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/.

Communicating the Value of Energy Efficiency
The Building Codes Assistance Project, the National Association of REALTORS®, and the Appraisal Institute worked together on a resource that gives listing agents a tool to send a signal early in the appraisal process that a listing needs the right appraiser. This factsheet lays out the steps to document the energy efficient and green features of homes and assure that they are appropriately valued by appraisers, ensuring that these homes are consistently and fairly valued in the real estate market.

Expanding the Benefits of Efficiency and Renewable Energy
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced new partnerships and resources that will bring the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy to more states and communities. As a part of this announcement, the Energy Department is releasing updated guidelines for residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) programs. Residential PACE is a financing mechanism that allows homeowners to make affordable clean energy investments in their homes. Read the blog post by Kathleen Hogan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency, for more information on PACE and other DOE initiatives that are making the value of energy efficiency visible to homeowners.

All About Solar and Real Estate
Through its SunShot Initiative, the DOE launched Solar and Real Estate Week. The week included daily blog postings, a resource for homeowners, and a new web page. Visitors to the page will find a compilation of the latest research, financing resources, and information about community solar.

Speaking the Same Language
Data standards and IT solutions that allow quicker and more automated transfer of home energy data to the real estate community are crucial for fair and consistent valuation of high performance homes. National data standards like HPXML (BPI-2200, BPI-2100), should be used whenever possible, both to reduce the costs of developing data transfer systems and to facilitate collection and aggregation of comparable data from multiple sources. A movement toward standardization lays the groundwork for moving standard energy related data into the real estate transaction in a uniform and seamless way.

The Home Performance Coalition (HPC) reported on two recent advancements related to standards and IT solutions. First, the Building Performance Institute (BPI) released version 2.2 of the HPXML Data Dictionary and the HPXML Transfer Standard. Secondly, HPC is currently
leading a roadmapping process to identify and prioritize strategies for increasing data
standardization in the residential energy efficiency industry. Open data standards, like HPXML,
help businesses and programs operate more efficiently, increase productivity, and access new
markets. HPC plans to release the data standards roadmap in September 2016, as well as
launch a new HPXML website with case studies from software developers, programs, and
contractors that have benefited from the use of HPXML.

To read more about the importance of developing standards and IT solutions that allow
quicker and more automated transfer of data, check out Step 6 in “Unlocking the Value of an
Market.”

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

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regular alerts here and you can follow the conversation on Twitter at #VisibleValue.