

# Metal America Barndominiums Deliver Better Energy Efficiency as Utility Bills Surge Nationwide

*Advanced Insulation Systems and Steel Construction Provide Long-Term Savings Amid Record-Breaking Energy Cost Increases*

AUSTIN, TX, UNITED STATES, October 10, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As American homeowners face an unprecedented surge in energy costs, with electricity prices rising 6.5% nationally and utilities requesting \$29 billion in rate increases for 2025, [Metal America](#) is helping families build energy-efficient [barndominiums](#) that significantly reduce heating and cooling costs through advanced insulation systems and innovative steel construction methods.

Industry experts describe the current situation as an "unprecedented utility affordability crisis," with high temperatures putting additional strain on the electric grid and driving electricity system costs higher. The U.S. Energy Information Administration reports residential electricity prices increased 6.5% year-over-year as of May 2025, reaching an average of 17.47 cents per kilowatt-hour nationally—the fastest price growth since the beginning of the century.

"The dramatic rise in utility costs makes energy efficiency more critical than ever for families building their dream homes," said Colin Knutson, founder of Metal America. "Our comprehensive insulation approach, combined with precision steel construction, creates homes that stay comfortable year-round while protecting homeowners from these escalating energy bills for decades to come."

## RECORD UTILITY INCREASES DRIVE DEMAND FOR EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION

The impact on households has been severe. Winter heating costs have risen 10% compared to the previous winter, according to EIA's revised February 2025 forecast. The average summer electric bill reached \$719 for June-September 2024, representing an 8% year-over-year increase and the highest summer costs in a decade.

Consumer advocacy experts report that more than one-third of households have reduced or skipped paying basic expenses like medicine or food to pay energy bills in the past year. Energy assistance directors warn that families are increasingly afraid to turn on air conditioning because of bill concerns.

## COMPREHENSIVE INSULATION STRATEGY ADDRESSES ENERGY CHALLENGES

Metal America's energy efficiency advantage begins with their standard double-bubble insulation included on every build, which acts as both a thermal barrier and moisture control system. The company's comprehensive approach incorporates multiple insulation strategies that often exceed local building code requirements.

The recommended insulation strategy utilizes a proven closed-cell and open-cell foam combination. The process begins with 1-2 inches of closed-cell foam applied directly to metal panels, providing R-6 to R-7 per inch while creating a complete vapor barrier that prevents condensation issues. This is followed by 3-5 inches of open-cell foam providing additional R-value at approximately R-3.5 per inch.

Traditional construction often struggles with thermal bridging and air leakage that can reduce actual energy performance by 20-30%. Metal America's systematic approach creates homes that perform closer to their designed efficiency ratings in real-world conditions.

## STEEL CONSTRUCTION ADVANTAGES FOR ENERGY PERFORMANCE

Metal America's 12-gauge steel framing with 4-foot on-center spacing provides unique advantages for energy efficiency beyond structural strength. The steel framework allows for consistent insulation installation without thermal bridging issues common with traditional wood framing, while precision manufacturing ensures better air sealing than site-built construction.

The 26-gauge metal paneling, when properly insulated, creates an extremely durable thermal envelope that maintains performance characteristics for decades without settling, shifting, or degrading like traditional insulation materials.

Understanding that energy efficiency requirements vary significantly across the United States, Metal America works with local building codes and climate zones to optimize insulation strategies for each region. The company's flash-and-batt alternative system combines closed-cell foam with high-performance fiberglass batts for cost-effective code compliance while maintaining excellent moisture control.

## ECONOMIC BENEFITS AMID RISING UTILITY COSTS

With utility industry experts warning that bills will continue rising, the durability of steel construction and properly installed insulation systems means energy performance remains consistent over the building's life, unlike traditional construction methods, where efficiency can degrade over time.

"We've taken the durability and cost advantages of metal construction and solved the energy efficiency equation through proper engineering and insulation design," said Knutson. "The result is homes that outperform traditional construction in both comfort and efficiency, providing

families with protection against these unprecedented utility cost increases."

## TURNKEY SOLUTION FOR ENERGY-CONSCIOUS BUILDERS

Metal America's complete turnkey service includes working with customers to select the optimal insulation strategy for their climate zone, budget, and performance goals. The company's 9-12 month construction timeline ensures proper installation and quality control throughout the insulation process.

The company's partnership with experienced general contractors ensures that insulation installation meets manufacturer specifications and building codes, while their comprehensive approach addresses all aspects of the thermal envelope from foundation to roof.

For more information about Metal America and their energy-efficient [barndominium plans](https://www.metalbuildingsnorthamerica.com), visit [www.metalbuildingsnorthamerica.com](https://www.metalbuildingsnorthamerica.com).

## ABOUT METAL AMERICA

Metal America is the nation's fastest-growing construction company, providing high-quality carports, RV covers, garages, shops, commercial buildings, and barndominiums throughout the continental United States. Founded in 2024, the company has quickly established itself as an industry leader through its commitment to American manufacturing, energy-efficient construction methods, superior craftsmanship, and exceptional customer service.

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