

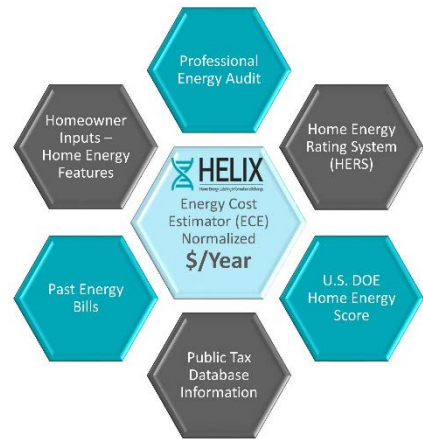


Energy Estimator – Powered by HELIX & ClearlyEnergy

Recognizing the significance of home energy efficiency awareness, there is a need for a low-cost tool to encourage homeowners to take the next steps and invest in efficiency improvements. As your state continues its efforts to revitalize and upgrade the energy performance of the residential building stock and achieve public policy goals, Energy Estimator – Powered by HELIX & ClearlyEnergy can provide a flexible, scalable solution.

Energy Estimator Tool

Energy Estimator is an automated energy modeling (AEM) tool that pulls from publicly-available tax assessor databases and the Home Energy Labeling Information eXchange ([HELIX](#)), which stores home energy labels, certifications, and solar PV data. The tool produces a breakdown of annual energy costs and recommended measures. Homeowners or energy professionals can refine the cost estimate with utility bills data and information about assets in the home via a virtual audit. Energy Estimator generates a customizable home energy label. The label is then sent back to HELIX as a repository to store and populate into MLS listings to better market and value homes during the real estate process. The homeowner has access to the energy label as well as online recommendations and resources. Energy professionals can use HELIX to track weatherization and retrofit measures on the home.



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Key Element for Home Energy Labeling Programs

States and communities can utilize the tool to simplify the management of residential labeling programs or policies. Selecting a rating system for measuring performance is key and the tool provides multiple data sources and input options, such as those listed in the figure above, to create an asset-based rating. This tool also overcomes the various barriers to traditional labeling programs such as cost and time. By providing a tool that does not require an in-home audit, more buildings can be labeled throughout the region. This allows homeowners to make more informed decisions about the full costs of operating homes and motivate investments that lower energy bills, reduce carbon emissions, expand job growth, and increase overall comfort.

Additional Benefits

- **Identify Retrofit and Upgrade Candidates:** Energy Estimator provides cost-effective, online screenings of homes to identify candidates for in-home audits, weatherization, HVAC, appliance or lighting upgrades. The tool also breaks down estimated savings from solar PV, electric heat pumps, and other retrofit programs.
- **Advance Real Estate Programs:** Energy Estimator effectively screens homes to identify green mortgage candidates, in addition to using the HELIX database to produce supporting documents (i.e. Green Addendum)
- **Support Virtual Audits:** We are exploring the option of using the Energy Estimator as a virtual audit tool that entails an auditor calling the homeowner and working with them to fill out the audit and generate a report.

For more information, contact the [HELIX team](#) (HELIX@neep.org) at Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships