

August 4, 2025

RE: Xcel Energy's ENERGY STAR® New Homes and Residential New Homes Construction Update

Participating Colorado Homebuilders and Raters:

Program Update:

The ENERGY STAR New Homes Program completed 566 projects in Q2 2025 bringing the 2025 program total to 1,719. Program year energy savings are 31,399 Dekatherms and 1,420,086 kilowatt-hours; builder rebates earned total \$1,444,950.00

2025 Program Information:

Homes with permits issued on or after 7/1/2024 are required to meet RNHC requirements – **all-electric and, at a minimum, satisfying ENERGY STAR NextGen and DOE Zero Energy Ready Homes v2 standards** – to be eligible for RNHC rebates. Builders must work with Residential Science Resources (RSR) for the modeling and inspections to verify RNHC requirements are met. RSR only verifies the rebate requirements are met – you'll still need to work with an energy rater for any code compliance verification or official certifications (e.g., ENERGY STAR, Zero Energy Ready Homes, etc.). Please use the [RNHC registration page](#) to register any anticipated RNHC projects or contact [Dylan Sahm](#) with any questions.

Homes with permits issued prior to 7/1/2024 still fall under the legacy 2024 ESNH program rules and will receive the respective rebates.

Training:

Passive Design/Build Boot Camp – Emu Passive; Denver, CO; 9/8/2025 – 9/12/2025

Xcel Energy has partnered with Emu Passive to provide 90% reimbursement for the Emu Passive Design/Build Boot Camp to builders and architects who build in Xcel's Colorado electric service territory and successfully complete the course. The immersive program is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed to build high-performance, energy-efficient homes and culminates in the test to become a Certified Passive House Tradesperson (CPHT). To register for the program and verify your reimbursement eligibility, [complete the application](#). Contact [Dylan Sahm](#) with any questions.

Phius Certified Builder Training – Phius; Online; On Demand/Live

Xcel Energy has partnered with Phius to provide a 90% sponsorship for the Phius Certified Builder (CPHB) training for builders and architects who build in Xcel's Colorado electric service territory and successfully complete the course. The training consists of 8 hours of self-paced study followed by eight 3-hour online live instruction sessions, after which attendees are provided the Phius Certified Builder exam to receive their CPHB credential. Following the training, attendees will know how to cost-effectively build to meet Phius requirements utilizing building science best practices. Contact [Dylan Sahm](#) to verify your reimbursement eligibility, or register to attend using the [registration link](#).

Colorado Building Symposium – West – Glenwood Springs, CO; 9/4/2025 – 9/5/2025

Xcel Energy is providing a 90% discount on the \$225 attendance fee to builders and trade partners who build in Xcel Energy's electric service territory. Building off of the wildly successful Building Science Symposium, produced by BS and Beer KC, that occurred in Denver in 2023, BUILDTank and BS and Beer Denver Metro are striving to create an annual residential building science driven symposium for Colorado Builders, Architects, and Trades People. Same great content with hand picked speakers who can represent the unique issues of mountain and western slope building. A single-track symposium offers the additional opportunity for robust conversation and debate at breaks and receptions, as everyone has heard the same presentations. [Visit the website](#) for more information or to register, and contact [Dylan Sahm](#) with any questions.

ENERGY STAR NextGen & Zero Energy Ready Homes (ZERH) – EEBA; Date and location TBD

Xcel Energy has partnered with EEBA to provide another two-day, in-person training event that will give participants the knowledge needed to build to or verify ENERGY STAR NextGen and Zero Energy Ready Homes requirements, the minimum standards for Xcel Energy's Residential New Homes Construction (RNHC) program. A date and location in the Denver-Metro area will be announced once a minimum number of attendees express interest. Any builder, contractor, or rater that is in the Xcel service territory will be eligible for the Xcel-sponsored rate of \$99/attendee, a 90% discount from the standard rate of \$995. A more in-depth description from the previous session is [available here](#). Contact [Dylan Sahm](#) to register your interest in attending the training, verify if you qualify for the discount, or with any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of Xcel Energy's ENERGY STAR New Homes Program and the Xcel Energy Residential New Homes Construction program. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Will Peyton
Program Manager
Residential Science Resources LLC

Xcel Energy's ENERGY STAR® New Home, and Residential New Home Construction programs are implemented by Residential Science Resources (RSR). 844.802.4443 | info@residentialscience.com