor is implementing a project at a multifamily building, the property owner or manager must complete and sign the PUCT's multifamily low-income form.

The current income eligibility forms are available on the PUC website at <https://www.puc.texas.gov/industry/electric/forms/>.

## 2.3 Energy Efficiency Measures

### 2.3.1 Eligible and Ineligible Measures

TNMP's Res/HTR SOPs are designed to enable Project Sponsors to deliver cost-effective energy efficiency measures to a wide range of residential customers. All eligible measures can be found in volume 2 of the most recent Technical Reference Manual ([TRM](#)).

A list of eligible and ineligible measures appears in Table 3 and 4 below:

**Table 3. Eligible Measures and Projects**

#### Envelope

- Insulation: ceiling, wall, and floor
- Alternate Approach Duct Sealing (Single Family or Manufactured Homes only)
- Air Infiltration (HTR only)
- Attic encapsulation
- LEDs

#### Heating, Cooling, and Ventilation

- Standard to high efficiency heat pump or A/C replacement
- Variable speed drive applications for HVAC equipment
- HVAC Tune-ups
- Heat pump replacement of electric resistance heat

#### Water Heating (electric water heating only)

- ENERGY STAR® heat pump water heaters
- Low-flow showerheads, pipe wrap, & faucet aerators
- Electric tankless or gas water heaters (storage or tankless) replacing electric storage water heaters

#### Other Measures/Projects

- ENERGY STAR® connected thermostats
- Solar equipment, battery storage equipment, electric vehicle supply equipment
- ENERGY STAR® compliant General Service and Specialty LEDs (HTR only)
- Advanced Power Strips connected to entertainment or home office systems
- Any other measure supported by the current version of the Texas TRM (with TNMP approval), other than those listed as ineligible below
- ENERGY STAR® compliant Air Purifiers

#### **Table 4. Ineligible Measures and Projects**

- LEDs replacing existing LEDs, CFLs or installed in empty sockets are ineligible
- Measures that do not raise efficiency above current standards
- Cogeneration and self-generation projects, except solar
- Load shifting/load management measures
- Load reductions caused by building vacancies
- Measures that rely solely on customer behavior or require no capital investment
- Measures that decrease building plug loads, except Advanced Power Strips and Air Purifiers
- Measures for which incentives were received under another TNMP program
- Repair and maintenance projects except A/C Tune-ups
- Energy-efficient gas measures when replacing non-electric technologies
- Measures that result in negative environmental or health effects
- New homes (homes that were newly constructed within the past 5 years)

#### **2.3.2 Installation and Documentation Standards**

Project Sponsors are required to comply with all federal, state, and local licensing and permitting regulations. All installations must comply with all applicable codes, must be performed in accordance with industry best practices, and documentation must be provided in accordance with all current Program and TRM requirements.

Photos provided as required documentation must contain geotagging metadata. Typically, this means photos should be taken at low-resolution on a mobile phone or tablet with location services turned on and submitted in their native file format. A geotagging app may also be used.

Photos of nameplates or data tags must be clear enough to be legible or proved illegible. Measures relying on ENERGY STAR® Certification or equivalent qualified products list (QPL) must upload a copy of the certification at the beginning of the year in the database

#### **2.3.3 Energy Savings Calculations**

The TRM outlines additional requirements and eligibility criteria for measures implemented in the Residential and Hard-to-Reach Standard Offer Programs. Refer to the most recent version of the TRM volume 2 for all deemed savings and installation standards.

Payments to Project Sponsors are based on the measures' peak demand (kW) and annual energy (kWh) savings, or on fixed rates per item installed. Project Sponsors must utilize approved deemed savings for estimating the demand and energy impacts of the measures they install. Deemed savings are typically calculated automatically within P3.

Deemed Savings use pre-determined average kW and kWh savings for each measure. Project Sponsors are not required to perform any measurement or verification of energy savings.

### 2.3.4 Additional Measure Notes

This section highlights requirements applicable to certain measures.

#### 2.3.4.1 Electric Resistance Heating Claims

Several building envelope and other measures return greater savings when installed in homes with central electric resistance heating. The TRM requires additional documentation to validate the existence of central electric resistance heating (e.g. nameplate photo, and photo of furnace showing no exhaust flu is present). TNMP conducts 100% desk reviews on homes claiming central electric resistance heating. Sampling of electric resistance documentation is allowed for multifamily complexes. Electric resistance forced air furnaces and centrally controlled wall heaters are different from, and provide a different level of savings than, electric resistance space heaters, and must be recorded accurately.

#### 2.3.4.2 Air Purifiers

Air Purifiers must meet minimum smoke CADR (CFM) and minimum CADR/W requirements as defined in the current version of the TRM. Maximum 3 per home.

#### 2.3.4.3 Advanced Power Strips

Advanced Power Strips must be installed in a location with a master device and at least two peripheral devices plugged into the controlled outlets. A maximum of 3 per single-family

#### 2.3.4.4 Ceiling Insulation Measure

TNMP requires all ceiling insulation projects with a baseline R-value below R-5 to provide photo documentation showing the entire attic floor and a close-up of a ruler that shows the depth of the insulation levels before and after the measure is installed.

In the event there are varying levels of existing insulation, an area-weighted U-factor must be used to find the effective R-value across the treated area. The U-factor should be taken from the existing insulation only. This approach can be used in single attic spaces and savings should be estimated separately for independent spaces where there is a separate heating or cooling method, i.e. additions.

Area-weighted U-factor Calculation Method:

$$U_A = [U_1 \times Area_1 + U_2 \times Area_2 + \dots] / [Area_1 + Area_2 + \dots]$$
$$Effective\ R-value = 1 / U_A$$

Alternatively, Project Sponsors may record varying R values across defined areas to find savings per area by using the R-value calculator.

#### 2.3.4.5 Duct Sealing Measure (Alternate Approach)

This measure involves sealing leaks in supply and return ducts of the HVAC distributions systems of homes with central air conditioning. Homes without central air conditioning but with a ducted heating system are not eligible. The Duct Efficiency measure is only eligible if at least 50% of duct work is located in unconditioned space; ducts located in fur-downs are considered to be in conditioned space. Multifamily units are ineligible for duct sealing. Only the alternate approach is eligible, no duct leakage-to-outside testing is required.

Duct Sealing deemed savings are described in the TRM. To qualify for incentives for Duct Sealing measures, in addition to meeting the TRM requirements, the following prescriptive requirements also apply, if applicable:

- Seal return air chase
- Seal plenum
- Seal all supply and return registers
- Check the condition of duct work in unconditioned space and seal or repair as necessary
- Leave behind customer education document

Failure to complete the prescriptive requirements will result in a total measure failure.

Materials used for sealing should be long-lasting materials, such as mastics, UL 181A or UL 181B approved foil tape, or aerosol-based sealants. Fabric-based duct tape is not allowed. Further details are provided in the TRM.

Photographic documentation must be provided showing interventions taken including pre- and post-photos of sections sealed. A written description can be included as well to support the photo documentation.

#### **2.3.4.6 Central and Mini-split AC and Heat Pumps**

Incentives for central and mini-split AC and heat pumps will be available through a set-aside of the Residential SOP. HVAC system replacement assumes like-for-like replacement. Upsizing may occur and receive savings if documentation is provided. Replacement equipment must be properly sized according to ASHRAE or ACCA Manual J and S standards and must have a minimum 15.2 SEER2, 9.81 EER2, and 7.5 HSPF2.

TNMP requires photo documentation of the replaced system's condenser nameplate as well as either a photo of the installed condenser nameplate showing the model and serial number or an invoice of the new unit with the date of purchase, address of the installation, name of the customer, and the model and serial number of both the inside and outside units.

Early retirement requires a photo indicating the existing condenser is working alongside an affirmation by the customer that the system was still working at the time of replacement.

#### **2.3.4.7 ENERGY STAR® Heat Pump Water Heaters**

This measure involves replacing an electric resistance tank unit with an ENERGY STAR® compliant heat pump water heater (HPWH). Installation must be properly permitted and meet all applicable building codes. Project Sponsors applying to install water heaters will be required to provide a current copy of the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners license.

#### **2.3.4.8 ENERGY STAR® Connected Thermostats**

This measure consists of the replacement of a standard or programmable thermostat with an ENERGY STAR® connected thermostat per TRM requirements. All residential customers with refrigerated central air conditioning are eligible to claim cooling savings for this measure. Customers must have electric central heating (either an electric resistance furnace or a heat pump) to claim heating savings. A list of eligible thermostats can be found online at [ENERGY STAR Certified Products: ENERGY STAR Certified Smart Thermostats](#). Limit 1 per central HVAC system.

#### **2.3.4.9 Deemed Savings AC/HP Tune-Up Measure**

This measure applies to central air conditioners and heat pumps of any configuration as long as all requirements designated in the TRM can be completed and documented. Pre & post photos of cleaned equipment and before and after photos of manometer gauge representing refrigerant change are both options to use as reference photos for condition change. Multifamily units are ineligible for AC/HP Tune-Ups.

#### **2.3.4.10 Primary, Secondary, and 3 Measure Requirements**

TNMP requires that eligible projects have at least one primary measure installed in order to install secondary measures. Please see Table 5. for the list of primary and secondary measures. Installing only secondary measures for a project can only be done in extenuating circumstances and with preapproval from Program Staff in writing. In order to further serve TNMP requires Project Sponsors to install a minimum of 3 different measures per premise unless measures do not qualify.

#### **2.3.4.11 Solar Equipment, Energy Storage Equipment, Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment**

Incentives for solar, energy storage, and electric vehicle supply equipment will be available through a sub program of the Residential program. Interested participants will have to enroll through that program in order to participate. Please note: Energy Storage Equipment and

Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment is only eligible when installed with qualifying solar equipment.

Only new eligible solar photovoltaic equipment providing energy to the customer premise through an interconnection on the customer's side of the electric meter qualifies for incentives under this sub program.

**Photovoltaic Modules:** All installed photovoltaic modules must be new and listed on the CEC PV Module list at <https://solarequipment.energy.ca.gov/Home/PVModuleList>.

**Inverters:** All installed inverters, including micro-inverters, must be new and listed on the CEC Grid Support Solar Inverters list at <https://solarequipment.energy.ca.gov/Home/InverterSolarList> or the Grid Support Solar/Battery Inverters list at <https://solarequipment.energy.ca.gov/Home/InvertersList>.

**AC Disconnect:** A visible, lockable, labeled, utility-accessible AC disconnect is required and must be located within 10 feet of the TNMP meter. The AC disconnect must provide a visible break between the conductors when in the open position.

**Solar Mounting Systems:** All installations shall utilize mounting/racking systems and hardware specifically designed for use with photovoltaic systems, incorporating rust and corrosion-resistant components, appropriately engineered to withstand anticipated structural and wind loading conditions, and installed in accordance with manufacturers' requirements. Custom mounting solutions may be necessary in some cases: in these cases, the proposed mounting system shall be properly engineered and stamped drawings submitted to the Program Manager.

**Energy Storage Equipment:** Energy Storage (ES) equipment is only eligible if installed with qualifying solar equipment. ES equipment must be new and interconnected on the customer's side of the electric meter. ES projects must be compliant with IPMVP Option A, B, or C. For Option C, the project should save more than 10 percent of peak demand with 30-minute (or more frequent) interval data. For Option B, full M&V of the energy storage system and affected systems is expected. For Option A, the assumptions that support monitoring of only key data points should be discussed with the EM&V team prior to M&V plan development. An M&V plan should be developed when using Options A or B and approved by the EM&V team prior to conducting any metering for the project. Systems that are designed for on-call load curtailment and participation in load management programs do not meet the efficiency conditions of this measure.

**Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment:** Electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) is only eligible if installed along with qualifying solar equipment. The installed EVSE must be ENERGY STAR qualified Level 2 EVSE, compliant with the ENERGY STAR Final Version 1.1 specification for eligible EVSE, effective March 31, 2021. The EVSE may be installed for use on either an all-battery electric vehicle (BEV) or a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV). Multifamily buildings should use the commercial EVSE measure.

#### **2.3.4.12 Water Saving Measures (Water Heater Tank Insulation, Faucet Aerators, Low Flow Shower Heads, Water Heater Pipe Wrap)**

To be awarded incentives, the fuel type of the home's water heater must be electricity. In addition:

- New faucet aerators with a flow rate of 1.5 GPM or less must replace existing aerators with a flow rate of 2.2 GPM or greater.
- New low flow showerheads with a flow rate of 2.0 GPM or less must replace existing showerheads with a flow rating of 2.5 GPM or greater.
- Existing equipment that has been defaced so as to make the flow rating illegible are not eligible for replacement. Removed equipment shall be collected and photographed by the contractor and held for possible inspection by the utility.
- Water heater pipe insulation length must be at least 3 feet in order to qualify.

## **2.4 Free Ridership**

Incentive eligibility is limited to proposed projects that are wholly contingent upon a commitment of incentive funding. Projects contracted without the express written assumption of incentive funding availability are ineligible to receive such funding.

If any of the baseline equipment at a project site has been removed prior to the execution of the SOP Agreement, or if any of the proposed energy-efficient measures has been installed prior to the execution of the SOP Agreement, the project, or the affected portions thereof, will be disallowed.

### 3 INCENTIVE DESIGN AND DELIVERY

#### 3.1 Incentives

The incentive rates for Residential and Hard-to-Reach projects are shown in Table 5 below. Higher incentive rates are available for projects serving Hard-to-Reach customers.

Incentives are defined on a per-unit basis for certain measures. For all other measures, TNMP pays for each kW and kWh of verified savings as shown in the table below. The kW payment is based on Peak Demand Savings; the kWh payment is based on the annual kWh savings. Payments may be adjusted based on results of TNMP's site inspection results as described elsewhere in this document and in the SOP Agreement.

**Table 5. 2026 Res/HTR SOP Incentive Rates**

Incentives	EUL	Res SOP		HTR SOP	
		\$/kW	\$/kWh	\$/kW	\$/kWh
<b>Primary Measures</b>					
Ceiling, Wall, Floor Insulation (Gas)	25	\$480	\$0.25	\$538	\$0.30
(Electric)		\$440	\$0.24	\$493	\$0.28
HVAC System Replacement	See Page 14				
Attic Encapsulation (Gas)	25	\$384	\$0.20	\$430	\$0.24
(Electric)		\$352	\$0.19	\$394	\$0.22
Duct Sealing (Alternate Approach)	18	\$175		\$250	
Air Infiltration	11	NA	NA	\$275	\$0.11
Heat Pump Water Heaters (≤55 gal)	13	\$400		\$500	
(>55 – 120 gal)		\$50		\$100	
Deemed Savings HVAC Tune-Up	5	\$55		\$55	
<b>Secondary Measures</b>	<b>EUL</b>	<b>\$/unit</b>		<b>\$/unit</b>	
Air Purifier	9	\$70		\$80	
Advanced Power Strip	10	\$40/APS		\$45/APS	
General Service LED	16/20	\$3.00/lamp		\$3.00/lamp	
Faucet Aerator	10	\$3.50/aerator		\$4.50/aerator	
Low-Flow Showerhead	10	\$35/showerhead		\$45/showerhead	
Water Heater Pipe Wrap	13	\$5/wrap		\$10/wrap	
Smart Thermostat (Single family)	11	\$125/thermostat		\$175/thermostat	
(Multifamily)		\$50/thermostat		\$65/thermostat	
Solar, Battery Storage, Electric Vehicle Equipment	20	See Page 13		N/A	
<b>All Other Measures</b>	≥10	\$225	\$0.07	\$270	\$0.11

## HVAC System Replacement Incentives

### Replace On Burnout & New Construction

	RES SOP		HTR SOP	
SEER2	A/C & Heat Pump	HP Replacing A/C & Electric Resistance Heat*	A/C & Heat Pump	HP Replacing A/C & Electric Resistance Heat*
15.2-17.19	\$50/ton	\$1,400/system	\$125/ton	\$1,900/system
17.2-19.99	\$150/ton	\$1,500/system	\$225/ton	\$2,000/system
20+	\$225/ton	\$1,700/system	\$325/ton	\$2,200/system
Multifamily units*		\$1,000/system		\$1,300/system

### Early Retirement (ER)

	RES SOP		HTR SOP	
SEER2	A/C & Heat Pump	HP Replacing AC & Electric Resistance Heat*	A/C & Heat Pump	HP Replacing A/C & Electric Resistance Heat*
15.2-17.19	\$125/ton	\$1,800/system	\$225/ton	\$2,300/system
17.2-19.99	\$200/ton	\$2,000/system	\$300/ton	\$2,500/system
20+	\$300/ton	\$2,200/system	\$400/ton	\$2,700/system
Multifamily units*		\$1,300/system		\$1,500/system

### SEER2 Mini-Split Systems Incentives

Replace on Burnout	15.2-16.19	16.2-17.19	17.2-20.99	21+
Mini-Split HP & A/C	\$75/ton	\$150/ton	\$300/ton	\$350/ton
Mini-Split HP Replacing ER	\$250/ton	\$350/ton	\$500/ton	\$600/ton
Early Retirement	15.2-16.19	16.2-17.19	17.2-20.99	21+
Mini-Split HP & A/C	\$150/ton	\$250/ton	\$350/ton	\$400/ton
Mini-Split HP Replacing ER	\$350/ton	\$550/ton	\$650/ton	\$750/ton
<b>New Construction MS HP &amp; A/C</b>	\$75/ton	\$150/ton	\$300/ton	\$350/ton

### Solar Equipment, Battery Storage Equipment, Electric Vehicle Equipment

Res and HTR SOP	Solar Only	Energy Storage (with Solar)	EVSE (with Solar)
3-4.999 kW-DCstc	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$500
5-7.499 kW-DCstc	\$2,200	\$1,000	\$500
7.5-30 kW-DCstc	\$2,750	\$1,000	\$500
Max per Customer/Max per Premise	\$4,250		

The Program will not reimburse any Project Sponsor for any costs incurred by participating in the Residential and Hard-to-Reach SOPs, including costs of preparing the Program Application, reviewing or executing the SOP Agreement, or preparing and submitting documents or invoices.

The Program Administrator will pay all incentives directly to the Project Sponsors, not to customers. Project Sponsors are not required to provide any direct incentives to customers but are required to execute a contract with customers indicating that the Project Sponsor is

receiving incentives as a benefit of participating in a TNMP program. Any costs in excess of the incentive amounts provided by the Program are to be covered by the Project Sponsor and/or Customer.

### **3.2 Incentive Bonuses - Underserved Counties**

Projects in underserved counties will receive an additional 10% bonus on incentives throughout the year. Underserved counties include Cooke, Eastland, Erath, Franklin, Hill, Hood, Johnson, McLennan, Stephens, Van Zandt. In each of these counties, uptake has been historically low, with either no residential projects recorded or less than one percent of the estimated household count in TNMP service territory identified as project participants for the past eight years. The list of eligible underserved counties is updated periodically based on the findings of the most recent saturation study.

### **3.3 Project Sponsor Limits**

To ensure that funding will be available to multiple participants, TNMP has set the maximum amount of incentives paid to any one Project Sponsor (including Project Sponsor's Affiliates) at 20% of the total program budget. Project Sponsors not in good standing may receive a lower incentive limit. A Project Sponsor may receive the maximum incentive amount available under each Program but must submit separate applications for HTR and Residential incentives. Due to the number of Project Sponsors, achieving a spend of up to 20% of the budget is not guaranteed; rather, it applies to those who reach the limit first before the cap is raised.

### **3.4 Limits on Measure Mix**

An important objective of the SOP is to encourage projects that provide a comprehensive range of energy efficiency measures enabling TNMP to achieve significant summer peak or winter peak demand reduction. To this end, TNMP reserves the right to limit the share of the total incentive budget reserved by certain measures in the program. Program guidelines such as these may be subject to change if it is deemed necessary to achieve program objectives.

### **3.5 Incentive Commitment and Expiration**

Incentive funds are committed to projects when projects are submitted by the Project Sponsor on a first-come, first served basis, subject to the limits described above. All incentive commitments expire at the close of the program implementation period.

Projects that do not receive incentives because they are submitted after program funds have been depleted are not eligible to apply for incentives in the following program year.

### **3.6 Incentive Payments**

The Project Sponsor will typically receive the incentive payment within 45 days after a project is complete, documented fully and in submitted status, subject to TNMP's post-installation inspection results.

## **4 PARTICIPATION PROCESS**

### **4.1 Overview**

The Program participation process, in summary, is as follows:

1. **Project Sponsor Enrollment & Application:** Project sponsors enroll in P3 and create their profile. Once the profile is complete in P3, the Project Sponsor will need to complete and submit the application for both the Residential and Hard-to-Reach programs. When notified of pre-approval, TNMP and Frontier may conduct a meeting with those Project Sponsors to determine if they will be accepted into the program. After the meetings, Project Sponsor will be notified of program acceptance or denial. Acceptance is limited to eligible companies who have provided all required documentation during the application/enrollment process. Selections are made to

optimize program performance via a Project Sponsor mix that serves TNMP's service area entirely with a variety of cost-effective energy efficiency measures.

2. **Project Initiation and Submittal:** Once application is accepted, Project Sponsors use P3 to determine customer and project eligibility, confirm budget availability, define and upload project specifications, calculate incentives, and submit eligible projects. Project Sponsors use P3 to submit eligible projects, providing appropriate documentation for each.
3. **Project Review, Inspection and Payment:** Program Administrator reviews all submitted projects, approves projects for funding in accordance with program guidelines, selects a percentage for inspections, conducts inspections, and approves payment for completed projects.

## 4.2 Detailed Process Steps

### 4.2.1 Project Sponsor Application/Enrollment

Qualifying Project Sponsors must apply separately for each program via the following steps:

1. The first step in the Res/HTR SOP application process is for the Project Sponsor to submit a Program Application. There is both a Residential and Hard-to-Reach Program Application process. Each application includes information about the Project Sponsor's corporate information, qualifications, and references. Each applicant must submit an application for both the Residential and Hard-to-Reach Programs, as well as to the Residential HVAC and Residential Solar set-asides.
2. A copy of the SOP Agreement that will be executed by Frontier and the Project Sponsor prior to the project implementation must be executed once the Program Application is approved and before work may begin. Once the project submittal period has begun, Frontier will not entertain proposed modifications to the SOP Agreement.
3. TNMP reviews each application and approves or denies each Project Sponsor.

Once a Project Sponsor is approved, they will be authorized to access P3 and submit projects without further approval, until all Project incentive funding has been allocated or until their Project Sponsor limit has been reached.

Project Sponsors must make sure they submit their application no later than the application deadline shown in Table 2. Key Implementation Dates. Please note:

- Once the application is submitted, Project Sponsors cannot go back and make any changes.
- In order to submit the application on the designated submittal date and time, the application must be accurate and complete beforehand.
- For detailed instructions on what to do on submission day, refer to P3 training videos that are available on the Help page within P3.
- TNMP will review all applications received during the application period on an equal basis, without regard to the order in which they were received.

The information listed below is required of all Project Sponsors:

- Project Sponsor name.
- W9/federal tax identification number of Project Sponsor.
- Parent company (if any) and affiliated firms (if any).
- Contact name, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address.
-

- Name and contact information of representative(s) that will have direct interaction with customers.
- Names, addresses, etc., of all subcontractors.
- A copy of all current industry licenses and certifications relevant to the measures they will install, e.g., Texas air conditioning and refrigeration license, other relevant third-party training courses completed, Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners license, etc.
  - Project Sponsors intending to perform the Duct Sealing or Air Infiltration measures must carry certifications applicable to those testing procedures. These include one or more of the following:
    - HERS Rater (RESNET)
    - Building Analyst Professional (BPI)
    - Building Envelope Professional (BPI)
    - Energy Smart Contractor (RESNET)
  - Project Sponsors applying for solar/storage/EVSE measure incentives must work with installers that are currently licensed Texas Electrical contractors.
  - Project Sponsors applying for HVAC measure incentives must work with installers that are currently licensed Texas HVAC contractors.

TNMP also requires Project Sponsors to demonstrate their qualifications and experience as part of the application process to help ensure that the proposed projects will be successful in delivering the estimated energy savings. The Project Sponsor's application should include the following:

- A brief statement of the Project Sponsor's capabilities and experience (500 word maximum).
- Evidence that the Project Sponsor itself and any subcontractors possess all applicable licenses and insurance. Evidence includes a list of applicable licenses, license holders and license numbers. By participating in the program Project Sponsors affirms that each subcontractor also meets all licensing and insurance requirements of the program applicable to the work performed and must be prepared to provide documentation to that effect upon request.
- Three (3) utility/client/customer references for projects similar in nature to that proposed in this application (include contact name, address, and phone number).
- Disclosure of any legal judgments pending, or entered in the previous two years, against Project Sponsor, as well as a current list of pending litigation filed against Project Sponsor.

Project sponsors must provide a listing of certifications or licenses held (e.g., HVAC license), or relevant third-party training courses completed.

Project Sponsors are asked to describe the customer types being targeted and/or building/dwelling characteristics being targeted.

Project Sponsors are also asked to describe the marketing mechanisms intended to be used and to describe previous projects that were successfully completed by the Project Sponsor utilizing similar marketing methods.

All marketing materials must be submitted for review and approval prior to use. Please submit your marketing materials via email to [Dianne.Mana-ay@tnmp.com](mailto:Dianne.Mana-ay@tnmp.com) and CC [rlvenguth@frontierenergy.com](mailto:rlvenguth@frontierenergy.com) and/or bring them to the meeting. You are not allowed to use any marketing materials until they are approved by Program Manager.

Failure to submit marketing materials for review prior to use, or the discovery of unapproved marketing

materials being utilized during the program year, may result in corrective action. Please refer to Section 6.2 for detailed information on the corrective action process.

For more information on marketing materials, please refer to section 2.1.1.

At the time the application is submitted online, the following documents must be uploaded into the database:

- A copy of W9
- The Frontier Energy Vendor Certification Form, ACH Authorization Form and copy of a cancelled check so payments can be made to Project Sponsor.
- Insurance: Project Sponsors and subcontractors must submit proof of insurance conforming to the requirements listed in the SOP Agreement.
- A copy of all current industry licenses and certifications pertaining to applicable measures for the Project Sponsor: HERS (RESNET), BPI, HPP, insulation installation, HVAC, electrical, RESNET, etc.

Please note, Projects Sponsors must fill out an application for Residential and Hard-to-Reach separately, but they can upload all required documentation to the Residential profile. Failure to provide required documents with the application may result in automatic rejection of the application.

#### **4.2.2 Review of Project Sponsor Applications**

Once the applications have been received, the Program Manager may work with selected Project Sponsors to schedule a meeting. During this meeting, the Program Staff will meet with the Project Sponsor and everyone on their team that will work in the TNMP service territory promoting the program. The purpose of the meeting is to improve understanding of program requirements and communications, so that accepted Project Sponsors are well-prepared to answer questions from potential Customers throughout the program year. After the meeting, TNMP will make final selections of Project Sponsors to work with the program. Pre-approval does not guarantee acceptance into the programs.

Approved Project Sponsors will be able to access the implementation sections of both the Residential and HTR programs (including set-asides) within P3. From these sections, Project Sponsors will be able to see how much project incentive money is left in the programs' incentive budgets and will be able to submit invoices for the measure installations that have been completed. No further approvals are required from TNMP to begin work in the program.

TNMP may reject an application if:

- The application is received after the application submittal deadline;
- The Project Sponsor fails to meet program eligibility requirements;
- The Project Sponsor fails to respond to any request for additional information;
- The Project Sponsor is found to have made material misrepresentations in the Project Application;
- The Project Sponsor fails to comply with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations;
- Changes occur in laws or regulations directly affecting the Res/HTR SOP; and
- TNMP, in its sole judgment, determines that the Project Sponsor is incapable of fulfilling the terms and conditions of the Res/HTR SOP Agreement.

TNMP reserves the right to limit or disqualify the participation of Project Sponsors who have performed poorly in previous TNMP or other utility standard offer programs.

TNMP will notify each Project Sponsor of its application status. If an application is found incomplete or insufficient, TNMP may, at its sole discretion, reject it.

TNMP may request clarification of, or additional information about, any item submitted as part of the application. Project Sponsors will have five business days to respond to such requests. If the clarification or additional information provided is not sufficiently responsive, TNMP may, at its sole discretion, request additional information, or discontinue its evaluation of the submittal.

### **4.2.3 Project Initiation and Submittal**

The project application and submittal process exists within P3, and enables approved Project Sponsors to apply to reserve and receive incentives for projects on an incremental basis, as work is completed and invoiced. With this process, it is not necessary for the approved Project Sponsor to request incentives in advance to perform installations for customers. Instead, the funds are reserved for that sponsor upon the submission of a project through P3. The incentive money is an open pot and is reserved on a first come, first serve basis, based on the date and time of project submission.

After receiving approval for their application(s), Project Sponsors may submit completed projects in the database so long as there are sufficient funds in the program budget and the Project Sponsor has not already met their incentive limit.

All application forms, instructions, and frequently asked questions may be directed to the Program Manager. All project submittals must be completed and submitted online within P3. Projects may be submitted by approved Project Sponsors on a first come, first served basis. Once the Project Sponsors have completed filling out their application, they can submit it right away.

One of the key requirements for Project Sponsors is that they perform installations and report the installation data by submitting a project through P3. Funds are reserved out of the program budget as Project Sponsors submit their invoices.

Due to the nature of the first come first-served program design, Project Sponsors are encouraged to submit projects as early and as often as possible. Before submitting projects, ensure that all required documents are uploaded for each project.

*If a Project Sponsor submits a project when program funds are close to being depleted, there is no guarantee that their project will be paid in full. It is the Project Sponsor's responsibility to ensure there are ample funds in the program budget to cover the incentives associated with the measures they are installing. Projects installed and submitted after program funding has been depleted are not eligible to reapply in the following program year. Project Sponsors who submit large and/or late batches of completed projects may face penalties or disqualification.*

*Please note that when funds have run out in the program, there is no guarantee that TNMP will be able to pay incentives on non-submitted installations. Also, once the funds have been depleted, TNMP will not roll over homes to the next program year that were not paid. It is the Project Sponsor's responsibility to monitor the program budget and determine if there are ample funds in the program budget before implementing installations.*

Project Sponsors have two options for submitting projects:

#### *One-by-One Submission*

1. Access your Project List and select the project you wish to submit. (Note: only projects in the "Work Completion Pending" status can be submitted.)
2. Within the Project Details page, select the "Submit" from the dropdown menu (in the top right panel under the project status).
3. Select the "Submit" button in blue to submit project.
4. Project will be submitted if it meets all program requirements.

#### *Batch Submission*

1. Access your Project List and select the checkboxes in the far-left column for each project that you wish to submit.
  - a) Note: only projects in the “Work Completion Pending” status can be submitted.
2. Select the “Batch Action” dropdown menu.
3. Select “Submit” from the dropdown menu. A confirmation message will appear.
4. Click “Go” within the confirmation window.
5. Projects will be submitted if they meet all program requirements.

All installations must be completed, and all implementation data reported to TNMP no later than November 30, 2026.

Once the invoice is submitted to TNMP via P3, it will be reviewed for accuracy. If any discrepancies are found in any of the reports, Program Administrator will notify the Project Sponsor. The Project Sponsor shall have 5 business days from the date of notification to correct any discrepancies.

### *Standard Forms*

The Project Sponsor shall also use the following standard forms, which are available upon request to the Program Manager:

1. *Host Customer Agreement & Acknowledgment Form.* This is a standard agreement executed by the Project Sponsor and the host customer. It includes all the customer protection provisions, informs them of their rights, and disclosures required by the PUCT. A copy of the completed agreement should be provided to the customer. This must be reviewed and signed by the host customer before work can commence. Residential customers or multifamily property managers use this form to confirm that the measures described are to be installed to his/her satisfaction and that TNMP or other third party as defined is allowed access to the host customer site. The Project Sponsor also affirms that the project will be completed, and all bills will have been paid.
2. *PUCT’s Income Eligibility Forms.* This set of forms are to be used by customers and multifamily property owners/managers to certify hard-to-reach eligibility.

Please note that customer signatures on all customer forms must match the host customer’s name in the database. Please refer to section 2.2 of this document for the definition of customer. For assistance with customer forms, contact Program Staff.

Copies of all required forms shall be uploaded for each customer. The forms also provide TNMP with permission to inspect the installation, which may be required before incentive payments are approved. Host customers must be informed that they may be contacted for inspection or asked questions by the Program Administrator, Program Manager or by the EM&V contractor. All program correspondence, reports, and any other required materials should be uploaded directly to the P3. Refer to the training videos that are available on the Help page within P3 for help with the upload feature or contact the Program Administrator if you have any difficulties.

### *Work Scheduling*

Project Sponsors must maintain a work schedule within P3 and separately inform the Program Manager via email weekly by Mondays at 10:00 AM on the location, time and date that marketing activities and/or work is performed. Failing to maintain a work schedule could result in corrective action and/or termination from the program. For more information on corrective action, please refer to Section 6.2.

### *Program Marketing Activities*

During the implementation period, the Project Sponsor will perform marketing and implementation activities and report progress on a regular basis to TNMP. TNMP-branded marketing materials

are required for use throughout the program year.

#### **4.2.4 Inspections and Approval**

Program Administrator will review all documentation associated with submitted projects, verifying selected entries for accuracy. Each home input into the Work Schedule via P3 is subject to an inspection either before, after, or before and after the measure installation. To facilitate the installation inspection process, Project Sponsors must coordinate their work schedule with Program Staff, who will inform inspection staff. Failure to comply with the work schedule requirement could result in corrective action. Project Sponsors may be called upon to provide assistance in scheduling and or completing inspections to ensure review and approval occur in a timely manner, including scheduling a ride-along.

For multifamily projects, the objective is to conduct pre- and post-inspections on each property sampling 10% of the units retrofitted at each project. Frontier will coordinate inspections with the Project Sponsor. Additional inspections may be conducted without prior notice to the Project Sponsor. Incentive reservation may occur for projects utilizing more than \$50,000 worth of incentives. Incentive reservation may occur after pre-inspection has occurred and the project sponsor submits a forecast of incentives for the project. Reservations are valid for 30 days. For single-family projects, the objective is also to conduct virtual or on-site post-inspections on 10% of homes and desk reviews on 100% of HVAC systems claiming central electric resistance heating. Frontier and TNMP may monitor the daily work schedules submitted by each Project Sponsor, and may conduct random, unannounced inspections.

*To facilitate the inspection process, Project Sponsors are requested to submit work schedules within P3 a minimum of 24 hours prior to beginning work. Failure to comply with the work schedule requirement will result in corrective action.*

All measures installed in the Residential and Hard-to-Reach SOP must conform to or exceed the standards listed in the TRM. If installed measures do not meet these standards, they will not be eligible for incentives.

*Note that it is the Project Sponsor's responsibility to inform their customers that their home may be selected for a post-inspection.*

#### **4.2.5 Payment**

Incentives are paid based on deemed savings after the completion of the project, as modified by the Adjustment Factor described above, if applicable. TNMP will not reimburse any Project Sponsor for any costs incurred by participating in the Residential and Hard-to-Reach SOPs, including costs of preparing the Project Application, reviewing or executing the SOP Agreement, or preparing and submitting documents or invoices. The Project Sponsor will receive the incentive payment within 45 days after a project is in submitted status, subject to TNMP's post-installation inspection review and results.

The Project Sponsor will receive the incentive payment within 45 days after a project is in submitted status, subject to TNMP's post-installation inspection review and results.

## **5 PROGRAM MARKETING**

TNMP does not directly market any energy efficiency-related products but instead relies upon the marketing capabilities of Project Sponsors to sell projects to TNMP's residential customers. Entering into an agreement with Frontier as a Project Sponsor does not imply TNMP's endorsement or approval of any company, product, or service.

*All marketing materials created by the Project Sponsor which reference Program incentives generally, or TNMP and/or the Res/HTR SOP particularly, must be sent to*

*TNMP for review prior to distribution. Failure to comply with these requirements could lead to Project Sponsor corrective action and/or termination.*

Marketing material examples include but are not limited to: flyers; door hangers; direct mail; yard signs; advertisements in printed or electronic publications; websites; electronic and social media content delivered via email, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Google advertising; etc.

TNMP does provide an educational handout to Project Sponsors that is a mandatory leave behind at completed projects. TNMP will email an electronic copy of this handout to the Project Sponsors after notice of approval to be either emailed to customers or printed and left behind at completed projects.

## **6 QUALITY CONTROL/QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The program design employs pre- and post-inspections as well as non-conformance procedures for investigating the root causes of any failed inspections. Handled on a one-by-one basis, consequences may include a reduction/refusal of incentive payment or additional documentation required for future projects. In instances where incorrect information was deliberately provided by a Project Sponsor, those contractors may be suspended or terminated.

Project Sponsors with projects that are found to be unlikely to produce estimated savings through the pre-inspection process will be notified of the issues regarding their project design or documentation and will be allowed to re-submit or amend their project.

Project Sponsors with projects that fail post-installation inspections will be required to correct the problems identified and either submit evidence of correction or schedule a second inspection, at the Program Manager's discretion. Project Sponsors that fail to correct deficiencies in a timely manner may be removed from the Program and/or denied an incentive.

### **6.1 Project Sponsor Standing**

All Project Sponsors must maintain good standing with the Program. Project Sponsors in good standing are defined as those:

- Who have attended all required Project Sponsor meetings, technical training sessions and other mandatory events;
- Whose three most recent installations subject to a Program inspection have passed those inspections on the first attempt;
- Who have maintained and documented to the Program Manager proper and current licensure, certificates, insurance, and other eligibility requirements;
- Who have provided all required progress reports in a timely fashion; and,
- Who work in good faith with the Program Manager to resolve any Customer disputes or complaints and to change business practices as appropriate to reduce the likelihood of future disputes or complaints.

Project Sponsors, who are not in good standing, may be removed from the Program. They will be notified by the Program Manager of their status and will be required to work with the Program Manager to develop a plan to correct the problem(s). A lack of progress on this plan may lead to disqualification.

### **6.2 Corrective Action**

To ensure the integrity, compliance, and success of the TNMP RES/HTR SOPs, all participating contractors must adhere to the Program Manual and operational protocols. Violations will be addressed through a structured, escalating corrective action process. Each tier outlines specific actions, required remediation, and consequences for repeated offenses.

Project Sponsors may experience corrective action for violations such as:

- Marketing the TNMP program in service territory cities without prior notification by Monday at 10:00 AM.
- Using TNMP branding or program name without approval of marketing materials.
- Improper installation of energy efficiency measures.
- Inadequate or missing photo documentation of post-installation work.
- Failure to follow protocols outlined in the Program Manual.
- Falsification of documentation or reporting.
- Misrepresentation of TNMP and/or its programs, including inaccurate claims about program benefits, eligibility, or TNMP's role.

## **Corrective Action Tiers**

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### **Tier 1 – First Offense: Formal Warning**

#### **Action Taken:**

- Issuance of a formal written warning detailing the violation.
- Required repair, rework, or resubmittal of deficient documentation or installations.
- Reminder of relevant program requirements and expectations.

#### **Examples:**

- Failure to notify TNMP of marketing activities in service territory cities by Monday at 10:00 AM.
- Use of unapproved marketing materials referencing TNMP.
- Minor deviations from installation protocols.

#### **Additional Consequences:**

- Potential refresher training on relevant program protocols.
  - Escalation to Tier 2 if a similar or new violation occurs.
- 

### **Tier 2 – Second Offense: Probation and Review**

#### **Action Taken:**

- Scheduled phone call to discuss:
  - Nature and impact of the violation
  - Root cause analysis
  - Corrective measures
- 1-month probationary period with increased oversight.
- Required repair, rework, or resubmittal of affected documentation or installations.
- Potential additional training for involved staff.

#### **Examples:**

- Improper installation of energy efficiency measures.
- Incomplete or unclear photo documentation of post-installation work.

- Misrepresentation of TNMP or its programs in communications or marketing materials.

**Additional Consequences:**

- Potential reduction of incentive payments for affected projects.
  - Escalation to Tier 3 if another violation occurs during or after probation.
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**Tier 3 – Third Offense: Suspension and Evaluation**

**Action Taken:**

- Suspension of all upcoming projects for 1 month.
- Video conference with TNMP program staff to:
  - Review the violation
  - Discuss corrective actions
  - Evaluate continued eligibility
- Required repair or rework of impacted installations and documentation.
- Mandatory team-wide training on program compliance.

**Examples:**

- Repeated failure to follow installation protocols.
- Continued use of unapproved or misleading marketing materials.
- Misrepresentation of TNMP’s role, program benefits, or eligibility criteria.

**Additional Consequences:**

- Elimination of incentives for suspended projects.
- Potential exclusion from the program for the next program year.
- Potential escalation to Tier 4 if:
  - Violations persist after suspension
  - Contractor fails to complete required corrective actions
  - Misrepresentation or non-compliance is deemed intentional or severe

**Tier 4 – Fourth Offense: Expulsion and Future Exclusion**

**Action Taken:**

- Immediate expulsion from the program for the remainder of the current year.
- Exclusion from participation for the next program year.
- Notification to TNMP and relevant stakeholders of contractor status.

**Examples:**

- Falsification of documentation.
- Continued non-compliance with program protocols after multiple interventions.
- Deliberate misrepresentation of TNMP or its programs to customers, partners, or the public.

**Additional Consequences:**

- Permanent removal of incentive eligibility for affected projects.

- Denial of future program participation, subject to review.

### **6.3 Disqualification**

All Project Sponsors are required to maintain proper licensure, certificates, insurance, and other eligibility requirements as stated in the online registration system. The Program Manager may also determine and maintain metrics of Project Sponsor performance which may be used to disqualify Project Sponsors from participation in the Program. Project Sponsor performance metrics that indicate potential grounds for disqualification may include but are not limited to:

- High rates of Customer/City complaints handled by Program Management staff;
- High rates of submitting incomplete or ineligible project applications;
- Low rates of passing Program inspections; and/or
- Low rates of completing pre-approved projects within the incentive reservation period.
- Non-performance

### **6.4 Dispute Resolution**

Unresolved disputes hurt the success of the Program. In this respect, the overriding objective of all the participants in the Program is to achieve 100% Customer satisfaction and to satisfactorily resolve all disputes at the lowest level possible.

Disputes, concerns or complaints arising from Customers should, in general, be addressed at the lowest level possible. Most of the time, this means the problem should be resolved between the Project Sponsor and Customer.

Issues that cannot be addressed by the Project Sponsor and Customer and are brought to the attention of Program Staff. Program Staff's first level response shall be to document the date and nature of the complaint and the specific details. This shall include contact information, name, address, phone number and/or email of all parties involved. Program Staff will maintain all contact and status records. This will open the issue; next an appropriate action step must be completed for it to be resolved and closed. Program Staff shall be responsible to delegate or take action to resolve the issue within 2 weeks.