



**IDAHO: ENERGY STAR Homes (site-built and manufactured)
ENERGY STAR Program Area: Homes**

Program Summary: The [Idaho Office of Energy Resources \(OER\)](#) certified the first ENERGY STAR home in the Pacific Northwest in 1998 and has provided ratings and trainings, while also promoting the DOE's [Building America](#) technology. With over 1,000 certified site-built homes and 3,000 ENERGY STAR US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Code manufactured homes in the state, Idaho continues to pursue research, development and promotion of ENERGY STAR within its borders and across the region.

Program Description and Development: Idaho OER has been both a certified ENERGY STAR ratings provider and training provider since 1998. To date, OER has certified over a thousand ENERGY STAR site-built homes. Since 2004 Idaho has enforced a negotiated standard called ENERGY STAR Northwest with Montana, Oregon and Washington. The Office of Energy Resources uses its ENERGY STAR program as a vehicle for promoting Building America technology with DOE support. The state energy office also has an active research program that complements its ENERGY STAR Homes program. Idaho Power, Idaho's largest electric utility, is actively engaged in all of these projects. In addition OER also operates a manufactured home ENERGY STAR program and has certified over 3,000 HUD Code homes as ENERGY STAR as part of a regional program called the [Northwest Energy Efficient Manufactured Home \(NEEMTM\) Program](#). Energy efficiency in manufactured homes programs have existed in Idaho since 1989, before ENERGY STAR labeling. Finally, for existing homes, OER is developing a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program.

Resources and Investment: The ENERGY STAR Homes programs in Idaho have required an ongoing financial commitment from OER and assistance from the federal government, with grants from both EPA and DOE. The programs require significant energy office staff engagement and also receive some support from the Idaho Power utility. Idaho has recently pursued start-up funding from DOE on Home Performance with ENERGY STAR and research funding through NASEO's STAC Program. OER has started charging a higher fee for training, which has led to a greater implementation rate among those parties that have put more resources towards the program.

Energy Savings Benefits and Results: The ENERGY STAR Northwest standard is 15 percent higher than the average energy code in Oregon and Washington. It includes performance testing for ducts, commissioning for heat pumps, and requires that 50 percent of the sockets be filled with compact fluorescent lamps. While this 2004 standard met resistance from raters and builders, there remain 250 ENERGY STAR builders in Idaho. For manufactured homes, Idaho has certified 20,000 HUD Code homes over the past two decades as energy efficient (although many of those homes pre-date the ENERGY STAR program) in addition to the over 1,000 site-built ENERGY STAR homes. While there is not a massive movement towards ENERGY STAR in Idaho, the success of the program helped move Idaho towards adopting the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

Lessons Learned: Ken Eklund of OER still sees some needs in fostering ENERGY STAR Homes in Idaho and increased marketing of ENERGY STAR. The programs also require on-going financing and are not self-sustaining. The slump in the housing market is also presenting Idaho with new challenges, as the state attempts to build on its successes in the residential sector.

Further Resources:

[Idaho ENERGY STAR Homes](#)

[Idaho OER and Idaho Power ENERGY STAR Video](#)

Contact Information:

Ken Eklund

Idaho Office of Energy Resources

208.287.4895

Ken.Eklund@oer.idaho.gov

