



Update to the Residential Weatherization Specifications

Brian Zoeller, Program Manager, Weatherization

Sarah F. Moore, Residential Sector Lead

Mark Johnson, Program Manager, DHP/New Homes



Objectives for Today:

- Provide an overview of proposed timeline and process
- Outline major changes presented by the RTF Weatherization Spec update
- Highlight suspected impacts and reference materials for new specs
- Outline our goals and commitments to you

What's Going On?

- What has changed?
 - Knowledge, Technology, Detail
- When were the Specs approved?
 - Aug, 2011, 3 yr cycle
- RTF Residential Wx Subcommittee
 - 55 Subcommittee members who met 22 times over 6 months

What we are hearing from utilities:

- Some utilities are worried about impacts to their programs
- Budgets are tight, added/new requirements don't help
- Utilities face choices within and across sectors
- Customer satisfaction is very important
- Small or rural utilities will face greater challenges; different markets
- Utility staff time is limited

What is BPA's plan?

- Start a conversation – Wx is inherently complicated stuff
- Sub-regional visits in late May to early July with groups of utilities
- Clearly document and share with whole region concerns, feedback and ideas by September of 2012
- Review RTF measure set when available (est. Aug-Sept 2012)
 - Originally anticipated a notice by Fall, 2012, but may be delayed
- We will provide at least 6 months notice
- Note: Utilities who want to incorporate new specs now can

What is important to think through?

- Different customers want different things:
 - health, safety, comfort
 - durability, lower bills

- Contractor appetite to participate AND capability

- Time – Wx is complex for everyone. Think through in advance of the linkages among the players

Website Locations for Specs

RTF Wx Subcommittee Website: www.nwcouncil.org

- [Residential Sub-Committee Site](#) (right click, press open hyperlink)
- [2006 and 2011 Technical Specification Manuals](#) (right click, press open hyperlink)

Technical specifications

11/9/2011 [v2.0](#) | (right click, press open hyperlink)

10/1/2006 [v1.0](#)

- BPA has provided a Summary of Spec Changes on our website to help you understand the differences: [click here](#) (right click, press open hyperlink)

2011 Wx Major Changes

- Removed program requirements and field practice from installation specs
- Specs are built around measures rather than building type and grouped together
- Code references are left to code documents
- Increased detail of installation requirements per measure to remove ambiguity

Major Impacts of New Wx Specs

- Mechanical ventilation requirements for tested/whole house air sealing
- Prescriptive air sealing requirements for insulation measures
- Inspection rates for utilities – 25%
- Inspection credentialing test requirement – RTF Approved

Major Impacts Continued...

- Education materials concerning indoor air quality are now required
 - Indoor Air Quality Homeowner Disclosure Form
 - EPA Booklet (Care for your Air) for customers

- Installer Certificate/Record (II-11) is more detailed and lines up with Federal Trade Commission standards

- In general, higher requirements for contractors and utilities

Compliance Condition Summary

Weatherization Measure	Whole House Mechanical Ventilation required?	Prescriptive air sealing required?	Prescriptive Duct Sealing/ Insulation required?
Attic	No	Yes	Yes
Floors	No	Yes	Yes
Walls	No	Yes	No
Windows	No	Yes	n/a
Duct Insulation	No	n/a	Yes
Whole House Air Sealing	Yes	Yes	No

Proposed Sub-Regional Meetings

- The Utility Sounding Board is working for you!
 - A good idea, measure by measure, but no contractors yet...
- Half Day, 10am to 3pm, Tuesdays or Thursdays
- Documents provided in advance to help conversations
- Meeting goal is to maximize participation through central locations; interested utilities to host or via webinar??

Potential Topics...

- Impacts of new specs on stakeholders; measure by measure discussion
- Barriers to utilities, contractors, customers
- Opportunities for utilities and stakeholders
- Trade-off discussions – focus & dollars
- Tool needs to make jobs easier, more effective
- Training needs - For whom? By whom?

Logistics and Interest

- Utilities interested in hosting please contact your EE representatives; talk amongst yourselves.
- We will work with your EER's to formally invite you and your neighbors
- A sample meeting structure can be provided in advance to participating utilities. Does that appeal??

Our Commitments to You

- BPA's Weatherization program requirements and measure sets are clear and useful to the greatest number
- Identify and deliver program value as perceived by the majority of our utilities
- Understand multiple stakeholder needs in order to provide the right support that drives the right action

Questions?

Brian Zoeller

Program Manager, Residential Wx

btzoeller@bpa.gov

503-230-3971

Sarah F. Moore

Residential Sector Lead

sfmoore@bpa.gov

503-230-4157

Presentation posted in the next few days: (right click, open hyperlink)

http://www.bpa.gov/Energy/N/Utilities_Sharing_EE/Energy_Smart_Awareness/