

Background

Recognizing the issue of high energy burden for vulnerable communities across the region, TVA has worked with a stakeholder consortium since 2016 to examine ways to address energy equity. The group, the Energy Efficiency Information Exchange, consists of Local Power Companies (LPCs), city and state officials, state energy offices (including the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Office of Energy Programs (OEP)), housing agencies, non-profit partners and environmental stakeholders. The Home Uplift Program was born from the work and input of these groups. The vision was to create a sustainable, quality program to increase weatherization for low-income families across the Valley.

What are the Home Uplift objectives? (1) Provide a streamlined, efficient, scalable model for delivering weatherization services to low-income households to increase energy efficiency and comfort, and lower utility bills; (2) quantify energy and non-energy impacts of home energy efficiency upgrades; and (3) leverage LPC, state, regional and community-based financial investments.

What are the Home Uplift delivery models?

1. TVA Managed – TVA's residential program administrator, CLEAResult, manages the projects from end to end in cooperation with LPCs, local government and non-profit agencies.
2. LPC Managed – In cooperation with local government and non-profit agencies, LPC implements the projects including recruiting eligible participants, performing pre- and post-implementation audits, upgrading the systems and technologies within the home, and educating the participants on the intended operation and proper care of the systems and technologies installed.

What is the purpose of the TDEC grant? The purpose of the grant is to fund eligible energy efficiency upgrades for Home Uplift income-qualified, owner-occupied, single family homes in the Grantee's service territory. The State's contribution to Home Uplift for the LPC territory will leverage: (1) TVA funding for energy efficiency upgrades, program administration, and program evaluation, and Three³ non-energy benefits study (2) TVA funding for related health and safety measures; and/or (3) LPC funding for energy efficiency measures and program administration.

Who are the TDEC Grantees? Electric Power Board of Chattanooga (EPB), Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB), Memphis, Light, Gas & Water (MLGW), and Nashville Electric Service (NES).

How much is the grant? \$750,000 for each grantee.

How many homes will this weatherize? Approximately 90+ homes in each grantee service area; 360 homes total.

How much did TVA contribute to these projects? TVA contributed a 100% match to the TDEC grant for each LPC.

How much TVA funding will be leveraged for health and safety measures? TVA will contribute \$75,000 for each grantee.

When does the grant begin/end?

EPB – January 1, 2021 – July 1, 2022

MLGW – February 1, 2021 – August 1, 2022

KUB – March 1, 2021 – September 1, 2022

NES – April 15, 2021 – October 15, 2022

What delivery model will be employed?

- EPB – LPC Managed
- MLGW – LPC Managed
- KUB – TVA Managed
- NES – TVA Managed

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Grant FAQs



What are the eligible Home Uplift upgrades? Air sealing, duct sealing/replacement, attic insulation, water heater and pipe insulation, wall insulation, HVAC clean & tune, HVAC replacement, windows and door replacement, heat pump water heater, refrigerator, LED bulbs and low-flow showerheads.

What are participant eligibility requirements? The participant must:

- Be a residential homeowner and primary customer residing in the LPC service area;
- Currently reside in the home where the energy efficiency upgrades will be installed;
- Be of limited income status as defined by the following:
 1. EPB & MLGW- the U.S Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program Federal Income Standard (200% Federal Poverty Level);
 2. KUB- the U.S Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program Federal Income Standard (200% Federal Poverty Level) or participant's income must not exceed 80% of the median income level(s) designated by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Knoxville, Tennessee Metro Fair Market Rent Area;
 3. NES- Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Guidelines (80% of area median income)
- Be willing to undergo a Home Energy Evaluation;
- Agree to share home energy performance information with the LPC and any of the project partners and discuss non-energy benefits with Three³.