



ENERGY STAR® RESIDENTIAL NEW CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS



Dear ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction Partner,

On July 11th, EPA announced a proposal to sunset the use of sampling inspection protocols in the ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes (SNFH) program and in all townhouses, which commenced a four-week stakeholder feedback period. This email announces the finalized policy, which matches the proposal.

EPA is sunsetting the allowance to use sampling inspection protocols in the ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes (SNFH) program for homes permitted on or after 01/01/2025.

Further, townhouses permitted on or after 01/01/2025 will not be allowed to use sampling inspection protocols, even when certified using the ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) program. However, all other building types eligible to be certified using the ENERGY STAR MFNC program will continue to be permitted to use sampling inspection protocols.

Today, the use of sampling in the SFNH program is prevalent only in a single market (Arizona), and outside of that state, more than 95% of single-family certifications in 2022 were based on individual inspections of each home. Because the data indicate that the national market at large has moved to individual inspections of homes, EPA believes this policy is appropriate and will provide greater assurance that all program requirements have been met in every certified home.

This policy will be reflected in the next Revision of the Single-Family New Homes and Multifamily New Construction program requirements, which EPA intends to release in November 2023, with an implementation date that coincides with the enforcement of the proposed policy. EPA notes that this date provides partners with 14 months to prepare, and encourages partners to begin implementing a gradual transition to individual (i.e., non-sampled) inspections in their projects as soon as practical.

All stakeholder comments received as well as EPA's response to comments have been posted on the [ENERGY STAR website](#).

Please feel free to forward this information to other interested stakeholders who are working in the residential new construction market. We appreciate your support of the ENERGY STAR program.

Best regards,
The ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction team

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