# **BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON**

# Home Energy Labeling: The New Granite Countertops of Real Estate

August 14, 2020 · 11:00 am

#### **Presenters:**

Samantha Caputo (NEEP), Julia Dumaine (CT DEEP), Ellen Tohn (Tohn Environmental Strategies) & Craig Foley (LEAR Realty Partners)



# Home Energy Labeling: The New Granite Countertops of Real Estate

Building Energy Boston – NESEA August 14, 2020

#### **Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships**



"Assist the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region to reduce building sector energy consumption by at least 3% per year and carbon emissions by at least 40% by 2030 (relative to 2001)"

#### **Mission**

We seek to accelerate regional collaboration to promote advanced energy efficiency and related solutions in homes, buildings, industry, and communities.

#### **Vision**

We envision the region's homes, buildings, and communities transformed into efficient, affordable, low-carbon, resilient places to live, work, and play.

#### **Approach**

Drive market transformation regionally by fostering collaboration and innovation, developing tools, and disseminating knowledge



#### **Today's Speakers**





Julia Dumaine
Economist, Connecticut DEEP



**Samantha Caputo**Senior Policy Associate, NEEP



Ellen Tohn
Tohn Environmental Strategies



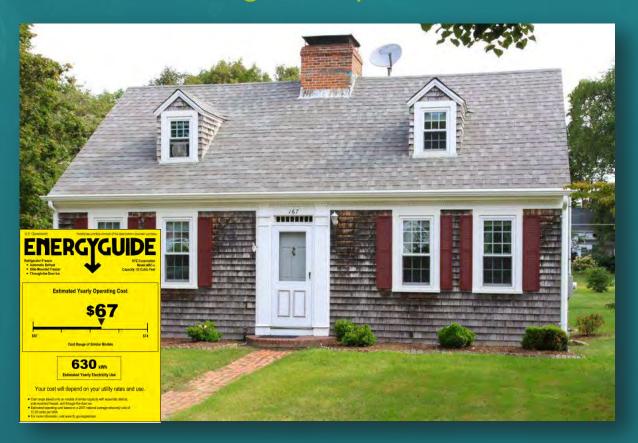
**Craig Foley**CSO, LAER Realty Partners

#### Why Residential Labeling?



#### **FIRST STEP** Towards Improving Energy Performance

You can't manage what you don't measure



#### Making the Invisible, Visible



#### State and Local Gov't

- Support for energy efficiency and clean energy program management
- Labeling and retrofitting homes to meet state energy and climate goals
- Economic growth
  - home performance contractors, energy auditors, weatherization installers, HVAC technicians, etc.

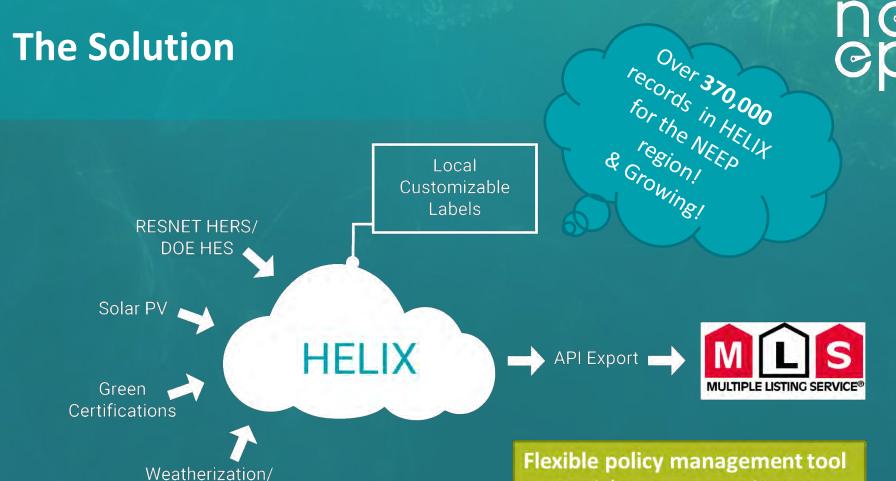
#### **Real Estate Professionals**

- Lenders, Realtors, & appraisers use labeling in mortgaging, marketing, & appraising
- Access to verified data
- Meet market interest in sustainable and high performing homes
- Transparency for buyers and sellers

## The Gap







Systems data

- Track/manage compliance
- Export to local MLS
- Create custom labels
- Access for local real estate professionals
- Trainings and technical assistance

# The Many Benefits of Residential Labeling





Health



**Energy Savings** 



Comfort



Resilience



Safety



Cleaner Environment



**Cost Savings** 



Reduced Greenhouse Gases

# Motivating Energy Efficiency Improvements through Home Energy Labeling

Julia Dumaine

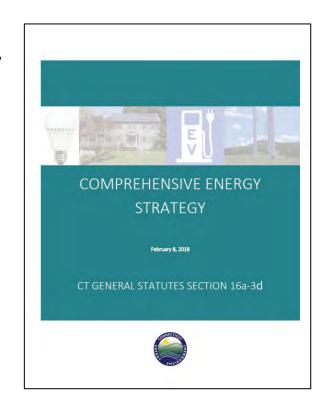
Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



# 2018 CT Comprehensive Energy Strategy

# Strategy #2: Advance market transformation of the energy efficiency industry

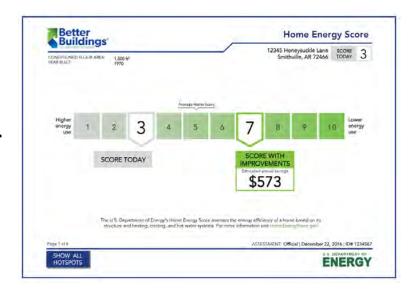
- A. Integrate energy efficiency with real estate market forces
- B. Develop a sustainable workforce to meet industry demand
- C. Standardize efficiency with energy performance codes, standards, and certifications
- D. Transition to cleaner thermal fuels and technologies





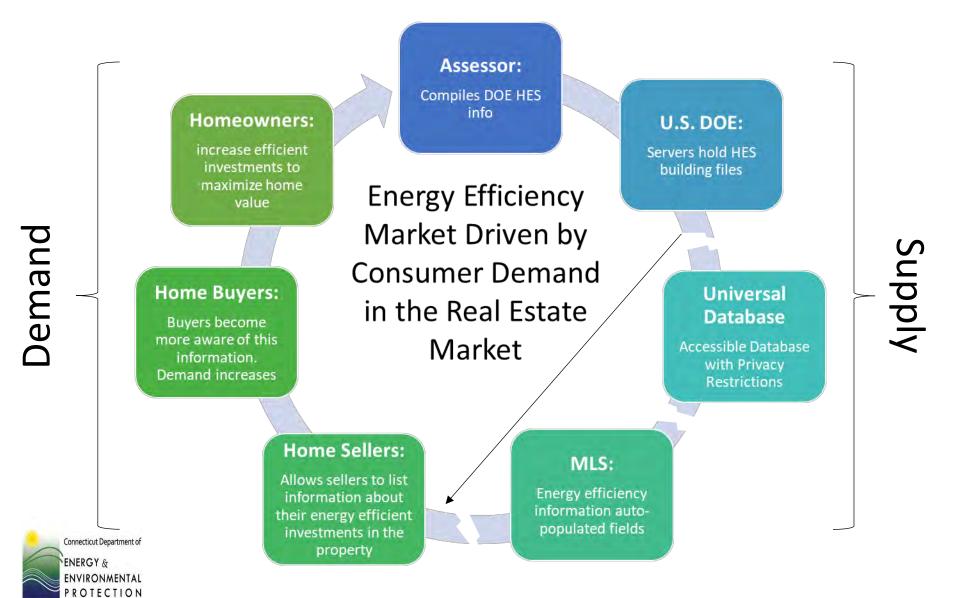
## Home Energy Labeling in Connecticut

- Statutory goal of achieving market transformation through C&LM programs
- Connecticut was first statewide Home Energy Score implementer in April 2015
- Home Energy Score is a feature of all energy assessments in qualifying homes that opt-in
- All lead technicians are required to be Assessors





#### Real Estate-Driven Market Transformation



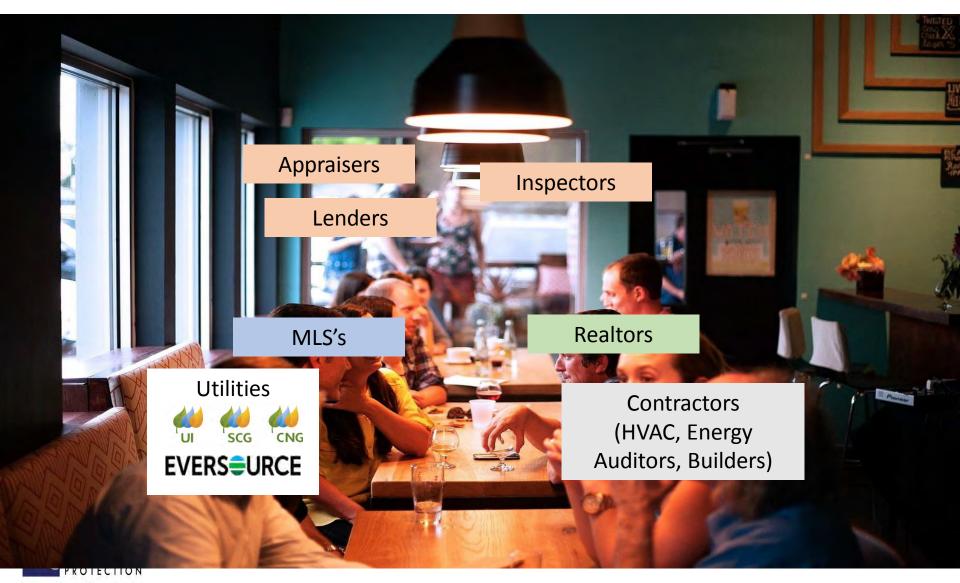
## Creating a Database

- Home Energy Labeling Information eXchange (HELIX)
  - Three-year project to develop the universal database capable of auto-populating real estate listings with home energy information in a standardized format
  - Partnership of seven states (New England + New York) using U.S. DOE SEP Competitive Grant received by Vermont





### Who Needs to be at the Table?



## **Engaging Contractors**

#### Leverage existing communication pathways.

• CT focused on utility Home Energy Solutions contractors to start

## Conduct outreach to ensure their questions and concerns are addressed.

• Held roundtables and circulated surveys to understand contractor concerns.

#### Employ consistent messaging.

Took the top FAQs and created messaging materials to share and train on.

#### Build and maintain technical knowledge.

• Engage with DOE, they are a resource to help build technical knowledge.

#### How can you express the benefit to contractors?

• DOE Home Energy Score creates a roadmap of deeper energy efficiency measures for customers which contractors can leverage as a sales tool.

## **Engaging Contractors- examples of concerns**

"A lower score may end up being detrimental to a home,"

#### FALSE: a more informed consumer makes a better decision.

- a) <u>Studies</u> have shown that homebuyers like having energy information, and high bills or a low score do not necessarily "kill" a sale
- b) A low score does not necessarily mean that a home is poorly built.
  - The score estimates a home's total energy use, not energy per sq. ft.
  - A 4,000sq. Foot, beautiful home will likely be expected to use more energy each year than the average U.S. home



## **Engaging Realtors**

# Customize training to meet them where they are.

 Working with local realtor associations to engage on familiar platforms and provide CEU's

#### Use data and evidence.

 Demonstrate that the stock of data is growing, available, and be prepared to address concerns about labeling.

#### Engage them in the process.

 Most realtor associations and MLSs are member-based organizations. Education helps empower them to demand change.





Craig Foley, CSO and REALTOR®, conducting a training on energy efficiency and solar PV for Connecticut realtors in September, 2019.

## **Engaging the Multiple Listing Services**

#### Establish the necessary technology.

HELIX allowed us to establish credibility and open discussions.

#### Recognize and adjust to different industry timelines.

• MLS board engagement can change.

#### Leverage their membership base—the realtor community.

Educate the realtors to demand this information be available.

#### Build and maintain technical knowledge.

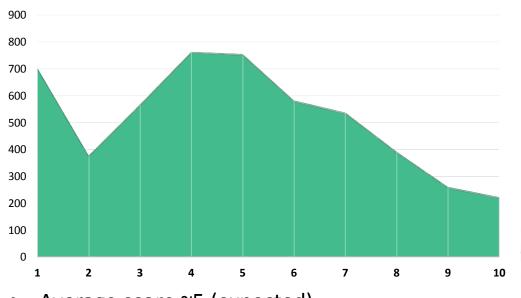
Bring their IT staff to the table if possible.

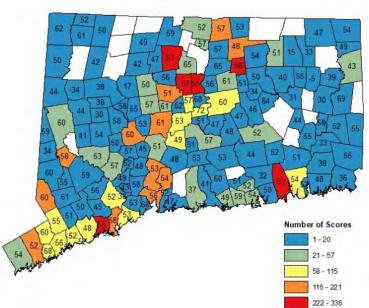
#### **Track Your Data**

- Connecticut has almost 15,000 property records in HELIX to date
  - Includes LEED, HERS Index, DOE Home Energy Score, and NGBS New Construction

No. of Home Energy Scores since 2018

HERS Index Average Score by Town





Average score ~5 (expected)

Score	Average Baseline Asset Energy (MBTU)	Average Year Built	Average Square Footage
1	181	1949	2,803
5	95	1965	2,011
10	39	1975	1,794

## **Additional Challenges**

- Stream-lining re-scoring of updated homes
- Improving lender and appraiser education and exposure
- Increase contractor-motivated adoption by customers
- Sustainable funding for training
- Potential for mandatory energy information disclosure through <u>SB 177 An Act Concerning</u> <u>Energy Consumption Data and Labeling</u>



# Consumers Value Building-Based Health Certifications

Ellen Tohn, Tohn Environmental Strategies

etohn@tohnenvironmental.com



## Tohn Environmental Strategies



We work at the intersection of health, energy and housing/community.

- Strategic planning
- Applied research
- Program design and evaluation
- One Touch®: Creating healthy and energy efficient housing.

# Consumers believe their home can impact their health

#### Over 72% of consumers

believe their house has a moderate to strong impact on their health and are at least somewhat concerned about indoor air quality

30% of households are concerned about their home endangering their health

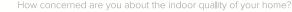
Sources: The Shelton Group, Home Performance Association Webinar and 2019 Conference; Healthy Homes Remodeling: Consumer Trends and Contractor Preparedness, 2019, prepared by the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University.





# 60%

# Have been at least moderately concerned about indoor air quality



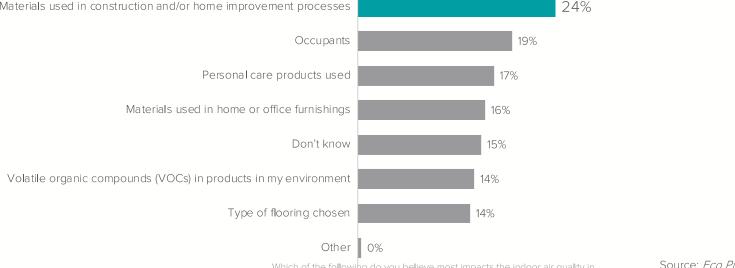
Source: Energy Pulse<sup>™</sup>, Shelton Group, 2019 n=2,028



#### They perceive IAQ issues to stem from the original construction of the home; nearly 1 in 4 believe construction materials are the cause of poor IAQ

Shelton Grp





Which of the following do you believe most impacts the indoor air quality in your home or work environment?

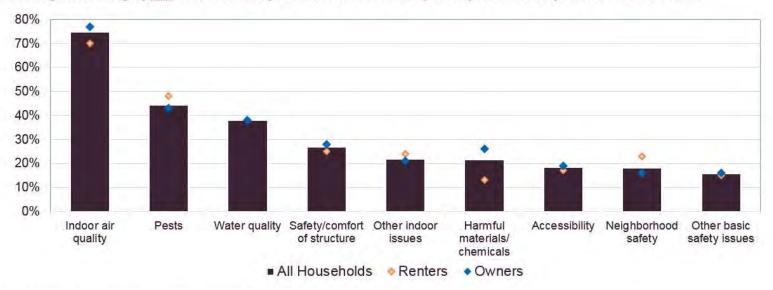
© 2020 Shelton Communication Group, Inc. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Source: Eco Pulse™, Shelton Group, 2018 n=2,012



## Figure 1: Indoor Air Quality, Pests and Water Quality Issues Top List of Concerns

Which general category(ies) best describes your concern about the impact of your home on your household's health?



Notes: Out of a sample of 501 homeowners, 250 renters concerned about specific healthy housing issues. Source: Farnsworth Group and Joint Center Healthy Homes Surveys, August 2018.

# | Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University

© PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE





# Post Covid Air Purification Searches Are Exploding

RISING	
air purifier for viruses	Breakout
best air purifier for viruses	Breakout
medify air purifier	Breakout
rainbow vacuum	Breakout
air purifier mask	650%
ultraviolet air purifier	450%
air purifier necklace	350%
air doctor purifier	350%
winix true hepa air purifier	300%
personal air purifier	250%
air genie air purifier	250%
reme halo air purifier	200%
levoit air purifier filter	200%
ion air purifier	190%
honeywell true hepa air purifier	180%
smart air purifier	170%
hepa filter air purifier	140%
air purifier costco	140%
uv air purifier	140%
levoit air purifier reviews	140%
whole home air purifier	140%
uv light air purifier	140%
iwave air purifier	130%
true hepa air purifier	120%
homedics air purifier	120%

Source: Energy Circle, Peter Troast, Google Trends , Last 30 days April 20, 2020

# Pre-Covid homeowners were motivated to make health repairs

#### Over 30% of homeowners

have completed or plan to make healthy homes repairs/actions (air filters, ventilation, mold/moisture)

# 20-40% of homeowners exploring health repairs

motivated by a concerns for a household member with physical symptoms they associated with the home



## We link energy efficiency & health

80% think energy efficient homes are healthier

60% believe telling someone that an energy efficient home is a healthier home is an effective way to get people to spend \$1500 on efficient home features



#### WGBC Report: Doing Right by Planet and People



#### ASID, WELL Platinum Certified (Washington, DC)

"ASID's new office headquarters was designed for environmental sustainability, and health and wellness, with a focus on indoor air quality, employee satisfaction, and productivity. In their new office, employee absenteeism has decreased by 19% and presenteeism by 16%."

#### **Cundall, WELL Gold Certified (London, UK)**

"Cundall's new office, which focused on improved indoor air quality, including continuous monitoring of carbon dioxide (CO2) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), has saved the company £200,000 due to a reduction of four sick days per year per employee and a 27% reduction in staff turnover. WELL Certification increased the project cost by 3.6%. Based on the above noted savings, these costs had a *return on investment of less than two months*"

ULI Report: The Business Case for Healthy Buildings

CBRE's offices in Toronto and Van



CBRE's offices in Toronto and Vancouver — Key features include daylight/circadian lighting, ventilation/air quality, collaborative space, active staircase, sit/stand desks. Value added: greater employee satisfaction, recruitment and retention; and enhanced landlord/tenant partnerships. In these WELL-certified offices, the total employee turnover rate has fallen by almost a third and the hiring rate for new talent has doubled.

**Arup's Boston office** – Key features include daylight/circadian lighting, ventilation/air quality, collaborative space, sit/stand desks. Value added: improved productivity, attitude, collaboration and social cohesion among employees.



## Home rating systems

Program	# Certified	New/Existing Homes
EPA Indoor Air Plus	Over 19,000 homes certified. 25% in AZ. Mostly single family.	New home focus
Well Building	29 multifamily registered, 3 completed. Over 4,000 registered projects, including commercial and hospitality.	New buildings Multifamily focus
Fitwel® Center for Active Design	700 multifamily projects certified or pending.	New & existing Multifamily focus
Living Building Challenge International Living Future Institute	Over 100 <u>certified</u> , 550 registered. Single, multifamily, commercial. 8 certified homes, 2 are single family	New & existing
Earthcraft Southface	Over 50,000 certified. Southeast focus. Majority residential.	New & existing
<u>Pearl</u>	240 homes, newer program. Over 23,000 homes with certified HVAC equipment.	New & existing





Rodenhiser Home Services is now offering many discounted services that can help improve the overall health of your home.

Air conditioning specials can keep your family cool as temperatures rise. Indoor air quality products, hands free/voice activated faucets and reliable hot water can all contribute to maintaining a healthy home

Our technicians have been trained to practice social distancing and sanitation processes throughout the service so schedule now to keep your home happy and save!



## Craig Foley, CSO LAER Realty Partners Co-founder REthink39 Group

- Craig works to unlock the value of sustainability in the real estate industry
- NAR leadership positions include
- 2019 Chair Sustainability Advisory Group
- 2020 Chair Presidential Advisory Group exploring impact of extreme weather events on the real estate industry
- Fannie Mae Energy Advisory Council
- Freddie Mac Energy Efficiency Task Force



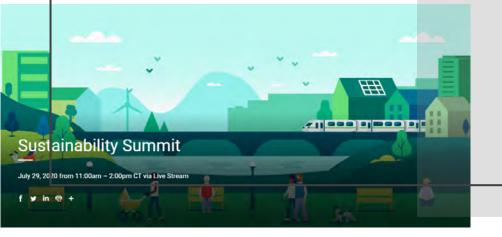






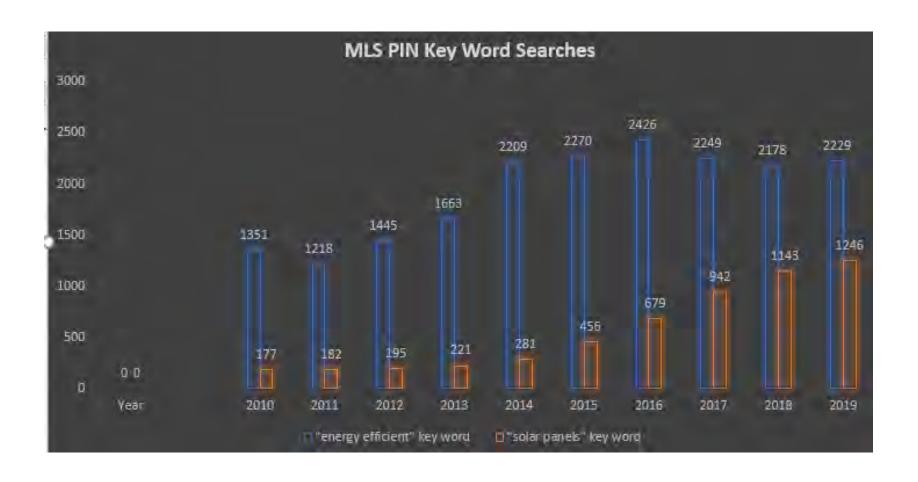


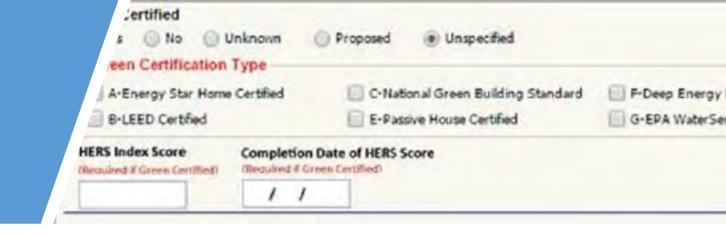
Big Picture: Tailwinds for Industry Leadership to Advance a Sustainable Future



# Small Picture: Challenge at the Boots on the Ground Level

# Small Picture: Challenge at the Boots on the Ground Level





# Small Picture: Challenge at the Boots on the Ground Level

*Heating					
A- Central Heat		G- Steam	☐ M- Oil	T- None	Z- Passive Solar
B- Forced Air		H- Radiant	☐ N- Gas	U- Hydro Air	1- Wind
C- Hot Air Gravit	у	☐ I- Heat Pump	O- Electric	V- Geothermal Heat Source	8- ENERGY STAF
D- Hot Water Ba	seboard	☐ J- Space Heater	P- Propane	W- Active Solar	9- Air Source Heat
E- Electric Basel	poard	K- Floor Furnace	Q- Wood	X- Ground Source Heat Pump	10- Solar Thermal
F- Hot Water Ra	diators	L- Humidifier	R- Extra Flue	Y- Hydronic Floor Heat (Radiant)	S- Other (See Re
# Cooling Zones		7			
*Cooling	_			—	The State of
A- Central Air	E- 2 Uni	ts N- Geothermal H	leat Pump	Q- Passive Cooling	T- ENERGY
B- Window AC	F- 3 or N	More O- High Seer He	at Pump (12+)	R- Swamp Cooler (Evaporative)	U- Air Sou
C- Wall AC	H- None	P- Overhangs Al	bove South Facing Windows	S- Wind	G- Other /
D- Heat Pump	M- Activ	e Solar			

Like builders and subs that have specialized knowledge to build HPHs there are agents, appraisers, and lenders that also have specialized knowledge in valuing HPHs. Listing Agent

The Real Estate Value Chain Buyer

Buyer's Agent

Appraiser

Bank Underwriter

Signs of movement in the market



#### ptional Services

Home inspectors are responding to buyer's interest in

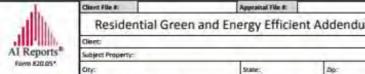
EE

Stall of the is totally amazing. I basically utilize my infrared camera to detect hidden tes or your building. If there are finished walls or ceilings in the living areas, basement or exterior shell of the structure, my IR camera can detect insulation voids or concealed is not destroying or removing the wall/ceiling material. It's simply an infrared imaging and cetually "see" and "measure" thermal energy emitted from an object. I can then map out an agraphy.

TURN

INTO





Additional resources to aid in the valuation of green properties and the completion of this form can be found http://www.accressimsthute.org/education/green\_energy\_eddinosum.acce

The appraiser hereby certifies that the information provided within this addendum

- has been considered in the appraiser's development of the appraisal of the subject property only for the client and intended user(s) identified in the appraisal report and only for the intended use stated in the report.
- is not provided by the appraiser for any other purpose and should not be relied upon by parties other than those ide by the appraiser as the client or intended user(s) in the report.
- is the result of the appraiser's routine inspection of and inquiries about the subject property's green and energy effifeatures. Extraordinary assumption: Data provided herein is assumed to be appraiser's opinions or conclusions.
- is not made as a representation or as a warranty as to the efficiency, quality, function, operability, reliability or cost
  of the reported items or of the subject property in general, and this addensium chould not be relied upon for such
  assessments.

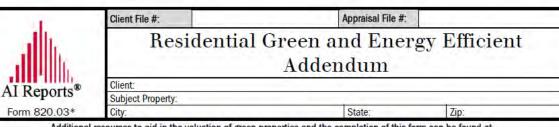
reen Building: The practice of creating structures and using processes that are environmentally responsible and resource-stroughout a building's affected from string to design, construction, pression, maintenance, renovation, and deconstruction ractice expands and complements the classic building design concerns of economy, utility, durability, and comfort (US EPA) priormance building and green building are often used intenchangeably.

a Elements of Green Building: A green building has attributes that fall into the six elements of green building known as (1) ater, (3) energy, (4) materials, (5) indoor environmental quality, and (6) maintenance and operation. The energy and water ements are the most measurable elements of green or high performance housing. Appraisans need savings amounts to devicome approach to support energy efficient contributory value.

	E WITTER AFE CO	onsidered wit	thin the appraisal analysis of the	subject property:		
roen Certification	Environmen	ntal Protectio	n Agency (EPA);	☐ Indoor surPLUS ☐ WaterSense ☐ ENER		
		artment (DO		☐ Zero Energy Ready Home (23 RH)		
infexent anest			rch Labs NGES Home Remodel:			
at the home musts state minimum rephalds.	Home Inno	vation Resea	rch Labs NGRS New Home	□ Browne □ Silver □ Gold □		
		ing Challenge	RACE.	D Using Building Certified Di Petal Cert		
	Passivhaus			☐ PHI Caw Energy ☐ EnerPhil ☐ Passiv		
		use Institute	US:	☐ PHIU5+ 2015		
	LISGRE LEE	D:		□Certified □Silver □Gold □3		
	Other:	7.				
	Date	Green Co	etification Version:	ABOVE VALID ONLY IF CHECK		
	Verified:	Organica	Son UPL:	☐ Verification reviewed on sit ☐ Verification attached to this		
30.	RESNET'S H	CRS	Estimated energy savings for t	his home: \$ /year CkWh rate dated		
nergy Label	Rating (I) to	1505	Energy Savings includes electri			
bels disclow the any of the fluens's large assets.	□ Sampling		Score below 100 indicates energy costs are expected to be lower than average			
	☐ Projecte			built home. HERS index Report occupancy estimates energy use based on nu		
	Conferm			efirmed rating" in diagnostically tested.		
	7.00					
	DOE's Hom	e Energy	Estimated energy savings for this home: 5 /year CkWh rate dated			
	Score		Energy Sovings includes electricity, heating & Cooling.			
	Score (1 to 10):		Score above five indicates energy costs are expected to be lower than average			
	☐ Official Score		hame. Home Energy Scare estimates energy cost based on state average ene			
	☐ Unafficte	si Score	rates and the home's energy features.			
	Other Ener	ev Score:	Estimated energy savings: 5 /year _ E kNh rate dated _ / _ /			
	Range (		Describe energy label system:			
			Line English and Admin			
	Date	Scare or	Ratting Viersion			
	Verified Organization URL: Classociation/			ABOVE VALID ONLY IF ENEDS		
	11		AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY OF	☐ Verification reviewed on sit		
		□ Other		□ verification attached to the		
		A TICAL		7.000		
770-0	Exclain ero	ray-riplated k	right variants:			
		ravements:				
	Total Decision	and an inches				
provements		0.0				
oprovements by sictuals	Dete	Certificat	e of Efficiency Intprovements Vi	PAROVE VALID ONLY IF CHECK		
erified Energy sprovements by skillate sprovements with	Date verified:		e of Efficiency Intercomments Ve tion URL: D Other:	ABOVE VALID ONLY & CHECK		

prison may need to provide additional data, end-out and work product out collect for sy title form. The Apprison histories revises an expressionary, we discussed to the end examine any responsibility for, for their end-open are workening, or their party conflications, and conflictations, and confidentiates, and confidentiates, and confidentiates, and confidentiates are confidentiated to the confidentiates and confidentiates are confidentiated to the confidentiates and the system of the confidentiates and the set begands. A distinct of the confidentiates are confidentiated to the confidentiates and the confidentiates are confidentiated to the confidentiated to the confidentiated to the confidentiated to the confiden

# My ask to builders, remodelers, and architects



Additional resources to aid in the valuation of green properties and the completion of this form can be found at http://www.appraisalinstitute.org/education/green\_energy\_addendum.aspx

#### **Our Takeaways**





Julia Dumaine
Economist, Connecticut DEEP
Julia.Dumaine@ct.gov



Samantha Caputo
Senior Policy Associate, NEEP
scaputo@neep.org



Ellen Tohn
Tohn Environmental Strategies
etohn@tohnenvironmental.com



Craig Foley
CSO, LAER Realty Partners
craig.rhg@gmail.com

