ENERGY STAR Qualified Homes
QA/QC and Version 3 Training Plan

Ga-Young Choi
Sponsor Meeting
March 2010
RESNET/EPA QA Agreement

- EPA and RESNET are working together to improve coordination on home energy ratings and labeling of ENERGY STAR Qualified homes
  - Improved information sharing (homeowner complaints)
  - Data sharing (qualified raters, providers, sampling providers)
  - RESNET QA process checking TBC – start Jan 1, 2011
  - Integration with Rater registry (planned)
  - Integration with Homes registry (planned)
RESNET/EPA QA Agreement (cont’d)

• EPA will honor RESNET suspension of Raters

• EPA to recognize non-compliant ratings and take action

  – Must have signed affidavit from RESNET
  – Builder given 90 days to rectify problem
  – Additional confirmed rating required to clean record
  – Removal from EPA database
  – Affected parties informed
How will this impact Sponsors?

• Sponsors will be asked to share QA/QC information with RESNET at their discretion:
  – Probations
  – Suspensions
  – Withholding of incentives
  – Significant non-compliance (documentation)

• RESNET investigation triggered

• Need to define process for information sharing
Sponsor Enhanced QA/QC Requirements (2012)

- Quality Assurance plan submitted to EPA

- Quality Assurance report submitted to EPA
  - Overall findings
  - Corrective action taken
  - Steps for improvement
Sponsor Enhanced Quality Assurance

- Field verification on 2% completed homes
- Data file review 10% (plans, completed rating file)
  - sampled homes (projected files)
- Completed checklists
- Ensure participation agreements are in place
- Incentive application reviews
- Defined process for removing non-compliant partners
Questions and Discussion
ENERGY STAR V3: Training Strategy

Overview

We propose delivering ENERGY STAR V3 training through existing infrastructure and business relationships.

ENERGY STAR V3 training could be a new business opportunity and revenue generator for this existing network.

This strategy allows EPA to be directly involved in training fewer organizations and allowing the market to organically offer educational opportunities without EPA intervention.
Field Guides

- Field Guides are the foundation for all ES V3 Training
  - Thermal Enclosure
    - In Development
  - Water Management (Builder/Home Energy Rater)
    - In Development
  - HVAC Checklist (Home Energy Rater)
    - In Development
  - HVAC Quality Installation
    - EPA working with industry to develop training based on ACCA QI Standard
ENERGY STAR V3: Who needs training?

- Training Providers
- Providers and Home Energy Raters
- Builders
- HVAC Contractors
- “Other Trades”
- Sponsors
ENERGY STAR Training Providers (ESTPs)

- Propose utilizing existing network of RESNET accredited training providers to deliver ES V3 training to the field
  - 30+ current training providers

- “Train the trainer” sessions
  - Goals
    - Give training providers a template for delivering training to raters and providers
    - Establish minimum requirements / criteria for acceptable training curricula
    - New partner designation – ENERGY STAR Training Providers – once training providers complete training

  - Logistics
    - EPA delivers training based on field guides
    - Completion Date: 2-4 sessions between Oct – Dec 2010
    - Estimated 2 days of training
    - Locations TBD: Potential (TX, DC, CA, CO)
ENERGY STAR Providers and Raters

• Training Providers and Raters
  – All raters and providers must take training from an ESTP
    • Credit towards RESNET’s required professional development
    • ESTPs report to EPA on raters/providers passing training (EPA updates in iSTAR)
  – Timeline
    • All Raters and Providers must take training by Dec. 31, 2011*
Three options for how raters can obtain training

- **Direct from ESTPs**
  - Raters to pay for course
  - Can be additional component to current rater training; current raters only have to take additional component

- **Utility/ EEPs-sponsored Sessions**
  - Contracted with ESTPs
  - Funding can be supplemented by manufacturer(s)
  - Utility also could offer training stipend for raters to take course (refer to “Direct from ESTP” above)

- **RESNET 2012 (pre-conference session)**
Training Builders

Historically, raters and providers have educated builders about ENERGY STAR requirements and energy efficient building.

We propose that this relationship to be continued for ES V3 education of builders.

To complement this, we propose requiring builders to take online training from EPA.
Builder Training

- Online training from EPA
  - Required for all builders to maintain their partnerships – tracked in iSTAR
  - Training developed by Jan. 2011
  - All builders trained by Jan. 2012

- Training includes:
  - ENERGY STAR Brand
  - Process of working with rater, what to expect from rater
  - Technical specification (V3)
  - Resources available to builders

- Considering annual training requirement for builders
  - Beginning Jan. 2013 on anniversary of initial training date
  - All new builders will need to take training to obtain ES partnership starting in Jan 2012
HVAC Contractors

- EPA work with HVAC Industry to develop required training of HVAC contractors

- Rater responsibilities regarding HVAC contractors
  - Checks for training certification when verifying homes
  - Provides contractor certification number on HVAC checklist

- Timeframe: All HVAC contractors installing systems in ES qualified homes are QI-trained by Jan. 2012
How can Sponsors help with V3 training?

- Recommend as a best practice that ENERGY STAR sponsors hold at least one training per year on issues critical to implementing ENERGY STAR V3
  - ENERGY STAR Summit (1-2 Day event)
  - Builder Education (Program kickoff events)
  - ES V3 Rater Training
  - HVAC Contractor Training
  - Subcontractor Training
EPA provides online training to Builders

EPA directly trains ESTPs

HVAC Industry

HVAC industry provides training to HVAC contractors

Program Sponsors are recommended to provide at least 1 training to ES raters, builders, or subcontractors by hosting trainings or providing stipends

Raters/Providers can receive direct training from ESTPs

Raters provide guidance to “other trades”

EPA works with HVAC industry to provide training to HVAC Contractors

HVAC Contractors

Framers / Insulators

Home Energy Raters / Providers

EPA provides online training to Builders

ENERGY STAR Builders

Program Sponsors

ENERGY STAR Training Providers
The timeline for ENERGY STAR V3

- Jan 2010:
  - Develop Field Guides
  - Develop curriculum for ESTP Training

- 8/10:
  - Field Guides Completed
  - Train ESTPs

- Jan 2011:
  - All Providers and Raters Trained on ENERGY STAR Version 3
  - Online Builder Training Developed
  - HVAC Contractors Trained on Quality Installation

- Jan 2012:
  - All New Builders Continue to take Training
  - All New HVAC Contractors Continue to take Training
  - All Builders Trained on ENERGY STAR and Version 3
  - 1/12 – All HVAC Contractors Trained
  - 1/12 – All Providers and Raters Trained on ES V3

- 2/12:
  - All Providers and Raters Trained on ENERGY STAR V3
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