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Building Technologies Office

# RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

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**NOVEMBER 2024**

## **2024 Housing Innovation Award Winners**

Congratulations to the 24 award-winning projects and 6 grand award winners of the 2024 Housing Innovation Awards. Builders from across the country were recognized for their award-winning projects providing healthier, more durable, and efficient homes across the country.



[Check Out the Winners](#)

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**2024 DOE Building Technologies Office Peer Review**

This year's Peer Review showcased active research and projects that support BTO missions and goals of producing high-performing and energy-efficient residential and commercial buildings. Our sessions explored the effectiveness of current projects, identified designs for future collaborations, and facilitated industry networking opportunities.

[Discover Peer Review Content](#)

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### Deputy Asst. Secretary for Building & Industry Speaks at Beazer Homes Event



Deputy Assistant Secretary for Buildings & Industry (DAS B&I), Carolyn Snyder, attended a media and stakeholder event and tour on October 29, 2024, hosted by Beazer Homes. Beazer Homes is the first national production builder to commit achieving Zero Energy Ready Homes certification on all homes across all divisions by 2025.

[Learn More About ZERH](#)

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### New! ABC Initiative Technical Assistance Success Stories

The Advanced Building Construction (ABC) Initiative integrates energy efficiency and advanced technology solutions into industrialized construction processes to drastically increase the speed and scale of high-performance, low-carbon building retrofits and new construction.



[Check out](#) two new ABC Technical Assistance success stories highlighting how ABC helped modular home manufacturers optimize factory operations and train their workforce.

[Read the Success Stories](#)

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### **NREL Coauthors U.S. Department of Energy Blueprint To Decarbonize Buildings Sector**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has released a blueprint to aggressively reduce buildings sector greenhouse gas emissions while delivering equity, affordability, and resilience benefits to communities.

[Read More](#)

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### **Oregon Uses EECBG to Expand Home Energy Score™ in Ashland, Multnomah County**



The Oregon Department of Energy will use \$50,000 from the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program to help the city of Ashland, Oregon, create a subsidized [Home Energy Score™](#) program. Ashland's program will focus on a [Justice40](#) zone with 1,900 occupants — or nearly 10% of the city's population. An estimated 100% of the funds will benefit J40 communities.

**Multnomah County, the most populated county in Oregon, will also use EECBG funding—almost \$100,000—to support Home Energy Scores and efficiency upgrades for Justice40 communities.**

[Read More](#)

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## Report Outlines Benefits of Home Energy Score™ Policies for Renters

A new report by Earth Advantage, “[Mending the Split: Pathways for Home Energy Score Disclosure for Rental Housing in Oregon](#),” outlines how renters could benefit from [Home Energy Score™](#) disclosure policies and provides local governments with recommendations for how to provide these benefits.

Check out the press release and full paper which includes recommendations for cities interested in expanding their Home Energy Score policy.

[Read the Full Article](#)

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## Webinar: Learn How Energy Skilled™ and ENERGY STAR Work Together



The DOE’s Energy Skilled™ program and ENERGY STAR are collaborating to bring together the leading efficiency technologies and the workforce to deliver them to consumers.

Join us to discover the importance of the right workforce skills for optimized performance in heat pump systems.

**Wednesday, December 4, 2024**

**11 a.m. - noon EST**

[Register Now](#)

## Building America

### Spotlight: Building America Team Working to Solve Cold Climate Heat Pumps' Efficiency Challenges

The [Building America Retrofit Solutions team](#) led by the [Syracuse Center of Excellence in Environmental & Energy Systems](#) is working to solve barriers to cold climate heat pump retrofits. This multidisciplinary team is engaging local homeowners and minority-owned contractor businesses through a field demonstration



project for affordable, high-efficiency heat pump installations in single-family homes within disadvantaged New York communities. Syracuse is one of nine teams selected in 2023 to address technical challenges to retrofitting homes through a portfolio of field validation projects.

[Learn More About this Project](#)

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### **New Report! Noninvasive Insulating and Air-Sealing for Enclosed Roof Cavities**

Enclosed roof cavities (such as cathedral ceilings, flat roofs, and dormer roofs) are often uninsulated or under-insulated. Building America funded a project to explore a new minimally invasive technology for reducing the cost, time, and disruption of retrofitting enclosed roof cavities with proper insulation and air sealing. The latest Building America technical report covers Pinhole Insulation®, which uses specially designed equipment to reduce risk and damage.

Find more construction tips and news in the [Building America Solution Center](#)—a trusted source for residential building science from the nation’s leading experts.

[Read the Full Report](#)

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### **Transfer of RED Calc to Department of Energy**



The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and Building Technologies Office (BTO) collaboratively procured the Residential Energy Dynamics (RED) Calc Free and RED Calc Pro web application software tools. RED Calc Tools are used daily by home performance analysts; WAP energy auditors, inspectors, and monitors; HERS raters; design professionals; building inspectors; engineers; and building science researchers and are now completely free on the Building America Solution Center.

[Read the Memorandum](#)

## Better Building Residential Network

### Partner Recognition

The Better Buildings Residential Network welcomes its newest member: [Spark Building Energy Solutions LLC](#)

Interested in becoming a member?

[Join The Residential Network](#)

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### Upcoming Peer Exchange Calls

**November 14, 2024**

**1-2:30 p.m. ET**

[Water Heaters That Shift Load, Combine with Heat Pumps, and More](#)

**December 12, 2024**

**1-2:30 p.m. ET**

[New DOE Tools to Help Qualify for Thousands in Tax Credits from the Inflation Reduction Act](#)

**January 9, 2025**

**1-2:30 p.m. ET**

[Known Unknowns: Key Energy Efficiency Trends in the New Year](#)

**Missed a call or want to review a speaker presentation?** All summaries for past calls can be found on our [Peer Exchange Call Summary webpage](#).

[Subscribe for the Latest Updates](#)

**Questions or concerns?** [Email Us](#)

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### Resource Toolbox

[Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Lessons Learned](#), U.S DOE; slides from all previous peer exchange calls.

[Building America Solution Center](#), U.S. DOE; information on hundreds of high-performance construction topics.



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