

Residential Building Stock Assessment



What is the Residential Building Stock Assessment (RBSA)?

The Residential Building Stock Assessment (RBSA) is the official name of a research study designed to inform future energy planning efforts here in the Northwest. Study results will be used to identify the potential for energy efficiency programs and rebates offered by the region's utilities, the Energy Trust of Oregon, and the Bonneville Power Administration.

Who conducts this study?

The Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), supported by the region's electric and natural gas utilities, conducts this comprehensive research study of energy efficiency in Northwest residential buildings—officially called Residential Building Stock Assessment (RBSA).

Who is Cadmus?

Cadmus is an environmental consulting and research company working on NEEA's behalf to conduct the home energy use site visit.

Who is Nexant?

Nexant is an environmental consulting and research company working on NEEA's behalf to conduct the online and telephone survey.

What is this study's purpose? How will the information be used?

The study, which gathers information on how people use energy in residential buildings, will inform future energy planning in our region. Study results also will be used to design energy efficiency rebate programs to help the Northwest meet its increasing residential energy needs.

Who will have access to the study information?

Information gathered through the survey and home visit can only be accessed by those working on NEEA's behalf to complete the research study. Data will be reported in the aggregate and we will not provide specific information on an individual or home.

How did you get my contact information?

Potential survey participants have been selected at random from all households with mailing addresses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and parts of Montana. By selecting participants randomly, we can represent this region's entire population. Participation will provide an accurate picture of households in the region.

Will my information be kept confidential?

All participant responses will remain confidential and will be used strictly for research purposes. Personal information will be stripped from the data, and your information will be grouped and analyzed with that from many other residents across the region.

Will my information be used for anything else?

Collected information will be used solely for this research study.

Are you selling something?

We are not selling any products or services and we will not sell your information to others.

How long is the study available?

The study will remain open for one year, but we will select participants in certain regions for only several weeks at a time. As participation is limited, if interested, please complete the survey as soon as possible.

Who do I call if I have questions?

Nexant works on NEEA's behalf to implement this phase of the research study. Contact Nexant toll free at 877-932-0617 or email us at NEEAsurvey@nexant.com.

Can I speak with someone at NEEA?

Yes, you can contact Anu Teja by calling 844-319-6245 or by sending an email to ateja@neea.org.

What information will be gathered when the technician conducts the on-site home energy use visit?

A technician on your premises will conduct a walkthrough of your entire home to gather data about lighting, appliances, insulation, and other home features. In some homes, the technician may perform diagnostic testing, provided you give them permission to do so.

How long will the home visit take?

The home visits should last two to four hours, depending on the size of your home.

Will I get a report about my home?

As this is a research survey rather than an energy audit, individual home reports will not be available. The data will be used only in aggregate with other homes to help determine regional policies and programs, and will be completely anonymous.

Can I go around with the technician and see what they are looking at?

You may observe the technician, but please keep in mind that the technicians are trained to collect data efficiently. They cannot offer interpretations of your home's conditions. If you have questions about energy efficiency, please consider consulting your local utility for information and/or resources within your area.

Is there an incentive for completing the on-site home energy use survey?

Those completing the on-site home energy use survey will receive a monetary incentive: a \$100 VISA gift card at the beginning of the visit.

How do I activate the gift card?

To activate the gift card you must call the toll free number in the pamphlet. When you call, respond to the prompts on the phone. You will have to enter the card number, the 3-digit code on the back of the card, and create your own unique 4-digit PIN. The gift card is provided by Cadmus.

I'm a participant in the Temperature Metering Study and I have a question – who can I talk to?

Please contact Janice Peterson by calling 503-230-3543 or by sending an email to jcpeterson@bpa.gov.

For more information, please contact Anu Teja, Senior Project Manager,
Market Research and Evaluation:
ateja@neea.org or 844-319-6245

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