



Building Efficiency Targeting Tool for Energy Retrofits (BETTER) v.1.7.3 Web Application (APP) and Application Programming Interface (API) Release Plan

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This document provides a description of the changes to the BETTER APP and API associated with the release of v.1.7.3 that may have implications for API users. The document adheres to the protocols for releasing new versions of the BETTER API as documented in the [BETTER API Versioning Protocol](#) and the [BETTER API Versioning: Technical Implementation document](#). This document provides the following information for BETTER API and APP users: overview; changes and impacts for users; release timeline; stakeholder communication plan; and an appendix with details on the new API endpoints.

1. Overview

- a. **Brief Description:** BETTER v1.7.3 will include updates related to the energy efficiency measure (EEM) data model, API, user interface (UI) improvements, and minor bug fixes. See Section 2 for details.
- b. **Target v.1.7.3 Release Date on [Production Server](#):** 2025-3-31
- c. **[BETTER API Versioning Protocol](#) API Update Type:** API patches and small bug fixes and **APP Update Type:** Minor APP change

2. Changes and Impacts for Users

	Description	Impacts
Data Models (GitHub PR)	Added a new optional user-notes field to the Building model.	No impact on existing users.
API (GitHub PR)	- Added API output taxonomy for building and portfolio analytics. - Improved error handling for several API endpoints.	No impact on existing API connection. The taxonomy aims to help users interpret the API outputs. The error handling provides more informative error messages for users to debug

		their code.
UI and Docs	Added a new zip-download option for portfolio analytics. Users can now download the portfolio analytics and all child building analytics report in a zipped file and open them locally Market pages updates, including: • API docs • Changelog • News	N.A.
Others	Updated the eGrid factors.	The GHG emission reduction estimation will use the updated factors in the calculation.

3. Release Timeline

- Available on [development server](#): 2025-1-20
- Available on [staging server](#): 2025-1-20
- Available on [production server](#): 2025-3-31

4. Stakeholder Communication Plan

- Send initial notification to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Standard Energy Efficiency Data (SEED) platform team about the upcoming release (2025-1-27).
- Notify all API users about the release timeline via the following channels (2025-3-31):
 - Update BETTER [Changelog](#)
 - Update BETTER [News](#) page