

RESNET® Quality Assurance & Compliance Report – Q2 2026

This report is designed to provide an overview of RESNET's Quality Assurance Program for the prior quarter. Compliance issues change over time. Using this report, Builders, Raters, and Providers can take proactive steps to strengthen practices and prevent issues before they occur.

Q2 2026 Summary

In the second quarter of 2026, RESNET Providers conducted 10,193 Quality Assurance (QA) reviews across the national HERS® rating network via the new platform.

- 10,193 total QA reviews conducted¹
- 98.0% compliance rate
- 626 ratings corrected and resubmitted before finalization
- 0 disciplinary actions issued

Types of QA Reviews

- File QA (9,992 reviews)
- Pre-Drywall Field QA (644 reviews)
- Final Field QA (1,164 reviews)

All QA reviews are conducted by certified Quality Assurance Designees (QADs) and submitted through RESNET's centralized QA platform.

Compliance Outcomes

- 9,567 ratings passed without correction
- 626 required correction and resubmission
- 201 failed/deficient²
- 0 resulted in formal discipline

Most Common Technical Correction Areas

- Windows

¹ These numbers are pulled from RESNET Quality Assurance App/API. For the first quarter of 2026, use of the App/API became mandatory. These numbers do not include the additional oversight of file and field QA conducted by RESNET Staff as part of its layered efforts to review QADs and program integrity.

² Failure of QA Reviews may result in loss of eligibility for remote field QA for an individual. Three consecutive failed QA Reviews in the same calendar year for an Individual requires Disciplinary Probation and increased rate of QA Reviews.

- Above Grade Walls (AGW)
- Ceilings
- Duct Leakage Test Results

What We Are Seeing in the Field

Rating Company Services

- Rating companies are promoting additional services to Builders.
 - Promoting HVAC Grading and commissioning to their builder clients to reduce warranty calls.
 - Extra inspections as well as pre-drywall and final

Windows

- Missing or incomplete documentation of NFRC labels.
- Inconsistent alignment between modeled values and installed components.
- SHGC values off between a range of 0.02 - 0.05
- Overhangs not consistently or accurately modeled

Ceilings

- Inadequate documentation of insulation depth.
- Modeling discrepancies tied to framing depth assumptions.
- Geometry errors off by greater than 5%.

Framed Floors

- Raters and RFIs are (correctly) observing and recording more Grade II and Grade III insulation installations, versus Grade I insulation installations.
- This trend has especially applied to Framed Floors above garages
- Proactive Builders should consider setting up field consultation with both rater and insulation contractor representatives present. Alternatively, a change in insulation type or quantity to ensure the full floor cavity is filled eliminates the need for strapping or wire staves that are common installation pain points.

Above Grade Walls (AGW)

- Inconsistent software modeling library selection across elevations.
- Inadequate photo documentation of walls.
- Incorrect insulation type, R-value, depth, grade, and/or spacing.

Duct Leak Test Results and Setup

- Incorrectly using 1-second averages instead of proper usage of 10-second averages.
- Modeled values do not match photos or field data.
- Inadequate or missing setup photos.

Exhaust Fan Flow Test Results and Setup

- For local exhaust testing and Mechanical Ventilation (Exhaust) testing.
- Inconsistent setup and use of the Flow Meter device and manometer.
- Inadequate, illegible or missing required photos.

Proactive Guidance for Builders & Providers

- Leave window stickers in place until documentation is complete.
- Verify attic insulation depth visually/add depth markers (rulers or spray paint) before insulation is installed.
- Ensure rating companies provide documentation of personnel certifications.
- Ensure you provide updated information to your HERS rater when an energy-related specification is changed during construction.

Q2 2026 - Compliance Considerations

New Whole-Home Mechanical Ventilation Standards Interpretation

The most common whole-home mechanical ventilation strategy is an exhaust-only system, typically using a bathroom or laundry room exhaust fan that also serves as the local exhaust (spot ventilation) fan. Many of these fans are designed to operate continuously to satisfy building code or energy efficiency program ventilation requirements.

RESNET's Standards Development Committee has recently published a new interpretation addressing the acceptable override controls for these systems.

For HERS® Ratings, when the override control is neither integrated into the ventilation fan nor provided by a circuit breaker, the control must be clearly labeled to identify its whole-home ventilation function and equipped with a protective cover. This requirement most commonly applies to standard ON-OFF wall switches but may also apply to other types of controls.

These requirements are intended to allow occupants to temporarily disable the ventilation system during periods of poor outdoor air quality, such as wildfire smoke events or ozone advisories, while reducing the likelihood that the system will be unintentionally switched off during normal household use.

For ERI calculations, the current interpretation requires only that the override control be labeled.

A more detailed explanation of these interpretations, including practical examples and frequently asked questions, will be published in an upcoming *HERS IQ* article.



Figure 1: Example of protective cover.

Single-Point Blower Door Test Requires 10% Adjustment

Because a single-point blower door test is considered less accurate than a multi-point test, the HERS® Standard requires the HERS® Rater to apply a 10% adjustment to the final result after the air density correction factor has been applied. This adjustment may affect compliance when the measured air leakage is close to a threshold established by a building code or energy efficiency program. In these cases, a raw single-point blower door result may initially appear to comply, but the required 10% adjustment may result in a final value that exceeds the applicable compliance threshold.

Appliances Not Installed at Final Inspection Modeled Incorrectly

Construction schedules and supply chain delays can result in one or more appliances not being installed at the time of the final HERS® verification. Under the HERS® Standard, any appliance that has not been installed must be modeled using the efficiency of the HERS Reference Home. In other words, the rating cannot receive credit for energy-efficient appliances that are intended to be installed later.

This requirement can cause the final HERS Rating to differ from the projected rating, particularly when the projected rating assumed high-efficiency appliances. In cases where the final rating is close to a building code or energy efficiency program threshold, the use of HERS Reference Home appliance efficiencies may increase the HERS Index enough to affect compliance. A projected rating may meet the applicable requirement, while the final rating does not.

When compliance is likely to be close to a required threshold, scheduling the final HERS verification after all appliances have been installed can help avoid unexpected threshold failures.

HVAC Systems Not Modeled Correctly

An HVAC system may not be modeled correctly in the final HERS® Rating for a variety of reasons. One of the most common - and preventable - causes is a change in equipment after the projected

HERS Rating has been completed. Ongoing supply chain constraints and product availability can require builders to substitute HVAC equipment during construction.

The HERS® Rater or Rating Field Inspector (RFI) should identify equipment substitutions during field inspections and update the final rating accordingly. However, if the change is not incorporated into the final energy model, the rating may require correction and resubmission, resulting in unnecessary delays.

Builders can help prevent this issue by promptly notifying the HERS Rater and RFI of any changes to the original specifications. The same practice should be followed for other HERS-rated features, including windows, appliances, mechanical ventilation systems, and similar components that affect the energy model.

Builders should also be aware that changes to installed equipment may require updates to documentation, checklists, or calculations for HERS and other energy efficiency programs, depending on the applicable program requirements.

Why This Matters

RESNET's Quality Assurance system strengthens confidence in the HERS ecosystem by identifying and resolving issues early, supporting continuous improvement, protecting builders, and ensuring stakeholders receive reliable energy performance information.