

## Energy House Five Æ Update

### Foundation is installed



Energy House Five is rolling along. Our last update was on the deconstruction of the original building and how that process can work to make money for the homeowner while recycling more than 80% of the original home's materials as well helping a nonprofit that hires hard-to-place workers. If you missed that update you will find it on our site in the Energy House Five tab.

Once the house has been deconstructed the next step in the process is to prepare the site for the foundation. This foundation was more than 2000 square feet and was intended to have a 10 foot ceiling. The foundation is poured concrete and was installed by Federal Contracting who is building Energy House Five and doing an excellent job.

The foundation process is straight-forward after the original home was removed along with the foundation and its utility connections, the site is prepared for the most important aspect of a home's construction the foundation. The reason it is called the most important is because if it is not done correctly, level and square, the rest of the building process will struggle to make up those inconsistencies all the way through.

#### The Foundation Process

Have a professional survey company come out and stake the site so the foundation is placed properly from the approved site plan by the city or county of jurisdiction.

Have your general contractor hire an experienced excavation contractor to do the actual digging of the site. This is important so that the foundation is placed exactly where it needs to be situated and that the proper amount of soil that is removed is either hauled away or left on the lot so that it can be used to backfill around the new house. The right excavator can save you big money if they are able to calculate the quantity of soil required so you do not pay to haul away dirt and then have to pay to bring dirt back in. This can cost you thousands of dollars if you do not have a qualified excavation contractor.



The next step in the process is to have the chosen concrete company come to the site and install the forms for the footers that the foundation will be sitting upon. This step is once again determined by the approved site plan that was done by the site engineer for the home. Energy House Five was very well represented by a local engineering firm, RC Fields, which is one of the oldest and best engineering firms in the area. Rob Weinig did an excellent job and for all of us who worked on Energy House Five, and we would highly recommend RC Fields for all your engineering needs

Once the footers are installed for both the walls and the necessary support piers for things like chimneys and the interior columns to support the upper floors of the home they are poured by the concrete company and allowed to cure and harden.

The concrete company will then return and place the foundation forms on the footers so that the basement walls can be poured.



The actual pouring of the concrete on Energy House Five was done by Federal Contracting with a concrete pump truck rather than just being poured by a cement truck. This ensured that the pour was perfect with the proper amount of compacted concrete reaching corners of the foundation so no fissures or cracks occurred once the forms were stripped and removed. It was done excellently by Federal Contracting and their subcontractors.



Once the concrete pour is complete, it is given a few days to set and harden and then the forms are stripped and we have foundation walls. Another wall check is done by the engineering company to make sure all is in its exact location and the next step is to pour the concrete slab floor.



The foundation process took the general contractor approximately 30 days given spring weather conditions. The foundation was very well done and is an absolute success in the construction process so far.

**Next Energy House Five Update To Come – Geothermal Wells Are Installed**



