

DEEP ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND GETTING TO ZERO

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new buildings institute

- Non-profit, think tank on commercial building energy efficiency
- Formed in December 1997
- Funding
 - Sponsors: includes SCE, NEEA, NationalGrid, NYSERDA, CEC, SMUD
 - Contracts and Grants: EF, DDCF, Kresge, USGBC, CEC PIER, CPUC, etc.
- Staff in Vancouver, Seattle, and White Salmon, Washington





nature of our work





key topics for today

- What do we know about the features and actual energy use of high performance buildings?
- What is possible in terms of energy performance in the near term?
- How we can structure programs, policies and market actions to support deep efficiency?
- New Tools



first, getting to fifty - new

- NBI identified about 100 buildings around the country that had energy performance (at least estimated to be) 50% better than typical.
- Reviewed feature sets, and created a database of projects.
- Sponsored a two day planning event in Atlanta to determine how to get more 50% buildings constructed.



findings from GT50 buildings

- Fewer that 1 in 1,000 new buildings reach this level of efficiency
- It is possible across multiple building types, multiple climate zones, multiple design teams
- Largely driven by the owner, with support from public and/or utilities.
- How do we spread the motivation, skills and support to get buildings at this performance level? (IECC 2012?)



technologies in GT50 buildings





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new buildings	recent buildings:			
	U.S./Northwest and			
	German demos			
Building Type	U.S./ NW Average New Bldgs.	U.S./ NW LEED Buildings	German Demos	
Offices	88/ 93 kBTU	62/ 60 kBTU	27.5 kBTU	
Schools	81/ 65 kBTU	62/ 33 kBTU	19.4 kBTU	



Intro

Research, Building Science & Performance

digging into buildings and data

- Detailed look at 50+ HP buildings
- Best of Best advanced mechanical, daylighting, advanced controls, natural ventilation plus pay attention
- Worst of Best usually no clue that building not performing, mostly operational issues, occasionally design or construction; simultaneous heating and cooling, Cx post occupancy should fix most



what about zero-net energy buildings?

- About 15-20 built in U.S.
- (Identified about 50 net zero capable – i.e. less than 30 kBTUs site)
- Except for NREL, mostly small
- All the basics plus very efficient HVAC, daylighting, natural ventilation, heat recovery
- 50+ projects under design/ construction, e.g. Living Building Challenge, Saving by Design, ETO



the barn – built in 1887





existing buildings

- California Plan includes 50% of existing buildings to net zero
- NBI and National Trust for Historic Preservation identified 50 existing buildings with documented savings in the 30% to 80% range.
- Taking a deeper look now, but requires changes to at least two buildings systems



getting to zero in existing buildings



Source: U.S. Department of Energy

4/14/2011

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how to move existing buildings

- Create and support innovative technical solution sets that build on the strengths of existing buildings.
- Critical need for new financial tools that can support deep savings (40% to 60%)
- Move from widget based efforts to integrated system based efforts with enhanced controls.

emerging trends; existing buildings

- Replacement costs won't justify new projects
- Large companies look to reduce costs by using existing space more efficiently
- "Developers regroup to focus on reuse strategies"





five strategies for moving the market

- 1. Performance Goal Driven
 - Focused on achievement of an absolute number for most buildings
 25 to 40 kBTU/sq.ft. site: Measured
 - Brings in operations and plug loads
- 2. Strong utility and public program support
 - Big, Bold in CA (Path to Zero)
 - ETO has similar program element
 - TRC is an issue



five strategies for moving the market

- 3. Need to focus on Collaborative Learning
 - Review high-performance buildings
 - Track Key Performance Indicators
- 4. Reduce performance risks and cost of changing practice
 Move from Case Studies to
 Lessons Learned to
 Design Guidance



five strategies for moving the market

- Understand the motivations of and work with key decision makers (owners, developers, finance, design community)
- Neither net zero nor deep energy in existing will be driven by utility incentives.
- What are the business motivations?



three issues for programs

- Customer Centric
 - Recognize that commercial buildings market is very diverse;
 - Commercial real estate can't handle additional debt
 - MUSH Market
 - Owner occupied retail and food service need to stay fresh



three issues for programs

- Widgets are in the Way.
 - Technical approach for deep savings needs to move to best practice in systems.
 - Start with comprehensive treatment of lighting and plug loads;
 - Then shell if practical but frequently it is not (critical for going really deep)
 - HVAC, best practice not component replacement.



three issues for programs

- Regulatory Revisions Required
 - Need support from regulators to start moving in more productive directions.
 - Multiyear goals, depth of savings, market leverage – less consideration of attribution and net to gross
 - TRC rules need to reflect that customers want choices if we are leveraging their money.



Intro

Research, Building

Science & Performance

Design Guidance

Design	Guidance	Projects
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- Advanced Buildings
 - Core Performance
 - Developing a 50% package
- Advanced Lighting Guidelines

 Web-based tool connected to CLS

• Office of the Future

- Tenant Improvement; lights and plugs
- 50% solution beginning research









ALG Online

Intro

Science &

Performance





Intro	
Research, Building Science & Performance	
Design Guidance	

Daylighting Pattern Book

- Visual guidance based on real examples
- Series of variations
- Also an Office Interiors guide



Photo by Gary Hall Photography



Intro

Research, Building Science & Performance

Design Guidance

Office of the Future Consortium

- Integrated technical solutions in existing office TIs
- Lighting, plug loads, HVAC performance, metering
- Initial pilots show robust savings



Deep Efficiency in Existing Buildings

- Best examples
- Developing new tools
 - First view, operational diagnostics
 - Multi Measure Tool; Pre-modeled solution sets for common buildings
- Summit meeting in Boulder CO
- June 28-30



Thank you

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