

## TAX CREDITS FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE HOMES

by Barbara Collins Energy Rated Homes

Affordable Housing Market & the Other Federal Tax Credit

# Intro to Affordable Housing Sector



# "Things are more like they are now than they have ever been."

- Gerald Ford

#### Pieces in the Puzzle



HUD – Federal Affordable Housing Agency

- Housing Authorities State Agencies
  - Tax Credits, Bonding Authority, Weatherization
- Local Entities
  - PHAs, HOME Rehab, New Construction

# HUD Spends \$4 Billion Each Year on Utilities



- More than 10% of entire budget
- Estimated \$1.1 billion directly through public housing operating subsidies
- Approximately 5 million units nation-wide
- Utility bills = 27% of annual operating budgets of PHAs

# NEVADA Affordable Housing Agency



- Must achieve all ENERGY STAR Home requirements
- TBI Checklist
- Duct leakage
- Manual J Load Calcs
- Return Air Balancing units of 2 BR or more

# Energy Star Qualified Lights & Appliances



- Ceiling Fans
- Light Fixtures CFLs allowed
- Refrigerators
- Dishwashers
- Clothes Washers

### Lights & Appliances



- Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs) —Less energy plus cooling load reduction
- **Dishwashers U**se a minimum of 25% less energy than the federal minimum standard for energy consumption.
- Clothes Washers -- Compared to a model manufactured before 1994, an ENERGY STAR qualified clothes washer can save up to \$110 per year on your utility bills.
- Refrigerators At least 15% more efficient than the minimum federal efficiency standard.

#### IAQ



- Combustion Appliances inside conditioned space - Power vented or direct-power vented unit.
- Fresh Air Ventilation

#### Hot Water Conservation



- Showerheads Use ≤ 2.5 gallons per minute
- Faucets Use ≤ 2.0 gallons per minute

### Design Review & Assistance



- Plans Analysis for Energy Star
- Design Review for other requirements
- Help Desk for architects, mechanical engineers, etc. Answers questions about requirements and provides technical assistance
- Annual seminar for development teams

### Silver Sage Senior Residence



Low IncomeTax Credits
1 Building - 41 Units



- Low Income Tax Credit Project
- High Performance Windows
- Ducts and AHU in conditioned space
- Energy Star Appliances

\$6,767/Yr Energy Cost Savings 86,556 Lbs/Yr CO2 Avoided

#### **Pacific Pines**



Low Income Tax Credit project 2 Buildings 102 Units

- Demand Water Heaters
- High Performance Windows
- Ducts and AHU in conditioned space

\$13,210/Yr Energy Cost Savings 94,381 Lbs/Yr CO2 Avoided

#### Tax Credit Units



2007 - 503 New Construction Units completed

 2008 - 721 Units New and Rehab in pipeline

# ARIZONA Omnibus Energy Bill



- Requires all MF Construction funded by the Affordable Housing Agency to meet E Star Homes level
- Have no room pressures greater than + or
   3 Pa relative to outside in any zone of the house.

#### **HUD** Initiative



- M2M Green Initiative Pilot Program
- Launched in San Francisco July 2007
- 1<sup>st</sup> time HUD has required a Green Audit in Conjunction with a PCA

## **HUD Audit Requirement**



 PHA's must have an Energy Audit of all properties every 5 years

Not specific and not enforced

Under review to make more effective

### What is Affordable Housing?



The Definition of Housing Affordability

= 30 % or less of monthly income is spent on housing.

#### Crisis in Affordable Market



- 12 million American households pay more than 50 percent of their annual incomes for housing.
- A family with a full-time worker earning the minimum wage can't afford the local fairmarket rent for a 2 bedroom apartment anywhere in the United States.

### Alliance to Save Energy



- 25% reduction in energy costs in housing units nationwide would make 1,182,000 more housing units "affordable"
- Affordable = 30% household income for housing costs Rent + Utilities

### Picking Up the Pace



# "The future will be better tomorrow" Dan Quayle