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Office of  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY &  
RENEWABLE ENERGY

## Building Technologies Office

March 2024

# RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

## Energy Skilled Recognized Programs Prepare People for Decarbonization Jobs

Look for credentials and training programs recognized as [Energy Skilled](#) by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to ensure they include knowledge and skills to support residential electrification and energy efficiency. Energy Skilled recognitions currently cover critical job scopes such as heat pump installation, heat pump water heater installation, and energy audits. Key building envelope jobs will be added this year. Learn more and see who's already recognized [here](#).



## DOE Releases Zero Energy Ready Home (ZERH) Multifamily Version 2

[ZERH Multifamily Version 2](#) expands eligibility for certification while also increasing energy efficiency and performance levels, adding electric readiness,

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[ZERH Multifamily Version 2 Released](#)

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and making compliance pathways and the certification process more consistent with the ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (ESMFNC) program. See [here](#) for information about 45L tax credits and how they apply to ZERH.



## RBI Team at the 2024 National Home Performance Conference

The [2024 National Home Performance Conference](#) will take place April 8-11, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Residential Building Integration (RBI) team will participate in seven sessions focused on:

- Building America
- Home Energy Score
- Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- RBI Team Update
- Workforce

... and more! Don't miss a session - register for the conference today.



## DOE Recognizes ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Water Heater Manufacturer Action Council (ESMAC) Training for TREC Applicants

As part of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the [Training for Residential Energy Contractors \(TREC\)](#) program will provide states with the ability to develop and

**JOIN THE BETTER  
BUILDINGS RESIDENTIAL  
NETWORK**

## Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

Thursday, March 28, 2024  
[How Does Energy Efficiency Relate to Housing Affordability for Americans?](#)

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
No call on this date due to National Home Performance Conference

Thursday, April 25, 2024  
To be announced

Thursday, May 9, 2024  
To be announced

## Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries, which contain speaker PowerPoint presentations, can be found on the [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Summaries](#) webpage:

Thursday, December 14, 2023  
[The Potential of Whole-Home Lighting Systems and Low-Voltage Homes](#)

Thursday, January 11, 2024  
[Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and](#)

implement a state workforce energy program that prepares workers to deliver energy efficiency, electrification, and clean energy improvements, including those covered under the Home Efficiency Rebates and the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates sections. The heat pump water heater (HPWH) recognized program list recently grew to include the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR Heat Pump Water Heater Manufacturer Action Council (ESMAC), which includes all residential HPWH manufacturers. Learn more on the [State-Based Home Energy Efficiency Contractor Training Grants](#) webpage.



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## Partner Recognition

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) welcomes its newest members: [Colquitt Electric Membership Corporation](#), [Leven](#), and the [New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection](#).

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

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## Resource Toolbox



- [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Lessons Learned](#), U.S. DOE
  - Summary presentations from all previous Peer Exchange Calls.
- [Better Buildings Residential Program Guide](#), U.S. DOE

## [Residential Energy Efficiency, The Current Snapshot](#)

Thursday, January 25, 2024

[The Age of Workforce Challenges - How is Residential Efficiency Responding?](#)

Thursday, February 8, 2024

[How is Artificial Intelligence's Use and Rapid Growth Impacting Energy Efficiency?](#)

Thursday, February 22, 2024

[How to Encourage Households to Prioritize Energy Efficiency Given Competing Demands](#)

Thursday, March 14, 2024

[The Solar - Energy Efficiency Nexus Update](#)

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## Quick Quiz

True or false? Only "green" manufacturers prioritize energy efficiency. (Answer at bottom.)

- A repository of lessons learned, resources, and knowledge from program administrators and industry experts across the country.
- [Challenges and Opportunities for Home Decarbonization](#), Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
  - A report that outlines new and innovative strategies needed to achieve substantial carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) reductions in the U.S. housing stock.
- [Market Guidance Report: Accelerating Residential Building Decarbonization](#), U.S. DOE RBI Advanced Building Construction
  - A foundational report providing essential technical insights and cost guidance for scalable zero-carbon-aligned (ZCA) new construction methods and retrofit solutions across various U.S. climate regions.
- [Research Opportunities Report](#), U.S. DOE RBI Advanced Building Construction
  - A report that charts a path forward for a prioritized set of innovations that support the industrialization of low-carbon retrofits and new construction.
- [Smart Tools for Efficiency HVAC Performance \(STEP\) Campaign](#), U.S. DOE and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
  - A campaign that encourages and supports the use of smart diagnostic tools that allow residential HVAC technicians to efficiently install and commission new HVAC systems and identify and troubleshoot energy-wasting faults in existing systems.
- [Storm Window and Insulating Panel \(SWIP\) Campaign](#), U.S. DOE and PNNL
  - A collaborative initiative to accelerate that adoption of modern, high-performance storm windows and insulating window panels that other energy-efficient window attachments.

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each issue. To subscribe, click [here](#) or email the Better Buildings Residential Network at [bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov).

Quiz answer: [False](#). In today's modern industry, every company focuses on saving energy and resources, improving sustainability, and decarbonizing their industries, not only because their customers and the public demand it but also because these actions strengthen their resiliency and workforce, increase their competitiveness, and reduce their costs.

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