

QUESTIONS – BY SUBJECT

General

Q – What are the updates from the 2020 comprehensive structure?

Inclusion of Standard lighting as one of the measures in the Comprehensive calculation.

Q – Will this tool be available for use by contractors?

Yes.

Q – Will there be a ‘Savings are Essential’ version of this tool?

No, the intent of this tool is to highlight what level of comprehensiveness a project/customer may qualify for and will not provide a final incentive amount. The *qualifications* for our comprehensive tiers did not change with the COVID/”Savings are Essential” enhancements. For example, If a project qualifies for a Comp Level II, it will qualify for this level whether or not the ‘COVID/” Savings are Essential” enhancements are active. However, the incentive rates and caps are based on the latest rates issued by the Companies.

Q – How is a comprehensive project calculated if a customer is served by both UI/AVANGRID and Eversource?

The company that provides the Electric Service will take the lead in the project evaluation. The Companies will coordinate to calculate the Comprehensive incentive. Each company will provide their own document. The qualification tool can be used to determine the estimated comprehensive level for customers served by both utilities.

Q – Are customers with solar panels eligible to participate in the program?

All companies that pay into the Conservation and Load Management Fund are eligible to participate. To determine if a commercial or industrial customer pays into the fund, look for the “combined benefits charge’ line on their monthly utility bill.

Q – Will a tool to estimate the kWh savings be available for contractors?

This tool is intended to determine if a project qualifies as a Comprehensive project using your best estimate of savings. Final savings will be determined as part of Engineering review.

Q – Will this take the place of the Amplify portal or individual spreadsheets?

No, project data submission will remain as is.

Annual Cost Savings

Q - Should the electric and gas rates be calculated averages for the customer or are there default rates we should be using?

The qualification tool is pre-populated with default Electric and Gas rates, which can be adjusted as needed. Modifying the rate will affect all measures savings proportionally.

Q - Through analysis, we note that average electric supply/delivery charges are >\$0.20 per kWh (25% higher than what's estimated). Why is \$0.151 per kWh being used as estimated rate?

The default rates are averages, you can adjust them to more accurately reflect your project. If you modify the default rates, we will need documentation of rates used.

Qualifying End Uses

Q - Is the PRIME an option for comprehensive?

Savings from PRIME process improvements are not eligible for Comprehensive projects. However, if the PRIME event generates EO or ECB measures, these may be eligible for inclusion in a comprehensive project.

Q - Are there thresholds for savings based on end use?

Yes, a qualifying end use cannot contribute more than 90% or less than 3% of the total annual cost savings.

Q - If a measure does not pass the 3% rule, can it still be a part of the project?

Yes, the Comprehensive Tier will be determined based on the remaining measures.

Q - What are some considerations for EMS measures?

- Select "Y" in the "included in EMS system" – when adding measures related to updating an existing EMS system with new control strategies specific to reducing energy to an existing EMS system or measures related to energy strategies above and beyond code when installing a new EMS system.
- Split Cost and Savings for single measure/strategy – A single EMS measure or strategy may impact multiple end uses or fuel types. To see the full impact of an EMS measure, split measure onto separate rows for each impacted end use and fuel type. Using the total annual cost savings for each end use and fuel type, you can prorate the measure cost among all lines.
- Please see Potential EMS Measures below:
 - Optimal Start/Stop
 - Night Setback
 - Demand Control Ventilation
 - Occupancy control
 - Fan Static Pressure-VFD
 - VAV Reset

Q - What is Process 1, Process 2 and Process 3?

If energy savings over multiple distinct processes are identified at a single customer site, the savings for each process can be split onto its own row and considered a separate end use. For example, a facility where a compressor replacement and VFD is added to an injection molding machine. Each Process will count towards the total number of end uses addressed and in the 90% maximum contribution and 3% minimum contribution calculations. Your utility contact can help define distinct processes to correctly label these end uses.

Q - If EO requires an upgrade from basic code, what else other than an HVAC unit and lights will qualify?

Please see End Uses tab within Qualification Tool or reach out to your Utility contact to discuss opportunities.

Q – Can you review the 25% EO requirement?

At least 25% of the annual cost savings on the project must come from an EO (retrofit) end uses. For example, lighting retrofit, drive on existing motor, etc.

Q – Why was the compressor in your example considered ECB, even when the reason for the replacement is energy savings?

If the equipment is beyond 75% of its expected lifetime, we need to use a less efficient available alternative as the baseline. For example, the expected lifetime for a compressor is 15 years, if the compressor being replaced is older than 11 years, we compare a single speed compressor to a Variable speed compressor and can only take credit for the incremental savings. In the unusual instance where you replace a compressor that is less than 10 years old, you can submit it as EO. We will request additional backup information. Similar rules apply to other ECB measures such as PIMM, RTU's etc.

Q – What codes are reference by the program?

Currently using IECC 2015. Plan is to transition to IECC 2021 Q4 this year.

Q – Is Transformer replacement considered ECB or EO?

EO, we use the existing transformer as the Baseline.