



Rater UPDATE

DNR/TAD Louisiana Energy Rated Homes

May 29, 2009

(Issue XXXVIII, 2009-05)

To: ALL LOUISIANA HERO ENERGY RATERS

From: Jerry Heinberg, AIA

RE: Changes affecting HERO Raters and expansion of the HERO Program through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA):

Extension for Accreditation of HERO RATERS:

1. **June 30, 2009** is the deadline for passing the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam. Passing the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam is a mandatory requirement for Raters wishing to remain on the DNR active list and work under the HERO Program. Effective July 1st, 2009, all HERO ratings must be conducted by Certified Home Energy Raters that have passed the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam with a minimum score of 80 % (40 correct answers out of 50 questions).

DNR TRAINING COURSE: June15 to June 20

- The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources in partnership with Louisiana Clean Tech Network is planning a statewide series of Home Energy Rater Training sessions. The 1st session in this series will be held in Baton Rouge from Monday June 15th through Saturday June 20th. This 1st session is only offered to active and inactive raters already affiliated with the HERO Program. Only this 1st session will be offered at a reduced cost. All subsequent sessions will cost upwards of \$1,000. Every session will be followed by the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam
- Due to new funding sources made available through the (ARRA), additional funding has been made available to expand the HERO Program. New home participation will be temporarily included under this additional funding as well as a program that will cover small commercial buildings. It is **not** mandatory for any active or in-active rater currently under HERO to attend any of these sessions; however, this 1st session offered in the statewide series is a last thorough training prep for people who have worked under HERO and struggled with the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam and still want to work in the HERO Program, including the planned expanded HERO Program. This 1st session will be tailored to existing raters; whereas, the rest of the sessions will be tailored to new students who have not worked in the Home Energy Rating Industry. All of the sessions, including this 1st session will be conducted by an Accredited RESNET Rater Training Provider, however, all of the sessions other than this 1st session will be offered at a cost upwards of \$1,000.
- This 1st session is intended for current HERO raters who have not yet taken the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam or have been unsuccessful at achieving the mandatory 80 point score. The 1st session will focus on Louisiana's hot humid climate, but will fully prepare the attendees for questions on the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam that may pertain to areas outside of Louisiana. Upon completion of this course the attendees will

be fully prepared to take the Certification Exam. The exam will be offered as part of the course on the last day of training.

- Home Energy Raters who have already taken and passed the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam and are currently in good standing with both RESNET and DNR may also want to attend the course in order to improve their knowledge and skill level. Additionally, the course will be invaluable in providing information on the qualifying criteria that will govern the newly expanded HERO Program. Information will be covered about the expansion of the HERO Program to include Energy Star Tax Credit requirements for new houses, DOE's Builders Challenge benchmark, and criteria for small commercial buildings. All of these areas will have temporary funding through the (ARRA) under the HERO Program.
 - This 1st Training Course in the series is provided by a partnership between the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Louisiana Clean Tech Network and Southern University Baton Rouge Campus: Center for Energy and Environmental Studies
2. The Training Session location and requirements for this 1st six day session will be as follows:

NOTE: This 1st session is offered only to active and inactive raters affiliated with HERO.

a. Location:

- Monday June 15, 2009 – Saturday June 20, 2009
- Southern University Baton Rouge Campus: Center for Energy and Environmental Studies
- Building: J B Moore, Room: 129

b. If you have a laptop bring it to the session

c. You must purchase and bring to the session a copy of "Residential Energy" by John Krigger & Chris Dorsi. ISBN 978-1-880120-09-5 (from http://www.srmi.biz/Bookstore.Professionals.Residential_Energy.htm#BA BHIHFC) = \$45 cost

d. You must purchase and bring to the course a copy of "HERS Rater Handbook of Essential Subjects" (08) by Brett Dillon & Mike Barcik (a downloadable PDF file from <http://southface.tix.com/schedule.asp?actcode=15604>) = \$100 cost

e. \$50 Fee to be paid directly to RESNET during the session to take the National RESNET Rater Certification Exam on the last day of the course.

Bring a valid credit card to pay for the exam.

f. Total estimated costs for all of the above: \$195

3. Please RSVP to the following DNR / TAD staff:

James.davidson@la.gov

(225) 342-3825

