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Important News from the California State License Board

Contractors Urged to Increase Bond Coverage to \$15,000 Before End of Year; Applies to All Licensees

SACRAMENTO — California law ([Business and Professions Code Section 7071.6](#)) requires all contractors to have either a contractor's bond or cash deposit filed with the Contractors State License Board (CSLB). The bond or cash deposit is filed for the benefit of consumers who may be negatively impacted by defective construction or other license law violations, and for the benefit of employees who have not been paid wages that are due to them.

On January 1, 2016, the amount of the bond is increasing from \$12,500 to \$15,000. CSLB urges all contractors to make sure they've got their new bond or cash deposit in-place by that date. The legislation also eliminated the requirement that contractor applicants prove they have \$2,500 in working capital as a condition of obtaining a CSLB license.

Contractors who don't meet the deadline risk having their license suspended.

If you haven't been informed about the new \$15,000 limit by your bond company, it's important that you contact them immediately, so you can comply with the new law.

Note that the bond of qualifying individuals will remain at \$12,500.

REMINDER - SMUD HPP: FINAL DEADLINE COMING UP IN LESS THAN A WEEK!

After December 15, 2015, all active projects will be subject to the new HVAC tiers regardless of the initial job submittal date. For customers expecting old HVAC rebate tiers, please submit test out documents before or on December 15.

New Tiers – Package Heat pump availability:

SMUD has learned that some of the sizes of package heat pumps are impossible to find. If your package heat pump meets the new SEER and EER ratings, and has a HSPF of 8.0 or better, SMUD will honor that rebate for the Home Performance Program only (rebate only). SMUD cannot honor the same under the Equipment Efficiency (stand – alone) program, nor could SMUD finance a unit with this lower HSPF for either program.

SMUD HPP Management will continue to monitor this situation and will continue to honor the 8.0 or better through the second quarter of 2016. The exemption is only available for package heat pumps, as split systems can be found in various sizes which meet the new levels.

Residential HVAC Commissioning Quick Guide

A new quick guide is now available that discusses Residential HVAC commissioning requirement for Title 24 and SMUD HPP. A copy can be downloaded by clicking [HERE](#). Be sure to share it with your installation/sales staff.

Note from the HPP team:

HPP team would like to send out a special thanks to all of you for your participation in the SMUD Home Performance program. The original goal for this year was to retrofit 325 homes, but at this time, it appears we should complete 575 homes. That is a little over one and a half homes finished every day of the year! This is a great accomplishment considering all of the scheduling and coordination required to make these retrofits happen.

All of you increased the number of homes completed compared to the year before. We wish you all continued success and growth in this program. THANK YOU and keep up the great work.

Jim Mills

