

# **BUILDINGENERGY BOSTON**

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## **The RESNET Carbon Trifecta: HERS Index + CO2 Index + Embodied Carbon**

**Andy Buccino (Stephens and Company)**

**Nicole Burger (Innova)**

**Jacob Racusin (New Frameworks)**

**Curated by Christopher Nielson (Bruner/Cott) and Alex Guerrieri (Steven Winter Associates)**

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**Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) | March 20, 2024**



# Speakers:



**Nicole Burger**

Regional Manager, New England  
and Senior Energy Consultant  
Innova Building Advisors  
*nburger@innovaservices.com*



**Andy Buccino**

Manager - Energy Division  
Stephens and Company  
*AndyB@stephensandcoinc.com*



**Jacob Deva Racusin**

Director of Building Science  
and Sustainability  
New Frameworks  
*Jacob@newframeworks.com*

# **AGENDA**

## **Introductions**

**Part 1: HERS Index**

**Part 2: CO2 Index**

**Part 3: Embodied Carbon**

**Part 4: Emergent Methodologies**

**Part 5: Environmental Justice and Resiliency**

# **Part I: The HERS Index**

# RESNET

**RESNET**  
RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SERVICES NETWORK

Leading the  
Path to Net Zero  
Energy Homes

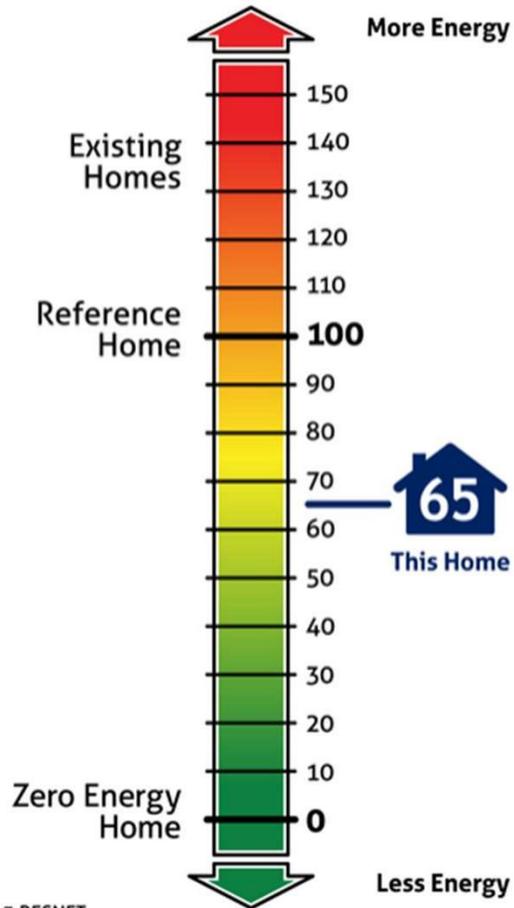
Learn About HERS® | Blog | Podcast | Contact Us | Join RESNET® | Login 

WHO WE ARE | RATERS | PROVIDERS | BUILDERS | APPRAISERS | EVENTS | RESOURCES



<https://www.resnet.us/>

## HERS® Index



# What is the HERS Index?

# HERS® Activity by IECC Climate Zone

IECC Climate Zone	Homes HERS® Rated in 2023	Average HERS Index Score in 2023
1A	895	47
1B	55	85
2A	92,006	57
2B	29,241	52
3A	69,126	58
3B	15,031	45
3C	84	28
4A	60,077	62
4B	3,655	54
4C	2,218	52
5A	48,312	58
5B	25,510	57
6A	10,722	51
6B	1,028	56
7B	297	45

<https://www.resnet.us/wp-content/uploads/2022-HERS-Activity-by-climate-zone.pdf>

# HERS® Activity by State

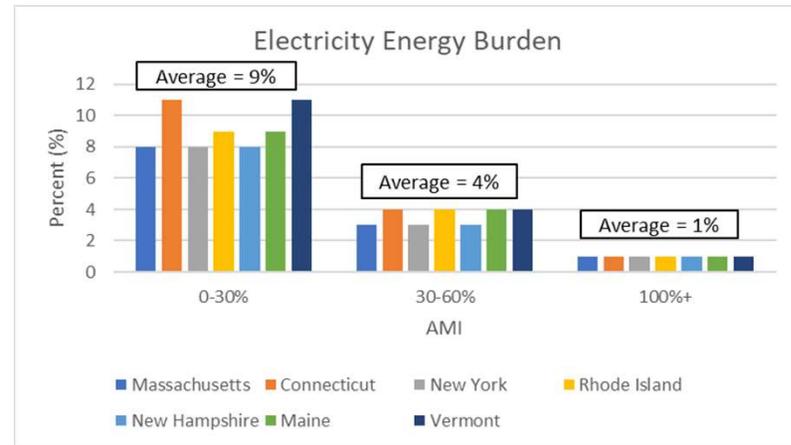
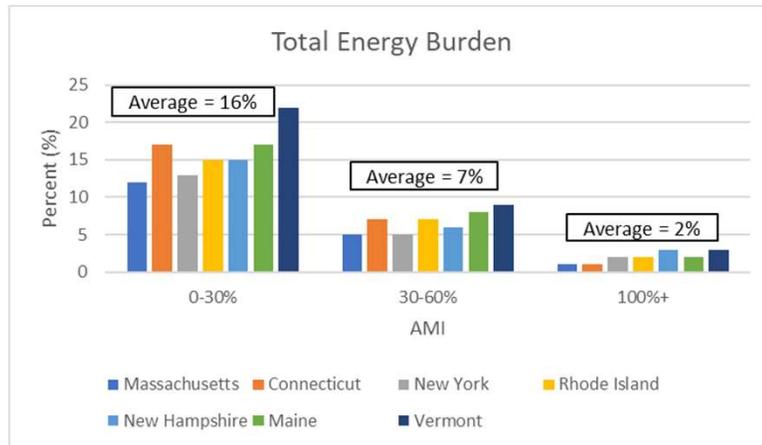
FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 2023		
State	HERS Rated Homes	Average HERS Index Score
Connecticut	2019	51
Maine	128	44
Massachusetts	9531	50
New Hampshire	1320	52
New Jersey	4339	54
New York	4296	48
Ohio	7450	61
Pennsylvania	7421	59
Rhode Island	181	57
Vermont	253	40

<https://www.resnet.us/wp-content/uploads/2022-HERS-Activity-by-State.pdf>

# **How a HERS Rating Can Assist Renters & Home Buyers:**

- Transparency & Information
- Identifying Energy Efficient Units
- Understanding Energy Costs
- Advocating for improvements
- Supporting Sustainable Living
- Enhancing Quality of Life

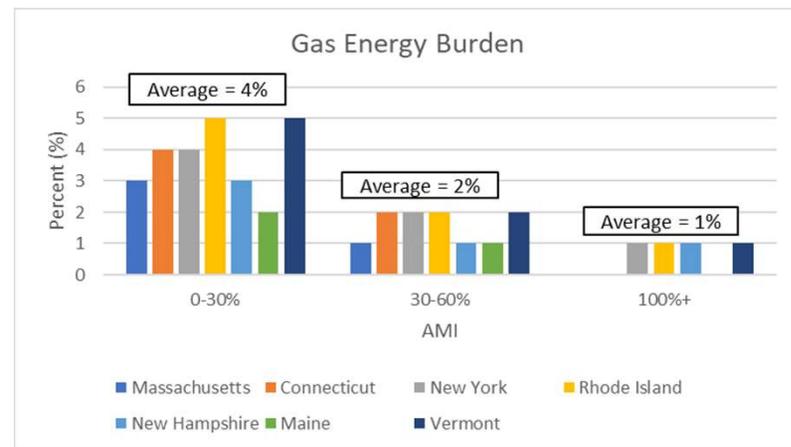
# Why Energy Labeling Is Important



1 in 7 Families Live in Energy Poverty

Across Every state, extremely low-income households bear disproportionately high energy burdens

<https://rmi.org/1-in-7-families-live-in-energy-poverty-states-can-ease-that-burden/>



<https://www.energy.gov/scep/slsc/low-income-energy-affordability-data-lead-tool>

# Aesthetics Versus Thermal Efficiency



# ... What's Under the Façade?





# Energy Transparency

Electric: Whatever you use, **deposit** it in my account same as the other **monthly**. I pay it remotely. Bill has been coming in around \$70/month. ★

Gas: Heat, hot water, and stove are all gas. **Deposit monthly**. I have been paying \$1,200/year★ in equal monthly payments, and that worked out ok when I was here more often. But even 5 or so years ago I was away a lot of the year. So I'm running about a year's surplus. You will see the current balance due is negative over a thousand dollars★ Heat set at 55° all year, no cooking, no hot water use will do that. You will find the summer bill goes way down and the winter way, way up. So if you can't make a monthly payment in the deepest darkest windiest of it just keep track and deposit when and as you can. You won't lose heat. Paid remotely. The thermostats (1

# Actual Utility Bills



BILLING PERIOD PAGE 1 of 2  
Dec 7, 2023 to Jan 8, 2024

ACCOUNT NUMBER PLEASE PAY BY AMOUNT DUE  
63682-30000 Feb 1, 2024 \$ 131.65

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29 (ACH) 121.52  
- 100.00  
21.52  
+ 110.13  
**Amount Due ▶ \$ 131.65**

? We are here to help. To learn about solutions to help you energy use and bills, visit [www.ngrid.com/billhelp](http://www.ngrid.com/billhelp).

Electronic billing and payments make managing your monthly bill money, and natural resources [www.ngrid.com/paperless](http://www.ngrid.com/paperless).

**CHARGES**

Account Number	Next Meter Reading	
43664-18280	Feb 05 '24	Jan 08 '24
Rate R-3	For Customer Assistance	
Res. Heating	Please call (781) 751-3000	

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

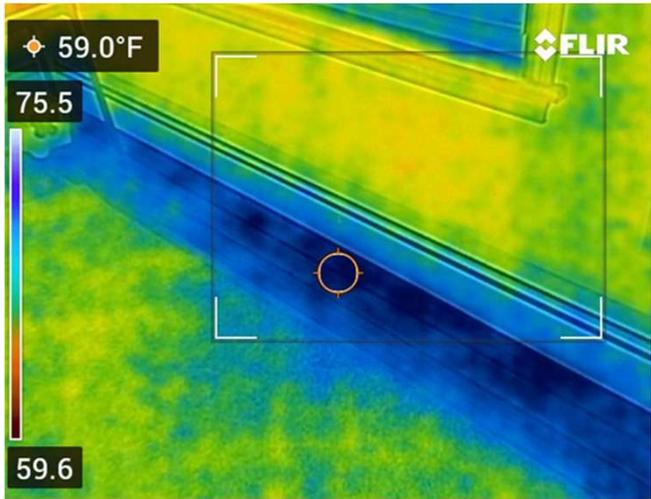
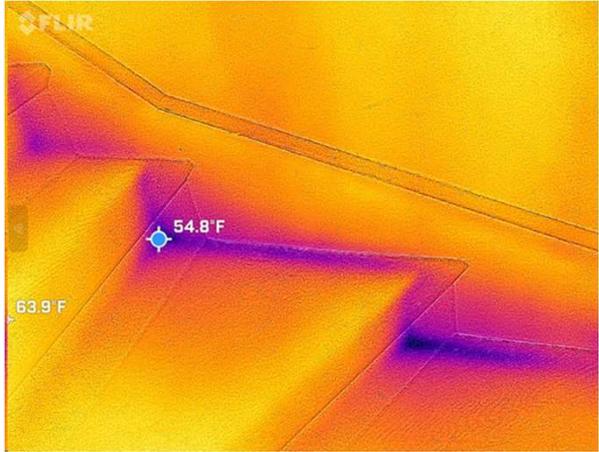
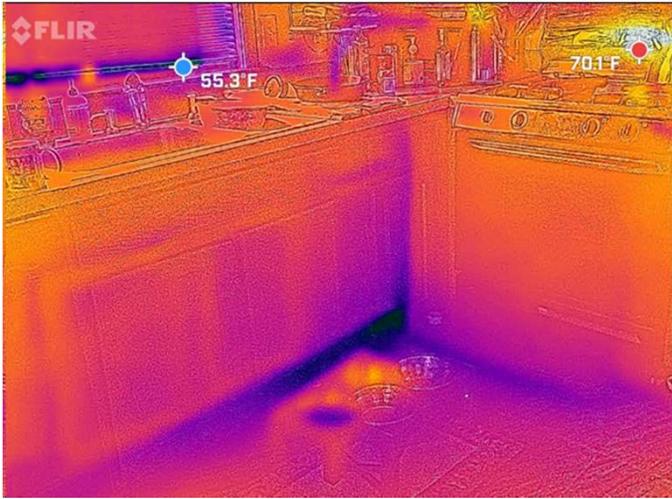
Charges:	Total Current Charges	\$236.85
	Amount Due Last Bill	-1,352.39
	Your Total Payments Since Last Bill. Thank You!	<u>-100.00</u>
	<b>Balance In Your Favor (DO NOT PAY)</b>	<b>\$-1,215.54</b>

**GAS USE HISTORY**

	Days	Therms		Days	Therms
Jan 24	32 Act	100	Jun 23	30 Act	13
Dec 23	30 Act	69	May 23	32 Act	41
Nov 23	32 Act	25	Apr 23	29 Act	71

Charges:  
2297  
2200  
97  
x1.0320  
100  
Charges:  
\$12.80

# Thermal Imaging



# Energy Modeling

## Home Energy Rating Certificate

Projected Report  
Based on Plans

Rating Date:  
Registry ID:  
Ekotrope ID: LK5XgJgv

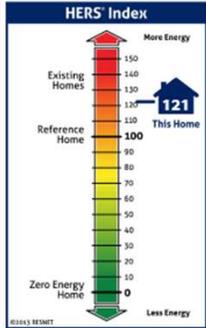


<b>HERS® Index Score:</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">121</span> <small>Your home's HERS score is a relative performance score. The lower the number, the more energy efficient the home. To learn more, visit <a href="http://www.hersindex.com">www.hersindex.com</a></small>	<b>Annual Savings*</b> <span style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">\$452</span> <small>*Relative to an average U.S. home</small>	<b>Home:</b> Revere, MA 02151 <b>Builder:</b>
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### Your Home's Estimated Energy Use:

	Use [MBtu]	Annual Cost
Heating	102.3	\$583
Cooling	0.0	\$0
Hot Water	9.1	\$426
Lights/Appliances	19.7	\$925
Service Charges		\$144
Generation (e.g. Solar)	0.0	\$0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>131.2</b>	<b>\$2,078</b>

This home meets or exceeds the criteria of the following:



### Home Feature Summary:

- Home Type: Single family detached
- Model: N/A
- Community: N/A
- Conditioned Floor Area: 1,500 ft<sup>2</sup>
- Number of Bedrooms: 2
- Primary Heating System: Boiler • Natural Gas • 85 AFUE
- Primary Cooling System: N\_A
- Primary Water Heating: Residential Water Heater • Electric • 0.95 Energy Factor
- House Tightness: 10 ACH50
- Ventilation: None
- Duct Leakage to Outside: Hydronic Delivery (Radiant)
- Above Grade Walls: R-34
- Ceiling: Attic, R-30
- Window Type: U-Value: 0.3, SHGC: 0.4
- Foundation Walls: R-0
- Framed Floor: R-0

### Rating Completed by:

**Energy Rater:** Nicole Burger  
RESNET ID: 5841944  
**Rating Company:** Innova Building Advisors, LLC  
1548 South 16th Street Philadelphia PA 19146  
2154469945  
**Rating Provider:** Performance Systems Development  
950 Danby Rd, Ste 201P, Ithaca NY 14850  
607-277-6240



Nicole Burger, Certified Energy Rater  
Date: 3/6/24 at 3:57 PM



Energy savings calculated without modifications to the energy model. (As Modeled)

Ekotrope RATER - Version:4.0.2.3352

The Energy Rating Disclosure for this home is available from the Approved Rating Provider. This report does not constitute any warranty or guarantee.

# Case Comparison

Reference	Unit	Type	Floor	Annual Heating Cost	Annual Cooling Cost	Annual Water Heating	Annual Lighting/ Appliances/ Other	Annual Service Charges	Total Annual Cost
TB Aluminum Frame Window	A	1BR Mid Inner	3	\$426	\$26	\$214	\$472	\$84	\$1,222
uPVC Frame Window	B	1 BR Mid Inner	3	\$275	\$25	\$214	\$472	\$84	\$1070

Reference	Unit	HERS Energy Rating Index Score	Operational Carbon Index	Annual Energy Use Electric	Energy Use MBtu Heating	Energy Use MBtu Cooling	Energy Use MBtu Hot Water	Energy Use MBtu Lights/ Appliances	Total Use MBtu
Existing Historic Building	A	63	63	7,113 KWh	9.1	0.6	4.6	10.1	24.3
New Construction Addition	B	49	50	6,163 KWh	5.9	0.5	4.6	10.1	17.6

# Local and Federal Funding Opportunities:

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- 45L Tax Credits
- DOE Homes
- DOE HEEHRA
- Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP)
- DOE 48 Solar
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Utility Program Rebates & Incentives

# Part II: The CO2 Index

# The CO2 Index: Why and How

## RESNET's New Carbon Rating Index

**RESNET  
CARBON  
INDEX**

**The US energy  
system is changing**  
First-of-its-kind carbon rating  
index addresses critical issue  
of greenhouse gas emissions.

### The Standard:

Based on ANSI/RESNET/ICC 301  
Standard "CO<sub>2</sub>e Rating Index"

**Provides a more accurate metric to measure emissions: addresses  
when energy is used, as well as how much of it is used**

<p>Uses hourly CO<sub>2</sub>e emission rates and electricity generation emission projections as published by the <a href="#">National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)</a>.</p>	<p>Combines these values with the hourly energy consumption given by the calculation of the HERS Index to provide a new metric valuing the carbon emissions when energy is used.</p>	<h4>How can it be used?</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Usable for local climate change initiatives</li><li>✓ Utility incentive programs</li><li>✓ Consumer awareness</li><li>✓ Can be used in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) reporting</li><li>✓ Can be a basis for green bonds</li></ul>
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## How it works:

A RESNET accredited HERS software will take the information entered for a HERS Rating and calculate the Carbon Rating Index Score. No additional inspections needed.



HERS Rating  
Data



RESNET HERS  
Software



Carbon Index  
Score



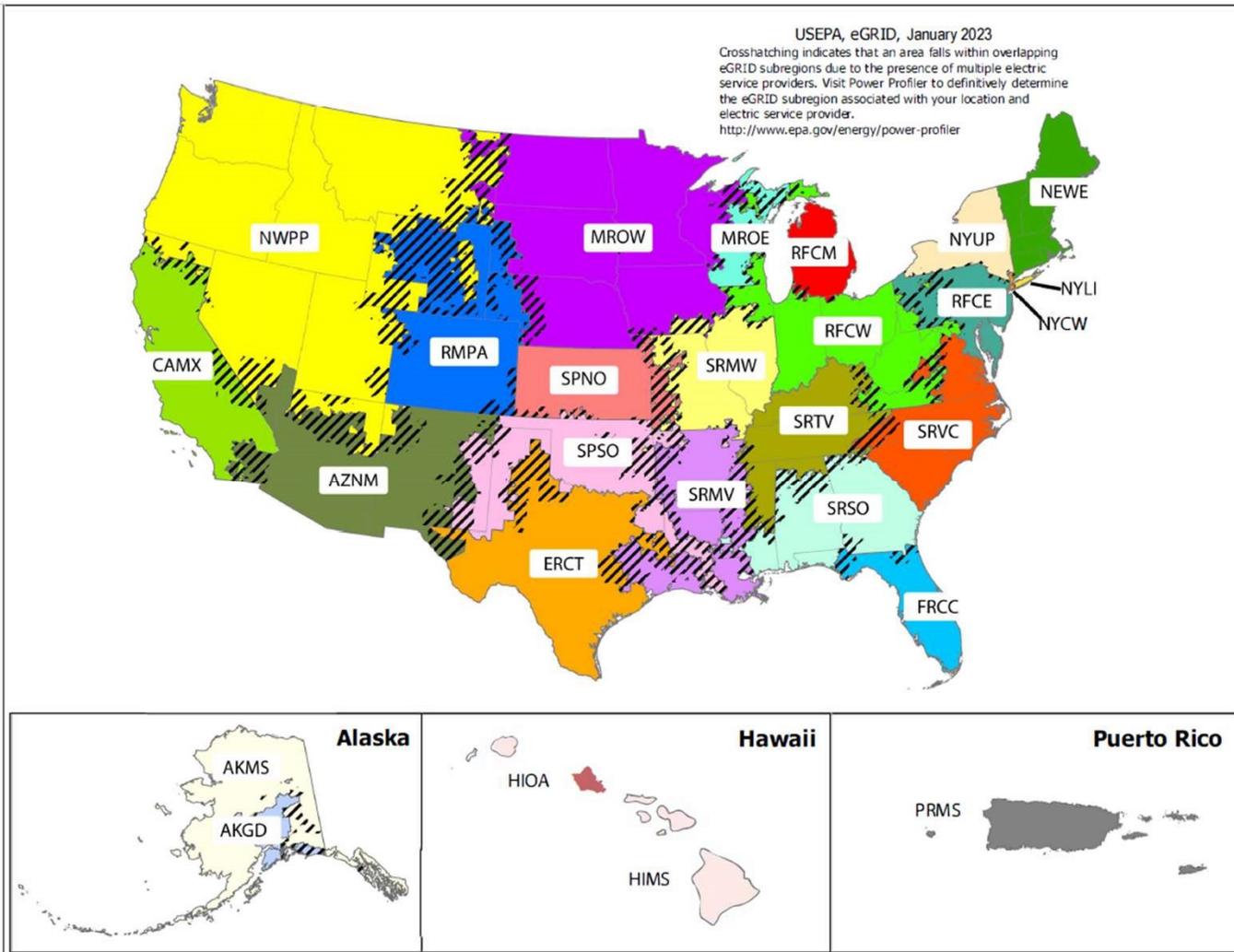
- CO2 100 indicates that the rated home incurs the same total emissions as a similar, all-electric home built to 2006 efficiency standards
- CO2 0 = the rated home incurs net-zero emissions over the course of the year - a more difficult scenario than a HERS 0 Score unless the home is generating on-site renewable energy at times when the grid is carbon-intensive

**Spoiler: HERS 0 and CO2 0 are NOT the same thing! A HERS 0 home is still a burden on the grid overnight when renewables are not plentiful.**

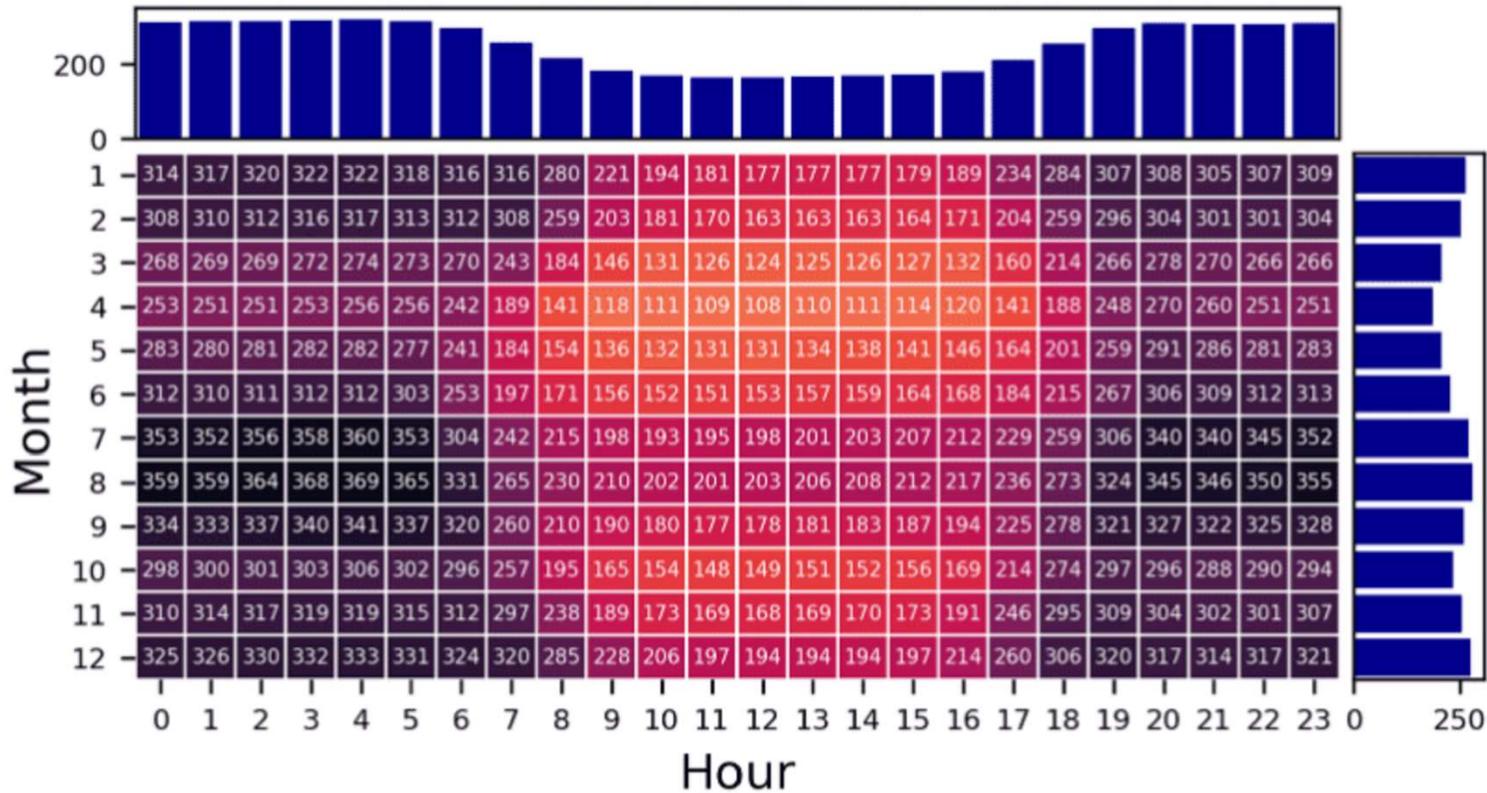


# The Cambium Database

- Grid Forecasting Tool Released in 2020
- Based on the USEPA eGRID regions
- Models 10 Different Grid Impact Scenarios
- Leading Grid Analysis Tool



# Time of Use



NREL  
The Cambium database analyzes hourly results, showing emission rate patterns in kg/MWh of production

An example long-run marginal CO2 emission rate pattern (kg/MWh) for the contiguous United States from the mid-case scenario of the 2020 Standard Scenarios data set.

# Low Renewables Cost Scenario — Highest Market Share of Renewable Energy Levelized from 2025-2050

Levelized Long-run Marginal Emission Rates (Annual)

Units: kg of CO2 per MWh at the point of end-use

AZNMc	CAMXc	ERCTc	FRCc	MROEc	MROWc	NEWEc	NWPPc	NYSTc	RFCEc	RFCMc	RFCWc	RMPAc	SPNOc	SPSOc	SRMVc	SRMWc	SRSOc	SRTVc	SRVCc
137.9	44.6	83.5	204.8	200.7	134.6	196.4	102.9	75.8	280.2	343.0	311.1	162.6	141.5	160.0	305.5	210.4	305.1	360.1	179.8

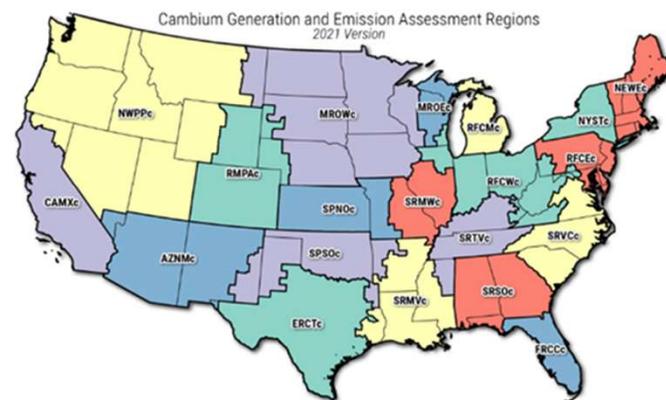
Levelized Long-run Marginal Emission Rates (Time-of-day)

Units: kg of CO2 per MWh at the point of end-use

Hour of the day	AZNMc	CAMXc	ERCTc	FRCc	MROEc	MROWc	NEWEc	NWPPc	NYSTc	RFCEc	RFCMc	RFCWc	RMPAc	SPNOc	SPSOc	SRMVc	SRMWc	SRSOc	SRTVc	SRVCc
0	176.6	79.8	90.7	374.6	302.3	184.7	231.0	132.3	98.6	366.4	378.0	396.9	207.9	177.0	182.5	373.3	274.3	441.0	485.1	324.9
1	181.8	85.9	90.6	392.4	300.9	187.2	228.5	133.3	96.9	362.0	374.9	392.2	210.6	177.5	182.0	370.8	276.7	446.4	485.7	331.8
2	186.1	88.8	90.7	399.6	302.5	186.8	227.5	133.9	95.7	359.4	373.5	390.7	212.8	178.8	184.2	371.1	279.0	446.9	486.3	334.3
3	188.7	88.6	90.5	394.5	303.1	189.2	226.6	133.2	95.6	358.4	374.0	391.4	211.0	181.9	186.7	371.4	281.3	446.8	486.0	334.0
4	187.9	84.1	91.3	377.7	280.0	184.6	222.0	129.6	94.4	358.3	375.5	393.0	205.0	181.8	190.1	368.4	277.0	442.6	468.8	328.6
5	183.1	62.3	90.3	333.3	220.5	154.0	204.0	118.6	84.7	335.0	370.6	384.3	195.0	163.6	182.3	336.2	232.8	420.5	390.2	281.9
6	157.0	39.7	76.7	216.0	174.7	129.7	181.5	96.4	70.2	284.3	348.1	335.5	174.1	137.3	162.1	280.1	190.4	333.0	308.4	193.7
7	125.0	17.6	63.1	120.5	123.1	107.0	161.8	75.7	56.8	228.2	325.4	276.1	144.9	119.5	136.4	226.6	151.2	244.5	246.7	115.7
8	99.6	12.1	58.0	90.9	96.5	88.1	146.9	68.4	47.5	178.8	299.7	215.9	120.9	102.8	118.6	203.8	134.6	187.1	229.0	67.2
9	94.5	11.6	58.6	88.1	91.5	84.2	143.3	67.4	44.6	166.3	290.8	196.5	112.1	99.0	113.7	198.4	129.2	172.5	225.2	58.2
10	93.1	11.4	61.7	86.9	89.4	82.8	142.4	67.6	44.3	163.5	291.2	193.8	109.6	98.7	112.8	194.8	126.9	166.7	223.5	54.9
11	93.4	11.6	65.4	85.4	89.9	82.1	143.1	68.0	44.8	162.1	290.9	193.0	111.1	98.6	110.5	194.2	125.7	163.9	221.3	53.7
12	93.2	11.6	67.8	87.2	89.1	81.3	143.6	67.9	45.0	161.0	291.6	193.4	111.9	97.7	109.5	193.3	125.8	162.5	221.0	52.7
13	93.1	12.2	67.0	89.4	90.1	81.8	143.8	68.4	45.0	161.5	291.0	192.5	110.3	96.8	111.5	194.7	127.4	163.4	224.0	53.6
14	93.0	13.0	66.8	93.7	94.7	82.7	148.7	71.1	46.9	164.1	291.8	194.6	112.2	98.3	113.4	203.3	131.7	168.4	232.7	56.7
15	94.4	22.9	68.9	100.4	131.5	94.0	166.2	84.4	53.1	182.4	298.7	208.6	120.8	109.9	123.3	247.0	157.8	176.0	286.9	67.4
16	112.1	41.9	81.2	140.5	188.5	122.0	195.4	108.5	69.1	249.4	326.4	266.0	140.4	134.6	153.5	320.0	215.0	225.5	373.1	128.8
17	139.6	53.6	110.8	215.7	248.7	150.4	230.5	122.0	88.5	330.6	360.1	336.4	170.8	160.7	193.1	411.0	261.1	316.3	444.6	188.3
18	157.8	62.4	126.5	279.8	287.5	170.5	255.2	126.6	110.2	386.4	395.0	393.4	186.8	181.0	224.5	420.1	284.4	398.0	468.0	233.6
19	167.3	57.2	111.8	274.8	289.3	169.5	249.3	124.9	108.2	387.6	399.4	414.8	194.1	171.5	209.7	401.8	266.7	413.8	450.5	241.2
20	161.0	56.2	98.2	258.9	284.1	167.0	238.4	124.8	99.7	373.2	392.1	405.3	189.0	168.0	201.9	384.2	263.0	396.1	443.7	236.2
21	159.6	61.6	91.4	258.1	297.1	172.7	235.9	126.8	98.6	368.2	381.9	399.5	189.3	170.7	192.7	378.9	273.6	389.6	461.8	245.5
22	164.9	65.3	90.7	289.1	305.6	176.0	235.8	129.3	100.9	375.6	382.1	405.9	196.8	172.7	190.3	380.0	277.1	406.6	478.9	282.8
23	170.0	73.0	94.7	335.2	306.4	182.0	234.1	130.6	102.1	376.2	380.2	405.9	201.6	176.3	186.7	376.0	274.7	430.6	484.1	313.0

For mappings of ZIP codes and counties to GEA regions, see the County Mapping and ZIP Mapping tabs.  
For the time zone that each GEA region is reported in, see the Timezones tab.

2024	2026	2028	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
1.00	1.91	1.80	1.70	3.84	3.31	1.76	0.00



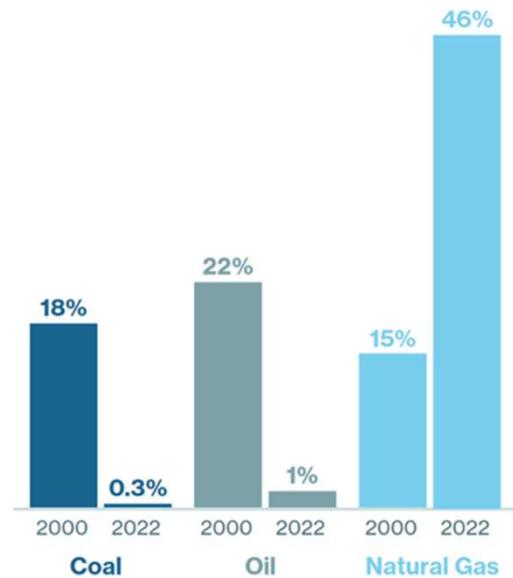
# A Major Energy Transformation Is Underway

New England has shifted away from older coal- and oil-fired generation to cleaner burning natural gas.

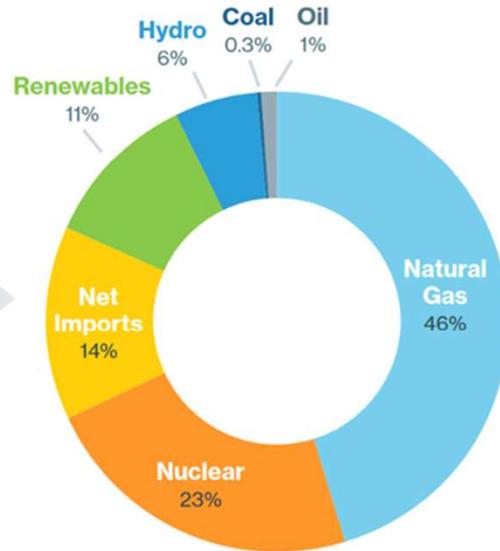
Most of today's electricity comes from lower-emitting energy resources.

The region is transitioning to large-scale clean and renewable energy.

## YESTERDAY VS. TODAY



## 2022 ENERGY RESOURCES



## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Wind power dominates new resource proposals: nearly 16,000 MW



Solar power is growing rapidly: ISO-NE forecasts nearly 12,000 MW within a decade



Battery storage technologies are emerging at the customer and grid level: more than 11,000 MW proposed



New transmission proposals would provide access to additional clean or renewable energy in New England or Eastern Canada

The amount of electricity produced by generators in New England and imported from other regions to satisfy all residential, commercial, and industrial customer demand in New England. This is called Net Energy for Load (NEL).

Courtesy ISO-ne.com

# Carbon Index Emissions Comparison

**Property**

41 Wauwinet Rd  
Nantucket, MA 02554

Wauwinet Rd 41 - 5dYEqVnd  
41 Wauwinet Rd

**Organization**

Stephens and Company, Inc.  
Andrew Buccino  
508-280-6542

**Builder**

Adam Ross

**Inspection Status**

2023-10-17  
Rater ID (RTIN): 2223008  
RESNET Registered  
(Confirmed)



Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e) [tons/yr]	Carbon Ref.	Rated Home	Savings	% Saved
Heating Total	5.64	1.16	4.48	79.41%
Cooling Total	0.04	0.01	0.04	82.34%
Hot Water Total	1.14	0.30	0.84	73.61%
Lights & Appliances Total	4.23	2.95	1.27	30.13%
Emissions Savings from Onsite Generation	-0.00	-0.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.05</b>	<b>4.42</b>	<b>6.62</b>	<b>59.97%</b>



# Carbon Rating & HERS® Certificate

Projected Report  
Based on Plans

Rating Date: 2021-10-07  
Registry ID:  
Ekotrope ID: 6LAXOWZ2



**Carbon Index**  
**41**

**HERS® Index**  
**40**

**About these ratings:**  
Both ratings are relative performance scores. A lower Carbon Rating Index means fewer carbon emissions for a home. The lower the HERS Rating, the more energy efficient the home. For more info: [www.resnet.us/about/resnet-carbon-rating-index](http://www.resnet.us/about/resnet-carbon-rating-index) [www.hers.com](http://www.hers.com)

**Home:**  
31 Fairgrounds Rd Building 1 Unit B  
Nantucket, MA 02554

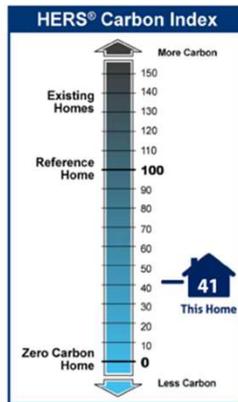
**Builder:**  
Fairgrounds Common

	CO <sub>2</sub> e Emissions [tons/yr]	Annual Cost
Heating	0.3	\$251
Cooling	0.0	\$2
Hot Water	0.1	\$129
Lights/Appliances	0.9	\$844
Service Charges		\$2
Generation (e.g. Solar)	0.0	\$0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>\$1,228</b>

**Annual Savings\***  
**2.7** Tons CO<sub>2</sub>e  
**\$2,443**  
\*Relative to an average U.S. home

## This home meets or exceeds the criteria of the following:

2018 International Energy Conservation Code



## Home Feature Summary:

Home Type: Apartment, end unit  
Model: N/A  
Community: N/A  
Conditioned Floor Area: 1,003 ft<sup>2</sup>  
Number of Bedrooms: 2  
Primary Heating System: Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 10.9 HSPF  
Primary Cooling System: Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 21.4 SEER  
Primary Water Heating: Residential Water Heater • Electric • 3.75 Energy Factor  
House Tightness: 1.3 ACH50 (Adjusted Infiltration: 1.30 ACH50)  
Ventilation: 54 CFM • 39 Watts • ERV  
Duct Leakage to Outside: Forced Air Ductless  
Above Grade Walls: R-32  
Ceiling: Vaulted Roof, R-37  
Window Type: U-Value: 0.29, SHGC: 0.26  
Foundation Walls: N/A  
Framed Floor: R-37

## Rating Completed by:

**Energy Rater:** Andrew Buccino  
RESNET ID: 2223008

**Rating Company:** Stephens and Company, Inc  
61 Old South Rd PMB 119 Nantucket, MA 02554  
508-325-5736

**Rating Provider:** Building Efficiency Resources  
PO Box 1769 Brevard, NC 28712  
800-399-9620



Andrew Buccino, Certified Energy Rater  
Date: 11/10/23 at 11:28 AM



This home was modeled to Base Code, HERS 45 All-Electric, and HERS 42 – Propane

Insulation R-values were kept at Base Code levels across all 3 models

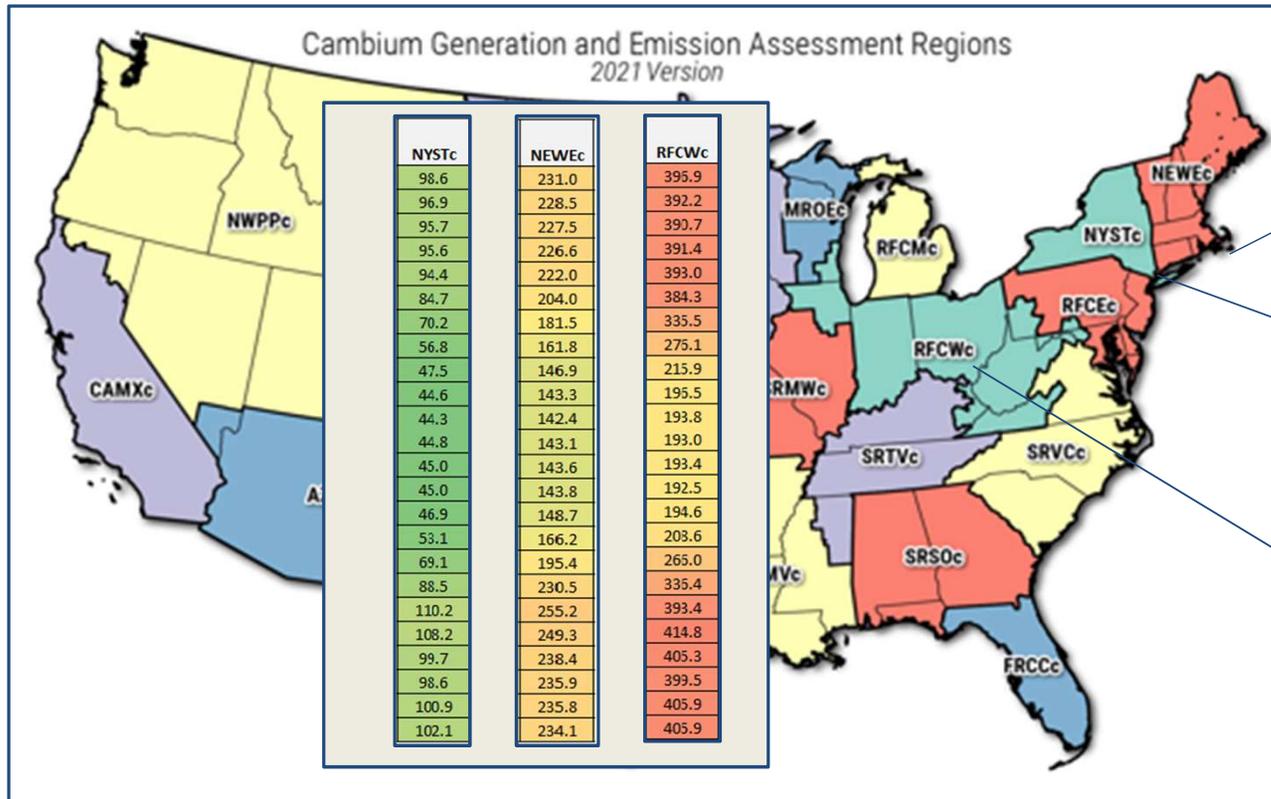
Stretch Code Job Comparison			
Address:	Base Code	All Electric - HERS 45	Propane - HERS 42
18 Beach Grass	HERS 59	HERS 45	HERS 42
3200 sq ft 3Beds			
Insulation Package	Base Code Minimum	Base code minimum	Base Code minimum
Windows	U:.30 / SHGC:.27	U:.30 / SHGC:.27	U:.30 / SHGC:.27
House Tightness	3 Air Changes	1.25 Air Changes	1.0 Air Changes
Heating	Heat pump w/Propane backup	Heat Pump HSPF2-10; SEER2-18.8	98% efficient furnace
Cooling	SEER-17.5	SEER2-18.8	SEER-18
Hot Water	95% efficient On Demand	Heat Pump 3.93 EF	96% efficient On Demand
ERV	60% efficient	82%	85%
Operational Cost	\$3,865	\$2,774	\$3,815
Op. Cost 25 yr	\$96,625	\$69,350	\$95,375
Tons Carbon / YR	4.42	3.01	4.97
25-Year Horizon	110.5	75.25	124.25

Operating cost is an estimate  
25-year horizon does not account for inflation

Air Changes have a significant impact on Energy performance



# Comparing the Same Development Across Three Grids



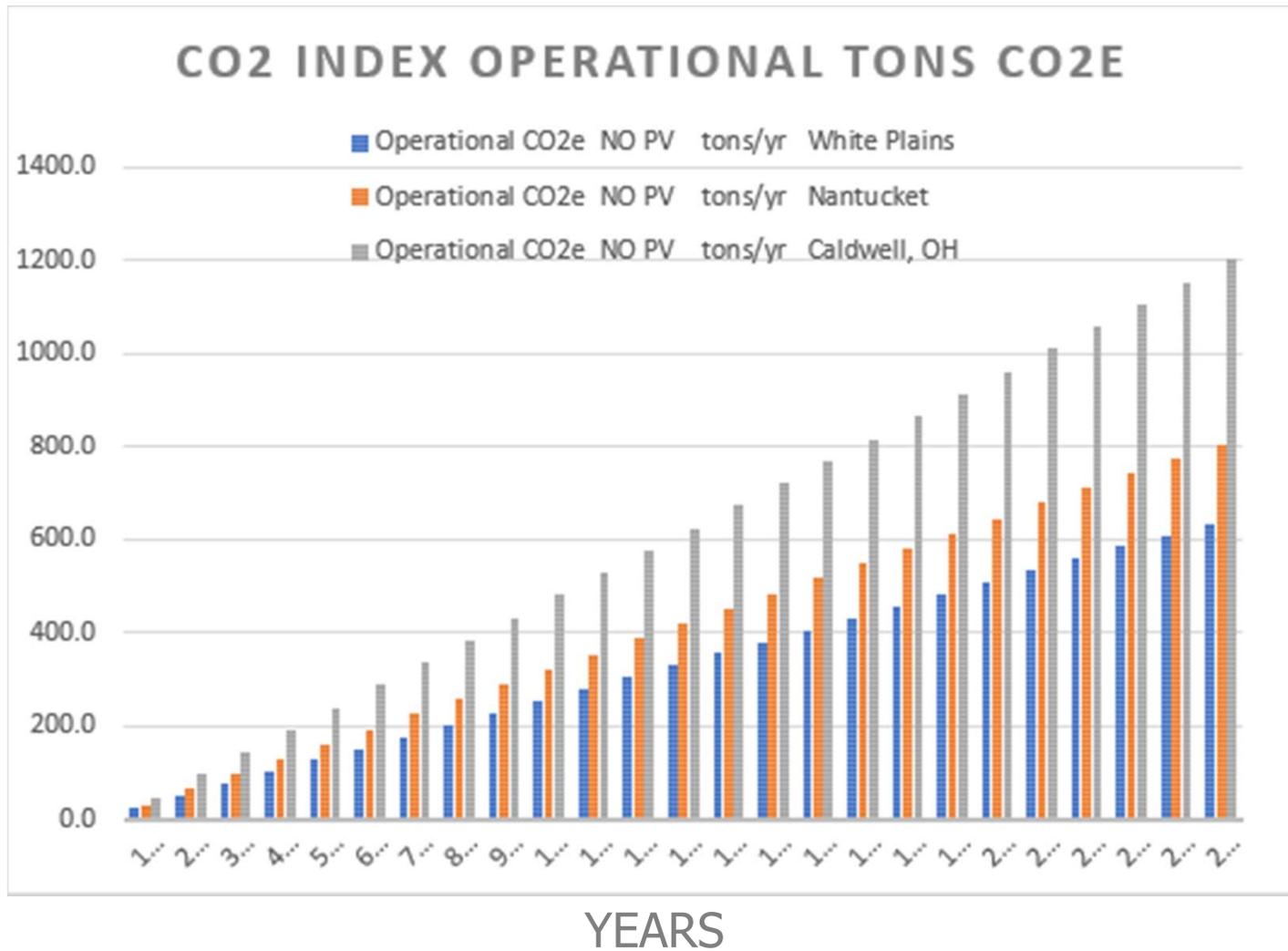
## 3 Cambium GEA Scenarios

Nantucket, MA 02554  
NEWEc - NPCC New England

White Plains, NY 10601  
NYSTc - NPCC  
NYC/Westchester/Long  
Island/ Upstate

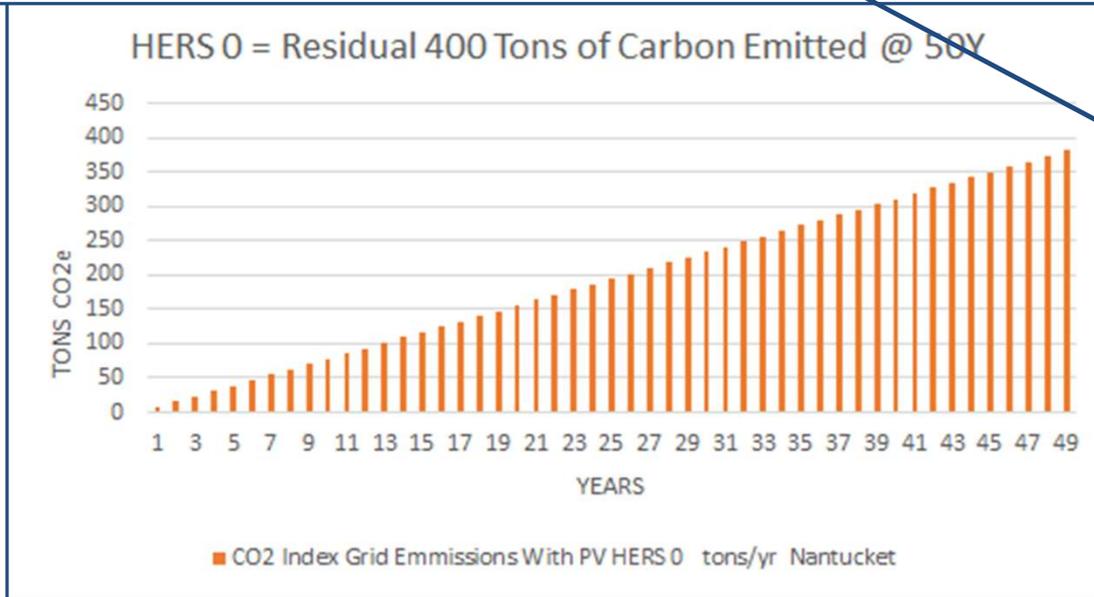
Caldwell, OH 43724  
RFCWc - RFC West

TONS CO2e



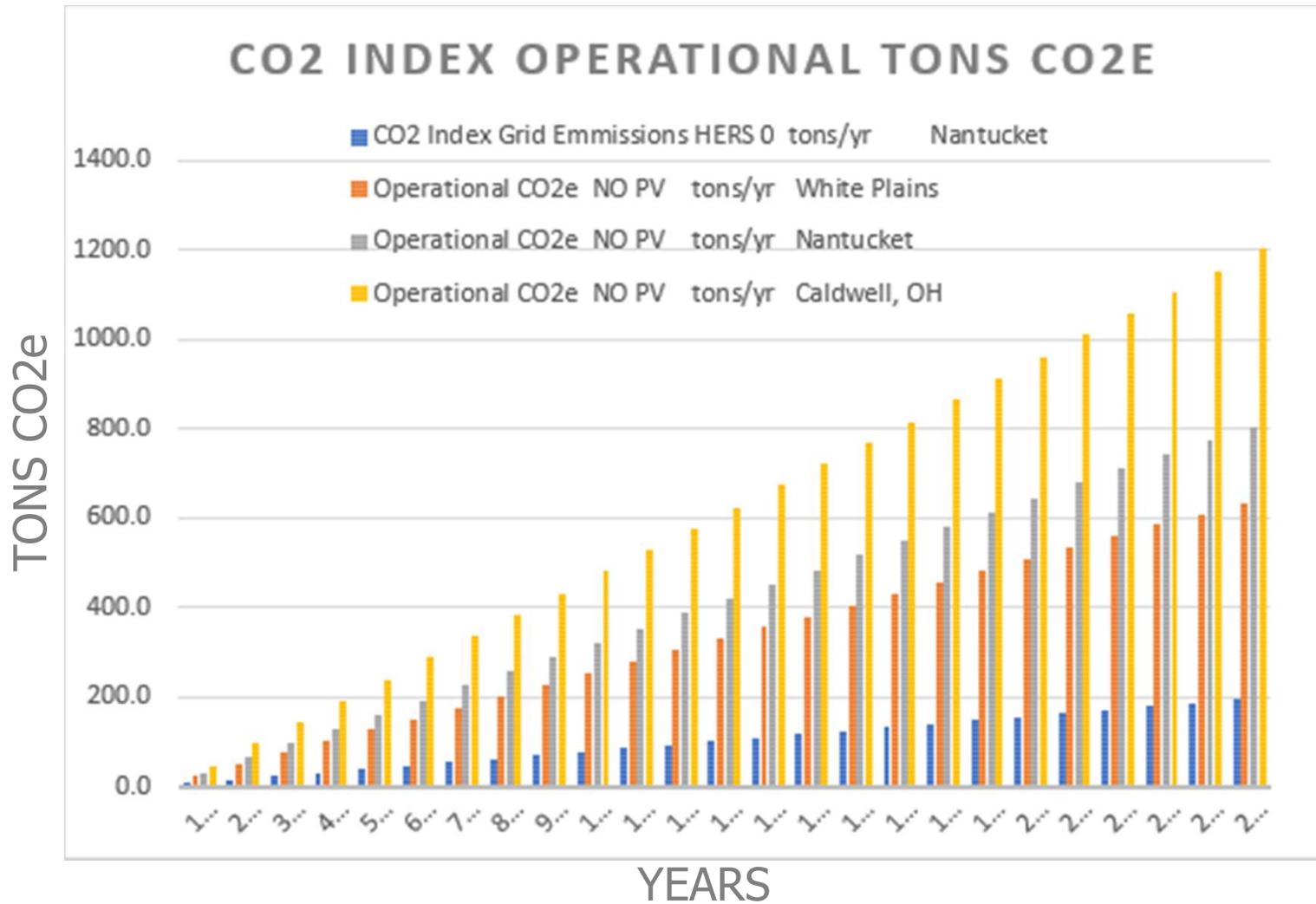
Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e) [tons/yr]	Carbon Ref.	Rated Home	Savings	% Saved
Heating Total	0.92	0.29	0.63	68.51%
Cooling Total	0.01	0.00	0.01	82.58%
Hot Water Total	0.72	0.13	0.59	81.58%
Lights & Appliances Total	1.42	0.90	0.51	36.35%
Emissions Savings from Onsite Generation	-0.00	-0.98	0.98	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.06</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>2.72</b>	<b>88.79%</b>

**HERS 0**  
**≠**  
**CO2 0**

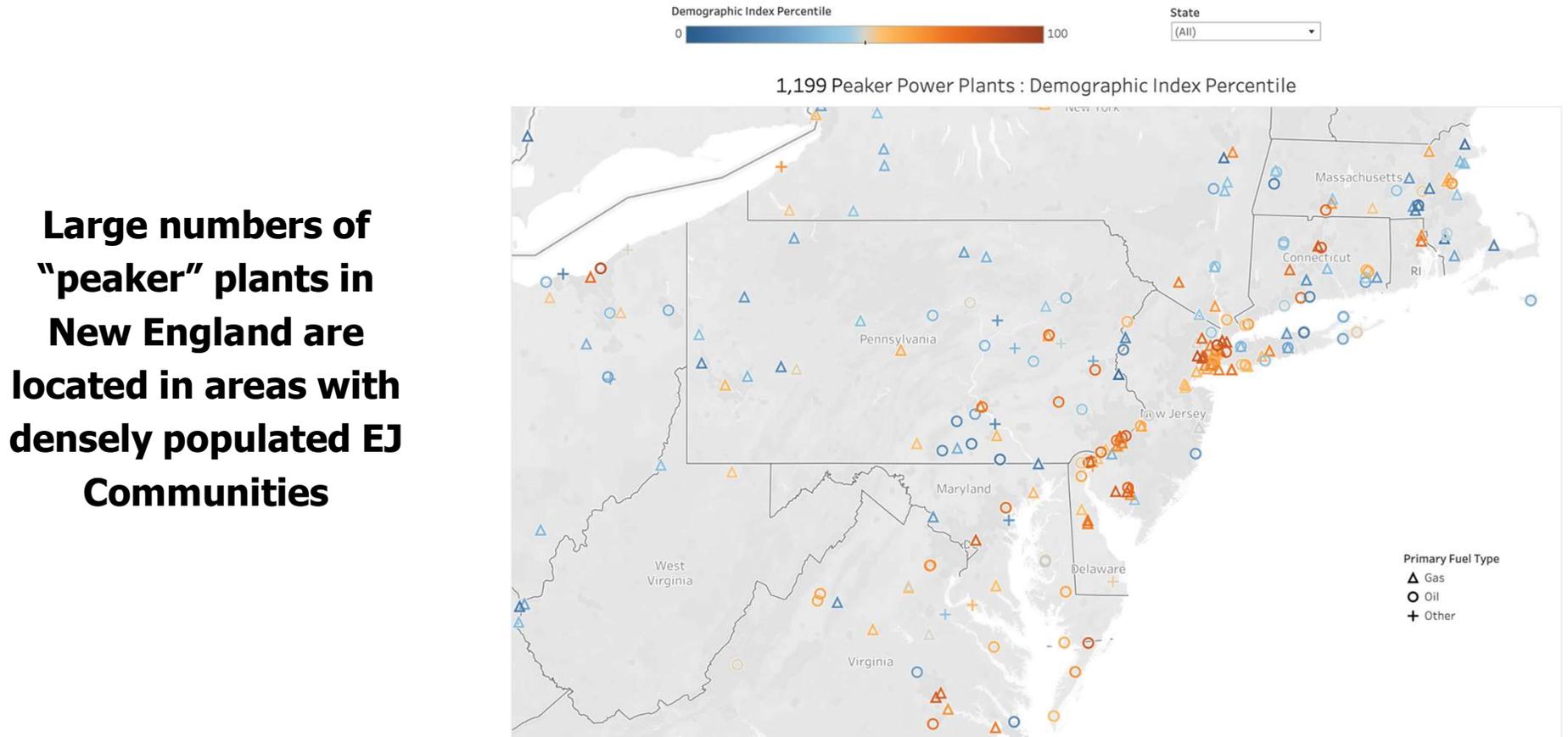


Even after adding all that PV, we still are emitting carbon at the grid scale

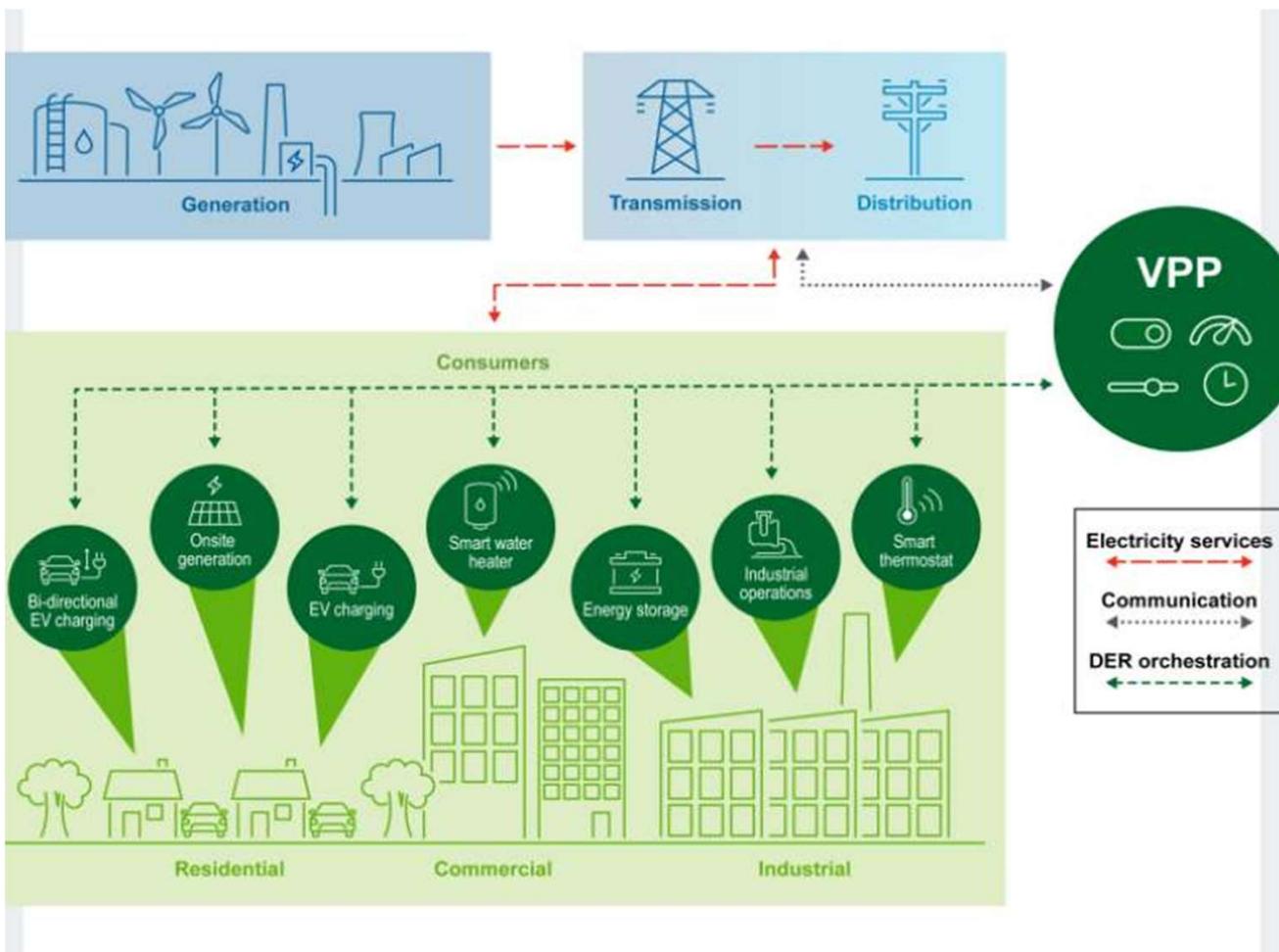
PV doesn't produce at night!



# Environmental Justice and CO2



Source: US EPA data visualized at <https://www.cleangroup.org/initiatives/phase-out-peakers/maps/>



## What is a Virtual Power Plant?

Leveraging of installed communications tech to deliver demand responsiveness

Let's consider a microgrid and a VPP

We can't have a microgrid without connecting to a primary grid's Peak Load capacity in case that microgrid goes down.

if a microgrid is supported by VPP responsiveness, it can eliminate itself from the peak load equation.

## **All Of These Are Now Supported and Are Interconnected:**

On-Site Battery Storage/ Micro-Grids  
Heat Pump Water Heaters  
Electric Variable capacity HVAC Systems  
Connected Thermostats  
Clothes Washers  
Clothes Dryers  
Refrigerators  
Electric Vehicles

# **Part III: Embodied Carbon**

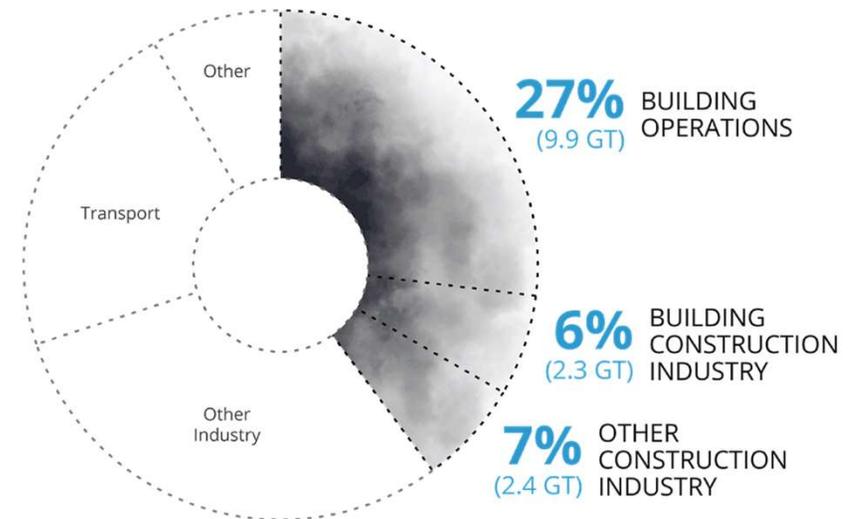
# Buildings and Carbon: Operational and Embodied Emissions

Annual Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

Total global fossil fuel emissions by sector, 2022

The built environment is responsible for 40% of annual global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Concrete, steel, and aluminum for buildings & infrastructure are responsible for 13% of annual global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



© Architecture 2030. All Rights Reserved. Data Source: IEA (2022), Buildings, IEA, Paris

*Building Construction Industry and Other Construction Industry represent emissions from concrete, steel, and aluminum for buildings and infrastructure respectively.*

# Residential Construction Impact



**235 million m<sup>2</sup>**  
(2.5 billion ft<sup>2</sup>)  
new low-rise residential  
in US (2017)



**~50-55**  
**million tonnes**  
annual emissions



Finland	46.846
Bulgaria	49.568
Hungary	50.856
Sweden	50.874
Norway	52.492
Singapore	55.018
Peru	55.931
Portugal	56.771

(Average of 800 new  
homes from BfCA studies)

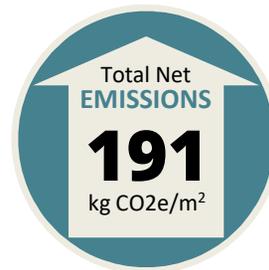
# Residential Construction Material Emission Baselines

**EMBARC Study**  
**(Toronto region)**  
503 as-built homes

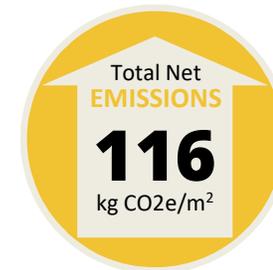
HIGHEST  
RESULT



AVERAGE  
RESULT



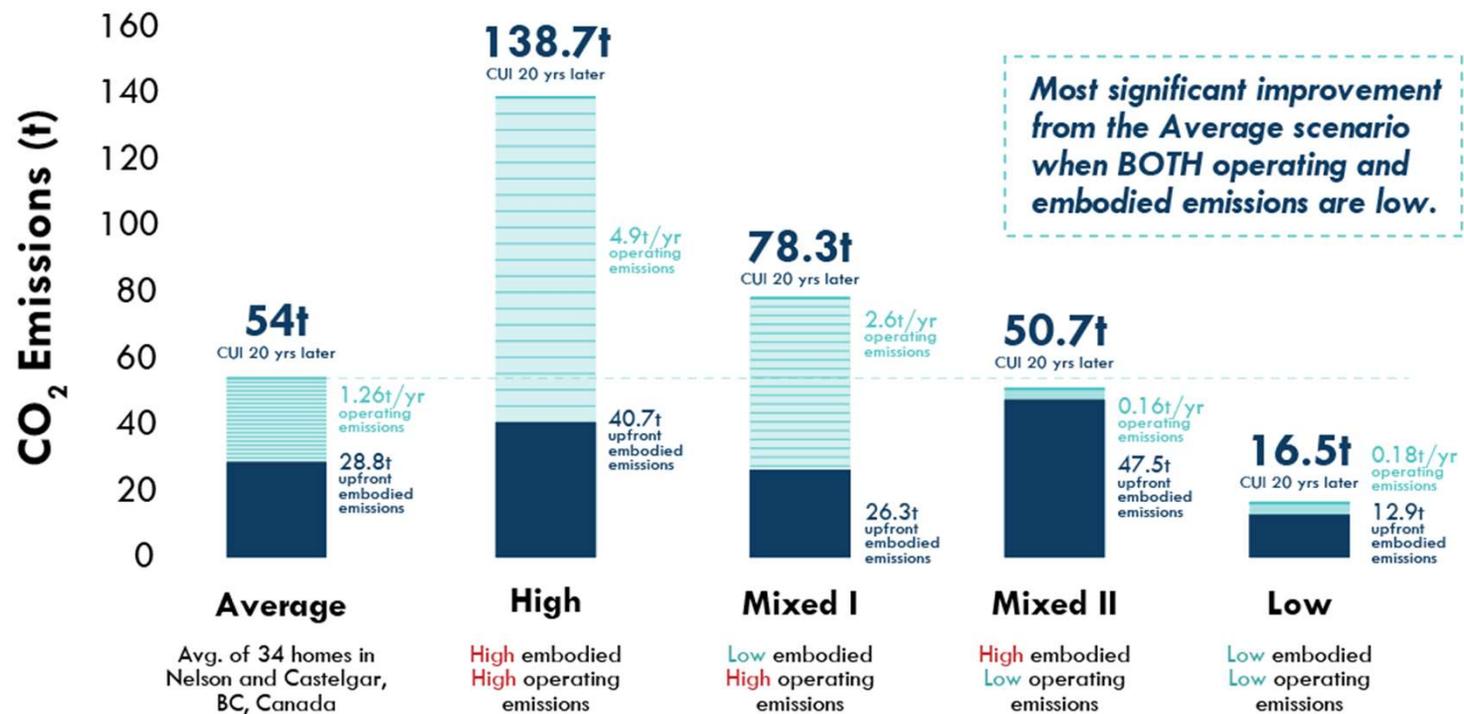
LOWEST  
RESULT



<https://www.buildersforclimateaction.org/report--embarc-report.html>

# Carbon Use Intensity - Nelson, B.C.

## Operating and Embodied Emissions Scenarios



# New Way to Define Building Performance

Up-Front Embodied Carbon Emissions



Operational Carbon Emissions



ENERGY USE INTENSITY

+



ENERGY SOURCE EMISSIONS

**= CARBON USE INTENSITY**



# New Way to Meet Emission Reduction Targets

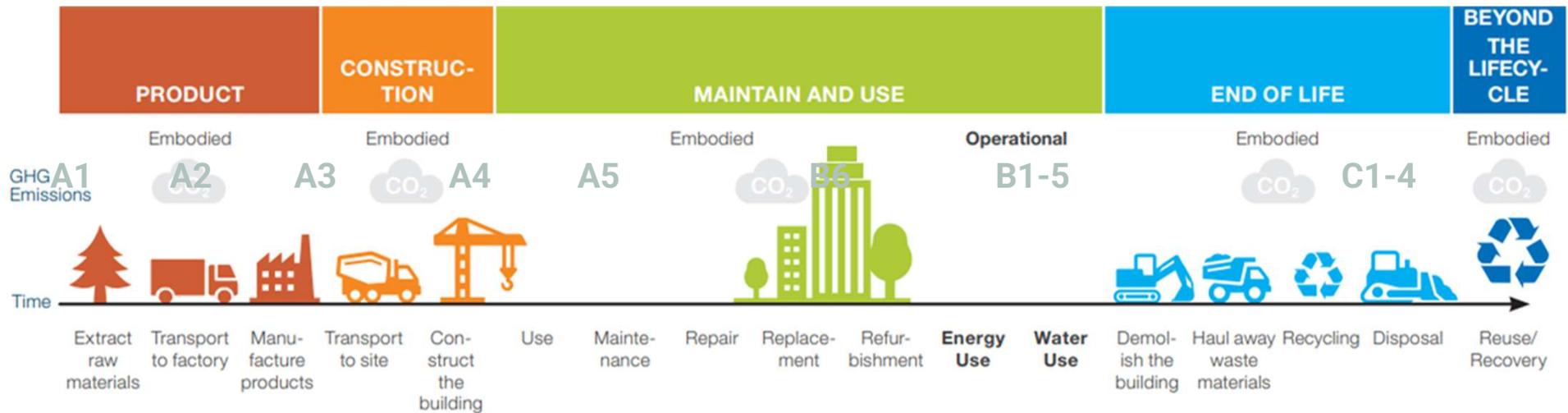
CARBON USE  
INTENSITY

Target date for  
zero emissions

0 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup> / 2050

Can't get **here** without carbon storing buildings.

# Life Cycle of a Building



Source: New Buildings Institute [https://newbuildings.org/code\\_policy/embodied-carbon/](https://newbuildings.org/code_policy/embodied-carbon/)

# Material Carbon Emission Analysis

## EXTERIOR WALLS

SECTION COMPLETE?

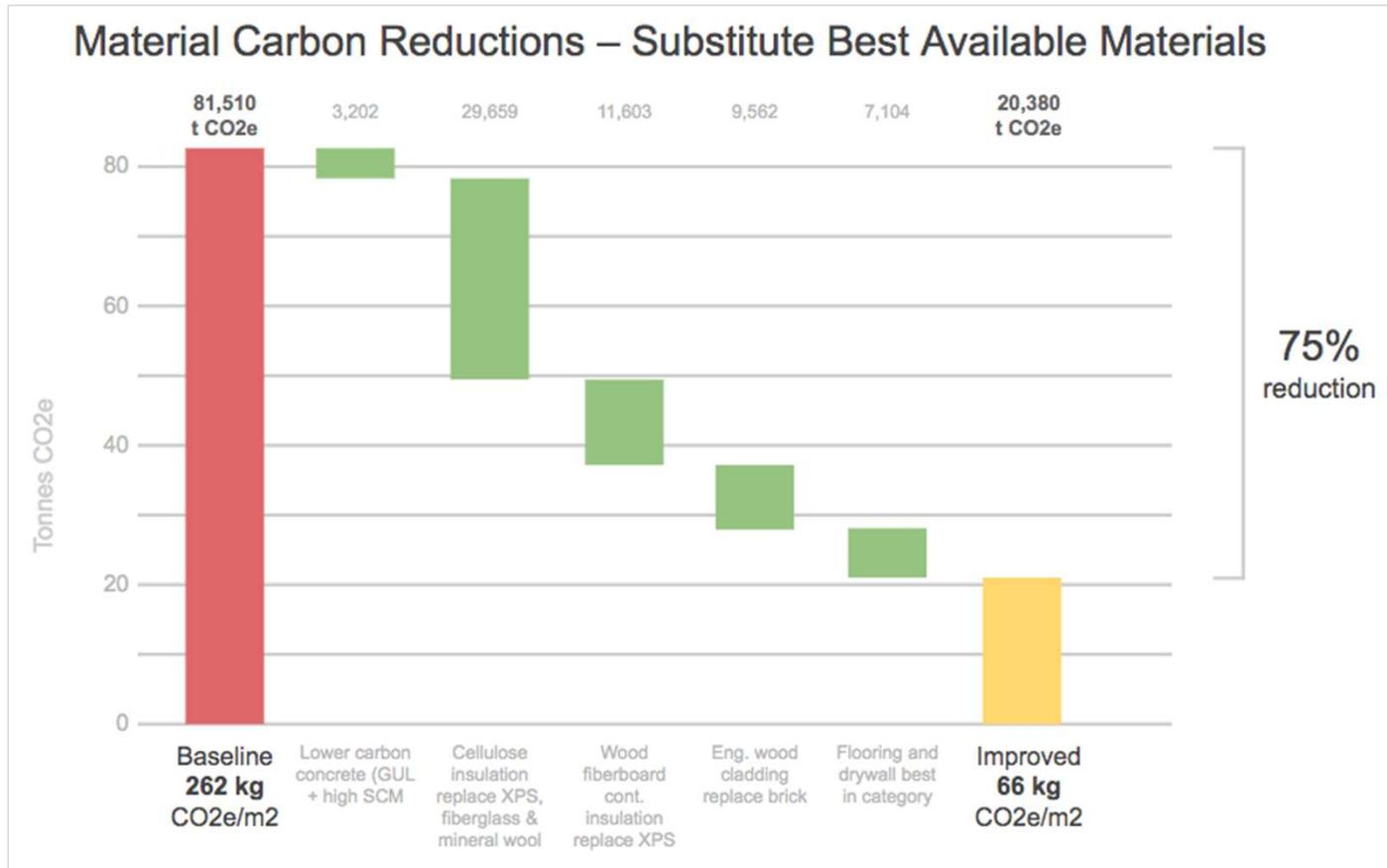
SUBTOTAL (kg CO<sub>2</sub>e)

**-5,576**



CATEGORY	MATERIAL	QUANTITY	UNITS	%	SELECT	NET EMISSIONS (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	EMISSIONS (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	STORAGE (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	FOOTNOTE
	Fiberglass batt / Owens Corning / EcoTouch Pink batt and roll / R 3.6/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	374	374	0	
<b>HEMP FIBER WOOL INSULATION</b>									
	Hemp fiber batt / NaturFibre / Hemp Wool / R 3.7/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-438	1,398	1,836	
<b>CELLULOSE INSULATION</b>									
	Cellulose / loose fill / R 3.7/inch / CIMA [Industry Avg   US & CA]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-856	392	1,248	
	Cellulose / batt / CMS / EcoCell / R 3.6/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,436	392	1,828	
	Cellulose / spray applied / R 3.75/inch / International Cellulose Corp. / K-13, ThermoCon	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,692	262	1,954	
	Cellulose / dense pack / R 3.7/inch / CIMA [Industry Avg   US & CA]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,711	784	2,495	
<b>WOOD FIBER INSULATION</b>									
	Wood fiber loose fill / GUTEX / ThermoFiber / R 3.6/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,172	486	1,658	Expired 2020
	Wood fiber batt / GUTEX / ThermoFlex / R 4/inch [EU]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,731	302	2,033	
	Wood fiber batt / Steico / SteicoFlex / R 3.8/inch [EU]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,897	352	2,249	Expired 2021
	Wood fiber batt / [BEAM Avg   EU]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-1,956	235	2,191	
	Wood fiber batt / Pavatex / Pavaflex / R 3.8/inch [EU]	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-2,241	50	2,291	Expired 2019
<b>HEMPCRETE INSULATION</b>									
	Hempcrete / Cast in-situ / USA / R 2.1/inch, Avg. mix using NHL & PHL	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-2,417	7,133	9,551	Peer-reviewed LCA, 2020
	Hempcrete / Cast in-situ / Europe / R 2.1/inch, Avg. of 9 mixes	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-4,199	10,548	14,747	Peer-reviewed LCA, 2017
	Hempcrete / Cast in-situ / IsoHemp / Europe / R 2.1/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-4,832	4,719	9,551	LCA, 2018
<b>STRAW BALE INSULATION</b>									
	Straw Bale / Wheat & barley straw / SNaB (UK) / R 2.8/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input type="checkbox"/>	-4,319	542	4,861	
	Straw Bale / Wheat & rye straw / (Germany) / R 2.8/inch	4,101.0	ft <sup>2</sup>	100%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-6,162	326	6,488	Expired 2019

# Simple Substitution Strategy: Immediate Action



# **Part IV: Emergent Methodologies**

# Emergent Methodology: Combining RESNET Indices for Equity

## HERS Index

This year, RESNET will introduce its 4,000,000<sup>th</sup> HERS Rated Home into its registry!

## CO2 Index

Currently established: accounts for **time of use** emissions and coordinates with the new embodied carbon standard. EPDs could use the CO2 Index to allow for consistency across the industrial sector in product manufacturing.

## Embodied Carbon Measurement Standard

Currently in development: Technical Advisory Task Group is working out the details and the Standard Development Committee has been officially appointed.

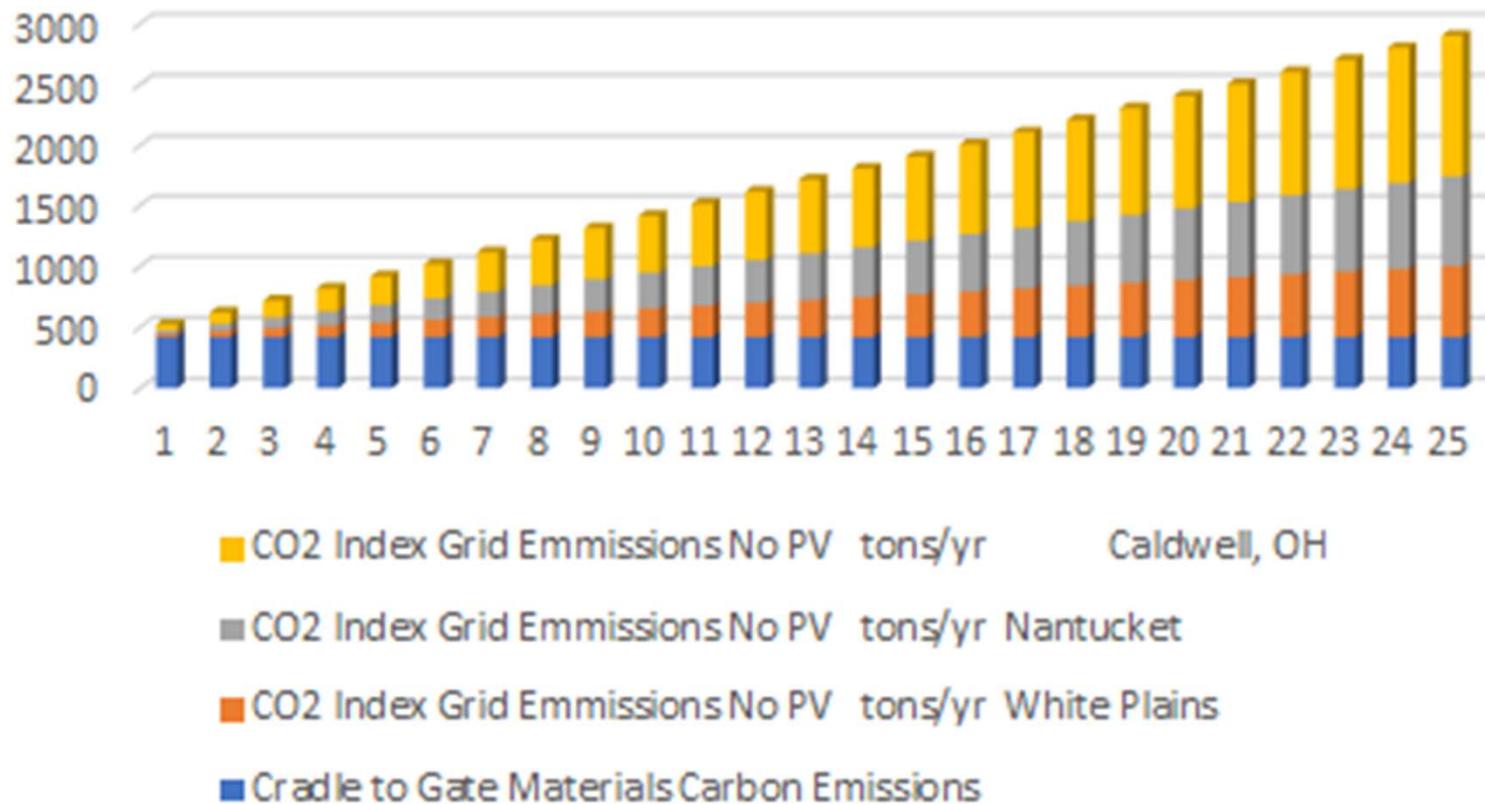
# HERS H<sub>2</sub>O

RESNET's Water Efficiency Rating System

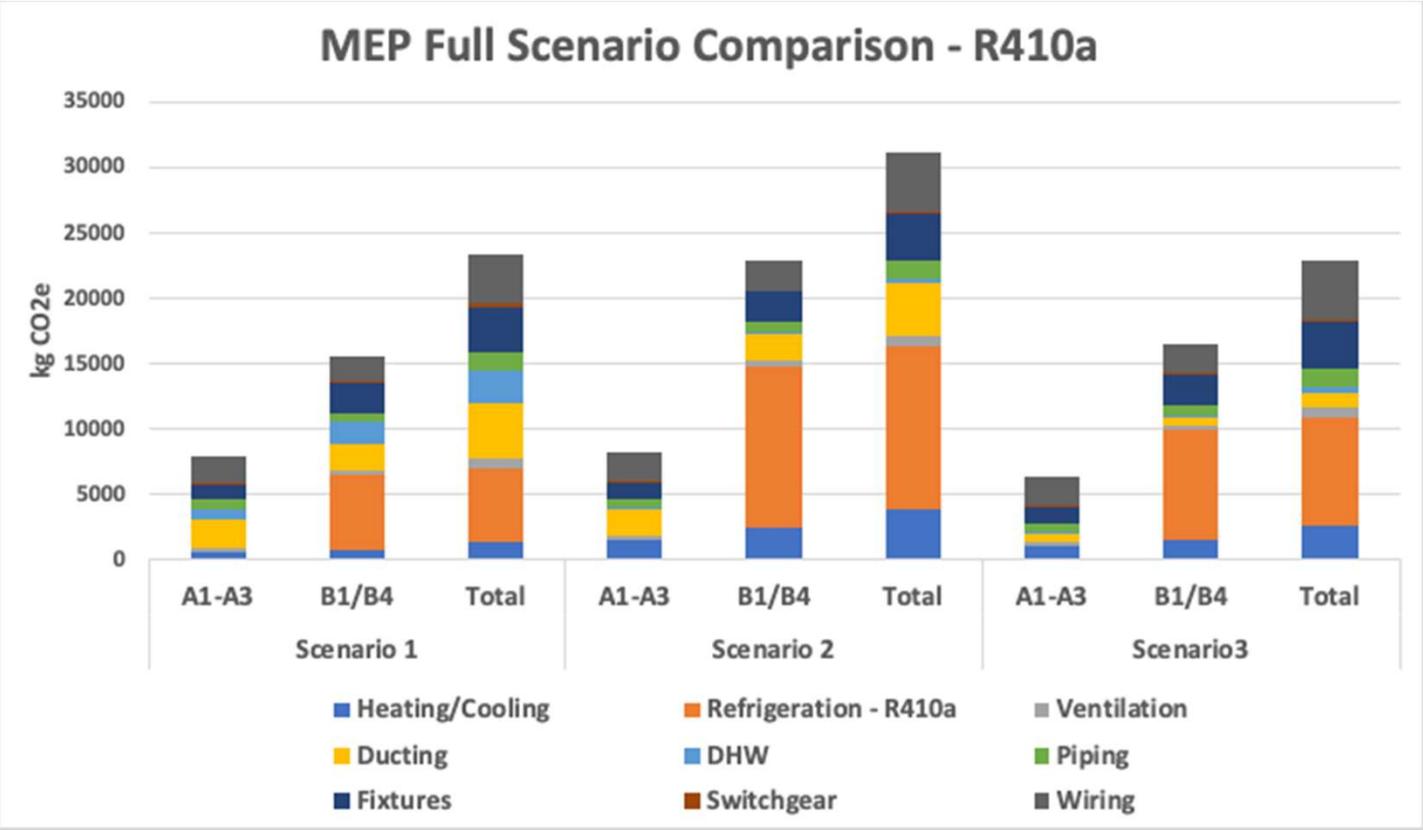


- **HERS H2O Water Index** is currently established: opportunity to coordinate with other indices as it relates to carbon and/or ecological impact.
- **HERS H2O** was rolled out in 2021: over 6000 homes have used this index in the West and Southwest. This is in alignment with WaterSense certification from the EPA.
- According to the EPA, Electricity Generation is responsible for **41% of our water** consumption in the US!
- Reducing our Grid Intensity reduces our Water Intensity!!

## 25-Year Emissions / Tons CO2e CO2 Index



# Emergent Methodology: M/E/P

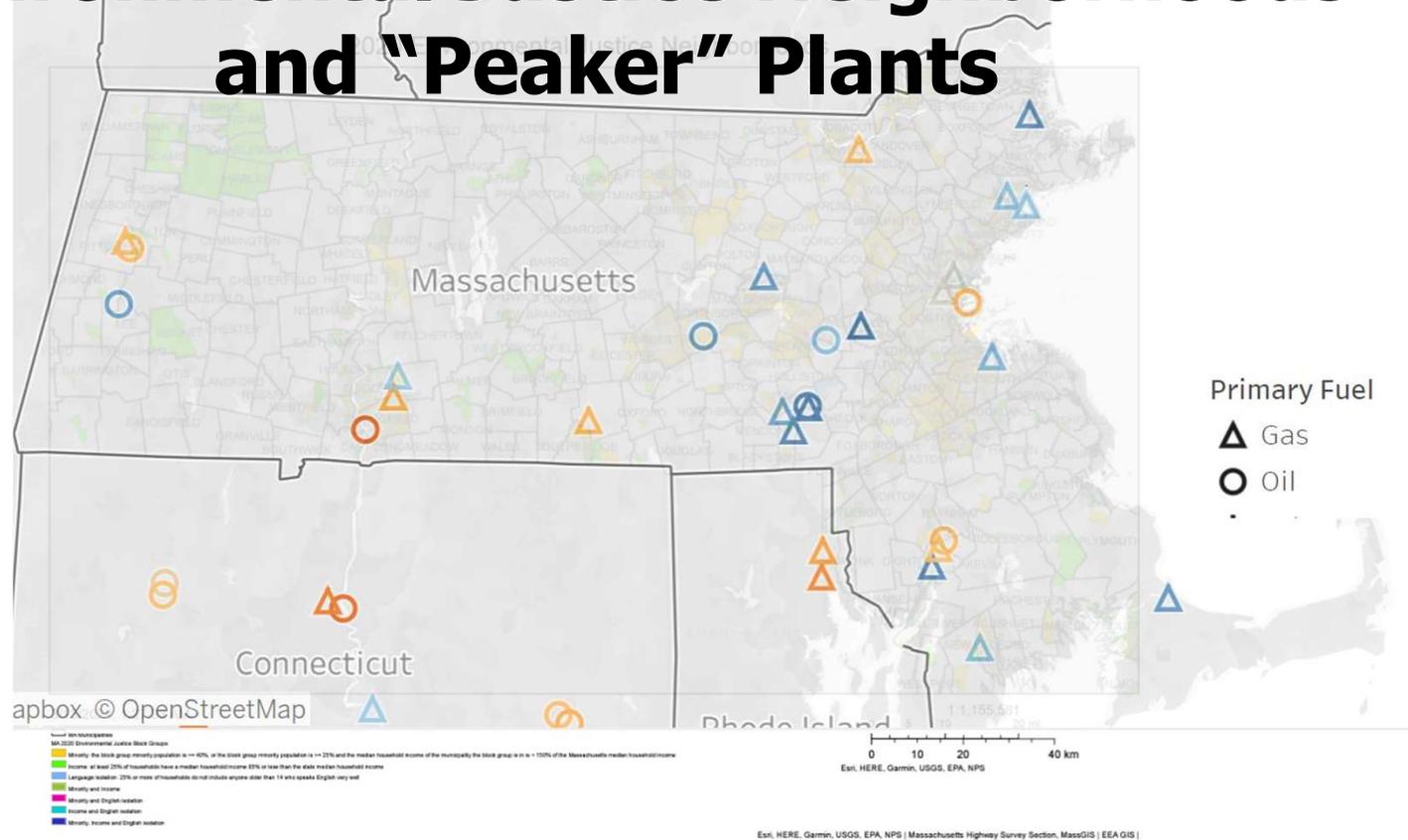


# Emergent Methodology: M/E/P

- **Include MEP** in embodied carbon (EC) standard; **25% of total EC** emissions (CISBE 2021)
- **Utilize CISBE-NA TM65** as data basis (ASHRAE in process), or EU EPD data
- **Include refrigerant impacts** - major potential impact during use (B) stage
- **Sensitivity Analysis** on residential-scale EC totals in process
- **Coordinate with RESNET Workflows and Indices** to inform data collection and analysis

# **Part V: Environmental Justice and Resiliency**

# Environmental Justice Neighborhoods and “Peaker” Plants



<https://mass-eoeea.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1d6f63e7762a48e5930de84ed4849212>

Source: US EPA data visualized at <https://www.cleangroup.org/initiatives/phase-out-peakers/maps/>

# So Let's Reduce the Load



# So Let's Transition to Renewables



# Unequal Consequences



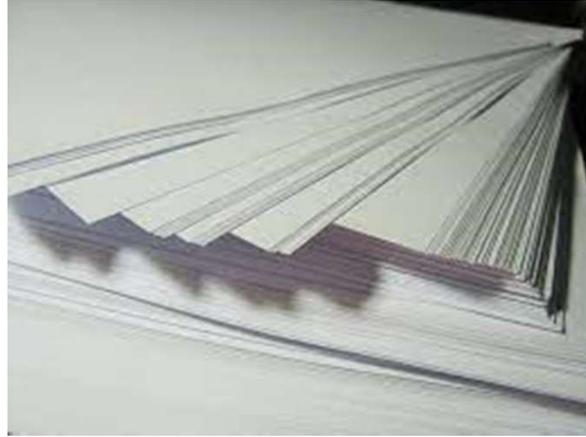
# Indigenous Knowledge Leading the Way

“5% of world’s population exist of indigenous people, and their way of life has preserved 80% of the world’s biodiversity.”

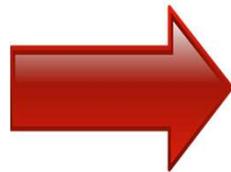
– Raki of West Papua

<https://sustainingalllife.org/resources/frontline-voices-video/>

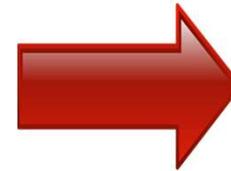
# Extraction



RAW  
MATERIALS



PRODUCTS



WASTE

# Regeneration



Photo by Nelson Treehouse and Supply

© NELSON TREEHOUSE



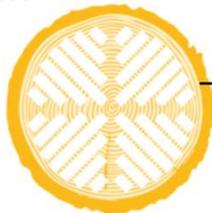
Download from  
iStockphoto.com

# Bio-Based = Supports Local Industry = Carbon Sequestering = Non-Toxic...

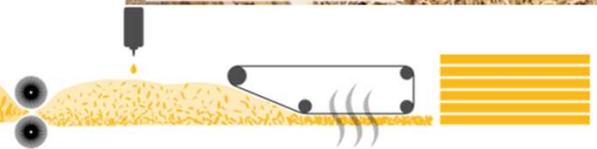
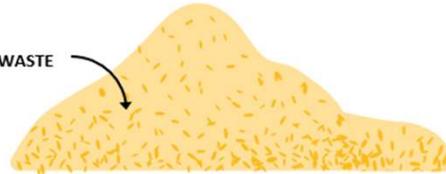


PROCESS:

MILLED LUMBER



WASTE



# Getting to Be Human



# Where Does Value Lie?



# Resiliency

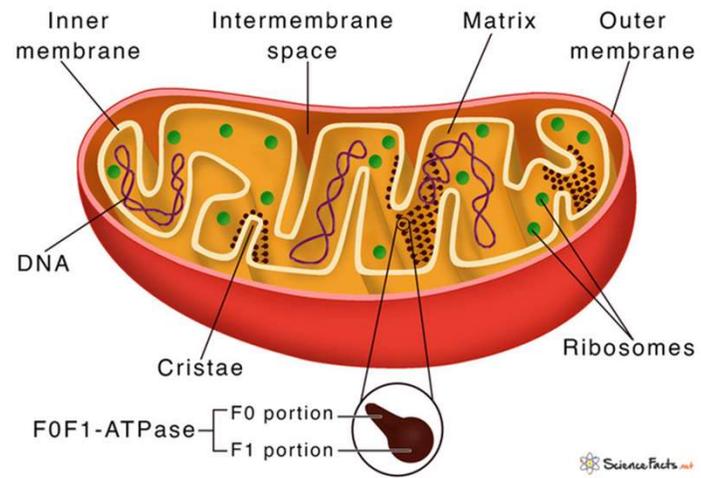


<https://nextcity.org/features/grassroots-movement-puerto-ricos-first-community-owned-solar-microgrid>

# Energy Is Everything



## Mitochondria



# Questions:



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*nburger@innovaservices.com*



**Andy Buccino**

Manager - Energy Division  
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**Jacob Deva Racusin**

Director of Building Science  
and Sustainability  
New Frameworks  
*Jacob@newframeworks.com*

**Thank You!**