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## Highlights from the Multifamily New Construction Program, Version 1/1.1/OR-WA 1.2/CA 1.2, Revision 01

Documents related to Revision 01 of the Multifamily New Construction Program have now been posted to the [ENERGY STAR website](#). Partners are permitted to use this Revision immediately, at their discretion, but must apply this Revision to all multifamily buildings certifying under the Multifamily New Construction Program, that are permitted on or after July 01, 2020.

As part of this Revision, all major program documents have been updated. Redline documents showing all tracked changes except formatting changes are also available. EPA strongly encourages partners to review these documents. Many changes were made to remain aligned with Revision 10 of the Certified Homes, which may not be repeated here. The most substantial updates specific to MFNC are summarized below:

### Multiple Program Documents

- Consistent with Certified Homes, an alternate compliance path (Path A – Dwelling Unit HVAC Grading) has been developed within the program that will leverage the new ANSI / ACCA / RESNET Std. 310, once it is completed and available for use. This new HVAC Grading standard will provide a new, optional pathway for Raters to complete an HVAC design review and assess the installation quality of unitary HVAC systems as Grade I, II, or III. The original path that relies on a Functional Testing Agent to perform the commissioning of residential dwelling unit systems (Path B – Dwelling Unit HVAC Commissioning) will remain as an option. While the HVAC Grading Path A is not available currently, including it in Rev. 01 will allow partners to use the new path once it is available, rather than waiting for a future revision in the program.

### National Program Requirements Version 1 / 1.1 / OR-WA 1.2

- Moved the list of EPA-recognized Functional Testing Agent credentials to the website.
- Clarified that an Energy Rating Company must be an ENERGY STAR Partner.
- Clarified that the Rater performing verification must complete the ENERGY STAR Multifamily Rater Training through a VOO-accredited training provider.
- Clarified that the ERI Path is available for buildings with more than 5 stories, but only if using software that implements ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2019.
- Clarified that the Performance Target for the ASHRAE Path is currently based on energy cost savings, not energy savings.
- Clarified the documentation needed for submissions to the MRO.
- Referenced the Policy Record and provided a link to access it online.
- Updated the Reference Design to provide U-Factors for glazed entry doors and to remove ceiling fan requirements.
- Clarified multiple footnotes, to define Providers, to better describe common spaces and parking garages, to clarify the Rater's role with respect to code requirements, to provide more details for Townhouses following the MFNC Program, and to permit the use of older versions of the HVAC Design Report.

### California Program Requirements Version 1.2

- Moved the list of EPA-recognized Functional Testing Agent credentials to the website
- Clarified that an Energy Rating Company must be an ENERGY STAR Partner.
- Clarified that the Rater performing verification must complete the ENERGY STAR Multifamily Rater Training through a VOO-accredited training provider.
- Clarified that the California performance target is based on Title 24-2016, not 2019
- Clarified the oversight process with respect to VOO's and MRO's.
- Clarified the documentation needed for whole-building submissions to the MRO.
- Referenced the Policy Record and provided a link to access it online.



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- Clarified that the Reference Design only applies to Common Spaces that are not included in the energy model, and does not apply to Dwelling Units.
- Updated the Reference Design to provide U-Factors for glazed entry doors and to remove ceiling fan requirements.
- Clarified multiple footnotes to define Providers, to better describe common spaces and parking garages, to clarify the Rater's role with respect to code requirements and to permit the use of older versions of the HVAC Design Report.

#### **National Rater Design Review Checklist**

- Clarified multiple footnotes to better describe common spaces and parking garages, to address Class AW glazed entry doors, to clarify the high-performance insulation requirements, to introduce a recommendation for CO sensors and modified sampling procedures for dwelling units adjacent to parking garages, and to move the FT Agent credentials to the website.
- Consistent with Certified Homes, Rev. 10, added footnotes to define Conditioned Floor Area and Window Area.

#### **National Rater Field Checklist**

- Clarified the applicability of reduced thermal bridging options.
- Added sampling procedure requirements and a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm recommendation for units adjacent to a garage.
- Replaced the word "specified" with "installed".
- Developed an alternative testing option for the central exhaust duct leakage test.
- Changed the requirement such that measured ventilation rates must at least meet or exceed ASHRAE 62.2 and 62.1, except where local code does not allow rates to exceed ASHRAE.
- Reinstated the ventilation override control requirement for Townhouses from Certified Homes.
- Clarified DHW requirements related to common area systems and pipe insulation.
- Updated requirements for ceiling fans in the Prescriptive Path and in common spaces in the ERI path; they are no longer included with appliances and plumbing fixtures that must meet the Multifamily Reference Design requirements, but fans with lights are still included in the 90% ENERGY STAR lighting requirement.
- Clarified multiple footnotes to better describe common spaces and parking garages, to clarify the use of Addenda and interpretations to ANSI / RESNET / ICC Std. 301, and to move the FT Agent credentials to the website.

#### **National HVAC Design Report**

- Added unit orientation to the HVAC Design Report, as Item 3.14.
- Clarified that furnace size limits only apply in-unit.
- Consistent with Certified Homes, Rev. 10, added footnotes to define Conditioned Floor Area and Window Area.

#### **National HVAC Functional Testing Checklist**

- Moved the list of EPA-recognized credentials for FT Agents to the website.
- Added that the Functional Testing (FT) agent may witness testing for all items.
- Confirmed that an FT Agent is not needed for a building with all mini-splits, where a Rater completes Section 5 and indicates NA as applicable in Sections 1-4.
- Changed the requirement to allow a Rater to sample Section 5.
- Clarified the footnotes to explain which sections get addressed outside of the FT Checklist when following Path A, once ANSI/RESNET/ACCA Std. 310, HVAC Grading, is available, and to better describe common spaces and parking garages.



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### **Water Management System Requirements**

- Consistent with other program documents, added a footnote to define the Rater.

### **National ERI Target Procedures Version 1, 1.1, and OR-WA 1.2**

- Clarified which version is to be used with ANSI/RESNET/ICC Std. 301-2014 and developed a version to be used with ANSI/RESNET/ICC Std. 301-2019.
- Clarified that Reference Design “loads” are not based on the “building” but rather the dwelling or sleeping unit.
- Clarified how the infiltration rate is calculated for the Reference Design when the Rated Unit is designed to indirectly receive a supply of “outdoor” air from the corridor.

### **Simulation Guidelines**

- Clarified that booster pump energy must be modeled and updated the modeling requirements related to ventilation due to the change in the Rater Field checklist.
- Clarified how to document eligibility for modified lighting allowance for senior housing.

### **Performance Path Calculators, Multifamily Workbook & Photo Documentation**

- Rater Design and Field Checklists were updated in the Multifamily Workbook, in accordance with the changes noted above.
- In-Unit testing worksheet updated to mirror the change in the ventilation requirement.