

ENERGY.GOV

Office of
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &
RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Building Technologies Office

June 30, 2020

RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISPATCH

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Reaches Milestone

In the past decade, more than 800,000 homeowners have improved the comfort and energy efficiency of their homes by participating in the [Home Performance with ENERGY STAR](#) program, saving an average of \$500 per year on their energy costs. In 2019, more than 100,000 home upgrades were completed under the Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program – making it a record year for the program. Congratulations to all of our partners who helped us achieve this record, and especially to the Sponsors and Contractors receiving recognition as [2020 ENERGY STAR Award winners](#).



Home Energy Score Partners Driving Demand on West Coast and Beyond

Increased demand for [Home Energy Scores](#), which provides homeowners, buyers, and renters directly comparable and credible information about a home's energy use, is being driven by partners in the housing market from San Francisco to Portland, who are sharing

Contents:

[Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Milestone](#)

[Home Energy Score Partners Driving Demand](#)

[BTO Funds Small Business R&D](#)

[ABC Initiative Strategy](#)

[New BBRN Lessons Learned](#)

[DOE Postpones Solar Decathlon Summer Events](#)

[Resource Toolbox](#)

[Peer Exchange Calls & Summaries](#)

[Quiz](#)

**JOIN THE BETTER
BUILDINGS
RESIDENTIAL
NETWORK »**

lessons learned with others around the country. In California, Alameda County public agency [StopWaste](#) helped nearly 2,500 homeowners obtain a Home Energy Score last year through a voluntary program coordinated in partnership with the 9-county Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN). Low-scoring homes in the [StopWaste](#) program are referred to BayREN's free [Home Upgrade Advisor](#) service, which helps homeowners take advantage of local rebate and financing programs. [Click here](#) to read about similar efforts by Earth Advantage and the City of Portland to increase demand for Home Energy Scores.



[Learn more](#) about Home Energy Score.

BTO Funds 20 Small Business R&D Building Efficiency Projects

As part of the \$53 million [announcement](#) by U.S. Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) research and development projects, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) announced selection of 106 new projects across 26 states, totaling nearly \$21.3 million in funding.

Of the 106 projects, EERE's Building Technologies Office (BTO) will invest \$4 million in buildings-focused projects—its largest set of SBIR/STTR Phase I selections ever.

The 20 projects, spread across 12 states, seek advancements in novel building energy rating delivery models, solid-state lighting improvements, efficient resilient building technologies, and advance thermal energy storage.

One awardee will develop a more affordable, automated, replicable approach to incorporating actionable energy information into the mortgage process and finance energy improvements for existing homes.

Another will work to enable a lower-cost, more-efficient thermal energy storage method

Upcoming Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls

Thursday, July 9, 2020

[The Increased Focus on Health in Buildings](#)

Thursday, July 23, 2020

[Energy Efficiency Funding for Residential Programs: Challenges and Opportunities](#)

Peer Exchange Call Summaries

All summaries, including the most recent below, can be found at the [Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Call Summary webpage](#):

Thursday, June 11, 2020

[Indoor Air Quality and Ventilation in the Current Climate: Perspectives from the Field](#)

Thursday, May 28, 2020

[Smart Homes in Stay-at-Home Times](#)

Thursday, May 14, 2020

[How is the Coronavirus Impacting Residential Energy Efficiency Programs? – Perspectives from the Field](#)

Thursday, April 9, 2020

[How Hot is It? Preparing for Summer Cooling Season](#)

Thursday, March 26, 2020

to provide long-duration resilient cooling when the electric grid is down.

[Learn more](#) about the recipients of BTO's grants.

The Advanced Building Construction (ABC) Initiative

The Advanced Building Construction Initiative integrates energy-efficiency solutions into highly productive U.S. construction practices for new buildings and upgrades. To pursue this mission, the ABC initiative uses a two-pronged strategy: investing in new technologies and engaging private and public stakeholders across the buildings industry.

[Learn more](#) about the strategy behind ABC.

New Better Buildings Residential Network Lessons Learned Available

Better Buildings Residential Network Member, the [Minnesota Center for Energy and Environment](#), shared its efforts to make energy disclosure available to more homeowners, as featured in the new [Better Buildings Residential Network "Lessons Learned" fact sheet](#). Summaries of hundreds of Better Buildings Residential Network Peer Exchange Calls are available with speaker PowerPoint presentations and are searchable by keyword and date.

Register for upcoming calls in this newsletter.

DOE Announces Postponement of Solar Decathlon 2020 Summer Events

The [U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon®](#) postponed its [2020 Solar Decathlon Build Challenge](#) from June 2020 to April 16-18, 2021. The event, originally scheduled to be part of the 2020 Smithsonian Folklife Festival, will move from the National Mall in Washington, D.C., to DOE's [National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#) in Golden, Colorado, where it will coincide with the Solar Decathlon 2021 Design Challenge competition. The next Solar Decathlon Build Challenge has now been rescheduled for 2023.

[Learn more](#) about the Solar Decathlon.

How Quality Installation Impacts Equipment

Quick Quiz

According to the [U.S. Energy Information Administration](#), what percentage of U.S. residential end-use energy consumption is attributable to water heating? (Answer at bottom.)

- A. 19%
- B. 23%
- C. 27%
- D. 31%

Partner Recognition

The [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) welcomes its newest members: [Opportunity Council](#); [Energy, Livability, and You](#); [LS Insights](#), [Energy Potential](#), and [Holy Cross Energy](#)!

If your organization is not yet a member, click [here](#) to join.

Resource Toolbox



[The State and Local Planning for Energy Platform](#), National Renewable Energy Laboratory

[2020 Utility Energy Efficiency Scorecard](#), American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy

Share the Residential Energy Dispatch Newsletter



Forward this email to colleagues or encourage them to sign up to receive each issue. To subscribe, simply email the Better Buildings Residential Network at bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov.

Quiz Answer: A

DOE Twitter 

EERE Facebook 

EERE LinkedIn

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or e-mail address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your e-mail address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact support@govdelivery.com.

This service is provided to you at no charge by DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE). Visit the Web site at eere.energy.gov.