

Setting Energy Data Free: Unlocking Access to Home Energy Use Data

Under the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, federal, provincial and territorial governments agreed to work together with the aim of **requiring labelling of building energy use by as early as 2019**.

One of the activities being undertaken to achieve this aim is to **open access to data** on home energy use to support efforts by provinces, territories, and municipalities.

The Data

Natural Resource Canada's EnerGuide database contains data on housing characteristics and energy ratings obtained **from over a million** EnerGuide home evaluations across Canada.



What is Open Data?

Open Data is defined as **complete, available, and accessible datasets which can be re-used and re-distributed without restriction**.

Open Data is a common priority across federal, provincial and territorial governments, and many municipalities.

Open Data supports....

- Innovation
- Evidence-based policy-making and program design
- Informed decision-making by consumers
- Research
- Development of consumer and commercial products

Setting Energy Data Free

This year, Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) partnered with the Canadian Digital Service (Treasury Board Secretariat) to build an **application programming interface (API)** to open access to the EnerGuide Home Energy Ratings data.



The API **acts like a "server"** - bringing requested information between the EnerGuide dataset and any web interface that seeks to retrieve and display the data.

New Opportunities

Open access to EnerGuide data can:

- Support governments in **designing energy efficiency policy and programs**
- Enable **research**, data layering and innovative practices

- Strengthen **energy literacy**
- Enhance transparency on the **hidden costs of energy**
- Provide important information for **homeowners and homebuyers**



For Example...

- A realtor could **connect EnerGuide ratings** and/or other home information to an MLS listing
- A researcher could **aggregate data** by city or by three-digit postal code
- A homebuyer could estimate **energy costs** when they are purchasing a home



What is EnerGuide...?

An EnerGuide Home Evaluation is a service designed to help homeowners increase the energy efficiency and comfort

of their homes by providing them with useful information about their homes' energy performance.

NRCan is working with federal privacy experts to open access to useful energy use data, while protecting the privacy of homeowners.

Stay Tuned....

The **My EnerGuide homeowner website** will be featured at EMMC 2019

