Water Efficiency Innovations: How to get credit in the Water Rating Index and HERSH2O?

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Agenda

- Background on HERS_{H2O}
- Components of a water rating
- Need for innovative design requests
- Process for requests

Key Objectives for HERS_{H2O}

- Nationwide applicability
- Suitable for both new and existing homes
- Encompasses both indoor and outdoor water efficiency
- Practical and affordable to administer
- Scores usable for quantitative comparison



Development Process



Technical Guidelines serve as the basis for the Water Rating Index Standard (BSR/RESNET/ICC 1101-201x).

Scope of the Standard

This Standard will provide a uniform methodology for evaluating, rating and labeling the indoor and outdoor water use performance of <u>one- and two-family dwellings</u>.



Rating Calculation Methodology

- Grounded in water use data as much as possible
- Indoor reference home based primarily on HERS
 - Original analysis for Addendum A (Domestic Hot Water)
 - Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS)
 - DOE Engineering Analysis for Rulemakings
 - Some additional data from REUWS I & II
- Outdoor reference home based on REUWS II
 - Detailed landscape and outdoor use analysis for 838 homes

Components of a Water Rating







Shower Heads



Lavatory Faucets



Toilet Flush Volume Irrigation



Pool or Spa

Components of a Water Rating







Clothes Washer Water Softener

Leaks/Other Water Use





Excess Pressure



Other Factors Included in the Rating



House Size



Geographic Location



Number of Bedrooms



Lot & Landscape Size



Hot Water Distribution Layout



Hot Water Pipe Insulation

Rated Home Credits

Indoor model will respond to:

- More efficient plumbing products
- Efficient Appliances
- More efficient plumbing distribution

Outdoor model will respond to:

- Smaller landscapes (the reference landscape is fixed based on lot size)
- More efficient irrigation technology
 - o Smart controllers
 - More efficient emitters, as expressed by the Residential Irrigation Capacity Index (RICI)



Calculation Spreadsheet-Local Climate

Local Data Used for the Following:

- Evapotranspiration (ET) for landscape irrigation
 - Based on Water and Climate Atlas dataset
 - Processed at the zip code level
- Hardness of water (Water softener water use)
 - USGS hardness map
 - Processed at the zip code level
- Mains water temperature (impacts hot water use wasted)



Variation of Mains Water Temperatures



- HERS_{H2O} takes this into account at the city level.
- Variations as high as 13 gallons per day from warm to cold climates

Innovative Design Requests

Water Rating providers can petition for adjustment to the Water Rating Index for a Rated Home with features or technologies <u>not</u> addressed by Approved Software Rating Tools or the Standard.



Why Innovative Design Requests?

• Significant increases in water prices spurring investment in water efficiency technologies

Water cost increases from 2000-2012:

- 1.Atlanta: 233%
- 2.San Francisco: 211%
- 3.Wilmington: 200%
- 4.Philadelphia: 164%
- 5.Portland: 161%
- 6.Wichita: 153%
- 7.New York: 151%
- 8.Waterloo, IA: 145%
- 9.Binghamton, NY: 143%
- 10.San Diego and Augusta: 141%



Submitting an Innovative Design Request

Requests must include the following:

- A Rating generated from Approved Software Rating Tool for the Rated Home <u>without</u> feature(s) that cannot be modeled in the software tool.
- Written description of feature(s) not included in Rating generated from software.
- Manufacturer's technical and/or performance specifications for feature(s) not included in the Rating generated from the Approved Software Rating Tool.
- Estimated water use impact with documentation to support
- Estimated adjustment to the Water Rating Index. Calculations shall follow procedures of Sections 4.1 and 4.2.

Process for Approving Requests

Innovative Design Requests:

- Work with a provider
- Provider submits request to Calculations Subcommittee
- Subcommittee approves or denies request
- Subcommittee may request additional information
- Has been done for Drain Water Heat Recovery systems for HERS
- If approved, can be incorporated into approved software



Alternative to traditional water softener systems



Leak Detection



Rainwater Harvesting



Grey Water Re-use

Thank you!

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Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

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