

### Home Energy Information Made Accessible

### What Is HELIX?

HELIX is a secure, cloud-based, open-source data platform that allows for more accurate valuation of a home based on its energy efficient and renewable attributes. This database houses information on RETS-compliant third-party verified fields, marketing/green search fields, and technical fields. HELIX then automatically populates MLS listings with this energy information.



## Transparency during the real estate transaction

Knowledge is power. This process will provide transparency, which creates a demand-driven market signal for energy efficiency in buildings that encourages consumers to value and invest in energy efficiency. It also increases buyer confidence, and informs buyers of the long-term operational costs of the home.

# Transparency and economic development

Investments in energy efficiency lead to economic growth. This includes the growth of companies like home performance contractors making energy efficiency improvements.

Energy auditors, weatherization installers, HVAC technicians, and many other technical professions benefit from energy efficiency transparency at the time of home sale. Fostering the growth of this industry leads to more energy efficiency jobs in the local economy.

# Helping states to reach their energy & emissions goals

Transparency in the real estate market regarding energy use in homes could help states to target one of the areas of highest energy use: the building sector. For states with greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, increasing demand for energy efficiency improvements is a low-cost way of achieving these goals.

Real Estate Transaction Standards (RETS)-Compliant Green Fields include, but are not limited to:

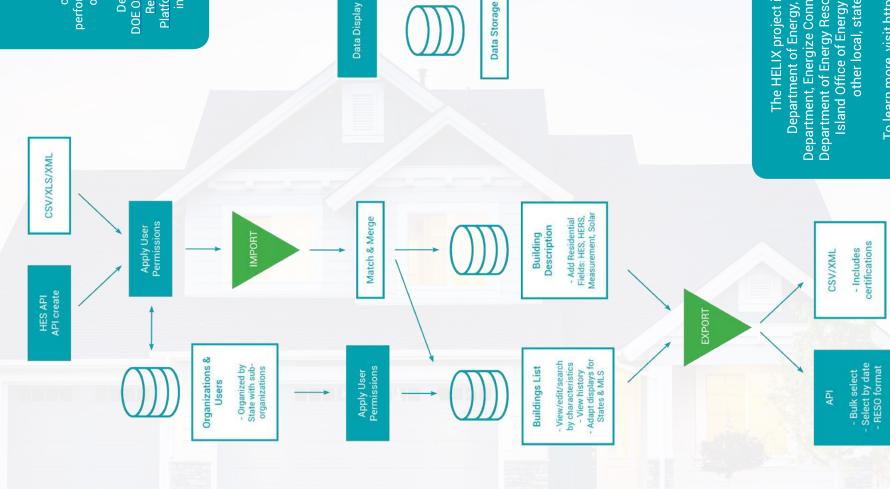
- LEED for Homes
- Home Performance with ENERGY STAR
- HERS Index Score
- Home Energy Score
- PV Solar Array Information
- State-specific home energy asset score or rating

# HELIX Architecture Expands SEED\*

performance data for large groups of buildings. SEED Platform is funded by the United States Department of Energy. Visit the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) SEED Platform website for more general information about this project.

\*What is SEED? SEED is the Standard Energy Efficiency Data Platform. It is a web-

based application that helps organizations manage energy



The HELIX project is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, Vermont Public Service Department, Energize Connecticut, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, NHSaves, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources, and several other local, state, and national partners.

To learn more, visit http://bit.ly/NEEP-HELIX or contact Carolyn Sarno-Goldthwaite, cgoldthwaite@neep.org