Quarterly Technology Area Report (Q3 2026)



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Portfolio Information

A summary of the number of project submissions the program has received between July and September 2026 (Q3), and what project stage and technology area each submission represents can be found in Table 1 below. Also illustrated are the program cumulative totals in each category since the program began in May 2022. Please see the program **Technology Priority Maps** (TPMs) to learn more about the technology areas. During Q3, the team received 16 new project submissions.

Table 1: Project submission status summary by technology area.

Technology Areas	Q3 vs Cumulative (C)	Number of Projects at Project Stage					Projects Deferred *	Project Submissions
		Completed	Reporting	Implementation	Project Planning	Scanning & Screening		
Whole Building	Q3	1	3	2	0	0	1	1
	C	28	8	6	8	1	1	126
HVAC	Q3	0	4	3	1	0	1	5
	C	40	14	14	10	1	0	152
Water Heating	Q3	1	3	2	0	0	1	3
	C	19	7	13	7	0	1	82
Process Loads	Q3	2	2	2	0	0	2	4
	C	29	7	16	9	1	2	135
Lighting, Plug Loads & Appliances	Q3	1	1	2	2	0	0	3
	C	10	4	7	7	1	1	58
Portfolio Enhancement	Q3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
	C	0	3	5	4	2	0	19
Total	Q3	5	14	12	3	0	5	16
	C	126	43	61	45	6	8	572

* The “deferred” project classification means these projects will not move forward at this time but will be revisited in the next program year to reassess if they meet future program needs and priorities.

Figure 1 gives a breakdown of where this quarter's project submissions came from, classified by submitter type.

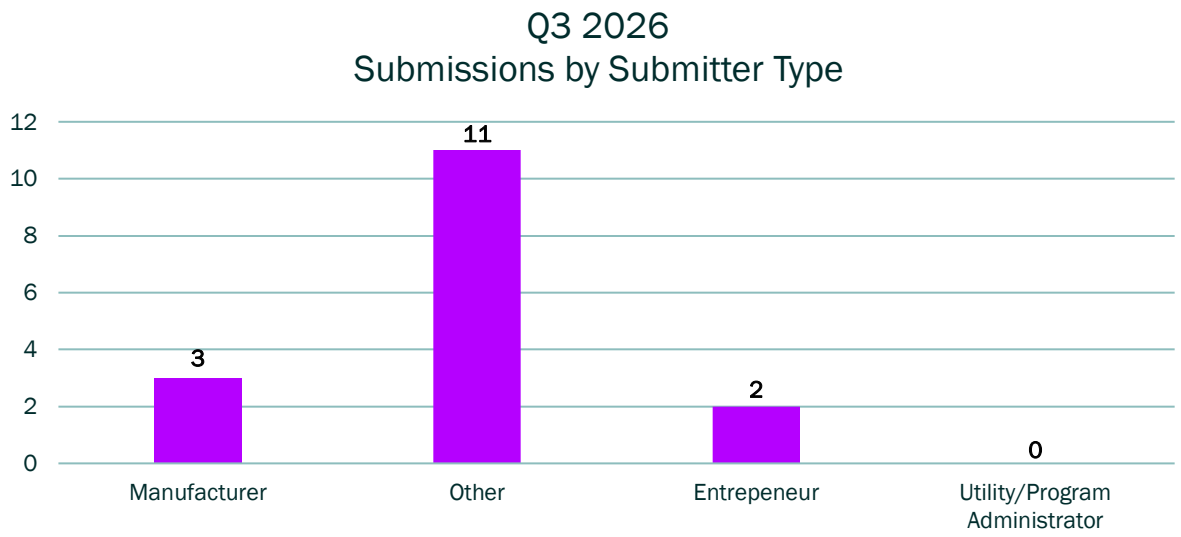


Figure 1: Program participant type.

A summary of the number of projects that were selected to move forward, organized by TPM technology area, can be found in Table 2. Included in this table are the count of projects for this quarter, broken out between technology development research (TDR) and technology support research (TSR) projects.[1]

Table 2: Submissions selected in Q3 by project type.

Technology Area	Count of Projects by Project Type	
	TDR	TSR
Whole Building	0	0
HVAC	0	1
Water Heating	0	0
Process Loads	0	0
Lighting, Plug Loads & Appliances	1	1
Portfolio Enhancement	0	0
Total	1	2

[1] Project type definitions can be found here.

Figure 2 displays a pipeline of projects that CalNEXT expects to be completed in each year of the program based on projects that have been selected for the program portfolio. This figure includes any projects that have been completed. As the figure shows, the program has completed 8 TSRs and 4 TDRs in 2026.

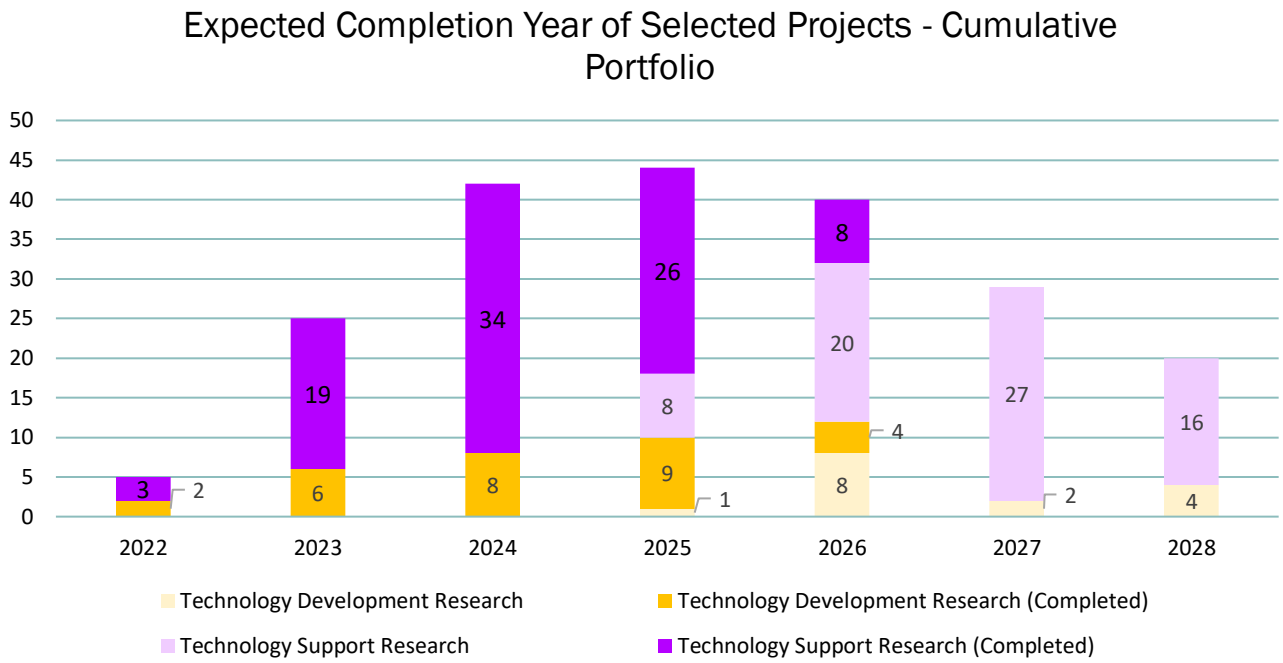


Figure 2: Selected project expected completion year.

Table 3 illustrates the results of the 2026 committed project goals. By the end of Q3, all of the approved projects are in the project planning stage.

Table 3: Results of 2026 committed project portfolio.

Research Type	2026 Target	Planned	Actualized	Percent Actualized
TDR	4	3	2	50%
TSR	32	34	10	31%
Focused Pilot	3	0	0	0%
Total	**39**	**37**	**12**	**31%**

*Projects are selected from both program partner and public submission.

Technology Area Information

Table 4 characterizes attributes associated with each of the selected projects from Q3. Attributes include TPM technology area and subcategory, and if the project is expected to have energy efficiency (EE) benefits, disadvantaged communities (DAC) and/or hard-to-reach (HTR) customer benefits, decarbonization (decarb) benefits, and/or load shifting.

Table 4: Q3 selected projects by TPM subcategory and attributes.

TPM	Submission Name	TPM Subcategory	EE Benefit	DAC/HTR Benefit	Decarb Benefit	Load Shifting
HVAC	Zoning Controls for Inverter ASHPs	Residential Air-to-Air HPs and Controls	X	X	X	-
Lighting, Plug Loads & Appliances	Advanced Exterior Lighting Field Evaluation	Advanced Electric Light Sources	X	X	-	-
	Test Procedure Refinement and Evaluation for Commercial HP Clothes Dryers	Decarb, Household Appliances	X	X	X	-

Table 5: TDR projects benefiting DAC and HTR customers.

Project Name	Status
Advanced Exterior Lighting Field Evaluation	In-Progress
Advanced Multifamily EV Load Management System	Completed
Aerosol Sealing of Existing Attics and Crawlspaces	Completed
Demonstrating PCM TESS in Multifamily Central Water Heating	In-Progress
Field Demonstration of Atmospheric Storage Central Heat Pump Water Heater	In-Progress
Hybrid Heat Pump and Indirect Evaporative Cooling Packaged Unit	Completed

Project Name	Status
Intelligent Occupant-dependent Lighting PPL Management	In-Progress
Market Potential for Heat Pump Assisted Hot Water Systems in Food Service Facilities	Completed
Mobile and Manufactured Housing Market Characterization Study	Completed
Residential Multi-Function Heat Pump: Laboratory Testing	Completed
Residential Multi-Function Heat Pumps: Heat Exchanger Improvement	Completed
Residential Multi-Function Heat Pumps: Project Search	Completed
Solar Assisted HVAC Market Study	Completed

Table 6: TSR Projects Benefiting DAC and HTR Customers

Project Name	Status
120V Induction Stoves with Battery Back-Up	Completed
AI-Optimized HVAC Controls Field Demonstration	In-Progress
All-Electric Commercial Kitchen Electrical Requirements Study	Completed
Application Study of Split System HPWHs in Mobile and Manufactured Homes	In-Progress
Comfort Impacts of Partial Coverage ASHPs	Completed
Commercial and MF CO2 based Heat Pump Water Heater Field Demonstration	Completed
Commercial Kitchen Hot Water System Design Guide	Completed
Compressed Air End-Use Air Management System	Completed
Double Duct Packaged Terminal Heat Pump Field Demonstration	In-Progress
Drop-In Rooftop VRF Retrofit	In-Progress
Edge Data Center Smart Retrofit	In-Progress
Emergency Replacement Heat Pump Water Heater Market Study	Completed

Project Name	Status
Enabling Meter Socket Adapter Programs	In-Progress
Enhanced Normalized Metered Energy Consumption Analysis with Rapid Interventions	Completed
HVAC Capacity Controller	Completed
HVAC Thermal Energy Storage System (TESS)	Completed
Increasing Heat Pump Water Heater Deployment	Completed
Industrial Heat Pump Opportunities for Food Processing	In-Progress
Integrated HVAC RTU Remote Monitoring Systems	Completed
Low-Income Multifamily Housing Characteristics Study	Completed
Lab Test of a Commercially Available Multi-Function Heat Pump	In-Progress
Market Characterization of Hot Water As a Service for Central HPWHs	In-Progress
Market Study of Household Electric Infrastructure Upgrade Alternatives for Electrification	Completed
Master Mixing Valve Field Study	Completed
Modeling Heat Pump Water Heater (HPWH) for comfort cooling (resubmission)	In-Progress
Multifamily In-Unit Heat Pumps	Completed
New Manufactured Home Quick Check	In-Progress
Optima Load Orchestration (Resubmission)	In-Progress
Overcoming Key Barriers to Electrification of Foodservice Hot Water in California	In-Progress
Packaged Central CO2 Heat Pump Water Heater Multifamily Demonstration	Completed
Packaged CHPWH with PCM Storage	In-Progress
Packaged Propane Refrigeration Pilot	In-Progress
RCx Measure Expansion to Zone Controls	In-Progress
Refrigeration Capacity Load Matching	Completed

Project Name	Status
Residential Housing Characteristics Study	Completed
Restaurant Field Monitoring	Completed
Return-to-primary Central HPWH System Field Demonstration	In-Progress
Savings Profile for Residential Ductless Heat Pump (Mini Split) Cleaning Measure	In-Progress
Smart Controls for Data-Driven Indoor Agriculture Field Evaluation	Completed
Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) Refrigerant Management Market Assessment	Completed
Wastewater Treatment SB1383 Compliance Characterization	Completed

Table 5 and 6 above include the projects from the program lifetime, broken down between TDR and TSR, that have been identified as benefiting DAC and HTR customers.

The goal of publishing this report is to provide transparency into the CalNEXT portfolio and summarize the program's key focus areas. Future quarterly reports will be updated to show the progress being made from quarter to quarter. Updates to TPMs or the program priorities and future requests for information will be published on the **CalNEXT website**.