**News from the Field**

**Report: High Performance Homes Deliver 9.5% Premium**

The North Carolina Building Performance Association (NCBPA) released a report in conjunction with the National Association of Home Builders that found a 9.5% premium for high performance homes sold in three of the state’s metro markets, in addition to other benefits, such as improved health, safety, comfort, durability, and lower utility bills. Read the full report to learn more.

The NCBPA report follows on the heels of the first of its kind—a California appraiser-driven study released by Build It Green and funded by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), which showed that green-certified homes in California commanded a higher sales price, even though market barriers often prevented the full value of the home’s green features from being recognized.

Learn more about the report and recommendations.

**New Report Shows Energy Efficiency Could Prevent Asthma Attacks**

The American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE) and Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) released a new report that links energy efficiency to reductions in residents’ asthma attacks and other health risks. According to the report, reducing electricity consumption by 15% would decrease pollution and save more than six lives per day, 30,000 asthma attacks per year, and...
up to $20 billion in avoided health costs annually. The report also ranks U.S. cities by the largest potential health benefits resulting from a 15% reduction in annual electric consumption and highlights the opportunity to improve public health through energy efficiency programs.

Read the full report here.

Warm-up to Energy-Saving Technologies

To develop better window and building envelope technologies, increase energy efficiency, and provide some relief for homeowners' wallets, the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Building Technologies Office (BTO) has invested in Building Envelope and Windows Research and Development (R&D).

Collaborating with Oak Ridge National Laboratory, BTO is working to develop a home insulation material that is twice as efficient as any currently on the market. BTO is also developing cost-effective vinyl siding with insulation to make this material more accessible for exterior renovations and easier for homeowners to achieve bigger energy savings. Polymeric vacuum insulation spheres, a high-performing building insulation material, will use individual spheres to increase the insulation’s durability, reducing puncture risk and preventing air loss. Lastly, BTO is exploring vacuum glass, which has low-E coating with a small vacuumed space between two layers of glass that can reduce heat loss by 60 to 70%.

Learn more about BTO’s Building Envelope and Windows R&D.

Reporting and Recognition: Elevate Energy

The Better Buildings Residential Network has one requirement—that members report the number of annual upgrades completed, as well as any associated benefits or other accomplishments, through the Reporting and Recognition Template.

Residential Network member Elevate Energy in Chicago, Illinois, designs and implements programs that help homeowners, renters, business owners, non-profits, and utilities use energy wisely. In fiscal year 2016, they completed 4,158 upgrades, which resulted in annual energy savings of over 2.7 million kilowatt-hours of electricity and 997,000 therms of natural gas.

April 26
Making the Grid Smart: Moving Toward Two-Way Communication in the Digital Age
1–2:30 p.m. ET
Register now

Find the Latest Peer Exchange Call Summaries

Review recent call summaries:

- January 25, 2018
  Beyond Hunches: Using Science to Drive Behavior Change
- February 1, 2018
  Achieving Results in the Multifamily Sector: Strategies That Hit Home
- February 14, 2018
  New Tools in the Toolbox: A Fresh Take on Financing
- February 22, 2018
  Kick the Cold: The Intersection of Healthy Homes and Energy Efficiency

Related Events

2018 HPC National Home Performance Conference and Trade Show
April 23–26, 2018
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ACEEE 2018 Energy Efficiency Finance Forum
May 21–22, 2018
Tarrytown, New York

Association of Energy Services Professionals Spring 2018 Conference
May 21–23, 2018
Atlanta, Georgia

ACEEE 2018 International Symposium on Energy Efficiency
June 26, 2018
Washington, DC

2018 Health in Buildings Roundtable Conference
Meet the Members

New Members Join the Network

The Better Buildings Residential Network is pleased to welcome its newest members:

- **BEST-Techs Contracting** (Garden Grove, California)
- **California Hub for Energy Efficiency Financing** (Sacramento, California)
- **Emerald Coast Energy Solutions** (Santa Rosa Beach, Florida)
- **Indow** (Portland, Oregon)
- **Inspection Perfection** (San Diego, California)
- **Renewable Energy Alaska Project** (Anchorage, Alaska)

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

Resource Corner

Spring Forward with New Resources

- “Saving Watts to Save Drops: Inclusion of Water Efficiency in Energy Efficiency Programs” (ACEEE blog, January 2018)
- “The Future Is Here, But Are We Ready? Energy Efficiency and Cybersecurity” (Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance blog, January 2018)
- “Will Data Save Home Performance?” (Efficiency First California blog, January 2018)

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, so we can be aware of it for future issues of the Network View or to share on social media.

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