

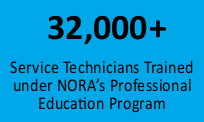
**National Oilheat Research Alliance (NORA), 25C Energy Efficiency Home Improvement Credit & The Energy Choice Act**

# Background

Congress authorized NORA in 2000 to facilitate the liquid heating industry’s efforts to lower emissions and provide more reliable home heating and hot water to six million homes. NORA receives $0.002 at the wholesale level on every gallon of liquid heating fuel sold in the 21 states who voluntarily participate in the NORA program. NORA receives no federal or state appropriations and is 100% industry funded. As mandated by Congress, NORA directs annual fee receipts to support (1) Consumer Education, Safety & Training; (2) Research, Development & Demonstration; and (3) Heating Oil Efficiency & Upgrade Program.

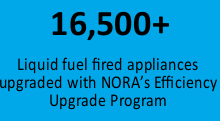
# NORA Initiatives

# Consumer Education, Safety & Training

**Technician Certification Program—certifications, continuing education & workforce training for entry-level & experienced liquid fuel service technicians**

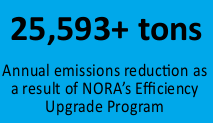
* Recognized Technician Certification for the liquid heating fuels industry
* NORA Silver Certification is required to practice in New Hampshire, Vermont and Putnam County, NY
* Online & in-person training at State association training centers, technical high schools & community colleges
* NORA Bronze apprenticeship program offers a professional pathway for student and entry-level technicians

# Research, Development & Demonstration (RD&D)

**NORA’s RD&D results deliver consumer products that reduce emissions & lower energy costs for hardworking Americans.**

* Bioheat® fuel, an efficient and direct path to lowering emissions from homes
* Advanced heating systems that can operate with renewable biofuels
* Advanced research for storing, handling and utilizing alternative fuels
* Partnering with appliance manufacturers to advance efficiency, operability, & safety of home heating systems
* NORA’s RD&D activities are conducted at the Country’s first liquid heating fuels research center in Plainview, NY

# Heating Oil Efficiency & Upgrade Program

**Heating Appliance Upgrade Program—helping thousands of homeowners upgrade**

**to a more efficient heating system.**

NORA has completed over 16,500 upgrades in 21 states. Since January, 2021 upgrades have resulted in:

* Over 1.75 million gallons of total fuel savings each year due to the upgrade
* More than $6.3 million in total fuel cost savings each year due to the upgrade
* Nearly 25,593 metric tons of total CO2 emissions each year due to the upgrade

# “The Ask”

# Support NORA Reauthorization

**NORA reauthorization is crucial for the liquid fuel heating industry to continue providing consumers with advanced alternative fuels, innovative technologies, and cost-savings.** NORA has enjoyed bipartisan and bicameral support since its initial authorization in 2000.

* We urge Congress to provide a five-year extension of NORA by amending section 713 of the *National Oilheat Research Alliance Act of 2000* (42 U.S.C. 6201 note; Public Law 106–469) to strike “28 years” and insert “33 years.”
* An extension through October 1, 2035, provides NORA with the needed certainty to continue long-term research and development, real estate leases, education training certifications, and partnerships.

# Support Inclusion of the 25C Energy Efficiency Home Improvement Credit or Eliminate The Home Electrification and Appliances Rebate (HEAR) Program in the Reconciliation Bill

* Unfortunately, the House Ways and Means Committee draft tax legislation terminates the Home Efficiency Tax Credit (25C) after December 31, 2025. This credit currently provides 30% of the cost of installation for qualified home efficiency improvements including oil-fired furnaces and boilers which are eligible for up to $600 if they meet 2021 ENERGY STAR® specifications and are designed for use with high blends of renewable fuels.
* Unfortunately, the House Ways and Means Committee draft does not repeal the Home Electrification and Appliances Rebate (HEAR) Program (IRA Sec. 50122) which offers up to $14,000 per home, including up to $8,000 for qualified heat pump systems. The draft bill also preserves the whole-home efficiency rebate program (IRA Sec. 50121) and Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program (IRA Sec.60114) which creates an unlevel playing field between home heating energy sources.
* EMA urges lawmakers to either scrap the Residential Electrification Rebate Program, the whole-home efficiency rebate program and Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program to level the playing field between all energy sources or restore the 25C Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit.

# Support the *Energy Choice Act*

**The *Energy Choice Act* would ensure Americans can maintain their preferred energy source, promoting market competition and an all-of-the-above energy approach.**

The legislation would:

* Prohibit states or local governments from discriminating against types or sources of energy through bans on an energy service's connection, reconnection, modification, installation, or expansion.
* Allow Americans to select the heating solution best suited for their household and budget.
* Maintain the availability of more energy efficient fuels like biomass-based diesel and renewable diesel.

(*Committees: House and Senate Agriculture Committees, House Energy & Commerce Committee, Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee)*

**EMA Staff Contact:** Rob Underwood, [runderwood@emamerica.org,](mailto:runderwood@emamerica.org) Austin Harrison, [Austin.harrison@squirepb.com](mailto:Austin.harrison@squirepb.com)