

**ENERGY STAR RESIDENTIAL BRANCH
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ANALYST
(Series 0101 - GS 12/13)**

INTRODUCTION

This position is located in the U.S. EPA's Office of Atmospheric Programs (OAP), Climate Protection Partnerships Division (CPPD), ENERGY STAR Residential Branch (ESRB). CPPD is responsible for administering a complex set of long-standing voluntary programs, such as ENERGY STAR, aimed at protecting the earth's climate by promoting the implementation of cost-effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The residential sector, specifically the energy used to heat, cool, light, and power appliances and electronics in homes, accounts for approximately 20 percent of the greenhouse gases emitted in the U.S. To help reduce these emissions, ESRB enables and accelerates the deployment and integration of energy efficiency across the residential sector.

ESRB is responsible for developing and implementing programs to increase energy efficiency in the new construction marketplace and through improvements to existing homes. Key benefits for homeowners/homebuyers include reduced utility bills, better comfort, improved quality and durability, and enhanced home value. Participating businesses benefit through marketplace differentiation, association with the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency, and a demonstrated commitment to quality and environmental stewardship.

ESRB implements a variety of residential energy efficiency programs, including the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program, which covers single-family, multifamily, manufactured, and modular homes. In addition, the Branch has several programmatic initiatives aimed at providing consumers with trusted information about improving the energy efficiency of their existing homes. Existing homes activities include on-line home assessment tools such as the Home Energy Yardstick and ENERGY STAR Home Advisor, as well as specific guidance and tips for home envelope sealing and HVAC/duct maintenance, and quality installation of HVAC equipment through ENERGY STAR Verified HVAC Installation (ESVI) program. The ENERGY STAR Windows, Doors, and Skylights and the ENERGY STAR Insulation programs are also implemented within the Residential Branch. In support of these broad initiatives, the Branch undertakes specific activities in the areas of technical analysis, specification development and maintenance, partner support, communications/outreach, and IT/infrastructure.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The incumbent will serve in a non-supervisory position within the ENERGY STAR Residential Branch, reporting to the ESRB Branch Chief, primarily supporting work across the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program and in close coordination with the program's Technical Manager. Some support of the Branch's existing homes initiatives, as well as coordination with the ENERGY STAR Labeled Products Branch, may also be required.

The incumbent will help ESRB in achieving its goals for the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction programs, which include:

- Improving the energy efficiency of newly-constructed single-family homes, multifamily buildings, and manufactured homes;
- Providing credible information to consumers to simplify purchasing decisions in the new construction marketplace;
- Empowering industry stakeholders to act with information, guidance, training, tools, and resources;
- Ensuring that, in the pursuit of greater levels of efficiency, cost-effectiveness, quality, and performance are not compromised; and
- Promoting the adoption of cost-effective new technologies, practices, and standards to build capacity for the success of future program and code advancements.

A successful applicant will have a strong understanding of the residential new construction sector, energy codes, complex residential energy efficiency issues, building science, energy efficient products, and the role of voluntary partnership programs such as ENERGY STAR in this space. The applicant must also demonstrate the ability to evaluate program opportunities for the ENERGY STAR Residential Branch to help address market barriers to propelling the Branch's programs to achieve greater energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reductions in the residential sector.

Specific activities to be performed by the incumbent may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing technical and research expertise to assist in the development of new and revised specifications for the ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction programs, including the future integration of new features and emerging technologies (e.g., renewables, storage, electric vehicle charging, smart home energy management systems, demand flexibility, embodied energy) into the program's specifications, as well as revising and preparing

updated program requirements documentation and preparing policy communications for partners.

- Performing technical analyses, including using residential energy modeling software (such as REM/Rate, Ekotrope, Energy Gauge, eQUEST) in support of ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program specification development, assessing program cost effectiveness, and estimating pollution reduction impacts of program.
- Monitoring and interpreting National, Regional, and State-level energy codes (e.g., International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and California's Title 24) to determine potential impacts on ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction program specifications.
- Supporting the development and maintenance of national industry standards (e.g., ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301, ANSI/RESNET/ACCA 310, and ANSI/ACCA 5) and the integration of ENERGY STAR-specific program requirements into those standards and related resources.
- Supporting the development and delivery of technical guidance and program resources, including responsive technical support, training materials, guidance documents, fact sheets, webinars, recorded presentations, videos, and related communication materials to assist program partners in implementing program requirements.
- Supporting the Branch's engagement with, and recruitment of, home builders, developers, and manufactured housing plants, with a specific focus on large, high-volume production builders/developers, to increase participation and results across the single-family, multifamily, and manufactured home markets.
- Supporting the Branch's investigation of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices and reporting as a means to increase program participation among large national homebuilders.
- Supporting the Branch's engagement with, and support of, the home energy rating industry, home certification organizations (HCOs), multifamily review organizations (MROs), and manufactured housing quality assurance providers (QAPs).
- Supporting the Branch's efforts to engage utilities to expand their new construction incentive programs tied to the ENERGY STAR label, including

supporting requests for guidance and support related to utility program cost-effectiveness tests.

- Supporting efforts to coordinate with the affordable housing sector and green building programs to increase the utilization and effectiveness of ENERGY STAR Residential New Construction programs.
- Supporting the evaluation of new program approaches to better leverage the ENERGY STAR brand in the existing homes sector.
- Representing ESRB at workshops, conferences, and meetings (both internally and externally) to effectively communicate about program initiatives to broad audiences through oral presentations and written reports.
- Managing Work Assignments/Task Orders to ensure the completion of the contract activities or task effectively, in a timely manner and at the most cost-effective price.