

UPDATES TO 2018–2020 ESFB AND BUILDING TUNE-UP PROGRAM APPLICATION WORKFLOW

For applications to be pre-approved by EOY 2021 and previously pre-approved within the 2018–2020 BGE ESFB Program cycle

Authorization to Proceed (ATP) Letters

Receipt of an ATP authorizes Service Providers and customers to proceed with purchase and installation of eligible equipment without program pre-approval. **Installation of any project without pre-approval is performed at the customer's and Service Provider's risk**, meaning that BGE cannot guarantee availability and payment of incentive funds to the customer or Service Provider upon completion of the project at this time, nor will incentive funds be reserved for the project from the current budget. Issuance of the ATP is to ensure projects remain eligible for an incentive should funds become available, regardless of the status of project installation or completion.

Projects that do not obtain an ATP prior to installation may not be eligible for an incentive upon completion.

Wait-listing Workflow

The wait-listing process means BGE will continue issuing pre-approvals for new applications.

BGE will provide pre-approval review to all new applications and to all existing applications that have not yet received pre-approval. Once these applications have cleared initial technical review, they will be wait-listed. Initial technical review includes review of the application to ensure all documentation and information has been appropriately provided per program and evaluation requirements.

Applications will receive full pre-approval according to the order in which they have been wait-listed, which is based on the date of their application submission. Any project that does not obtain pre-approval this year may obtain an incentive in the new 2021–2023 program cycle if new funding is approved for this upcoming cycle. As program budgets and projections for 2018–2020 become clearer through the end of the year, wait-listed applications may be considered for pre-approval by the end of the 2018–2020 program cycle, depending on the order the application was received, installation completion, trending requirements and availability of funds.

Wait-listed application's incentive basis will be in reference to the current 2018–2020 program payment and qualification levels, or as it exists at the time of application submission, regardless of any changes to incentive levels that may be applied within the new 2021–2023 program cycle. Additionally, wait-listed applications will be subject to current program technical criteria, regardless of any potential changes to technical requirements within the new 2021–2023 program cycle.

Previously Pre-Approved Applications

Projects that have already been pre-approved will receive their pre-approved incentives, assuming complete installation of the pre-approved scope of work. The incentive budget is sufficient to pay all obligations on projects that were previously pre-approved, and there is minimal risk to reserved funds. **Any pre-approved project that is closed out before the end of the year will be processed and paid out as normal.**

For those applications currently pre-approved and with installation in progress, if your installation continues beyond the existing pre-approval deadline, BGE will continue to issue limited pre-approval extensions. However, **BGE will apply additional scrutiny for any pre-approved application that requests an extension to the standard six-month time frame.**

Pre-approved projects that are nearing the six-month expiration from the date of pre-approval may be eligible for an extension if installation is underway or imminent. Speculative pre-approved applications in which customers or Service Providers submitted an application but have not committed to pursuing the project or are not planning installation may be denied an extension to the standard six-month time frame so that those funds can be released to wait-listed projects. Any canceled project will be eligible to reapply, subject to the incentives available at the time of resubmission and will follow the wait-list ATP process.

This program supports the EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act.

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