Elevate Energy uses this regular alert to keep you up-to-date on the latest news and developments happening at the intersection of energy efficiency and real estate. For more information, visit http://www.elevateenergy.org/value-high-performance-homes-campaign/home/

The U.S. Department of Energy’s Home Energy Information Accelerator (HEIA) is working to make reliable home energy information available in the market place. Several HEIA partners were recognized at the May Better Buildings Summit 2017 for the release of two new tools that will lead to making a home’s energy performance visible at time of sale.

Read more to learn about these recent accomplishments.

Documenting the Invisible

The Appraisal Institute released an updated research tool to assist appraisers and users of appraisal services in understanding market reactions to green and energy efficient homes.

The AI Reports® Residential Green and Energy Efficient Addendum is a form appraisers can use as a worksheet to assess the value of high performance homes. It helps users document the high performance features of a home.

The Addendum has been reorganized and updated to ease readability and to address continued industry developments in the valuation of green and energy efficiency, including solar systems. Among one of the most important upgrades to the Addendum is that it can now be delivered in a digital form using a dataset specification that is based on the Mortgage Industry Standards Maintenance Organization (commonly known as MISMO), which enables it to be delivered and read electronically by end-user systems, including those used by mortgage lenders analyzing collateral risk.

Documenting the energy efficient and solar improvements in a building is the first step in communicating its fair value in the marketplace, and the Addendum is essential to making the value of a home visible to appraisers, real estate agents, and home buyers. Step five of the Visible Value Blueprint reflects the importance of getting home energy efficiency data to appraisers so it can be incorporated into the appraisal.
At the Intersection of Real Estate and Energy Efficiency

Working with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Home Energy Information Accelerator, the Council of Multiple Listing Services (CMLS) has published the Home Energy Information Guide with the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) and Real Estate Standards Organization (RESO).

The guide assists real estate professionals in understanding how to provide home energy information and multiple listing services in how to deliver verified data. It was created to meet the public’s growing demand for home energy information while observing industry compliance standards.

Download the Home Energy Information Guide today. MLSs may also review the most current list of fields and groups contained within the GreenVerification Group as part of the RESO Data Dictionary Wiki v1.5. MLSs that have not implemented green fields may learn more at the Green MLS Tool Kit, maintained by NAR.