

"Asa Foss" <AFOSS@sentech.org> 06/28/2007 10:24 AM To
Subject: Re: Propose Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Program Changes

Dale,

Here are comments from Bill and myself:

Overall, everything looks really good, and is extremely helpful for our planning purposes.

Specific comments:

P1 - To clarify: Do you mean that if all HPWES contractors are required to be BPI affiliates (and take part in BPI's QA), then all HPWES program sponsor QA requirements are fulfilled? This is the impression that I get, which makes sense.

P2 - We recommend adding program/consumer costs and total energy and CO2 savings to the annual report to DOE/EPA. Program sponsors should be collecting this information anyways, so it shouldn't be a burden to report it to DOE/EPA.

P3 - Asa would recommend naming the Comprehensive Home Assessment something that contains "Energy Audit" because that is the terminology that consumers understand. "Comprehensive Home Energy Audit" makes sense to me. "Home Performance Energy Audit" is also quite good.

Bill recommends not using the term "audit" because of the politics. EPA's and BPI's positions have been to call any whole-house inspection with diagnostics a "home energy assessment," saving the term "home energy audit" for things like Tune-up. "Audit" has too many meanings for EPA. That said, I do agree that the terms should be more like "Baseline Home Energy Audit" and "Comprehensive Home Energy Audit" which is more recognizable for the consumer, but that is a battle for another day.

Section B We wouldn't require utility bill analysis, only strongly recommend. Sometimes, it's pretty much impossible to get, and not worth the time and effort, so a requirement would be a problem in those situations.

Section F.3 We like the wording in the text (recommend getting a radon test after all measures are complete).

Section E.3.b We wouldn't require duct leakage testing for homes whose ducts are totally in conditioned space. Doing a duct blaster is very time consuming, so we would only require testing if duct sealing is recommended. A visual inspection should be sufficient to determine approximately how bad ducts, and feeling for airflow from registers during a blower door test is also a good test.

P4 - Good, no changes necessary.

Cheers!

Asa

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