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Office of
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Building Technologies Office

October 2023

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

Solar Decathlon Wins the 2023 ABET Innovation Award; Seeks Participants for the 2024 Design Challenge

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Decathlon® was selected as the 2023 winner of the ABET Innovation Award for providing innovative hands-on STEM education experiences and industry mentoring in building science that prepares students for the clean energy workforce through the Solar Decathlon Design and Build Challenges. Awards will be presented November 3, 2023, in Baltimore, Maryland.

Registration is currently open for the Solar Decathlon® 2024 Design Challenge, an annual collegiate competition challenging interdisciplinary teams to create high-performance, low-carbon building designs that address real-world issues. Collegiate participants from diverse majors are invited to join the zero-energy building design competition for retrofits or new construction. Register your team for the 2024 Design Challenge today. Registration closes on October 18, 2023, at 5 p.m. ET.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Solar Decathlon

Contents:

JOIN THE BETTER BUILDINGS RESIDENTIAL NETWORK

2023 Housing Innovation Award Winners Announced

Since 2013, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Housing Innovation Awards have recognized top builders in the U.S. for their commitment to providing better homes for Americans across the country. The 2023 Housing Innovation Award winners have been selected with grand winners for each award category to be honored at the 2023 Housing Innovation Awards ceremony, held at the EEBA High Performance House Summit October 10-12 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

2023 Zero Energy Design Designation Cohort Recognized

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) awarded its second Zero Energy Design Designation (ZEDD) seal of recognition to 22 leading educational programs that are preparing tomorrow's high performing building professionals to design and construct the most sustainable buildings possible. This DOE designation, which was first awarded to 17 programs in 2022, distinguishes post-secondary academic programs that teach the latest zero energy design best practices to students and require them to apply those building science concepts in projects.

South Carolina and Municipalities in Colorado Turn to Home Energy Score

South Carolina will launch a statewide home energy labeling program using the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Home Energy Score™ tool to provide renters, prospective buyers, realtors, and appraisers information about a homes' estimated energy use and operating costs. The town of Carbondale, Colorado, is

Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

Thursday, October 12
Deep Retrofits - How Deep Can You Go with the Inflation Reduction Act?

Thursday, October 26
Transition: Office to Multi-Family Building Conversions and Efficiency

Thursday, November 9
Residential Storage - An Essential Piece of the Climate Puzzle

Thursday, December 14
The Potential of Whole-Home Lighting Systems and Low-Voltage Homes

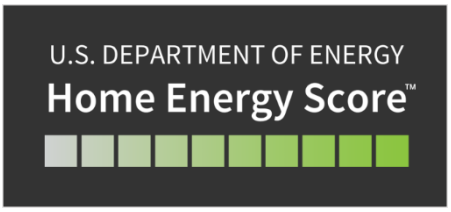
Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries, which contain speaker PowerPoint presentations, can be found at the Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Summaries webpage:

Thursday, June 22
Paying for Home Decarbonization and Electrification - Addressing Cost Questions

Thursday, July 13
Stakeholder Engagement Keys to Success - Lessons Learned by Energy-Efficiency Programs

also offering Home Energy Scores to 100 residents as part of a study to determine whether the town should use a labeling program for homes.



Heat Pumps - Open Access Chapter Available Now

The Engineering division at Taylor & Francis (T&F) publishing is collaborating with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to provide a series of open access chapters designed to help facilitate knowledge and growth in the energy efficiency and renewable energy markets for undergraduate and graduate level students. The *Heat Pumps* chapter includes fundamental concepts in easy-to-understand language, photos, and illustrations.

Partner Recognition

The Better Buildings Residential Network welcomes its newest members: ICF International, American Institute of Building Science, Castle Pay, Inc., Center for Building Knowledge at NJIT, Rappahannock Electric Coop, Siplock Forever, Solstice Home Performance, The Mendota Group, LLC., and Wildgrid.

If your organization is not yet a member, click here to join.

Thursday, July 27
Partnership How-To's - Lessons Learned for Successful Energy Efficiency Programs

Thursday, August 10
Wildfires - How Can Residential Energy Efficiency Create a Healthier Indoor Environment

Thursday, September 14
Heat Pumps - With Unprecedented Incentives, Where Are We Now?

Quick Quiz

What are phantom loads? (Answer at bottom.)

A. Electronics and appliances that consume power when they are turned off but still plugged in.

B. Residual or unused energy that can be re-purposed to power electronics and appliances.

C. The energy stored in electronics and appliances after they are unplugged.

D. Warnings on electronic devices that indicate they need to be charged or plugged in.

Resource Toolbox

- Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Lessons Learned, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- Better Buildings Residential Program Guide, U.S. Department of Energy
- Disaster Resistance Tool, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- Green Buildings Career Map, U.S. DOE
- Home Improvement Expert, U.S. DOE
- Smart Tools for Efficient HVAC Performance (STEP) Campaign, U.S. DOE
- Storm Window and Insulating Panel (SWIP) Campaign, U.S. DOE
- Very High-Efficiency Heat Pumps for Multifamily Resource Guide, International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology (ICAST) and U.S. DOE

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Quiz Answer: The correct answer is A.

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