



American Association of Blacks in Energy

# AABE Energy Efficiency Principles

1. AABE supports enhancements to U.S. energy infrastructure through the development and implementation of technologies for energy efficiency, which optimize the utilization of domestic and foreign energy resources while promoting energy security, economic prosperity, and environmental solutions.
2. AABE is a resource for providing information and educating energy consumers from all sectors of society, with emphasis on low- and fixed-income households and small businesses, about ways to improve their efficient use of energy.
3. With increasing energy costs projected over the next twenty years and the understanding that rising energy costs hit low- and fixed-income households and small businesses the hardest, AABE believes there must be a focused national, regional, and local effort to educate and make available to all consumers a broad range of options to encourage energy efficiency.
4. AABE recognizes that in order for a broad range of energy efficiency options to be available to all consumers, governmental and commercial entities that provide residential and commercial property services to many low- and fixed-income households and small businesses will be responsible for making necessary efficiency upgrades.
5. AABE supports an aggressive campaign for promoting energy efficiency technologies, which include smart buildings, smart appliances, smart grid, and smart electric meters.
6. AABE believes that “smart technologies” can
  - a. Allow consumers to control their energy usage to save money,
  - b. Avoid wasting energy,
  - c. Control how and when appliances do their jobs,
  - d. Help utilities efficiently operate their systems and maintain reliability,
  - e. Help keep supply and demand in balance, and
  - f. Support more efficient use of generating resources.
7. AABE supports accelerated commercialization of alternative fuel vehicles, including plug-in hybrid and fully electric vehicles.
8. AABE recognizes that the transition cost of smart technologies and alternative fuel vehicles is a factor that many consumers, most notably low- and fixed-income households and small businesses, will consider before implementing a full efficiency upgrade strategy.

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9. AABE supports tax credits and other incentives for energy efficiency.
  10. AABE recognizes success on energy efficiency programs involves a partnership among energy companies, consumers, and public-policy decision-makers through continued research and development initiatives and associated funding. AABE also recognizes that such partnership involves making energy efficiency a viable, sustainable business for utilities and other energy companies.