



# Better Buildings Residential Network (BBRN) Orientation

*Call Slides and Summary*  
March 27, 2014

# Agenda

- Call Logistics and Introductions
- Opening Polls
- Better Buildings Residential Network Presentation
  - BBRN – Origins and Overview
    - Followed by Q&A
  - BBRN – Members
    - Followed by Q&A
  - BBRN – Tools and Resources
    - Followed by Q&A
- General Q&A
- Closing Polls

# Participating Programs and Organizations

- Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (WISE)
- Austin Energy
- Clean Energy Works Oregon
- City of Indianapolis
- City of Kansas City, MO (EnergyWorks KC)
- City of Milwaukee (Me<sup>2</sup>)
- Climate Solutions
- Ecolibrium3
- Elevate Energy (Energy Impact Illinois)
- EnergySmart
- Fayette County, PA (Fayette County Better Buildings Initiative)
- Greensboro, NC (BetterBuildings Greensboro)
- Institute for Market Transformation
- M & K Electrical & Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning
- New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (New York State Home Performance with Energy Star)
- Snohomish County Public Utility District
- U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
- Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation

# Opening Poll #1 Results

- What is your current familiarity with the Better Buildings Residential Network and the tools and resources it offers?
  - Somewhat familiar, but not sure I am taking full advantage: **47%**
  - Not at all familiar/ new to the Network: **32%**
  - Very familiar; just listening in to ensure I haven't overlooked anything: **21%**

# Opening Poll #2 Results

- Do you currently use any of the following BBRN tools and resources? (Pick all that apply)
  - Participate in Peer Exchange calls: **74%**
  - Read the Network View Newsletter: **58%**
  - Use the BBRN online community on the Home Energy Pros website: **32%**
  - Access the website for information: **21%**
  - None of the above: **16%**

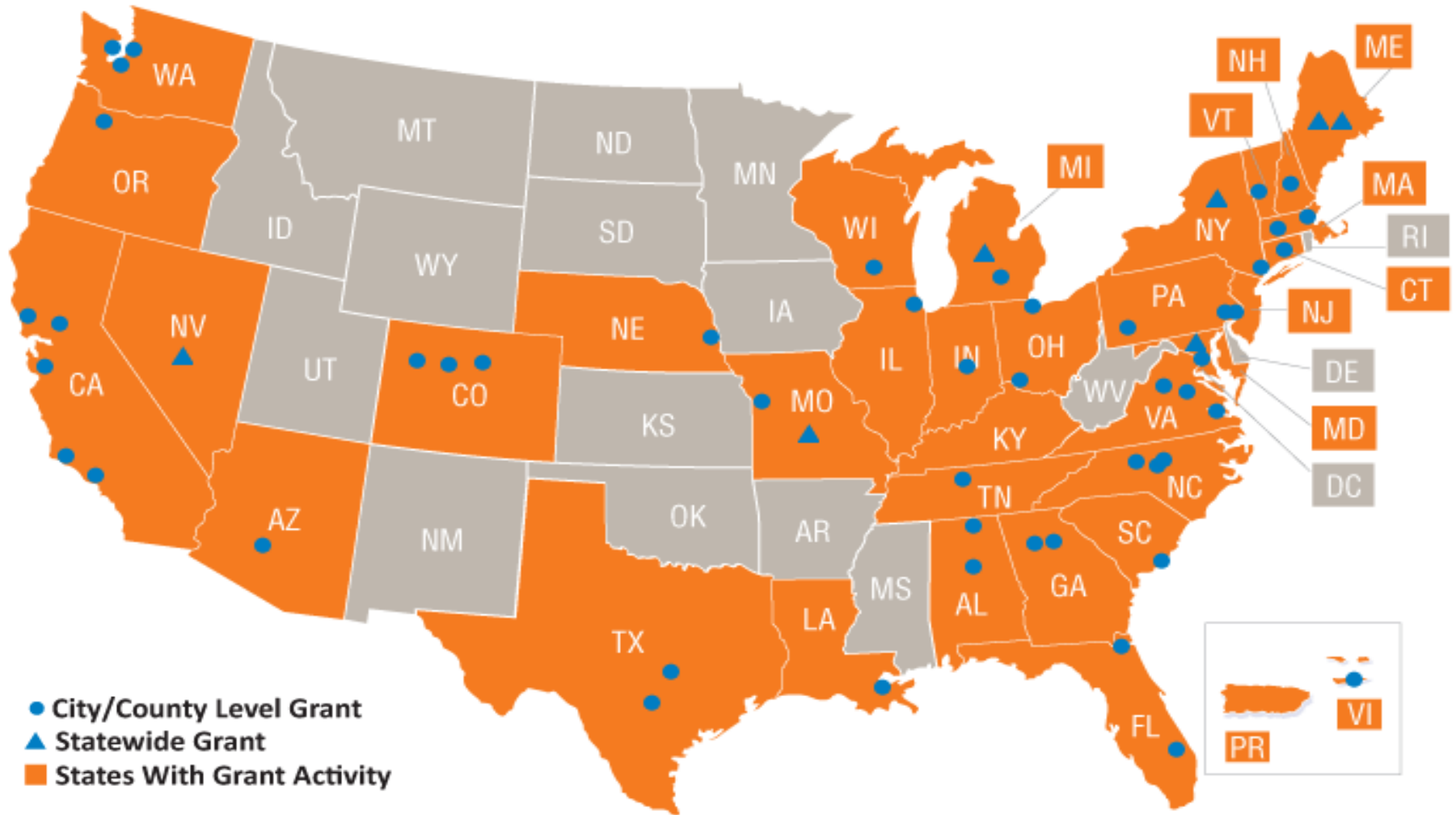
# BBRN: Origins and Overview

# Better Buildings Neighborhood Program (BBNP)

- Leveraged \$508M in ARRA and FY10 funding to spur nationwide energy efficiency program innovation
- Targeted urban, suburban, and rural environments
- Capitalized on economies of scale
- Encouraged industry partnerships and investment
- Emphasized sustainability beyond the grant
- Goal: Learn what is effective and replicable

**The Better Buildings Neighborhood Program used federal support to promote program innovation and market investment**

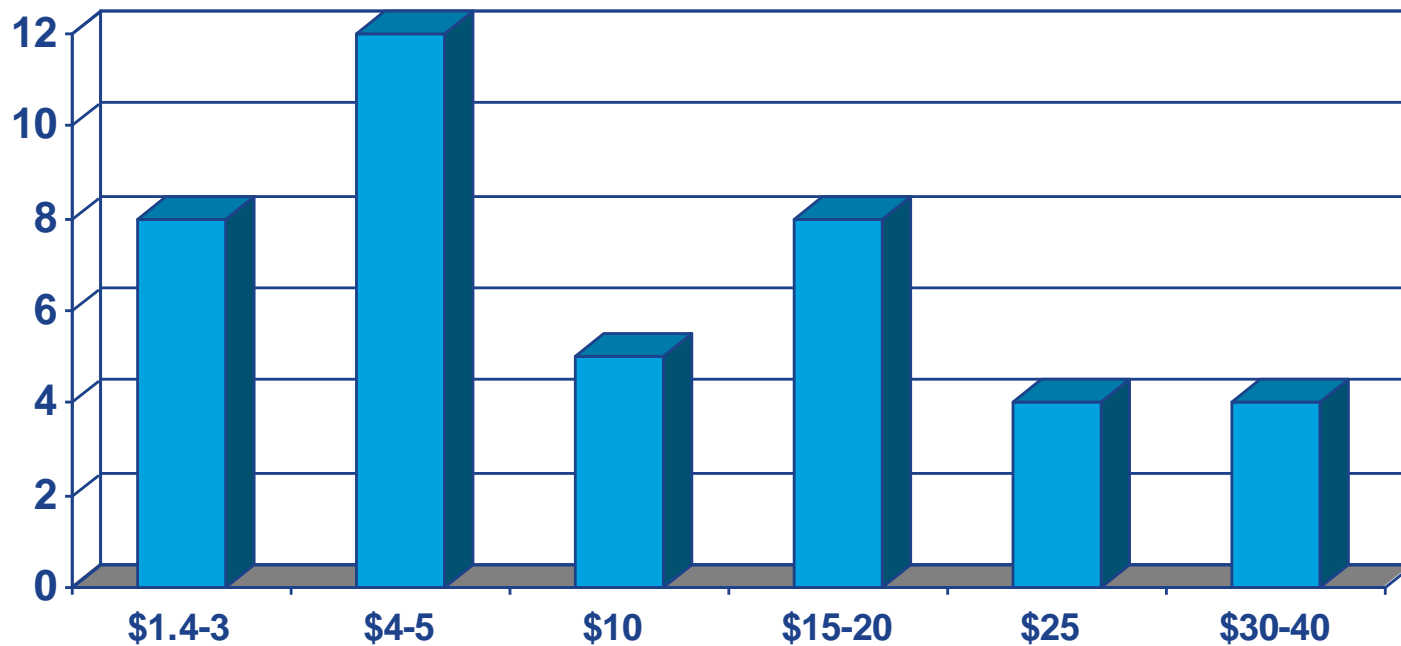
# BBNP Grantee Locations





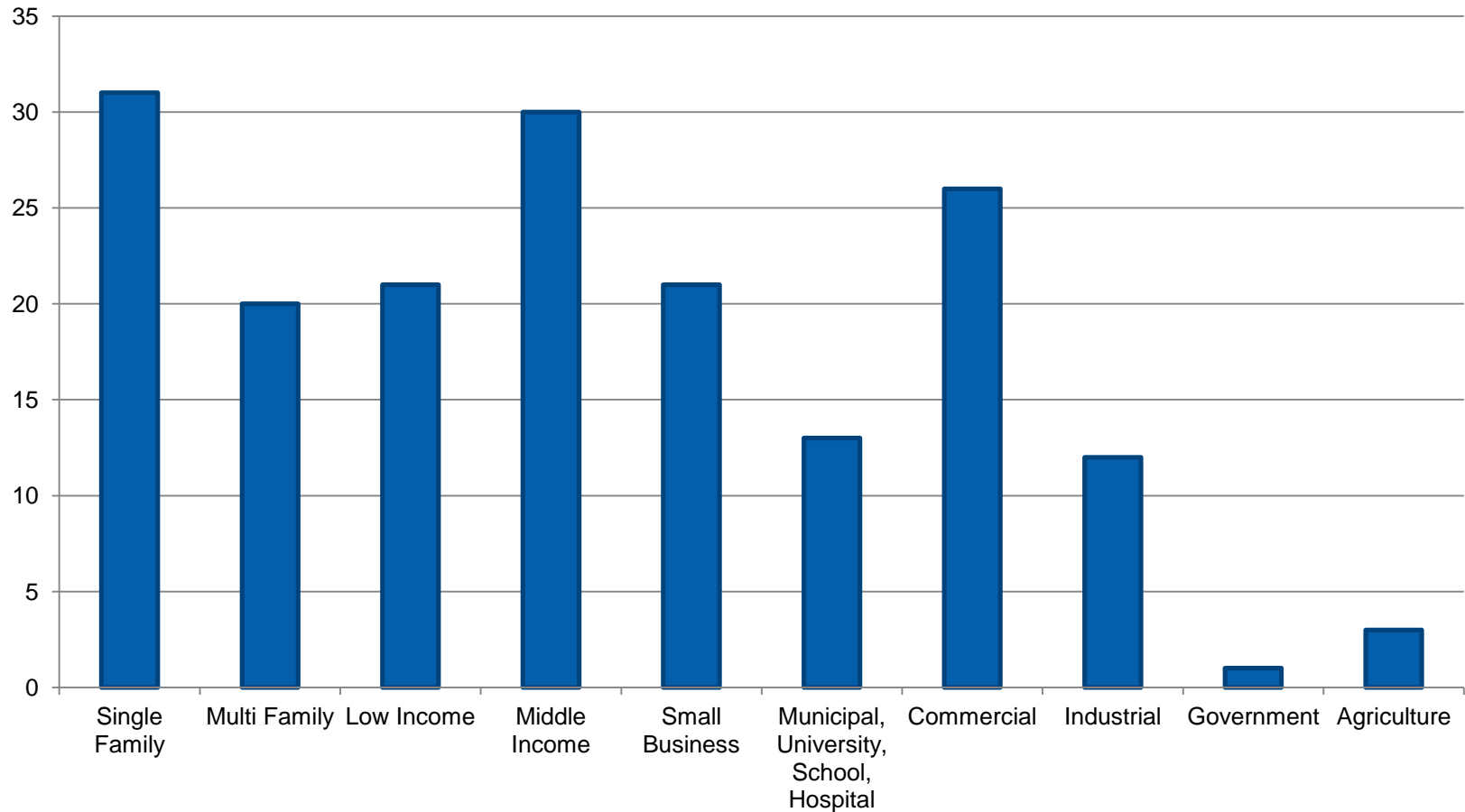
# BBNP Grantees

- 13 state governments
- 24 local governments
- 4 non-profit organizations

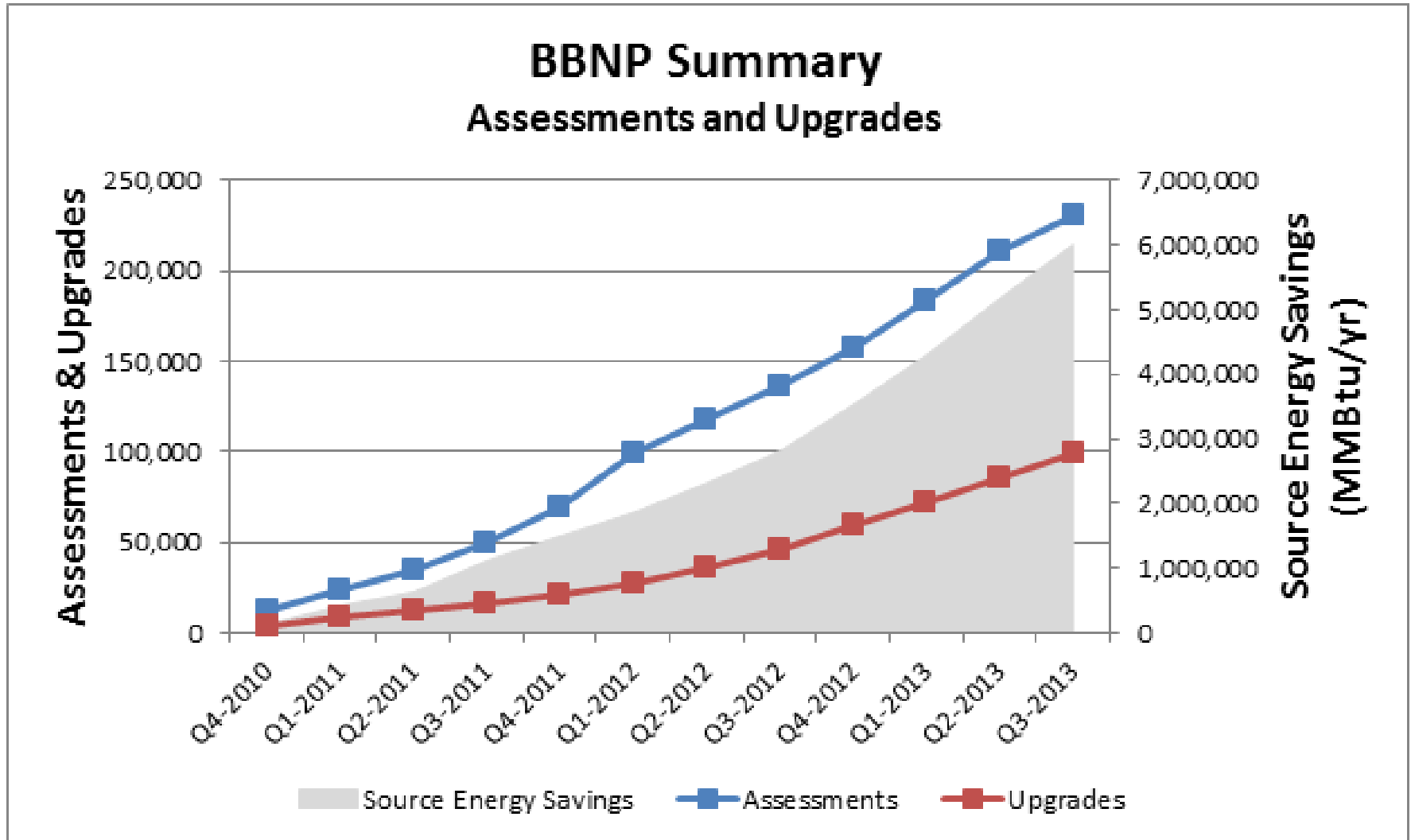


# BBNP Grantee Sectors

## Target Sectors



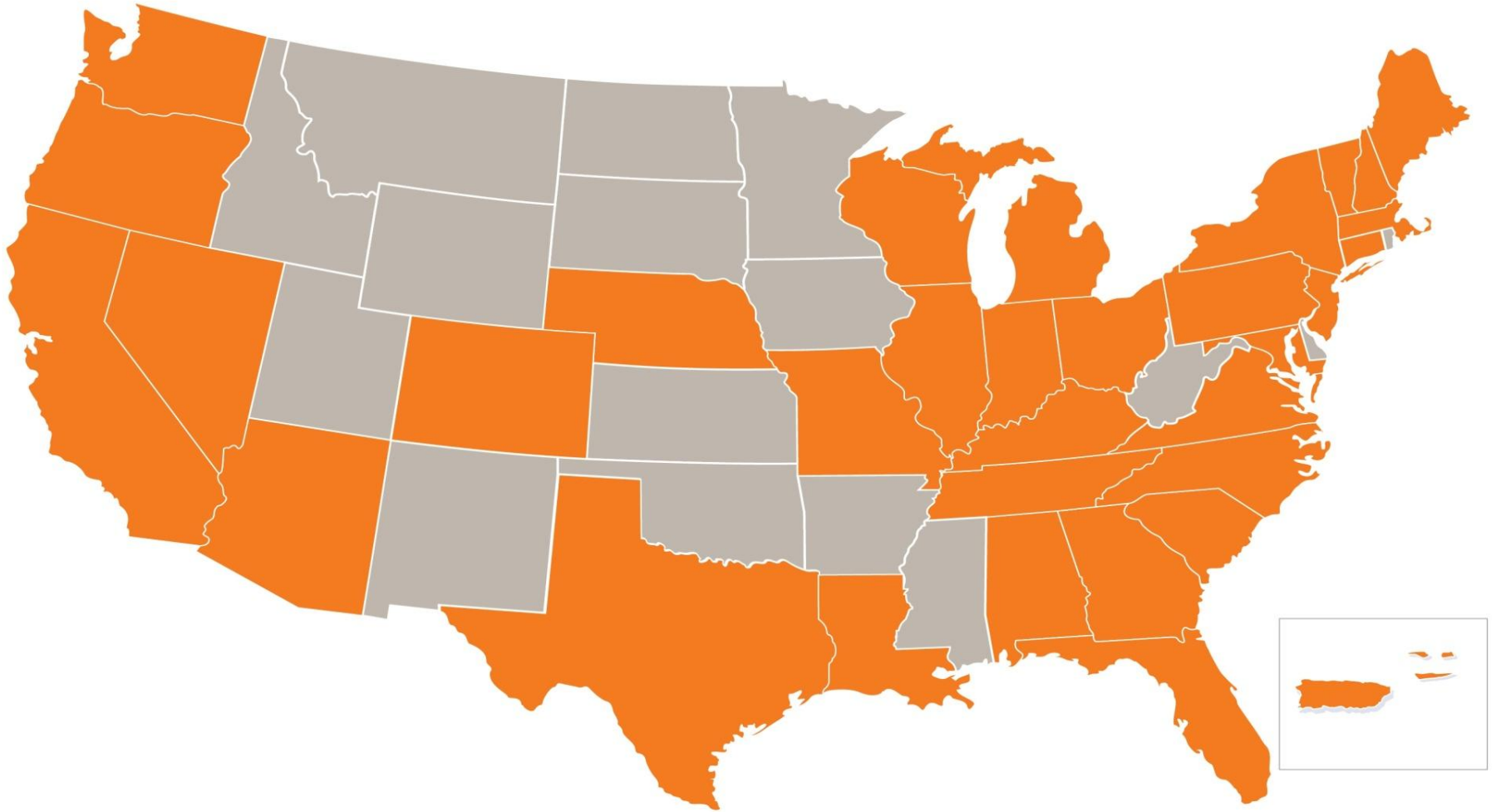
# BBNP Accomplishments



# Better Buildings Residential Network (BBRN)

- **Better Buildings Residential Network**: Connects energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices to increase the number of homes that are energy efficient.
- **Membership**: Open to organizations committed to accelerating the pace of existing residential upgrades.
- **Benefits**:
  - Peer Exchange Calls
  - Tools, templates, resources
  - Newsletter, updates, trends
  - Recognition: Media, materials
  - Optional benchmarking
  - Residential Solution Center
- **Commitment**: Provide DOE with annual number of residential upgrades and information about benefits associated with them.

# BBRN Locations



# Presentation Highlights

- The Better Buildings Residential Network (BBRN) is no longer a grant program as it originally started.
- The BBRN now exists to serve its members by helping to build the energy efficiency field in the residential sector.
- Participation is simple and involves few requirements; at a minimum, organizations must report their annual number of residential upgrades.
- The BBRN encourages broad participation; currently, the network has members across the U.S. and in British Columbia.

# BBRN: Members

# Inaugural Members

For information & to join, email [bbresidentialnetwork.ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork.ee.doe.gov)





# Current Members (Slide 1 of 3)

- AFC First
- Alabama Energy Doctors
- Austin Energy
- BC Hydro
- Boulder County
- Building Sustainable Solutions
- California Center for Sustainable Energy
- California Energy Commission
- Center for Energy and Environment
- City and County of Denver
- City of Kansas City, MO
- City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
- Civic Works
- Clean Energy Coalition
- Clean Energy Durham
- Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority
- Clean Energy Works
- DC Sustainable Energy Utility
- E3 Power
- EcoWorks
- Efficiency First
- Efficiency First – Kansas City
- Efficiency First – Maryland/DC
- Efficiency Maine
- Efficient Windows Collaborative
- Elevate Energy
- Elysian Energy, LLC
- EMpower Devices

# Current Members (Slide 2 of 3)

- EnergyFit Nevada
- Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance
- GTech Strategies
- Hands On Nashville
- Historic Chicago Bungalow Association
- Home Energy Magazine
- Home Performance Guild of Oregon
- Institute for Market Transformation
- International Association of Certified Home Inspectors Local Energy Alliance Program
- Local Energy Alliance Program
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
- Michigan Saves
- Milwaukee Energy Efficiency
- Minnick's, Inc.
- Mountain Association for Community Economic Development
- National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO)
- Nexus Energy Center
- New England Geothermal Professional Association

# Current Members (Slide 3 of 3)

- New York State Energy Research & Development Authority
- People United for Sustainable Housing, Buffalo
- Pure Eco Environmental Solutions
- Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, Pennsylvania
- Richmond Region Energy Alliance
- Rural Ulster Preservation Company
- Southeast Energy Efficiency Alliance
- Spirit Foundation
- United Way of Long Island, NY
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- Midwest Energy Efficiency Research Consortium
- Upper Peninsula of Michigan Green Development Network
- Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
- Virginia Energy Sense
- Walker-Miller Energy Services
- WECC
- West Michigan Environmental Action Council
- William J. Clinton Foundation - Home Energy Affordability Loan Program

# Member Types

- Consultant/Advisor (14)
- Contractor/Trade ally (9)
- Financial institution (3)
- Foundation (2)
- Gov't – Federal (0)
- Gov't – Local (4)
- Gov't – State (5)
- Manufacturer (0)
- Nonprofit (39)
- Program administrator or implementer (29)
- Retailer (0)
- University (1)
- Utility (2)

# BBRN FAQs

Q: Does the Network cover new construction?

A: *No, the Network addresses existing buildings.*

Q: Can individuals become members of the Network?

A: *Institutions can become members of the Network, but not individuals.*

Q: Does the Network offer grant funding?

A: *The Network is not a grant program. It offers valuable resources other than funding, such as Peer Exchange Calls on a range of topics, tools, templates, and resources shared by members, optional benchmarking, newsletter updates on trends, and opportunities to be featured in media, case studies, and materials.*

# Presentation Highlights

- Membership is for institutions, not individuals.
- The network engages federal agencies as partners, but not as official members.
- The BBRN is not a grant program, it does not provide funding to members.
- The network encourages members to share news, but does not allow sales pitches.
- The full list of BBRN members is available online:  
<http://energy.gov/eere/better-buildings-neighborhood-program/better-buildings-residential-network>

# BBRN: Tools and Resources

# Communications

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the AFC First website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.afcfirst.com/news/doe-inaugural-member-713>. The website header includes the AFC First logo (Since 1947) and a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, ENERGY LENDING PROGRAMS, GREEN ENERGY TRAINING ACADEMY, PAY ONLINE, PARTNERS & AFFILIATES, and CONTACT. A phone number, 1.888.232.3477, and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube are also present.

## AFC First Is an Inaugural Member of New DOE Residential Network

Posted by AFC First Financial on 07/31/2013

### AFC First Financial Corporation Is an Inaugural Member of New DOE Residential Network

On April 30, U.S. Department of Energy's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, Kathleen Hogan, announced at the ACI National Home Performance Conference and Leadership Summit in Denver, Colorado that AFC First Financial Corporation joined the launch of the new national Better Buildings Residential Network as an inaugural member.

The **Better Buildings Residential Network** connects energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from each other to dramatically increase the number of American homes that are energy efficient.

The Better Buildings Residential Network expands on existing energy efficiency programs that have operated for years. Since 2010, for example, the Better Buildings Neighborhood Program, and its partners, as well as Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Sponsors and their partners have leveraged over \$1 billion in federal funding and local resources to build more energy efficient communities. These programs have saved Americans money, created jobs and lowered greenhouse gas emissions.

DOE is now expanding this network of residential energy efficiency programs and partners to new members. The new Better Buildings Residential Network is engaging energy efficiency programs, state and local governments, financial

On the right side of the page, there is a Google Custom Search box and a blue promotional banner for "BUSINESS SKILLS TRAINING FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONTRACTORS AND STAFF." with a "LEARN MORE" button. Below the banner is a section titled "Energy News See All" with a link to "Alliance to Save Energy Awards Keystone HELP® with 2013 'Andromeda' Star of Energy Efficiency Award - Download PDF".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: Microsoft Office Word, Microsoft Excel, Internet Explorer, and Notepad. The system tray shows the time as 5:03 PM.



# Network View Newsletter

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the 'Better Buildings Network View' newsletter for January 9, 2014. The page features the Better Buildings logo (U.S. Department of Energy) and the title 'NETWORK VIEW'. Below the title, it reads 'The Newsletter of the Better Buildings Residential Network'. The main content includes a 'Welcome to the First Issue' section with a sub-heading 'Stop to Take in the (Network) View'. This section contains a map of the United States with several states highlighted in green, representing member states. A caption below the map says: 'Enlarge the map to take a closer look at the states and provinces our members span across the United States and Canada.' The text describes the newsletter's purpose: connecting energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from one another to dramatically increase the number of homes that are energy efficient. It also mentions the legacy of the \$500 million Better Buildings Neighborhood Program. To the right, there is a 'January 2014 In This Issue' section with a list of links: 'New Online Community Launched', 'Upcoming Peer Exchange Calls', 'Meet the Members', 'Better Buildings Examples', 'Stories From the Neighborhood', 'Eye on the Energy Prize', 'Tools to Create Better Buildings', 'Resource Corner', and 'Share the View'. Below this list is a section for 'Upcoming Peer Exchange Calls' with the text 'Existing Residential Network'. The browser's address bar shows the URL: 'http://api.ning.com/files/LxgTrYw81cInWrgYnUW9igmgHVIFYnKrFyXtEUJCVzrcqI00LAJqAS3yXyrsHc8adSnDP - Windows Internet Explorer'. The taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button and several open applications: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Office, Internet Explorer, Notepad, and Microsoft PowerPoint. The system tray shows the time as 3:59 PM.

http://api.ning.com/files/LxgTrYw81cInWrgYnUW9igmgHVIFYnKrFyXtEUJCVzrcqI00LAJqAS3yXyrsHc8adSnDP - Windows Internet Explorer

http://api.ning.com/files/LxgTrYw81cInWrgYnUW9igmgHVIFYnKrFyXtEUJCVzrcqI00LAJqAS3yXyrsHc8adSnDPLkbuHxeZj1UgYV-rxW\*GPEzUj/BetterBuildingsNetworkView\_January92014.pdf

File Edit Go To Favorites Help

1 / 6 100%

Sign Comment

Better Buildings Network View | January 9, 2014

**Better Buildings** NETWORK VIEW  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Newsletter of the Better Buildings Residential Network

## Welcome to the First Issue

### Stop to Take in the (Network) View

Welcome to the first issue of the [Better Buildings Residential Network](#) newsletter, the *Better Buildings Network View*. The Residential Network connects energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from one another to dramatically increase the number of homes that are energy efficient. It also expands on the legacy of the \$500 million [Better Buildings Neighborhood Program](#) that consisted of more than 40 competitively selected state and local governments that developed sustainable energy efficiency upgrade programs.

This year kicks off a new era for residential energy efficiency

January 2014

#### In This Issue

- [New Online Community Launched](#)
- [Upcoming Peer Exchange Calls](#)
- [Meet the Members](#)
- [Better Buildings Examples](#)
- [Stories From the Neighborhood](#)
- [Eye on the Energy Prize](#)
- [Tools to Create Better Buildings](#)
- [Resource Corner](#)
- [Share the View](#)

#### Upcoming Peer Exchange Calls

Existing Residential Network

# Website

[https://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/betterbuildings/neighborhoods/residential\\_network.html](https://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/betterbuildings/neighborhoods/residential_network.html)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

EERE Home | Programs & Offices | Consumer Information

## Better Buildings Neighborhood Program

Better Buildings Neighborhood Program

Search Help >

HOME ABOUT **BETTER BUILDINGS PARTNERS** INNOVATIONS RUN A PROGRAM TOOLS & RESOURCES NEWS

EERE » Building Technologies Office » Better Buildings Neighborhood Program » Better Buildings Partners » Better Buildings Residential Network

[Printable Version](#) [Share](#)

Better Buildings Residential Network

Progress

Stories

Interviews

Videos

Events

## Better Buildings Residential Network

The Better Buildings Residential Network connects energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from one another to dramatically increase the number of American homes that are energy efficient.

Since 2010, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), local Better Buildings Neighborhood Program partners, and Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Sponsors have leveraged over \$1 billion in federal funding and local resources to build more energy efficient communities. DOE is now expanding this network of residential energy efficiency programs and partners to new members.

### Who Should Join?

Network membership is open to all organizations that are committed to accelerating the pace of energy upgrades in American homes. Members include:

- Financial institutions
- Federal, state, and local governments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Program administrators and implementers
- Universities
- Utilities
- Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Sponsors

[View a list of our current members.](#)

### What Benefits Do Members Receive?

- Invitations to monthly topical calls. Current areas of discussion include:
  - Business partners/workforce development
  - Driving demand
  - Evaluation & data collection
  - Financing
  - Moderate- and low-income markets
  - Program sustainability/revenue streams
  - Others, based on member requests
- Tools, templates, resources, and proven solutions shared by members.

#### Exchanging Ideas and Information

More than 2,000 participants have joined over 75 calls in a dynamic network of programs and partners that learned from one another and progressed faster as a result.

# Home Energy Pros Group

Better Buildings Residential Network - Home Energy Pros - Windows Internet Explorer

http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/group/better-buildings-residential-network

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Better Buildings Residenti... X Environmental Film Festival in... youtube Tinariwen - Google ... Washington Post: Breaking N... Lenny Kravitz's uncle awarde...

## HOME ENERGY PROS

Connecting home energy professionals

Home Invite My Page Members Forum Blogs Groups Photos Videos Events Training About Manage


All Groups My Groups Options + Invite

### Better Buildings Residential Network

Created by Better Buildings Support  
Send Message View Groups

#### Information

The Better Buildings Residential Network connects energy efficiency programs and partners to share best practices and learn from one another to increase the number of American homes that are energy efficient.



Website: <http://betterbuildings.energy.gov/bbrn>  
Members: 52  
Latest Activity: 2 hours ago

Edit

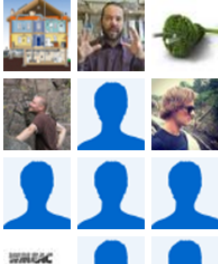
Join the conversation in the discussion forum below. You can use the "Follow" link at the bottom of the forum to receive an email whenever a new discussion is posted.

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#### Home Energy Pros

Home Energy Pros was founded by the developers of [Home Energy Saver Pro](#) (sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.) and brought to you in partnership with Home Energy magazine.

#### Members (52)



Main Room Members Online (12)

What brings you here?  
140 Share

Downloading picture [http://static.ning.com/socialnetworkmain/widgets/index/gfx/icons/xg\\_sprite-666666.png?xn\\_version=3244555409](http://static.ning.com/socialnetworkmain/widgets/index/gfx/icons/xg_sprite-666666.png?xn_version=3244555409)

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# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.)

Better Buildings Residential Network - Home Energy Pros - Windows Internet Explorer

http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/group/better-buildings-residential-network

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Better Buildings Residenti... Environmental Film Festival in... youtube Tinariwen - Google... Washington Post: Breaking N... Lenny Kravitz's uncle awards...

### Helpful Links

- Table of Contents
- Better Buildings Residential Network
- Better Buildings Neighborhood Program Website
- Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- Home Energy Score

Table of Contents +New Discussion Peer Exchange Call Archive Better Buildings Network View Tools Other Events

### Discussion Forum

**Check Out the Latest Newsletter and Share Your Successes**

In case you missed it, you can find the [March issue of the Better Buildings Network View](#) and other past issues in the [newsletter archive](#). In this issue, we featured EnergyFit Nevada's partnership with DOE and...

[Continue](#)

Tags: [Better Buildings Network View](#)

Started by Better Buildings Support 2 hours ago.

**Orient Yourself to the Residential Network On Next Week's Call**

Whether your organization is new to the Residential Network, you are new to your organization, or you would like to brush up on the benefits of being a member, please join us for a [Better Buildings Residential Network Orientation call](#) on Thursday, March 27, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. Eastern. The discussion will give an overview of the tools and resources

[Follow New Members](#)

[+ Invite More](#) [View All](#)

### Pages (14)

Tools

[Better Buildings Network View](#)

[Peer Exchange Call Schedule and Archive](#)

[Peer Exchange Archive: Marketing and Outreach](#)

[Peer Exchange Archive: Workforce/Business Partners](#)

[Peer E Main Room](#)

Members Online (12)

Ed Minch commented on Jim Gunshinan's blog post [The Passive House Revolution](#)

"Good information, Chris. The first authoritative book was "The Superinsulated Home Book"..."

19 minutes ago

Doug Pearl replied to Bob Blanchette's discussion [Electrical Efficiency for Gas Furnaces](#).

"Have you looked into any of the ECM motors? I hear they consume less electricity. It would probably..."

1 hour ago

Craig Senglin replied to Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA's discussion [HERS Index tracking 5 years or more after construction](#)

"Sandra- I am a HERS

Downloading picture http://static.ning.com/socialnetworkmain/widgets/index/gfx/icons/xg\_sprite-666666.png?xn\_version=3244555409

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# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.)

Tools - Home Energy Pros - Windows Internet Explorer

http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/group/better-buildings-residential-network/page/placeholder-2

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Tools - Home Energy Pros x Environmental Film Festival in... youtube Tinariwen - Google ... Washington Post: Breaking N... Lenny Kravitz's uncle awarde...

## Tools

### Guide for Program Benchmarking

Better Buildings Residential Network members are invited to help shape DOE's new Guide for Program Benchmarking. You may send redline comments on the outline to Dale Hoffmeyer <dale.hoffmeyer@ee.doe.gov> by Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

- [Guide for Program Benchmarking Draft Outline \(MS Word\)](#)

### Energy Efficiency Cost Effectiveness Tool (Beta Version)

Cost effectiveness analysis is a fundamental step in the design and evaluation of public utility commission-approved energy efficiency upgrade programs. In many cases, utilities must demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of their energy efficiency programs to obtain approval to carry them out. However, the estimation of cost effectiveness can be complicated and few publicly available, transparent and user-friendly tools exist for conducting this type of analysis. Furthermore, they are not designed around whole-building energy efficiency upgrades. The Cost Effectiveness Tool seeks to fill this void.

The Cost Effectiveness Tool, developed in Excel, supports the development and analysis of residential energy efficiency upgrade programs using standard cost-effectiveness analysis methods. Policy makers, utilities, energy efficiency program managers, architects and engineers may find the tool useful for supporting and scaling up residential energy efficiency programs. The tool estimates cost-effectiveness, using industry standard approaches, of both whole home energy efficiency upgrades and individual measures.

The user can build a program based on up to 5 different 'project types' (or measures implemented) and identify the number of homes to be targeted for upgrades over the program cycle. The tool reports cost-effectiveness metrics of the program, including program budgets, and allows the user to conduct sensitivity analysis against key inputs.

- [Energy Efficiency Cost Effectiveness Tool \(Beta Version\) \(MS Excel\)](#)
- [Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- [FAQs \(PDF\)](#)
- [Glossary \(PDF\)](#)

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- ⚙ Settings

## Home Energy Pros

Home Energy Pros was founded by the developers of [Home Energy Saver Pro](#) (sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.) and brought to you in partnership with [Home Energy magazine](#).

## Latest Activity

What brings you here?

140 Share +

Wolfgang Feist commented on Jim Gunshinan's blog post [The Passive House Revolution](#)

"Yes: It's showing the path; and, it is not a difficult path. That is, what the European..."

20 minutes ago

Main Room Members Online (13)

start

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2:28 PM

# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.)

Peer Exchange Archive: Program Sustainability - Home Energy Pros - Windows Internet Explorer

http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/group/better-buildings-residential-network/page/peer-exchange-archive-program-sustainability

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← Back to Better Buildings Residential Network All Better Buildings Residential Network Pages Options Add Jonathan Cohen

## Peer Exchange Archive: Program Sustainability

Program Sustainability | Workforce/Business Partners | Financing and Revenue | Data and Evaluation | Multifamily/Low Income Housing | Working with Utilities | High Road Workforce Agreements | Marketing and Outreach | Other Calls

Peer exchange call summaries are listed below as available. Please check back periodically for new summaries.

**Mastermind: Jim Mikel, Spirit Foundation**  
March 13, 2014

**Energy Efficiency Program Models for Local Government**  
February 13, 2014

**Coordinating EE with Other Disaster Resiliency Services**  
January 9, 2014  
[Presentation and Discussion Summary \(PDF\)](#)

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### Home Energy Pros

Home Energy Pros was founded by the developers of Home Energy Saver Pro (sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.) and brought to you in partnership with Home Energy magazine.

### Latest Activity

What brings you here?

Main Room Members Online (14)

Done

start Q:\EE-23\BETTE... TO DO.docx - M... 4 Microsoft Off... Peer Exchange ... BBRN -- BBR Str... Untitled - Notepad Microsoft Excel ... Internet 125% 1:07 PM

# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.)

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar contains the URL: [http://api.ning.com/files/uY3PJt2fxPxRB5JEUpe-OvGbZ2HjDVT8Z3Uw-Vbre\\*LHWVH6NH5MLvIOa5Dcwqp-Vzbb](http://api.ning.com/files/uY3PJt2fxPxRB5JEUpe-OvGbZ2HjDVT8Z3Uw-Vbre*LHWVH6NH5MLvIOa5Dcwqp-Vzbb). The browser's address bar also shows a search bar with the text "Google". The browser's menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Go To", "Favorites", and "Help". The browser's toolbar includes "Favorites", "Environmental Film Festival in...", "youtube Tinariwen - Google...", "Washington Post: Breaking N...", and "How's this work? | Actioniirs". The main content area displays a slide with the Better Buildings logo (a green and blue arrow) and the text "Better Buildings U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY". Below the logo is a blue horizontal bar. The slide title is "Better Buildings Residential Network Program Sustainability Peer Exchange Call Series: *Trends in Real Estate and Energy Efficiency*". The subtitle is "Call Slides and Discussion Summary" and the date is "November 7, 2013". The U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY logo is in the bottom right corner of the slide. The browser's status bar shows "Done" and "Unknown Zone". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the "start" button, several open applications (including "Q:\EE-2J\BETTE...", "TO DO.docx - M...", "Microsoft Off...", "http://api.ning.c...", "BBRN -- BBR. Str...", "Untitled - Notepad", and "Microsoft Excel - ..."), and the system tray with the time "2:36 PM".

# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.)

The screenshot shows a presentation slide titled "Poll Results" within a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://api.ning.com/files/mhrng7eeJg0Vw9Lh73AJh-4Xp4QYa0gMLLkcR75dFjFT0-BiN45FcN0Kb-0PV1f0PyJm2>. The slide content is as follows:

## Poll Results

- What would be the biggest barrier for coordinating energy efficiency and disaster recovery in your community?
  - Lack of a clear response plan or protocol (46%)
  - Lack of awareness about energy efficiency (23%)
  - Lack of inter-agency coordination (15%)
  - Lack of adequate funding/resources (15%)
  - Other (0%)

The slide also features the "Better Buildings" logo in the bottom left and the "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY" logo in the bottom right. The number "6" is visible in the bottom left corner of the slide content area. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows various open applications including "start", "Q:\EE-2J\BETTE...", "TO DO.docx - Mi...", "4 Microsoft Off...", "http://api.ning.c...", "BBRN -- BBR Str...", "Untitled - Notepad", and "Microsoft Excel - ...". The system tray on the right shows the time as 1:06 PM.



# Home Energy Pros Group (Cont.) – To Join

To Join the BBRN Group on Home Energy Pros:

- 1) Join Home Energy Pros, <http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/>
- 2) Welcome email, go to Home Energy Pros, click Groups, then BBRN, click to join in the top yellow bar
- 3) Welcome email, go to the group to start.

If you have any questions feel free to contact us at [bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov).

# Peer Exchange Call Series

- There are currently 6 Peer Exchange call series:
  - Data & Evaluation
  - Financing & Revenue
  - Marketing & Outreach
  - Multi-Family/ Low Income
  - Program Sustainability
  - Workforce/ Business Partners
- Calls are 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at 12:30 & 3 pm ET
- Upcoming calls:
  - Mar 27, Workforce: Quality Control, Standardization, and Expectations
  - April 10, Program Sustainability: Complementary Energy - Health Strategies
  - April 10, Data & Evaluation: Cost-Effectiveness Tests; Measure Like a Utility
  - April 24, Marketing & Outreach: Working with Schools
  - April 24, Workforce: Contractor Rating and Feedback Systems
- Send call topic ideas, or requests to be added to email distribution lists to [peerexchange@rossstrategic.com](mailto:peerexchange@rossstrategic.com).

# Optional Voluntary Member Initiatives

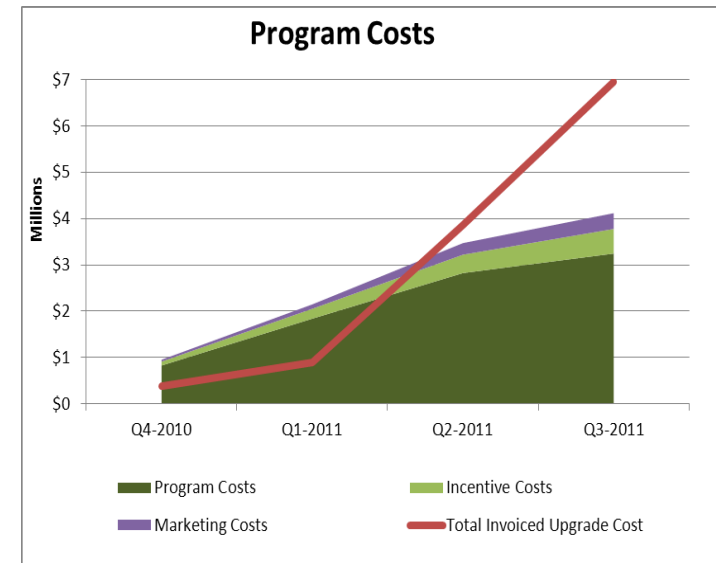
**Example – Optional Program Benchmarking:** Tracking your program's performance over time, or comparing to achievements of other programs.

## Value:

- 1) Communicate progress
  - Goals met (energy savings, jobs, etc.)
  - Spending of public funds is effective
- 2) Basis for program design changes
- 3) Justify continued or additional investment

## Optional Program Benchmarking Guide:

- Action steps and templates for creating a benchmarking plan
- Information on useful outcome metrics, data challenges
- Examples of benchmarks from current programs



# Residential Program Solutions Center

Web portal of residential EE upgrade program resources, & lessons learned to plan better, avoid reinventing wheel.

- BB Neighborhood Program, Home Performance with ENERGY STAR Sponsors+
- Provides:
  - Step-by-step guidance
  - Examples
  - Tools
  - Templates
  - Lessons learned
  - Best practices
  - Tips



# Residential Program Solutions Center

Continually add content, materials, videos, lessons learned and more to support residential EE upgrade programs

- Establish as 1-stop shop
- Keep dynamic, not snapshot
- EE program reference point
- Programming opportunities
- Member ideas wanted



# Presentation Highlights

- The BBRN provides a **template newsletter** to announce membership
- There is a monthly **Network View Newsletter** distributed via email
  - The BBRN is always looking for newsletter topics of interest
- **Home Energy Pros Online Community:** have discussions with other members, upload your work, access resources and tools
- **Peer Exchange calls and call archive:** find summaries of past calls and the current call schedule on the Home Energy Pros website
- **Energy Efficiency Cost Effectiveness Tool:** estimates the cost-effectiveness of a residential EE program based on a program administrator's inputs.
- Coming soon: **Residential Program Solutions Center**

# Closing Poll #1 Results

- After today's orientation, more information on the following would help to better understand BBRN resources (Pick all that apply):
  - Home Energy Pros Group site: **56%**
  - Optional voluntary member initiatives: **50%**
  - Peer Exchange calls: **25%**
  - Network View Newsletter: **19%**
  - None of the above: **19%**

# Closing Poll #2 Results

- After participating in the orientation today, how likely are you to use the following tools and resources? (Pick all that apply)
  - Participate in Peer Exchange calls: **89%**
  - Use the BBRN online community on the Home Energy Pros website: **89%**
  - Read the Network View Newsletter: **72%**
  - Access the website for information: **50%**

*Please send ideas for additional tools or resources to [peerexchange@rossstrategic.com](mailto:peerexchange@rossstrategic.com).*



# Question & Answer

- **Q: Is there a similar network focused on the small business market?**
  - **A:** The Better Buildings Residential Network is focused on energy efficiency programs and retrofits for existing residential properties. Department of Energy has other initiatives oriented toward businesses and schools.
- **Q: Does the network offer information on advertising to home and business owners reluctant to spend money on upgrades?**
  - **A:** The Marketing & Outreach Peer Exchange calls discuss this challenge and tactics programs can use to attract potential customers. Summaries of past Marketing & Outreach calls are archived in the Home Energy Pros online community.
  - The BBRN Solutions Center, launching this spring, will contain similar resources.

# Question & Answer (Cont.)

- **Q: What are Voluntary Initiatives?**

- **A:** Voluntary Initiatives can be anything to help aid members in their work and bring members together to work collaboratively. There was a recent Peer Exchange call to brainstorm ideas for new initiatives, which will be further discussed on a future call.
- **Example:** Optional Program Benchmarking tracks an energy program's performance over time and compares it to other programs in the network.

- **Q. Will network participants be able to submit materials for the Solutions Center?**

- **A:** Yes. Once the Solutions Center has launched, the BBRN will be inviting members to submit content to the Solutions Center based on their program experience. The Solutions Center will create a library of content covering everything an organization needs to run an energy efficiency program.

# BBRN Orientation Highlights

- **The Better Buildings Residential Network is a network by, of and for members:**
  - The network exists to serve the needs of its members.
  - BBRN empowers members to suggest what resources and information they need to improve the organization's energy efficiency programs.
  - Members are encouraged to suggest Peer Exchange call topics and Voluntary Initiative ideas, as well as submit content for the Solutions Center once launched.

# Stay Connected

- Visit the Better Buildings Residential Network Website:  
<http://energy.gov/eere/better-buildings-neighborhood-program/better-buildings-residential-network>
- Contact BBRN to join the network, receive the Network View Newsletter and with any questions:  
[bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov](mailto:bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov)
- Join the Home Energy Pros online community:  
<http://homeenergypros.lbl.gov/>
- Contact [peerexchange@rossstrategic.com](mailto:peerexchange@rossstrategic.com) for the following:
  - Ideas for Peer Exchange call topics and additional tools and resources
  - Requests to be added to the Peer Exchange call series email distribution lists.