The California Technical Forum

The California Technical Forum (Cal TF) is a collaborative of experts who use independent professional judgment and a transparent, robust process to review and endorse technical information related to California's energy efficiency portfolio. The Cal TF was created in 2014 by a broad group of stakeholders led by NRDC and is funded yearly by participating program administrators.

The Cal TF performs its work by:

- Maintaining an oversight Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) consisting of statewide energy efficiency stakeholders to determine organizational structure, objectives, and topics for an independent Technical Forum review process;
- Engaging a rotating Technical Forum (TF) of independently operating subject matter experts focused on peer review of energy efficiency methodologies, assumptions, and values; and
- Facilitating a transparent process with timely workflows and maintaining a publicly accessible tracking system of TF recommendations.

Vision

A nationally respected source of standard energy efficiency savings estimates.

Mission

To support the growth and success of energy efficiency through independent and transparent peer review of California energy efficiency values

The Cal TF advances its mission by issuing technical information and documents as the TF deems necessary, including:

- Ex ante measure workpapers and savings estimates
- Guidelines, templates, and protocols to support statewide measure development and updates
- An easily accessible and searchable website that documents the values, underlying methodologies, and decision-making of the Cal TF

Guiding Principles

The Cal TF produces work that is:

- Technically reasonable and reliable as supported by consensus
- Transparent and well-documented
- Timely
- Statewide consistent
- Peer reviewed

The Cal TF accomplishes this through a process that is:

- Independent
- Cost-efficient
- Inclusive
- Fosters collaboration
- Reduces complexity
- Provides meaningful, independent, and expert peer review
- Includes opportunity for regional and national input

- Can serve as a national model for developing energy efficiency ex ante values