

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is NEPDEER?

NEPDEER stands for Neighborhood Energy Profile Database & Energy Efficiency Recommendations. This project will engage selected homeowners to participate in the collection of existing utility history, on-site home energy performance audits and in-home energy monitoring activities. NEPDEER is one of several projects within the CONNECT Our Future framework.

What is CONNECT Our Future?

CONNECT Our Future is a three-year collaboration between communities, counties, businesses, educators, non-profits and other organizations in our 14-county area. Its purpose is to promote: 1) a strong, diverse economy, 2) sustainable, well-managed growth, 3) a healthy and safe environment, 4) increased collaboration among regional and local government, 5) enhanced social equity, and 6) educational opportunities that are available to all residents. CONNECT Our Future is a Sustainable Communities initiative, funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Who is eligible to participate?

There are three basic requirements for participation.

1. You must be a homeowner and have owned your home for at least one-year.
2. Your home must be a detached, single family residence.
3. Your home must be located in one of the following 14 counties:

North Carolina

Anson	Lincoln
Cabarrus	Mecklenburg
Cleveland	Rowan
Gaston	Stanly
Iredell	Union

South Carolina

Chester	Union
Lancaster	York

All participants will be asked to provide a one-year history of gas and electricity use for their homes. Electricity and gas utility companies can provide this information directly to the homeowner at no cost. Based on information provided by the homeowner on the Homeowner Selection Criteria Form, the NEPDEER Team will choose 30 homes to participate in the Home Energy Performance Audit and receive two seasonal energy audits; one in the summer 2013 and one in the winter 2013/2014. Twelve of these homes will also be selected for In-Home Energy Monitoring that will take place over a six-month period.

What is an energy audit?

An energy audit is a combination of tests and inspections performed by a trained professional in order to assess the energy efficiency of a home. An energy auditor will typically test for air leakage and infiltration in the building's structure and in the ductwork of the heating and air conditioning system. The auditor will also do a thorough walk-through inspection of every room of the house including the crawl space and attic. Homeowners must be present during the energy audits.

What is the benefit to the homeowner?

All participants will assist in developing a much needed database of energy information about our region's home energy use. Participants in the Home Energy Performance audit and the In-Home Energy Monitoring activities will learn how to make their homes more energy efficient through corrective home improvement measures and modifications to their own energy consumption.

Application deadline is Summer 2013

For more detailed answers to these and other questions about NEPDEER, visit the FAQ page of

www.ConnectOurFuture.org

