From:	Steve Saunders
To:	ENERGY STAR Homes
Subject:	Comment on EPA 17065 VOO Process
Date:	Wednesday, October 31, 2018 1:11:08 PM

My position in favor of a 17065 process is a reversal of my previous stance.

I have not always felt like the industry needed more than one VOO. Around 2007 (I think it was), the EPA also sought opinions on additional VOO organizations. At that time, I was a loud voice in favor of the not adding any additional oversight organization. At the time, I saw the incumbent VOO as a potential shining beacon of quality and stability in a still new and rapidly growing industry. RESNET held out the hope for doing the right thing, the right way, and expanding that knowledge and influence nationwide. It seemed that splitting up oversight in industry where the per home revenue was so low was a recipe for failure. At the time, it seemed like it was important that the industry consolidate revenue and consolidate the influence to create one entity that had the resources and support of the industry and that could represent the interest of Energy Raters. A single entity could be a positive influence on and support the right initiatives to help the builder community get what they wanted and needed. I thought that splitting the revenue and splitting our influence was a threat to the existence of the industry.

Today, I think the exact opposite. (Opinion) For reasons that are not clear, the industry as a collective whole and the oversight organization is not achieving its potential. There is nothing specific to point to … as a cause. It is not for lack of good people. The incumbent is full of talented, dedicated, smart and hardworking people. There are stakeholders galore who have and continue to invest time and funding into the collective effort. But, for me … and for our firm … after a decade of significant effort to help the incumbent achieve the spirit and the fact of our hopes and dreams for the industry, we have come to the realization that the best way to maximize the potential of the industry is new life, new leadership and an intelligent 17065 accredited infrastructure. We have no desire to eliminate the investment we and others have made in RESNET. We are just looking for (at least one) additional VOO vehicle to pursue and achieve our objectives.

(Belief) The EPA is wise to look at the marketplace and consider 17065 agencies as alternative methodologies for VOO's going forward. After significant study, I am convinced that this is a reasonable and strategic option for delivery of quality consistency for oversight of ENERGY STAR, Energy Rating and Code Compliant homes.

Steve Saunders – CEO
Tempo, Inc.

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