The Value for High Performance Homes Campaign is a group of real estate and energy efficiency professionals working together to remove barriers toward the fair value of energy efficient homes. We’ll use this regular alert to keep you up-to-date on the latest news and developments. For more, visit the campaign website at http://www.elevateenergy.org/value-high-performance-homes-campaign/home/.

The Value of Energy Data
“Got Data? The Value of Energy Data Access to Consumers” is an in-depth report that discusses “how providing access to customer energy use data from ‘smart meters’ can help state policymakers and advocates reach their renewable energy and climate goals faster.” The authors explain how access to energy data can be a “gateway” to increased energy efficiency and make the business case for increasing access to this information.

Putting this into action, PG&E, California’s largest utility, released Share My Data version 2.0. This platform offers standardized and secure access to customer energy data. A blog posting by Open Energy Efficiency LLC, “Efficiency is a Resource, Data is the Fuel,” highlights this new tool, and further explains the progress that can be made to identify and quantify energy efficiency upgrades (and spur investment in these upgrades) when stakeholders across industries standardize their data.

Speaking of Standards
The Real Estate Standards Organization (RESO) produces a Data Dictionary that contains a common language that all MLSs are highly encouraged to adopt. As RESO likes to say, the Data Dictionary is the real estate industry’s Rosetta Stone, ensuring all systems speak the same language. RESO reports that over 1 million real estate professionals are now represented by MLSs that are Data Dictionary compliant to the Core Certification level. This means that MLSs across the country have prioritized the need to standardize MLS fields as a way to define common real estate data. This movement toward standardization lays the groundwork for moving standard energy related data into the real estate transaction in a consistent and seamless way by the start of 2018. Read more about U.S. Department of Energy’s Better Buildings Home Energy Efficiency Information Accelerator, a national effort to expand the availability and use of reliable home energy information at relevant points in the residential real estate process.

The Privacy Point
Even when utility customers choose to share their data, they want to know their data is protected and treated responsibly. To address this need, the U.S. Department of Energy convened industry stakeholders to develop a voluntary code of conduct for smart grid data privacy—now called DataGuard. DataGuard provides utilities and other companies that access consumer energy usage data with a framework for protecting their customers’ privacy. The process and details for developing this initiative can be found on SmartGrid.gov.
Accelerating the Flow of Information

If you have any questions, please contact us at Info@ElevateEnergy.org.

You’re receiving this update because you have expressed interest in the topic. We’ll continue to alert you with news and developments. Please feel free to share; others can sign up to receive regular alerts here and you can follow the conversation on Twitter at #VisibleValue.