

Title 24 and Zoning

The California Energy Commission since 2014 has required that almost all of the conditioned air from residential HVAC systems be delivered back into the home. Additionally, to help maintain the comfort set points in two-story or very large homes, it is common to add zoning to the system and provide additional thermostats to control each zone. How is this accomplished?

Using Range Stop Settings

A common design methodology is to use range stops that deliver conditioned air to a zone that is turned off (not calling for air) by not fully closing the zone dampers. When this design methodology is used, excess air flows through to areas of the home that are already at the comfort set point. The majority of the airflow is still directed to the part of the home that needs heating or cooling while allowing some air to go to zones that are not calling. The airflow to zones that are not calling should not significantly change the comfort level and temperatures in most homes. You may feel some conditioned air coming through the registers in those zones that are not calling for heat or cool. This is normal operation and should be expected.