

## ENSURING A QUALIFIED APPRAISER FOR YOUR HOME

Your home has higher energy efficiency or green standards than many others on the market. It should be more comfortable to live in and have lower monthly energy bills. Homes built to the 2012 or 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) are 15-16% more efficient than those built to the 2009 IECC or earlier. Some of your home features may include:

- More wall and ceiling insulation to keep conditioned air inside your home
- Windows that keep the heat out in the summer months to improve comfort
- Fewer drafts and air leaks, which improve indoor comfort
- Or, you may have a home built well before the new code but have invested in energy or green retrofits that makes your home more efficient than other homes built during the same time frame.

### ***What You Need To Know Regarding the Loan/Appraisal Process***

Some lenders randomly assign an appraiser to estimate the value of a home. However, yours is not a typical home if it is a higher-performing building or one with unique green features. Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and FHA require that appraisers be appropriately qualified to appraise the specific property in the assignment. If you do not clearly identify the property as a special property type requiring an appraiser properly qualified in the valuation of energy efficient, high-performance homes, you may risk that an appraiser without the necessary qualifications will be chosen and that appraiser may not take these features into account.

### ***What You Need to Do***

Provide your lender with these things provided to you by the builder, homeowner, energy rater, green certification, or complete HERS Report:

- The lender letter regarding this special property type and the need for an appraiser properly qualified to value energy efficient, high-performing homes.
- The Appraisal Institute's Residential Green and Energy Efficiency Addendum, completed, if possible, with the assistance of the builder, energy rater, or green rater.
- The Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Report (if available)
- Home Energy Score Report (A rating of 1-10; *applicable for existing homes only*).