1. Realistic Budget Expectations

Adding a DER measure at the time of re-roofing, re-siding, and basement fit-out is a terrific opportunity to cost-effectively improve the performance, comfort, and durability of your home for decades to come. National Grid offers incentives to offset a portion of the additional cost due to adding the DER measure to the re-roofing, re-siding, and basement fit-out project.

With or without the DER measure, re-roofing, re-siding, and basement fit-outs are major upgrades to a home and require a significant financial investment. The National Grid incentive will not result in lower total cost than one would typically spend on quality installation of a new roof, exterior siding, or a basement fit-out without the DER measure.


Download DER Builder’s Guide and Deep Energy Retrofit Measure Guidelines from the National Grid DER web pages:

Massachusetts – ngrid.com/ma-deepenergyretrofit
Rhode Island – ngrid.com/ri-deepenergyretrofit

The low-resolution (6MB) version is the best for casual reading. The high resolution (106 MB) may be necessary if you want to expand the details and drawings to see more clearly. In order for your project to be eligible for a National Grid DER incentive, the DER measure must exactly match the options shown in the DER Builder’s Guide. There will be no “partial credit” incentives. The details in the DER Builder’s Guide have been carefully designed to ensure the energy performance as well as the health and safety of the occupants. National Grid will not provide incentives for construction that does not follow the DER Builder’s Guide details. There are three options for DER roofs, two options for DER exterior walls, three options for DER foundation walls, and two options for DER basement floors (slabs).

Read the sections pertaining to your roof, wall, or basement DER measure. Learn about the benefits of the different options. Familiarize yourself with the options so you will be able to have an informed conversation with your contractor. Also read the section that describes how to meet the hazardous material, mechanical ventilation, and combustion safety prerequisites (Part 1: DER Concepts - Prerequisites for High Performance Enclosure Retrofit). As a prerequisite, all participating homes must have a mechanical ventilation system that meets the current new construction building code requirements.

3. Select Your Contractor

Download the approved contractor list from the National Grid DER web page:

Massachusetts – ngrid.com/ma-deepenergyretrofit
Rhode Island – ngrid.com/ri-deepenergyretrofit

The contractors and design consultants have met the National Grid DER requirements through their company’s previous experience with high performance homes. See “2014/15 Deep Energy Retrofit Measure Guidelines” for more details.

Please note, National Grid has no contractual relationship and does not guarantee the work of the contractors and design consultants. Homeowners should use the same level of care in selecting their project team as one would with any home upgrade or maintenance project.

In order to be eligible for the National Grid DER incentive, the builder, designer, or consultant must be listed on National Grid’s DER approved contractor list. This person must have an active role on the job site throughout construction. If you wish to work with a contractor not currently included on the list, please direct them to contact Oliver Klein (email DeepEnergyRetrofit@nationalgrid.com) to discuss the requirements. New contractors are added to the list regularly.
Homeowner
Step-By-Step DER Process

Once you have selected your contractor, finalize which DER measure option you will be installing. The contractor should be able to help you complete the DER application by providing the “square footage of treated area” values. The contractor should also be able to help you select the correct DER measure option and all applicable transition details between the DER measure and the rest of the home. Please note, the names of the DER measures and transitions in the “DER Measure” worksheet of the application exactly match the names shown in the DER Builder’s Guide. The DER measures and transitions are also listed in the same order as shown in the DER Builder's Guide.

The contractor can help you confirm that you meet the hazardous material, mechanical ventilation, and combustion safety prerequisites (see Deep Energy Retrofit Measure Guidelines) in order to apply for the DER incentive. The contractor must also provide a price quote for the work.

4. Submit Application

Submit completed application via email to DeepEnergyRetrofit@nationalgrid.com.

Do not start construction or demolition. Projects that start work or demolition prior to receiving a customer agreement from National Grid will not be eligible for a performance incentive of $1.75 per cubic feet per minute (CFM50) reduced based on pre-construction and post-construction blower door tests performed by National Grid.

5. Pre-Construction Site Verification Visit

National Grid DER staff will contact you to schedule the pre-construction site verification visit. In this visit, the DER representative will perform the pre-construction blower door test, verify the square footage values, and confirm that all application DER transitions have been noted on the DER application.

6. Customer Agreement

The customer agreement will:
- Quantify the dollar amount of base incentive.
- Document that a performance incentive will be awarded based on cubic feet per minute (CFM50) reduced based on pre-construction and post-construction blower door tests performed by National Grid.
- Specify which DER measure and design option must be installed per the DER Builder's Guide specification in order to be eligible for the incentive.
- Specify the time frame in which the work must be completed.
- Specify the point at which the during-construction site verification visit must be performed.
  - Two weeks notice must be provided to schedule this visit.

7. Start Work

8. Schedule the During-Construction Site Verification

Schedule the during-construction site verification visit with National Grid visit at least two weeks in advance. This must be performed prior to the DER measures being covered with finish materials (drywall, siding, or roofing material). The precise point at which the site verification should occur is specified in the customer agreement (see #6).

9. Complete Project

10. Schedule the Post-Construction Site-Verification

Schedule the post-construction site verification visit with National Grid at least two weeks in advance. In this visit, the DER representative will perform the post-construction blower door test, verify the square footage of the treated areas, and confirm that all application DER measures and transitions have been installed. If applicable, a combustion safety test will be performed.

11. Incentive is Mailed to Homeowner

Once the post-construction site verification report is complete and all work has been verified as compliant, the incentive check will be mailed to the homeowner.