

Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals

Monthly Project Bulletin: June 2012

This bulletin is your monthly source for project updates on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project. This issue covers:

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Questions?

Send any questions about the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project to workforce.guidelines@nrel.gov.

The project team will review all questions and provide feedback via personal response, the monthly bulletin, or the [Guidelines website](#).

Pilot Certification: Scheduling Your Exam

Registration for the [four new Home Energy Professional certifications](#) is still open. Designed for experienced home performance professionals, the four new certifications focus on the most common jobs in the home energy upgrade industry: **energy auditor**, **retrofit installer**, **crew leader** and **quality control inspector**. The new certifications are funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and offered through the Building Performance Institute, Inc. (BPI).

Registration information, exam prerequisites, and FAQs for the pilot certification exams are available at: www.bpi.org/pilot. Scheduling for the pilot exams began this month, so interested individuals should submit their applications now! For more information, read [a recent article posted via the EfficiencyFirst website](#) and register now for an upcoming pilot certification orientation webinar (see below).

New Pilot Certification Orientation Webinars

Thinking about taking the pilot exam? BPI is offering a 4-part orientation webinar series providing specific information on what to expect from each exam. Get all of your questions answered and learn more about the advantages of either taking the certification exam yourself, or having your employees certified.

- June 28, 2012, 12pm EDT – [Energy Auditor Pilot Certification Orientation](#)
- July 2, 2012, 2pm EDT – [Retrofit Installer Technician Pilot Certification Orientation](#)
- July 13, 2012, 1pm EDT – [Quality Control Inspector Pilot Certification Orientation](#)
- July 16, 2012, 2pm EDT – [Crew Leader Pilot Certification Orientation](#)

Forward Motion: Taking Your Career to the Next Level with New Home Energy Professional Certifications

The below article was written by Larry Zarker, Chief Executive Officer of BPI, and re-posted via the EfficiencyFirst website.

The green building community is sold on the value of certifications – whether for an architect designing a

new LEED® high-rise, or for technicians at a contracting company carrying out home performance improvements. Professional credentials demonstrate a degree of knowledge and skill. They show the individual cares enough about their profession to invest in training and verification of their abilities. They help employers screen applicants and help energy efficiency program administrators set criteria. They give consumers added confidence when selecting someone for a project. The list goes on.

And yet, throughout the blogosphere and at industry events such as ACI, you hear that telltale muttering, "I'm certified. Now what?"

Read the full story via the [EfficiencyFirst website](#).

Upcoming Conferences and Events

Interested in speaking with the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project team? We will be presenting at the following events:

- [Building America Experts Meeting at ASHRAE 2012 Annual Conference](#), June 23-27, 2012
- [Residential Energy Efficiency Solutions: From Innovation to Market Transformation](#), July 9-11, 2012

Project Testimonial

"The new Home Energy Professional certifications will raise the bar for weatherization professionals and home performance contractors across the country. To achieve certification, candidates must demonstrate not only a strong knowledge of the subject matter but also must have a proven level of essential work experience. As the industry continues to grow and the focus on quality intensifies, these certifications will become critical to establishing a qualified workforce geared for success."

— Brad Turner, Weatherization Program Manager for Southface Energy Institute

Update on Voluntary Standard Work Specifications for Home Energy Upgrades

Industry and public collaboration is essential to the success and effectiveness of the Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project. The Standard Work Specifications for the three housing types are currently in the following stages:

- Final public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Manufactured Housing** Energy Upgrades closed on June 8, 2012. All comments will be reviewed; changes will be made as appropriate.
- Final public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Single-Family** Energy Upgrades closed on May 15, 2012. All comments will be reviewed; changes will be made as appropriate.
- Public review of the Standard Work Specifications for **Multifamily** Energy Upgrades closed on May 4, 2012. All comments will be reviewed; changes will be made as appropriate. Final review of this document is scheduled for fall 2012.

To review these documents, please create an account using the [commenting tool](#).

About the Project

The Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project is a collaboration between DOE and industry to support high-quality home energy upgrade work through standard work specifications, accredited training programs, and voluntary national worker certifications.

Learn more about the [Guidelines for Home Energy Professionals project](#).

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