



1000 Home Challenge  
www.1000HomeChallenge.org



**Imagine** if a thousand homes in North America reduced their energy use by 70 percent or more. It might seem like only a drop in the bucket considering there are 135 million households in the United States and Canada. On the other hand, those first one thousand homes achieving deep energy reductions could be the most important milestone in the revolution happening in residential energy performance.

- Are you convinced that we need to make drastic changes in residential energy use?
- Are you prepared to think radically about what can be accomplished?
- Can you commit to rolling up your sleeves and doing the hard work necessary to create real change?

**If so, you may be a great candidate for joining the Thousand Home Challenge (THC).**

The confluence of political, social, environmental, economic, and technical awareness of global climate change makes a compelling case to re-examine our assumptions regarding the degree to which energy use can be reduced in homes, and the speed at which this change needs to occur. The issue is not whether deep reductions are necessary, but how to define and support this vision. The Thousand Home Challenge is designed to catalyze this transformation.

The goal of the Thousand Home Challenge is to demonstrate the potential to reduce total annual site energy consumption of existing North American homes by 70 percent or more. These reductions will be achieved through a combination of energy efficiency, renewable resources, community-based solutions, and behavioral choices.

Given its exceptional role within the building science and home performance communities, Affordable Comfort, Inc. (ACI) is uniquely positioned to lead this collaborative grassroots effort to demonstrate order-of-magnitude deep energy reductions in US and Canadian homes.

**The Thousand Home Challenge is Big and Bold:** By redefining achievable levels of energy use in existing homes, the Thousand Home Challenge will empower citizens, professionals, and communities to reach and verify integrated solutions to the problems of housing affordability and durability, climate change, and environmental sustainability.

**The Thousand Home Challenge Integrates Human and Technical Solutions:** Occupants and communities are an integral part of existing home energy performance, and the THC is unique in encouraging and evaluating how people and communities can achieve creative solutions to reduce

home energy use – in conjunction with enclosure upgrades, equipment efficiency, and renewable sources.

**The Thousand Home Challenge Stimulates Technical Innovation:** The big bold nature and continental scope of the THC will create and catalyze opportunities for market penetration of market-ready emerging technologies as well as development of new residential building products and components, assemblies, controls and integrated systems.

**The Thousand Home Challenge Builds Capacity of Citizens, Professionals, & Institutions:** With regional collaboratives and replicable house retrofit packages, the THC has the potential for accelerated employment, including the opportunity to help develop a nonexportable green collar workforce.

## **TIMELINE**

### **PILOT (2009-2012)**

- Recruit sponsors, collaborators, and participants
- Develop THC threshold calculator and performance criteria
- Draft Thousand Home Challenge planning/guidance documents
- Launch Thousand Home Challenge website (Summer 2010)
- Begin to document deep energy reduction case studies

### **LAUNCH (2013)**

- Ongoing revision of planning/guidance documents incorporating lessons learned
- Document and share case studies and documented energy savings
- Stimulate development of regional coalitions
- Outreach to media and the greater public

### **ONGOING (2013 & Beyond)**

- Thousand Home Challenges between communities, cities, and regions that focus on housing market segments with the greatest need and benefits

**For additional information, contact**

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