



RESIDENTIAL NETWORK

Network View Newsletter

News From the Field

New Members' Lessons Learned Greatest Hits

Kick off the year with a new set of Peer Exchange Call lessons learned greatest hits from Residential Network members. The ninth [Lessons Learned: Peer Exchange Calls](#) features key takeaways from calls held during summer 2016. Below is one of those takeaways:



- Avoid untargeted, one-size-fits-all program offerings for your contractor network. The [Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance](#) (MEEA) offers its contractors a wide range of resources, from equipment rental to a building science hotline, to ensure that its program is relevant to the differing business needs of contractors.

Review the other [lessons learned](#) and check out [the full summaries](#) from featured Peer Exchange Calls.

Portland Scores With New Home Energy Policy

In December 2016 the city council of Portland, Oregon, unanimously approved a new [policy](#) requiring single-family homes in the city to obtain a home energy performance report, including a Home Energy Score, prior to listing a home for sale. The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) [Home Energy Score](#) provides homeowners with valuable information about their home's energy performance while also recommending improvement projects that can save energy and lower utility bills.



Residential Network member Enhabit shared the news on its [blog](#).

January 2017

In This Issue

- [New Members' Lessons Learned Fact Sheet](#)
- [Portland Scores With New Home Energy Policy](#)
- [New DOE Connected Thermostat Report](#)
- [FTC Launches Smart Home Challenge](#)
- [See You at HPC Northwest](#)
- [Minneapolis Member Scores Big Energy Savings](#)
- [Network Welcomes New Members](#)
- [New Year, New Resources](#)
- [Residential Program Solution Center Spotlight](#)

JOIN »

DOE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES »

Peer Exchange Calls—Register Below

All are invited to take part in these topical calls that serve as a forum to ask questions and engage peers. Register below:

January 19

State of the Union: Best Practices from 'Most Improved' Energy Efficient States in 2016

1:00–2:30 PM ET

[Register now](#)

January 26

“We know from our work with thousands of customers over the years that providing details about energy performance empowers homeowners with a tangible value for energy efficiency,” Enhabit CEO Tim Miller said. “That value translates into immediate benefits for home comfort, efficiency and health—and recurring benefits for their communities.”

New DOE Connected Thermostat Report

DOE published a report in December 2016 that provides a summary of the latest thermostat technology. [Overview of Existing and Future Residential Use Cases for Connected Thermostats](#) shows the growth of internet-enabled, programmable or connected thermostats, and the opportunities they provide for residential energy efficiency.



As more homes install connected thermostats, this presents opportunities to enable a range of advanced residential energy efficiency functions, such as remote energy assessments; basic and advanced HVAC system feedback for homeowners; continuous optimization of HVAC system operation; real-time measurement and verification of energy efficiency upgrades; and the development of an integrated platform for customer engagement, home energy management, and grid services. Read the [full report](#).

Federal Trade Commission Launches Smart Home Challenge

The Federal Trade Commission announced a challenge to the public to [create an innovative tool](#) that will “help protect consumers from security vulnerabilities in the software of home devices connected to the Internet of Things (IoT).” The agency is offering a cash prize of up to \$25,000 for the best technical solution, with up to \$3,000 available for up to three honorable mention winners. The FTC is asking IoT Home Inspector Challenge contestants to develop a tool that would address security vulnerabilities caused by out-of-date software in IoT devices. Learn more about the [IoT Home Inspector Challenge](#).



See You at HPC Northwest

Join Jonathan Cohen, who leads the Better Buildings Residential Network, and

0 to 60: Best Practices for Accelerating Program Performance

1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

February 2

Known Unknowns: Key Energy Efficiency Trends in the New Year

1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

February 9

Comfort and Safety: Family-Oriented Marketing

1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

February 16

Innovative Approaches to Financing

1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

February 23

Making an Impact: Low-Income Energy Efficiency Programs

1:00–2:30 PM ET
[Register now](#)

Find the Latest Peer Exchange Call Summaries

Review new call summaries:

- November 10, 2016
[Do You Hear Me Now? Communicating the Value of Non-Energy Benefits \(101\)](#)
- November 17, 2016
[Diversifying Funding Sources and Building New Revenue Streams \(201\)](#)
- December 1, 2016
[America's Next Top Energy Model: Tools and Best Practices \(101\)](#)
- December 8, 2016
[Oh, the Weather Outside Is Frightful: Energy Efficient Manufactured Homes \(301\)](#)

Residential Program

Ely Jacobsohn, who leads Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®, for the session “[House Calls: The Health Benefits of Home Performance](#)” at the [2017 Home Performance Coalition Northwest Regional Conference](#) January 23–24 in Portland, OR.



Minneapolis Member Shares Energy Savings

Each year, the Residential Network asks members to report the number of annual upgrades they complete, as well as any associated benefits or other accomplishments, through the [Reporting and Recognition Template](#). Submitting this information to DOE is the only requirement of Residential Network membership.



Thanks and congratulations to Residential Network member the [Center for Energy and Environment](#) (Minneapolis, MN) for reporting 2,700 residential energy upgrades; estimated annual electric savings of 1.8 gigawatt hours; and estimated annual gas savings of 21,500 dekatherms.

Meet the Members

Network Welcomes New Members

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) is pleased to welcome its newest members:

- [AppleBlossom Energy, Inc.](#) (Harrisburg, NC)
- [City of Bloomfield, Iowa](#)
- [City of Melrose, Massachusetts](#)
- [City of Somerville, Massachusetts](#)
- [EAM Associates](#) (Wall, NJ)
- [Emerald Cities Seattle](#)
- [Essess, Inc.](#) (Boston, MA)
- [Home EnerChi, LLC](#) (Owasso, OK)
- [Louisiana State University AgCenter Extension - LaHouse Resource Center](#)



Solution Center Spotlight



Q: How can options for residential energy efficiency financing be easier to understand?

A: Visit the [Better Buildings Residential Program Solution Center](#) to find the answer.

Related Events

[2017 Home Performance Coalition Northwest Regional Home Performance Conference](#)

January 23–24, 2017
Portland, OR

[Energy, Utility, and Environment Conference](#)

February 8–10, 2017
San Diego, CA

[Midwest Energy Solutions Conference](#)

February 22–24, 2017
Chicago, IL

[Cost Effectiveness Unveiled: A New, Public Tool for Exploring the Costs and Benefits of Energy Efficiency Programs](#)

March 1, 2017
Webinar

[Midwest Residential Energy Conference](#)

March 7–8, 2017
Lexington, KY

[2017 Home Performance Coalition National Home Performance Conference and Trade Show](#)

March 19–22, 2017
Nashville, TN

[Optimal Energy, Inc.](#) (Providence, RI)

Learn more from these programs and other members. Sign up to become a Residential Network member by completing a [membership form](#).

Resource Corner

New Year, New Resources

- [“2017 Is Looking Like a Good Year for Energy Efficiency as Investments Grow”](#) (American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy [ACEEE], January 2017)
- [Energy Efficiency Jobs in America](#) (E4TheFuture and Environmental Entrepreneurs, December 2016)
- [Overview of Existing and Future Residential Use Cases for Connected Thermostats](#) (DOE, December 2016)
- [Trends in the Program Administrator Cost of Saving Electricity for Utility Customer-Funded Energy Efficiency Programs](#) (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, January 2017)

If your organization has recently published a report or distributed a press release, we want to hear from you. Send your announcement to the [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) and we can include it in a future issue of the *Network View* or share it on social media.

Share the View

Forward this email to colleagues or encourage them to sign up to receive each issue by selecting “Better Buildings Residential Network” when updating their [DOE email subscription preferences](#).

[2017 Indoor Environment and Energy Expo](#)

March 20–22, 2017
Nashville, TN

Have an event you want featured? Email the details to [Better Buildings Residential Network Support](#).

Social Media Spotlight



Did you read the DOE report [Home Rx: The Health Benefits of Home Performance](#) last month? Share the following post on social media to spread the word to your followers:

Make a resolution for a healthy home in 2017. Learn how #homeperformance can benefit your #health in new DOE report <http://bit.ly/2jevNfD>

You are receiving this email from DOE's Better Buildings Residential Network. To change your email settings or unsubscribe, [click here](#).

U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

betterbuildings.energy.gov/bbrn