

GREEN COMPLIANCE PLUS

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RESIDENTIAL ENERGY INCENTIVE PROGRAMS

By Alan Hugenot,

Architects have the opportunity to qualify their residential designs for many different incentive programs. Greening residential designs can put green in the owner's pockets whether single family or multiple family. The key is to find an innovative energy efficiency move that gives your client a superior Title 24 efficiency level and also qualifies for an incentive. This works for new construction and for remodels and here is where all the pertinent information about incentives and rebates is located:

CALIFORNIA INCENTIVE PROGRAMS (see Residential Program Matrix-CA attached):

1. PG&E UTILITY HOME EFFICIENCY (flexyourpower.com)
In my own San Francisco zipcode, 94131, there are 56 cash incentives available. For example:
APPLIANCES, if I purchase and install a High Efficiency Washer and Dryer, I can get \$75 from PG & E, and another \$ 200 from SFPUC, for a total of \$275,

BUILDING ENVELOPE, if I have existing R-11 or less attic insulation, and I increase it to R-30 PGE pays me 15 cents per square foot (\$330 on a 2,200 s.f. unit)
The incentives continue with rebates for HVAC, CFL light change outs and low water flow appliances.
2. ENERGY STAR: (energystar.gov, or access through flexyourpower.com) New homes that qualify as 15% greater energy efficient than Title 24 requires are eligible for a \$500 incentive. A 94% efficiency natural gas furnace qualifies for a \$300 rebate.
3. NEW SOLAR HOMES: (gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov) California Solar Initiative
This program is on a first come first serve basis, and gets pay backs from 0 to \$2.50 per watt of installed solar power. At the upper rates this could be near 30% of the installed cost. However, the initiative is intended stimulate installation of solar units only until many solar houses have been built and then the incentive disappears in steps from \$2.50 per watt down to zero per watt.
4. GREEN POINT RATED: (greenpointrated.org) This site has a great download with all the **Energy and Water Efficiency Incentives for San Francisco Homeowners** in one place.
5. LEED FOR HOMES: (davisenergy.com, and click LEED for Homes)
This is a rating system only, no rebates or incentives.

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER: Making sure that the particular application works with the overall HVAC concept and satisfies Title 24 compliance, while keeping up on new developments is a full time job....So, isn't it time for you to begin using your own "in-house" energy experts?That is who we are at GREEN COMPLIANCE PLUS..... your own, on call (24/7), Title 24, Green Energy Compliance Consultants.

Once we computer model your project for Title 24 compliance, our project specific energy analysis based on that model can point the way to that *Brighter Shade of Green* your clients are seeking.

Give Alan a call at *Green Compliance Plus* and we'll discuss your concerns.