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Office of
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Building Technologies Office

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RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH



Energy Secretary Granholm Visits ORNL's ABC Retrofit Project Team

On October 24, Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon, and residents of Knoxville Community Development Corporation's Western Heights community visited with Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) staff to learn about the lab's plans for their BTO-funded [Advanced Building Construction](#) (ABC) Phase 2 retrofit project. As part of the presentation, ORNL's Diana Hun gave a live demo of the [Real-Time Evaluator tool](#) that will be used to perform rapid measurement of the home facades to optimize prefab panel installation.

The project will include an easy-to-install panel design and state-of-the-art integration with HVAC equipment and controls on 12 single-family attached duplexes that are part of the Western Heights affordable housing development, as well as a local Boys and Girls Club. The project is expected to reduce residents' energy bills by as much as 75%.

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New Home Energy Score Milestone & Study

The Home Energy Score™ (HES) tool has generated more than 200,000 Scores since its inception 10 years ago. Like a miles-per-gallon rating for vehicles, HES compares energy use across the housing market using a scale of 1-10 (10 the most efficient) and provides recommendations for cost-effective energy-efficiency improvements. In its first year, the tool generated 1,500 Scores. In 2021, the number of annual Scores produced grew to 22,000. Learn more at <https://betterbuildingsolutioncenter.energy.gov/home-energy-score>.

A new [study](#) from DOE's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found HES positively linked to sale price and loan performance in cities with HES listing policies. Read a summary of the findings, based on data from more than 25,000 homes with an HES assessment, [here](#).



[Quiz](#)

**JOIN THE
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RESIDENTIAL
NETWORK**

Upcoming [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls](#)

Thursday, January 12

[Public Roundtable -- The Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\): Residential Energy Rebates and Contractor Training Programs](#)

Thursday, January 26

[Right-Sizing Equipment vs. Wrong-Sizing -- How Not to Waste Energy](#)

Thursday, February 9

[New DOE-Funded Research Looks at Homeowner Motivations and Barriers to](#)

Housing Innovation Award & Zero Energy Design Designation Award Winners

On September 20 at the Energy & Environmental Building Alliance (EEBA) High Performance Home Building Summit, DOE announced the 2022 Housing Innovation Award winners, the highest honor builders can receive for constructing Zero Energy Ready Homes. These high-performance homes are so energy efficient—often 40 to 50% more efficient than typical new homes—that they can offset most or all the energy they consume with a renewable energy system. View the full list of winners [here](#).

Also, the Building Technologies Office (BTO) awarded its first-ever Zero Energy Design Designation (ZEDD) to 17 leading educational programs of study at 12 institutions around the world. DOE's [ZEDD program](#) distinguishes post-secondary academic programs that teach best practices of zero energy design and require students to apply those concepts in zero energy design projects. View the full list of awardees [here](#).



EPA's New ENERGY STAR® Specifications for Windows, Doors, and Skylights Made Possible through DOE Investments and Analyses

Recently, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR® program released its final specification (Version 7.0) for residential windows, doors, and skylights that establish higher energy-efficiency benchmarks for products to earn EPA's coveted ENERGY STAR certification. The [new Version 7.0 performance specifications](#) were many years in the making and built upon research and development from BTO's Emerging Technologies and Residential Buildings Integration programs and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

For years, BTO has pursued the long sought-after goal of achieving market-viable triple-pane performance, which will be a key design feature of many windows meeting the Version 7.0 criteria. Read the full press release [here](#).

[Electrify](#)

Thursday,
February 23
[The Deep Retrofit Warranty -- A Game Changer?](#)

Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries – which contain speaker PowerPoint presentations, including the most recent ones noted below, can be found at the [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Summary webpage](#):

Thursday,
November 10
[Electric Vehicles and Residential Energy Efficiency: Preparing for the Historical Increase](#)

Thursday, October 27
[2-in-1: What Is the Potential for an Integrated Furnace & Water Heater?](#)

State and Tribal Home Energy Rebate Program Allocations Announced

DOE announced nearly \$9 billion will be available to states and tribes from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for consumer home energy rebate programs, enabling communities to make homes more energy efficient, upgrade to electric appliances, decrease dependence on fossil fuels and save households up to \$1 billion annually. IRA programs will include the installation of clean energy equipment like heat pumps and cut greenhouse gas emissions at least in half by the end of the decade. Read the full press release [here](#).

Partner Recognition

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) welcomes its newest members: [The Northwest Energy Efficiency Council](#), [Balance Point Home Performance](#), and [AZ Energy Efficient Home](#).

If your organization is not yet a member, click here to [join](#).

Resource Toolbox



- [Home Energy Score for State and Local Governments Webinar](#), U.S. Department of Energy
- [State and Local Planning for Energy Platform](#), U.S. Department of Energy
- [Home Improvement Expert](#), U.S. Department of Energy
- [Resource Guide for Multifamily Very High-Efficiency Heat Pumps](#), International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Energy

Share the Residential Energy Dispatch Newsletter

Thursday, October 13

[How to Find DOE Funding for Residential Energy Efficiency](#)

Thursday, September 22
[Ups and Downs in Energy Markets: How Do Market Fluctuations and Uncertainties Affect Residential Efficiency Investments](#)

Thursday, September 8
[Insulation Update -- Carbon, Hemp, Health and Air Sealing Advances](#)

Quick Quiz

What accounts for the most energy use in American homes? (Answer at bottom.)

- A. Heating and cooling
- B. Water heating
- C. Electronics and Lighting
- D. Appliances



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Quiz Answer: A) The correct answer is [heating and cooling](#)

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