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RESEARCH DESIGN FOR INSTITUTIONAL ANALYSIS<br>OF HUD'S SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM<br>Thomas E. Nutt-Powell<br>MIT Energy Laboratory Report MIT-EL-79-029<br>May 1979

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This paper is one of a series prepared under the sponsorship of DOE's Photovoltaic (PV) Program as part of the institutional analysis of housing. After an introduction describing the theory and methods of institutional analysis, the paper is organized into three sections. ABSTRACT, the first section, presents the research design used for institutional analysis of HUD's Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program. It contains an hypothesized institutional arena, which describes the institutional entities in the housing arena by function and activity and then arrays them according to intensity of interaction across function. The second section of the paper describes the HUD program and describes how it serves as the perturbation prompter for institutional analysis. The third section of the paper presents the specific research design used in the study. From the first three cycles of the HUD program, 11 projects were chosen for on-site case study. A special open-ended semi-structured survey instrument was used to collect information from a set of informants identified for each project. The results of this data collection effort are reported in subsequent reports in this project.

The author gratefully acknowledges Michael Furlong, Steven Heim, Patricia McDaniel, Barbara Parker, Andrew Reamer, and Carole Swetky, all of the PV Institutional Analysis Project at MIT; Jeffrey Cruikshank, who provided editorial services; David Moore, Director of HUD's Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program; and Etta Roth of Real Estate Research Corporation. Without their help and support, this paper could not have been completed.

The drawing is the architect's rendering of the Friends Community, a Cycle 3 project in North Easton, MA.

This paper is one of a series resulting from institutional analysis of photovoltaic (PV) acceptance. These studies are undertaken with sponsorship of the US Department of Energy (DOE) as part of its Photovoltaic Program. In addition to institutional questions, DOE is interested in economic, marketing, and technological issues, and is sponsoring a series of studies and field tests on these topics. Institutional analysis studies have typically been undertaken in relation to particular PV field tests, though in some cases studies have focused on comparable technologies and institutional forces influencing their acceptance.

The housing institutional arena is being investigated in relation to the PV program, in the context of the DOE-HUD Solar Heating and Cooling (SHAC) Demonstration. The SHAC demonstration program involves direct federal grants to assist project developers in incorporating solar thermal approaches into various building forms. In this context, institutional analysis is directed to understanding those forces which influence the rate and nature of innovation acceptance in the housing sector. (For a more detailed discussion of the theory of institutional analysis, see Nutt-Powell, et al., 1978.)

An institutional analysis involves seven steps:
(1) Identify the sector (i.e., economic, geographic) to be studied; determine study objectives.
(2) Prepare a preliminary sector exploration -- i.e., an overview that could be applied to any location-specific sector.
(3) Construct an hypothesized institutional arena.
(4) Identify the "perturbation prompter."
(5) Devise the specific research design.
(6) Monitor perturbations.
(7) Analyze the institutional arena.

This paper incorporates material relevant to the third, fourth and fifth of these steps: constructing an hypothesized institutional arena, identifying a "perturbation prompter," and devising the specific research design for an institutional analysis of the Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program. Its organization follows the theoretical and methodological constructs for institutional analysis of innovation acceptance presented in an earlier paper in this series. (Nutt-Powell, et al, 1978). That paper posits six types of institutional entities -- formal and informal organizations, members, persons, collectivities, and social orders. Institutional action consists of exchanges, for which the critical datum is information. Such exchanges occur within an institutional arena. Innovation forces institutional action by disrupting existing social meaning.

This paper is preceded in the study by five others, each a background paper serving as an element of the preliminary sector exploration of the housing institutional arena. These papers deal with research and socialization (Furlong and Nutt-Powell, 1979), governmental involvement (McDaniel and Nutt-Powell, 1979), standard setting (Parker and Nutt-Powell, 1979), energy provision (Reamer, Heim, and Nutt-Powell, 1979) and housing production (Swetky and Nutt-Powe11, 1979). Taken together, these papers provide the basis for constructing an hypothesized institutional arena for housing.

An hypothesized institutional arena is a means of representing institutional entities characteristically involved in a given sector, and of indicating the nature of their typical exchanges. At any point in time there is an identifiable pattern of exchanges between and among institutional entities. This is called a "resource configuration." It is possible to postulate a relative homeostasis of an institutional arena's resource
configuration in order to establish researcher perspective as well as a starting place for data collection. This postulation is the hypothesized institutional arena.

A review of the hypothesized institutional arena leads to the identification of where and how the introduction of an innovation could prompt a perturbation (that is, cause exchanges between and/or among institutional entities which are not routine). For research purposes, one can identify three types of institutional analysis, based on the time and nature of perturbation prompting. The first studies the introduction of an actual perturbation during its introduction; the second examines a perturbation after it has been introduced; and the third studies a perturbation introduced solely for research purposes. This project, which has included work in four different institutional sectors, has been based on studies using each of these approaches.

Once an hypothesized institutional arena is constructed and a perturbation prompter identified, it is possible to devise a specific research design for institutional analysis. The research design establishes how perturbations occasioned by the innovation will be monitored.

This paper has three major sections. The first presents an hypothesized institutional arena for housing; the second discusses the perturbation prompter for this study; and the third presents the specific research design devised for this study. Subsequent papers in this series will report the findings of these investigations.

AN HYPOTHESIZED INSTITUTIONAL ARENA FOR HOUSING

Institutions are defined along three planes: function, activity, and role. Function is the broadest parameter, including, for example, production and research. Activities are undertaken in support of a function; for example, assisting or analyzing. Finally, role is the particular implementation strategy adopted by an institutional entity with regard to its function and activity; for example, vendor or linking-pin. In defining an hypothesized institutional arena, the analyst focuses on function and activity as the two generalizable defining planes.

The hypothesized institutional arena for housing presented here is based on information gathered during the preliminary sector exploration stage, and is presented in the five preliminary exploration working papers of this study. The work described in these papers was initiated by taking each of the seven institutional functions (finance, research, political, regulation, production, service, socialization) as a separate starting point. Data obtained from literature and key informants established the division of institutional entities into the five topics reflected in the titles of the working papers, a clustering which is the consequence of institutional entities serving more than one function. Thus, two papers are combinations maintaining function designation -- research and socialization (Furlong and Nutt-Powell, 1979) and production (Swetky and Nutt-Powell, 1979) -while the other three present clusters of institutional entities meeting many or even all functions -- governmental involvement (McDaniel and NuttPowell, 1979), energy provision (Reamer, Heim and Nutt-Powell, 1979) and standard setting (Parker and Nutt-Powe11, 1979).

This paper does not repeat the extensive description and discussion of institutional entities in housing contained in these earlier papers. Most particularly, it does not present detailed definitions of these entities and the manner in which their characteristic functions and activities are manifested. Rather, each entity is defined briefly here according to the functions it fulfills, and the activities it performs in meeting those functions. These definitions are found in Tables 1-7 (one for each of the seven functions).

The definition of institutional entities by function and activity is then used to develop a series of interaction matrices, representing the exchanges characteristic of institutional entities by function, and indicating the relative intensity of this interaction. The intensity of interaction is represented by a four-level ordinary scale: none, low, medium, high. The assignment of an intensity rating was by a pooled judgement of the research team. The interaction matrices are presented as Charts 1-28.

The set of figures and charts together represent an hypothesized institutional arena for housing, with particular reference to exchanges important to solar energy innovation acceptance.

## Table 1

INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE FINANCE FUNCTION IN HOUSING
ENTITIES
Veterans Administration (VA)
Federal Housing Administration (FHA)
Department of Housing and Urban Development ..... (HUD)
Farmers Home Loan Administration (FmHA)
Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA)
General National Mortgage Association (GNMA)
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC)
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)
Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
State Housing Finance Agencies (HFAs)
State Department of Community Development (DCAs)
Congress/Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
States, Counties, Municipalities
Federal Reserve Board
Federal Home Loan Bank Board
State Bank Regulatory Boards
Mortgage Companies
Private Mortgage Insurance Companies
Insurance Companies
Real Estate Investment Trusts
ACTIONS
Insures, guarantees home loans
Provides housing subsidies, loans
Provides loans, grants, subsidies
Provides housing loans, grantsTrades mortgages in the secondarymarketTrades mortgages in the secondarymarketTrades mortgages in the secondarymarket
Provides deposit insurance
Provides deposit insurance
Provides housing loans, insurance,grants, subsidies
Provides housing loans, grants,subsidies
Provides financial incentive throughtax policiesSets \& collects property tax
Sets monetary policy
Sets monetary policy
Sets monetary policy
Provide loans
Insures mortgages
Provide loansinvest capital

## ENTITIES

Pension Funds
Savings \& Loans
Commercial Banks
Mutual Savings Banks
Individuals
Equity Syndications
Finance Companies
Credit Unions
Tax Assessors

ACTIONS
Provide loans
Provide mortgages
Provide construction loans
Provide mortgages
Provide loans
Provide means to accumulate capital
Provide home improvement loans
Provide home improvement loans
Provide financial incentives through tax policies

## Table ?

INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE RESEARCH FUNCTION IN HOUSING

## ENTITIES

Congress
President
State legislatures
Governors
Municipal Planning \& Budget Agencies
Federal Housing Authority (FHA)
U.S. Department of HUD - Policy Development and Research (PDR)
U.S. Bureau of the Census

Private research

Trade and professional associations
Unions
Universities

Banks

Federal Reserve Board (FED)
Federal Home Loan Bank Board (FHLBB)
Commission/Task Force, Staff

Cabinet Officers, Staff

Congressional Budget Office (CBO)

## ACTIONS

Conducts policy-oriented research
Conducts policy-oriented research
Conduct policy-oriented research
Conduct policy-oriented research
Conduct policy-oriented research
Conducts housing market analyses
Conducts long-term broad-based policy studies at local, regional and national levels

Collects and analyzes demographic and housing statistics

Performs research on contract with other actors in the housing arena

Perform subject-related research
Perform subject-related research
Perform basic and applied research related to housing on contract or grant

Research economic and fiscal trends, local housing market characteristics

Performs economic research
Performs economic research
Carry out special, highly visible studies

Carry out focused policy and programrelated research

Studies economic and fiscal impacts of Congressional appropriations and policies

TABLE 2, cont'd
ENTITIES
General Accounting Office (GAO)
Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
Interest Groups (Federal/State/Local;General Special/Specific Special/Public Interest/Specific PublicInterest)
Banking Commissions
Voluntary Standard Setting Commissions (ASTM, ANSI)
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

## ACTIONS

Performs reviews and evaluations of existing federal programs
Researches program impacts andfiscal needs
Perform subject-related research
Research bank policies and mortgagepractices
Research nature, characteristics \&performance relative to standardsetting
Performs energy-related research

INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE POLITICAL FUNCTION IN HOUSING

## ENTITIES

## Congress

President

## U.S. Cabinet departments/officers

General Accounting Office (GAO)
U.S. Office of Management \& Budget (OMB)

State legislatures
Governors
State cabinet departments/officers

Local governing councils
Local chief executives
Local cabinet departments/officers
Voluntary standard commissions (e.g., ASTM, ANSI)

ACTIONS
Determines policy
Proposes/approves/administers policy
Propose /debate /administer policy; determine policy at a lesser level

Proposes policy; determines minor policy regarding reporting requirements

Determines federal budget and management practices

Determine policy
Propose/approve/administer policy
Propose /debate /administer policy; determine policy at a lesser level

Determine policy
Propose/approve/administer policy
Propose/approve/administer policy
Determine standards

## Table 4

INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE REGULATION FUNCTION IN HOUSING
ENTITIES
Building Inspectors
Housing Inspectors
Federal Home Loan Bank Board (FHLBB)
Federal Reserve Board (FED)
U.S. Department of the TreasuryState Banking Commissions
U.S. Department of Housing and UrbanDevelopment (HUD) -- Office ofInterstate Land Sales
HUD -- Secretary
Securities Exchange Commission (SEC)
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)
Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)
Occupational Safety and Health
Administration (OSHA)
Fire Departments
Design Review
Courts

## ACTIONS

Inspect construction regarding structural standards

Inspect housing regarding health and safety standards

Sets and administers regulations for savings \& loans

Sets and administers regulations for commercial banks

Sets and administers broad financial, tax, and fiscal regulations

Set and administer regulations regarding state-chartered banks

Regulates interstate land sales

Regulates secondary mortgage market
Oversees interstate corporation financial practices

Sets and administers tax regulations
Enforces anti-pollution laws
Oversees the environmental impact statement process

Regulates permissible uses within designated coastal zones

Regulates worker health and safety conditions

Enforce fire regulations
Regulates construction to meet aesthetic standards

Adjudicate disputes in the housing arena

TABLE 4, cont'd
ENTITIES
Interstate Conmerce Commission (ICC)
Unions
Insurance Commissions
National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
State Realtor Regulatory Boards
Professional Registration Boards
Trade and Professional Associations
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
State Public Utilities Commissions
Department of Justice
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)
State Facility Siting Boards
Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity Employment(EEO) Agencies

ACTIONS
Regulates materials transportation Regulate member behavior Regulate insurance company behavior Arbitrates labor disputes Regulate realtor behavior Regulate entry to professions Regulate member behavior Sets interstate energy prices Regulates local utility behavior Enforces antitrust laws

Regulates construction and operation of nuclear power plants

Determines where energy facilities may be sited

Enforce fair housing and equal opportunity laws

## Table 5

## INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE PRODUCTION FUNCTION IN HOUSING

ENTITIES
DeveTopers
Architects
Consulting Engineers
Lawyers
Surveyors
Real Estate Brokers
Trade Unions
Contractors
Subcontractors
Materials Manufacturers
Materials Distributors
Public Housing Authorities
State Developers
Community Development Corporations (CDCs)
Energy Companies
Public Service

ACTIONS
Initiate, coordinate, oversee the production process

Design housing product
Advise
Design corporate structure
Determine site specifications
Facilitate site acquisition
Provide labor for construction
Build, manage, organize
Build
Manufacture housing components, whole structures

Distribute housing components
Develop public housing
Develop
Develop
Supply energy in production process
Provide roads, infrastructure to facilitate production

Table 6

INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE SERVICE FUNCTION IN HOUSING
ENTITIES
Consulting EngineersPlanners
Lawyers
Title Companies
Real Estate Brokers
Materials Distributors
Welcome Wagon
Insurance Companies
Repair Personnel
Energy CompaniesUtilities gas, electric
$0 i 1$
Solar
MunicipalPoliceFire
Sewer
Water
Security Companies
Maintenance Firms
Property Management
Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)/FairHousing Agencies (Federal, State, City)
Consumer Protection Agencies
Mortgage Financers
Tenants Organizations
ACTIONS
Advise
Assess alternatives and market need
Advise on legal options
Guarantee title
Facilitate sales, assess market demand
Advise on product use
Does direct advertising for localmerchantsInsure property of owner and/oroccupant
Advise on, assist in maintenance
Supply energy, service lines, adviseon energy use
Provide security re: crime
Provide security re: fire
Provide continued use of sewer systemProvide continued use of water systemProvide security for structures andoccupants
Provide building \& grounds maintenanceOversees operation, management andmaintenanceInvestigate and adjudicate complaintsInvestigate and adjudicate complaints
Arrange debt structure

TABLE 6, cont'd
ENTITIES
Neighborhood Associations
Trade Associations
Professional Societies
Unions
StandardsASTMANSINBS
HUD National Flood Insurance Act
Materials Manufacturers

## ACTIONS

Advocate constituent interests
Provide advice and information
Provide advice and information
Provide advice and information

Organizes standards setting process
Legitimates standards
Investigates standards
Provides flood insurance
Provide advice on product use

## Table 7

## INSTITUTIONAL ENTITIES PERFORMING THE SOCIALIZATION FUNCTION IN HOUSING

ENTITIESDesigners
Trade Associations
Professional Associations
Unions
Educational Institutions
Standard Setting Bodies
Lending Institutions
Congress
President
State Legislatures
Governors
Commissions
Cabinet Officers
Interest Groups

## ACTIONS

Set construction parameters through design preferences

Socialize members, government, and the public through newsletters, advertising, and lobbying

Socialize members, the government, and the public through newsletters, advertising, and lobbying

Socialize members, the government, and the public through newsletters, advertising, and lobbying

Directly socialize students; indirectly socialize the public, government officials

Socialize manufacturers and users of building components

Set construction parameters through lending preferences

Sets parameters for housing preferences through choice of legislative issues

Sets parameters for housing preferences through public statements, legislative programs, and administrative directives

Set parameters for housing preferences through choice of legislative issues

Set parameters for housing preferences through public statements, legislative programs, and administrative directives

Legitimate new directions and ideas
Set parameters for housing preferences through public statements, legislative programs, and administrative directives

Advocate the acceptability of particularized views on housing

TABLE 7, cont'd


## ACTIONS

Establishes the familiar as a parameter
Establish existing service forms as
parameters

Set construction parameters through assessment practices

Influence construction practices through financial risk-taking preferences

Establish housing parameters through broker preferences

Convey cormunity norms
Socialize owners and occupants through management practices

Set construction parameters through advertising, offering, and endorsement of products

Set construction and market parameters through insuring preferences

Set market parameters through pubTic pronouncements

Set construction and market parameters through range and cost of services offered

Exert influence on property owners, government agencies

Reflect and formulate taste in the residential market

Socialize professional and trade association members

Reflect and formulate taste in the residential market

Set construction parameters through public pronouncements on energy





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Institutional Entity Interaction in the Housing Arena: Finance and Production Functions



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\text { State Legislatures } \\
\text { Governors } \\
\text { State Cabinet Departments } \\
\text { Local Government Councils } \\
\text { Local Chief Executives } \\
\text { Local Cabinet Departments } \\
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Institutional Entity Interaction in the Housing Arena：Research and Requitation Functions
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INTERACTION INTENSITY KEY



Political and Political Functions
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Institutional Entity Interaction in the Housing Arena：Political and Service functions

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## THE PERTURBATION PROMPTER

The 1973 oil embargo provided dramatic evidence of the nation's reliance on imported non-renewable energy resources. It prompted the passage in 1974 of the Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Act (P.L. 93-409), which authorized a wide range of federal activities intended to help establish solar energy as a viable energy resource for the US. A comprehensive program is being conducted by the Department of Energy (DOE) under the authorization of this and related legislation. As part of this effort, DOE is conducting the National Program for Solar Heating and Cooling of Buildings. According to DOE's 1978 annual report on the program, its thrust is to promote and demonstrate the economic viability of solar energy for the heating and cooling of buildings. There are four basic elements:

Research and technology development of new and advanced system approaches and subsystems or components to reduce costs, improve reliability, and provide solutions to problems.

Engineering development aimed at bringing systems, subsystems, and components to a marketable stage for utilization.

Demonstration of solar heating and cooling in commercial and residential buildings, using available systems installed both in new and existing buildings, and the associated collection, evaluation and dissemination of data and development of standards and performance criteria.

Market development to assure than an institutional framework exists for widespread use of solar energy including technology transfer, environmental and resource assessment, and studies on barriers and incentives.
(DOE, 1978c.)

The activities other than residential demonstration that have been completed are summarized in two DOE documents. (DOE, 1978a; DOE, 1978b.)

The Department of Housing and Development (HUD) has responsibility for residential applications. HUD has developed a demonstration program
which provides grants to builders and developers who equip new residential construction or existing housing with solar systems. HUD's residential demonstration program is designed to:
finance solar systems in both new and existing dwellings; develop performance criteria and test procedures for solar dwellings;
disseminate solar heating and cooling information;
undertake market development efforts to encourage the rapid and widespread acceptance of solar heating and cooling technologies by the housing industry throughout the US. (HUD, 1976, p. vii.)

The solar systems may be used for water heating and home heating and/or cooling. The program has proceeded in a series of award cycles, each initiated by Requests for Grant Applications (RFGA) announced through the solar and construction press and through HUD's own solar mailing list (HUD, 1978). Five cycles of awards have been made in the HUD residential demonstration, with awards announced on January 19, 1976 (Cycle 1), October 15, 1976 (Cycle 2), May 30, 1977 (Cycle 3), March 29, 1978 (Cycle 4), and September 28, 1978 (Cycle 4a). In addition, HUD (with DOE and the Solar Energy Research Institute) has sponsored a Passive Residential Design Competition and Demonstration, with design prizes and construction grants. Awards were announced December 20, 1978.

While the oil embargo/energy crisis serves as the general perturbation prompter, the specific perturbation prompter is the HUD residential demonstration program, and in particular the RFGA defining the nature of activity required to receive a grant. HUD asked that applicants provide information in two areas: (1) technical aspects of the solar energy system to be used; and (2) reasons why the particular project should be funded as part of a demonstration program. (HUD, 1978). HUD assumed the marketability of the
applicant's projects, as the awards were to cover only the incremental costs of using a solar system. (In all cases backup systems were provided for.)

## SPECIFIC RESEARCH DESIGN

The HUD Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program represents a deliberate public intervention into the housing market to accelerate the acceptance of an innovation, solar energy. The HUD program uses solar thermal technologies. Because solar energy is an innovation in housing, the introduction of both solar thermal and photovoltaic (PV) will have comparable impact in the housing institutional arena. It is for that reason that the study of HUD's program provides useful guidance to framers of programs to accelerate the acceptance of PV in residential applications.

In an economy based on free marketing assumptions, it is necessary to justify market interventions by public bodies. In housing, for example, interventions have been justified by appeals to inequities in access (for housing subsidies), and to the societal importance of historic form (for special tax treatment of income-producing rehabilitated historic structures). Intervention to encourage use of indigenous renewable energy resources (such as solar) is justified on the grounds of political independence and the control of inflationary forces. Because the housing sector is a high consumer of energy, there are several intervention efforts. The efforts include those aimed at user practices (for example, energy conservation practices including thermostat settings and automobile usage) as well as those aimed at equipment used (for example, energy efficiency ratings on major appliances and gas mileage ratings on automobiles.) The HUD Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program fits into the second category.

In general, public intervention into market practices to accelerate innovation acceptance is based on an "S-curve" model of innovation diffusion. As shown in Figure 1, private market acceptance of an innovation occurring

FIGURE 1
INNOVATION ACCEPTANCE UNDER NORMAL, MARKET-BASED PUBLIC INTERVENTION AND INSTITUIIONALLY-BASEU INIERVENI ION CONDITIONS

$A=$ normal conditions
$B=$ market-based public intervention conditions
C = institutionally-based public intervention conditions
through time is plotted by curve A. Market-based public intervention theory is plotted by curve B. Curve C plots innovation acceptance prompted by institutionally-based public intervention. In the case of curve $C$, the public intervention not only prompts the acceptance of the innovation earlier in time, it also encourages the acceptance to occur more rapidly once begun. Hence, where curves $A$ and $B$ are identical in slope and duration, with curve $B$ merely beginning sooner, curve $C$ has a sharper slope and begins sooner.

The difference between curves $A / B$ and $C$ effectively reflects a difference between market and institutional analysis. In $A / B$ the factors influencing acceptance are reduced to cost. Government intervention strategies to accelerate innovation are premised on impacting cost, typically to minimize the initial costs of innovation development by the private sector. However, once the acceptance process begins, it follows a trajectory no different from private market acceptance. The only difference is that it has begun sooner.

By comparison, institutional analysis identifies multiple currencies influencing the innovation acceptance decision. Institutional exchanges consist of information, of which cost is only one type. Among other currencies of exchange are source (From whom do I hear the information?), form (In what form do I acquire the information?), context (In what institutional context am I acting?), and application (How easily can this be made part of my routine?). The various currencies interact to yield some measure of comprehensibility of the innovation. To the extent that the innovation is comprehensible, its acceptance will accelerate.

The HUD Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Program uses a marketbased public intervention strategy. The program proceeds on the hypothesis that financial incentives are both necessary and sufficient to accelerate
acceptance of solar technologies in housing. It further hypothesizes that the financial incentives can be focused on a single actor, the developer/ builder.

A sound research design for institutional analysis of this program includes cost as one of the currencies of institutional exchange which contribute to the comprehensibility of an innovation. But the research design must also account for the other currencies listed above: sources, form, context, and application.

## Method

Acceptance of HUD's RFGA and solar increment grants to developers as the perturbation prompter, combined with research constraints of time, funds and personnel (and in light of the fragmentation, disaggregation and localization of the housing arena), led to a decision to adopt an illustrative case study method for this research. Specific projects were selected for detailed study based on their possible usefulness in representing institutional currency exchange processes relevant to solar innovation acceptance in housing. The case studies are intended to illustrate particular currency exchange dynamics in various localized housing institutional arenas.

## Sample Selection

Though HUD focused on developers as the critical actors to whom to demonstrate solar technologies, it did not make grants according to the type of developer. The work completed in preparing the hypothesized institutional arena for housing revealed that factors contributing to comprehensibility would vary according to developer type. Hence, the first variable used in sample selection was developer type. A second primary variable was market location. Finally, high intensity interactions between institutional entities (as shown in the hypothesized institutional arena) were used to cull possible cases for sample selection.

The sample universe was all grant awards made in Cycles 1, 2, and 3. As shown in Table 8, this consisted of 317 recipients. The grant recipients were categorized according to ten developer types. The ten types of developer are:

+ Small builder -- primary activity is the construction of housing
+ Small developer -- primary activity is the packaging of housing developments with a volume of up to 75 units/year
+ Housing Authority -- a municipal housing authority
+ Large developer -- primary activity is the packaging of housing developments with a volume of 75 or more units/year
+ Non-profit developer -- primary activity is the packaging of housing developments, with a non-profit incorporation
+ Manufacturer -- primary activity is the manufacture of building materials, with housing development as a secondary activity
+ Designer/Engineer -- primary activity is either as a designer or engineer, with housing development as a secondary activity
+ Utility -- primary activity is as a utility company
+ City -- primary activity is as a municipality
+ Institution -- primary activity is as an institution, such as university Designation as a type of developer was made by project staff members, based on project information contained in the three summary volumes about HUD's project. (ERDA, 1976; HUD, 1976; HUD, 1977.) The distribution of awards by developer type was shifted during the three cycles, with small builders and large developers being increased proportionally. (See Tables 9, 10, and 11.) It was decided that the sample would include at least one project for each developer type (excepting institution and city), with at least one project in each of four regions into which the continental US was divided. The four regions (and states included in them) are:
* Mid-Atlantic and Northeast -- VT, NH, MA, CT, RI, ME, NY, NJ, PA

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* Southeast -- MD, VA, DE, WVA, KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, MI, AL, LA, AR
* Southwest and West -- TX, OK, NM, AZ, CA, NV, UT
* Midwest and Northwest -- OH, IN, MI, WI, IL, MT, IA, MN, ND, SD, NE, KS, CO, WY, ID, WA, OR, AK, MO

The regional delineation was based primarily on climatic conditions with particular reference to insolation.

On first review, 34 projects were identified as of potential interest for case study. A detailed review of project application and subsequent development information was conducted using HUD's files. The Real Estate Research Corporation is also conducting research on factors contributing to the acceptance of solar technology on housing, under contract with HUD; where applicable, their field files on the list of potential sample projects were also reviewed. Based on this review, 11 projects were selected for direct contact and on-site case study. The number selected by developer type and region is shown in Table 12.

## Data Collection Process

An initial notice of case study activity was directed to the developer of record for each project. A list of additional informants, produced on the bases of hypothesized interaction intensity as revealed in the various matrices, was developed for each project. The developer was asked to supply names and addresses of each actor, for purposes of direct contact by project staff. Insofar as was possible, informants were supplied in advance with some basic information on the purpose of the research.

Interviews were held with informants, with data collected using a specifically developed open-ended semi-structured survey research instrument. (See Appendix A.) Most field research was conducted during January, 1979, with follow-up inquiries conducted by telephone through February, March, and

April. Interviews with additional informants were often scheduled on the site, at the suggestion of one or more informants.

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