RESNET®
RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SERVICES NETWORK

Setting the **Standards** for
Home Energy Efficiency

Amendment #2017-01

Title:	Rating Software Changes (Persistence)
Date Approved:	January 16, 2017 (by Standards Management Board)
Date Effective:	February 16, 2017
Standards Committee:	RESNET Standard Development Committee 900 (SDC), Quality Assurance

Justification:

The release of the newest version of the software represented by the new ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014 has dramatically demonstrated an issue that has been apparent for quite some time. Every time standards and software are updated the HERS Index score can change. In the case of ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301-2014 the score change is dramatic. As the HERS Index continues to grow in our national vocabulary, consistency of the scoring system becomes more and more important. As the standards are currently written homes in a community with a buildout of twenty years could be using old software because software does not have to be updated due to the notion of "Persistence". If left open to interpretation, one Projected Rating could be applied to multiple building permits in production housing, allowing "Persistence" based on a Projected Rating to extend the use of older software versions to 5, 10, or even 20 years.

Modifications to the chapter are given below in underline/strikeout format

Chapter One
RESNET Standards
RESNET NATIONAL STANDARD FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVIDERS

103   RATING SOFTWARE

103.1   For the purposes of conducting Home Energy Ratings, as defined in these Standards, ~~QA Providers~~ all users of RESNET accredited software shall be required to use the most current version of one of the RESNET approved rating software programs contained in the "National Registry of Accredited Rating Software Programs" posted on the RESNET website.

103.2 Rating Software Changes. When RESNET accredited software programs release new version ~~Should changes that affect the calculated results of the home energy rating occur in the engineering algorithms of a RESNET approved home energy rating software program, QA Providers~~users of RESNET accredited software, shall be required to ~~do the following:~~transition to the new version based on the following schedule:

103.2.1 Confirmed or Sampled Ratings on homes with a building permit date that is on or after the 6 month anniversary of the release of the software must utilize the newly released software.

103.2.2 Homes with a building permit date before the 6 month anniversary of the release of the software shall be allowed to complete a Confirmed or Sampled Rating based on the previous version of the software that was utilized for the Projected Rating.

103.2.3 The RESNET Board of Directors may stipulate a timeframe other than the 6 month anniversary of the building permit date.

103.2.1   ~~Transition period. On announcement of a new software version release, QA Providers have a maximum of 60 days to begin all new ratings with the new version.~~

103.2.2   ~~This requirement only applies to changes mandated by the technical standard or otherwise affecting the calculations of the rating score or projected energy savings.~~

103.2.3   ~~Persistence. Once a Projected Rating has been made on a property, the version of the rating software that was used initially may be used for the Confirmed Rating on that property. Providers, at their option, may update to the latest software version for in-process ratings.~~