



# PTCS Program Changes and Measure Updates

## Program Management Changes

As of March 12, 2012, PTCS program support services have been successfully transferred from Ecova (Ecos) to Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). BPA has been the lead sponsor of the PTCS program since 2006. While most program functions and on-line resources will remain the same, new resources have been added:

### No changes:

The following resources remain unchanged

- **PTCS phone number:** 1-800-941-3867
- **PTCS fax number:** 1-866-535-7955
- **PTCS site registry for entering projects:** [www.ptcsnw.com](http://www.ptcsnw.com)
- **PTCS Certified Technician numbers:** Technicians do not need to be recertified and will retain their PTCS certification numbers. (However, we do need Technicians to update their Certified Technician Applications.)
- **PTCS List-serve:** for contractor updates by email. [Register here.](#)

### New resources:

The following resources have been added since the program transition

- **New website:** [www.bpa.gov/reshvac](http://www.bpa.gov/reshvac) (specifications, current forms, applications for trainers/QA inspectors, etc.)
- **New email:** [reshvac@bpa.gov](mailto:reshvac@bpa.gov). Former email address ([info@ptcsnw.com](mailto:info@ptcsnw.com)) will be forwarded for a limited time.
- **New forms:** Please visit [www.bpa.gov/reshvac](http://www.bpa.gov/reshvac) for the most current PTCS forms. Updated forms are effective April 1, 2012. Ground Source Heat Pump forms now include information required for evaluation that will allow us to maintain GSHPs' eligibility.

- **New Tech Agreements:** Technicians who want to do work for BPA utilities must submit an updated Certified Technician Application, available at [www.bpa.gov/reshvac](http://www.bpa.gov/reshvac).

## Measure Updates

**Ground-Source Heat Pumps:** The October 1, 2011 BPA Implementation Manual (Change Notices) indicated that ground source heat pumps with an air-source heat pump (ASHP) baseline would no longer qualify, but ground source heat pumps with an electric forced air furnace (FAF) baseline would qualify. Based on conversations with several utilities in colder climates, BPA believes that the ASHP baseline may actually be cost-effective, but additional data is required to support energy savings for a deemed measure.

### Outcome:

- BPA will continue to support Ground Source Heat Pumps with an ASHP baseline as a BPA-qualified measure. (Note: Additional data requirements have been added to the GSHP Form).
- BPA will continue to support Ground Source Heat Pumps with an FAF baseline as a deemed measure

**New Construction:** Language revisions in the October 1, 2011 implementation manual created some confusion over whether heat pumps were a qualifying measure in Residential Single Family New Construction.

### Clarification:

- Air-source Heat Pumps installed in newly constructed single family homes, that meet all PTCS and BPA program requirements, qualify for the Heat Pump Upgrade measure.
- Ground-source (Geothermal) heat pumps installed in newly constructed single family homes, that meet all PTCS and BPA program requirements,



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qualify for the Ground-Source Heat Pump measure.

## Program Requirements, including Quality Assurance

**Program Requirements:** Over the past year, the Regional Technical Forum (RTF) confirmed that they will no longer provide guidance for PTCS Provider Standards and have deferred that responsibility to those running programs. Accordingly, BPA has replaced the Provider Standard with updated PTCS Program Requirements which can be found at [www.bpa.gov/reshvac](http://www.bpa.gov/reshvac).

**Quality Assurance:** Under the former RTF Provider Standard, utilities could not inspect their own heat pump projects and were required to inspect duct sealing installations at a rate of 100%, unless they contracted the work to a third party. The PTCS subcommittee recommended that utilities representatives (with training and experience) could perform quality assurance if they at a rate of 25%, although using a third party would drop that rate to 10%.

**Outcome:** BPA Program Requirements do not differentiate between different inspector types, both utilities and third party inspectors must inspect at least 10% of duct sealing installations. BPA has established minimum requirements and requires BPA-approval of inspectors. Quality Assurance Inspector Applications may be found at [www.bpa.gov/reshvac](http://www.bpa.gov/reshvac).

For more information, contact [Stephanie Vasquez](#), PTCS Program Manager.

For PTCS program support, call the hotline at 800-941-3867 or email [reshvac@bpa.gov](mailto:reshvac@bpa.gov).