

Radon Informed Consent/Consent To Perform Work

Agency	
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Client Name:	Job Number:
Address:	City:
Phone Number:	

NATIONAL RADON STUDY INFORMATION

I understand that the Health & Safety of the home/building, the occupants and the Weatherization providers is a priority of the Nebraska Weatherization Assistance Program. In 2011 the U.S. Department of Energy's Oakridge National Laboratory conducted a national field study of indoor air quality parameters in homes treated under the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). The study involved testing and monitoring 514 single-family homes (including manufactured homes) located in 35 states. The results of the nation-wide testing, deploying 7-day, activated charcoal canisters to measure radon levels, provided the following key findings:

- The average single-family home in the program has a heating-season indoor radon level of 1.9 ± 0.1 pCi/L.
- Pre-weatherization radon levels are correlated with pre-weatherization air tightness or tighter homes tend to have higher radon levels.
- Elevated radon levels are relatively rare in mobile homes and in site-built homes in counties identified by EPA as having low radon potential.
- The data suggests that weatherization results in a small, statistically significant (in absolute terms) increase in indoor radon levels. Nationally, the study data suggest an average increase of 0.4 ± 0.2 pCi/L.
- The impact of weatherization on radon appears to be generally proportional to pre-weatherization levels: homes with low pre-existing radon levels, which constitute the majority of program homes, experience only a slight increase in radon levels on average, while homes with pre-existing elevated radon levels experience a larger than average increase following weatherization.
- On average, the radon impact is largest among site-built homes in EPA high-radon-potential counties, and lowest among mobile homes and homes in low-radon potential counties.
- Changes in measured air-leakage rates due to air-sealing efforts, which are intended to reduce air infiltration and yield energy savings, were found to be statistically correlated with changes in radon levels in study homes.
- The study provides some evidence that the installation of continuous mechanical ventilation reduces radon levels in homes.

More results on the national study can be found at the following website:

http://weatherization.ornl.gov/Retrospectivepdfs/ORNL_TM-2014_170.pdf

PRECAUTIONARY WEATHERIZATION MEASURES THAT CAN/WILL BE IMPLEMENTED

The following radon precautions will be implemented in **all** weatherized homes to reduce the possibility of exacerbating any potential radon issues:

- Whenever site conditions permit, exposed dirt floors within the pressure/thermal boundary will be covered.
- Existing sumps will be air sealed to allow drainage but still reduce radon effects.
- Accessible, visible openings or cracks in below-grade walls and floors that contact the ground will be caulked and sealed.
- Other precautions may include, but are not limited to:
 - sealing any observed floor and/or foundations penetrations,
 - isolating the basement from the conditioned space, and
 - ensuring crawlspace venting is installed.

In **all** weatherized homes equipped with active radon mitigation systems the following additional radon precautions will be implemented

- Verifying that the radon vent fan is operating.
- If a previously installed radon mitigation system is not operating correctly, the client will be advised to consult the system installer or the state radon office.

WEATHERIZATION BENEFITS

Participants in weatherization programs are the recipients of **both** energy related and non-energy related. Some of the non-energy related benefits include 1) water and sewer savings, 2) increased property value and 3) shut-offs and reconnection avoidance. Additionally there are health and safety benefits that can include 1) improved comfort, 2) fewer illnesses, 3) fewer fires and 4) improves protection against the effects of carbon monoxide.

RADON INFORMED CONSENT

I have read (or had explained) the above statements and I consent to permit the Weatherization program provider to enter my property and perform the required Health & Safety assessments.

I have received the EPA's *A Citizen's Guide to Radon* with information regarding what radon is, the health effects exposure can have on people and discussed the radon related risks with the agency representative.

Sign Here  _____ Date _____
Client Signature

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Agency Representative Signature

CONSENT TO PERFORM WORK

☐ This is a program funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and/or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide assistance to low income homeowners by making their homes more energy efficient. The goal of the program is to help low income people reduce their fuel bills by lowering their energy consumption. It is a onetime only service and the work performed is of a permanent nature. After final inspection, the measures implemented become my personal property and it is my responsibility to maintain and repair installed measures to keep the building systems in working condition.

Weatherization materials may include, but are not limited to, the following items: insulation, caulking, glazing, weatherstripping, thresholds, door sweeps, primary doors and primary windows, pipe wrap, water heater blankets, venting, minor repairs and glass replacement. The decisions concerning material type and quantity shall be the responsibility of the Agency providing the service. The determination for the type of work to be implemented on your home is solely based on the completion of an inspection and an energy audit that assesses how much money can be saved with implementation and work provides a cost-effective savings-to-investment ratio (SIR).

I have read (or had explained) the above statements and I consent to permit the Weatherization program provider enter my property and perform these services on my home.

Sign Here  _____ Date _____
Client Signature

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Agency Representative Signature

This material was prepared with the support of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program Grant. However, any opinions findings conclusions or recommendations expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of DOE.