DOE Zero Energy Ready Home – Single Family Version 2, 45L, & What's Next

Monday, January 27th 2:30 pm MST

Jamie Lyons

Joe Nebbia

DOE ZERH TechnicalDOE ZERH OperationsDirectorManager(Newport Partners)(Newport Partners)







ZERH Program Overview



Single Family V2 Requirements

Session Overview



Compliance Strategies & Example Projects



Looking Ahead to Version 3

ZERH Program Overview



Building Technologies Office



DOE ZERH: The Most Rigorous Federal Efficiency Certification for Homes



Provides Americans with homes that are:

✓ EFFICIENT
✓ SAVE \$
✓ HEALTHY
✓ SAFE
✓ RELIABLE



Building Technologies Office

ZERO ENERGY READY HOMES... LIVE BETTER

"Going from *paying* \$2500 a year for utilities to getting a \$260 check back from the utility company is another benefit which we love..."

- ZERH Homeowner

"*Our lives are healthier* because of the great effort from the builders to eliminate or minimize harmful materials during construction." - *ZERH Homeowner*

"Since moving into the ZERH Home, we have found a vast improvement in indoor air quality. One of the occupants suffers from asthma. *Since moving into the home, the asthma symptoms have been dramatically reduced*; enough that daily medication has been eliminated."

- ZERH Homeowner



ZERH IS WIDELY LEVERAGED WITHIN THE INDUSTRY



ZERH and the 45L Tax Credit





Credits Available:

| Certified Single-Family Homes, Duplexes, and Townhomes | \$5,000 each |
|---|------------------------|
| Certified Units in Multifamily Buildings | \$1,000 each |
| Certified Units in Multifamily Buildings <i>when prevailing wages</i> are met | \$5,000 each |

WIRS Notice 2023-65

https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/credit-forbuilders-of-energy-efficient-homes



Section 45L Tax Credits for Zero Energy Ready Homes

https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/45l-taxcredits-zero-energy-ready-homes

Need to Know:

- Project Type
- Project Location
- Project Permit Date



ZERH PROGRAM VERSIONS

DOE ZERH | Program Version Effective Dates

| National (Except California) | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Single Family National Multifamily National | | | | |
| Version 1 (Rev. 7) Buildings up to 5 stories only | 6/1/2019 | | | |
| Version 1 (Rev. 8) Buildings up to 5 stories only | 1/1/2023 | | | |
| Version 1 (Rev. 9.0) A | 1/1/2024 | | | |
| Multifamily Version 2 (Rev. 1) | 1/1/2025 | | | |
| Multifamily Version 2 (Rev. 2) | 1/1/2026 (not yet published) | | | |
| | Multifamily NationalMultifamily NationalVersion 1 (Rev. 7)Buildings up to 5 stories onlyVersion 1 (Rev. 8)Buildings up to 5 stories onlyVersion 1 (Rev. 9 0) AMultifamily Version 2 (Rev. 1)Multifamily Version 2 (Rev. 2) | | | |

^A Multifamily buildings of any height certified under Version 1 (Rev. 9) are deemed to meet the certification requirements for Version 1 (Rev. 8) where that revision is required.

| California | Required for Use, if Home or Unit's | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Single Family California | Single Family California Multifamily California | | | | |
| Version 1 (Rev. 7) | Version 1 (Rev. 7) Buildings up to 5 stories only | 10/1/2018 ^в | | | |
| Version 1 (Rev. 8) | Version 1 (Rev. 8) Buildings up to 5 stories only | 1/1/2023 в | | | |
| Single Family Version 2 | Multifamily Version 2 ^c | 1/1/2024 | | | |
| Single Family Version 2 (Rev. 1) | Multifamily Version 2 (Rev. 1) | 1/1/2025 | | | |
| Single Family Version 2 (Rev. 2) | Multifamily Version 2 (Rev. 2) | 1/1/2026 (not yet published) | | | |
| ^B If both plan approval and permit date are not on/after this date, the prior revision may be used. ^C Multifamily buildings of any height certified under CA Multifamily Version 2 are deemed to meet the certification | | | | | |

requirements for CA Version 1 (Rev. 8) where that version/revision is required

 ZERH Program Version determination depends on building type, location, & permit date

- ZERH Program Requirements webpage determines program version for 45L eligibility
- Program Versions in effect 1/1/2025 are "Version 2" programs

ZERH Single Family Version 2 Program Requirements





PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

BUILDING ELIGIBILITY Image: Single Family Homes Duplexes Townhouses



There are specific requirements for projects in California that differ from the National Program. California program requirements are NOT covered in this training material.

NOT ELIGIBLE



Multifamily Buildings



Mixed-Use Buildings



Manufactured Homes



Exhibit 1: DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Mandatory Requirements

| Component | | Mandatory Requirements | | |
|-----------|---|---|--|--|
| 1. | ZERH V2 National Rater Field Checklist | Rater completes the DOE ZERH – Single Family Homes Version 2 National Rater Field Checklist | | |
| 2. | ENERGY STAR Single Family New Homes Baseline | Certified under ENERGY STAR Single Family New Homes Version 3.2 ¹¹ | | |
| 3. | Envelope | Ceiling, wall, floor, & slab insulation meet or exceed 2021 IECC UA^{12,13,14} Windows meet high performance requirements based on climate zone ¹⁵ Advisory: DOE is monitoring the implementation of ENERGY STAR product specifications for residential windows (V7.0), and plans to adopt these in a future program version update¹⁶ | | |
| | t Cueto | All here and cooling at tion ducte and heating and cooling in handling equine | | |



EXHIBIT 1, MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Co-Requisite Certifications

Envelope – 2021 IECC UA

High-Performance Windows

Ducts & AHUs in Conditioned Space

Water Heating Efficiency

Lighting and Appliances

Indoor Air Quality

Electric Space Heating Ready

Electric Water Heating Ready

Photovoltaic (PV) - Ready

Electric Vehicle (EV) - Ready



CO-REQUISITE CERTIFICATIONS



ENERGY STAR

Increases efficiency & establishes sound building science

ENERGY STAR

Buildina Technologies Office

Indoor AirPlus adds a complete package of IAQ measures

Versions Required for ZERH MF V2

ENERGY STAR

Single Family Version 3.2 (or 3.3)

Indoor AirPlus

Version 1, Revision 4 or 5 for projects permitted on or before 12/31/2025 Version 2, Certified **or** Gold for projects permitted on or after 1/1/2026



DOE's Zero Energy Ready Home Program

provides a blueprint for cost-saving, high efficiency homes in a voluntary, nationally recognized certification

2021 IECC INSULATION LEVELS



Lower energy bills



Consistent temperature throughout home



No drafts



Comfort and safety during power outages

As soon as you walk into this house ... you feel like you're wrapped in 100 wool blankets. It's so warm, you would never know that it's been below zero these past few weeks. - ZERH Homeowner



HIGH-PERFORMANCE WINDOWS



What we're trying to avoid



An envelope with highperformance windows

...it is difficult to explain what it is like to live in a home without drafts, cold spots, and heating/cooling losses through inefficient windows.

- ZERH Homeowner



WINDOW U & SHGC REQUIREMENTS BY CLIMATE ZONE

□ Windows meet high performance requirements based on climate zone.

| Window Specs | IECC CZ 1-2 | | IECC CZ 3,4A, 4B | | IECC CZ 4C, 5 (SHGC values listed below may be paired with the U-value in the same row) | | IECC CZ 6-8 | |
|-----------------|-------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|------|
| for DOE | U-Value | SHGC | U-value | SHGC | U-Value | SHGC | U-Value | SHGC |
| Projects | ≤ 0.40 | ≤ 0.23 | [CZ 3] ≤ 0.30 [CZ 4] ≤ 0.30 | [CZ 3] ≤ 0.25 [CZ 4] ≤ 0.40 | ≤ 0.27 = 0.28 = 0.29 = 0.30 | Any ≥ 0.32 ≥ 0.37 ≥ 0.42 | ≤ 0.25 | Any |

*Alternate criteria for high altitude projects and designs using passive solar designs – see NPRs



DUCTS & AIR HANDLERS IN CONDITIONED SPACE





Our energy bills are less than half of our previous home with 20% more square footage.

- ZERH Homeowner

Ducts in an unconditioned attic add 25% to the cooling load in hot climates.

(Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory)



NEW CONSTRUCTION IS THE TIME TO GET DUCT DESIGN RIGHT

All heating and cooling distribution ducts and heating and cooling air-handling equipment are located within the thermal and air barrier boundary







Building Technologies Office

DESIGN OPTIONS FOR LOCATING DUCTS IN OPTIMIZED LOCATIONS







WATER HEATING EFFICIENCY



Energy and water savings





Saves "upstream" energy at the utility level

All other energy used in residential buildings



Energy used for water heating in residential bldgs.

(Source: Energy Information Administration, 2020)



Building Technologies Office

3 OPTIONS FOR ACHIEVING WATER HEATING EFFICIENCY

- □ Hot water delivery systems meet efficient design requirements
 - □ 0.5 gallon hot water stored volume limit
- □ Water heater and fixtures meet efficiency criteria
 - □ Gas UEF \geq 0.87, Electric UEF \geq 2.2
 - □ 1.8 gallon hot water stored volume limit
 - □ Showerheads, sink faucets, and aerators WaterSense labeled
- □ WaterSense Labeled Homes Version 2.0 certification



Building Technologies Office

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES & LIGHTING

Energy Use 1950 vs 2020



The energy efficiency of my home has truly blown me away. One power bill totaled \$3.64 and another totaled \$7.96. As far as I'm concerned, you can't beat that.

- ZERH Homeowner



OFF-THE-SHELF ENERGY SAVINGS WITH EFFICIENT APPLIANCES

ENERGY STAR refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, clothes dryers, bathroom ventilation fans

□ 100% LEDs











100% LED Exceptions:

- 5% allowance for task or decorative lighting (target home still configured with 100% LEDs)
- Lighting inside appliances

ENERGY STAR Appliance Exceptions:

- Refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, and clothes dryers which are *NOT* supplied or installed by the builder
- H/ERVs used to provide exhaust ventilation for bathrooms do not need to be ENERGY STAR certified



INDOOR AIR QUALITY PROVISIONS

Reasons Indoor Air Quality Matters:

- Promotes healthy living
- Minimizes and protects against pollutants
- Improves Comfort

Since moving into [our] Zero Energy Ready Home, we have found a vast improvement in indoor air quality. One of the occupants suffers from asthma. Since moving into the home, the asthma symptoms have been dramatically reduced; enough that daily medication has been eliminated.

- ZERH Homeowner



Building Technologies Office



INDOOR AIR QUALITY PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Certified under EPA Indoor AirPlus (IAP)



- ✓ Ventilation
 ✓ Pest management
 ✓ Combustion safety
- ✓ Low-emissions materials
- ✓ Radon control
- ✓ Moisture control

- IAP Version 1 is the *current* requirement
- ZERH requires IAP Version 2 Certified (or Gold) Tier starting 1/1/2026 (permit date)
 IAP V2 Session Tomorrow @ 1pm



Energy efficient balanced ventilation (HRV or ERV) is provided for dwelling units in Climate Zones 6-8.



MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS **PV-READY**



Exceptions:

- Home already includes onsite PV
- Home receives energy from community solar system
- Site is naturally shaded
- Home does not have at least 500 ft² of roof oriented between 110 and 270 degrees of true north



ELECTRIC SPACE HEATING READY



Exception:

 Home already includes electric heating system as primary heating

Building Technologies Office

Building Technologies Office

ELECTRIC WATER HEATING READY



Circuit exceptions:

 Existing water heater already uses an individual branch circuit with a rating not less than 240V/30A or 120V/20A

Space exceptions:

 Installed water heater is gas tankless or electric (with or without tank)

a Technologies Office

ELECTRIC VEHICLE READY



Exceptions:

- If adding a 30-amp branch circuit increases the electrical service to the next nominal size, connecting the circuit to the electrical panel is *not* required
- Building does not provide parking
- Local electric utility is not able to provide necessary distribution capacity
- Capacity requirements increases utility side cost to the builder or developer by more than \$450 per dwelling unit
- Alternate requirements for projects with shared parking lots

Target Home Requirements



Building Technologies Office

Performance Threshold for ZERH Certification

ZERH performance is assessed using a **Target Home**.

National Program Requirements Exhibit 2

Exhibit 2: DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Target Home 30

| HVAC Equipment ³¹ | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| | Very Hot & Hot Climates (2021 IECC Climate Zones 1,2) | Warm & Mixed Climates (2021 IECC Climate Zones 3, 4A, 4B) | Cold & Very Cold Climates (2021 IECC Climate Zones 4C, 5,6,7,8) | |
| Furnace AFUE | 80% | CZ3: 92%; CZ4: 95% | 95% | |
| SEER | 18 | 16 | 16 (ASHP); 14 (A/C) | |
| HSPF | 9.2 | 9.2 | 9.5 | |
| Boiler AFUE | 80% | CZ3: 92%; CZ4: 95% | 95% | |
| Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation System Efficiency | 2.9 cfm/W no heat exchange | 2.9 cfm/W no heat exchange | 1.2 cfm/W; balanced with heat exchange, 65% ASRE | |

PERFORMANCE TARGET

HOW DOES THE ZERH ERI TARGET WORK?



ERI = Energy Rating Index

Lower ERI means
 increased efficiency

ERI Software

- Reviewed and approved by DOE to configure Target Home
- Automatically generates the ZERH Target Home ERI

PV does not contribute to achieving the ERI Target



Compliance Strategies & Example Projects





PARTNER REGISTRATION

User Account

MFA

Organization Account



• This is personal access to the DOE Partner system

- Multi-factor authentication required
- This means it doesn't work for a rater to create a builder's account for them

- Link user account to an existing organization
- Create a new organization



Create new account

| First Name* | Last Name * |
|-------------|---------------|
| | |
| Title | Phone Number* |

Phone number Ext.

Email*

The email address is not made public. It will only be used if you need to be contacted about your account or for opted-in notifications.

Password *



Confirm password *

Passwords match:

Provide a password for the new account in both fields.

Subscribe to GovDelivery

Create new account

Return to top

An official website of the United States government <u>Here's how you know</u> ~

ENERGY.GOV

Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Zero Energy Ready Homes

arch

Q

HOME FIND A PARTNER EXPLORE THE TOUR PARTNER ACCOUNTS V

Partner Contact

Title content administrator Email partnercontact@gmail.com Phone Number +1 914-967-5555

Enroll Company Request Access

If your company is not currently listed - OR - If your of

If your company already is already enrolled

Register Your Organization

Request Access To An Existing Account

YOUR USER ACCOUNT IS ACTIVATED, BUT IT DOES NOT YET HAVE ACCESS TO AN ORGANIZATION YET.

Return to top

| - | An official website of the United States government Here's how you know 🗸 | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----|--|--|
| | ENERGY.GOV | | | | | | | |
| | Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY | Zero Energy Ready | Homes | Searc | h C | L | | |
| | | HOME | FIND A PARTNER | EXPLORE THE TOUR | PARTNER ACCOUNTS | v. | | |

0

Home > Request Access

Request Access

Enter your company's Organization ID*

Submit

Return to top

Home > Register Organization

Register Organization

Basic Information

| Organization Name* | Organization Type * | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
| | - None - 🗸 🗸 | | |
| Complete Legal Name. | | | |
| Example: Acme, LLC | Add another item | | |

Organization Phone Number*

1-000-000-000

Organization Web Address

Your Organization's Website Address, including the "http://" or "https://" portion of the url. Example: "https://www.acme.com" or "https://acme.com"

Location

Primary Address

Additional Locations Served

| Street address* | List any other onsite locations your organization conducts business. You may add to this list after your Organization Registration has completed the approval process. Show row weight | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------|---|--|--|
| City* | • | Country | 0 | | |
| State* - Select - V Zip code* | | | | | |

Agreements

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions outlined in the appropriate partnership agreement package listed on DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Partner Central.

I certify that I am authorized to register this organization with this program, and may agree to the program's terms and conditions on behalf of this organization.



ZERH CERTIFICATION DATA AND PROCESS ERRORS





Read More Testimonials

🗯 An official website of the United States government Here's how you know 🗸

ENERGY.GOV Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

Zero Energy Ready Homes

HOME FIND A PARTNER







Find a Partner



ENERGY.GOV Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY EFFICIENCY &



Home > Find a Partner

Find a Partner

| SEARCH FILTERS | Results | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------|
| Partner Name | Displaying 1 - 1 of 1 | | | |
| Fulton |] | | | |
| Гуре | FULTON HOMES | 5 | | Builder |
| - Any - | F ULTON | Org ID | 2500 | 148 ZERH |
| ocation | | Audress | Tempe, AZ 85284 | |
| - Any - 🗸 🗸 | | | | |
| Sort by | | | | |
| Most ZERH | | | | |
| Alphabetically | | | | |
| | | | | |

| | 📕 An official website of the United States government Here's how you know 🗸 | | |
|--|---|----------------|-------------|
| ENERGY.GOV | | | |
| Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY | Zero Energy Ready Homes | | |
| | HOME | FIND A PARTNER | EXPLORE THE |

Home > Find a Partner

Alphabetically

Find a Partner



ZERH By State as of December 2024– Total 32998



SFH CALENDAR YEAR CERTIFICATION GROWTH

Cumulative and Annual Growth (CY24 Projected)





CLIMATE ZONE 4; ERI 36 W/O PV; ERI 4 W/PV











CLIMATE ZONE 2; ERI W/O 39 PV; ERI W/PV



Looking Ahead to Single Family Version 3



& Renewable Energy

Building Technologies Office

ZERH SINGLE FAMILY VERSION 3 OVERVIEW

Goal: Drive progress toward increased energy savings in healthy, comfortable, and durable homes.

Outcomes:

- 1. Build on the efficiency and performance levels in V2.
- 2. Provide builder flexibility in design approaches and energy sources, while ensuring efficiency, cost savings, and excellent performance.

Strategy:

- Establish updated program specs that are both rigorous and attainable, and offer distinction for leading builders, developers, and program partners.
- Incorporate partner feedback





SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA UNDER CONSIDERATION

- Energy Efficiency (ERI Target)
- Thermal Backstop (envelope, windows)
- PV, EV, and Electric Readiness
- Operational Energy Impacts
- Building Material Resource Efficiency
- Storage Readiness
- Role of Renewables

Single Family Version 3 for California: many of the technical issues presented here will also apply to SF V3 for California, while a few others (ERI Target, envelope UA requirement) will not. ZERH V3 for CA development will follow a similar development path to V3 National and will account for the 2025 California Building Energy Efficiency Standards (BEES).



Buildina Technoloaies Office

NOTE: The technical considerations are drafts and subject to change.



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|------------------|---|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|------------------|--|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |
| Thermal Backstop | Envelope: Align with 2021 or 2024 IECC Windows: Assess current backstop vs. 2024 IECC, ES V3.3, and ES V7.0 windows maintain focus on overall envelope performance |



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |
| Thermal Backstop | Envelope: Align with 2021 or 2024 IECC Windows: Assess current backstop vs. 2024 IECC, ES V3.3, and ES V7.0 windows maintain focus on overall envelope performance |
| PV, EV, and Electric Readiness | Consider adjustments to harmonize with 2024 IECC Appendices |



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |
| Thermal Backstop | Envelope: Align with 2021 or 2024 IECC Windows: Assess current backstop vs. 2024 IECC, ES V3.3, and ES V7.0 windows maintain focus on overall envelope performance |
| PV, EV, and Electric Readiness | Consider adjustments to harmonize with 2024 IECC Appendices |
| Operational Energy Impacts | All-electric design Next Gen (mixed fuel option) Achieving a Target Index score per RESNET Std. 301-2022 Section 8 Mixed fuel option; Target TBD |



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|--|---|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |
| Thermal Backstop | Envelope: Align with 2021 or 2024 IECC Windows: Assess current backstop vs. 2024 IECC, ES V3.3, and ES V7.0 windows maintain focus on overall envelope performance |
| PV, EV, and Electric Readiness | Consider adjustments to harmonize with 2024 IECC Appendices |
| Operational Energy Impacts | All-electric design Next Gen (mixed fuel option) Achieving a Target Index score per RESNET Std. 301-2022 Section 8 Mixed fuel option; Target TBD |
| Building Material Resource Efficiency | Prescriptive requirement with more than one option to build literacy with material resource efficiency and embodied carbon. Plan to utilize the RESNET 1550 Standard as one option. |



SF V3 TECHNICAL CRITERIA ASSESSMENT FACTORS

| Program Criteria | Assessment Factors & Draft Proposals |
|--|---|
| ERI Target | Consider 2024 IECC, ENERGY STAR V3.3, cost/constructability impacts of more efficient target. |
| Thermal Backstop | Envelope: Align with 2021 or 2024 IECC Windows: Assess current backstop vs. 2024 IECC, ES V3.3, and ES V7.0 windows maintain focus on overall envelope performance |
| PV, EV, and Electric Readiness | Consider adjustments to harmonize with 2024 IECC Appendices |
| Operational Energy Impacts | All-electric design Next Gen (mixed fuel option) Achieving a Target Index score per RESNET Std. 301-2022 Section 8 Mixed fuel option; Target TBD |
| Building Material Resource Efficiency | Prescriptive requirement with more than one option to build literacy with material resource efficiency and embodied carbon. Plan to utilize the RESNET 1550 Standard as one option. |
| Others | Energy Storage Ready: Assess value proposition for storage readiness. Role of Renewables: Allow them to contribute to ERI? |



VERSION 3 TIMING

2024-2025: Research and Analysis

2025:

Initial Public Comment Period

2026: Earliest timeframe for *optional* use



Building Technologies Office

NOTE: Timelines presented are tentative and subject to change.



THANK YOU

Contact

zerh@doe.gov

www.buildings.energy.gov/zero