



## Home Upgrade Program Pathway Measure Guidance

**Q: If 15% or 30% reduction in building air leakage is achieved through attic plane air sealing alone, can we count both attic insulation with attic plane air sealing and whole building air sealing measures?**

A: Yes. So long as both the attic insulation R-value and the percent building leakage reduction are achieved, both measures can be claimed.

**Q: Is a blower door test required at Test-in for determining the reduction in building air leakage?**

A: No. The calculator will use default values in a vintage table to determine the baseline for you after you enter the age of the home. The calculator will also determine the target values to reach for 15% and 30% reductions.

**Q: Should I use total duct leakage or leakage to outside when measuring duct leakage?**

A: Use leakage to outside in SoCalGas, SCE and SDG&E territories, use either in PG&E territory. The calculator allows you to enter a value for either method you choose. Whichever measurement method you choose, the resulting duct leakage must be less than  $\leq 6\%$  total duct leakage (per Title 24) when replacing ducts and  $\leq 10\%$  duct leakage to outside (or  $\leq 15\%$  total duct leakage in PG&E territory) when sealing existing ducts.

**Q: If I seal an existing duct system to 6%, can I get credit for sealing to 6%, as for existing ducts?**

A: Yes, either total duct leakage or leakage to outside method must meet or exceed 6%.

**Q: If ducts are sufficiently buried in new attic insulation, do they count as R8 duct insulation?**

A: Yes. Ducts must be fully buried.

**Q: How much duct area must be sealed or insulated to qualify for the duct seal or duct insulation measures?**

A: Contractor shall seal or insulate all accessible ducts, at least 50%.

**Q: How much ceiling, wall or floor area must be insulated for those insulation measures to qualify?**

A: Contractor shall insulate all accessible areas, at least 50% of the ceiling, exterior wall or floor surface area.

**Q: If an electric heat pump is installed that meets the required SEER and EER levels, can it be counted as a new AC measure, just as a similarly efficient traditional AC unit would?**

A: Yes, if the heat pump also replaces an electric heating system. No, if it replaces a natural gas (or propane) heating system. The IOUs are not allowed to pay incentives on systems where fuel switching occurs.

**Q: How should I count measures in a home with multiple HVAC systems?**

A: If the home has multiple HVAC systems, the contractor should upgrade all, if possible. If one system serves 90% or more of the conditioned floor area of the home, then it can count as the system measure for the whole house. If the two systems are more complicated, PG&E would prefer that you submit the job as an Advanced Home Upgrade job. For other IOUs, the home can be split into two separate job submittals, each of which accommodates a separate AC or furnace unit. We recommend that care be taken to group HVAC and non-mechanical measures to avoid claiming the same measures - "double dipping" – which is not allowed by the program.

**Q: What is the minimum number, or square footage, of windows that need to be replaced to qualify for the window measure?**

A: Either 100% of the homes' windows meet the minimum window technical specifications when the job is done (U-factor SHGC=0.25, U=0.32 in all climate zones) or the square footage of new compliant windows comprise a minimum of 14% of conditioned floor area or 17% of conditioned wall area for all homes.

For additional questions (in PG&E territory outside of the nine BAYREN counties) please contact Build It Green at 510-285-6222.