**RESNET SDC 200 RFI Certification Requirements TG Meeting**

April 9th, 2025

Second & Fourth Wednesdays of the Month

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

[Recorded Meeting](https://zoom.us/rec/share/NKPt86eEbj5AtirbAiS7auodMi3dUTpKnTLn3PBr6pHYTZvXEUtTUUr5ryVEo8CO.FSkwRlIOMXaSgcOM?startTime=1744213012000)

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Members Present: Eurihea Speciale, Mark Schroer, Rod Buchalter, Mary English, Robert Cantrell

Staff: Katie Stewart

Meeting began at 11:37 AM ET

1. **Training Updates:**
	1. Outdated and costly simulation training was identified as an issue, particularly for Rating Field Inspectors (RFIs). Few professionals perform combustion safety testing, and field inspectors aren’t required to take practical simulations. The need to update training was discussed and will need to be revisited later.
2. **Industry Standards and Misinterpretations:**
	1. The committee acknowledged varying interpretations of industry standards, which have caused ongoing confusion. The goal moving forward is to clarify and align the language in the Standards to avoid further misinterpretation.
3. **Mary English’s Question:**
	1. Mary inquired whether RFIs are authorized for pre-drywall, insulation, and thermal bridging inspections. A background explanation was provided.
	2. Eurihea Speciale provided background on the RESCAZ exam. RESNET developed its own combustion safety testing standard under the previous MINHERS Chapter 8 and later adopted the ANSI ACA QH12 standard for combustion safety testing, which is now used as RESCAZ. RESCAZ includes gas leak detection, combustion safety testing, ambient air testing, and worst-case depressurization testing. Combustion safety testing is not required for a HERS rating, but some programs, like the one previously run by NYSERDA in New York, did require RESNET and BPI certifications for combustion safety testing as part of the HERS process. Currently, the Energy Star program is the only one with a notable requirement for combustion safety testing, which applies to homes with specific combustion equipment, such as water heaters with spillage risks. This requirement is included in the Energy Star field checklist.
4. **Certifications and Roles:**
	1. There are three main certifications: HERS Rater, Energy Modeler, and Rating Field Inspector (RFI). RFIs handle fieldwork (inspections, testing, data collection) under the direction of HERS Raters.
	2. RFIs must meet specific qualifications to work on programs like Energy Star and DOE Zero Energy Ready Home, with additional credentials available for HVAC grading.
5. **Combustion Safety Testing:**
	1. Combustion safety testing (RESCAZ) is not required for a HERS rating but is necessary for some programs like Energy Star. The committee discussed the increasing shift toward high-efficiency, direct-vent equipment, reducing the need for combustion safety checks in some regions.
6. **Concerns About Online and Infield Training:**
	1. Issues were raised about online training providers not meeting infield requirements. The group agreed that RFIs should be trained in a field environment, with further refinement needed in the standards to ensure this.
7. **Next Steps:**
	1. The committee agreed that RFIs should be trained in field verification, testing, and data collection for HERS ratings, though they debated whether RFIs should receive the same level of training as HERS Raters. A focus will be on aligning RFI certification with HERS Rater standards, particularly around practical simulations and field training.
	2. The committee plans to revisit training requirements and certification processes in the next meeting, aiming for consensus and eventual review by the full committee.
8. **Future Meetings:**
	1. Eurihea proposed that the revised requirements be sent to the full committee for review and a vote after the next meeting, which is scheduled in two weeks.
	2. Discussions will continue regarding the alignment of RFIs and HERS Rater training and certifications, with a focus on ensuring clarity and consistency in the standards.

**Action Items:**

* Review and revise language in industry standards.
* Align RFI training with HERS Rater standards, focusing on practical simulations and field training.
* Address concerns regarding online training providers and field training verification.
* Prepare for a vote on revised requirements in the next meeting.

**Next Meeting:** April 23rd, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM ET