### Residential Energy Efficiency

# Market Transformation of Financing



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What does *Market Transformation* mean in the context of financing energy efficiency in residential housing?

# Well-functioning market must include proper valuation of the asset – here, future savings

**Building Energy Codes** 

**Codes for Appliances and Systems** 

**Decisions based on Energy Savings** 

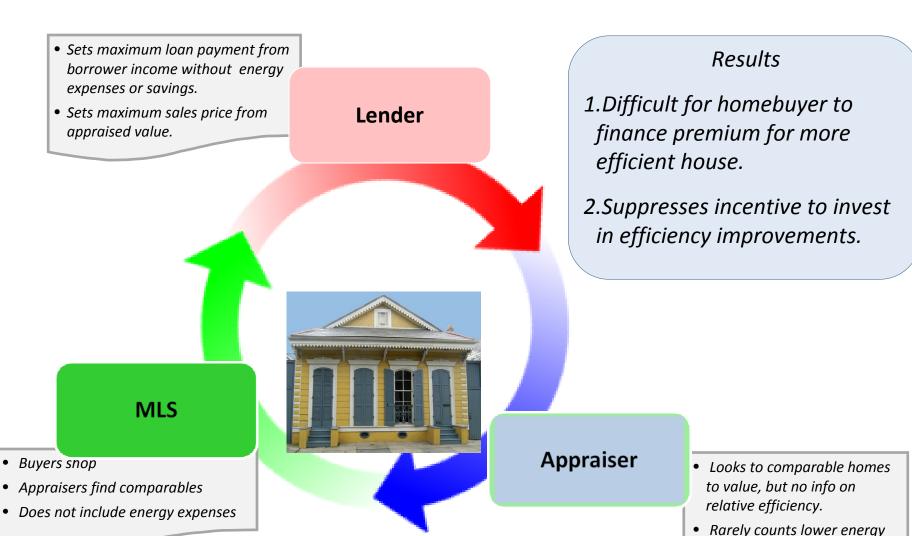
Add-on Incentives & Rebates

Marketing & Education

Present value of expected energy savings incorporated into asset values & decisions

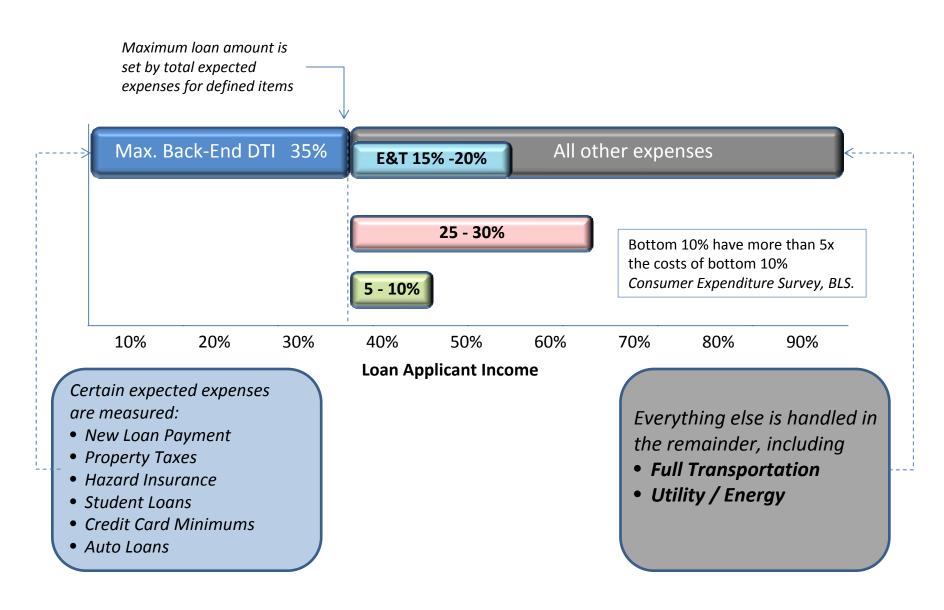


# Loan "eco-system" actively inhibits homebuyer from paying premium for future energy savings



expenses.

# Mortgage lenders assume everybody will have average energy expenses. But, in reality....



# DTI formula without energy is standard, but it's not "traditional," universal, or sacrosanct.

#### **1. FHA** (1938 to 1960s).

Lenders were required to include utility expenses in underwriting. Why did FHA drop this process? Was it to reduce lender work in era of manual underwriting?

#### 2. Commercial Loan Underwriting.

The touchstone of good underwriting is the Debt Service Coverage Ratio, which includes building owner's utility expenses.

#### 3. US Veterans Administration Mortgages.

Loan program includes an assessment of borrower's utility expenses based on square footage of the house. Loan performance in crisis exceeded expectations.

#### 4. Administration's Loan Modification Program.

Servicers collect borrower's entire household budget to determine affordability, including utility bills and transportation expenses.

### Financing markets require consistency and data

#### **Conventional mortgage products**

- Approximately \$1.4 Trillion market in 2010
- 3 very, very large players (GSEs and FHA) funnel borrowers and investors
- High degree of uniformity among loans and documents
- Standard products
- Powerful systems that enable consistency and data management

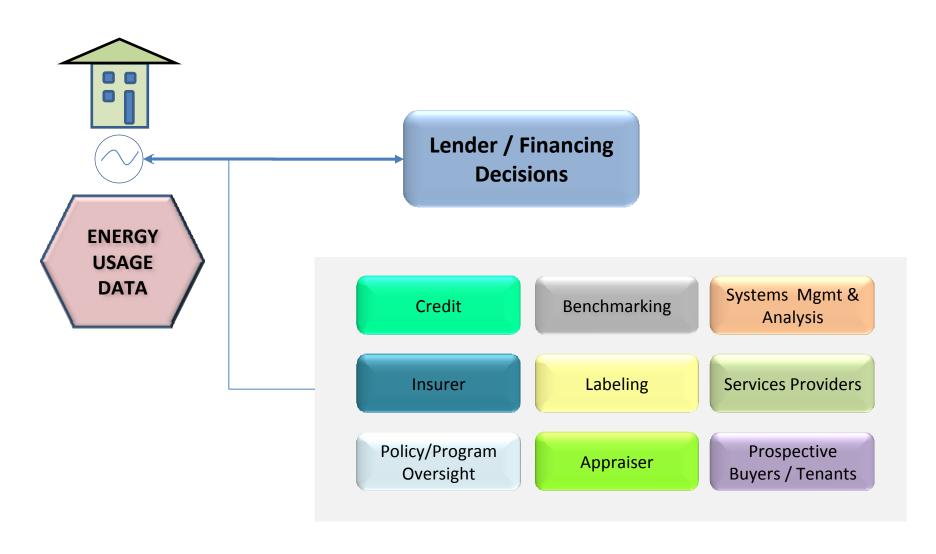
#### **Financing Energy efficiency improvements**

- Over 200 state, local, and utility loan programs. Varies state by state, loan by loan.
- Recovery Act funded ~\$670 Million in revolving loan funds and LLR
- What are differences between an "efficiency" loan and a conventional home improvement loan?

#### Investors need flow of conforming products

Array of incentives, rebates, credits can be bewildering to consumers

Systematic access to reliable information will enable assessment of efficiency for financing.



# What does market transformation mean in financing energy efficiency?

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Borrower/buyer must be able to incorporate present value of future energy savings into housing finance decisions and transactions.

- Home purchase
- Financing home improvements
- Existing infrastructure to reach borrowers and investors must adopt & embrace value of energy savings
- Systematic access to reliable information on energy usage

### Developments

- FHA's new PowerSaver pilot program.
- Legislative effort supported by builders and host of other interests ("SAVE Act")
- Fannie Mae appears to be interested.
  - Multi-family Energy Star
  - Some residential inquiry
- Dodd-Frank Act.
  - Residual Income.
  - Opportunity to do Data Collection.
- Better Buildings programs in cities/states.
  - Various loan programs
  - Data collection requirements
- Opportunity for data analysis First mortgage performance connected to efficiency

### Thank You



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