



ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

NYSERDA

RICHARD L. KAUFFMAN
Chair

ALICIA BARTON
President and CEO

November 14, 2019

Dear Participating Contractors,

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Green New Deal is the most aggressive climate change program in the nation and puts the State on a path to economy-wide carbon-neutrality. The Green New Deal significantly increases the Clean Energy Standard goal that New York State's electricity come from renewables from 50 percent to 70 percent by 2030 and increases the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal to 85 percent by 2050. Successful achievement of these goals will require a substantial scaling and support of the residential energy efficiency retrofit industry in New York State, including the recruitment and training of new contractors and technicians.

NYSERDA and the Building Performance Institute (BPI) are working together to develop a set of credentials that ensures workers on each project site are appropriately skilled and qualified. NYSERDA will work with BPI and other training and workforce development entities to ensure contractors have sufficient access to training and testing for staff credentialing.

Over the next few months, NYSERDA will begin implementing changes to contractor participation requirements for the Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR and EmPower New York programs. These modifications to program requirements are being implemented to address the need to substantially accelerate the adoption of clean energy solutions in homes across the State in ways that advance New York's clean energy and environmental goals.

After **June 30, 2020**, contractors participating in these programs will no longer be required to hold Building Performance Institute (BPI) GoldStar Accreditation. NYSERDA is working with BPI to assess and update the current certification requirements for program participation with the goal of continuing the focus on high quality of work and addressing gaps in current certification and training offerings.

- NYSERDA will provide additional updates on credentialing requirements for participation in the Assisted Home Performance with ENERGY STAR and EmPower NY programs before December 31, 2019.
- Contractors who are already participating in NYSERDA's programs as of June 30, 2020 may elect to maintain BPI GoldStar status as a qualifying credential through December 2020 but, effective January 1, 2021, all contractors participating in NYSERDA's programs will be required to be in full compliance with the NYSERDA new credentialing requirements, regardless of GoldStar status.

- NYSERDA program credentialing requirement updates will be effective July 1, 2020 for newly participating contractors and contractors who elect to not maintain BPI GoldStar status after June 30, 2020.

We recognize this may impact 2020 BPI GoldStar fees due later this year. BPI will modify billing cycles to accommodate these changes as follows:

- BPI will invoice all New York State BPI GoldStar contractors for the first six months of 2020 (January through June).
- For BPI GoldStar contractors opting to maintain GoldStar status for the remainder of 2020, BPI will send a second invoice in May 2020 covering the balance (July through December).

If you have any questions, please reach out to NYSERDA by emailing hpwes@nyserdera.ny.gov or BPI by emailing Lynn Griffith at lgriffith@bpi.org.

Sincerely,

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