Residential PACE: Data Validation Tool
County of Los Angeles, Office of Sustainability

What?
Residential Property Assessed Clean Energy, or PACE, is a financing program which enables homeowners to install energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water-saving improvements. Los Angeles County launched its Residential PACE program in May of 2015.

Why?
Building stock contributes a significant portion of urban greenhouse gas emissions. Buildings account for 39% of U.S. GHG emissions, and 50% of those in the City of Los Angeles. PACE provides an effective method to achieve building stock emission reductions.

The Service Project
As a program sponsor, the County feels responsible to provide homeowners with a degree of protection by verifying that each project is reasonably priced and will indeed achieve water and energy savings. To provide this quality assurance, the Office of Sustainability tasked CivicSpark member Maya Bruguera with creating an automated PACE application data validation Excel tool. This tool enables users input project parameters (address, project cost, water and energy measures, etc.) and then checks project parameters against County standards. The tool instructs staff to approve the top 85% of projects and flags the bottom 15% for manager review. This review process enables staff to quickly evaluate projects and enhances homeowner protection and the quality of approved projects.

Common PACE Measures
- Lighting
- Water Pumps
- Roof
- Motors
- Solar Panels
- Insulation

Results to date
- 57.1 thousand tons of CO2e abated
- 192.7 billion kWh saved
- 96.2 billion gallons saved
- 11,477 applications received
- 6,202 applications approved
- 1,965 projects completed
- $34.3 million in projects completed

Maya Bruguera
Maya came to CivicSpark as a fresh graduate of UCLA, where she indulged her passions for scientific inquiry, problem solving, and environmentalism, in her beloved major of Environmental Science. She joined CivicSpark in hopes of helping her community of Los Angeles work toward becoming a healthy, livable, and sustainable urban area.