

NASEO Resolution Amending National Program for Home Energy Rating Systems

WHEREAS, U.S. residences consume more than \$124 billion in energy annually and account for more than 20% of the total energy use in the U.S. (33% of building usage) resulting in millions of tons of greenhouse and smog-producing gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, U.S. residential energy use can be cost-effectively reduced through readily available energy-efficiency technologies, thereby saving homeowners billions of dollars annually and significantly improving environmental quality; and

WHEREAS, both federal and state governmental agencies have a strong interest in programs to increase the energy efficiency of the residential sector of the energy market;

WHEREAS, the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) and the mortgage industry have adopted a set of Accreditation Procedures and Interim Technical Guidelines for Home Energy Rating systems; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of these Accreditation Procedures and Technical Guidelines are to ensure that accurate and consistent home energy ratings are performed by accredited home energy rating providers; to increase the credibility of the rating systems with the mortgage finance industry and various federal programs, such as Energy Star (labeling, Build America and possible federal tax credits; and to promote participation in an objective, cost effective, sustainable home energy rating process; and

WHEREAS, the NASEO Technical Revision Evaluation Subcommittee, using the seminal work of the Joint Technical Committee of NASEO, RESNET and the HERS Council, has further developed the Technical Guidelines, the purpose of which is to establish methods and procedures by which any provider of home energy ratings may produce uniform energy efficiency ratings that may enable and encourage the use of energy efficient home mortgages and energy efficient home improvement loans, and the use of performance-oriented tax credits; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the nation, and its citizens and businesses, that the further development of energy efficiency in the residential marketplace be strongly supported by a coordinated effort between and among federal agencies, the States, the industry and the private marketplace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Energy Officials, that:

1. The resolution adopted by the Board following its meeting on the first day of June 1998, is hereby reaffirmed and shall stand as the MORTGAGE INDUSTRY

NATIONAL ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES FOR HOME ENERGY RATING SYSTEMS.

2. The National Home Energy Rating Technical Guidelines prepared by the Technical Revision Evaluation Subcommittee and presented to the Board on this day, is hereby adopted as Technical Guidelines of NASEO.
3. NASEO instructs its Building Committee to review the implementation of the methodology found in Section B.2.a and provide an interim report at the November 30, 1999, Board of Directors meeting with a final report at its mid-Winter meeting in February 2000. NASEO Affiliate Members should be specifically provided an opportunity to join in all discussions. Any recommendations should be provided no later than the end of January. All interested parties should be informed and provided an opportunity to comment on any recommendations.
4. The Accreditation Procedures and Technical Guidelines described in paragraphs one and two constitute the National Association of State Energy Officials' (NASEO's) recommended measurement and verification principles and procedures. Although NASEO recognizes the right of an individual member state to vary specific procedures, NASEO encourages its State members to use these guidelines to the extent practicable, and shall seek recognition of these guidelines with the U.S. Departments of Energy and Housing & Urban Development and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
5. NASEO recognizes the authority of each state that has a state law or regulation which requires certification or licensing of HERS systems. NASEO recognizes that such state laws or regulations may be different from the Accreditation Procedures and Technical Guidelines in order to address state climate conditions and construction practices and energy use across fuel types consistent with state policy. NASEO recognizes that such law or regulation shall control. All co-adopters of these principles and procedures are encouraged to coordinate with the responsible state agency in those states where the state has legal authority and responsibility to certify HERS providers in such a manner that avoids conflict with or circumvention of state law.
6. NASEO vigorously encourages EPA and U.S. DOE to continue to require the use of rating systems in measuring, verifying and qualifying Energy Star® Homes (see "www.energystar.gov") and urges the similar use of rating systems within the U.S. DOE Building America and Rebuild America programs, as well as any federal or state tax credit programs.
7. NASEO further instructs its Building Committee to review the existing and, where necessary, develop new educational and training courses for all aspects of the residential building marketplace, and to prepare a listing of opportunities provided over the next year to forward these adopted principles and procedures and to develop a common regional and national training and educational strategy.

8. In addition, NASEO instructs its committees and task forces working on residential programs to seek a common framework, including relevant memoranda of agreement and understanding, for the marketing, program design and development, and training and education and certification aspects of any market intervention undertaken by a state, local or federal agency.

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE ENERGY
OFFICIALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS THIS 19th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 1999.