Codes, Ratings, Energy Star and Tax Credits... Oh My!

2008 RESNET Conference



David R. Roberts, P.E. Architectural Energy Corporation

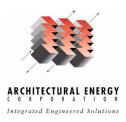




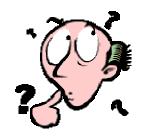
"This home has a HERS Index of 75 but doesn't make ENERGY STAR!"

"I've got a home that meets ENERGY STAR, but it doesn't pass code!"

"Can you explain how this home meets the tax credit requirements, but doesn't pass code?"



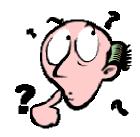




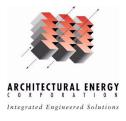
Quick Analysis								
Energy Surface Area Compliance								
Programs Energy Star:		Fails Fails	HERS Index:	74				
IECC 2004 B IECC 2003 B IECC 2001 B IECC 2000 B	Energy Code: Energy Code: Energy Code: Energy Code: Energy Code:	Fails Fails Passes Passes Passes Passes	ECC of New York State: ECC of Southern Nevada: MEC 1995 Energy Code: MEC 1993 Energy Code: MEC 1992 Energy Code: ASHRAE 90.2 Code:	Passes Passes Passes Passes Passes Fails				
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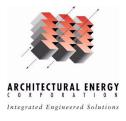


Quick Analysis									
Energy Surface Area Compliance									
	Programs Energy Star: Tax Credit:	Passes Passes	HERS Index:	58					
(IECC 2006 Energy Code: IECC 2004 Energy Code: IECC 2003 Energy Code: IECC 2001 Energy Code: IECC 2000 Energy Code: IECC 1998 Energy Code:	Fails Passes Passes Passes Passes	ECC of New York State: ECC of Southern Nevada: MEC 1995 Energy Code: MEC 1993 Energy Code: MEC 1992 Energy Code: ASHRAE 90.2 Code:	Passes Passes Passes Passes Passes					
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I'm so confused!





Performance-Based Analysis Refresher

Rated Home

Modified Rated Home

Reference Home











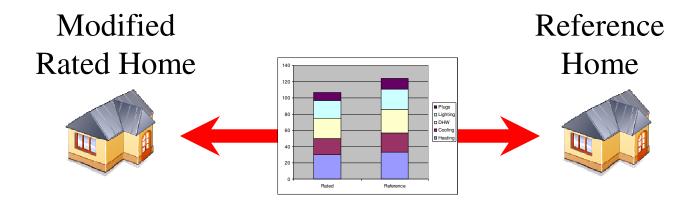
Home as input

- •Copy of home as input
 - •Same geometry
 - •Same orientation
 - •Same systems
- Analysis rules applied
 - •Setpoint temperatures
 - •Window shading
 - •MV/Infiltration

- •Copy of modified rated home
- •Reference home rules applied
 - •U-values
 - •Infiltration rate
 - •Window area/orientation/SHGC
 - Mechanical efficiencies
 - •Distribution system efficiency
 - •Etc.



Performance-Based Analysis Refresher



- Energy use of homes is compared
- If Rated Home < Reference Homes: PASSES
- If Rated Home > Reference Home: FAILS



Performance-Based Analysis Refresher

Modified Rated Home



Called **Proposed Design** in codes

Reference Home



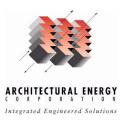
Called

Standard Design
in codes

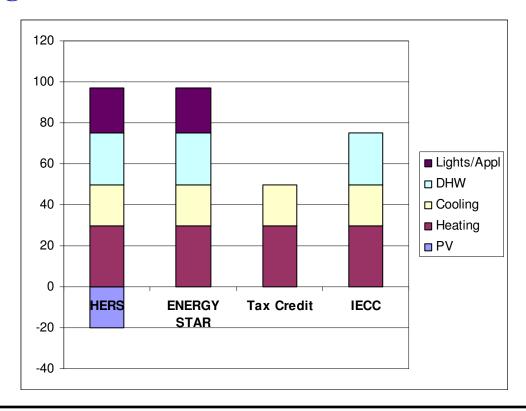


Differing end-uses are considered

- HERS Index includes all energy use and production
- ENERGY STAR does not count all CFLs or energy production
 - One reason why a sub-85 home might not qualify for ENERGY STAR
- Tax credit considers only space heating/cooling
 - This is why most tax credit homes have a HERS Index above 50



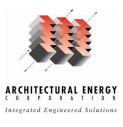
Differing end-uses are considered





Different metrics are used

- HERS Index, tax credit use normalized, modified end-use loads (nMEUL)
- IECC uses energy cost
- This is one reason why a home with a HERS Index of 100 may or may not pass code.



Different metrics are used

HERS, ENERGY STAR, Tax Credit

Normalized, modified end-use loads (nMEUL)

 $nMEUL = REUL*(nEC_x/EC_r)$

 $nEC_X = (a*EEC_x-b)*(EC_x*EC_x*DSE_r)/(EEC_x*REUL)$

 $EEC_x = 1/MEPR$

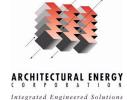
 $DSE_r = REUL/EC_r*EEC_r$

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IECC

Annual Energy Cost

\$



Still recovering from last year's RESNET conference



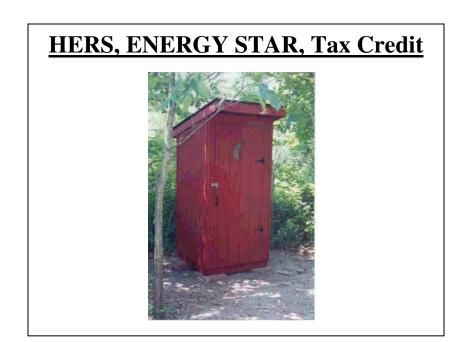


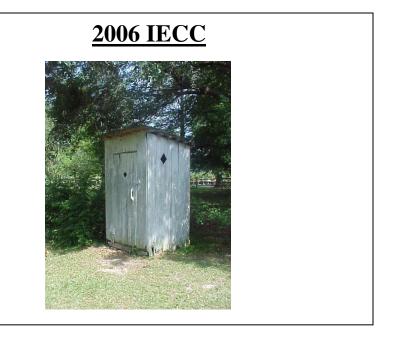
Different Reference Homes are used

- HERS Index, ENERGY STAR, tax credit use 2004 IECC
- 2006 IECC is now being adopted by jurisdictions
- Differences:
 - Window area in Standard Design
 - 2004: 18% of floor area
 - 2006: floats up to 18%
 - Infiltration rate in Standard Design
 - 2004: 0.00048 SLA
 - 2006: 0.00036 SLA
- This is why a 100 point home may or may not pass 2006



Different Reference Homes are used

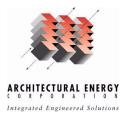






The 2006 IECC requires R-8 ducts

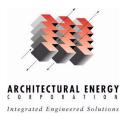
- An absolute requirement
 - Unless changed by local amendment
 - Even a zero-energy home cannot pass 2006 IECC w/o R-8 ducts
- Not a requirement for HERS, ENERGY STAR, tax credit
 - This is why you can meet ENERGY STAR or make tax credit, and fail code



The 2006 IECC requires R-8 ducts







Sprained brain taking RESNET Rater Test





ENERGY STAR homes require duct testing

- No defaults, must be measured
 - Must be below 0.06 cfm25/cfa
 - Only exception is all ducts inside and very tight shell
- HERS, IECC, tax credit do not require duct testing
 - Can use IECC/RESNET defaults
- This is why a sub-85 point home might not make ENERGY STAR
- This is why a home might make tax credit, but not qualify for ENERGY STAR



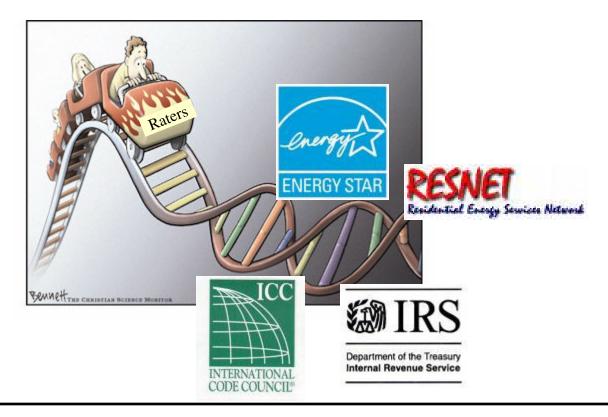
ENERGY STAR homes require duct testing







The rules keep changing



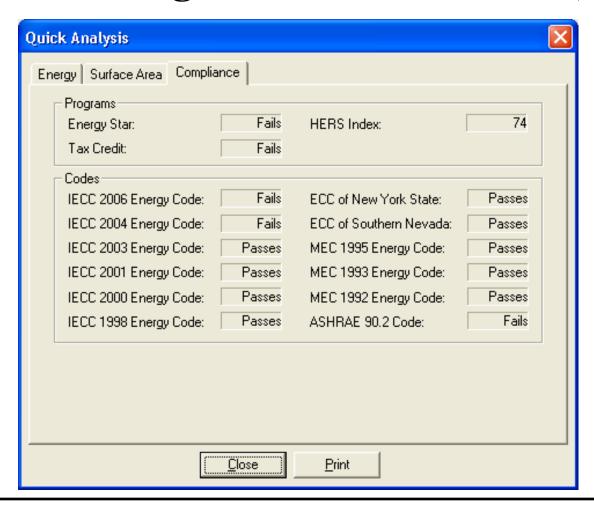


HERS Rater's Guide to the Universe

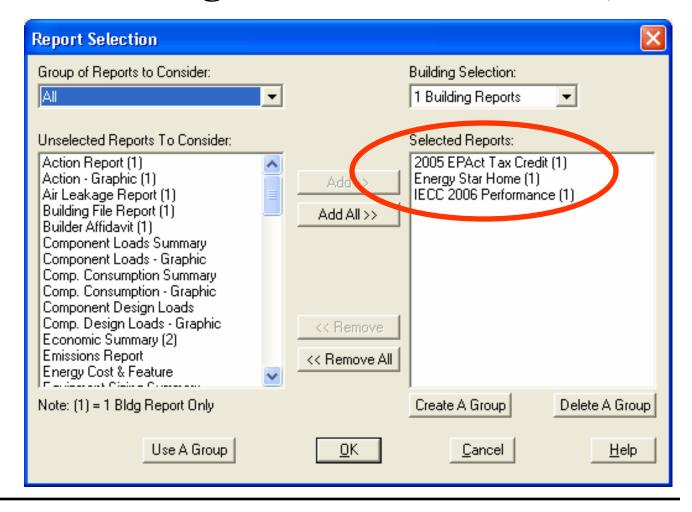
Variability in Rules for Performance-Based Analysis

	HERS Index	ENERGY STAR	Tax Credit	2006 IECC
End-uses included	All	All, limited CFLs	Space heating and cooling	Space heating and cooling, hot water
Onsite power production	Yes	No	No	Yes
Metric	nMEUL	nMEUL	nMEUL	Cost
Reference	2004 IECC	2004 IECC	2004 IECC	2006 IECC
Reference window area	18%	18%	18%	<=18%
Reference infiltration	0.00048 SLA	0.00048 SLA	0.00048 SLA	0.00036 SLA
R-8 ducts mandatory?	No	No	No	Yes
Duct testing required?	No	Yes	No	No

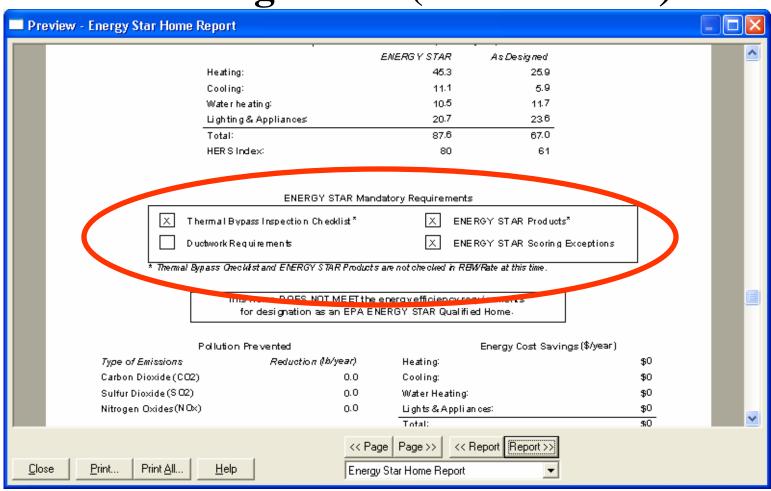






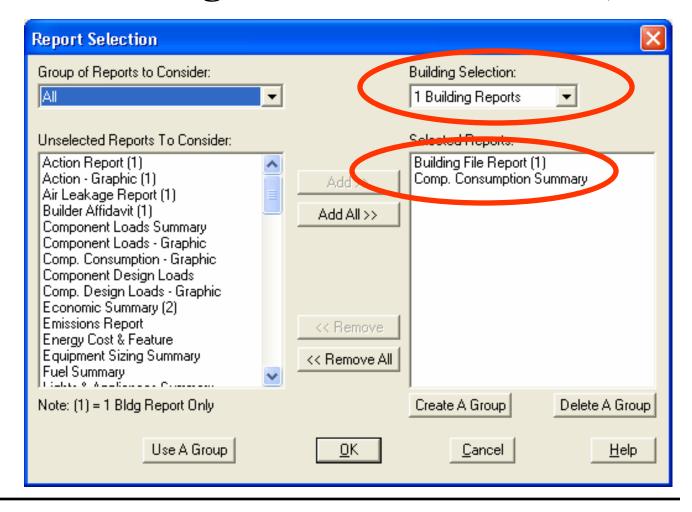




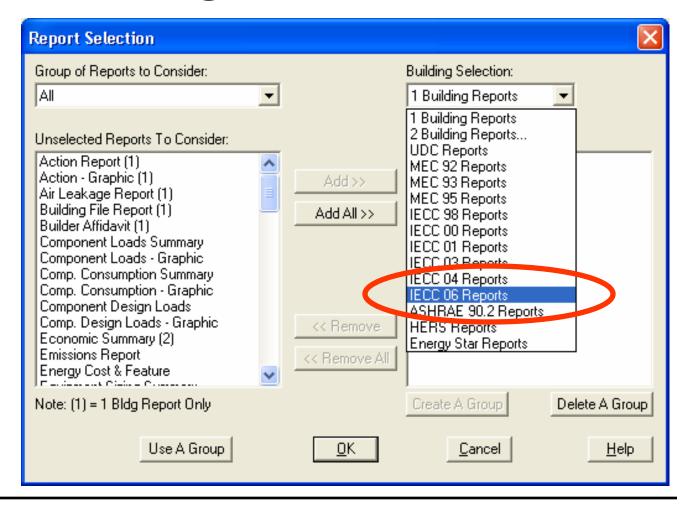




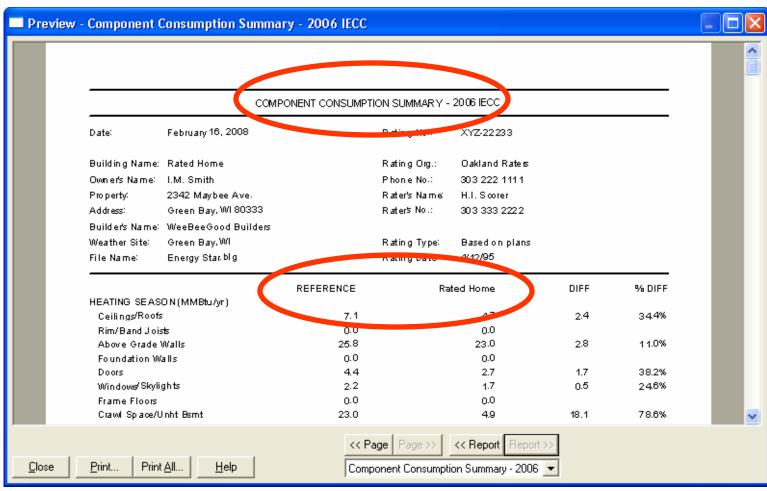






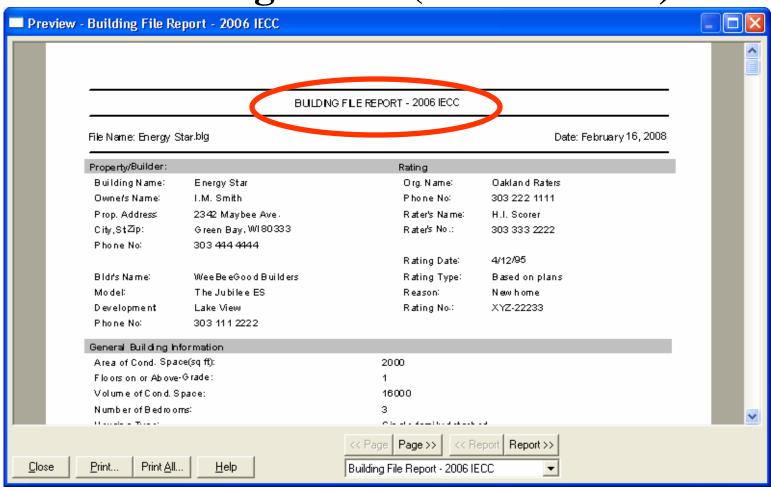






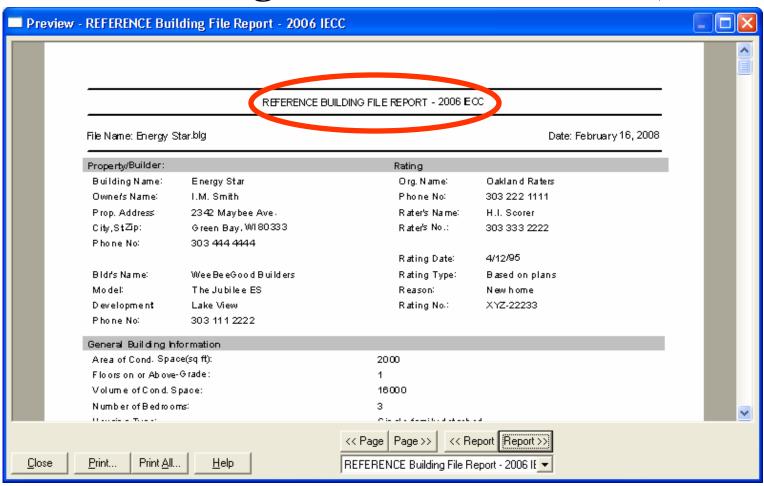
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Thanks!

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