

The role of information for energy efficiency in the residential sector

A. Ramos, A. Gago, X. Labandeira, P. Linares

Abstract— In spite of the large potential and existing efforts to foster energy efficiency in the residential sector, much remains to be achieved. This may be partially due to the many barriers and market failures faced by energy efficiency, which are even greater in this sector. In particular, informational failures seem to be pervasive and relevant in this area. Addressing these issues requires specific policy instruments and strategies. This paper reviews the empirical evidence on the effectiveness of such instruments, focusing on energy certificates, feedback programs, and energy audits. Results show that energy certificates and feedback programs can be effective, but only if they are carefully designed, whereas the evidence about the effectiveness of energy audits is mixed. In addition, the paper points out the large potential for new instruments as well as combinations of existing ones.

Index Terms— Energy efficiency; information; behavior

Due to copyright restriction we cannot distribute this content on the web. However, clicking on the next link, authors will be able to distribute to you the full version of the paper:

[Request full paper to the authors](#)

If your institution has an electronic subscription to Energy Economics, you can download the paper from the journal website:

[Access to the Journal website](#)

Citation:

Ramos, A.; Gago, A.; Labandeira, X.; Linares, P.; "The role of information for energy efficiency in the residential sector", Energy Economics, vol.52, no.Suplemento 1, pp.S17-S29. December, 2015.