



Home Energy Labeling Information eXchange (HELIX)

Questions?
Carolyn Sarno-Goldthwaite
cgoldthwaite@neep.org

Project Overview

Buying a home is the largest investment most of us ever make, but home buyers typically receive little or no information about how much energy they will need to power the homes they see listed for sale (or for rent). This is despite the fact that energy is the highest cost of home maintenance – not to mention one of the most volatile. Historically, this information was simply not available, but programs like U.S. DOE's Home Energy Score now provide energy consumption and cost estimates for more homes than ever before. The primary barrier to widespread access to energy information for homes on the market is that there is no system in place to transmit this data directly from the sellers trying to market their homes to the real estate listings that buyers use to compare them.

To patch this data hole, NEEP assembled a team in 2016 to develop a database capable of automatically populating real estate listings (whether they are accessed through local Multiple Listing Services (MLS) or portals like Trulia and Zillow) with home energy information from Home Energy Score and other sources when it is available and approved by the seller. We are calling this database the Home Energy Labeling Information eXchange, or HELIX for short.

Project Strategy

Database Development and Implementation

- Open-sourced project serving New England states and New York

Real Estate Community Outreach and Training

- Transparent stakeholder engagement on the value proposition of home energy information

Continuing Development of Functionality

- Streamlined, actionable information in the places it can provide the most value in the real estate market



Project Timeline

START
4/1/16

Year 1: Research & Scoping

Year 2: Development & Testing

Year 3: Full Implementation

FINISH
3/29/19

NOW

- ☒ Data?
- ☒ MLS Standardization?
- ☒ Energy info for homebuyers?

2018

Info homebuyers/brokers want *where* they need it, *when* they need it.

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