Customer First-Let's Remember The Family Is #1 When Making Construction Decisions

Energy Design Conference & Expo

February 20, 2018 Duluth, Minnesota In accordance with the Department of Labor and Industry's statute 326.0981, Subd. 11,

"This educational offering is recognized by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry as satisfying **1.5 hours** of credit toward **Building Officials and Residential Contractors code /1 hour energy** continuing education requirements."

For additional continuing education approvals, please see your credit tracking card.

We Are Building A HOME For Families

- A Home is where a family lives and thrives.
- A Home is built by individuals who care..it's a craft, not a job.
- A Home is where generations celebrate life.
- A Home is healthy, comfortable, safe, and affordable to live in...less stress

Initial Conversation -Hard Questions!

- It's not just materials and techniques, it's owner and builder involvement.
- What's driving this urge for a new home?
- Do you want a different neighborhood or do you like where you are now?
- What is our financial status? Must be discussed!
- Family health or special needs topics.
- Can your marriage handle the stress? (Guys this is where you practice saying "Yes dear")

Remember-You, The Customer, Are The Boss!

- Learn the "lingo" to ask educated questions.
- Research everywhere to get ideas and opinions.
- Compile all of your ideas into a file or catalogue.
- Network to find who is the best "fit" to complete you project.
- Are there any future changes in mind?
- Your financial capability and timeline must fit the scope of work.



Patina Or Style? I Like The One On The Left



Your Requirements Stand Your Ground!!!

- Meets all applicable codes and standards
- Universal Design
- Meets your quality standards
- Comfortable
- Durable low maintenance construction
- Energy efficient net zero ready?
- Controlled indoor air quality
- Safe

Safety – Comfort – Ongoing Costs

- Town or Rural
- Covenants or freedom
- Services Who provides what?
 - Water, sewer, gas, electric, propane
 - Road maintenance, dues
 - Garbage, internet etc.
- School system
- Fire and law enforcement
- Neighbors, noise, dust, odors, Scared?

Customer Requirements

You get the rebates and tax incentives Radon system installed – Why? Low VOC paints and finishes Reduced outside noise SAFE and CLEAN worksite Civility clause

Absolutely Required

- Owners manual with all product sheets and warranties
 - Dates
 - Photos
 - Conversations
 - All paperwork
- Educational final walk through to discuss owner involvement in ongoing performance
 - Multi-page checklist and initials





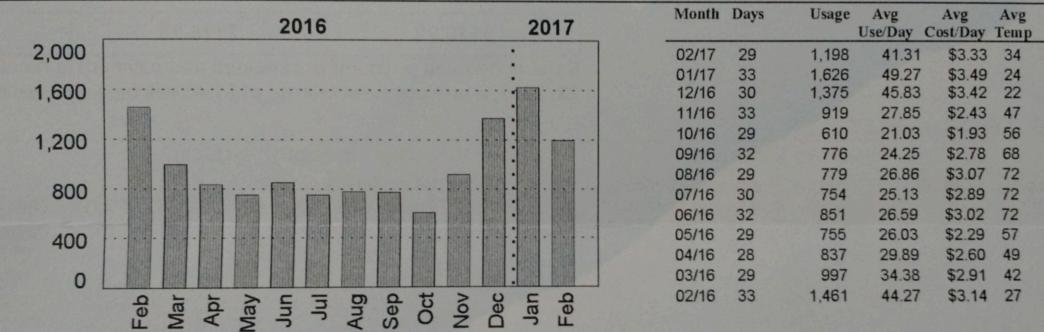




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RIC USAGE (kWh) COMPARISON



Performance

- 4,000 plus square foot living area
 HERS 36
- 32.61 kWh per day
- 11, 903 kWh per year
- \$2.98 cost per day billed
- 4 years old

Geo Performance

- 9.06 kWh per day average
- \$0.78 cost per day average
- Average percentage geo to total usage 24.5%
- Percentage of monthly total home usage ranges:
- Up to 44% Heating months
- 10-19% Cooling months
- ► 5-6% Shoulder months

Pre-Construction Meeting

Owners..Don't forget who has to live with the completed project!! Architect/Designer/ Contractor/Builder HERS rater if desired HVAC contractor Electrical contractor Plumbing contractor Other subs if possible



What To Ask Your Potential Builders Or Contractors Before You Decide To Hire

- What is your experience with projects such as this?
- Are you licensed and insured?
- What continuing education have you recently completed?
- We need 5 references. Thanks
- What type of warranty do you apply to your work and to the project.
- Do you follow the 2012 IRC and the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code? What is your last project that followed the code?
- Who is the day to day contact?
- Who is the on-site supervisor?

Discussion Topics

- Temporary power
- Easements/ Setbacks-could affect PV placement
- Logistics/Storage soil compaction over root structure
- Storm water management
- Protection of existing landscaping



Topics To Stress

- Homeowner safety
- Energy saving measures ALL involved have an impact on the final product
- Better indoor air quality
- Better comfort
- Combustion safety
- Moisture control starting day 1
- Maintain structural integrity educational opportunity



Topics

- Code compliance and inspection schedule
- Local utility requirements
- Net Zero Ready Keep Repeating!
- Documentation daily journals and important steps
- Owner's Manual Who keeps track?

Owner's Manual Topics

- Use of attic areas not for storage
 Proper storage of chemicals etc.
- Correct filters for system design
- Maintenance schedules
- Contact information "My Heats Off!!"
- Warranty data
- All product manuals
- Dos and don'ts extend supply run to garage

Documentation

- Face to Face conversations
- E-mails
- Phone conversations and messages
- Texts
- Old Timer Mail
- All materials from shop drawings to warranties
- Photos of EVERYTHING! with dates and location
- Visitors log
- Safety requirements and insurance

Topics For Pre-Construction

- Review questions from contractor interviews
- Review your expectations
- Show them the code books
- Hand out your furniture layout
- Hand out contact numbers for everyone
- Decide who will handle results from the required blower door test.
- Remember-Manual J and S are required before start.



Plans Overview Examples

Window selection – Operation Advanced framing - 6 house rule Furniture placement – windows and supplies Floor joist layout – work with me, please! Newel post attachment – not a shift stick Chaseways – when did we forget them 9 foot foundations/flat pans Universal design – zero step entry Roof design

Planning

- Streamline the process
- Complete set of plans and specifications Code requirement
- Establish communication tree
- Documentation Repeat again can't say it enough!
- 3rd party visits schedule
- Rebate and Energy Star paperwork before excavation

Recognize The Owners

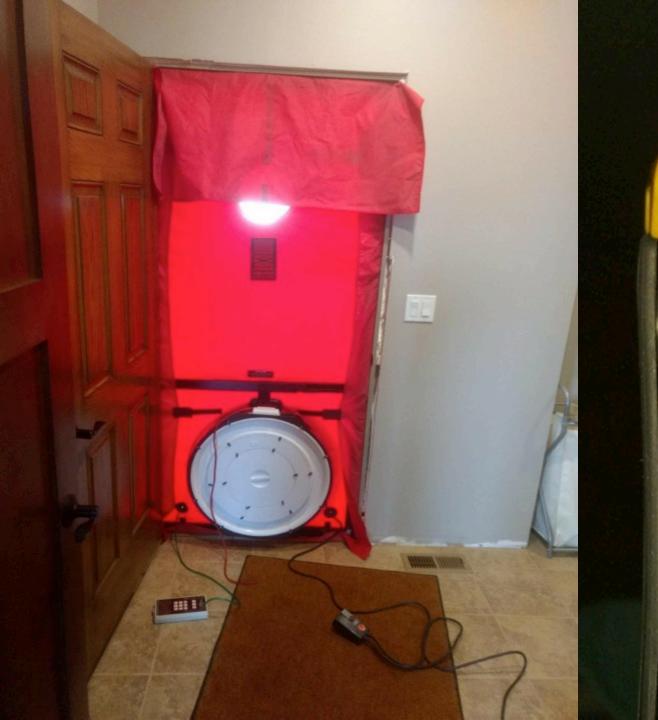
- We work for them and everyone after them who live in the home.
- Make them part of the process they are responsible to operate the home as designed.
- Everyone involved should know who they are.
- Individual needs and requirements.
- Future considerations basement use, conduits under concrete for expansion, shops, Christmas lights, etc.

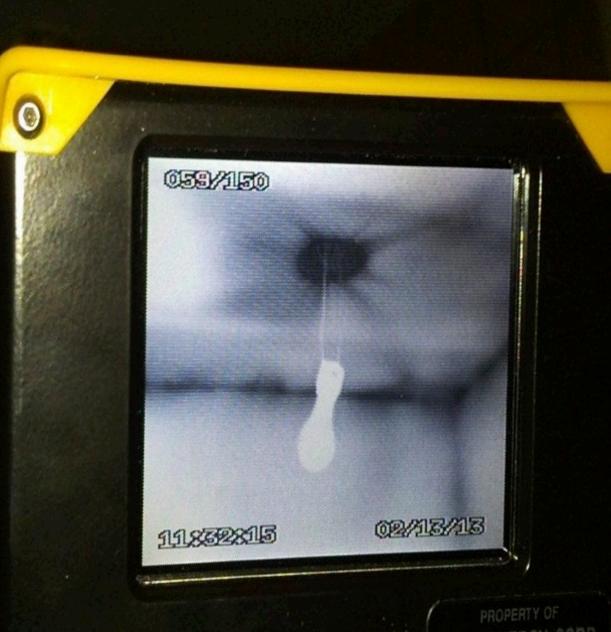
Time To Stress Air Sealing To The Parties Involved

- Saves on heating and cooling
 Controls moisture vapor movement by slowing or stopping air
- Stops uncomfortable drafts
- Helps to prevent frozen water lines
- Keeps the tub floor warmer
- What about controlled "designed" ventilation?

It's All In The Details!!!!

- Assessment
- Pre-test
- Research Proper Methods & Materials
- Building Science
- Wholehouse Concept
- READ THE DIRECTIONS
- Hire competent Craftsman
- Post-test





It's In The Paperwork

- Truss uplift in the truss packet
- Insulation installation on every bag
- Attic insulation documentation on the bag
- Air sealing requirements in the code book
- Window installation supplier, Google
 Housewrap supplier and common sense





Time Worn Education



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

Air Leakage GUIDE



Footings & Foundations

- Site drainage
 Natural surface drainage
- Final building elevation
- Completed drainage load and retention plan
- Water table control
- Egress window protection
- Walk-out frost protection

Footings & Foundations

Proper Sizing For Load
Soil Load Bearing Capacity
Capillary Break
Thermal Break
Waterproofing

Backfilling

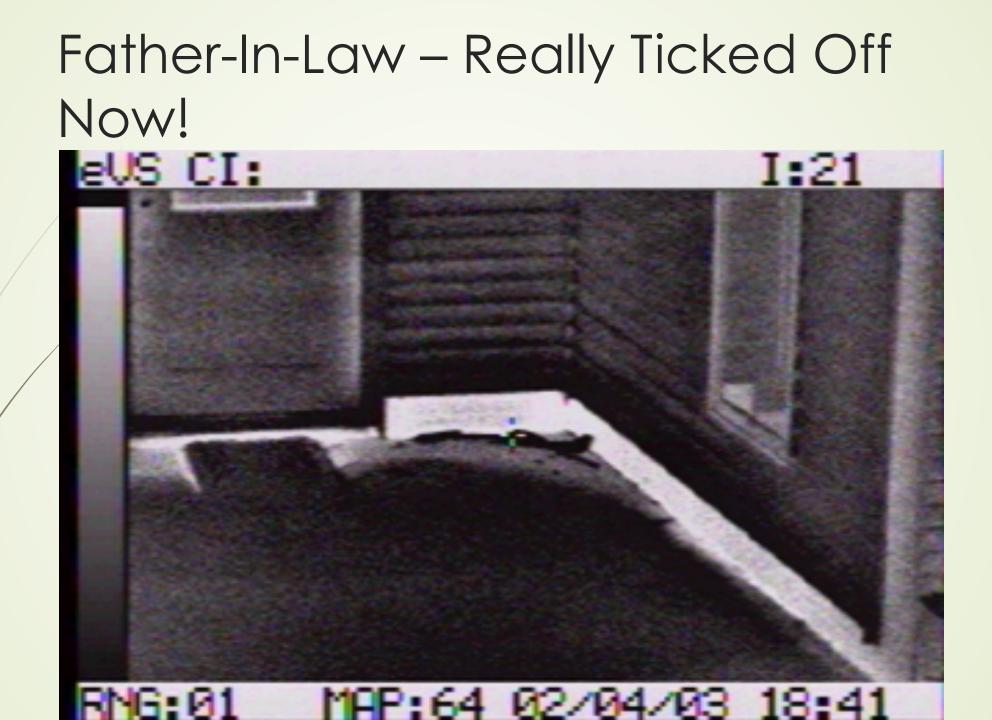
Capillary Action

and the





















TO GET ANCE TO HEAT FLOW. THE HIGHER WHE









