

## **2009 RESNET Priorities**

Adopted by the RESNET Board of Directors on September 29, 2008

- 1. Ensure the Quality of Rating a Building's Performance** – RESNET's purpose is to set the standard of quality for rating a building's energy performance. It must always be a priority to maintain this quality oversight. This continuing responsibility will be addressed through maintaining RESNET Standards, providing quality assurance oversight, accrediting providers and administering national certification tests. This effort will be enhanced through the creation of the RESNET National Building Registry.
- 2. Make RESNET Standards American National Standard Institute (ANSI)/International Standard Organization(ISO) Compliant** – There is increasing interest in ramping up the performance of energy codes and requiring energy assessments of homes at the time of sale. The RESNET Standards would be the logical choice for such initiatives. In order to have the credibility to be referenced in codes, legislation and regulations, RESNET Standards must be compliant with the ANSI and ISO protocols. This will be accomplished through a comprehensive evaluation of the RESNET Standards and amending them to be in compliance with ANSI and ISO protocols for development of consensus standards.
- 3. Develop RESNET National Building Registry** – Currently there is no national depository of information on homes that have been energy rated or assessed through the RESNET Standards, labeled as ENERGY STAR or qualified for the new homes tax credit. To fill this vacuum, the RESNET Board of Directors has decided to develop a RESNET National Building Registry. To accomplish this, RESNET will develop an electronic data base to which accredited rating providers will upload basic information on homes that are rated, assessed, or otherwise inspected and tested to meet any program guidelines requiring RESNET quality assurance.
- 4. Advocate Residential Energy Efficiency Strategic Initiatives to New President and Congress** – In January 2009 a new President and Congress will be sworn in. No matter who is elected president, the U.S. approach to climate change and energy will change. It is imperative that any new energy or climate change initiatives address residential energy efficiency. This will be achieved through advocacy to the new administration and Congress of the strategic initiatives that have been adopted by the RESNET Board of Directors.

5. **Tap Existing Homes Market** – Seventy-five percent of buildings that will exist in the year 2050 have already been built. Clearly if the U.S. is to meet its energy and climate change goals, the energy performance of existing buildings must be improved. This will be addressed through implementing the RESNET National Energy Audit Standard and the joint RESNET/Building Performance Institute (BPI) Home Performance Analyst Standard and strategic partnerships with Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, BPI and Fannie Mae.
6. **Develop Commercial Building Energy Performance Index** – There is a growing interest by developers and utility sponsored programs to expand ENERGY STAR into high-rise, multi-family buildings. Currently, there is no national standard for indexing a commercial building's energy performance. To meet this void, RESNET will develop and adopt a commercial building energy performance index. This will be accomplished by working with commercial energy efficiency programs, such as the New Buildings Institute, the ENERGY STAR Multi-Family Program, and international affiliates like Shanghai Real Estate Science and Research Institute.
7. **Harmonize RESNET Standards with International Building Performance Rating Standards** – The energy and environmental challenges are increasingly being recognized as global issues. Through the leadership of such organizations as the G-8 and United Nations, strategic global cooperation is being stressed. To take advantage of this opportunity, RESNET standards need to be harmonized with other building performance rating standards. This will be addressed through dialogues with the European Union, International Energy Agency, and the Organization for Economic Development and Cooperation and entering into multilateral international agreements with Canada, China and Japan.