Residential Energy Efficiency Financing: Getting Customers Off the Fence

Consumers can be indecisive when it comes to making energy improvements What's stopping them?

National Energy Improvement Fund

neifund.org

What's Old, What's New and Lessons Learned

Peter Krajsa Matthew Brown Co-Chairs & Founders National Energy Improvement Fund



About the National Energy Improvement Fund

- The National Energy Improvement Fund ("NEIF') is a for-profit Pennsylvania public benefit, licensed lender specializing in contractor-driven financing programs for energy improvements to homes and businesses.
- With a lending legacy dating to 1947 (AFC First), the NEIF team has been responsible for over \$700 Million in contractor-driven energy improvement though innovative programs such as Pennsylvania's Keystone HELP.





NEIF is built on the foundational work of energy financing pioneers AFC First and Harcourt Brown & Carey



PETER KRAJSA *Co-Chair*



MATTHEW BROWN Co-Chair

Previously CEO of AFC First, a ground breaking energy efficiency lender founded in 1947 with over 6,000 participating contractors, creators of Pennsylvania's Keystone HELP, the national EnergyLoan program, and many other market-based and state and utility backed financing programs. Founder and Principal of Harcourt Brown & Carey and HBC Energy Capital, the nation's top designer of energy finance programs for states and utilities including California, Michigan and many others.



The NEIF Team Has Been Innovators in the Nation's Most Successful Energy Financing Programs

- Pennsylvania Treasury Keystone HELP
- West Penn Power Sustainable Fund
- Sustainable Energy Fund
- Building Performance Institute (BPI)
- Efficiency Maine
- Connecticut Green Bank
- Eversource
- United Illuminating
- Michigan Saves
- Energy Kinetics

- P&N Distribution (Rheem)
- PECO
- WHEEL
- FannieMae National EnergyLoan
- HUD PowerSaver
- California Treasurer & Utilities
- Kentucky Home Performance
- Maryland Clean Energy Fund
- Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility
- Illinois Energy Association

- ComEd
- Ameren
- Progress Energy
- Atas International
- Knauf Insulation

- Xcel Energy
- AEP Ohio





Residential Energy Improvement Financing



Commercial Energy Improvement Financing



Rebate Advance Funding

NEIF SUPPORTS AFFORDABLE ENERGY IMPROVEMENTS IN 3 WAYS



"Can We Afford It?"





The #1 Issue for Consumers Considering Home Energy and other Major Upgrades



THE PROBLEM:

• Even Basic Home Improvements Are Expensive

• Homeowners need \$2,500 up to \$25,000 or more to pay for replacement or upgrade of heating, air conditioning, lighting, insulation and other core remodeling projects.

Tight Budgets

 Many homeowners delay the upgrade or install the cheapest, least efficient model possible just to "get by".

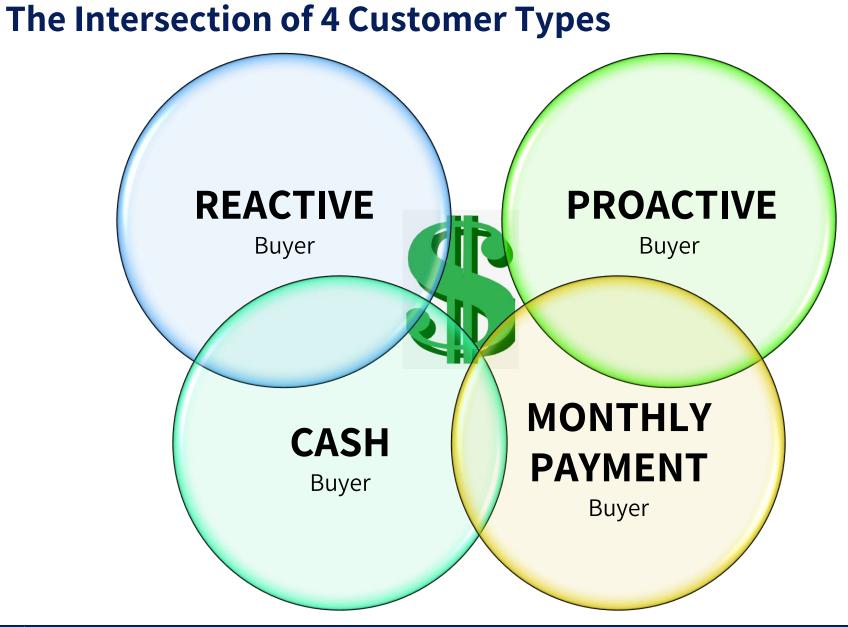


- Credit cards, short-term promotional programs, or cumbersome traditional financing don't address the needs of buyers and contractors looking for both **fast turnaround** and **longer-term affordability** for a major capital purchase
- And standard dealer finance programs can meet some consumer's needs but can end up be very expensive (and sometime even a bit deceptive) for contractors and consumers.













- 85% of all auto purchases are financed on monthly payment plans
 - Today's energy home improvements can approach the cost of a car – it is a major capital improvement
- Average American current available cash is \$3,000 to \$7,000.....What is your average installation cost?
- When is the last time you bought a car and were not presented with a monthly payment option at point of purchase?

neifund.org

• Got you thinking?



CASH Buyers vs MONTHLY PAYMENT Buyers



- If a contractor's closing rate is 40%, what's happening to the other 60% - why aren't they buying?
- Is it the Contractor's reputation?
- Is it the Price?
- In today's economy are they scared of "gimmick" financing?
- Or is it simply that they are not being given an affordable monthly payment option that comfortably fits their budget and can be potentially offset by energy savings?



Challenge Your Perception Regarding "Financing"

Does short term "Zero Percent" really increase close rates for energy efficiency and broaden and deepen the market?





- Customers who pay by credit card or who take advantage or 12 or 24 month Zero
 Percent are most likely cash customers who would have bought anyway.
- They know they already have or can get the cash to pay off these options – they are cash customers!
- There is no "free money" somebody is paying for "0" percent. Zero percent financing can cost the contractor up to 18% in fees that's \$1,800 on a \$10,000 project.
 Who is paying for that?



Programs available in Pennsylvania now and Keystone HELP 2.0 may be just around the corner

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

All homeowners who are making qualifying improvements to their primary residence or vacation home (1 to 4 unit on permanent foundation). Good credit and the ability to repay are required. All income levels are eligible.

WHAT IMPROVEMENTS QUALIFY?

The NEIF Home Energy Improvement Plan is for energy-related improvements to your home. Additional work can be included if at least 50% of the project is:

Heating & Cooling

Furnaces, boilers, heat pumps, air conditioning and all related work

- Windows, Doors, Siding & Roofing
- Air Sealing & Insulation
- Electrical, Plumbing, Kitchens & Baths including *lighting and controls, generators, water heaters, water treatment*
- Home Performance with ENERGY STAR®
- Geothermal, Solar & Other Energy Projects







When monthly payments are integrated into energy efficiency sales at point of purchase (like auto-finance) good things happen!

- More homeowners "get off the fence"
- They make larger and deeper energy retrofits
- Resulting in greater energy saving and home comfort











Contact NEIF

Peter Krajsa

Co-Chair and Founder pkrajsa@neifund.org

Laura Nelson Chief Operating Officer Inelson@neifund.org

Tessa Shin Vice President, Lending & Programs tshin@neifund.org Heather Braithwaite Vice President, Strategic Development & Rebate Bridge hbraithwaite@neifund.org Jeremy Epstein Vice President, Commercial Finance jepstein@neifund.org Teri Stoffey Vice President, Accounting & Servicing tstoffey@neifund.org

Matthew Brown

Co-Chair and Founder mbrown@neifund.org

Randy Bak

Senior Director, Business Development rbak@neifund.org (978) 766-7348

Greg Burns Director, Business Development gburns@neifund.org (207) 451-5012

Brandy Miller Brittany Heller Contractor Specialists contractors@neifund.org

National Energy Improvement Fund, LLC

Allentown PA • Denver, CO (484) 838-5460

