

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Legislators Tour the Most Energy-Efficient Home in Utah as Energy Code Update Takes Center Stage

SALT LAKE CITY—As the Utah Legislature is set to open hearings on the most up to date energy efficiency code for homes, the most energy-efficient home in the state is nearing completion. Members of the Legislature’s Business and Labor Interim Committee will tour the home at **10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 16**, to see how energy efficiency helps families cut their energy waste and save money.

Right now, most new homes in Utah are built to comply with an outdated energy code – allowing for energy-hungry homes to dominate Utah’s new home market. Utah’s new home buyers are left to fend for themselves, paying for wasted energy and increased repair costs that could be prevented by simple cost-effective energy system improvements. Next to a family’s mortgage, energy is the biggest expense of homeownership and power bills continue to rise every year.

If the Legislature adopts the latest energy efficiency energy code, new-home owners will save over 30 percent on average on their energy bills every year. In addition families can avoid expensive fixes to home energy systems, which can cost up to \$5,000 or more. On average, the latest energy code will cut energy waste in new homes by \$363 a year.

Last month, legislators heard a report from the Chairman of Utah’s Uniform Building Code Commission (UBCC), a non-partisan panel of experts in the building industry, who unanimously recommended adopting key components of the latest residential energy code.

The proposed energy codes not only help families keep their hard-earned incomes, but also put people back to work. Insulation manufacturers, distributors, retailers and residential efficiency professionals welcome energy code improvements and the job creation that will ensue in Utah’s growing energy economy.

The Most Energy-Efficient Home in Utah. State Rep. Brian Doughty and other members of the Utah Legislature will visit and learn about what Utah Clean Energy believes will be the Most Energy Efficient Home in Utah, under construction right now at Garbett Homes’ [Terra Sol](#). [The homes at TerraSol are gorgeous and packed with fantastic features](#), including: solar panels, solar thermal, geothermal, low-emittance windows to reduce lost heat, advanced insulation, advanced air exchangers, and more.

WHEN: 10 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 16.

WHERE: [TerraSol](#), 300 E. Penny Ave. (3550 S.), South Salt Lake. ([Google Map](#)). (Follow the signs. Meet at model home and walk to home under construction.)

WHO:

- **State Rep. Brian Doughty** and other members of the Legislature
- **Brent Ursenbach**, member of UBCC Mechanical Advisory Committee
- **Kevin Emerson**, Utah Clean Energy
- **Rene Oehlerking**, Garbett Homes, builder of the most energy-efficient home in Utah