

# Residential HVAC Breakout Session

National Strategy to Promote  
Regionally-Optimized Equipment

# ENERGY STAR QI UPDATE

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Working Together, Advancing Efficiency

# Session Objectives

1. Learn about current efforts/drivers for regional optimization
2. Explore voluntary promotion strategies
3. Identify potential roles for CEE to be considered by the Board

# What is Regional Optimization?

- Presumes HVAC can be designed to address specific climate conditions
- Might also consider:
  - Housing stock
  - Peak demand
  - Energy prices
  - Other variables?

# Drivers & Barriers

## Drivers

- Regional minimum standards
- Desire to serve customers better
- Ambitious savings targets

## Barriers

- Definition of “regions”
- Cost to industry
- Enforcement/labeling
- Test procedure
- Data

# Regional Minimum Standards

- Authorized to **EXPLORE** maximum of 3 regions
- Regions must include contiguous states
- Finalized in 2011
- Effective in 2016

# Discussion Questions

- How might regional performance requirements be framed?
  - Variations in the stringency of SEER/EER—CEE Tiers
  - New performance metrics (Sensible Heat Ratio or EER@115F)
  - Identification of ideal system configurations (e.g. fan settings)
- What are options for organizing the U.S. & Canada into regions?
  - Variation within states like California and Texas
  - Hot/dry, Hot/humid, Base?
- Should improvements in the rating method be pursued? When?
  - SEER<sub>HD</sub> and SEER<sub>HH</sub>
- How might CEE and ENERGY STAR specifications evolve?
- What information is needed to promote optimized equipment?

# Scenarios for Action by CEE

1. Contractors Guide for selecting/setting equipment for each climate
2. Data Collection/Publication
3. Test Procedure Enhancements