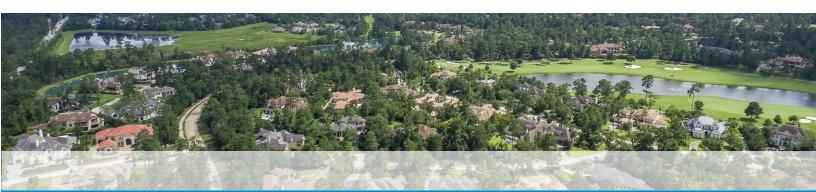


High Efficiency Homes<sup>™</sup>





# PROGRAM GUIDE 2022 HIGH EFFICIENCY HOMES PROGRAM

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the 2022 CenterPoint Energy High Efficiency Homes Program. As a high efficiency homebuilder, you are part of an elite group that is setting the standard for energyefficient construction in Texas.

This program guide is designed to provide you with the information you will need throughout your participation in the CenterPoint Energy High Efficiency Homes Program. Should you have any problems or have additional questions, we are here to help you.

CenterPoint Energy has contracted with TRC Companies (TRC) to implement the High Efficiency Homes Program. TRC Companies is nationally recognized for successful program design and implementation of utility distributed energy solutions including a wide array of residential energy efficiency programs. TRC's dedicated program team will work closely with CenterPoint Energy Program staff to support builders, raters and other market actors achieve success in the CenterPoint Energy High Efficiency Homes Program.

Thank you for your participation. We all look forward to working with you to advance home construction and promote energy efficiency in Texas

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#### **CENTERPOINT ENERGY**

CenterPoint Energy is a transmission and distribution utility (TDU) that provides safe and reliable electric service to over 2.5 million customers in the greater Houston metro area. As a TDU in the Texas de-regulated electricity market, CenterPoint is required by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) to offer a variety of energy efficiency programs to customers that provide value and verified energy savings. Since 2001, CenterPoint has sponsored a residential new construction energy efficiency program to meet energy savings goals and uses financial and non-financial incentives to transform the Texas new homes market by promoting the construction of ENERGY STAR certified homes and other homes built above code.



## SINGLE FAMILY NEW HOME INCENTIVES

The incentive plan has introduced new prescriptive offerings to promote efficient technologies and procedures for efficient homes of all shapes and sizes.

The High Efficiency Homes Program has the following incentives available to homebuilders and HERS raters for completed homes submitted to the program within the timeframe that constitutes the program year and meets all eligibility requirements. The mandatory minimum efficiency criteria to participate is above 2015 IECC performance requirements, as demonstrated by the energy model.

There are two pathways to earn incentives in the program. Only one of these two pathway requirements needs to be met and to comply with the program's efficiency standards. The Performance pathway represents a net or percent kWh savings over the reference home and are determined as seen on the REM/Rate or Ekotrope "Fuel Summary Report." The prescriptive pathway is earned by installing the requisite technologies.

	Performance	Prescriptive		Incentive (\$)	
Base Efficiency Tier	750 kWh or 10%		-		\$100
Tier 1	1750 kWh or 15%	R38 Attic	R13 - R15 Walls	16 SEER	\$250
Tier 2	2500 kWh or 20% <sup>‡</sup>	R38 Attic	≥R15 Walls	>16 SEER	\$500
High Efficiency Tier	3000 kWh or 25% <sup>‡</sup>		-		\$750

Additional Bonus Incentives are offered to homebuilders for ENERGY STAR certification, DOE Zero Energy Readiness and advanced technologies.

Bonus Measure	Bonus Incentive
ENERGY STAR Certified New Home	\$100
DOE Zero Energy Ready Home	\$250
ENERGY STAR Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heater	\$500
ENERGY STAR Certified Smart Thermostat	\$25
ENERGY STAR Certified Level 2 EV Charger	\$35

Finally, to further support the HERS Raters that the High Efficiency Homes Program relies so heavily on, a Rater incentive will be paid to the HERS Rating Company of record for every home that earns an incentive.

Rater Measure	Rater Incentive
Every Approved Home	\$15



## **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

## HOME LOCATION

They must be located within the Greater-Houston area of CenterPoint Energy's service territory and receive an electric distribution from CenterPoint Energy. Ultimately, this will be evident with the placement of a permanent electric utility revenue meter and the assignment of an ESI ID to the property address.

#### **BUILD AND METER SET DATE**

Only homes built within the following date boundaries of the 2022 program will be eligible. There are two dateboundaries that must be considered to determine eligibility.

a) The CenterPoint Energy permanent utility revenue meter must be set on or after September 1, 2021b) The final certificate date, as self-reported by the HERS Rater, must be on or after November 1, 2021.

#### HOMEBUILDER

- Homebuilders will acquire builder permits as necessary to design, build, and market high efficiency homes that receive a CenterPoint Energy permanent revenue meter
- Retain the services of a RESNET approved energy rater to inspect and test the home as needed
- Ensure all installed heating and cooling equipment efficiencies can be demonstrated with an active AHRI certificate of efficiency
- Coordinate with HERS Rater and HVAC Contractor to share home information needed for a successful incentive request
- Cooperate with information requests including Quality Assurance/Quality Control or field inspection requests

#### **HERS RATER**

- Inspect and test homes appropriate to the energy code enforced in the jurisdiction where the home is being built
- Complete and provide inspection reports that demonstrate compliance with all requirements of this guide upon request

#### **HVAC CONTRACTOR**

- Install only AHRI certified heating and cooling equipment that meets the SEER and/or HSPF expectations of the homebuilder and meets all applicable standards with the best installation practices
- Provide HERS Rater and/or builder with information related to the efficiency of the home, including space conditioning efficiencies and mechanical ventilation flow rates (cfm), run-time (hours), and wattage of the fan providing fresh air ventilation (if known and applicable)
- Provide the AHRI number of a certified equipment combination to the homebuilder or cooperating rater when requested

## **APPLICATION FOR INCENTIVES**

An individual request for an incentive must be completed for each home. The program is overseen by a third-party evaluator that requires certain data points be collected to ensure the integrity, validity, and accuracy of efficiency claims. To this end, the Program must collect numerous pieces of data to support the incentive payment and the claimed energy savings. We thank you in advance for supporting this effort.

#### **REGISTRATION & ENROLLMENT**

CenterPoint Energy will continue to utilize the Vision platform for data collection and incentive processing.



- New participants need to register with CenterPoint Energy for approval and to set up with their accounts payable department <a href="https://cnpsponsor.programprocessing.com/">https://cnpsponsor.programprocessing.com/</a>
- New and existing participating homebuilders can request an allocation reservation by completing <u>the builder</u> <u>questionnaire</u>

## **PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

TRC performs several functions to help facilitate your participation and serves as your day-to-day point of contact.

## **ALLOCATIONS & MILESTONES**

Two allocations will be awarded to homebuilders, one at the start of the program year and another halfway through which must be 100% used by the end dates outlined below. The allocation amount is determined by the overall program budget, homebuilders' historic and projected sales of efficient program-qualified equipment, and the number of participating homebuilders. Homebuilders should submit qualifying claims on a timely and regular basis, which provides CenterPoint Energy and TRC with a clear picture of program status.

Performance Requirements	Date
First Allocation	Jan 1 - July 1
Second Allocation	July 2 - Dec 1

Homebuilders who exceed or fall below the milestones may see their allocations rebalanced to reflect the pace of activity and funding availability. Program staff will regularly evaluate progress and reallocate incentives as necessary to expend program funds and meet or exceed program goals.

### TRAINING

The Program can guide homebuilders in how to best promote energy-efficient program branding, communicate the associated benefits of buying a high-performance home, and improve their homes' energy performance.

The program can also provide the following support to program participants upon request:

- Program, operational and technical leaders are available to guide homebuilders through the lifecycle of the program
- Plan reviews and performance consulting to determine the most appropriate, cost-effective measures needed to build high-performance homes
- Support for homebuilder marketing staff to help successfully integrate High-Performance Homes into corporate messaging

## **QUALITY DATA ASSURANCE**

Continuous improvement is an important goal of this program. As part of the program's quality assurance and control procedures (QA/QC) builders/raters will be required to provide a field inspection report for a percentage of homes upon request to verify that installed products match incentive claims made. The results of QA/QC will be shared with homebuilders as needed.

### **FIELD INSPECTIONS**

CenterPoint Energy can and will inspect and performance test a random selection of homes. By participating in the program homebuilders agree to this procedure. CenterPoint staff will work with participating HERS Raters to design field inspection requests and scheduling processes.



## **APPENDIX A: CENTERPOINT ENERGY ELECTRIC SERVICE TERRITORY**

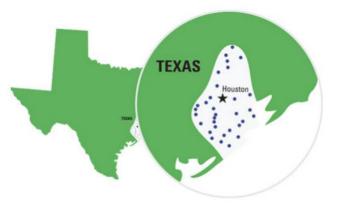
#### Gas and Electric

Alvin\*\*\* Angleton\*\* Baytown\* Beach City\* Beasley\* Bellaire\* Brookshire\* Brookside Village\* Bunker Hill Village\* Clear Lake Shores\* Clute\* Conroe\*\* \* Cut and Shoot\*\* Danburv\* Deer Park\* Dickinson\*\*\* East Bernard\* El Lago\* Freeport\* Friendswood\*\*\* Galena Park\* Hedwig Village\* Hillcrest Village\* Hilshire Village\* Hitchcock\* Houston\* Humble\* Hunters Creek Village\* Jacinto City\* Jersey Village\* Jones Creek\* Katy\* Kemah\* Kendleton\* La Marque\*\*\* La Porte\* Lake Jackson\*

League City\*\*\* Liverpool\* Manvel\* Meadows Place\* Missouri City\* Mont Belvieu\* Morgan's Point\* Nassau Bay\* Needville\* New Waverly\* Oak Ridge North\* Orchard\* **Oyster Creek\*** Panorama Village\* Pasadena\* Pearland\*\* Piney Point Village\* Pleak\* Richmond\* Richwood\* Roman Forest\* Rosenberg\* Santa Fe\* Seabrook\* Shenandoah\*\* Shoreacres\* South Houston\* Southside Place\* Spring Valley\* Stafford\* Sugar Land\* Taylor Lake Village\* Texas City\*\*\* Wallis\* Webster\* West Columbia\*\*\* West University Place\* Wharton\* Willis\*\*

#### Electric Only

Arocola Bonney **Brazos Country** Cove Fairchilds Galveston Iowa Colony Jamaica Beach Village Magnolia **Old-River Winfree** Pattison Pine Island **Prairie View** Quintana San Felipe Sandy Point Thompsons Tiki Island Tomball Waller



\* Indicates customers with electric and gas services

**\*\*** Indicates customers with gas services only

\*\*\* Indicates customers with gas services and a minority of customers with electric services

- See more at: http://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/Corp/Pages/communities-we-serve-HO.aspx



# **APPENDIX B: ENERGY STAR® CERTIFIED QUALIFIED PRODUCTS LIST**

All ENERGY STAR qualifying equipment must be field verified by the Energy Advisor. An updated list of all ENERGY STAR qualifying equipment is maintained on the ENERGY STAR website, accessible here: <a href="https://www.energystar.gov/productfinder/advanced">www.energystar.gov/productfinder/advanced</a>

The ENERGY STAR QPL is updated regularly. Please alert program management if a qualifying product is not a selection on the incentive application to have it added.

## **SMART THERMOSTATS**

The following list was accessed from the ENERGY STAR website on 2/17/2022, use the link for an up-to-date list of eligible thermostats:

www.energystar.gov/productfinder/product/certified-connected-thermostats/results



## HYBRID HEAT PUMP WATER HEATERS

The following list was accessed from the ENERGY STAR website on 2/17/2022, use the link below for an up-todate list of eligible Hybrid Heat Pump Water Heaters:

www.energystar.gov/productfinder/product/certified-water-heaters/results



## **ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGERS**

The following list was accessed from the ENERGY STAR website on 2/17/2022, use the link below for an up-todate list of eligible Electric Vehicle Chargers:

www.energystar.gov/productfinder/product/certified-evse/results





## **APPENDIX C: AHRI INFORMATION**

Electric space heating and cooling efficiency levels must be demonstrated with a printed AHRI certificate of efficiency or a numerical equivalent, "AHRI Number". The directory can be found here: <u>www.ahridirectory.org</u>

Routinely, AHRI certificates "expire" and fall into discontinued or obsolete statuses – these are no longer considered "certified" AHRI certificates. See the AHRI user guide for more information.



AHRI User Guide

	CERTIFIED <sup>®</sup> www.ahridirectory.org
Certi	ficate of Product Ratings
AHRI Certified R	Veference Number : 202024001 Date : 01-02-2019 Model Status : Active
AHRI Type : RCI	U-A-CB Save copies with dates of Only "Active" or "Production Stopped" statuses are
Series : 16 SEEF	R AC Sept.1, 2018, or later to certified certified
Outdoor Unit Bra	and Name : CARRIER
	del Number (Condenser or Single Package): CA16NA036*0**B*
	el Number (Evaporator and/or Air Handler) : CNPH*4221AL*
	Number : 59*P6A080E17**16
Region :	Southeast and North (AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, AK, CO, CT, ID, IL, IA, IN, KS, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, UT, VT, WA, WV, WI, WY, U.S. Territories)
Region Note :	Central air conditioners manufactured prior to January 1, 2015 are eligible to be installed in all regions until June 30, 2016. Beginning July 1, 2016 central air conditioners can only be installed in region(s) for
	which they meet the regional efficiency requirement.
Rated as follows Air-Conditioning	er of this CARRIER product is responsible for the rating of this system combination.
SEER : 14.50	seen High Stage (95F) : 12.00 SEER should confirm the energy model

The program recommends saving printed / electronically stored AHRI certificate for every combination planned for installation in 2022 for participating homes



## APPENDIX D: ENERGY SIMULATIONS

The High Efficiency Homes Program can accept REM/Rate and Ekotrope formatted energy simulations that are completed to industry standards.

REM/Rate:

•Self-certification with the program efficiency requirement can be accomplished by generating a "Fuel Summary Report" with reference to the program baseline UDRH.

•750 kWh or 10% savings is required to be eligible.

Ekotrope:

•Self-certification with the program efficiency requirements can be accomplished by following the instructions found on Ekotrope's utility rebate program support page:

https://ekotrope.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/folders/17000125530

•750 kWh or 10% savings is required to be eligible.