



Now in Effect: ENERGY STAR's Enhanced Inspection and Quality Control Protocols January 27, 2025 Elliot Seibert (U.S. EPA), Scott Doyle (RESNET)





Agenda

- 1. Refresher on QAQC enhancements.
- 2. What to know for 2025.
- 3. Stretch goals to prepare for the future.
- 4. Your 2025 to-do list.





Acronym Cheat Sheet

QAQC = Quality Assurance / Quality Control **SFNH** = ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes **MFNC** = ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction

Rev. 14/05 = Revision 14 of SFNH and Revision 05 of MFNC.

→ Just released, available now, mandatory for homes and apartments permitted after 1/1/26.

HCO = EPA-recognized Home Certification Organization

→ Such as RESNET; see <u>energystar.gov/hco</u> for full list.



A townhouse was permited today (January 27, 2025) and is pursuing ENERGY STAR.

Question: Can it be inspected using sampling protocols?



Answer: No

Sampling is no longer allowed in the ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes (SFNH) program and for all townhouses, including those certified using the ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) program.

This change applies to single-family homes and townhouses permitted on or after January 1, 2025.



Question: Do RFIs need to take the ENERGY STAR Rater training if they are inspecting ENERGY STAR checklist items?



Answer: Yes

All individuals inspecting any measures on the Rater Field Checklist are required to successfully complete an EPArecognized training course.

This applies to both Certified Raters and Rating Field Inspectors (RFIs).



Question: What is the difference between a "Confirmed" rating and a "Confirmed Threshold" rating?



Answer:

Confirmed Rating: All <u>verified</u> Minimum Rated Features of the Rated Home shall be entered into the energy model file.

Confirmed Threshold Rating: A rating accomplished using <u>Threshold Specifications</u> to determine the Energy Rating Index.



Refresher on the "QAQC Enhancements"

- The inspection and certification workflow is being strengthened to safeguard the integrity of the ENERGY STAR program.
- In July 2024, enhancements to the program's QAQC requirements were finalized in a revised "ENERGY STAR Certification System."
- These enhancements are designed to make current activities more effective, take advantage of digital technology, and give HCOs new oversight tools.



Refresher on the "QAQC Enhancements"



New Training Development → For annual continuing education.



Centralized Paperwork/Photo Upload → Ensures complete documentation.



Automated Validations → Dummy-proofing.



Accelerated Quality Control Reviews → Find errors earlier and provide chance to fix.



Quality Control Review by HCO (e.g. RESNET) staff → Better consistency across energy rating companies.



Refresher on the 'QAQC Enhancements'

- EPA set's high-level requirements, HCOs propose specific procedures and systems for their certification programs.
 - Implementation details may vary by HCO. This presentation is specific to RESNET's certification program. Learn more: <u>energystar.gov/hco</u>
- Implementation has begun:
 - Several elements are launching this year (2025).
 - Some items are tied to Rev. 14/05, which are available now and mandatory for homes and apartments permitted after 1/1/26.
 - Expect detailed guidance from RESNET as elements come fully online.
- The roll out of additional elements will continue in future year(s).



What to know for 2025



Before Inspection Rater Training and Credentials

The RESNET Registry is becoming the central repository of Rater/RFI ENERGY STAR training records and credentials.

- Now: Check Rater and RFI training records and schedule make-up training if necessary.
- **Soon:** When instructed by RESNET, review pre-populated Registry training records and submit documentation to fill any gaps.
- Later: Automated enforcement to begin by 2026.



Before Inspection MFNC Credential for Raters/RFIs/QADs, Providers

A new credential is being introduced for individuals and organizations working on ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction (MFNC).

This builds on the pre-existing MFNC Rater training requirement, which will now also be required for QADs.

- Now: Ensure Raters/RFIs and, now, QADs have taken the MFNC Rater training if working on MFNC projects.
- **Soon:** When instructed by RESNET, enter training records into the RESNET Registry.
- Later: Automated listing and enforcement to begin by 2026.



Before Inspection New Annual 1-Hour Training Module

A new 1-hour training video by EPA staff will be developed each year, to help Raters/RFIs and QADs stay aware of key program updates.

The module will be available via:

- The RESNET Conference ("ENERGY STAR: The Year Ahead")
- EPA's Partner Meeting webinar series (forthcoming)
- RESNET's and other HCOs' online training portals
- Now: The training is optional but highly encouraged in 2025.
- Later: To be determined.



During Inspection Documentation and Checklist Collection

As a reminder, complete the ENERGY STAR Checklists and collect HVAC documentation for every home.

- Now: Ensure documentation/checklists are completed and immediately available upon request.
- Later: In future, systems will be introduced for digital upload of the checklists and documentation.



During Inspection On-Site Photo Collection

Revision 14/05 introduces a list of photos that Raters are required to capture at each inspection, including:

- One geo-tagged and time-stamped Rater "selfie" per inspection (it is recommended, but not required, for other photos to be timestamped and geotagged).
- Overlap with ANSI / RESNET 301 and MINHERS photo lists.
 - For performance tests, one photo or automated report per test.
- Additional ENERGY STAR-specific checklist measures.
 - Capture at least one "representative" photo per specified item.



See applicable National Rater Field Checklist at <u>energystar.gov/newhomesrequirements</u>



ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes National Rater Field Checklist, Version 3.1 / 3.2 / 3.3 (Rev. 14)

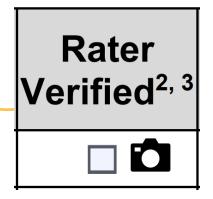
Home Address:	City:		State:	Permit Date:		_
Thermal Enclosure System			Must	Builder	Rater	N/A4
1. High-Performance Insulation & Fenestra	tion		Correc	t Verified ¹	Verified ^{2, 3}	3 N/A
1.1 Insulation meets specifications in National R	ater Design Review C	hecklist Item 2.1.		Pre-rock+50		-
1.2 All insulation achieves Grade I install. per AN	ISI / RESNET / ICC 3	01. Alternatives in Footnote 5	5,6	Pre-rock+50		-
1.3 Fenestration meets specifications in Nationa	Rater Design Review	v Checklist Items 2.1 & 2.2.		-		-
2. Fully-Aligned Air Barriers 7 - At each insul			ed that is fully ali	aned as follo	ws:	
<u>Ceilings</u> : At interior or exterior horizontal surface Climate Zones 4-8. Also, at exterior vertical surfa height of the insulation in every bay or a tabbed	ace of ceiling insulatio baffle in each bay with	n in all climate zones (e.g., us n a soffit vent that prevents w	sing a wind baffle	that extends ljacent bays)	to the full 8, 9	
2.1 Dropped ceilings / soffits below unconditione				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
Walls: At exterior vertical surface of wall insulation	on in all climate zones	; also at interior vertical surfa	ce of wall insulat	on in Climate		3. ^{9, 10}
2.2 Walls behind showers, tubs, staircases, and	fireplaces.			≤ 50 sq. ft.		
2.3 Attic knee walls and skylight shaft walls. 11				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.4 Walls adjoining porch roofs or garages.				≤ 50 sq. ft.		
2.5 Double-walls and all other exterior walls.				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		-
<u>Floors</u> : At exterior vertical surface of floor insulat including supports to ensure alignment. Alternati	ves in Footnotes 13 8	14. ^{12, 13, 14}			1	
2.6 Floors above garages, floors above uncondit				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.7 All other floors adjoining unconditioned space	e (e.g., rim / band jois	ts at exterior wall or at porch	roof). 🛛	≤ 50 sq. ft.		
 Reduced Thermal Bridging – Reduced the assessed per ANSI / RESNET / ICC 301. ¹⁵ 	rmal bridging strategi	es are not mandatory. Howev	ver, the following	details must	be accurate	ely
3.1 Insulated ceilings assessed at the attic edge	for variance in R-valu	e and install quality.		-		
3.2 Insulation assessed beneath attic platforms a	and walkways for varia	ance in R-value and install qu	ality. 🛛	-		
3.3 Attic access panels, drop-down stairs, & who	le-house fans assess	ed for insulated covers.		-		
3.4 Above-grade walls separating conditioned fro	om unconditioned spa	ce assessed for advanced fra	aming.	-		
3.5 Slabs on grade assessed for insulation when	e walls separate cond	itioned from unconditioned sp	ace.	-		
4. Air Sealing		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
4.1 Rater has verified each air sealing detail belo the use of caulk, foam, or equivalent material.	ow. In addition, the ho	me must meet Item 4.2. Unle	ss otherwise not	ed below, "se	aled" indica	ates
4.1.1 Ducts, flues, shafts, plumbing, piping, w space sealed, with blocking / flashing a		other penetrations to uncond	litioned	≤ 5 penetrations		-
4.1.2 Attic access panels, drop-down stairs, & equipped with covers that are gasketed		e gasketed (i.e., not caulked)	or 🛛	-		
4.1.3 Recessed lighting fixtures adjacent to u	nconditioned space a	re ICAT labeled and gasketed	i. 🗆	No Limit		
4.1.4 Drywall is sealed to top plate during ins wall interfaces. Drywall adhesive (but n				No Limit		
4.1.5 Rough opening around windows & exte	rior doors is sealed.			-		-
4.1.6 Walls that separate attached garages fr is installed and sealed at floor cavities			r barrier	-		
4.1.7 Doors adjacent to unconditioned space are made substantially air-tight with we			itions 🛛	-		
4.1.8 Above-grade sill plates adjacent to cond	litioned space sealed	to foundation or sub-floor.		No Limit		
4.1.9 In townhouses and duplexes, for fire-rai drywall common wall and the structural				No Limit		
4.2 Rater-measured air leakage of Dwelling or D	welling Unit meets on	e of the following: 16				
4.2.1 For all Versions except those noted bele For National v3.2 and CA v3.4:	ow: ≤ 4.5 ACH50 ≤ 4.0 ACH50	(see exception in Fn. 17) 17		-	۵D	
For National v3.3 and CA v3.5: 4.2.2 As an alternative, for a Dwelling with ≤ an attached Dwelling Unit, air leakage i	1,500 sq. ft. of Conditi		se, or		۵u	

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ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes National Rater Field Checklist, Version 3.1 / 3.2 / 3.3 (Rev. 14)

Home Address:	City:	State:	P	ermit Date:		
Thermal Enclosure System			Must	Builder	Rater	N/A
1. High-Performance Insulation & Fe	nestration		Correct	Verified ¹	Verified ^{2, 3}	
1.1 Insulation meets specifications in Nati	tional Rater Design Review Checklist Item 2	2.1.		Pre-rock+50	🗌 🗖	Ļ
1.2 All insulation achieves Grade I install.	. per ANSI / RESNET / ICC 301. Alternative	es in Footnote 5. 5, 6		Pre-rock+50		-
1.3 Fenestration meets specifications in N	National Rater Design Review Checklist Ite	ms 2.1 & 2.2.		-		-
2. Fully-Aligned Air Barriers 7 - At eac	ch insulated location below, a complete air l	barrier is provided that is	fully alig	ned as follov	NS:	
Climate Zones 4-8. Also, at exterior vertic	surface of ceiling insulation in Climate Zone cal surface of ceiling insulation in all climate tabbed baffle in each bay with a soffit vent t	e zones (e.g., using a wind	d baffle t	hat extends	to the full	n
		ar vertical ourface of well	_			-
	insulation in all climate zones; also at interio	or vertical surface of wall I				
2.2 Walls behind showers, tubs, staircase				≤ 50 sq. ft. □		
2.3 Attic knee walls and skylight shaft wa				≤ 50 sq. ft. □		
2.4 Walls adjoining porch roofs or garage				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.5 Double-walls and all other exterior wa				≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		-
Floors: At exterior vertical surface of floor including supports to ensure alignment. A	r insulation in all climate zones and, if over Alternatives in Footnotes 13 & 14. ^{12, 13, 14}	unconditioned space, also	o at inter	ior horizonta	al surface	
2.6 Floors above garages, floors above u	inconditioned basements or crawlspaces, a	nd cantilevered floors.		≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.7 All other floors adjoining unconditione	ed space (e.g., rim / band joists at exterior w	vall or at porch roof).		≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
3. Reduced Thermal Bridging – Redu assessed per ANSI / RESNET / ICC 301.	iced thermal bridging strategies are not mai	ndatory. However, the foll	lowing d	etails must t	be accurate	ely
3.1 Insulated ceilings assessed at the atti	ic edge for variance in R-value and install q	uality.		-		
3.2 Insulation assessed beneath attic plat	tforms and walkways for variance in R-valu	e and install quality.		-		
3.3 Attic access panels, drop-down stairs	, & whole-house fans assessed for insulate	ed covers.		-		
3.4 Above-grade walls separating condition	oned from unconditioned space assessed f	or advanced framing.		-		
0 1 0	on where walls separate conditioned from u	<u> </u>		-		
4. Air Sealing						
the use of caulk, foam, or equivalent mate		1	se noteo		aled" indica	ites
space sealed, with blocking / fla				≤ 5 penetrations □		-
4.1.2 Attic access panels, drop-down s equipped with covers that are ga	stairs, & whole house fans are gasketed (i.e asketed.	e., not caulked) or		-	۵D	
4.1.3 Recessed lighting fixtures adjace	ent to unconditioned space are ICAT labele	d and gasketed.		No Limit		
	ring installation, or from the attic side, at all e (but not other construction adhesives) is			No Limit		
4.1.5 Rough opening around windows	& exterior doors is sealed.			-		-
4.1.6 Walls that separate attached gar is installed and sealed at floor c	rages from occupiable space are sealed. In avities aligned with these walls.	addition, an air barrier		-	۵D	
	d space (e.g., attics, garages, basements) o with weatherstripping or equivalent gasket.			-		
4.1.8 Above-grade sill plates adjacent	to conditioned space sealed to foundation	or sub-floor.		No Limit		
4.1.9 In townhouses and duplexes, for	r fire-rated area separation walls, gap is sea			No Limit		
4.2 Rater-measured air leakage of Dwelling	ing or Dwelling Unit meets one of the follow	ing: ¹⁶		I		
4.2.1 For all Versions except those no For National v3.2 and CA v3.4: For National v3.3 and CA v3.5:	ted below: ≤ 4.5 ACH50 ≤ 4.0 ACH50 (see exceptior ≤ 3.5 ACH50 (see exceptior			-	۵D	
		ea, a Townhouse, or				



For each item with a camera icon, capture one representative photo of the strategy installed.



ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes National Rater Field Checklist, Version 3.1 / 3.2 / 3.3 (Rev. 14)

	C Syste				Must	Rater Verified ^{2, 3}	N/4
5. He				rading ¹⁹ or Track B - HVAC Credential ²⁰			
	5a.1 Blo	wer fan volu	metric airflow is Grade I or II per ANSI /	RESNET / ACCA / ICC 310.			
Track A	5a.2 Blo	wer fan watt	draw is Grade I or II per ANSI / RESNE	T / ACCA / ICC 310.			
	5a.3 Re	frigerant cha	rge is Grade I per ANSI / RESNET / AC	CA / ICC 310. See Footnote 21 for exemptions. ²¹			
	5b.1 HV	AC manufac	turer & model number on installed equip	oment matches either of the following (check box):22			
Track		ational HVA	C Design Report	Written approval received from designer			
в	5b.2 Ext	ternal static r	pressure measured by Rater at contract	pr-provided test locations and documented below:23			
				upply-Side External Static Pressure: IWC			1
				ning Checklist collected, with no items left blank.			[
6 Du				tion, Exhaust, & Pressure Balancing Ducts, Unless N			
			but kinks, sharp bends, compressions, o				
				ducts, dedicated return ducts, undercut doors) to			
ac	hieve a F	Rater-measur	red pressure differential ≥ -3 Pa and ≤ +	3 Pa with respect to the main body of the house Iternative compliance option in Footnote 25. ²⁵		۵	
				nnections to trunk ducts, are insulated to ≥ R-6. ²⁶			
				wo options. Alternative in Footnote 28: ^{27, 28, 29}		-	
	Rough-i	n: The greate	er of ≤ 4 CFM25 per 100 sq. ft. of CFA c	r ≤ 40 CFM25, with air handler & all ducts, building			
				sealed to finished surface, Rater-verified at final. 30			
6.4.2				30 CFM25, with the air handler & all ducts, building			
				finished surface (e.g., drywall, floor) installed. ³¹			
				M25 per 100 sq. ft. of CFA or ≤ 40 CFM25. 27, 32			
			ical Ventilation Systems ("Vent Sys				_
7.1 Ra	ater-meas	sured ventilat	tion rate is within either ± 15 CFM or ±1	5% of design report value. ³⁵			
7.2 A	readily-ad	ccessible ver	ntilation override control installed and als	so labeled if its function is not obvious (e.g., a label			
			vall switch, but not for a switch that's on		_		
7.3 Fo	or any out	door air inlet	connected to a ducted return of the HV	AC system (Complete if present; otherwise check "N	I/A"): ³⁴		
7.3.1	Controls	automatical	ly restrict airflow using a motorized dam	per during vent. off-cycle and occupant override. 37			
7.3.2	Rater-m						┢
		easured ven	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above design	n value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. 38			
7.4 Sy	/stem fan	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so	t. rate is \leq 15 CFM or 15% above designed intermittent and \leq 1 sone if contin	n value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹			
7.4 Sy 7.5 If	/stem fan Vent Syst	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle	t. rate is \leq 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and \leq 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa	n value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is			
7.4 Sy 7.5 lf ' E(/stem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the contro	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa ols will reduce the run-time by accountin	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰			
7.4 Sy 7.5 lf ' E(7.6 Ba	/stem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so em controlle or the contro ans are ENE	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa 58 will reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of th	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ le Vent System. ⁴¹			
7.4 Sy 7.5 If E0 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai	/stem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa r inlet loca	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the contro ans are ENE ation (Compl	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa swill reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of the tet if ventilation air inlet location was sp	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system ⁴¹ ecified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42. 4}			
7.4 Sy 7.5 If E0 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7.	vstem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa r inlet loca 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is i	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the control ans are ENE ation (Compl Ils ventilation ≥ 2 ft. above	I. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contine roperates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa swill reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of the et if ventilation air inlet location was sp a in clinectly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ in operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ re Vent System. ⁴¹ ecified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"); ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources			
7.4 Sy 7.5 If ' 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7.	vstem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa r inlet loca 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is a not exit	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the control ans are ENE ation (Compl Ils ventilation ≥ 2 ft. above ing the roof,	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa bs will reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of the te if ventilation air inlet location was spin air directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft, of stretched and ≥ 3 ft, distance from dryer exhausts	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ tee Vent System. ⁴¹ eedified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. -string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴	10 10 13 13		
7.4 Sy 7.5 If EC 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7. 7.7. 7.7.	vstem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa r inlet loca 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is a not exit 3 Inlet is j	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the control ans are ENE ation (Compl Ils ventilatior ≥ 2 ft. above ing the roof, provided with	t. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contin r operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa 58 will reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of the et if ventilation air inlet location was sp a air directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched and ≥ 3 ft. distance from dryer exhausts n rodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. me	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ lecified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42,} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. -string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴ tesh.			-
7.4 Sy 7.5 If EC 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7. 7.7. 7.7.	vstem fan Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa r inlet loca 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is a not exit 3 Inlet is j	easured ven rated ≤ 3 so tem controlle or the control ans are ENE ation (Compl Ils ventilatior ≥ 2 ft. above ing the roof, provided with	I. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above designes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if contine roperates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa she will reduce the run-time by accountin RGY STAR certified if used as part of the et if ventilation air inlet location was sp air directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched and ≥ 3 ft. distance from dryer exhausts nodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. me aust – In each kitchen and bathroom, a	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. ³⁸ uous, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ tee Vent System. ⁴¹ eedified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. -string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I		-
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ENERGY STAR Single-Family New Homes

National Rater Field Checklist, Version 3.1 / 3.2 / 3.3 (Rev. 14)

5. He	C Syste ating & (ipment - Complete Track A - HVAC G	rading ¹⁹ or Track B - HVAC Credential ²⁰	Must Correct	Rater Verified ^{2, 3}	N/A
			netric airflow is Grade I or II per ANSI /	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Track	L		draw is Grade I or II per ANSI / RESNE				
A				CA / ICC 310. See Footnote 21 for exemptions. ²¹			
				ment matches either of the following (check box):22			
Track			C Design Report	□ Written approval received from designer			
B				provided test locations and documented below: ²³			
			,	Imply-Side External Static Pressure: IWC			
				ning Checklist collected, with no items left blank.			
e D						_	
				ion, Exhaust, & Pressure Balancing Ducts, Unless N	1		
			ut kinks, sharp bends, compressions, or				
				lucts, dedicated return ducts, undercut doors) to B Pa with respect to the main body of the house		D D	
				ternative compliance option in Footnote 25. ²⁵			-
				nnections to trunk ducts, are insulated to \geq R-6. ²⁶			
				vo options. Alternative in Footnote 28: ^{27, 28, 29}			
				r ≤ 40 CFM25, with air handler & all ducts, building		1	
0.4.				sealed to finished surface, Rater-verified at final. ³⁰			
611				0 CFM25, with the air handler & all ducts, building			
0.4.4				finished surface (e.g., drywall, floor) installed. ³¹			
6 5 D				M25 per 100 sq. ft. of CFA or \leq 40 CFM25. ^{27, 32}			
			cal Ventilation Systems ("Vent Sys				
			on rate is within either ± 15 CFM or ±15				-
				o labeled if its function is not obvious (e.g., a label			-
			all switch, but not for a switch that's on		24		-
				AC system (Complete if present; otherwise check "N			
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	per during vent. off-cycle and occupant override. 37			-
7.3.2	2 Rater-m	easured vent	. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above design	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. 38			- 1
					_		
7.4 S	ystem fan	rated ≤ 3 sor	nes if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if continu	· ·			-
				· ·			-
7.5 lf E	Vent Syst CM / ICM	em controller or the control	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fan Is will reduce the run-time by accounting	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰			-
7.5 lf E 7.6 B	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa	em controller or the control ans are ENEF	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa ls will reduce the run-time by accounting RGY STAR certified if used as part of th	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹			-
7.5 lf E 7.6 B	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa	em controller or the control ans are ENEF	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fa ls will reduce the run-time by accounting RGY STAR certified if used as part of th	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰			-
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7.5 lf E0 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7.	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa ir inlet loc 1 Inlet pu	em controller or the control ans are ENEF ation (Comple Ils ventilation	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fai s will reduce the run-time by accounting RGY STAR certified if used as part of th te if ventilation air inlet location was sp air directly from outdoors and not from	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ scified on design report; otherwise check *N/A*): ^{42,4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit.	3		
7.5 lf E0 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7.	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa ir inlet loc 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is	em controller or the control ans are ENEF ation (Comple Ils ventilation ≥ 2 ft. above g	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fai s will reduce the run-time by accounting RGY STAR certified if used as part of th te if ventilation air inlet location was sp air directly from outdoors and not from	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ In operation is intermittent and either the fan type is for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ actified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42,4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources			
7.5 lf E0 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7. 7.7.	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fa ir inlet loca 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is not exit	em controller or the control ans are ENEF ation (Comple Ils ventilation ≥ 2 ft. above g ing the roof, a	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fails will reduce the run-time by accounting RGY STAR certified if used as part of the ste if ventilation air inlet location was spear in directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; \geq 10 ft. of stretched-	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ ecified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴	3		
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7.5 If E 7.6 B 7.7 Ai 7.7 Ai 7.7.7 7.7.7 7.7.7 8.1 Co Locat 8.1 Ki 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 9.1 M ai 9.2 Fi 10. C 10.1 F 10.2 F 10.2 F	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fr ir inlet loc: 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is not exit 3 Inlet is cal Mech tion tchen ttchen tration ERV 6+ fr r passes I Iter acces ombusti -urnaces, Tireplaces	em controller or the control ans are ENEF ation (Complet Ills ventilation e 2 ft. above c ing the roof, a provided with anical Exha Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Iter(s) installe hrough filter(: s panel incluc on Applianc boilers, & wa are mechani	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fai s will reduce the run-time by accounting GY STAR certified if used as part of th the if ventilation air inlet location was spi air directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched- nd ≥ 3 ft. distance from dryer exhausts rodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. me ust – In each kitchen and bathroom, a the following Rater-measured airf Continuous Rate ≥ 5 ACH, based on kitchen volume ^{47,48} Recommended: ≤ 1 sone ≥ 20 CFM Required: ≤ 1 sone din each ducted mech. system, design s) prior to conditioning, and located to fa des gasket and fits snugly against expor res ther heaters are mechanically drafted or cally drafted or direct-vented. Alternativ m appliances other than cooking ranges	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is j for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ actified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴ sh. system is installed that exhausts directly to the outd low and manufacturer-rated sound level standards: Intermittent Rate ⁴⁶ ≥ 100 CFM and, if not integrated with range, also ≥ 5 ACH based on kitchen volume ^{47, 48, 49} Recommended: ≤ 3 sones ≥ 50 CFM Recommended: ≤ 3 sones ed so all return and mechanically supplied outdoor icilitate occupant access & regular service. ⁵⁰ direct-vented. Alternatives in Footnote 54. ^{52, 53, 54} es in Footnote 55. ^{52, 53, 55} a or ovens are located inside the home's pressure	Coors and 35, 45		- - - of -
7.5 If E F 7.6 B 7.7 Ai 7.7. Ai 7.7. 7.7. 7.7. 8. Loc 8.1 Ki 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 8.2 B 9.2 Fill 9.1 M ai 9.2 Fi 10.2 F 10.1 F 10.2 F Rater	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fr ir inlet loc: 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is 3 Inlet is cal Mech tion tchen tthroom tration ERV 6+ fr r passes 1 ERV 6+ ft r passes 1 ERV 6+ ft r passes 1 Fireplaces No unvent soundary. Name:	em controller or the control ans are ENEF ation (Complet Ills ventilation e 2 ft. above c ing the roof, a provided with anical Exha Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Iter(s) installe hrough filter(: s panel incluc on Applianc boilers, & wa are mechani	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fai s will reduce the run-time by accounting GSY STAR certified if used as part of th the firent of the second of the second of the grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched- and ≥ 3 ft. distance from dryer exhausts rodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. me ust – In each kitchen and bathroom, a the following Rater-measured aiff Continuous Rate ≥ 5 ACH, based on kitchen volume ^{47, 48} Recommended: ≤ 1 sone ≥ 20 CFM Required: ≤ 1 sone di n each ducted mech. system, design s) prior to conditioning, and located to fa des gasket and fits snugly against expor- ses tet rheaters are mechanically drafted or cally drafted or direct-vented. Alternativ no appliances other than cooking ranges Footnote 57. ^{82, 56, 57}	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ ecified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴ sh. system is installed that exhausts directly to the outdi low and manufacturer-rated sound level standards: Intermittent Rate ⁴⁰ ≥ 100 CFM and, if not integrated with range, also ≥ 5 ACH based on kitchen volume ^{47, 48, 49} Recommended: ≤ 3 sones ed so all return and mechanically supplied outdoor icilitate occupant access & regular service. ⁵⁰ sed edge of filter when closed to prevent bypass. ⁵¹ direct-vented. Alternatives in Footnote 54, ^{62, 53, 54} es in Footnote 55, ^{52, 53, 55} s or ovens are located inside the home's pressure ection Date ⁵⁶ : Rater Initials:	Correction of the second secon	meets one	
7.5 If E 7.6 Ba 7.7 Ai 7.7.7 7.7.7 8. Locat 8.1 Ki 8.2 Ba 8.1 Ki 9.2 Fill 9.2 Fi 10.2 Fi 10.2 Fi 10.3 C 10.1 F 10.2 Fi 10.3 C Rater Rater	Vent Syst CM / ICM athroom fr ir inlet loc: 1 Inlet pu 2 Inlet is not exit 3 Inlet is cal Mech tion tchen ttchen tration ERV 6+ fr r passes I Iter acces ombusti -urnaces, Tireplaces	em controller or the control ans are ENEF tation (Comple Ils ventilation ≥ 2 ft. above ç provided with anical Exha Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Airflow Sound Hter(s) installe hrough filter(s panel incluc on Applianc are mechani ed combustic Alternative in	operates the HVAC fan, then HVAC fai s will reduce the run-time by accounting GY STAR certified if used as part of th the if ventilation air inlet location was spi air directly from outdoors and not from grade or roof deck; ≥ 10 ft. of stretched- nd ≥ 3 ft. distance from dryer exhausts rodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. me ust – In each kitchen and bathroom, a the following Rater-measured airf Continuous Rate ≥ 5 ACH, based on kitchen volume ^{47,48} Recommended: ≤ 1 sone ≥ 20 CFM Required: ≤ 1 sone din each ducted mech. system, design s) prior to conditioning, and located to fa des gasket and fits snugly against expor res ther heaters are mechanically drafted or cally drafted or direct-vented. Alternativ m appliances other than cooking ranges	ious, or exempted. ³⁹ n operation is intermittent and either the fan type is g for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰ e Vent System. ⁴¹ actified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): ^{42, 4} attic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit. string distance from known contamination sources and sources exiting the roof. ⁴⁴ sh. system is installed that exhausts directly to the outdi low and manufacturer-rated sound level standards: Intermittent Rate ⁴⁶ ≥ 100 CFM and, if not integrated with range, also ≥ 5 ACH based on kitchen volume ^{47,48,49} Recommended: ≤ 3 sones ed so all return and mechanically supplied outdoor actilitate occupant access & regular service. ⁵⁰ sed edge of filter when closed to prevent bypass. ⁵¹ direct-vented. Alternatives in Footnote 54, ^{52,53,54} es in Footnote 55, ^{52, 53, 55} a or ovens are located inside the home's pressure ection Date ⁵⁸ :	Correction of the second secon		

At each inspection (i.e., pre-drywall and final), the Rater is required to capture a geo-tagged and time-stamped photo of themselves in front of the dwelling unit.

als: Photo of Rater ³ 🗆 🗖
als: Photo of Rater ³

During Inspection On-Site Photo Collection

- **1** Rater "selfie" per inspection
- **8** photos of ENERGY STAR checklist items:
 - Air barriers, attic hatch gasket, and garage wall separation.
- **10** items reinforcing existing photo requirements from ANSI-301 Normative Appendix B:
 - Insulation, equipment model number, and performance tests.



Thermal Enclosure System 1. High-Performance Insulation & Fenestration	Must Correct	Builder Verified ¹	Rater Verified ^{2, 3}	N/A4
Ŭ		Pre-rock+50		
 1.1 Insulation meets specifications in National Rater Design Review Checklist Item 2.1. 1.2 All insulation achieves Grade I install. per ANSI / RESNET / ICC 301. Alternatives in Footnote 5. ^{5, 6} 		Pre-rock+50		-
1.3 Fenestration meets specifications in National Rater Design Review Checklist Items 2.1 & 2.2.				-
		-		-
2. Fully-Aligned Air Barriers ⁷ - At each insulated location below, a complete air barrier is provided that is Ceilings: At interior or exterior horizontal surface of ceiling insulation in Climate Zones 1-3; at interior horizon	, ,			n
Climate Zones 4-8. Also, at exterior vertical surface of ceiling insulation in all climate zones (e.g., using a with height of the insulation in every bay or a tabbed baffle in each bay with a soffit vent that prevents wind washi	nd baffle t	that extends	to the full	
2.1 Dropped ceilings / soffits below unconditioned attics, and all other ceilings.	Ŭ 🗆	≤ 50 sq. ft.		
Walls: At exterior vertical surface of wall insulation in all climate zones; also at interior vertical surface of wall	l insulatio	n in Climate	Zones 4-8	9, 10
2.2 Walls behind showers, tubs, staircases, and fireplaces.		≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.3 Attic knee walls and skylight shaft walls. ¹¹		≤ 50 sq. ft. □		
2.4 Walls adjoining porch roofs or garages.		≤ 50 sq. ft.		
2.5 Double-walls and all other exterior walls.		≤ 50 sq. ft.		-
Floors: At exterior vertical surface of floor insulation in all climate zones and, if over unconditioned space, als				
including supports to ensure alignment. Alternatives in Footnotes 13 & 14. 12, 13, 14				
2.6 Floors above garages, floors above unconditioned basements or crawlspaces, and cantilevered floors.		≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
2.7 All other floors adjoining unconditioned space (e.g., rim / band joists at exterior wall or at porch roof).		≤ 50 sq. ft. 🔲		
 Reduced Thermal Bridging – Reduced thermal bridging strategies are not mandatory. However, the for assessed per ANSI / RESNET / ICC 301. ¹⁵ 	llowing d	etails must l	be accurate	ely
3.1 Insulated ceilings assessed at the attic edge for variance in R-value and install quality.		-		
3.2 Insulation assessed beneath attic platforms and walkways for variance in R-value and install quality.		-		
3.3 Attic access panels, drop-down stairs, & whole-house fans assessed for insulated covers.		-		
3.4 Above-grade walls separating conditioned from unconditioned space assessed for advanced framing.		-		
3.5 Slabs on grade assessed for insulation where walls separate conditioned from unconditioned space.		-		
4. Air Sealing				
4.1 Rater has verified each air sealing detail below. In addition, the home must meet Item 4.2. Unless otherw the use of caulk, foam, or equivalent material.	ise note	d below, "sea	aled" indica	ates
4.1.1 Ducts, flues, shafts, plumbing, piping, wiring, exhaust fans, & other penetrations to unconditioned space sealed, with blocking / flashing as needed.		≤ 5 penetrations □		-
4.1.2 Attic access panels, drop-down stairs, & whole house fans are gasketed (i.e., not caulked) or equipped with covers that are gasketed.		-	۵D	
4.1.3 Recessed lighting fixtures adjacent to unconditioned space are ICAT labeled and gasketed.		No Limit		
4.1.4 Drywall is sealed to top plate during installation, or from the attic side, at all unconditioned attic / wall interfaces. Drywall adhesive (but not other construction adhesives) is permitted to be used.		No Limit		
4.1.5 Rough opening around windows & exterior doors is sealed.		-		-
4.1.6 Walls that separate attached garages from occupiable space are sealed. In addition, an air barrier is installed and sealed at floor cavities aligned with these walls.		-		
4.1.7 Doors adjacent to unconditioned space (e.g., attics, garages, basements) or ambient conditions are made substantially air-tight with weatherstripping or equivalent gasket.		-		
4.1.8 Above-grade sill plates adjacent to conditioned space sealed to foundation or sub-floor.		No Limit		
4.1.9 In townhouses and duplexes, for fire-rated area separation walls, gap is sealed between the drywall common wall and the structural framing at all exterior boundaries.		No Limit		
			-	
4.2 Rater-measured air leakage of Dwelling or Dwelling Unit meets one of the following: ¹⁶	1		_	
4.2 Rater-measured air leakage of Dwelling or Dwelling Unit meets one of the following: ¹⁶ 4.2.1 For all Versions except those noted below: For National v3.2 and CA v3.4: ≤ 4.5 ACH50 5 ACH50 (see exception in Fn. 17) ¹⁷ For National v3.3 and CA v3.5: ≤ 3.5 ACH50 (see exception in Fn. 17) ¹⁷		-		

	HVAC System ¹⁸ 5. Heating & Cooling Equipment - Complete Track A - HVAC Grading ¹⁹ or Track B - HVAC Credential ²⁰				Rater Verified ^{2, 3}	N/A 4
		umetric airflow is Grade I or II per ANSI / F	<u> </u>			
Track 5a 2		tt draw is Grade I or II per ANSI / RESNET				
A		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	A / ICC 310. See Footnote 21 for exemptions. ²¹			
	<u> </u>	• ·	nent matches either of the following (check box): ²²			
		AC Design Report	□ Written approval received from designer			
THUCK		-	-provided test locations and documented below: ²³	-		
			oply-Side External Static Pressure: IWC			
			ing Checklist collected, with no items left blank.			
-		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	on, Exhaust, & Pressure Balancing Ducts, Unless N	_		
	•	out kinks, sharp bends, compressions, or				
achieve	a Rater-measu	red pressure differential ≥ -3 Pa and ≤ +3	ucts, dedicated return ducts, undercut doors) to Pa with respect to the main body of the house ernative compliance option in Footnote 25. ²⁵		0	-
			nections to trunk ducts, are insulated to \geq R-6. ²⁶			
6.4 Rater-me	easured total d	uct leakage meets one of the following two	o options. Alternative in Footnote 28: 27, 28, 29		1	
		•	≤ 40 CFM25, with air handler & all ducts, building			
			ealed to finished surface, Rater-verified at final. ³⁰ CFM25, with the air handler & all ducts, building			
caviti	es used as du	cts, duct boots, & register grilles atop the f	inished surface (e.g., drywall, floor) installed. ³¹			
			25 per 100 sq. ft. of CFA or ≤ 40 CFM25. ^{27, 32}			
7. Dwelling	Unit Mechar	nical Ventilation Systems ("Vent System	em") ³³ & Inlets in Return Duct ³⁴			
7.1 Rater-me	easured ventila	ation rate is within either \pm 15 CFM or \pm 15%	% of design report value. ³⁵			-
is require	ed for a toggle	wall switch, but not for a switch that's on t				-
7.3 For any o	outdoor air inle	et connected to a ducted return of the HVA	C system (Complete if present; otherwise check "N	/A"): ³⁴		
7.3.1 Contr	ols automatica	Ily restrict airflow using a motorized damp	er during vent. off-cycle and occupant override. 37			-
7.3.2 Rater	-measured ver	nt. rate is ≤ 15 CFM or 15% above design	value at highest HVAC fan speed. Alt. in Fn. 38. 38			-
7.4 System f	an rated ≤ 3 so	ones if intermittent and ≤ 1 sone if continue	ous, or exempted. 39			-
			operation is intermittent and either the fan type is for HVAC system heating or cooling hours. ⁴⁰			
7.6 Bathroor	n fans are EN	ERGY STAR certified if used as part of the	Vent System. 41			
7.7 Air inlet I	ocation (Comp	lete if ventilation air inlet location was spe	cified on design report; otherwise check "N/A"): 42, 4	3		
7.7.1 Inlet	pulls ventilatio	n air directly from outdoors and not from a	ttic, crawlspace, garage, or adjacent dwelling unit.			-
7.7.2 Inlet	is ≥ 2 ft. above		tring distance from known contamination sources			-
		th rodent / insect screen with ≤ 0.5 in. mes	· · ·			-
	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	aust – In each kitchen and bathroom, a s	ystem is installed that exhausts directly to the outdow and manufacturer-rated sound level standards:		meets one	of
Location		Continuous Rate	Intermittent Rate 46			_
	A := 0	≥ 5 ACH,	≥ 100 CFM and, if not integrated with range,			
8.1 Kitchen	Airflow	based on kitchen volume 47, 48	also \geq 5 ACH based on kitchen volume ^{47, 48, 49}			-
	Sound	Recommended: ≤ 1 sone	Recommended: ≤ 3 sones			
	Airflow	≥ 20 CFM	≥ 50 CFM			
8.2 Bathroor	n Sound	Required: ≤ 1 sone	Recommended: ≤ 3 sones			-
9. Filtration	1		1			·
			ed so all return and mechanically supplied outdoor cilitate occupant access & regular service. ⁵⁰			
	<u> </u>		ed edge of filter when closed to prevent bypass. ⁵¹			
	stion Appliar					
			direct-vented. Alternatives in Footnote 54. 52, 53, 54			
		nically drafted or direct-vented. Alternative				
		in Footnote 57. ^{52, 56, 57}	or ovens are located inside the home's pressure			

On-Site Photos for Multifamily New Construction (MFNC)

For MFNC, the National Rater Field Checklist defers to the existing MFNC Photo Documentation Guidance Document, which generally requires one photo per unique appliance/assembly/instance/etc.

Rater Name:	Rater Pre-Drywall Inspection Date(s) 88:	Rater Initials:
Rater Company Name:	On-site Photos Documented ⁸⁹	
Rater Name:	Rater Final Inspection Date(s) ⁹⁰ :	Rater Initials:
Rater Company Name:	On-site Photos Documented ⁸⁹	

89. The Rater is required to capture photos according to the Photo Documentation Guidance Document available at <u>www.energystar.gov/</u> <u>mfnc</u>, which generally requires one representative photo per building for each specified item, as well as one geo-tagged and time-stamped photo of the Rater in front of the dwelling unit or building during each inspection.



During Inspection On-Site Photo Collection

- Now: Ensure the photos already specified in ANSI / RESNET 301 and MINHERS are being captured.
- **Soon:** With Rev 14/05, <u>capture</u> additional photos as specified on the National Rater Field checklist; be prepared to provide on request.
- Later: In future, systems will be introduced for centralized photo upload.



See applicable National Rater Field Checklist at <u>energystar.gov/newhomesrequirements</u>

After Inspection Printing of ENERGY STAR Label/Certificate

As a reminder, the ENERGY STAR label and certificate are authorized to be printed via approved rating software <u>only</u>, which helps ensure certifications are accurately reflected in the RESNET Registry.

• Now: Ensure the label/certificate is being printed directly from approved rating software.



After Inspection New QC Checklist for Rev 14/05

Rev. 14/05 will introduce forthcoming updates to the ENERGY STAR Quality Control / Certification Review checklists.

- Focused on file review; field review will use standard checklist
- New photo review task, for partial assurance of installed measures.
- **Soon:** Use new QC checklist for homes/apartments certified using Rev. 14/05.



After Inspection Direct HCO Quality Control Review

RESNET Staff will begin performing randomly selected quality control reviews on a fraction of rating files submitted for ENERGY STAR certification.

- Two levels of review:
 - File/Photo Completeness + ENERGY STAR Checklists
 - In-depth RESNET QA File Review + ENERGY STAR QA Checklist
- RESNET staff will perform quality control file review and send feedback and/or corrections, if applicable.
- Now: QA Reviews will not impact registration or printing certificates
- Later: Direct HCO Quality Control Review will occur prior to Certification.



Stretch Goals



Stretch Goals

- <u>In the future</u>, for the 10% of homes selected, it will be required to complete the QC File Review before completing a certification.
 - This ensures any deficiencies are discovered when there is still a chance to fix, and avoid the possibility of a "clawback".
- To be successful, file reviews should be performed frequently, as a continuous activity "catch and kill."
- To prepare, begin working towards:
 - → More frequent reviews don't wait until the end of the quarter!
 - └→ Coverage plans for work schedules, vacations, etc.



Summary



2025 QAQC To-Do List

"Freebies": Check Rater/RFI training records, including MFNC training. Check that program checklists are being completed and well organized. Check labels/certificates are printed via approved software.

□ Ensure QADs working on multifamily projects have MFNC training.

Attend 1-hour "ENERGY STAR Year Ahead" training module (recommended).

Capture the photos specified in Rev. 14/05 National Rater Field Checklist.

□ Transition to the Rev. 14/05 ENERGY STAR Quality Control checklist.

Be prepared to engage with RESNET staff's direct file review, upon request.

□ *Stretch Goal:* Accelerate your QC file reviews



More info to come

Expect additional information throughout the year, including:

- The EPA will re-present the conference sessions this spring at its Partner Meeting webinar series (forthcoming).
- A webinar on Rev. 14/05 ENERGY STAR QC Checklist, once released.
- RESNET's scheduled QAD webinars and rountables.
- Additional RESNET webinar(s) for general audience.
- Emailed guidance/instructions from RESNET.



More at the conference (RESNET):

Updates to the RESNET QA Program for 2025/Future of QA

Tuesday 1:00 PM at San Pedro – Scott Doyle, Laurel Elam, and Billy Giblin

Instructor Roundtable Tuesday 2:30 PM at San Pedro – Scott Doyle, Laurel Elam, and Billy Giblin

QAD Roundtable

Tuesday 4:00 PM at San Pedro- Scott Doyle, Laurel Elam, Billy Giblin, and Ryan Moore



More at the conference (EPA):

A Beginner's Guide to ENERGY STAR Multifamily New Construction Monday 4:00 PM at Joshua Tree – Rebecca Hudson, Gayathri Vijayakumar (SWA)

Tips and Tricks for Meeting the Latest ENERGY STAR Program Requirements – and Beyond Tuesday 1:00 PM at Joshua Tree – Dean Gamble, Rebecca Hudson

ENERGY STAR: Multifamily New Construction (MFNC) Revision 5 Tuesday 2:00 PM at Joshua Tree – Rebecca Hudson, Gayathri Vijayakumar (SWA)

Level up with ENERGY STAR NextGen: Program Updates and Rater Training Tuesday 4:00 PM at Joshua Tree – Zak Shadid, Dylan Tindall (the BER)





Questions?

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