



Energy Program

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

RESNET Providership

Offering efficiency service for 40+ years and oversight of NW home energy raters since 2005 who support of a number home efficiency certification programs, including:

- RESNET HERS Score
- US EPA ENERGY STAR
- 45L federal tax credit
- US EPA Indoor airPLUS
- Energy Trust or Oregon's EPS
- LEED
- Built Green
- US DOE Zero Energy Ready
- NGBS
- LEED for Homes
- Performance testing for energy code compliance and builder consulting

Independent home energy efficiency certifications add credible validation to builders' efficiency claims, which is important to prospective buyers because it assures them that their new home will:

- Cost less to operate due to lower utility bills, so they can afford a larger mortgage
- Be eligible for incentives from utilities and other organizations
- Be more comfortable with fewer drafts and hot and cold spots
- Last longer due to lack of moisture issues in building materials, protecting their investment
- Healthier indoor air quality due to controlled ventilation and lack of duct or envelope leaks
- Result in fewer call-back to builder due to comfort, performance, of deterioration issues
- Be more capable of achieving a net zero energy status due to lower electrical loads
- Be eligible for lower financing costs
- Make them feel they're doing their part to protect the environment with a green home

These certifications may also qualify them for utility incentives and a federal home efficiency tax credit, which recently refunded for homes permitted between 2018 and 2020, offers builders \$2,000 per home or low-rise apartment building that demonstrated a 50% energy savings compared with a 2006 home built to code.

WSU building science staff support raters by:

- Reviewing all raters' home efficiency modeling and documentation and perform more rigorous file and field quality assurance reviews on a fraction of all their rated homes
- Answer raters' questions on modeling, performance testing, building science, and programs
- Publish NW Rater News with information on rating tips, rating requirements, and events
- On-line and on-site trainings, including a 5-day new rater training
- Track rater credentials (professional development and equipment recalibration) to ensure that all our raters and their equipment are fully capable of providing reliable ratings

Key Contacts:

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