

Stepping Up From the HERS Index to ENERGY STAR

RESNET Building Performance Conference

February 16th, 2015





Introduction





Value vs Cost



OR







Value vs Cost







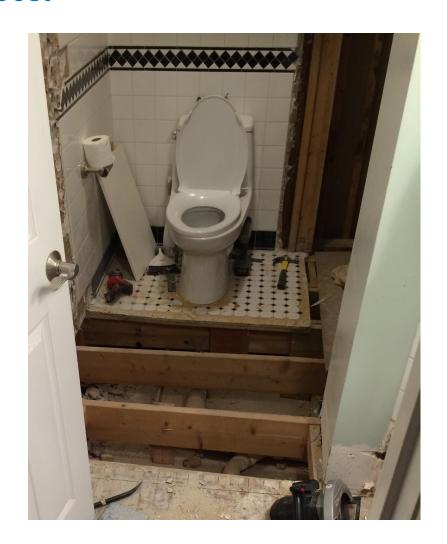




Value vs Cost

REVISION 08

OR







Value vs Cost of ENERGY STAR

- It takes more for a home to be ENERGY STAR certified than to complete a standard HERS rating, but the key questions are:
 - How much value does it add?
 - How much more does it cost?





Agenda

- The value of ENERGY STAR.
 - Five areas of added value relative to a HERS rating.
- The cost of ENERGY STAR.
 - Preview of Revision 08!
 - Stepping up from a HERS rating at:
 - 1. Plan review.
 - 2. Pre-drywall inspection.
 - 3. Final inspection.







1. Branding.







Every single day, consumers choose ENERGY STAR products more than









1. Branding.

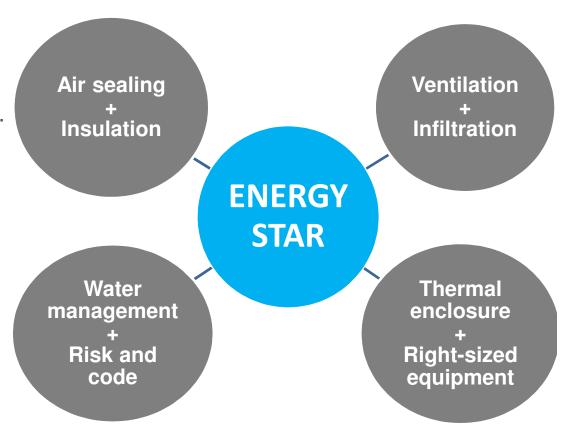






1. Branding.

2. Systems based approach.







- 1. Branding.
- 2. Systems based approach.
- 3. Preparing for 2012 & 2015 IECC.





- 1. Branding.
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- 3. Preparing for 2012 & 2015 IECC.
- 4. Cost controls.









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- 5. Risk mitigation.







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The Cost of ENERGY STAR





The Cost of ENERGY STAR

- How much does it really cost?
 - It depends...
 - .. but it may not be as much as you think.
 - EPA's most recent estimate is ~\$2,000-2,500 for a typical home..
 - .. but most of that cost is for measures to hit the HERS index target





The Cost of ENERGY STAR

- The average HERS Index of rated homes in 2013 was 64.
- This is the same ballpark as the ENERGY STAR HERS index target.





Audience Poll

- What is the average HERS Index of homes you rated in the last year?
 - 60 or below
 - 61 to 65
 - 66 to 70
 - Above 70
 - I'm not sure, or I didn't rate any homes





REVISION 08





We're doing well. We're planning to do even better...

- Based on partner feedback, we want to address the following concerns:
 - Too much paperwork
 - Challenging workflow
 - Discomfort regarding Rater oversight of HVAC requirements





Guiding Principles for Revision 08

- 1. Keep, but streamline, the requirements that provide the most value.
- 2. Eliminate requirements that create the most hassle, and provide the least value.
- 3. Better align the process for ENERGY STAR with a HERS rating.





Preview of Revision 08: Greatly reduced paperwork

- Raters will no longer collect water management system checklist.
- Raters will no longer collect full load calculations, an AHRI certificate, or a test & balance report.
- Raters will no longer collect the HVAC system commissioning checklist.
- Raters will only collect a single HVAC design report per system design.
- Thermal Enclosure System and HVAC System Rater checklists will be consolidated into:
 - A half-page Rater Plan Review Checklist
 - A single-page Rater Field Inspection Checklist





Preview of Revision 08: Greatly improved workflow

- Old HVAC System QI Contractor Checklist split into two parts:
 - HVAC Design Report goes from designer to Rater once per system design, earlier in the process.
 - HVAC System Commissioning Checklist held by contractor; no longer collected by Rater.
- Rater Plan Review Checklist completed once per plan/system design, typically at same time as HERS modeling is completed.
- Rater Field Checklist has fewer items at final inspection, reducing uncertainty.





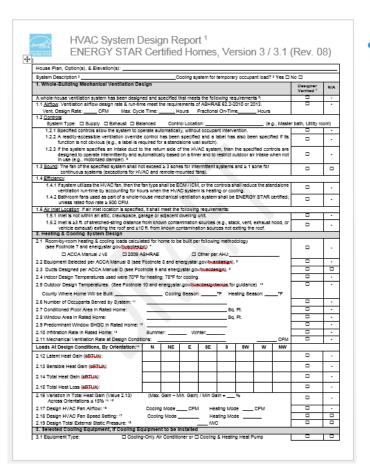
Preview of Revision 08: Reduced HVAC oversight role for Raters, for time-being

- No document collection from installing contractor.
- No more math check on refrigerant charge.
- No more collection or verification of Test & Balance report.
- No more basic system controls check.
- Streamlined visual inspections for ventilation inlets and exhaust ducts.
- Raters will continue to measure static pressure, but will no longer check against contractor readings.
- Sound limits for intermittent exhaust fans recommended, but not required.





Preview of Revision 08: Summary



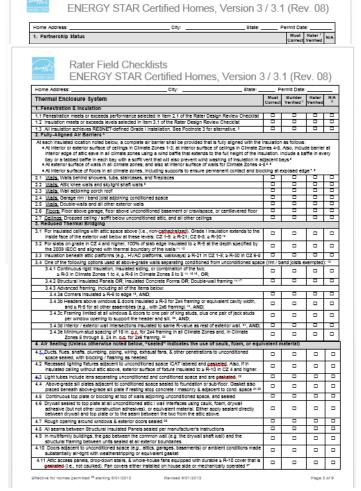
HVAC System Design Report

- Completed by HVAC designer.
- Collected by Rater once per system design.
- Like a HERS model, once its created, can be used again and again.





Preview of Revision 08: Summary



Rater Plan Review Checklist

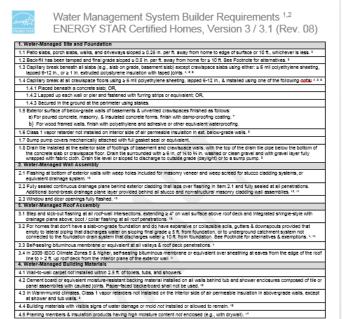
Rater Plan Review Checklist

- ½ page.
- Contains checks on partnership/credential status, insulation, fenestration, and HVAC design.
- Completed by Rater once per plan / system design.
- Rater Field Inspection Checklist
 - 1-page, front and back.
 - Contains elements from old Thermal Enclosure
 System and HVAC System Rater Checklists.
 - Completed by Rater on every home.



Preview of Revision 08: Summary





HVAC System Commissioning Checklist

- Completed / maintained by HVAC installing contractor .
- Not collected by Rater.

Water Management System Builder Requirements

- No per-home documentation required to be completed by builder.
- Not collected by Rater.





Preview of Revision 08: Timeline

- Additional informal vetting with partners over next month.
- Expected release in May-June, 2015.
- Can be used immediately once released.





Key Takeaways for Revision 08

For Raters:

- Reduces all paperwork collection to a one-page report per plan.
- Greatly improves predictability at final inspection.
- Easier than ever to include ENERGY STAR certification in your offerings.

For Builders:

- Estimated to reduce costs by ~\$275 from Revision 07.
- Less hassle-factor for them and their trades.
- Continues to help improve performance and reduce cost of HVAC system.





HERS Ratings & ENERGY STAR

- 1. Phase 1: Plan Review
- 2. Phase 2: Pre-drywall Inspection
- 3. Phase 3: Final Inspection











Phase 1: Plan Review

Measure	Cost
Credentialed HVAC Contractor	\$25

ACCA QA



Advanced Energy QAP







Phase 1: Plan Review

Measure	Cost
Credentialed HVAC Contractor	\$25
Mechanical ventilation	\$100 - 375





Phase 1: Plan Review

Measure	Cost
Credentialed HVAC Contractor	\$25
Mechanical ventilation	\$100 - 375
Reduction in cooling system size	(\$275 - 325)







Phase 1: Plan Review

Measure	Cost
Credentialed HVAC Contractor	\$25
Mechanical ventilation	\$100 - 375
Reduction in cooling system size	(\$275 - 325)
Collection of HVAC System Design Report & completion of Rater Plan Review Checklist	\$50 \$25

Rev 08 Preview:

- Only document to collect is HVAC System Design Report.
- ½ page Rater Plan Review Checklist can be completed at design.
- Both only need to be done once per system design / plan.





Phase 1: Plan Review

 Raters verify key inputs of the load calculation to reduce improperlysized equipment and comfort complaints.



Almost complete overlap in inputs!





Phase 1: Plan Review

Measure	Cost
Credentialed HVAC Contractor	\$25
Mechanical ventilation	\$100 - 375
Reduction in cooling system size	(\$275 - 325)
Collection of HVAC System Design Report & completion of Rater Plan Review Checklist	\$25
Total	\$175 savings up to \$150 cost





Phase 2: Pre-Drywall Inspection

Measure	Cost
Reduced thermal bridging	(\$125 - 175)











Phase 2: Pre-Drywall Inspection

Measure	Cost
Reduced thermal bridging	(\$125 - 175)
Completion of Thermal Enclosure System Section of Rater Field Checklist	\$75







Phase 2: Pre-Drywall Inspection

Measure	Cost
Reduced thermal bridging	(\$125 - 175)
Completion of Thermal Enclosure System Section of Rater Field Checklist	\$75
Total	(\$50 – 100)





Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0









Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25

Rev 08 Preview:

• Simply measure and move on.







Phase 3: Final Inspection

Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25
Refrigerant charge test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25



Rev 08 Preview:

 No Rater math check of refrigerant charge





Phase 3: Final Inspection

Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25
Refrigerant charge test (contractor verification)	\$25
Room-by-room airflow testing	\$190 \$0
Filling out the contractor checklist with collected information	\$25

Rev 08 Preview:

 Test & balance recommended, but not required





Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25
Refrigerant charge test (contractor verification)	\$25
Filling out the contractor checklist with collected information	\$25
Verification of register location	\$15 \$0
HVAC control verification (i.e., heating, cooling, and fan mode)	\$5 \$0
Bedroom pressure balancing features & verification	\$200
Verification of ventilation system, exhaust fans, & filter	\$50
Sound check for intermittent bath exhaust fans	\$5 \$0



Rev 08 Preview:

• Streamlined HVAC verification tasks



Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25
Refrigerant charge test (contractor verification)	\$25
Filling out the contractor checklist with collected information	\$25
Bedroom pressure balancing features & verification	\$200
Verification of ventilation system, exhaust fans, & filter	\$50
Completion and collection of Water Management System checklist	\$25 \$0

Rev 08 Preview:

 Water Management System requirements maintained, but paperwork eliminated





Measure	Cost
Duct blaster	\$0
Blower door	\$0
Static pressure test (contractor & Rater verification)	\$25
Refrigerant charge test (contractor verification)	\$25
Filling out the contractor checklist with collected information	\$25
Bedroom pressure balancing features & verification	\$200
Verification of ventilation system, exhaust fans, & filter	\$50
Total	\$325





Summary

Measure	Cost
Phase 1: Plan Review	(\$175) - \$150
Phase 2: Pre-Drywall	(\$50 – 100)
Phase 3: Final	\$325
Total	\$50 - 425





Summary

Task Removed in Revision 08	Cost
Collecting Manual J/S	Priceless
Collecting AHRI Certificates	Priceless
Collecting Test & Balance Report	Priceless
Comparing/Counting Registers	Priceless
Airflow Measurements at All Registers	Priceless
Performing Refrigerant Charge Math	Priceless
Collecting Commissioning Reports	Priceless
Collecting Water Management System Checklist	\$25





Summary

Value

- 1. Branding
- 2. Systems-based approach
- 3. Code preparation
- 4. Cost controls
- 5. Risk mitigation

Costs

~ \$50-425





ENERGY STAR Certified Homes

Web:

Main: www.energystar.gov/newhomespartners

Technical: www.energystar.gov/newhomesguidelines

Training: www.energystar.gov/newhomestraining www.energystar.gov/newhomesHVAC

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