



NYSERDA

Low-rise Residential New Construction
Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 2309
\$8,244,200 Available
REVISED March 2016

Program incentives are available for qualified
Low-rise Residential New Construction projects through December 29, 2017

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA) Low-rise Residential New Construction Program (Program) incorporates support for constructing New York ENERGY STAR® Certified Homes as well as for certain gut rehabilitation projects which may be eligible to participate and receive the alternative New York Energy Smart designation. This Program is designed and intended to encourage the construction of single-family homes and low-rise residential dwelling units which operate more energy efficiently, are more durable, more comfortable, and provide a healthier environment for their occupants than would otherwise be achieved. Technical assistance and financial incentives are offered to builders and developers, as well as to Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Providers and their Home Energy Raters, to encourage the adoption of progressive building practices among professional homebuilders and developers while stimulating permanent consumer demand for dwellings that are significantly more energy-efficient than code-built homes. Incentives are available to support the achievement of increased levels of energy performance, up to and inclusive of homes or dwelling units which are designed and constructed to achieve net zero energy performance.

This Program, primarily offered as an enhanced version of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ENERGY STAR Certified New Homes program, was developed in coordination with the EPA, RESNET, Home Energy Rating Providers and their network of Home Energy Raters, as well as through collaboration with New York State's homebuilders. RESNET has adopted the Mortgage Industry National Home Energy Rating System (HERS) standards as the national procedure for completing a Home Energy Rating to evaluate a newly constructed home's energy efficiency. HERS Standards are recognized by the EPA's ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program.

NYSERDA, as the program administrator, has contracted with CLEAResult to provide program implementation services. Additional program support is offered by Home Energy Rating Providers and their affiliated Home Energy Raters. PON 2309 serves as the guide for these Programs. All Partnership Agreement Signature Forms should be submitted to:

New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Attn: Nicole Angels
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203

Project-specific questions, including inquiries regarding specific incentive should be submitted to the [CLEAResult](#) and as indicated elsewhere in PON 2309.

Program-related questions regarding the Low-rise Residential New Construction Program can be submitted to Patrick Fitzgerald at (518) 862-1090, ext. 3385 or PatrickFitzgerald@nyserda.ny.gov.

Please visit NYSERDA's web site to view the full solicitation at [PON 2309](#), or submit your request to Roseanne Viscusi by fax at (518) 862-1091, by e-mail at rdv@nyserda.ny.gov or by mail to:

Roseanne Viscusi, PON 2309
NYS Energy Research and Development Authority
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

I. Introduction

The Low-rise Residential New Construction Program is funded through fees paid by electricity distribution customers. NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation established by law in 1975, administers Clean Energy Fund programs as directed by the Public Service Commission.

What the Program offers:

For Consumers: New York State homeowners and renters gain access to more energy efficient, healthy, safe, durable, and comfortable newly constructed homes.

For Builders: Technical assistance and targeted financial incentives are offered to encourage builders to adopt energy-efficient building design features; and select and install more energy-efficient equipment.

For Home Energy Rating Providers and their affiliated Home Energy Raters: Training and technical support are offered, in addition to financial incentives intended to encourage home builders' use of building science professionals.

How the Program works: Builders are offered access to incentives intended to encourage the design and construction of residential dwelling units which meet the requirements detailed in this PON 2309. To receive those incentives, the builder must first execute a Partnership Agreement with the EPA's ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program and then with NYSERDA. Builders must hire a Home Energy Rater to verify compliance with relevant requirements of PON 2309. Home Energy Raters must be affiliated with a RESNET Accredited Home Energy Rating Provider, who provides oversight, training, quality assurance and quality control services in support of their affiliated Home Energy Raters. Individuals acting as their own general contractors in the construction of their new homes can participate, but would be required to execute Partnership Agreements as a Builder with both the EPA's ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program and with NYSERDA.

To be eligible for program participation, an applicant must be, or be capable and intend to be, a New York State electricity distribution customer of a participating utility company who pays into the System Benefit Charge (SBC).

For the purposes of these Programs, low-rise residential new construction is defined as the ground-up new construction of dwelling unit(s) contained within residential buildings of not more than three (3) stories in height. Additionally, residential buildings which are more than three (3) stories in height and determined to be eligible to participate in the EPA's ENERGY STAR Certified Homes program will be considered for eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Dwelling units which will be "gut-rehabbed" or fully rehabilitated will also be considered by NYSERDA for eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Buildings which, per the Building Code of New York State, are defined as Institutional, or are R-1 and primarily transient in nature such as hotels or motels, are not eligible to participate. Eligibility criteria are provided in more detail within the [Incentive Summary and Application Requirements](#) section of PON 2309. Sole discretion for determination of eligibility and access to Program benefits resides with NYSERDA.

II. PON 2309 Documents:

The Terms and Conditions of PON 2309 are contained in this Summary document, as well as the following, as amended, added, and superseded:

- ☐ [Incentive Summary and Application Requirements](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Low-rise Performance Supplement](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Partnership Agreement](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Requirements for Builders](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Requirements for RESNET Accredited Providers](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Cooperative Advertising Incentives and Requirements](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Project Application](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [NYSERDA Prompt Payment Policy Statement](#) [PDF]
- ☐ [Incentive Application](#) [PDF]

III. An overview of responsibilities and individual points of contact:

New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA):

- ☐ Program development, administration and oversight;
- ☐ Program analysis and evaluation;
- ☐ Establishing and administering Program incentives.

CLEAResult, as NYSERDA's Program Implementation Contractor:

- ☐ Support Program development;
- ☐ Programmatic, technical, and software support services to Program Partners;
- ☐ Program liaison with appropriate construction/building science organizations;
- ☐ Field support services, including Program-related Quality Control;
- ☐ Marketing support and coordination;
- ☐ Builder recruitment;
- ☐ Builder training, development, delivery and/or facilitation;
- ☐ Incentive processing for Builders and RESNET Accredited Providers;
- ☐ Data collection, management and reporting to NYSERDA.

Builders:

- ☐ Construct or erect dwelling units which comply with Program requirements, verified through their submission of the required documentation.

Home Energy Raters:

- ☐ Verification of Builder compliance with Program standards through performance of a confirmed Home Energy Rating and submission of the required documentation;
- ☐ Offer assistance to Builder to ensure compliance with Program standards.

RESNET Accredited Providers:

- ☐ Quality assurance/quality control of affiliated Home Energy Raters;
- ☐ Technical Training;
- ☐ Home Energy Rater Certification;
- ☐ Enforcement of RESNET Standards;
- ☐ Home Energy Rater Business Development Training;
- ☐ Oversight of the Home Energy Rater's use of Home Energy Rating software;
- ☐ Reporting through submission of the Home Energy Rating software files;
- ☐ Monthly Reporting.

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Contractors:

- ☐ HVAC Contractors affiliated with an organization qualified to fulfill the EPA's HVAC Quality Installation, Training and Oversight Organization requirements are listed on the [U.S. EPA's website](#).