

ENCOURAGING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT HOMES -  
A UTILITY PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

Historically an industry with a supply side orientation, electric utilities are becoming increasingly involved with the end usage, or demand side, of their product as a means of effectively managing their systems.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) has been actively involved in a variety of demand side energy conservation and management programs since 1977. One such program designed to encourage the construction of energy-efficient new housing in the Tennessee Valley now offers, through local electric power distributors, cash incentive payments to the builders and buyers of energy-efficient new homes.

This paper discusses key features of the program and the rationale of a utility's involvement in encouraging energy-efficient construction.