



The Rater View

Increasing Energy Code Performance
Through Home Energy Ratings

RESNET Conference

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Issues for the HERS Rater

- Role and Responsibility
- Completing Verifications
- Impact on Rater Business
- What does the future look like?



Role and Responsibility of a HERS Rater

- Compliance
 - What is a Verification – vs – a rating?
 - What is the process
 - How do you determine what is involved?
 - Equipment used, time to complete
 - Blower Door
 - Duct Blaster
 - Flow Hood
 - Refrigerant charge (EPA Certification)
 - Conflict of Interest Provision
 - Required documentation



Completing Verifications Relationship Building

- Working with an Energy Consultant
 - Designing homes with HERS features
- Working with the builder
 - Raters are there to ensure Quality Construction
 - Raters are not “police”
- Working with the installer
 - Raters are there to educate & verify
- Working with the local building department
 - Special inspectors for the building department
 - Raters become source for energy efficiency information



Completing Verifications What do you look for?

- Verification Measures
 - Homes using Title-24 HERS measures
 - Reduced Duct Leakage
 - TXV or Refrigerant Charge
 - ACCA Manual D
 - Duct Location Improvements
 - Reduced Building Envelope air leakage
 - Duct Surface area reduction
 - Homes complying with California Energy Star
 - Prescriptive approach to Performance compliance
 - All energy efficiency measures that differ from default



Impact on Rater Business

Where do you start?

- Value added service
 - Promote that you are there to help
- Think outside of the box
 - Ratings and verifications not that different
- Integrate into your business
 - Know your costs
 - How do you value yourself?
- What has been the impact?



The Crystal Ball

- Long road to get here
 - A great deal of education for free
 - Using credibility to build relationships
- Must take Long-term view
 - Began promoting – educating several years ago
 - Must approach rating business similar to your current business
- Future looks bright
 - Builders are seeing the value