

# ENERGY.GOV

Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

## DOE Zero Energy Ready Home

### Zero Energy Ready Home Newsletter: March 2016

#### A Note From Sam Rashkin:

#### Zero Has Arrived, Now Let's Bring Her Home

Our friends at the Net-Zero Energy Coalition (NZEC) have been busy compiling the first "[Zero Energy Residential Inventory Report](#)." They accomplished this difficult task by reaching out to an extensive group of stakeholders to identify all known projects. Based on the results, it's impressive to see how far zero has come.

Over 3,000 zero energy residential buildings representing over 6,000 housing units have been completed. That's far more progress than most industry observers would have estimated. Clearly, interest in 'Zero' is approaching a movement. Now, the rubber meets the road. For sustained growth, 'Zero' has to adopt a consistent set of rules and deliver a consistent brand promise. Welcome [Zero Energy Ready Home](#) as that critical national platform.

#### SUMMARY



408

PROJECTS



3,339

BUILDINGS



6,177

UNITS

For the past three years the U.S. Department of Energy staff have been building solid technical underpinnings, including detailed specifications and a clear definition, that have been extensively vetted with industry and real world projects. With this foundation, the Zero Energy Ready Home

label now assures our nation's homebuyers of seven complete systems that can transform their ownership experience.

We have taken on the task of training over a thousand builders and HERS raters about the business case for 'Zero.' That includes over 40 technical seminars, Keynote addresses, and webinars demonstrating how off-the-shelf technology can easily achieve Zero Energy Ready Home performance.

We have built a broad infrastructure of marketing resources that effectively convey the value of 'Zero.' The [Building Science Translator](#) converts technical jargon into an entirely new language of value. The customizable Zero Energy Ready Home [fact sheet](#) and [brochure](#) leverage a compelling comparison chart that adds clarity to the superior performance of 'Zero.' [Zero Energy Ready Home Sales training](#) provides five critical skills and tools to deliver a powerful consumer message. The new ['Tour of Zero'](#) provides extensive examples of awardwinning Zero Energy Ready Homes that live, work, and last better. A new consumer video (coming this summer) will be added to the 'Tour of Zero' and tell the simple story why leading experts would choose a Zero Energy Ready Home because of the seven must-have systems included in each certified home. And lastly, we have initiated an industry-based national consumer education campaign with one simple message: American homebuyers need to see the home of the future available today by visiting the 'Tour of Zero.'

So here we are. DOE has established Zero Energy Ready Home as a standard of excellence for hundreds of home builders and engaged large developers to commit all or part of their projects to program certification. It's been a busy three years. But now the hard part really starts. We need the entire 'Zero Community' to embrace the common agenda represented by Zero Energy Ready Home and ensure we just don't have numbers, but that we also have the consistent performance, definition, and message that are the critical foundation for growth. Hats off to NZEC for establishing the baseline. Now, DOE officially welcomes all housing industry stakeholders to join our collective impact process moving Zero Energy Ready Home into the market.



## Joe Lstiburek's Webinar Now Available Online

Last month, leading building science expert Joe Lstiburek conducted a webinar on "Getting Enclosures Right in Zero Energy Ready Homes." What's unique about Joe is that he provides specific, actionable guidance based on decades of experience, extensive research, and a unique ability to identify and communicate common sense solutions. Over 350 attendees tuned in to listen to Joe's presentation live, and in case you missed it or if you just want to see it again, now you can! The webinar is now posted online under the [Resources](#) section of the Zero Energy Ready Home page.

[Click here to view the webinar](#)

## Home Innovation Seeks Builders for Study

Home Innovation is seeking builders to participate in a [field monitoring study](#) to better understand moisture performance of high-R wall systems. The focus of the study is on wall systems with R-value of 20 and higher in airtight, high performance homes located in climate zone 4 or higher. The result of this study will provide valuable real-life data on long term performance of wall constructed using energy efficiency practices. If you are interested in this study, please read more about it by [clicking here](#).

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [subscriber preferences page](#). You will need your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, contact [support@govdelivery.com](mailto:support@govdelivery.com).

This service is provided to you by the U.S. Department of Energy's [Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy](#) (EERE).