

February 13, 2015

Dear Builder:

The Penn Residential Energy Codes Initiative is a three-year project funded by the Department of Energy that will investigate whether investing in education, training, and outreach programs can produce a significant energy reduction. PSD is currently reaching out to builders of homes randomly selected to participate in a study of the energy efficiency of new homes.

**The requested information will include:**

- Permission to be on site to perform inspections and in some cases performance testing (e.g. blower door and duct leakage tests) for randomly selected homes
- Contact information for scheduling site visits
- Information about the current phase of construction

**By granting our technician access to your site(s), you will:**

- Receive free blower door and duct leakage testing results when applicable
- Have peace of mind that all data we collect will be kept completely confidential
- Help us to determine where to focus our training efforts for Phase 2 of the project
- Be poised to learn more about upcoming program activities

**During Phase 2, builders in the program coverage area will:**

- Be eligible for free consultations from HERS Raters (highly trained energy efficiency experts)
- Have access to low-cost, unique, and engaging training programs and webinars
- Have access to a free tablet-based energy code checklist and educational app and other helpful resources

**By building to a modern energy code, builders:**

- Set their homes apart from competing sales of “used” homes
- Provide increased comfort, lower energy bills, and overall better customer satisfaction
- Reduce callbacks resulting from comfort-related complaints
- Limit liability associated with not building to code minimums

Please see the reverse side for more information or contact me using one of the methods below.

Sincerely,

**Mike Turns**

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## More information:

**What to expect during site visits:** For homes that are under construction and pre-drywall, our field staff will be doing visual inspections of energy-related items including, air sealing details, insulation R-values, window U-factors and SHGCs, and mechanical equipment efficiencies. These inspections are expected to take less than 30 minutes to complete. For homes with drywall installed, our field staff will perform a brief visual inspection followed by a blower door test and duct leakage test. These visits are expected to take about an hour, and testing results will be shared with the builder upon request.

**Confidentiality:** All identifying information will be kept **confidential**. Data reported to the Department of Energy will not include builder names, homeowner names, addresses, or other identifying information. PSD will keep all of this information completely confidential. Findings will be reported in aggregate and not on individual municipalities or buildings.

**Visit the DOE Project Website:** [www.energycodes.gov/residential-energy-code-field-survey](http://www.energycodes.gov/residential-energy-code-field-survey)

**Visit the Penn Residential Energy Codes Website:** [www.pennenergycodes.com](http://www.pennenergycodes.com)