

CHAPTER SIX

RESNET STANDARDS

600 ACCREDITATION STANDARD FOR SAMPLING PROVIDERS

601 GENERAL PROVISIONS

601.1 Purpose. Sampling is intended to provide certification that a group of new homes meets a particular threshold such as ENERGY STAR, energy code compliance, or qualification for an energy efficiency lending program. It is based on pre-analysis of building plans meeting the intended qualification (e.g. a HERS Index threshold), and subsequent random testing and inspections of a sample set of the homes as-built. Certifying a group of homes by sampling entitles the customer to documentation certifying that the homes meet the desired threshold; it does not constitute a confirmed HERS rating on any home.

601.2 Scope. This chapter sets out the procedures for the accreditation of sampling providers. Accredited sampling providers shall assume all warranties and liabilities associated with the sampling of homes. RESNET does not provide any warranty, either explicit or implied, that sampled homes will meet or exceed the threshold specifications for the sample set. There may be instances in which state laws or regulations differ from these Standards. In such instances, state law or regulation shall take precedence over this standard.

602 DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Sampling - An application of the Home Energy Rating process whereby fewer than 100% of a builder's new homes are randomly inspected and tested in order to evaluate compliance with a set of threshold specifications.

Sample Set - A specific group of homes from which one or more individual homes are randomly selected for sampling controls.

Sampling Controls - A collection or set of required tests and inspections performed for a sample set of homes in order to confirm that the threshold specifications have been met. "Sampling controls" may refer to the entire set of tests and inspections, or to a particular phase that constitutes a defined subset of those tests and inspections (e.g. pre-drywall, final, HVAC, windows and orientation, etc).

Failed Item – A "failed item" constitutes a category of failure, such as insulation installation, duct leakage, prescriptive air sealing requirements, insulation enclosure, eave baffles, mechanical system efficiency, window specifications, etc. For the purpose of follow-up inspections, a "failed item" is not limited to the specific instance in a home but to that category of the minimum rated features as it applies to that home design.

Failure - When one or more of the threshold specifications is not met during the testing and inspection process.

Initial Failure - When one or more failure(s) are first identified in a home during the sampling process.

Additional Failure – When additional instances of initial failure(s) are identified in one or more of the other homes in the sample set being tested or inspected.

Threshold Specifications - A set of qualification criteria which are established for a sample set based on worst-case Projected Ratings with consideration of all options, and in worst-case orientation, or a set of prescriptive specifications such as the ENERGY STAR prescriptive path adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Sampling Provider - An entity, accredited through these standards, that oversees the sampling process and issues the sampling certifications that homes meet a particular set of threshold specifications such as the ENERGY STAR specifications adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Metropolitan Area - Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas as defined by the United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and published by the United States Census Bureau at

www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/aboutmetro (the most current edition). In areas not included in any defined Metropolitan Area, individual counties may be substituted for the purpose of applying the sampling process.

603 TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SAMPLING

603.1 Sampling Process

603.1.1 Compliance requirements. The testing and inspection of homes for minimum rated features shall be conducted in compliance with the procedures for conducting home energy ratings and Builder Option Packages (BOPs) contained in this Standard.

603.1.2 Homes eligible to be sampled. The homes being sampled shall be of the same construction type using the same envelope systems.

603.1.3 Analysis of Homes. A worst-case analysis shall be performed on each home plan, considering worst-case orientation, all known option packages, and applicable site location(s). If an option or change in the design of the structure is made that differs from those used in the initial analysis in a way that would require more stringent threshold specifications, then that home must be individually rated. At a minimum, this process shall be overseen by a certified rater.

603.1.4 Labeling of Homes.

603.1.4.1 Every home plan within a given sample set shall be assigned the same HERS Index as determined by the threshold specification for that floor plan.

603.1.4.2 Every home subjected to this sampling protocol shall be provided with a label in accordance with Section 303.3 of these standards, which contains the following statement: “This home has been certified using a sampling protocol in accordance with RESNET Standards. As such, some or all of the energy features of this home may or may not have been individually inspected or tested.” This label shall be located on the electrical panel and the font shall be a minimum of 10 points.

603.1.5 Sample set of homes. Sampling controls may be applied to any sample set of homes within the same subdivision or metropolitan area and climate zone (as specified in the 2004 IECC), provided the criteria in Item 603.1.2 are met and:

- 1) Each sample set is made up of homes at the same stage of construction (e.g. pre-drywall, final)
- 2) For each stage of construction, each sample set will be comprised of homes eligible for the applicable sampling controls within a 30 calendar day period.

For example: a sample set that is defined for a pre-drywall inspection must include homes that are eligible for that pre-drywall inspection within a given 30-day period. If fewer than seven (7) homes are available for that phase of inspection, the sample set must be cut off at the number of homes that are available within that 30-day period. This sample set need not be carried through to final inspection; in fact, a whole new sample set may be defined for the final inspection phase based on the homes available for that phase within a new, 30-day period applied to that phase of tests and inspections.

- 3) Each home subject to sampling is required to be part of an identified set of sampling controls for each test or inspection that is sampled
- 4) Each participating subdivision within a metropolitan area is subject to sampling controls on at least one home in any 90 calendar day period.
- 5) Each participating subdivision within a metropolitan area must start a minimum of one home in any 90 calendar day period.

603.1.6 Application of sampling. The application of the sampling controls in this standard are only required for those tests and inspections that are not conducted on every home. Sampling controls shall be conducted for any tests and inspections not conducted on every home, according to the field testing and inspection requirements of 303.6.2.

603.1.7 Sampling Controls.

603.1.7.1 A complete set of Sampling Controls shall be performed at a minimum ratio of one (1) test or inspection per seven (7) homes within a given sample set. At a minimum, this process shall be overseen by a certified rater.

603.1.7.2 Sampling Providers may complete the sampling controls collectively on a single home or distribute the tests and inspections across several homes within a given sample set, provided the total number of individual tests and inspections meets or exceeds the minimum ratio set forth in 603.1.6.1.

603.1.7.3 To qualify for sampling in a metropolitan area, a builder shall first complete, without any incidence of failure, a complete set of sampling controls on at least seven (7) consecutive homes in that metropolitan area. For this initial phase of testing and inspections, the complete set of sampling controls shall be performed on each of the seven (7) homes.

603.1.7.3.1 Exception: A builder who has been implementing a sampling process for certifying homes in a specific metropolitan area under the EPA's Energy Star for Homes program as of January 1, 2006, will be allowed a one time exception to 603.1.6.3 for that metropolitan area.

603.1.7.3.2: For each newly started subdivision, sampling may begin only after three (3) consecutive homes have been completed without any incidence of failure.

603.1.7.4 Having successfully met the requirements of 603.1.6.3, a Sampling Provider may complete sampling controls for a builder in accordance with 603.1.4., 603.1.6.1 and 603.1.6.2, indefinitely until a "failure" occurs or any of the criteria set forth in 603.1.2 are no longer met (see 603.1.6.8).

603.1.7.5 A complete set of sampling controls, whether performed on a single home or spread across several homes, must be completed whether or not one or more failure(s) are found.

603.1.7.6 When an "initial failure" occurs, the failed item(s) shall be tested or inspected in two (2) additional homes selected from the same sample set. Testing and/or inspections for any item(s) that may become inaccessible during the construction process, (e.g. wall insulation) must be timed so additional testing and/or inspections can occur on other homes in the sample set before they become inaccessible for inspection or testing.

603.1.7.7 When an "additional failure" occurs, in one or more of the two (2) additional homes, the failed item(s) shall be tested or inspected in the remaining four (4) homes selected from the same sample set.

603.1.7.8 Until the failure is corrected in all identified (failed) homes in the sample set, none of the homes shall be deemed to meet the threshold or labeling criteria.

603.1.8 Multiple "additional failures." Action is required if three (3) "additional failures" occur within a ninety (90) calendar day period. The required action

depends on whether those “additional failures” apply to the same failed item or various failed items.

603.1.8.1 If the multiple “additional failures” all apply to the same failed item, the builder shall submit to 100% inspection of that failed item, for a minimum of seven (7) homes, before resuming sampling of that item. Remaining unrelated sampling controls may be conducted on a sampled basis throughout this process.

603.1.8.2 If the multiple “additional failures” apply to various failed items, or additional failed items are found during testing and inspection of additional homes, the builder must begin again and complete 603.1.6.3 at a minimum, before continuing with sampling.

603.1.8.3 Exception: if a builder conducts a “root cause analysis” on an item or items covered under 603.1.7.1 or 603.1.7.2, and submits it in writing to the sampling provider, sampling may resume as soon as the provider deems that the solution has been implemented. The “root cause analysis” report shall contain at a minimum:

- A written description of the problem(s) covered by the analysis
- A written explanation of the underlying reason(s) that the problem(s) occurred (e.g. inadequate training of subcontractor(s) or site supervisors, insufficient information or inadequate detail in the plans or specifications, etc).
- A written description of a clearly defined process to correct the underlying cause(s).
- A written description of when and how that process has been carried out.
- A copy of the root cause analysis report shall be kept by the sampling provider as part of the QA file, for a period of time of three (3) years, consistent with the requirements of **102.1.3.8.2**.

603.1.9 Quality Assurance. Accredited Sampling Providers shall comply with the rating provider quality assurance procedures contained in Chapter One of this standard.

603.1.9.1 Minimum QA requirements. For the purpose of the quality control requirements in 102.1.3.8, all homes that are qualified by the use of sampling shall be considered to be rated homes. QA file review and field monitoring shall be conducted on a percentage of all the homes certified or qualified under sampling, rather than the percentage of tested and inspected homes.

603.1.9.2 The field QA required in 102.1.3.8 may be conducted on any of the qualified or certified homes within the sample sets, and shall not be limited to the tested and inspected homes.

603.1.9.3 The provider's QA designee shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with the sampling process (603) and maintaining records in accordance with the requirements of **102.1.3.8.2**

604 ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

604.1 Sampling Provider/Rater Minimum Requirements. All sampling providers shall be accredited by RESNET as a Home Energy Rating Provider.

604.1.1 In order to be eligible to be a sampling provider, the RESNET accredited rating provider shall complete a minimum of twenty-five (25) confirmed ratings that have been documented to be accurate by the rating provider's quality assurance designee.

604.1.1.1 Exception: A Provider who has been implementing a sampling process for certifying homes in a specific metropolitan area under the EPA's Energy Star for Homes program as of January 1, 2006, will be allowed a one time exception to 604.1.1 for that metropolitan area.

604.1.2 The sampling provider shall demonstrate to RESNET a minimum insurance coverage of \$1,000,000 in general liability coverage and \$1,000,000 in professional liability coverage.

604.1.3 Sampling providers participating in sampling shall be required to ensure that the specifications for the minimum rated features for the sampled homes be communicated to the personnel or trades responsible for completing the work.

604.1.4 Builders shall not certify or qualify homes in which they have a financial interest, using the sampling standard.

604.2 Certification Standards. Certification and recertification of raters responsible for sampling inspections shall meet the minimum requirements for raters contained in Chapter Two of this standard.

604.3 Minimum Standards For Sampling Provider's Operation Policies and Procedures. Minimum Standards for Sampling Provider's Operation Policies and Procedures must be written and provide for the following:

604.3.1 Field inspections and tracking of all homes in the sampling control set for verifying threshold technical specifications and tracking failures and re-inspections.

604.3.2 Blower Door Testing completed for sample sets in which the threshold specification include credit for reduced air infiltration lower than the default value.

604.3.3 Duct testing completed for sample sets in which the threshold specifications include credit for reduced air distribution system leakage lower than the default value.

604.3.4 Written Sampling Inspector discipline procedures that includes progressive discipline involving Probation - Suspension – Termination.

605 ACCREDITATION PROCESS

605.1 Sampling Provider Accreditation.

605.1.1 Sampling Provider accreditation will be through the Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET).

605.1.2 Sampling Providers must meet the accreditation criteria listed above and must maintain their status as accredited Home Energy Rating Providers in good standing.

605.1.3 Sampling provider's accreditation must annually be renewed by RESNET.

605.2 National Registry of Accredited Sampling Providers. The Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET) will maintain the national registry of accredited Sampling Providers and will post it on its web site.

605.3 Path to Sampling Provider Accreditation.

605.3.1 RESNET Review. An entity seeking accreditation must file its application with RESNET. RESNET shall appoint a Sampling Accreditation Review Committee to review applications for sampling provider accreditation.

605.3.2 Confidentiality of Information. Any Sampling provider submitting the required application information and desiring to have certain information treated as confidential in order to limit disclosure shall, at the time of submission, attach a statement specifying the proprietary information and requesting confidentiality.

605.3.3 Review and Notification.

605.3.3.1 Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the completed application, RESNET staff will do an initial review of the application and forward to the Sampling Accreditation Review Committee.

605.3.3.2 Within forty five (45) days of receipt of a complete application, the Sampling Accreditation Review Committee will review the submission for compliance to the accreditation standards set forth within and either, forward the application and review checklist to RESNET and notify the applicant of this

action, or forward to the applicant a request for additional information or clarification.

605.3.3.3 Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the recommendation of the Sampling Accreditation Review Committee, RESNET will review the submissions, make a determination of whether the applicant meets the accreditation standard, and if it does, issue a unique Sampling Provider Accreditation identification number. This initial accreditation is valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance. The accreditation will be incorporated into a national registry of accredited Sampling Providers and listed on the RESNET web site. In order to maintain currency and credibility for the registry, renewal of accreditation is required annually.

605.3.3.4 If RESNET determines that the applicant does not meet the accreditation standard, it shall inform the applicant, identify where the applicant failed to meet the accreditation standard, and inform the applicant its right of remedy.

604.3.4 Responsibilities of Accredited Sampling Providers. The accredited Sampling Provider is responsible for ensuring that all of the Sampling inspections conducted and issued by the system shall comply with all of the criteria by which the system was accredited.

606 RENEWAL

606.1 Sampling Provider Application for Renewal. Accredited Sampling Providers must submit an "Application for Renewal" no later than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to the expiration of the current accreditation period. Renewal shall be required one year after the issuance of the unique accreditation registration number by RESNET. Renewal applications will be processed in the same manner as an initial application.

606.2 Late Application. Applications received later than specified above will be processed, to the maximum extent feasible, so that the accreditation does not expire. Should the expiration date pass, the applicant will be granted an extension not to exceed thirty (30) days.

606.3 Successful Renewals. Successful renewals will be posted on the national registry and communicated to the applicant by RESNET.

606.4 Renewal Applications Extending Beyond the Grace Period. Renewals extending beyond the grace period will be noted as "pending" on the national registry and the applicant will be advised to cease representing themselves as accredited until the application receives approval.

606.5 Accreditation Not Renewed. Accredited Sampling Providers that elect not to renew or fail to meet renewal requirements will be removed from the national registry and so advised.

606.6 Appeals. A Sampling Provider whose accreditation has been revoked, and is exercising the right of appeal (see section 608 below) will be noted as pending and the Sampling Provider will be advised to cease representing themselves as accredited until the appeal is resolved.

606.7 Program Element Changes. It is the accredited Sampling Provider's responsibility to provide RESNET with any proposed changes in the program's minimum sampling inspector certification procedures, minimum inspector training standards, minimum inspector certification standards, operation policies and procedures, or other information that effects its meeting the minimum accreditation criteria. Proposed changes will be evaluated by the accrediting review body in the same manner as the original or renewal application.

607 SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION

607.1 For Failure to Correct Deficiencies of the Accredited Sampling Provider's Sampling Procedures. If RESNET determines at any time that an accredited Sampling Provider has failed to adhere to the accreditation requirements, the Sampling Accreditation Review Committee shall notify the Sampling Provider of the specified deficiencies and shall require that specific corrective action, set forth in the notification, be taken not later than thirty (30) calendar days after the date set forth in such notification.

607.1.1 In the event that the deficiencies have not been remedied, RESNET shall have the authority to immediately begin the process of suspension by issuance of a Notice of Suspension Proceedings. Such Suspension Proceedings shall follow the due process procedures contained in 607.3 below. The notice may be appealed in accordance with procedures set forth in section 608.

607.1.2 In the event that the specified deficiencies are not corrected within the application period set forth in the Notice of Suspension, a Notice of Revocation Proceeding shall be issued by the Sampling Accreditation Review Committee. Such Revocation Proceedings shall follow the due process procedures contained in section 608. below. The Notice of Revocation may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 608.

607.2 For Cause. Any Sampling Provider accredited by RESNET may have their accreditation revoked in any of the following circumstances:

607.2.1 Upon a determination by RESNET that an accredited Sampling Provider has acted in such a manner as to impair the objectivity or integrity of the accreditation program or harm the reputation of the Sampling Accreditation

Review Committee including, but not limited to submission of false information to the accreditation review body, or failure to submit to the accreditation review body any material information required to be submitted by the Sampling Provider, in accordance with obtaining or maintaining accreditation; knowingly or negligently issuing Sampling checklists that fail to meet all of the accreditation criteria; or misrepresentation by the Sampling provider in advertising or promotional materials of its accreditation status in general or with respect to any service provided by the Sampling Provider.

607.2.2 Pursuant to any of the express provisions of section 607, or any of the express provisions of the accreditation application, including but not limited to the following:

607.2.2.1 Sampling Provider goes out of business;

607.2.2.2 Sampling Provider does not re-apply at the end of existing accreditation period;

607.2.2.3 Failure to satisfy accreditation requirements on renewal;

607.2.2.4 Investigated and validated consumer complaints;

607.2.2.5 Willful misconduct;

607.2.2.6 Failure to disclose a self-serving interest.

607.2.3 Upon expiration of a Sampling Provider's right to appeal a suspension of accreditation pursuant to section 608.

607.3 Suspension/Revocation Due Process. RESNET shall comply with the following due process procedures in considering any suspension or revocation actions against an accredited Sampling Provider.

607.3.1 Notice. RESNET may, at its discretion, initiate a suspension or revocation action against an accredited Sampling Provider by providing the provider and the accrediting review body that reviewed the Sampling Provider's application written notice of the action sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the Sampling Provider. Such notice shall inform the subject Sampling Provider of the entire basis and justification for the action.

607.3.2 Contest of Proposed Suspension/Revocation. After exhausting the appeals process a respondent may contest a suspension/revocation by requesting a hearing with RESNET within 30 days of receipt of the determination of the appeal process.

607.3.3 Hearing. If the respondent files a timely response contesting the suspension/revocation and requests a hearing, RESNET will appoint an independent, unbiased, and qualified hearing officer and issue a decision on the suspension/revocation. The hearing officer will review the notice of suspension/revocation and the respondent's contest. If the hearing officer finds that the respondent's contest has raised substantiated and valid factual argument to the contrary of the proposed suspension/revocation, the respondent shall be afforded an opportunity to participate in an open and public telephonic hearing, and to submit additional documentary evidence, and rebuttal argument to any material contained in the original notice of suspension/revocation or developed during the course of the hearing officer's investigation. The notice shall be provided to the respondent by written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the rating system at a minimum of 120 days before the scheduled hearing.

607.3.4 Hearing Officer's Decision. The hearing officer shall issue a written decision on the proposed suspension/revocation that is based on all the information contained in the hearing record including statements of the factual and legal basis of the decision. If the hearing officer decides to impose suspension or revocation, the decision must include findings regarding all disputed materials, and justification for all findings. A suspension/revocation decision by the hearing officer shall take effect upon the issuance of the hearing officer's decision and the written notification of such decision to the respondent.

607.3.5 No Ex Parte Communication. No ex Parte communication between the parties and the hearing officer shall be allowed.

608 APPEALS PROCEDURES FOR APPLICATION NOT BEING APPROVED, SUSPENSION, OR REVOCATION

608.1 Notification.

608.1.1 RESNET shall notify the Sampling Provider and the accreditation review body of any decisions. Additionally, the committee shall clearly notify the Sampling Provider of the procedures and right to remedy.

608.2 Appeal

608.2.1 In the event that an accreditation application has been denied or revoked, or if the Sampling Provider has been placed on probation or suspended, the Sampling Provider shall have the right, for a period of 30 calendar days after the date of notice, to appeal to the RESNET Quality Assurance and Ethics Committee's Appeals and Ethics Subcommittee. The response shall contain all pertinent and substantive information and argument that is in contradiction to the

proposed suspension/revocation, including identification of all disputed materials and facts.

In the event that an accreditation application was not approved or the accreditation has been suspended, the home energy rating system shall have the right, for a period of 30 calendar days after the date of notice, to appeal to the RESNET Board of Directors.

608.2.1.1 An appeal shall be in writing and sent by certified mail or other method which provides evidence of delivery to the Chairman of the RESNET Quality Assurance and Ethics Committee and shall specify the basis for the appeal.

608.2.1.2 The appellant Sampling Provider may, at the time of noticing its appeal, request in writing, a hearing by the RESNET Quality Assurance and Ethics Committee's Appeals and Ethics Subcommittee. In such an event, the subcommittee shall, not later than 7 calendar days after the filing of the notice of appeal, notify the appellant home Sampling Provider of the date of the hearing, which shall be held as expeditiously as possible, but not later than 30 calendar days after the receipt of the notice of appeal.

608.2.1.3 In the event that a Sampling Provider's appeal of its probation or suspension is rejected by the RESNET Quality Assurance Committee and Ethics Committee's Appeals and Ethics Subcommittee, the Sampling Provider shall have the right, for a period of 30 calendar days after the date of the notification of the denial of the appeal to appeal to the RESNET Quality Assurance and Ethics Committee.

608.2.1.4 In the event that a Sampling Provider's appeal of its revocation is rejected by RESNET Quality Assurance and Ethics Committee, the Sampling Provider shall have the right for a period of 30 calendar days after the notification of the denial of the appeal to appeal to the RESNET Board of Directors.

609 REVISION OF ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES

609.1 Revision and Amending Sampling Accreditation Procedures. From time to time it may become necessary to revise or amend the accreditation procedures set forth in these standards. Circumstances that may lead to such revision or amendment include but are not limited to the following:

609.1.1 To respond to periodic reviews by the promulgating bodies;

609.1.2 To respond to changes in law;

609.1.3 To respond to technological innovations; and

609.1.4 To respond to proposals for change from interested parties.

609.2 Periodic Review of Accreditation Procedures. At least triennially, the provisions set forth in these accreditation procedures shall be reviewed by a Revision Evaluation Review Committee appointed by RESNET. The review committee may be composed of representatives of the EPA ENERGY STAR Homes Program, accredited home energy rating systems, and accredited Sampling Providers.

609.2.1 At a minimum, this review shall include consideration and evaluation of changes in the law, technological innovations, and comments received from interested parties.

609.3 Process for Submitting Proposals to Change Accreditation Procedures.

609.3.1 Proposals to change these accreditation procedures may be submitted in writing, at any time, to RESNET.

609.3.2 All proposals to change that meet the criteria set forth in this section of these procedures shall be accepted for consideration and evaluation.

609.3.3 Proposals to change these accreditation procedures shall include the following:

609.3.3.1 Identification of the proposal to change, including the following minimum information:

609.3.3.1.1 Proponent(s) full name(s),

609.3.3.1.2 Organizational affiliation(s) or representation(s),

609.3.3.1.3 Full mailing address(es),

609.3.3.1.4 Daytime phone number(s),

609.3.3.1.5 Signature of primary proponent, and

609.3.3.1.6 Date

609.3.4 Specific revisions to the procedures in a format that clearly identifies the manner in which the procedures are to be altered (i.e. underline/strikeout format or equivalent). Any proposal to change that does not include proposed alteration(s) shall be rejected and returned to the proponent.

609.3.5 Substantive reason(s) or justification for each proposed change. The lack of substantive justification for a proposed change may result in the return of the proposals to change to the proponent(s).

609.3.6 Supporting documentation may be needed for the reasonable evaluation of the proposal.

609.4 Proposals to Change these Procedures Shall be Considered and Evaluated at Least Annually.

609.4.1 The effective date of any annual revisions to these accreditation procedures shall be January 1.

609.4.2 Only those proposals to change that are received on or prior to the last working day of June shall be considered for the revisions to these accreditation procedures that may become effective on January 1 of the following year.

609.5 Accreditation Procedure Revision Process.

609.5.1 Revision to these accreditation procedures shall occur only after the relevant proposals to change have been subjected to public scrutiny and comment using the following review process:

609.5.1.1 The Revision Evaluation Review Committee shall be responsible for conducting the periodic evaluation and the annual evaluation of proposals to change through a consensus process, whereby both consenting and the non-consenting opinions are documented and incorporated as comments into each report or proposal to change.

609.5.1.2 Following initial evaluation by the Revision Evaluation Review Committee, proposals to change shall be posted on the RESNET web site for a period of not less than thirty (30) days during which public comment shall be accepted.

609.5.1.3 Following the public comment period, the Revision Evaluation Review Committee shall meet to reconcile public comments with the initial comments of the Revision Evaluation Committee and, if changes are determined necessary, a final set of recommended changes with consensus comments that considers public comments shall be prepared on each proposal for change.

609.5.1.4 Proposals for change receiving two-thirds majority support from the Revision Evaluation Review Committee after public comment shall be incorporated into a set of revised accreditation procedures.

609.5.2 The revised accreditation procedures shall be published on the RESNET web site and submitted to the original adopting members of these accreditation procedures not later than the end of September each year in which changes are recommended.

610 EFFECTIVE DATES

610.1 April 1, 2007 – All sampling providers must submit the new Sampling Provider Application to RESNET for review and approval.

610.2 July 1, 2007 – New Standard must be implemented by all raters and providers.