

Island families get energy overhauls on upcoming TV show

Blue Planet's Hawai'i Home Energy Makeover television special features two local homes receiving dramatic energy—and money—saving upgrades

HONOLULU— Blue Planet Foundation's "Hawai'i Home Energy Makeover" television special takes the mystery out of energy efficiency and slashes the electricity bills of two local families. The one-hour special, which premieres 7 p.m. October 18 on KGMB9, demonstrates that from Nakakuli to Kalihi, Hawaii's energy independence starts at home.

Hawai'i Home Energy Makeover co-hosts Donalyn Dela Cruz and Billy V lead viewers through the entertaining real-life journeys that each family takes as they transform their homes with energy efficient technologies. From simple "cool roof" improvements to the installation of the latest in photovoltaic systems, the special explains how simple home improvements can result in substantial savings while reducing impact on the on the planet.



Blue Planet hopes the innovative TV special inspires residents to be part of Hawaii's clean energy future. Energy independence in Hawai'i requires transformative change in the state's electricity and transportation systems. But it also means residents statewide making small changes to get the most out of the energy they use.

"We can't depend on someone else to solve Hawaii's energy problem—we each have to take responsibility for ourselves and our families," said Gary Gill, Program Director for the Blue Planet Foundation. "We all must become part of the solution. This program will show just how simply it can be done."

On *Hawai'i Home Energy Makeover*, energy experts from 21st Century Technologies determine what improvements are needed to cut in half the electricity bill of a family with four generations under one roof in Nanakuli. Revolusun and SunPower Hawai'i install a photovoltaic system in a Kalihi home to enable a young family to eliminate their electric bill entirely.

Both homes are equipped with Energy Star appliances provided by Servco Home Appliances; other energy savings products and services are supplied by RSI Roofing, Tory's Roofing, Giant Solar, HNU Energy, Island Plover, and City Mill.

"Simple home improvements and lifestyle changes can translate into significant energy savings," said Jeff Mikulina, Executive Director of the Blue Planet Foundation. "Cutting your power bill in half or even eliminating it entirely isn't as far-fetched as it seems. We want to take you inside some local homes and walk you through the process."

Blue Planet Foundation is a local non-profit committed to ending the use of carbon based fuels on Earth by making Hawaii a global leader for energy independence within a decade.

For more information on Blue Planet Foundation and *Hawai'i Home Energy Makeover*, visit www.blueplanetfoundation.org.

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