

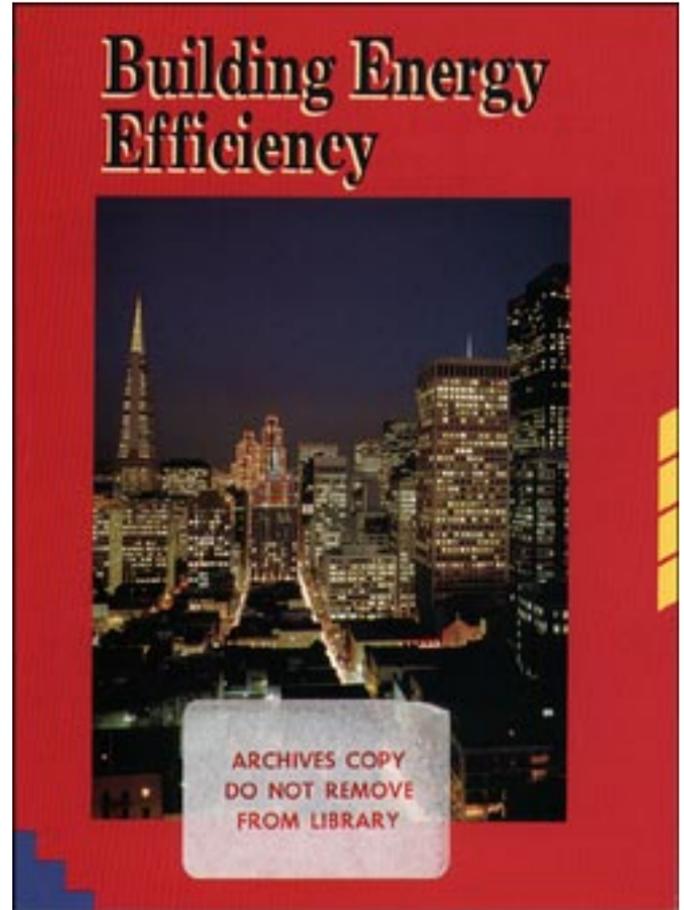
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# Foreword

This report was prepared as part of the ongoing OTA assessment, ‘ ‘U.S. Energy Efficiency: Past Trends and Future Opportunities,’ ’ carried out in response to requests from the Senate Committees on Governmental Affairs and Energy and Natural Resources; the House Committee on Energy and Commerce; and an endorsement from the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Environment of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. Other reports in this assessment examine energy use in the Federal Government, industry, transportation, and the role of utilities in energy efficiency.

This report focuses on energy use in buildings, which account for over one-third of all energy used in the United States. Significant energy savings in buildings are possible through the use of commercially available, cost-effective, energy efficient technologies; yet adoption rates for these technologies are often low. Interviews with industry, property managers, homeowners, and others were used to explore why technology adoption rates are so low. Past Federal efforts to encourage energy efficiency are reviewed, and policy options for encouraging the adoption of energy efficient technologies are discussed.

OTA benefited greatly from the substantial assistance received from many organizations and individuals in the course of this study. Members of the advisory panel provided helpful guidance and advice, interviewees helped to ensure that all perspectives were accurately portrayed, and reviewers of the draft report contributed greatly to its accuracy and completeness. OTA and the project staff sincerely appreciate their time and effort.



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NOTE: OTA appreciates and is grateful for the valuable assistance and thoughtful critiques provided by the advisory panel members. The panel does not, however, necessarily approve, disapprove, or endorse this report. OTA assumes full responsibility for the report and the accuracy of its contents.

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