

Technical Bulletin: What Is HERO Code

Residential New Construction Program

What does “HERO” stand for? **H**igh-**E**fficiency Residential **O**ption (HERO).

The Duke Energy RNC Program promotes the construction of highly efficient, better quality new homes. Homes submitted into the Program must perform above code minimum requirements. This technical bulletin will help define HERO Code requirements and incentive structures.

There are two pathways within the Whole-home Program incentives:

1. **HERO-only:** The home complies with HERO code performance standards while making use of the code’s “visual infiltration inspection” allowance (no blower door test).
2. **HERO+HERS:** The home meets all HERO code requirements and incentives are based on a comparison of the actual home’s energy model to the NCECC code baseline (includes blower door test).

Duke Energy Progress - Whole House Incentive		
Type	HERO-only	HERO+HERS
Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual energy usage is less than HERO reference home with blower door set to 4.00 ACH50 or 0.24 CFM50/SFSA - 90% or greater efficient lighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual energy usage is less than HERO reference home - Blower door ≤ 4.00 ACH50 or 0.24 CFM50/SFSA - 90% or greater efficient lighting
Incentive	\$750/home	\$0.90 / kWh savings Maximum Incentive: \$9,000

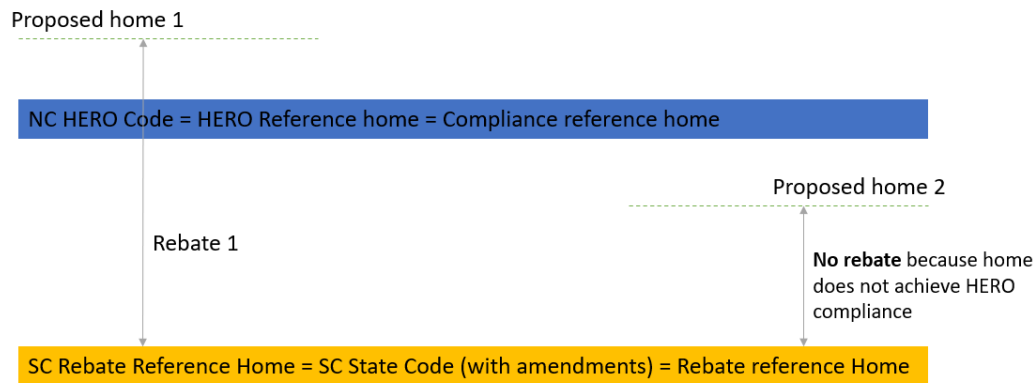
Duke Energy Carolinas - Whole House Incentive			
Type	HERO-only	HERO+HERS	
Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual energy usage is less than HERO reference home with blower door set to 4.00 ACH50 or 0.24 CFM50/SFSA - 90% or greater efficient lighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual energy usage is less than HERO reference home - Blower door ≤ 4.00 ACH50 or 0.24 CFM50/SFSA - 90% or greater efficient lighting 	
Incentive	\$650/home	Electric heating savings	\$0.40 / kWh
		Non-heating electric savings	\$0.75 / kWh
		Natural gas heating	\$0.75 / kWh
		Maximum Incentive: \$6000	

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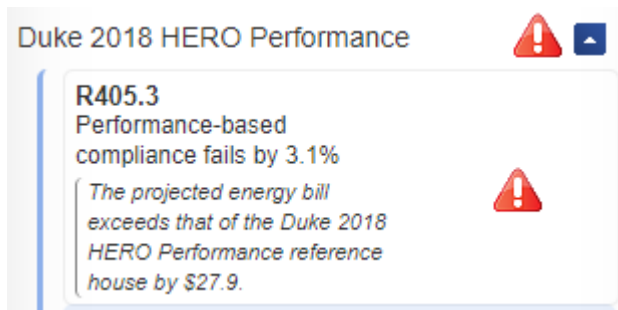
BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURESM



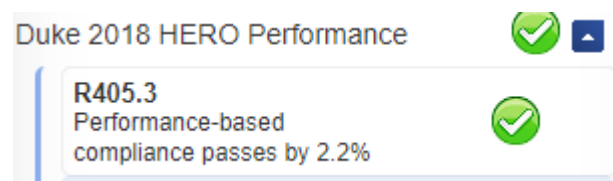
Homes must achieve HERO compliance to be eligible for rebates.

The requirements for a HERO+HERS home are explained in further detail below.

Annual energy usage is less than the HERO Performance reference home – Check the quick results pane in Ekotrope to see if the home saves more than that of the reference home.



A failing home is indicated by a red triangle with an exclamation mark and will also show the projected dollar amount of the energy bill is over that of the reference home.



A passing home is indicated by a green circle with a checkmark.

Lighting – The RNC Program requires 90% or greater high-efficacy lighting fixtures. When counting lights, raters should count per fixture, not per bulb. For example, a chandelier with 6 bulbs counts as 1 fixture towards the lighting count. A list of lights to include and exclude are below.

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Included Lighting	
Kitchens	Entrances
Dining Rooms	Bedrooms
Living Rooms	Garages
Family Rooms/dens	Utility Rooms
Bathrooms	Home Offices
Hallways	Any exterior fixture on a building or a pole
Stairways	Closets without operable doors

Excluded Lighting
Closets with operable doors
Plug-in Lamps
Unfinished basements
Landscape lighting
Attics
Crawlspaces

The 90% high-efficacy requirement is for lighting percentage for the entire house including all interior, exterior, and garage lighting. An example of how to calculate a home's lighting percentage is below. The lighting percentage used to determine if the home can receive an incentive is highlighted in yellow.

Location	Incandescent	CFL	LED	Total	Percent High Efficacy
Interior	4	1	30	35	89%
Exterior	0	0	10	10	100%
Garage	0	2	0	2	100%
Total	4	3	40	47	91%

You can find additional details and program requirements at <http://www.duke-energyrncinfo.com/>.