



Setting the Standards for  
Home Energy Efficiency

## Standard Amendment #2017-06

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**Title:** MINHERS Chapters 1, 2 & 3 -2013 Addendum 26-201x, Combustion Appliance Safety Hazards-Retrofits, Chapter 1 Reference to Chapter 2, Probationary Rating and Normative References

**Date Approved:** xxxx, 2017

**Date Effective:** xxxx , 2017

**Standards Committee:** Standard Development Committee 200 (SDC 200), Training, Education and Certification

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### Justification:

#### Combustion Appliance Safety Hazards/Retrofits:

Section 207.1 of the RESNET Standards lists the capabilities an individual must possess to become certified as a Home Energy Survey Professional (HESP). Item 207.1.3.2 requires the HESP Candidate to be able to “Identify potential combustion appliance safety hazards related to previous retrofit work.” There are several potential combustion appliance safety hazards that can be visually noted that may have nothing to do with previous retrofit work. Items such as a short rise of a flue pipe above a combustion appliance, a negative slope on a combustion appliance venting system, misaligned or missing flue pipes and more are quickly and readily identified and should be included in the Health and Safety section of these standards. The fact that these minimum capabilities comprise the base for more advanced certifications makes this change even more critical. This proposal removes the condition of a relationship to previous retrofit work.

#### Chapter 1 Reference to Chapter 2:

Changes have been made to Chapter 2 that are not reflected in Chapter 1; however, Chapter 1 attempts to detail the same items. There is now major conflict in the

RESNET Standards due to these changes. This proposed amendment changes Chapter 1 to reference Chapter 2 rather than attempt to maintain the same information in both chapters leading to conflicting information within the standards.

### **Probationary Ratings:**

Throughout the RESNET Standards it is clear that only Certified HERS Raters may perform official Home Energy Ratings and that ratings uploaded to the Registry must be rated by Certified Raters. Appendix B defines a “Confirmed Rating” as A Rating accomplished using data gathered from verification of all rated features of the home in accordance with Section 303.8 and Chapter 8. Section 303.8 explicitly requires a Certified Rater perform tests and inspections. The term “Confirmed Rating” is used throughout the RESNET Standards to signify the tested and verified condition of a home, verified by a Certified Rater. All Confirmed Ratings shall be registered with the National RESNET Registry in accordance with section 102.1.4.12 which references, “each home rated by each Certified Rater”. However, there are sections in Chapter 1 and Chapter 2 that use the term “Confirmed Rating” when describing the types of Probationary Ratings that must be performed by Rater Candidates to achieve certification as a HERS Rater. These sections do not require the presence of a Certified HERS Rater for all Probationary Ratings. The use of term “Confirmed Rating” in these sections is confusing at best and could lead to Probationary Ratings, ratings which have NOT been performed by a Certified HERS Rater, being considered Confirmed.

This proposed amendment changes the terminology in Chapter 2 to eliminate this confusion and clarifies the intent of the sections in question.

### **Normative Reference:**

Addendum 23 added sections for Normative References to each chapter of the MINHERS that referenced standards outside those chapters in order to bring the chapters into conformance with the RESNET Standards Development Policy and Procedures. Standard 380 adoption by Addendum 20 had not been completed at the time Addendum 20 was being adopted so it was left out. Addendum 20 is now adopted, with delayed implementation, and Standard 380 needs to be added to the Normative References of affected chapters. This task is added to the Addendum 26 amendment project for administrative efficiency.

## Chapter 1 Reference to Chapter 2:

~~102.1.2.2.1~~ In order for a Rater Candidate to be certified as a Home Energy Rater, they must satisfactorily complete the requirements set forth in Section 205.2.3.two (2) supervised ratings as part of Rater training and a minimum of three (3) probationary ratings and successfully pass the RESNET National Core Competency Test, Combustion Appliance Zone Testing (CAZ) and Work Scope exams and any other RESNET required Rater exams. All requirements from 102.1.2.2.1 must be met within 12 months.

~~102.1.2.2.1.1~~ A Rater Candidate that does not complete a minimum of three (3) probationary ratings to the satisfaction of a QA Provider within twelve (12) months of passing the National Core Rater Test or otherwise does not achieve certification within the allowed twelve month timeframe must at a minimum, meet the following in order to maintain eligibility for certification:

~~102.1.2.2.1.1.1~~ Pass the National Core Rater Test again;

~~102.1.2.2.1.1.2~~ Complete three (3) additional probationary ratings in accordance with 102.1.2.2.1;

~~102.1.2.2.1.1.3~~ Complete at least (1) one of the three (3) additional probationary ratings as one of the required two (2) Confirmed Ratings in the presence of a QA Designee or a Rater Trainer in lieu of repeating the Rater Training requirement.

~~102.1.2.2.2~~ In order for a Rater Field Inspector “Candidate” to be certified as a Rating Field Inspector, they must meet the requirements set forth in Section 205.2.4~~2~~.

~~102.1.2.2.2.1~~ A Rater Field Inspector Candidate that does not complete the five (5) probationary inspections to the satisfaction of a certified Rater within twelve (12) months of passing the National Core Rating Field Inspection Test must successfully retake the Test and complete five (5) new probationary inspections prior to certification.

## Probationary Ratings:

~~205.2.3.3~~ After passing the all of the RESNET tests, but prior to being certified, the candidate shall complete five probationary ratings with a Rating Quality Assurance Provider overseen by a RESNET certified Candidate Field Assessor. At least three of the five probationary ratings shall be confirmed ratings accomplished using field data gathered and field verification of all rated features of the home in accordance with Section 303.8 and Chapter 8; with the exception that the

work is not being performed by a currently Certified Rater. Probationary ratings shall not be considered Confirmed Ratings.

**205.2.3.4** A HERS Rater Candidate that does not complete, to the satisfaction of a Quality Assurance Provider, a minimum of three (3) of the five (5) required probationary ratings within fifteen (15) months of passing the National RESNET HERS series of tests as defined in **205.2.3.1**, or otherwise does not achieve certification within the allowed fifteen month timeframe, must at a minimum, complete the original requirements and do the following in order to maintain eligibility for certification:

**205.2.3.4.1** Pass the RESNET National Rater Test again; and

**205.2.3.4.2** Complete three (3) additional probationary ratings. One of the three (3) additional probationary ratings shall be a ~~Confirmed Rating~~ accomplished using field data gathered and field verification of all rated features of the home in accordance with Section 303.8 and Chapter 8; with the exception that the work is not being performed by a currently Certified Rater and shall be completed in the presence of a RESNET certified Candidate Field Assessor. Probationary ratings shall not be considered Confirmed Ratings.

#### **CAS Hazards:**

**207.1.3.2** Identify potential combustion appliance safety hazards ~~related to previous retrofit work.~~

#### **Normative Reference:**

#### **209 Normative References**

ANSI/ACCA 12 QH-2014, Home Evaluation and Performance Improvement

ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014(Republished January 2016), “Standard for the Calculation and Labeling of the Energy Performance of Low-Rise Residential Buildings using an Energy Rating Index.”, including addenda and normative appendices.

ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380-2016, “Standard for Testing Airtightness of Building Enclosures, Airtightness of Heating and Cooling Air Distribution Systems, and Airflow of Mechanical Ventilation Systems”, including addenda and normative appendices.

### **304 Normative References**

ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014(Republished January 2016), “Standard for the Calculation and Labeling of the Energy Performance of Low-Rise Residential Buildings using an Energy Rating Index.”, including addenda and normative appendices.

RESNET MINHERS Chapter 1-2013, “National Accreditation Procedures for Home Energy Rating Systems” including addenda.

RESNET MINHERS Chapter 2-2013, “National Rater Training and Certifying Standard” including addenda.

ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380-2016, “Standard for Testing Airtightness of Building Enclosures, Airtightness of Heating and Cooling Air Distribution Systems, and Airflow of Mechanical Ventilation Systems”, including addenda and normative appendices.