



## New zero-net energy homes in Woodland

There are some new homes that use zero-energy.

From solar panels to smart meters and all the appliances in between, there's a buzz around these new apartments in Woodland that can be heard across the country.

"We took the shells of the buildings and we made them as efficient as we could."

Architect Bob Kuchman says Mutual Housing at Spring Lake isn't just energy-efficient, it's the first rental property in the nation the Dept. of Energy has certified as zero-energy.

"We got the use of electricity down and we made up the difference with solar panels," says Kuchman.

"So we would add and subtract on paper until we were at zero, which is pretty cool."

The whole zero-energy thing is kind of complicated and some people who live here aren't sure exactly how it works, they just know it's saving them a ton of money.

"In two months, it's nothing," says Marisol Sanabria. "Maybe this month... \$5 only."

That five dollars is an administrative fee, nothing compared to her \$140 electric bill.

Marisol Sanabria says the real reason these homes are priceless is because they are affordable housing, a development planned to support the families of 62 farm workers.

"It's good," says Sanabria.

"I just think the fact that Woodland has stepped up for farmworker families is fantastic in itself," says Bill Dodd, Assemblyman.

"These kids who are going to be living here, they're going to prosper," says Congressman John Garamendi.

"It is wonderful. It's wonderful for the community, it's wonderful for the economy and it will certainly be good for them."

Mutual Housing California develops housing that is affordable to a diversity of households. Our housing builds strong and stable communities through resident participation and leadership development. For more information, call (916) 453-8400 or visit our website at [mutualhousing.com](http://mutualhousing.com).