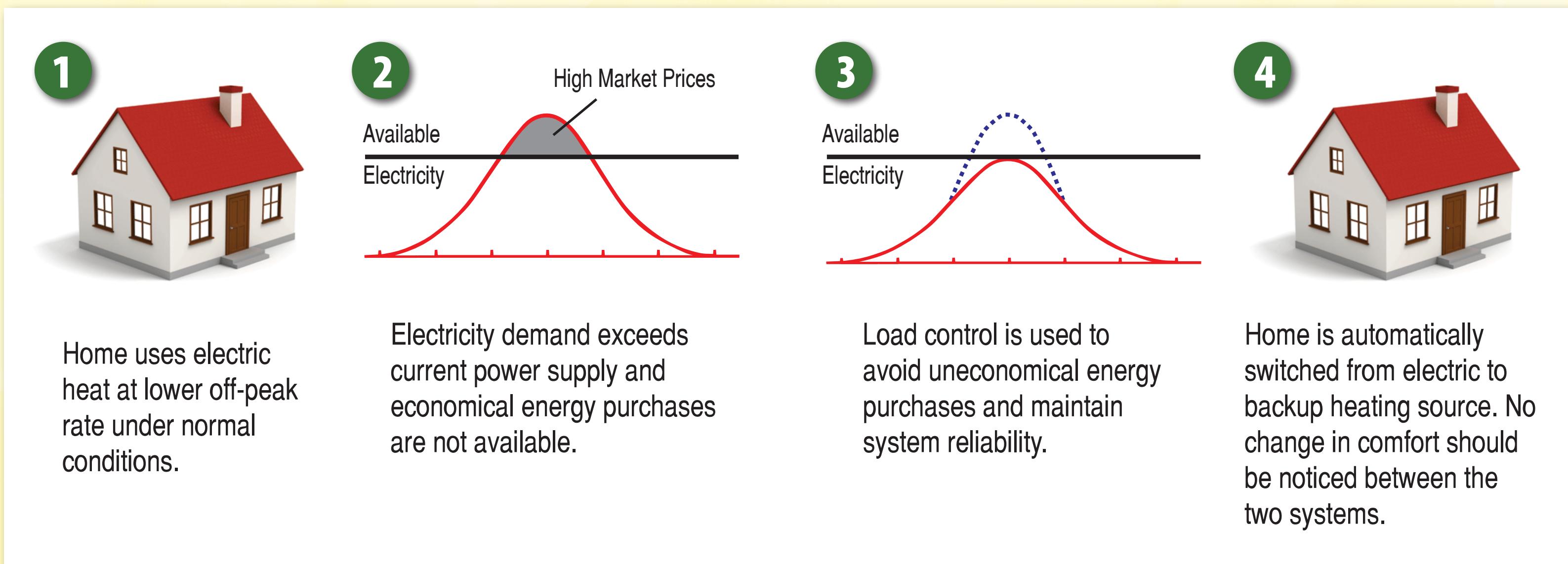


The off-peak advantage —

You can enjoy the convenience of electric heat and save money, too, by installing off-peak electric heating in your new or existing home. An off-peak electric heating system consists of electric heat as its main heating source with a supplemental heating system that will typically operate 200-400 hours per year during times of peak electrical usage.



Off-peak electric heat saves you money

Off-peak electric heating makes good sense because the cooperative or municipal that provides your electric service offers a low off-peak rate. This off-peak rate is about half the regular rate for electric service.

With the off-peak rate, electricity is very competitive with other heating fuels such as propane or fuel oil. And the low off-peak rate really looks good during those times when fossil fuel prices rise dramatically.

Many options available

A home with an existing fossil fuel heating system can be converted to off-peak electric heating very easily. Qualified personnel from your cooperative or municipal utility will be happy to advise you on the best electric alternative to meet your specific needs.

Savings from an off-peak electric heating system can often

pay for the cost of the system within five years.

Installation of your off-peak electric heating system is done by a qualified heating contractor of your choice. Your local cooperative or municipal will install an off-peak electric meter and provide a ripple control device that will automatically switch your heating system from the electric mode to the backup system.

Automatic convenience

Your off-peak system is activated by a special code, which is sent via a high-frequency electrical impulse called a ripple signal. The signal is sent from the Minnkota Control Center in Grand Forks, N.D., to your home or business over existing electric lines.

A ripple control device automatically turns off your electric heating system and activates your backup heating system at the start of the peak

control period. The process is reversed when the peak time is over.

A reliable backup heating system is essential, as control times for the winter heating season can be expected.

Ultimate energy conservation tool

Off-peak heating systems are controlled during periods of peak electrical usage in the region — usually the coldest days of winter. Load management may also be influenced by the availability and price of electric energy in the wholesale marketplace.

The ability to interrupt the flow of electricity to the electric portion of the off-peak systems allows Minnkota to operate its generating plants more efficiently and avoid costly power pool purchases. These savings are passed on to customers through the low off-peak electric rate.