



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM NOTICE 05-5
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 29, 2005

SUBJECT: DOE-APPROVED ENERGY AUDITS FOR THE WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PURPOSE: To inform the network which States have had their energy audit procedures and priority lists re-approved by the Department of Energy (DOE) as required every five years. This notice also advises States of DOE-reviewed energy audit software that simplify the DOE approval process for States that wish to adopt them. DOE has approved the energy estimating and measure economics methodology of these software tools that have been developed by States or created by commercial software developers.

SCOPE: The provisions of this guidance apply to all grantees applying for financial assistance under the Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program.

BACKGROUND: This Program Notice replaces Weatherization Program Notice 04-3, DOE-Approved Energy Audits for the Weatherization Assistance Program, dated December 23, 2003.

To ensure that States adopt advanced energy audit procedures of sufficient technical rigor, Program regulations require States to submit their energy audit procedures to DOE for approval every five years. Weatherization Program Notice 01-4 explains the criteria DOE will use to approve energy audit procedures and revalidate priority lists. While DOE has reviewed the energy audit procedures of the majority of States, there are still several States who need to submit their energy audit procedures to DOE for approval. All states whose audit procedures were last approved prior to Program Year 1999 should have submitted an initial energy audit approval request for at least a single-family audit. Priority lists approved over five years ago must also be revalidated by DOE. States will be given flexibility regarding due dates on a case-by-case basis. Attachment 1, Table 1 shows which States have submitted their energy audit procedures to DOE for review since the beginning of Program Year 1998.

As described in WPN 01-4, developers of commercially available energy audit software may submit their software for DOE review to ensure that its energy estimation and measure economics methodology complies with Program regulations and generally accepted engineering practices. This review relieves States that wish to adopt these commercial audit products from the burden of documenting software compliance. Attachment 1, Table 2, lists energy audit software submitted by software developers whose calculations are approved by DOE and carry the same reduced submittal requirements for DOE approval as NEAT, MHEA, and EA-QUIP. States that want to

use DOE-approved audit software must still submit to DOE the list of measures considered, sample audits, field procedures, and other information as described in Attachment 1 of WPN 01-4.

The Manufactured Home Energy Audit (MHEA) is now available to the network as part of the Weatherization Assistant. WPN 03-6 dated September 26, 2003, marks the network release of the new and improved MHEA and outlines its availability and use. DOE is anxious to receive feedback from MHEA users. States are not required to obtain DOE approval before using MHEA. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory is working with states and agencies to gather data to help validate the software. Although final validation of the MHEA audit will not be complete until early 2006, MHEA has been released to the network for full-scale use. Future changes to MHEA resulting from the validation effort or user feedback will be implemented periodically according to a planned maintenance/update schedule similar to that followed with NEAT over the past few years.

Separate energy audit procedures specifically tailored to multi-family dwellings and mobile homes must be approved by DOE if either of these building types represents 20 percent or more of the total units weatherized each year by a State's program. DOE is considering eliminating the 20-percent threshold, at least for mobile homes, thereby requiring all States that weatherize mobile homes to employ DOE-approved mobile home energy audit tools. A final decision by DOE on this matter will not occur prior to the start of Program Year 2006.

DOE will periodically inform States as other energy audits are approved.



for
Buddy Garland
Program Manager
Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program
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Attachment 1:

- Table 1 - Weatherization Energy Audit Procedures, Priority Lists, and General Heat Waste (GHW) Lists Reviewed since 1998, and
- Table 2 - Commercially Available DOE-Approved Audits