

Senate Bill 1 (SB1) defines the solar incentive programs for California, and inverters must be listed on the SB1 compliant inverter list to be eligible for incentives in California. Senate Bill 1 encompasses two state-run programs, the California Solar Initiative and the New Solar Homes Partnership, as well as solar incentive programs administered by publicly owned utilities.

The California Solar Initiative (CSI) is for all market segments with the exception of new residential construction. The New Solar Homes Partnership (NSHP) is for the new residential construction market segment.

The process for adding inverters for California's solar electric incentive programs is as follows:

1. The manufacturer gets their product certified to UL 1741 by a NRTL whose OSHA scope includes UL 1741¹. CSA, Intertek, MET Laboratories, TÜV Rheinland of North America, TÜV SÜD America, and UL are the NRTLs who can currently perform this testing.

Private labeling of inverters: Some businesses wish to private label inverters for another manufacturer. Such products will be accepted as eligible should the application form be submitted with a Multiple Listee letter from the listing agency (the NRTL). The Multiple Listee process is how the listing agency certifies private-labeled products. The Multiple Listee letter is evidence of certification of the product to UL 1741.

2. The manufacturer gets their product tested for performance data (Maximum Continuous Output Power, Conversion Efficiency, and Tare Losses) and weighted inverter efficiency in accordance with "Performance Test Protocol for Evaluating Inverters Used in Grid-Connected Photovoltaic Systems" by a NRTL that can perform UL 1741 as listed above.²³
3. If not already completed, the manufacturer fills out the weighted inverter efficiency form, found here: http://gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/documents/CEC_Efficiency_Form.xls
4. The manufacturer fills out the Energy Commission equipment application form, found here: http://gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/documents/Equipment_Request.doc
5. Email a copy of the UL 1741 Certification Letter, Weighted Inverter Efficiency Form, and the Energy Commission equipment application form to [Bill Brooks](#).

The inverter eligibility list is updated monthly on the first of the month. The cut-off date for the monthly update is the 15th day of the preceding month; all documentation must be submitted before this date.

¹ For a list of NRTLs and to view NRTL OSHA scopes, visit <http://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl/>.

² Sandia test protocol is found here: http://www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/documents/2004-11-22_Test_Protocol.pdf

³ Sandia test guideline is found here:

http://www.gosolarcalifornia.org/equipment/documents/Sandia_Guideline_2005.pdf