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| U.S. DOE Zero Energy Ready Home  National Program Requirements for Single Family Homes  Version 2 *Draft* - Public Comment Form   INSTRUCTIONS: Please use the space below to provide comments, feedback, or questions regarding any of the proposed Zero Energy Ready Homes Version 2 draft requirements. Feedback on specific items is preferred (as opposed to general sections), but do not feel obligated to comment on all the proposed requirements. Upon completion, please email this form to [zero@newportpartnersllc.com](mailto:zero@newportpartnersllc.com) with the subject “DOE ZERH V2 Public Comment Response.” |

**Partner Type:  Builder  Rater/Verifier  Manufacturer  Organization  Other  Not Currently a Partner**

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| **ZERH V2 Draft Specification Item** | **Comment / Feedback / Questions** |
| **Mandatory Requirements (Exhibit 1)** | |
| 1. [**ENERGY STAR V3.2**](https://www.energystar.gov/partner_resources/residential_new/stakeholder_feedback) | No Issue- NEHERS is offering commentary on the proposed changes for those Programs |
| **2. Envelope** |  |
| 1.1 Ceiling, wall, and slab insulation | Agree |
| 1.2 Above Grade Walls in Mixed and Cold Climates provide thermal breaks | Agree |
| 1.3 Windows meet high performance requirements based on climate zone | Agree |
| **3. Duct System** | Would like to see some guidance on Duct Insulation R-values covered by footnote 17-f |
| **4. Water Heating Efficiency** | Would like to see language specific to MF projects per the previous May 2019 Specification & footnotes |
| 4.1 Hot water delivery systems meet efficient design requirements | Agree |
| 4.2 Water heater and fixtures meet efficiency | Agree |
| **5. Lighting and Appliances** |  |
| 5.1 All installed refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, and clothes dryers are ENERGY STAR qualified | Would like to see some exceptions or alternative paths for commercial washers and dryer, particularly dryers in MF projects using central laundry rooms where Energy Star labeled appliance choices are limited- perhaps an equivalency in EF or CEF if the dryer in not Energy Star labeled. |
| 5.2 95% pf builder-installed lighting fixtures are ENERGY STAR qualified or ENERGY STAR lamps (bulbs) in minimum 95% of sockets | Agree |
| **6. Indoor Air Quality** |  |
| 6.1 Certified under EPA Indoor airPLUS | Agree- NEHERS has and will offer commentary specific to V2 of the proposed IAP Program changes |
| 6.2 MERV 13 (minimum) filter installed on all ducted heating and cooling systems | This has been highlighted in commentary to the EPA IAP Team- Concern of high external static pressure drop when using low-static mini-split air handlers. |
| 6.3 Energy efficient balanced ventilation (HRV or ERV) provided in CZs 6-8 | Agree |
| **7. Renewable Ready.** DOE ZERH PV Ready Checklist Version 2 measures. | Exceptions that are in agreement with current 2021 IECC Language should be implemented for DOE ZERH V2 |
| **DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Target Home Specifications (Exhibit 2)** | |
| A. HVAC Equipment | Whole House Mechanical ventilation efficacy targets (cfm/W) may be problematic for smaller homes or MF Dwellings with unitary ventilation. Over ventilating to meet the proposed targets may out weigh any savings in meeting these requirements in CZ’s 4-8 |
| B. HVAC Grading | Would like to see HVAC Grading remain optional until such time that RESNET can illustrate tangible benefits and widespread adoption and use of Standard 310. Perhaps offer a grace period of 1-2 years before Grading becomes mandatory for this program |
| C. Insulation and Infiltration | Agree- would like to see commentary specific to compartmentalization in synch with IECC, Energy Star and IAP requirements |
| D. Windows & Doors | Agree |
| E. Water Heater | Agree |
| F. Ducts & Thermostat | Agree |
| G. Lighting & Appliances | Please see commentary regarding item 5.1 above with respect to Commercial Washers/Dryers for MF projects with Central Laundry rooms |
| **Other** **Comments, Feedback, or Questions** | |
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| **Comments on DOE Zero Energy Ready Home Version 2.0 &**  **ENERGY STAR New Certification Label to Accelerate Construction of the Next Generation of Homes and Apartments**  *DOE is interested in comments on the following questions:* | |
| 1. Should DOE consider requiring the new ENERGY STAR next generation certification for DOE Zero Energy Ready Home V2? | Consider it as an option or alternative path until the market place reacts to the new Energy Star Programs |
| 1. Should DOE consider offering two types of DOE Zero Energy Ready Home certification under Version 2 -- a basic version and a “next gen” version that includes the ENERGY STAR next generation certification requirements? | Yes- see above- and Perhaps HVAC Grading would only be applicable to Next Gen requirements. |