

# What is the Power Smart New Home Program?



Our Power Smart New Home Program encourages builders and developers to build an energy-efficient home – a Power Smart home. Working with builders and developers, BC Hydro Power Smart wants to create homes that cost less to operate and are more comfortable places to live.



## The offer

Builders who build to Power Smart New Home standards receive:

Financial incentives\* for the home's EnerGuide rating and the installation of ENERGY STAR® appliances

Promotional opportunities and funding

Power Smart branding for the home

Power Smart Branding	
	For a home that achieves a rating of EG 80. These homes use less energy than the typical home built in today's market.
	For a home that achieves a rating of EG 77.

*\*The incentive amount is subject to available funding. See a developer representative for details.*

## Did you know?

Customers who purchase a Power Smart home may be eligible for a 10% refund on their mortgage loan insurance premium from the [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation \(CMHC\)](#).

## In the spotlight

Be sure to attend the CaGBC conference June 8 to 10, 2010 in Vancouver, "Performance Matters: The next generation of buildings & communities". [Register today](#).

**Passive Design Toolkit available**

## Who qualifies

The Power Smart New Home Program is designed for residential builders and developers of single family homes, town homes, or qualifying low-rise multi-family residential buildings.

## Builder benefits

Set your development apart in a crowded marketplace.

In a competitive market, every distinguishing feature helps. When buying a Power Smart home, homeowners know they will enjoy increased comfort and decreased operating costs for the lifetime of the home.

Benefits include:

- Promotion of your housing development on our website;
- On-site energy efficiency evaluations to improve building envelope performance;
- Financial incentives to reduce your upgrade costs;
- The reputation of the Power Smart brand recognized and valued by consumers.

## How can your company participate?

1. Conduct a pre-construction evaluation.
  - Get house plans evaluated by a Certified Energy Advisor who will make recommendations to increase the performance rating of the home.
2. Construct the home(s).
3. Conduct a post-construction verification.
  - After construction, a blower door test is conducted by the Certified Energy Advisor to verify the air changes per hour (ACH), which is inputted into the software program for a final performance rating.
4. Apply for incentives and a Power Smart label. The home receives a Power Smart label when an EGNH 77 rating or higher is achieved.
  - To submit to BC Hydro, download and complete the application form:
    - [Single Family Dwelling and Row/Townhouse](#) [PDF, 363 Kb]

For further information, view the City of Vancouver's [Passive Design Toolkit Best Practices for Large Buildings](#) document [PDF, 3.2 Mb] and City of Vancouver's [Passive Design Toolkit Best Practices for Homes](#) document [PDF, 4.9 Mb]

## See also

[Features of a Power Smart New Home](#)

- [Apartments and Condominiums](#) [PDF, 388 Kb]

## Who else is participating in the Power Smart New Home Program?



Now more than ever potential new home buyers are interested in purchasing homes that have a smaller environmental footprint, have lower energy costs and great comfort. Check out these [developments](#) who are participating in the Power Smart New Home program.

## Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation

Customers who purchase a Power Smart home may be eligible for a 10% refund on their mortgage loan insurance premium from the [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation \(CMHC\)](#). As of April 1, 2010, an NRCan EnerGuide (EGH) rating of 80 (previously 77) will be required on purchase transactions in order to be eligible for CMHC Green Home.

## Solar Water Heater Incentives

SolarBC provides incentives for solar hot water on homes, government buildings, First Nations, social housing and schools.

Households can access up to \$2,000, with up to \$1,375 available for builders and developers.



## Blower Door test

A [blower door test](#) is a key step in the on-site energy efficiency evaluation. After construction, a blower door test is conducted by the Certified Energy Advisor to verify the air changes per hour (ACH), which is inputted into the software program for a final performance rating. View this video to view how a blower test works.

## Contact us

A Power Smart New Home representative can discuss energy-efficient design and products with you. [Contact us](#) for more information. Our representatives will provide you with all the information you need to participate.

