

Residential Building Energy Labeling Working Group
Meeting Notes
3/12/20

Attendees: Leslie Badger (EVT); Karen Horne (VGS), Kelly Launder (PSD); Chris Gordon (EVT); Melanie Paskevich (NWWVT); Craig Peltier (VHCB); Malcolm Gray (BPPA); Martha Lange (Century 21 Jack Associates); Richard Faesy (EFG); Chris West (Home Builders Assn); Keith Levenson (PSD); Tim Yandow (CVOEO); Tom Lyle (BED); Richard Faesy (EFG)

- **Review/approve meeting minutes**
 - Richard Faesy moved to approve the meeting minutes from 1/16/20, Karen Horne seconded. Approved by voice vote

- **Presentation from Label & Rating Tool Subcommittee including discussion on final profile/label, rating tool, overview of field testing** (Presentation from Chris Gordon)
Review of Profile:
 - Expected Annual Energy Usage (Wedge/MMBTU)
 - Chris discussed that the highest energy use on the wedge at the top of the profile will vary based on size/year of home. If there are different scales for different size and year homes, how are they comparable?
 - Need to have something in the description on the wedge/BTU that acknowledges that the highest energy use changes based on the size and year.
 - What about having a BTU/sq ft. or other metrics to be more comparable to other homes.
 - By the blue MMBTU need to include language that says its total energy usage including, electric, heat, etc.
 - Flag at the top that show's "This home's usage" needs to be darker/more visible. Would also be useful if it was the color of where it falls on the wedge (green, yellow, orange, red). Also, maybe include year and square footage there?
 - Expected Annual Energy Costs
 - Need to change the color for solar to a more orange type yellow as it doesn't show up well.
 - Should it be documented somewhere if solar/other equipment is leased?
 - Richard believes HELIX has if the solar system is owned or leased
 - Take action
 - Chris can send out the full list of possible actions to the group.
 - Tried to be sure to have at least a few low/no cost actions
 - Page 2
 - This would be static for all profiles
 - Work on updating the language at the bottom of the page.
 - Other Comments:
 - Should the assumptions being used be put somewhere on the profile (like how many occupants are assumed for x square feet).
 - Discussed in the Subcommittee whether there could/should be a report that people can access/print that would have all the inputs into the tool. Could that also include some

of the assumptions that the tool makes, such as the number of occupants based on square footage.

- Use “finished” square feet vs. “conditioned” square feet.
- Identify the source of the data for the square footage included on the Profile (town tax records, homeowner input, etc)
- **Subcommittees updates** (Subcommittee Leads)
 - *Labeling Impact Subcommittee* – Report by Richard Faesy
 - Developed outline of report pieces
 - Gathered reports/studies that have been done, should they be posted on the PSD website?
 - Discussing whether they could do a survey to realtors regarding SPIR and Utility information/form and the impact of providing the information. Could also potentially get feedback on draft profile.
 - *Home Assessor Subcommittee* – Report by Chris West
 - Discussed who needs to be trained to accurately use the tool. But don’t know the requirements for the tool. BPI certified would be able to interact with this type of information.
 - Came up with list of groups that also might gather the data/provide inputs. Haven’t gone farther than that.
 - *Scores and reporting Subcommittee (where does the data/information go, who collects and manages it, and is it made public)* – Report by Leslie B.
 - Have met a few times and have broken out the subtasks to discuss/complete recommendations on at each meeting.
 - At last meeting, decided that there shouldn’t be any additional reporting requirements, other than the information is already included in HELIX. (for example profile wouldn’t be sent to PSD to post somewhere).
 - System for maintaining and storing information should be HELIX.
 - Detailed inputs used to generate the profiles are in Clearly Energy tool, not stored in HELIX.

Next Steps:

Chris will send something out in the next two weeks for broader beta testing of the tool to the Working Group.