



# Energy Plus New Homes Program

## What is an Energy Plus home?

An **Energy Plus home** is a home that exceeds standard building code for energy efficiency by 30 points to reach an energy efficiency score of 70 on the EnergySmart scale. ENERGY STAR® homes are required to be certified at 85 on the EnergySmart scale. Like golf, the lower the score, the better! Since your Energy Plus home will exceed ENERGY STAR® by 15 points, your Energy Plus home will not only be Energy Plus certified, it will perform better than the average ENERGY STAR® qualified home.

## What are the benefits of owning an Energy Plus home?

**Reduced carbon footprint:** Your Energy Plus home uses less energy, which means less energy production is required to power your home. As a result, your Energy Plus home has a smaller carbon footprint than the average new home, even smaller than an ENERGY STAR® certified home. In case you are wondering what *carbon footprint* means, it is defined as “the total amount of greenhouse gases produced to directly and indirectly support human activities, usually expressed in equivalent tons of carbon dioxide (CO2).” The more greenhouse gases produced, the bigger your carbon footprint.

**Energy cost savings:** Because an Energy Plus home uses less energy, homeowners will save on utilities over the long run. Energy savings vary depending on the size and features of the home, with Energy Plus being 30% more efficient than state building code requires.

**Built better:** To increase the energy efficiency in an Energy Plus new home, builders must make energy efficiency upgrades, such as sealing your air ducts, controlling air flow in and out of your home, maximizing the efficiency of air conditioning units and properly insulating walls. Once the home is completed it is tested, rated and certified by a third-party HERS® rater to insure that the upgrades meet the Energy Plus homes requirement goals. This results in a more efficient and comfortable home.

**It's Win/Win:** These enhancements add value to your home, make it more comfortable, are better for the environment and save money in utility costs over the long run.

## NV Energy/Energy Plus New Homes

NV Energy is committed to creating a more sustainable and environmentally friendly Las Vegas. Part of that initiative is NV Energy's *Energy Plus New Homes Program*. Under this program NV Energy is encouraging builders to build more energy efficient homes. NV Energy is encouraging more energy efficient building by offsetting some of the builder upgrade costs, so you end up with a win/win situation! A better built, more energy efficient and more comfortable home. With no downside to choosing an Energy Plus home, it's win/win for NV Energy, your builder of choice, the environment and you...everyone wins!

## Contact us:

### Energy Plus New Homes Program

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