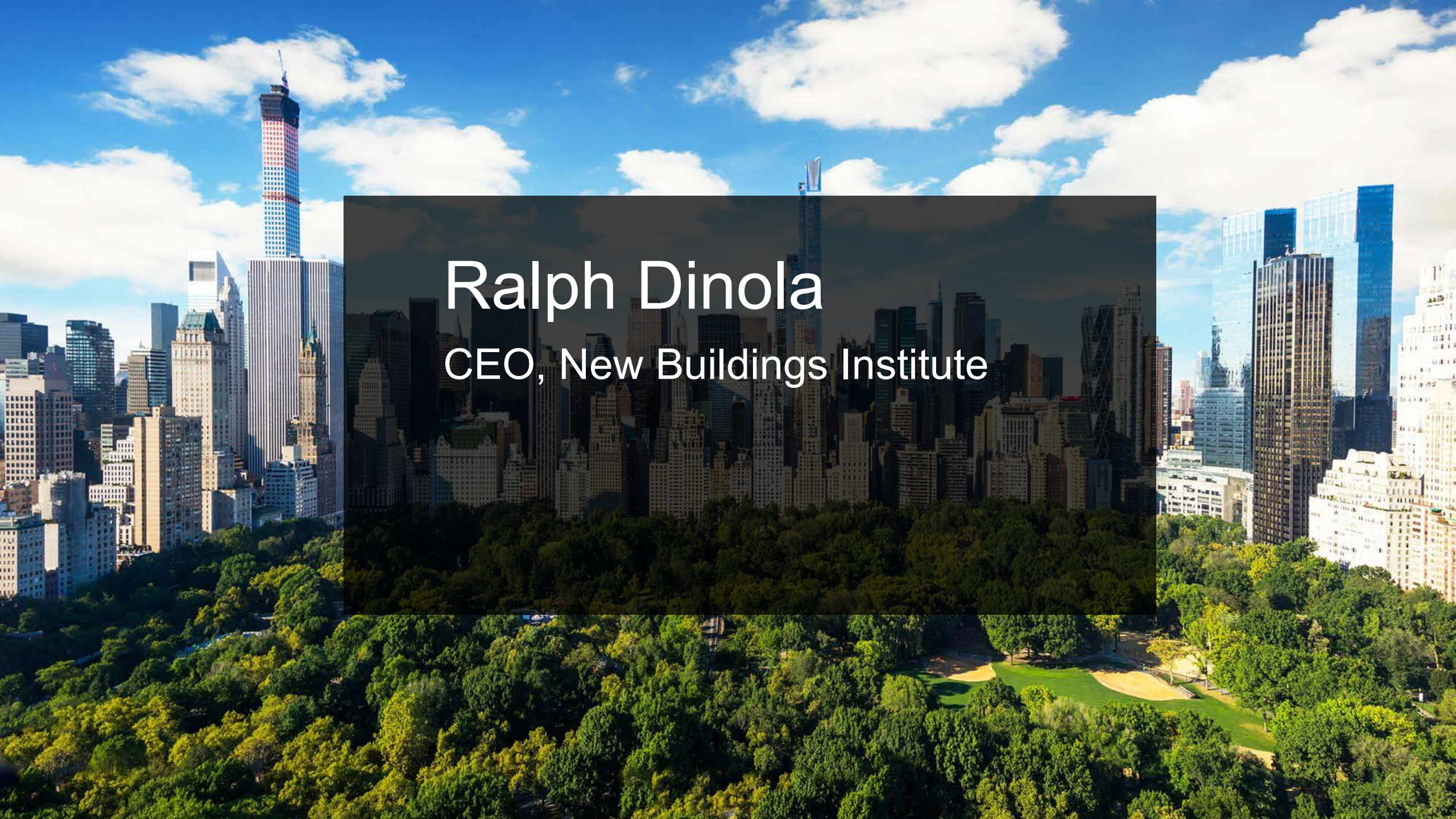




# GREENING THE GRID: GRID FRIENDLY BUILDINGS

February 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 | 32BJ



An aerial photograph of Central Park in New York City, showing a dense forest of green trees in the foreground and middle ground. In the background, the Manhattan skyline is visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. Several prominent skyscrapers are visible, including the Freedom Tower on the left and other modern glass buildings on the right. A semi-transparent dark rectangle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text.

# Ralph Dinola

CEO, New Buildings Institute






# GRIDOPTIMAL™

BUILDINGS INITIATIVE

**nbi** new buildings  
institute



# New Buildings Institute is:



Vision: We envision a transformed built environment that is carbon-free, sustainable, and energy-efficient and supports thriving economies that benefit all people and the planet.

Mission: We push for better buildings that achieve zero energy, zero carbon, and beyond – through research, policy, guidance, and market transformation – to protect people and the planet.



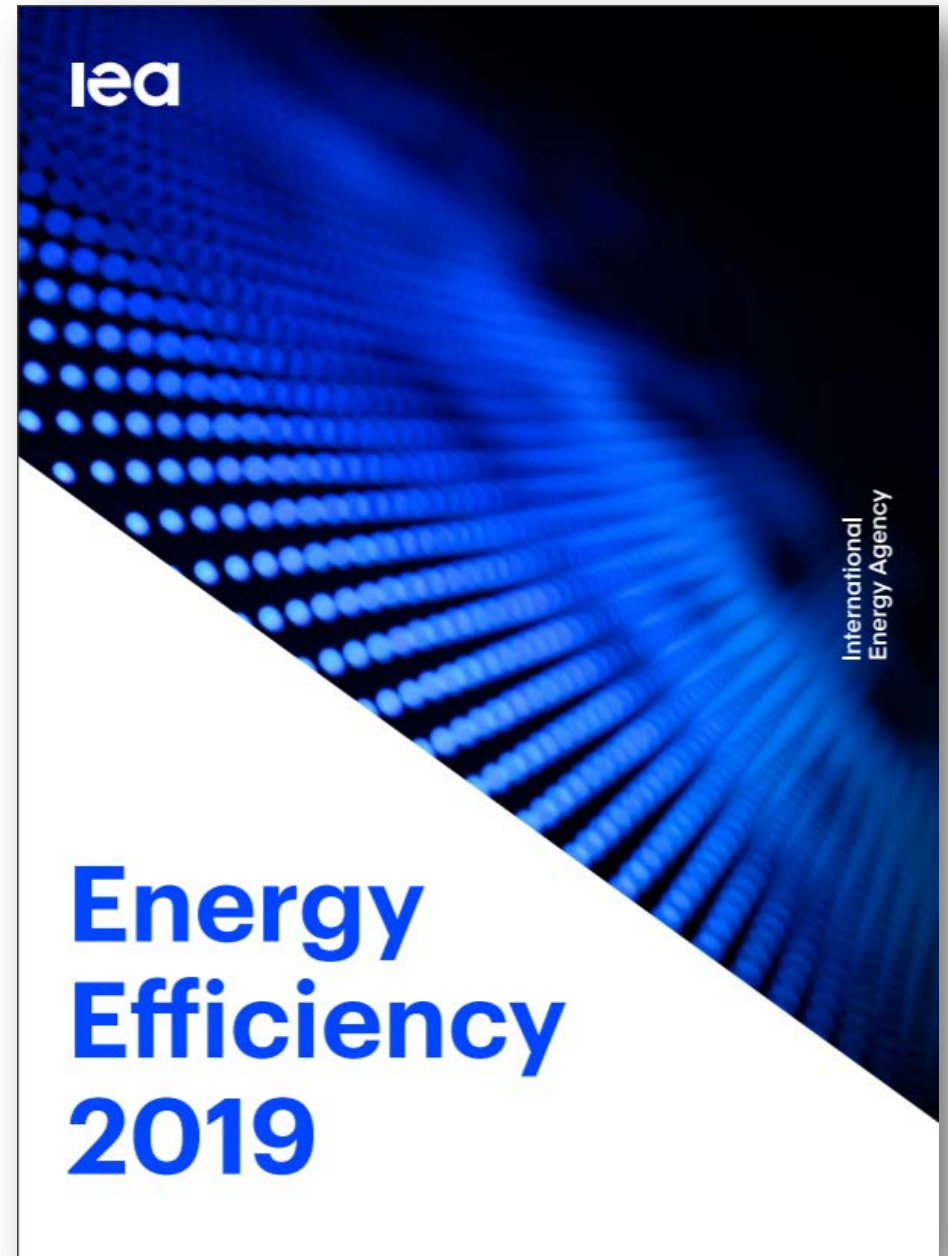
---

# Context



**"The historic slowdown in energy efficiency in 2018 – the lowest rate of improvement since the start of the decade – calls for bold action by policy makers and investors."**

Fatih Birol, Executive Director, IEA







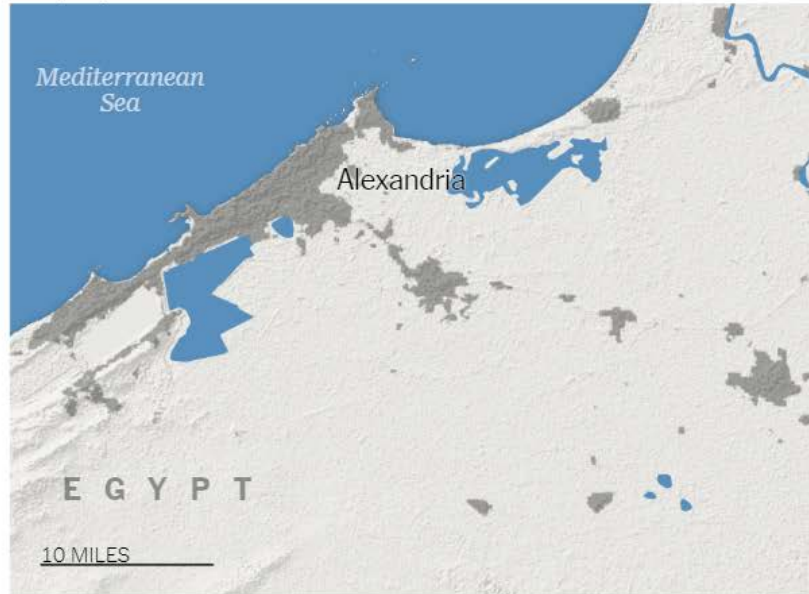


# Rising Seas Will Erase More Cities by 2050, New Research Shows

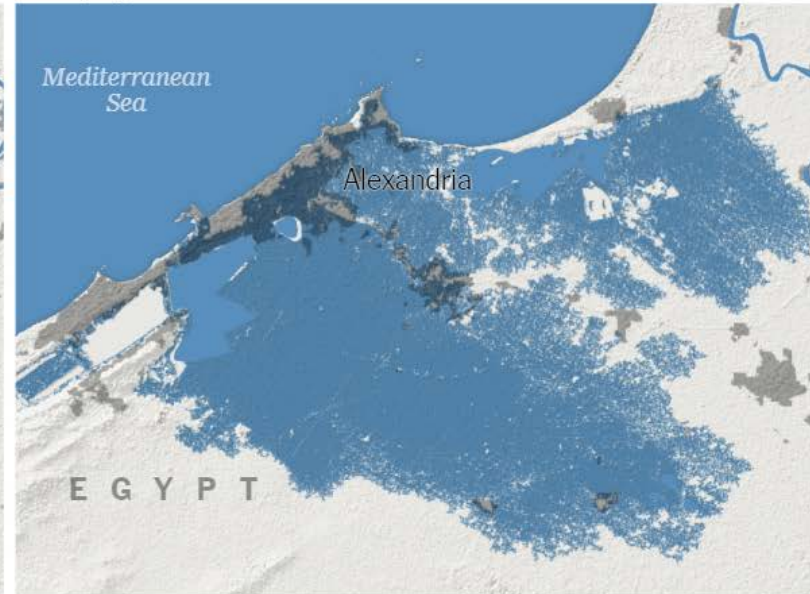
By [Denise Lu](#) and [Christopher Flavelle](#) Oct. 29, 2019

■ Land underwater at high tide ■ Populated area

Old projection for 2050



New projection for 2050



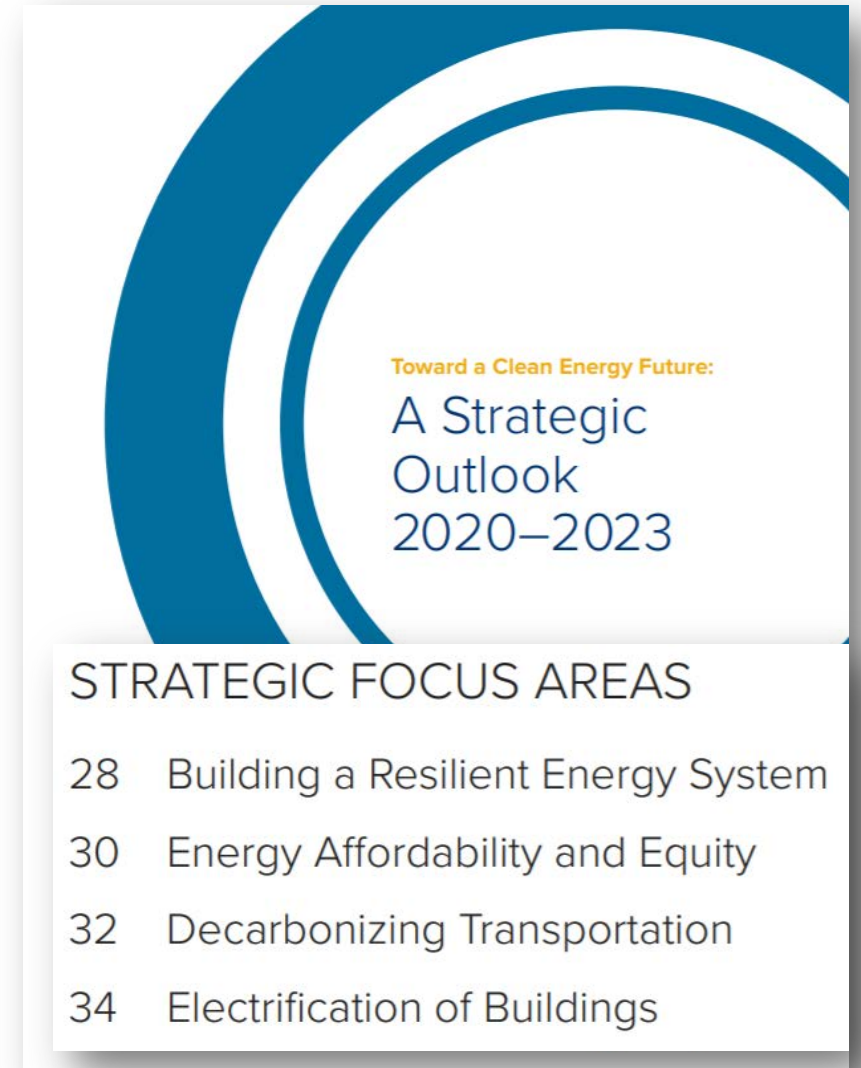
The disappearance of cultural heritage could bring its own kind of devastation. Alexandria, Egypt, founded by Alexander the Great around 330 B.C., could be lost to rising waters.

# New York Context

## Toward a Clean Energy Future: A Strategic Outlook 2020-2023

### NYSERDA's 2020-2023 Strategic Outlook

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency
- A Distributed and Resilient Energy System
- Building a Clean Energy Economy





# New York Context

“There is no historical precedent for the ambitious changes on the bulk power system envisioned by policymakers”

*NYISO Power Trends Report 2019*

# New York Context

- Real-time Energy Management (RTEM) is a pathway to Grid-Integrated Efficient Buildings (GEBs)
- Demand Response Programs
  - 4% of summer peak demand in 2018
- Local Law 97
  - GHG emissions limits at the building site
- Local Law 32
  - PREDICTED ENERGY USE TARGET. For each type of buildings, as such types correspond to the prototypes set forth in ASHRAE 90.1-2013, a maximum allowable predicted energy use of such buildings that are new buildings or existing buildings undergoing substantial reconstruction, as determined pursuant to this article



---

# Climate Solutions?

# Zero Energy Building Counts

10x Growth  
since 2012

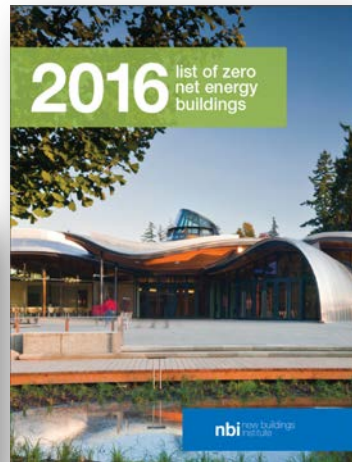
60 (2012)



160



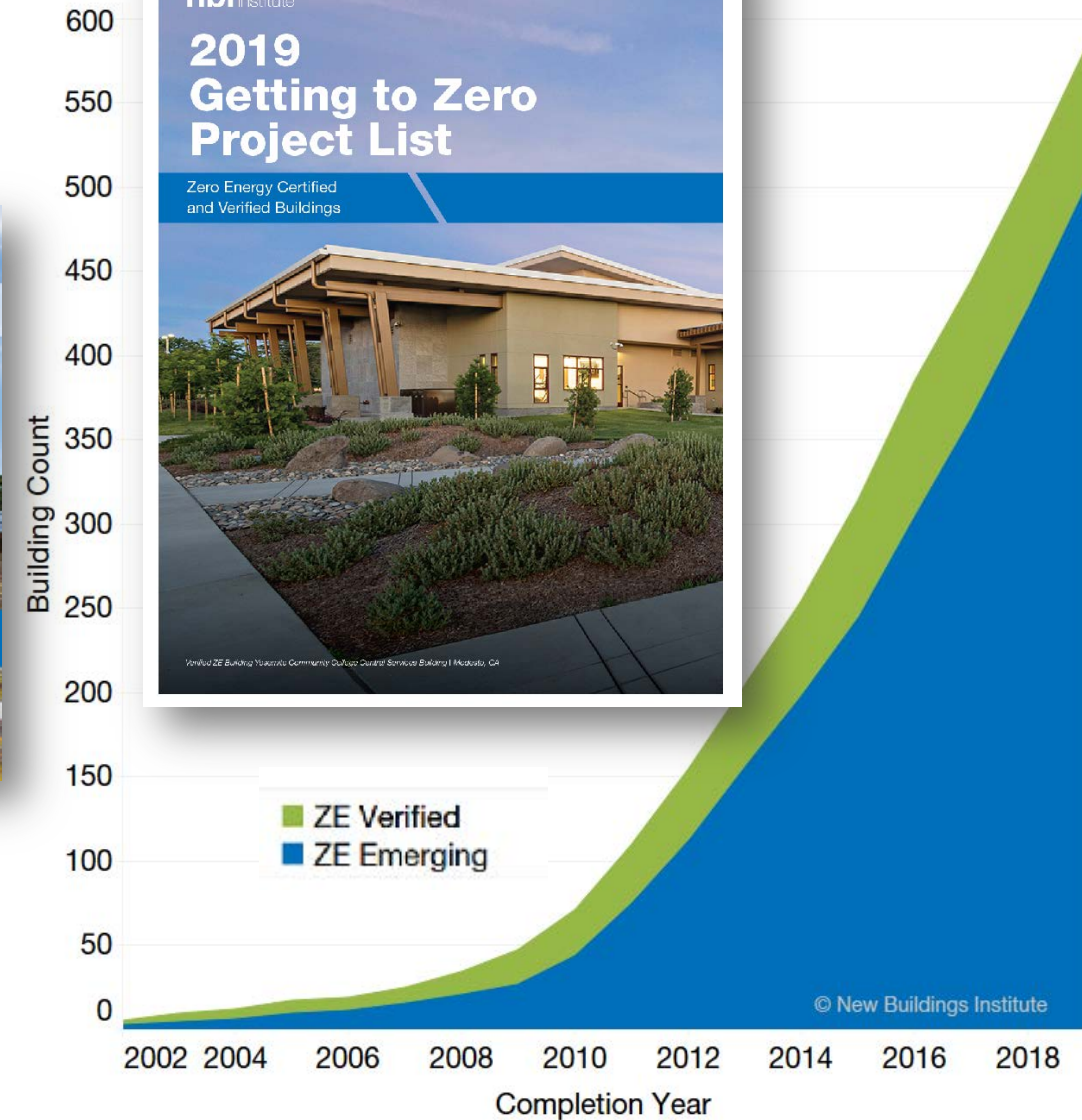
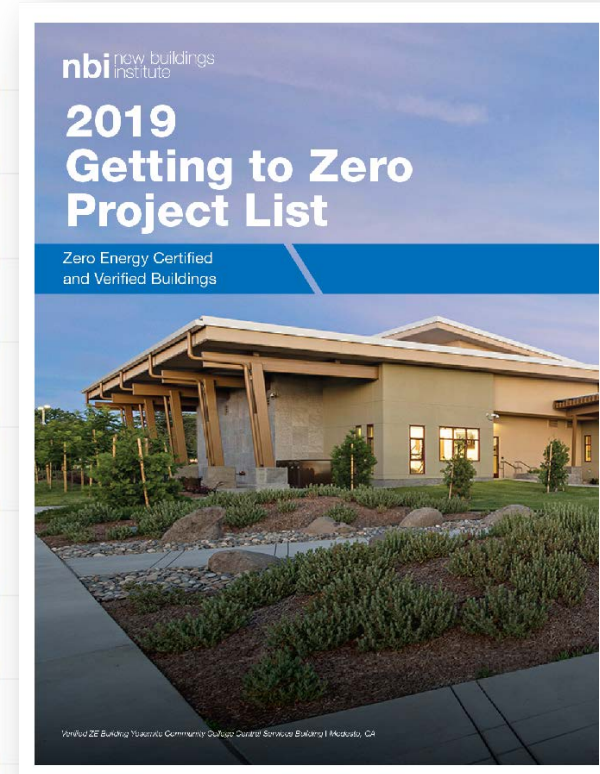
332



482

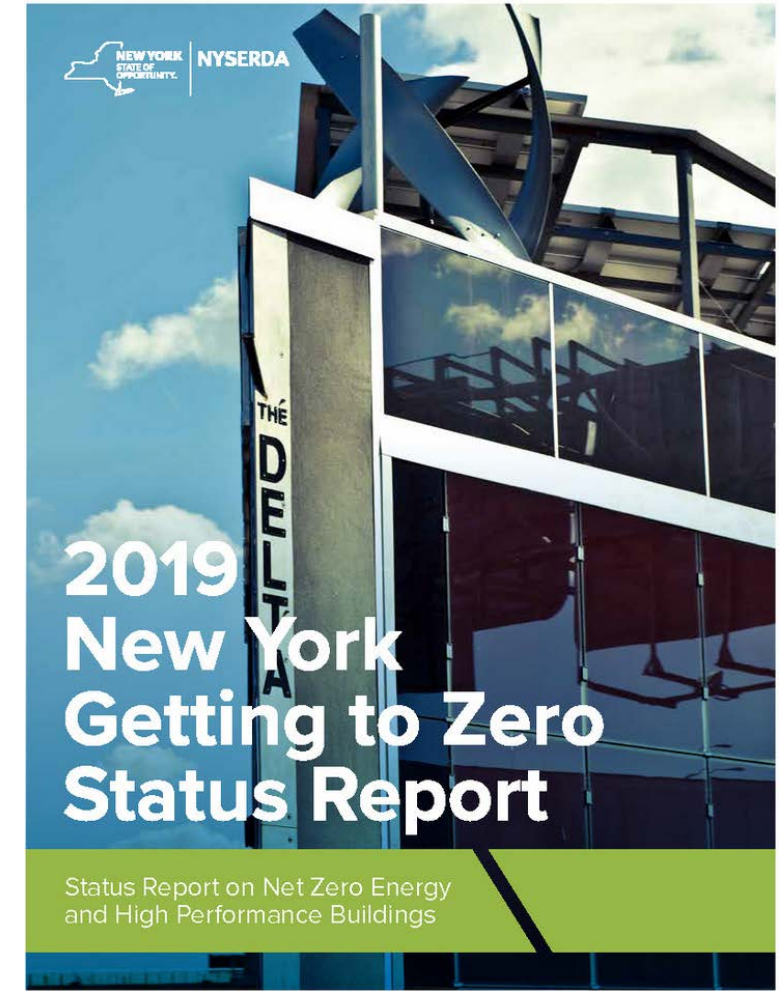
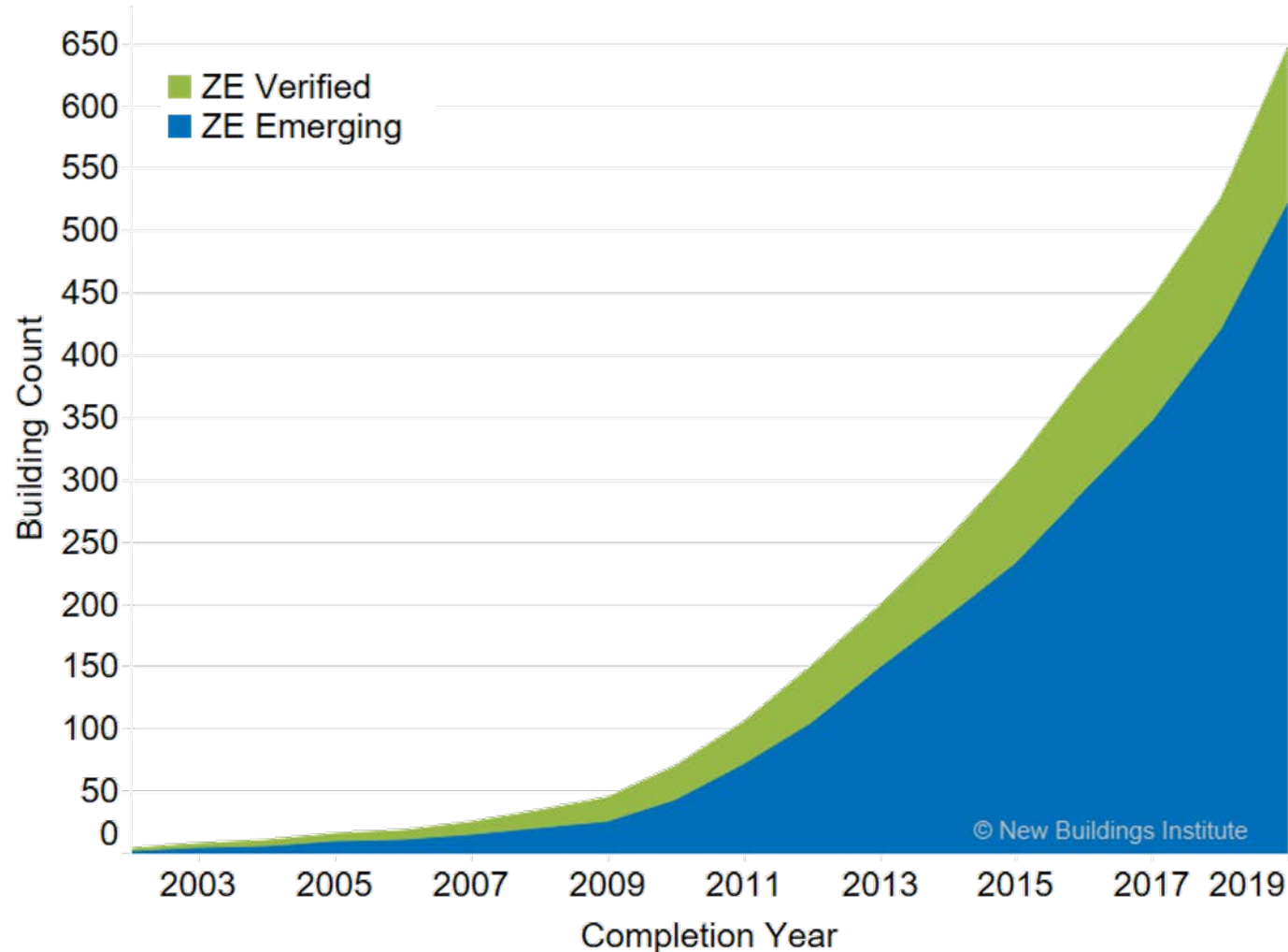


620+

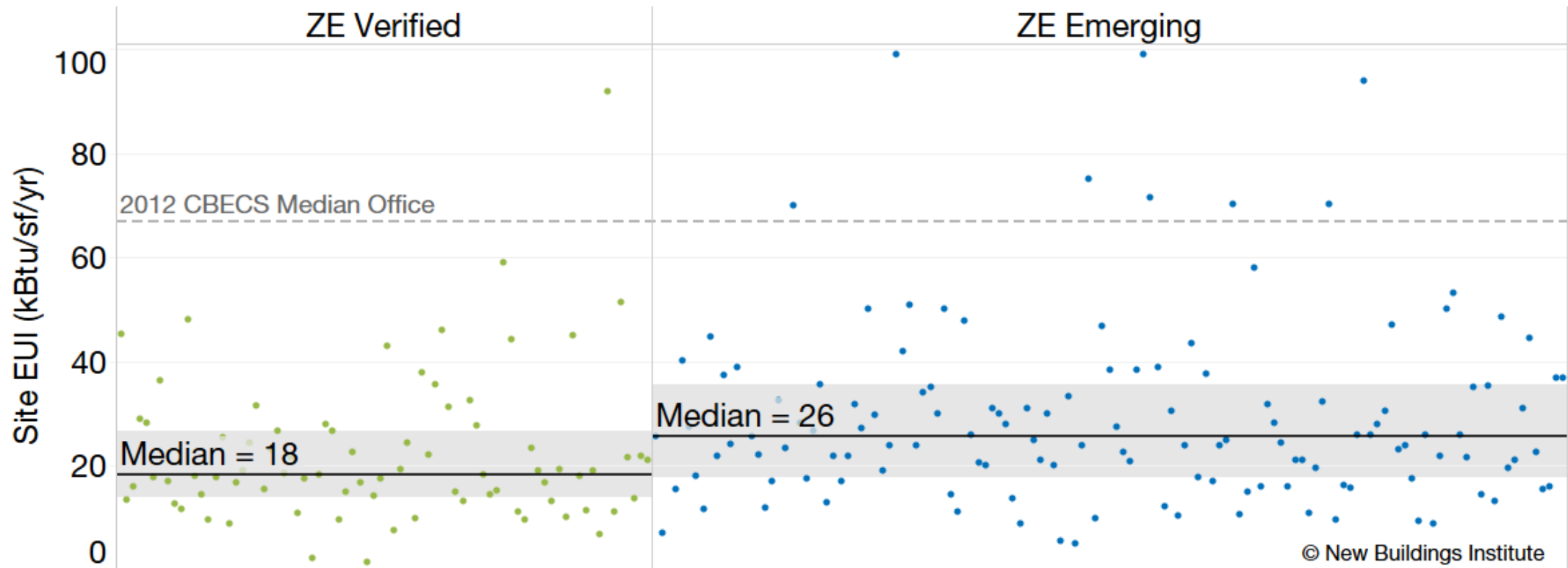




# Zero Energy Buildings



# Zero Energy Building Performance



ZE Verified buildings on average use **60% less energy** than comparable existing U.S. commercial buildings and 46% less than new buildings under one of the most stringent U.S. base code (CA Title 24).

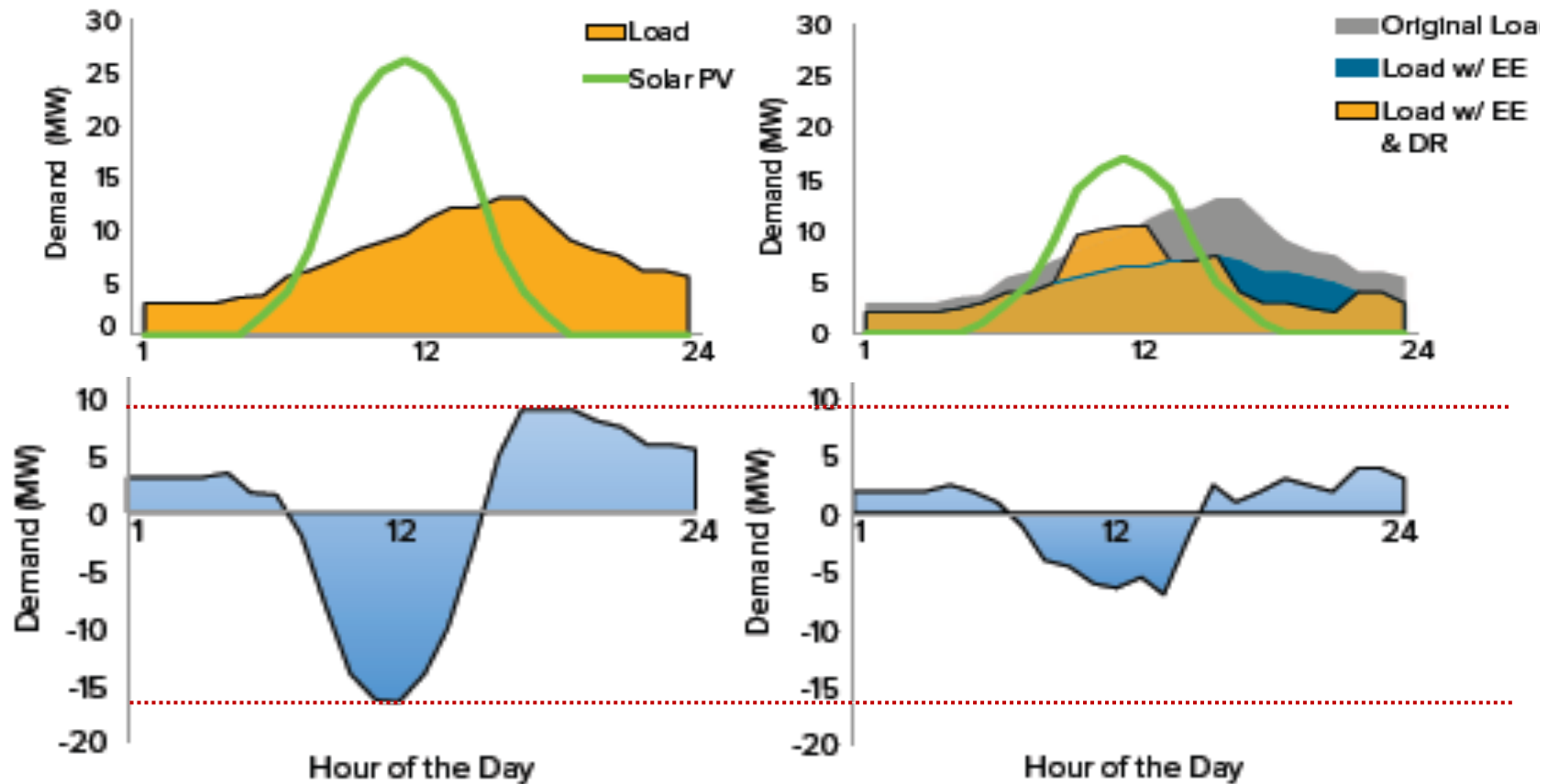


# Zero Energy with and without Grid Integration

Solar PV only

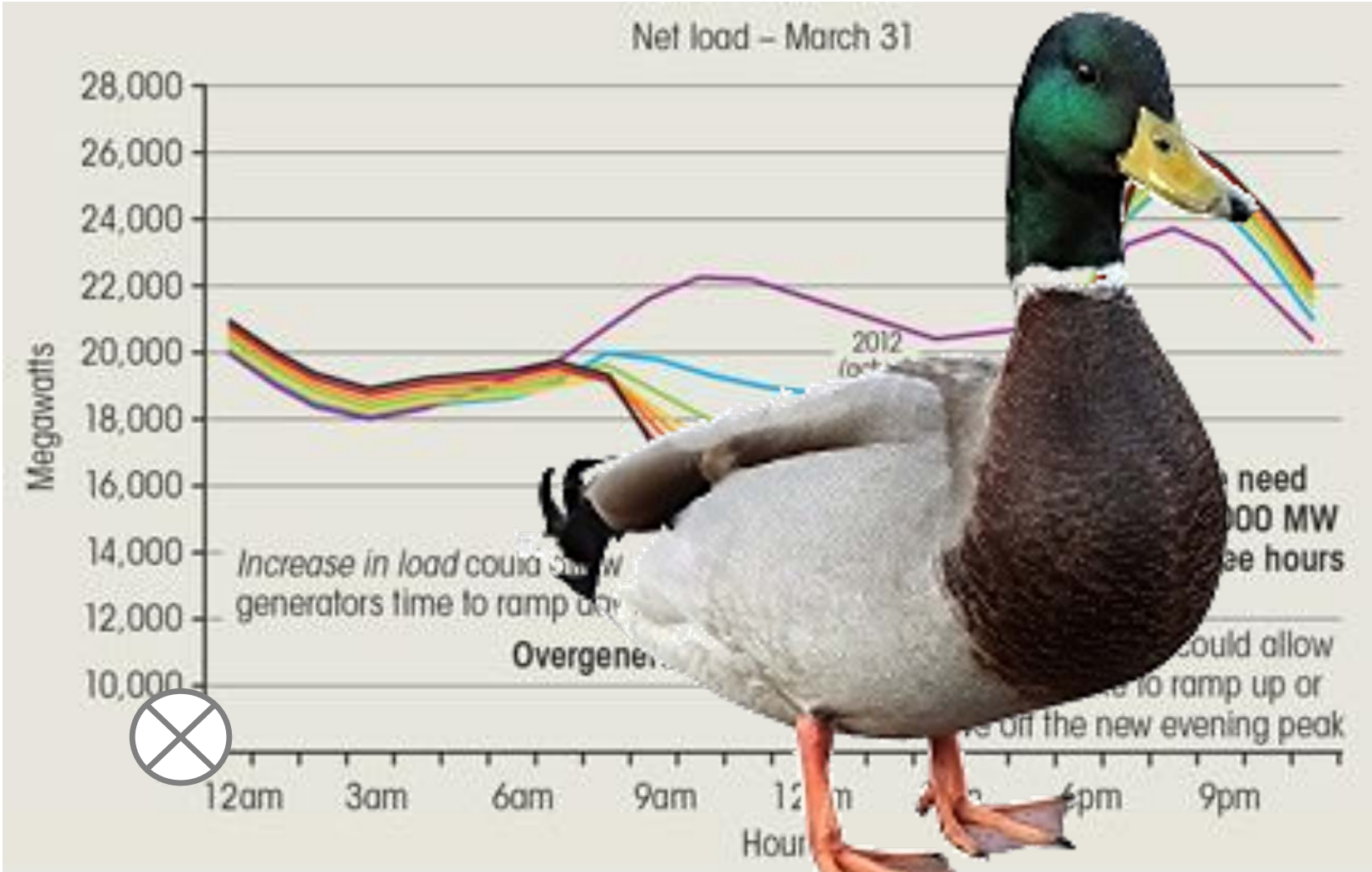
Energy Efficiency, Demand Response + Solar PV

Load Shape



Grid Impact

# California: The Duck Curve

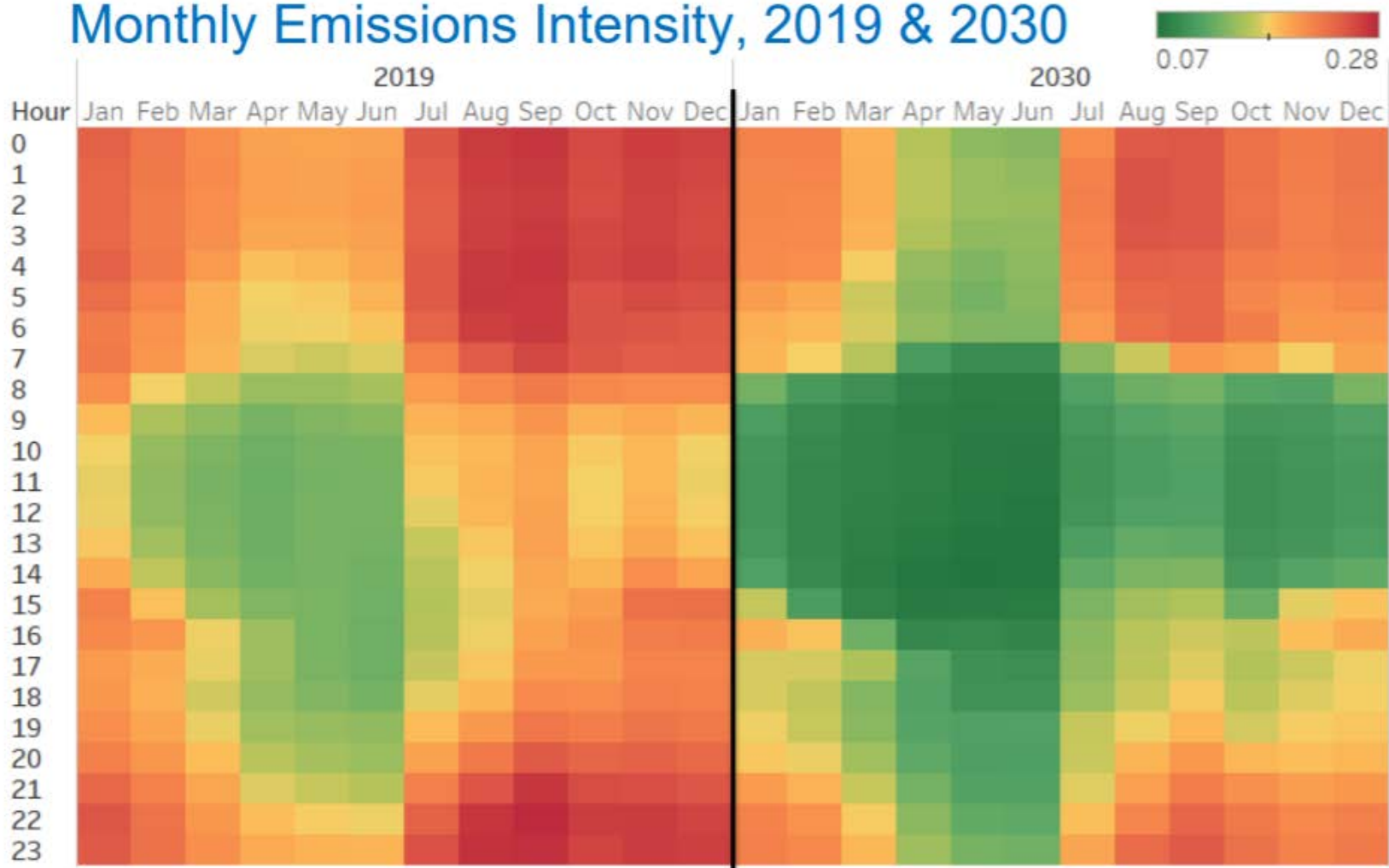






# Electricity CO<sub>2</sub> Intensity

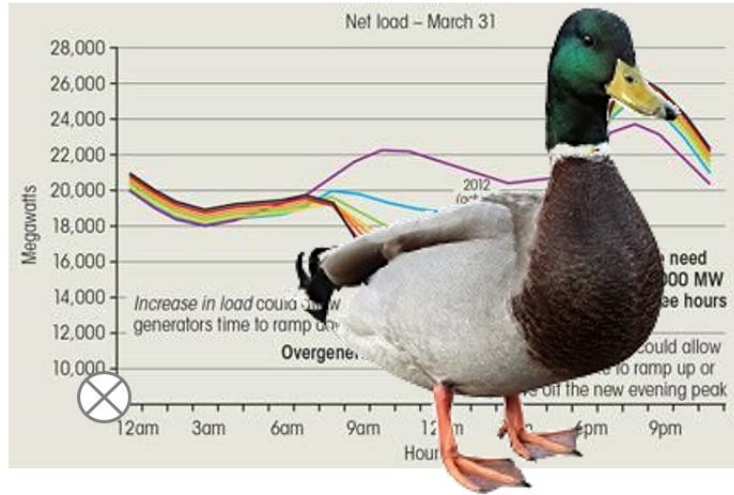
## Monthly Emissions Intensity, 2019 & 2030



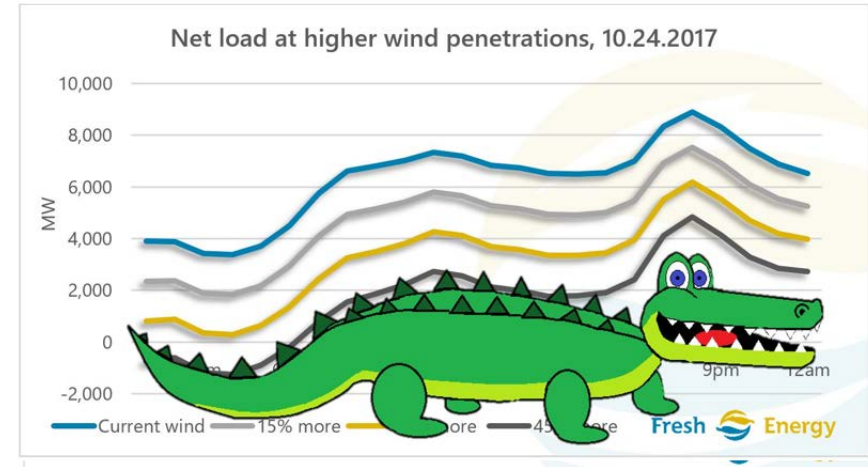
Brook, M. (2018). Building Decarbonization: 2018 Update Integrated Energy Policy Report. Presentation. Retrieved from <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=223817&DocumentContentId=54026>.

# The Grid Menagerie

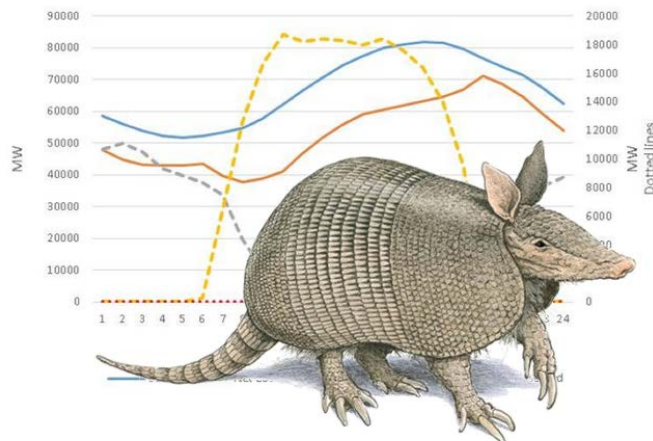
## California: The Duck Curve



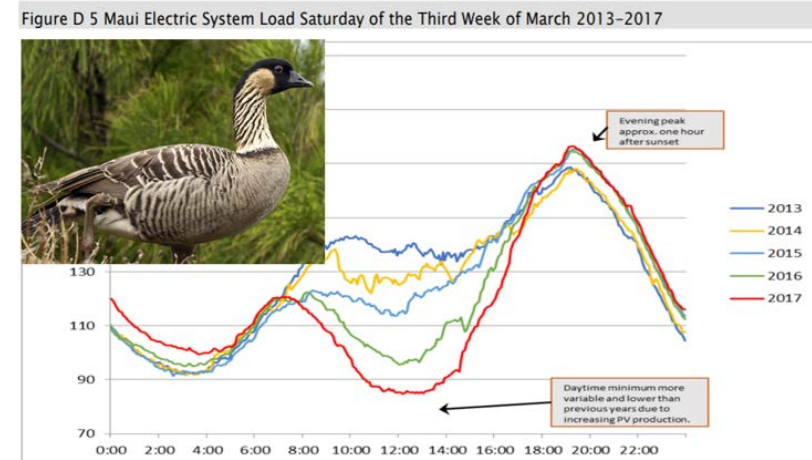
## Midwest: The Gator Curve



## Texas: The Armadillo Curve



## Hawaii: The Nene Curve





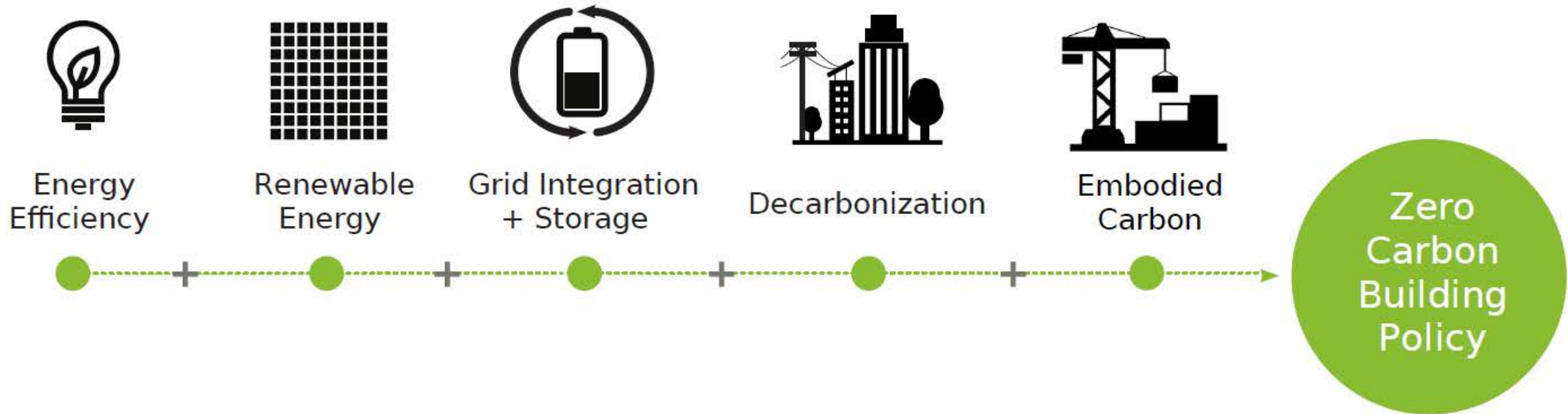
# Macro Trends:

## *“a glimpse of the future”*

- Zero Energy Proliferation
- Grid Decarbonization
- Building Decarbonization
- Vehicle Electrification
- Energy Resiliency
- Batteries

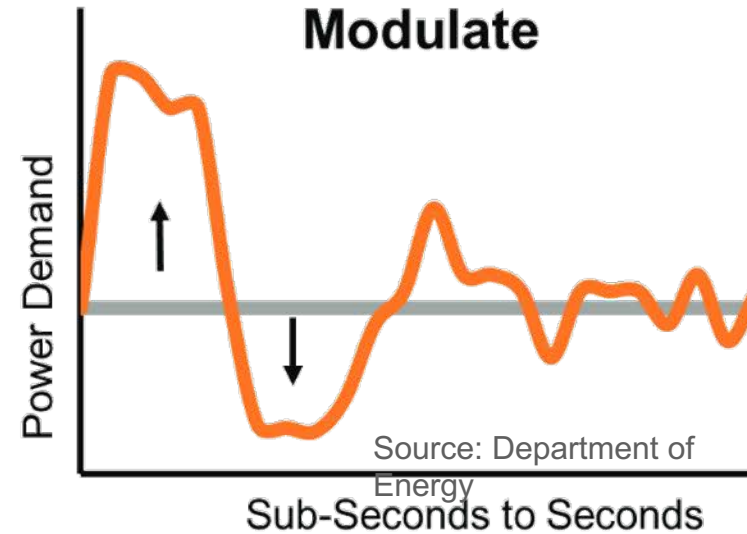
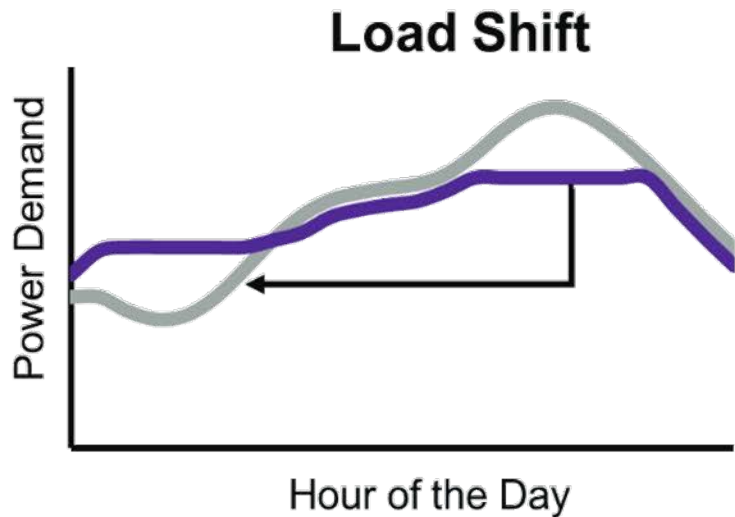
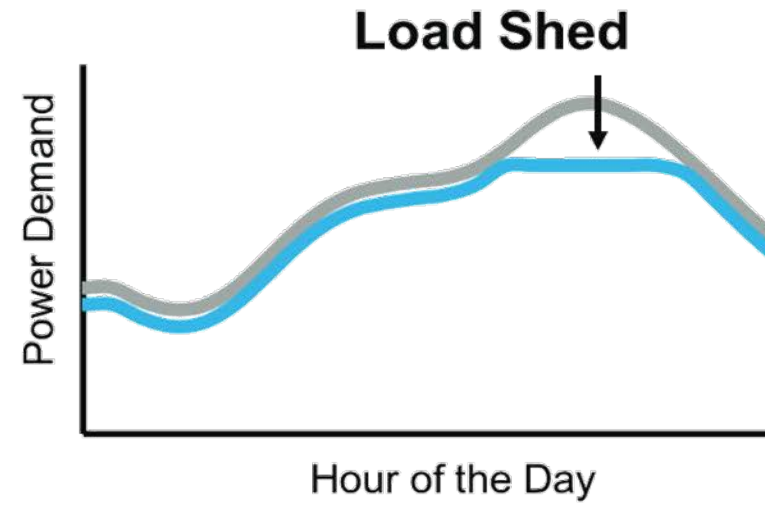
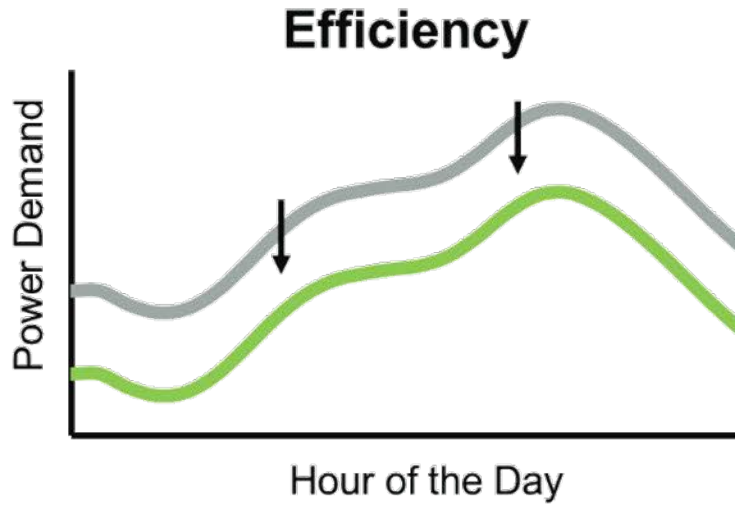


# The Five Foundations of Zero Carbon Building Policies



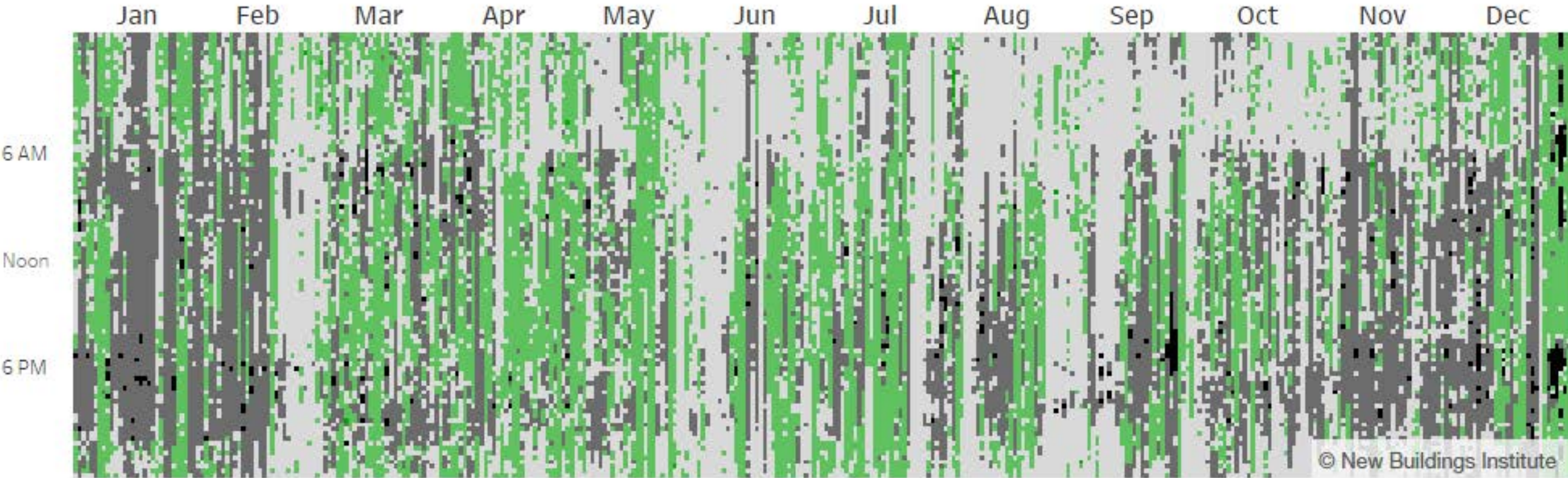


# Building Modifications for Grid-Integration

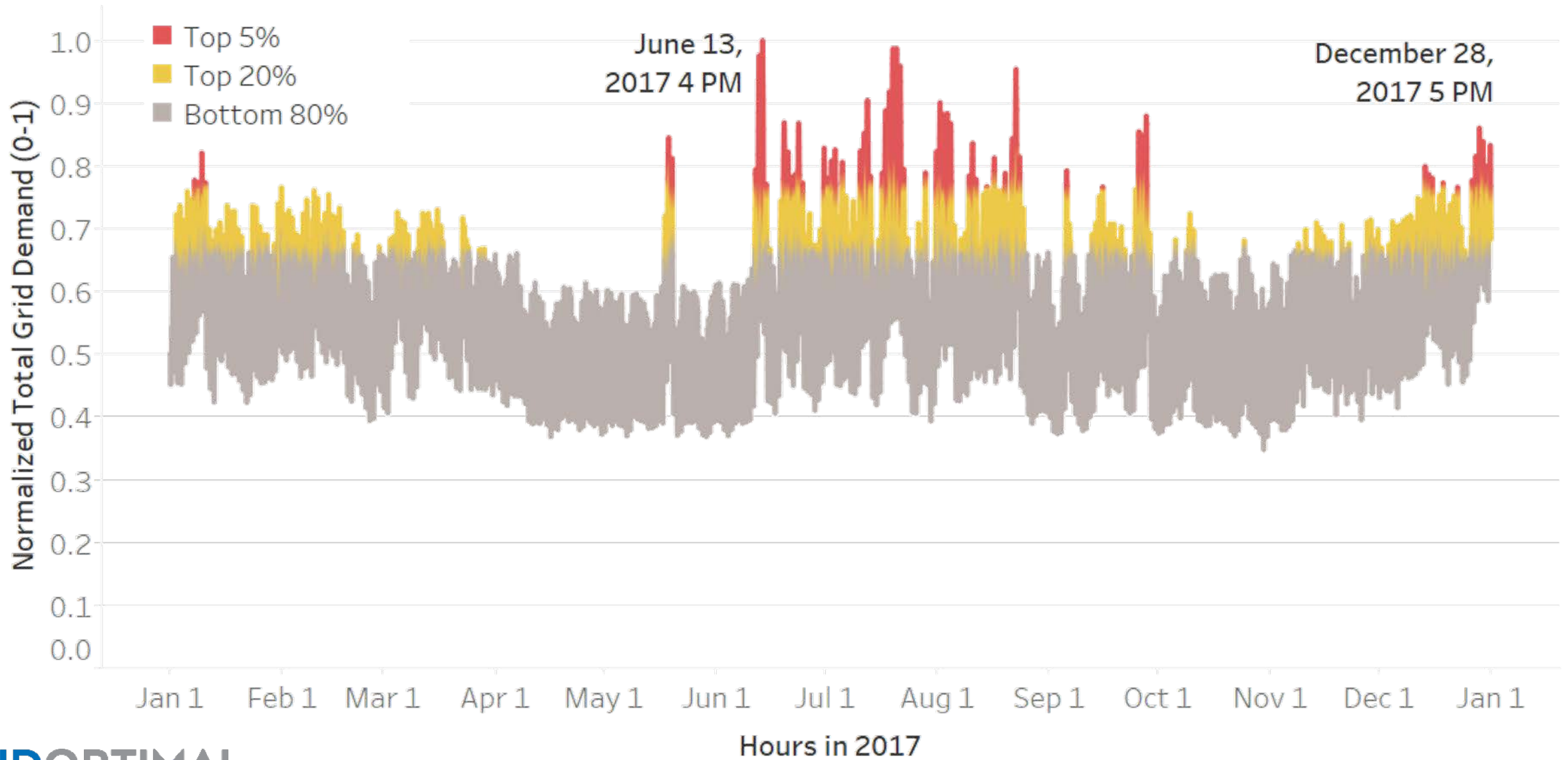


# Marginal Emissions Rates in NYC

15-minute timescale  
Data from WattTime for 2017



# ISO-NE Grid Demand in 2017







# The GridOptimal Buildings Initiative

New Metrics for Building-Grid Integration

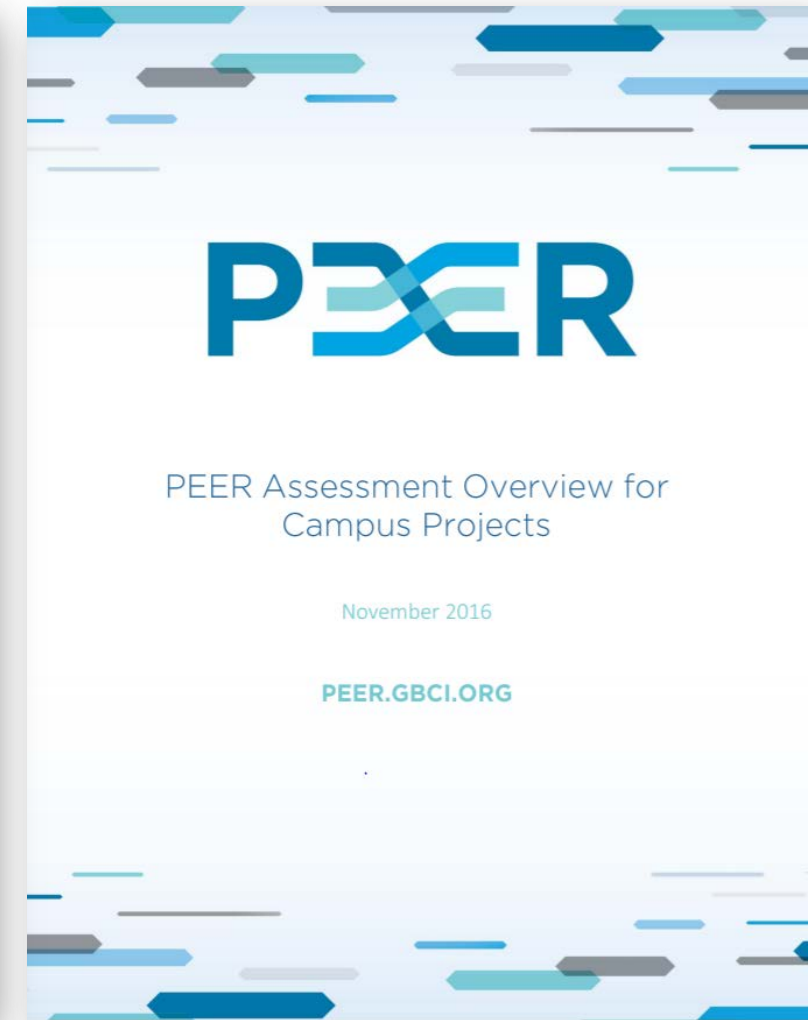
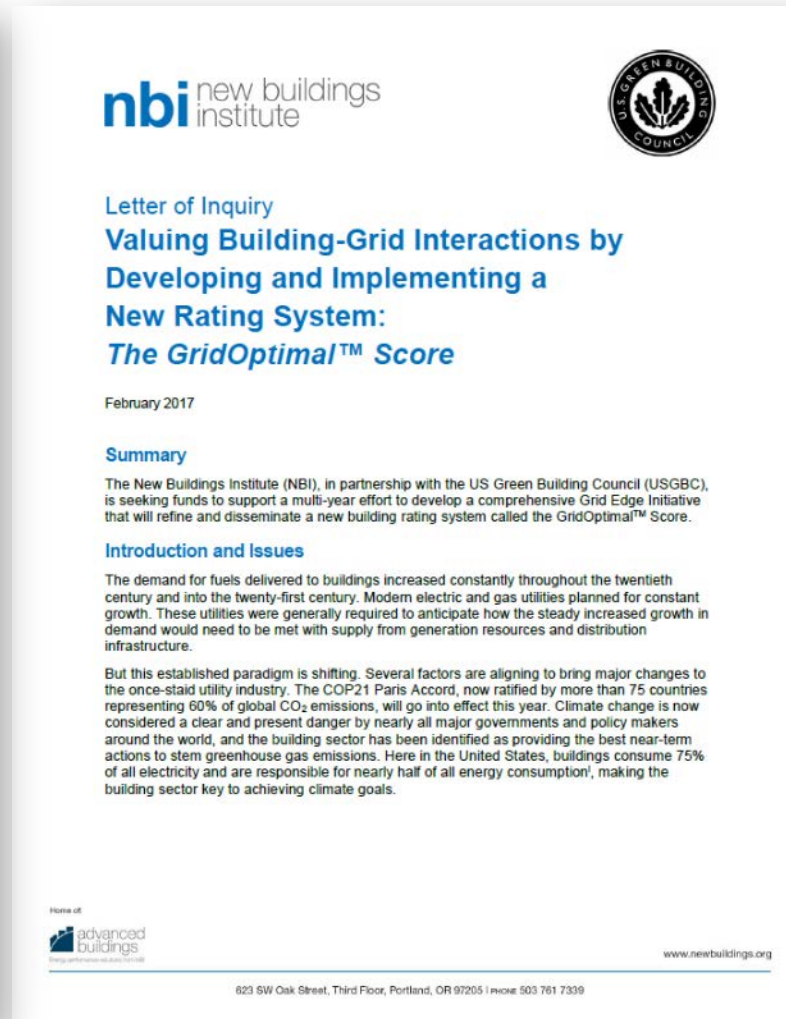
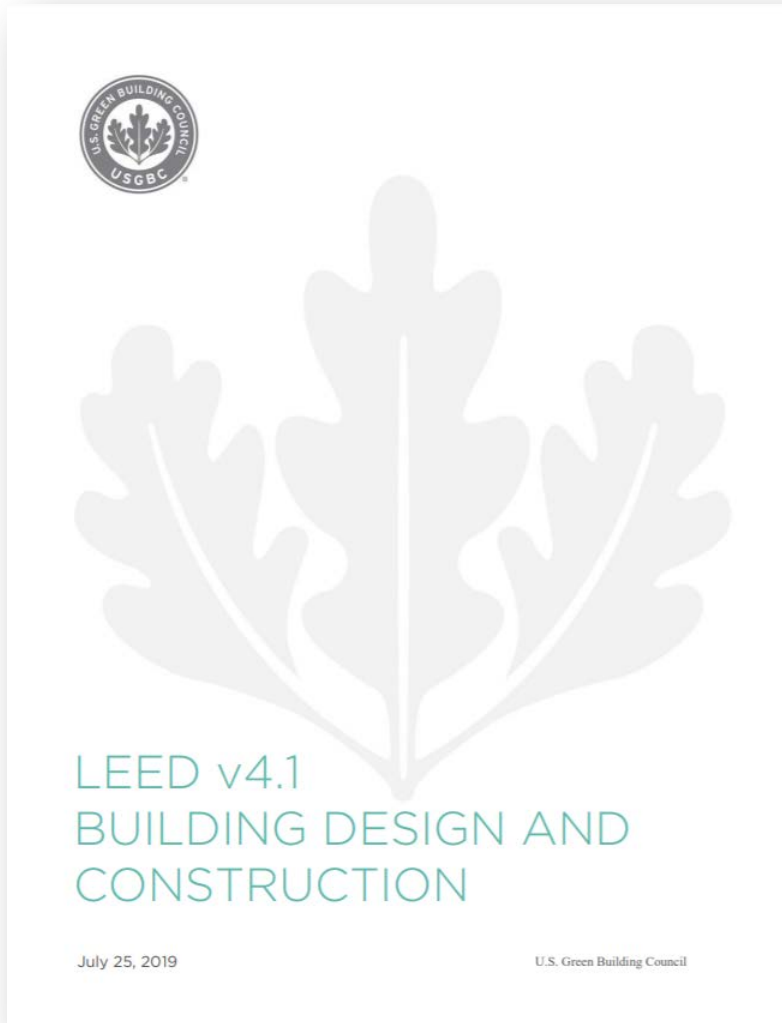
# GridOptimal Buildings Initiative Supporting Members



NBI and USGBC recognize these leading organizations for their generous support for and participation in the GridOptimal Buildings Initiative.



# Critical Bridge Between Buildings and the Grid

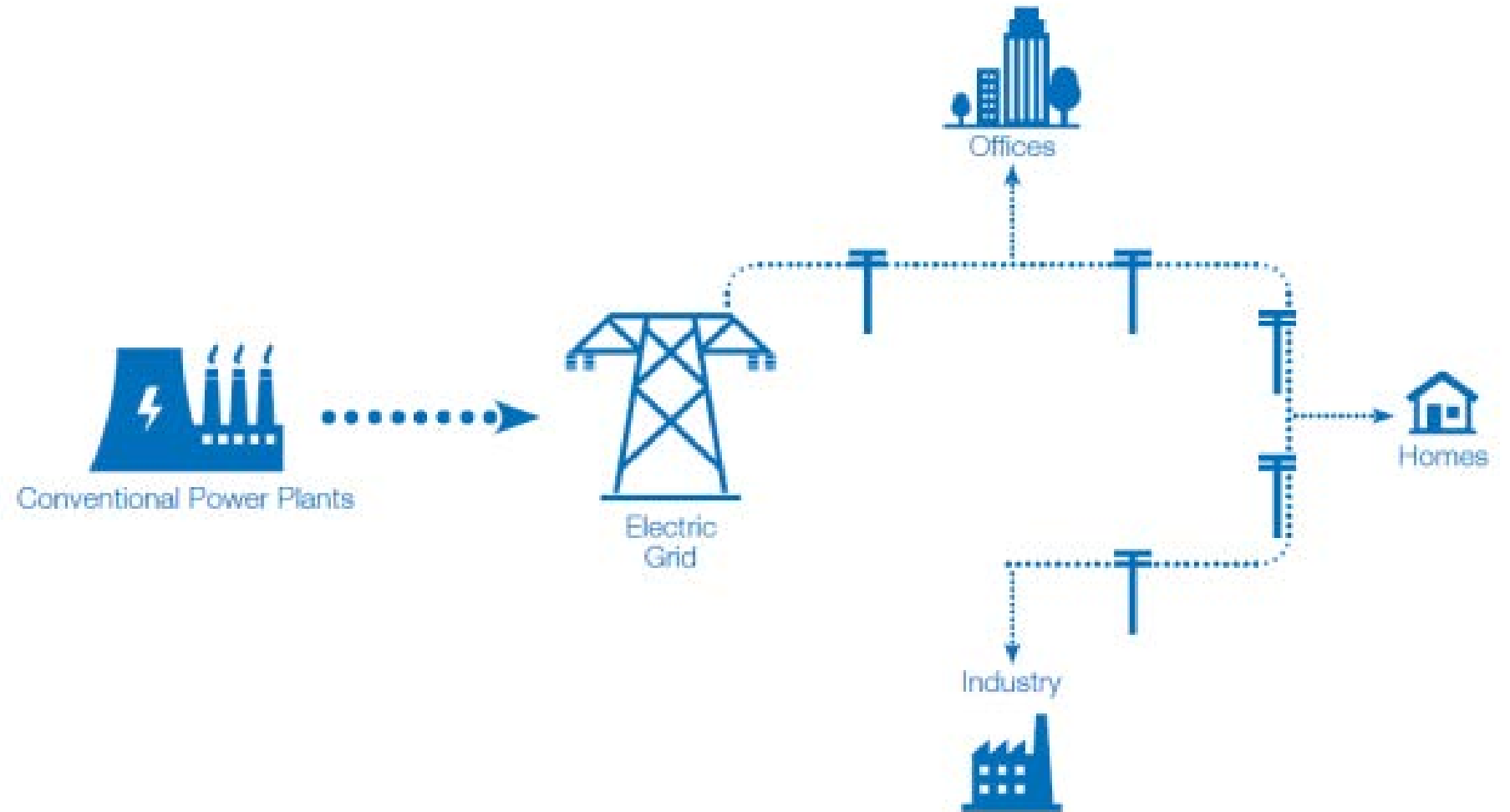




# The GridOptimal Buildings Initiative - Key Themes

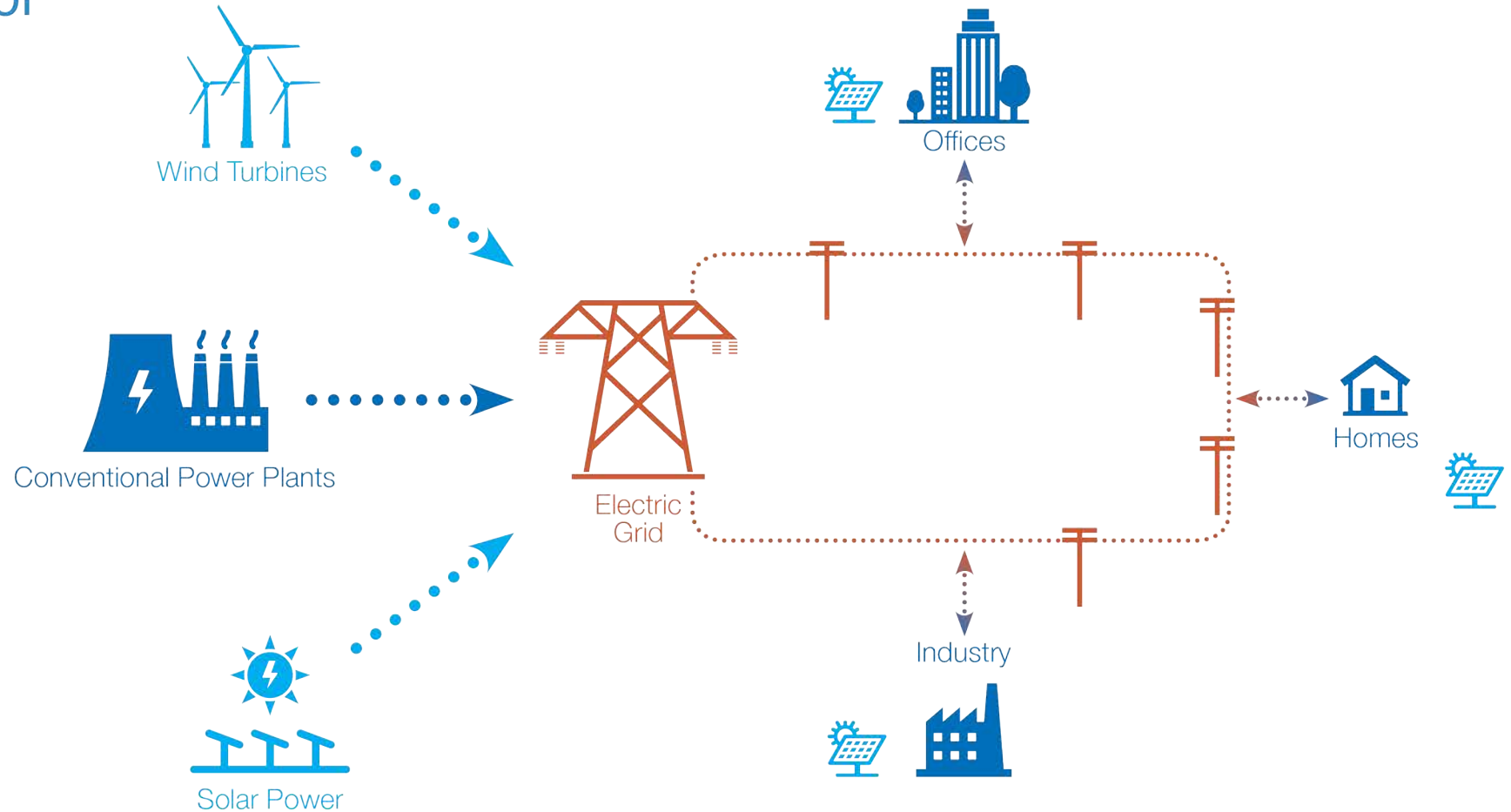
- The way **buildings interact with the electric grid** is evolving rapidly.
- Buildings will face increasing **regulatory and economic pressure** to be able to respond to **changing utility rate and delivery structures**.
- Designers will need to **understand and incorporate strategies** that allow buildings to directly interact with the utility grid.
- Adapting to the **interactive grid** will be critical to maintaining **building services and comfort** and to **grid dependability**.
- Efforts to **decarbonize the electrical grid** will require **better integration** of distributed energy resources.

# One-Way Grid



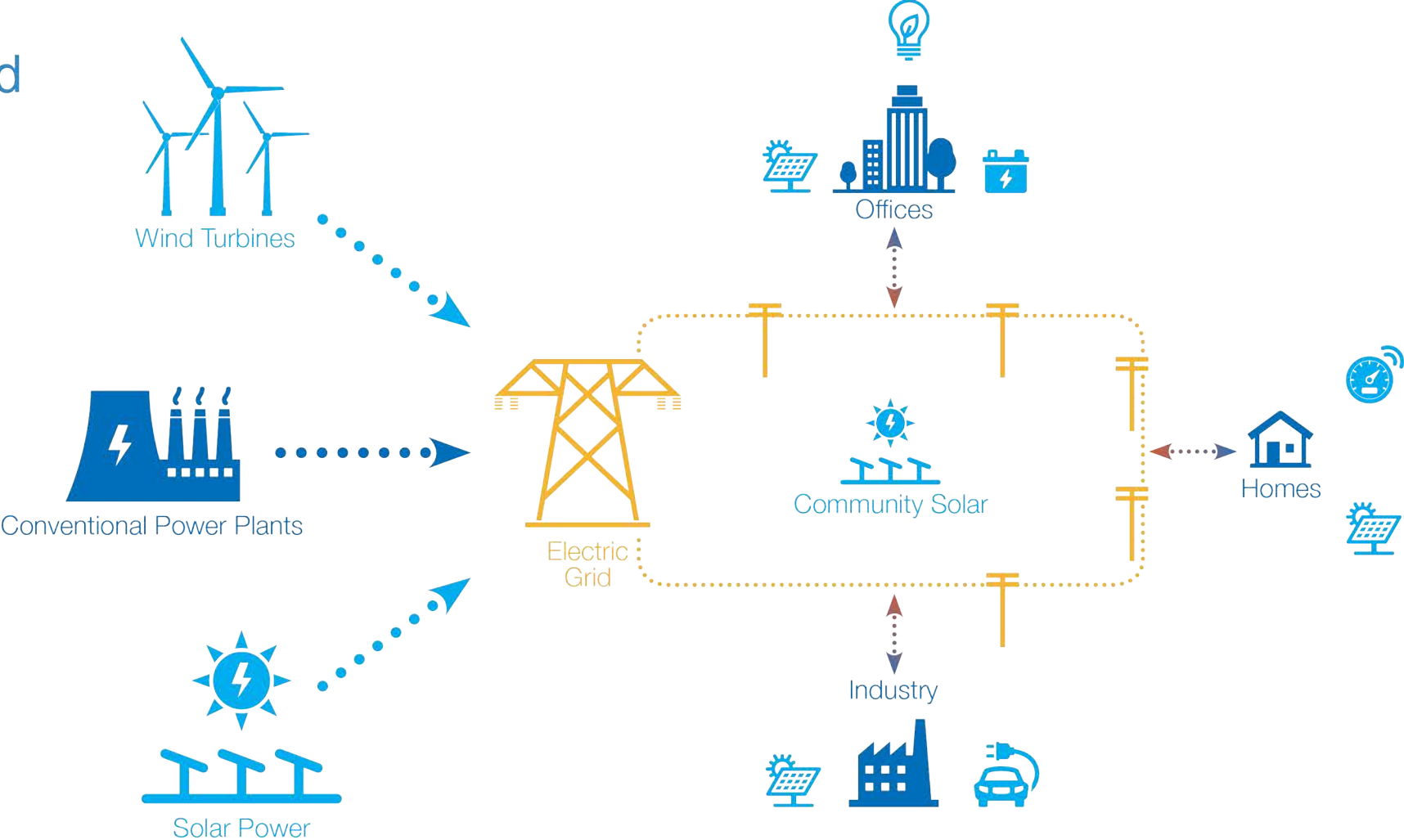
The proliferation of distributed generation creates a need for more active grid management

**GridOptimal Technologies and Strategies:**





# Storage and smart devices can help support clean grid operations



## GridOptimal Technologies and Strategies:

-  renewable energy
-  energy efficiency
-  electric vehicle
-  energy storage
-  smart connected controls

GridOptimal empowers players on both sides of the meter to actively support the transition to a carbon free grid

### GridOptimal Technologies and Strategies:



renewable energy



energy efficiency



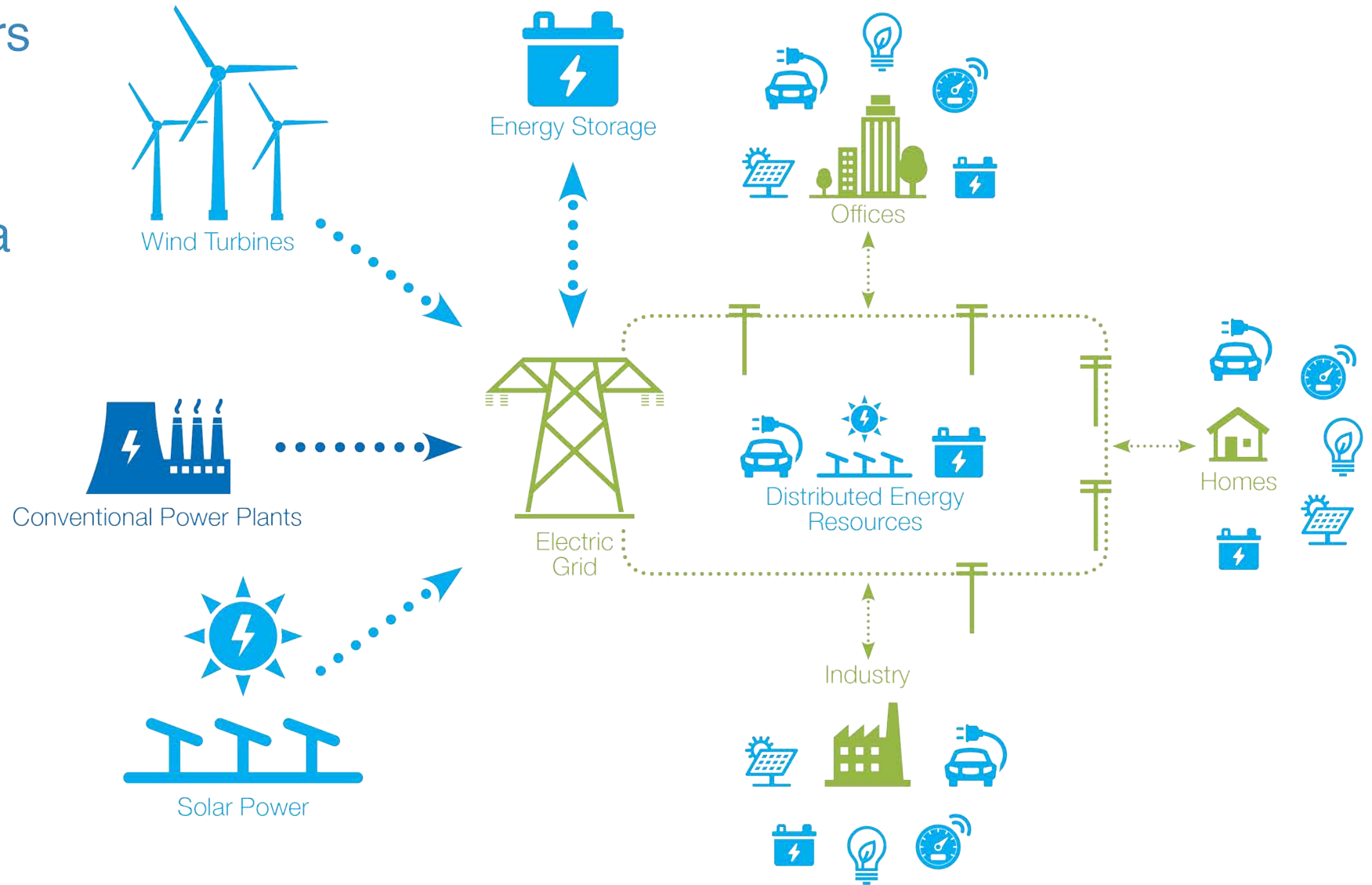
electric vehicle



energy storage



smart connected controls



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BUILDINGS INITIATIVE

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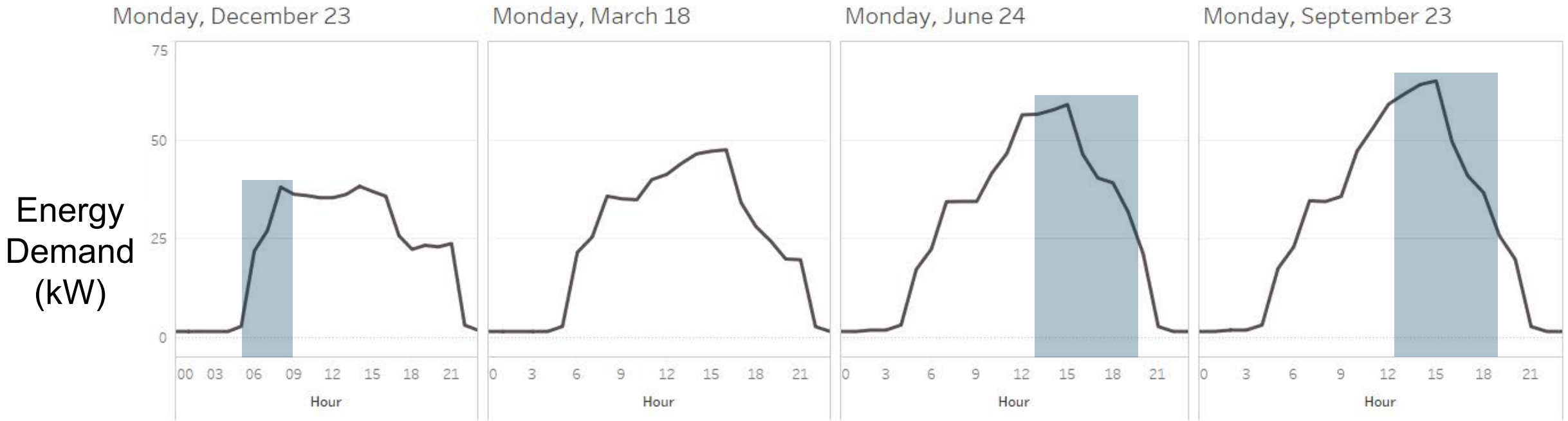
# Opportunities for Building Integration with Grid

- **Permanent Efficiency**
  - Reduce building energy loads...
- **Peak Shifting**
  - Design to modify time of peak building energy use to adapt to grid...
- **Dynamic Response**
  - Actively reduce building energy use in response to short-term grid constraints...
- **Dispatchable Energy Storage**
  - Actively manage energy use patterns based on grid signals...



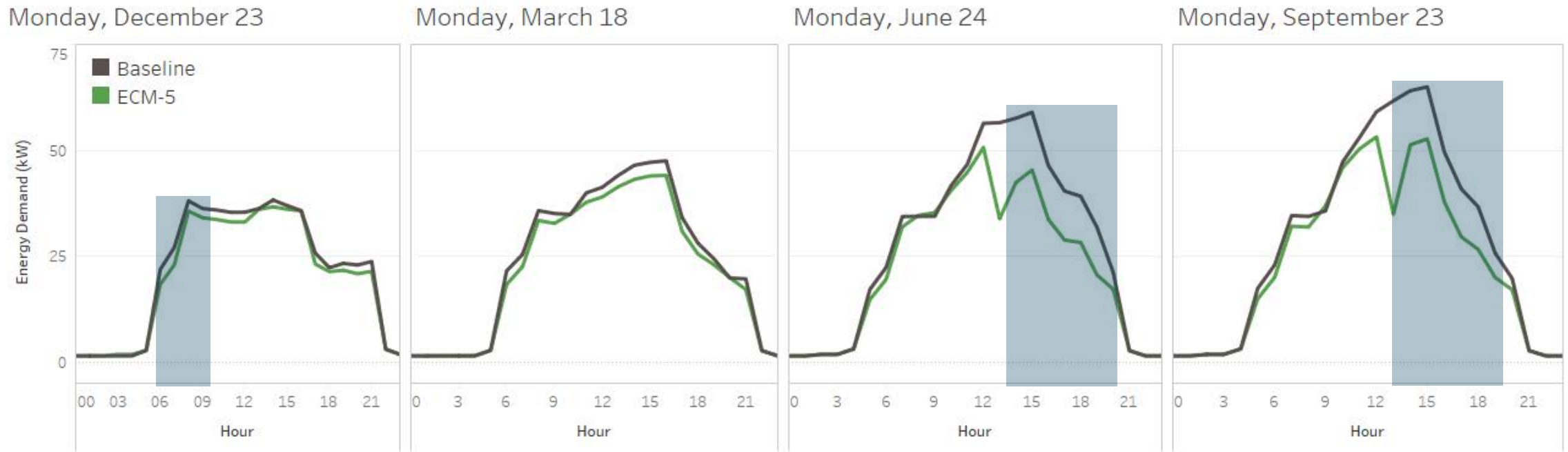


# Building Energy Load Shape



Reduce energy use in the  
**Winter mornings** and **Summer evenings**

# Looking at *when* energy is saved is key



# GridOptimal Metrics





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# Select Pilot Projects

- Sonoma Clean Power HQ
- School in Vermont





# Grid Optimal Pilot – Case Study



**Sonoma Clean Power  
Headquarters**

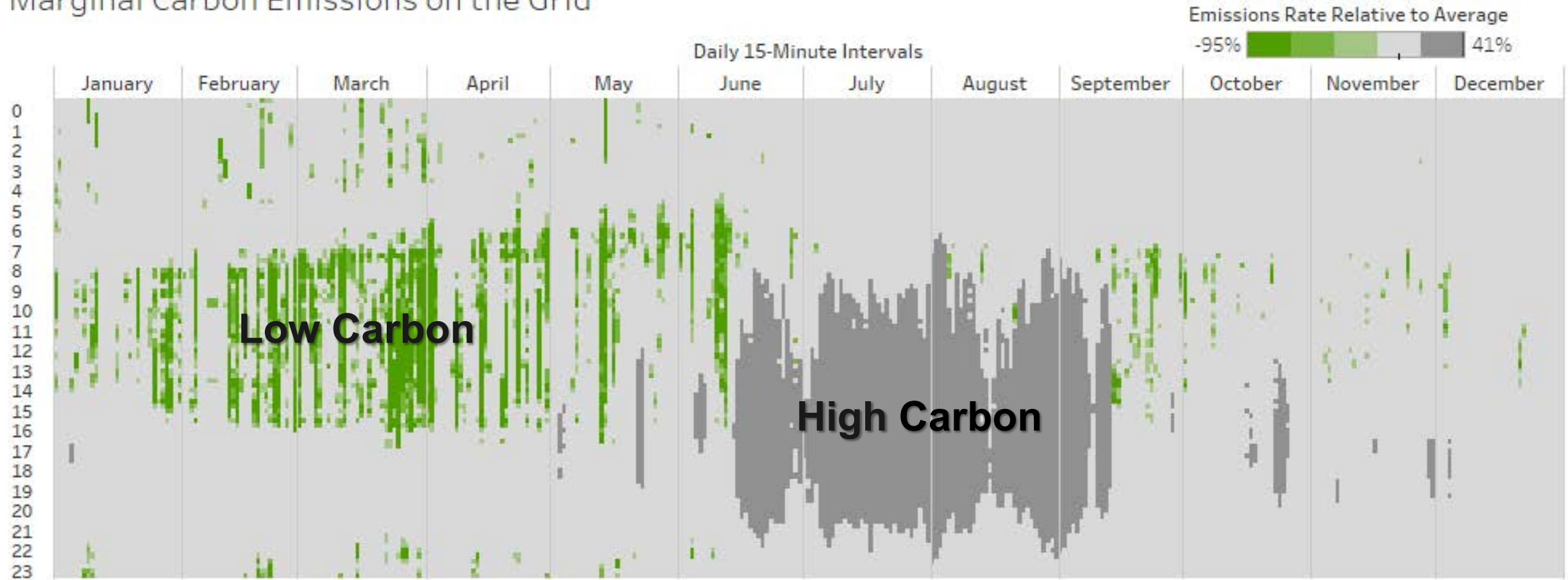


**ehdd.**



# Carbon Intensity of the Grid Varies Over Time

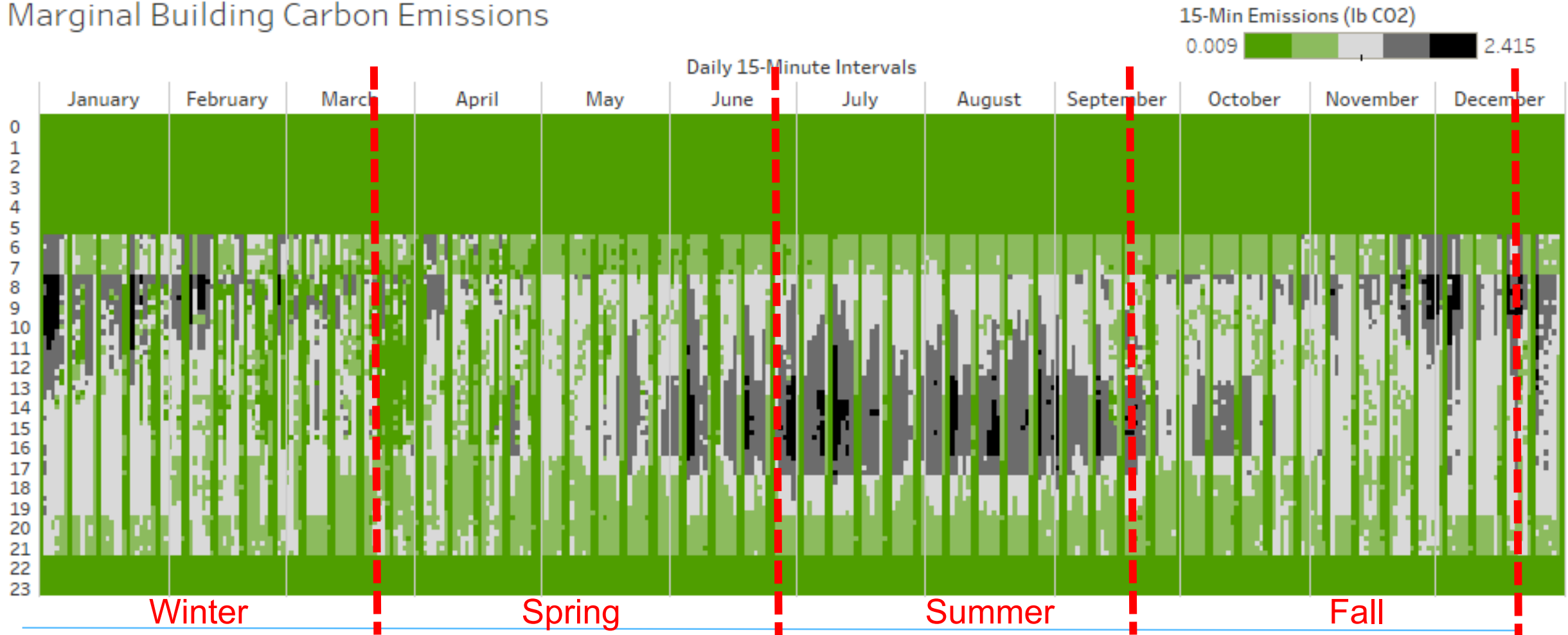
Marginal Carbon Emissions on the Grid





# Building Emissions Based on Time of Use

Marginal Building Carbon Emissions

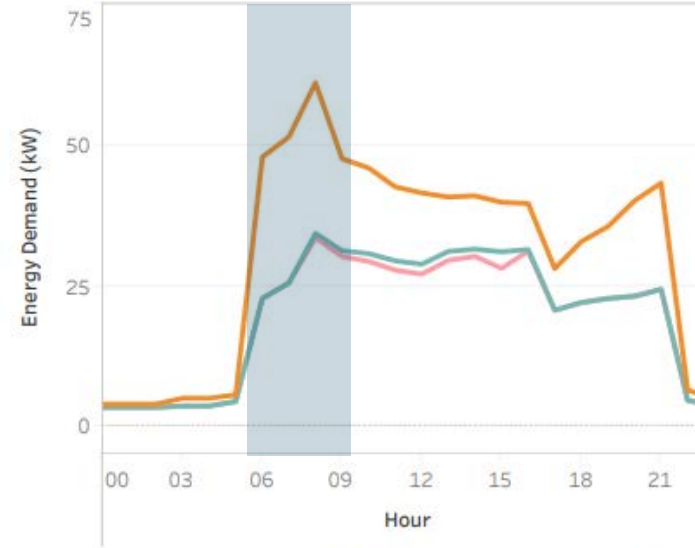


# Sonoma Clean Power HQ

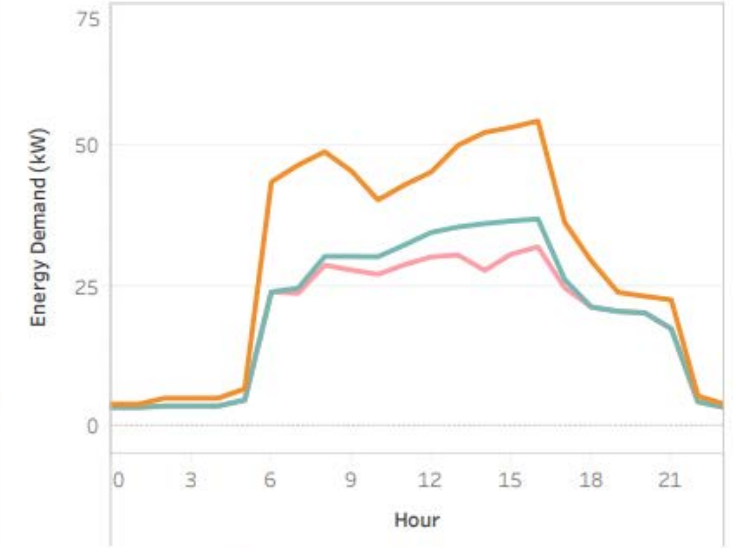


**45% Annual carbon reduction from baseline (mixed-fuel) building**

Monday, December 23



Monday, March 18

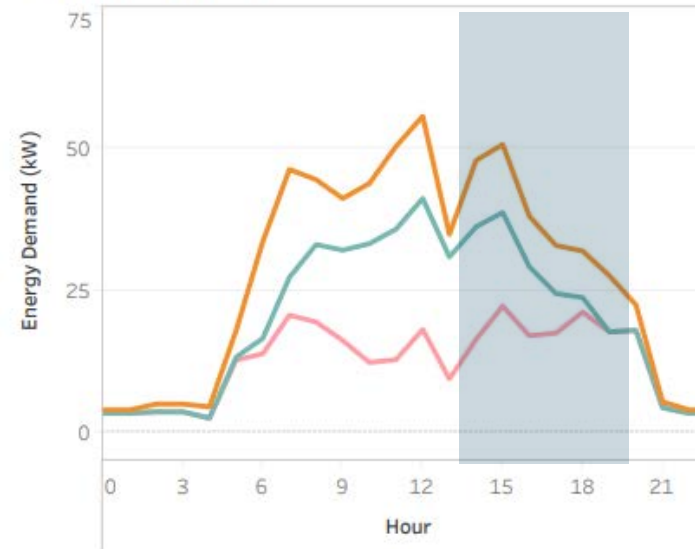


Baseline (Gas)

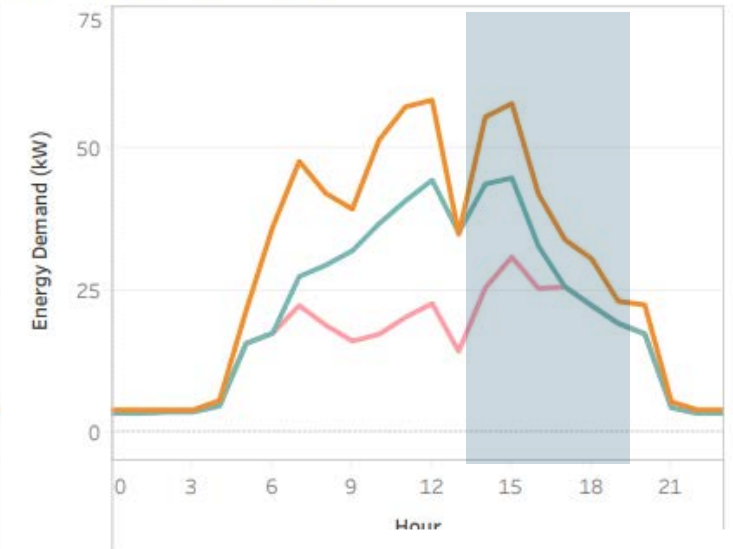
Proposed CD

Proposed CD + Solar

Monday, June 24



Monday, September 23



# Energy Efficiency Measures

## Design Features

- Upgraded envelope
- Exceptional daylighting
- All electric heating, hot water
- Induction cooking
- Building dashboard
- Grid-connected appliances
- 41 kW Photovoltaic Array
- 150 kW battery
- Car charging

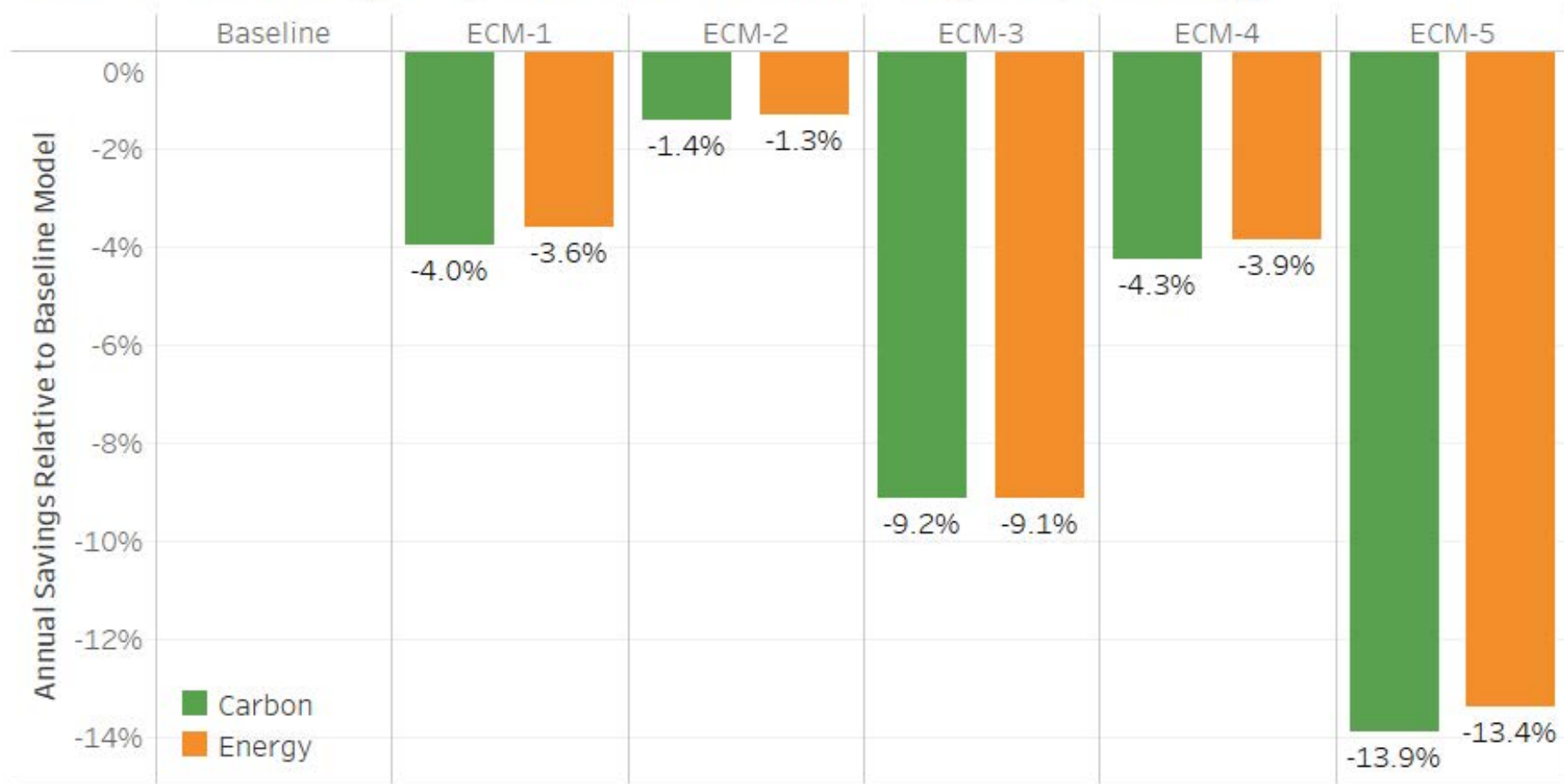
## Time dependent measures modeled

- Summer Temp Setback
- Afternoon Lighting Setback
- Interoperable Thermostats
- Early Morning Warm-Up
- **Daily battery deployment**
- Grid connected appliances
- Grid-managed vehicle charging



# Additional Measures Cut Carbon Effectively

The ECMs save energy at opportune times: Carbon savings outpace energy



# Battery Used to Change Load Shape

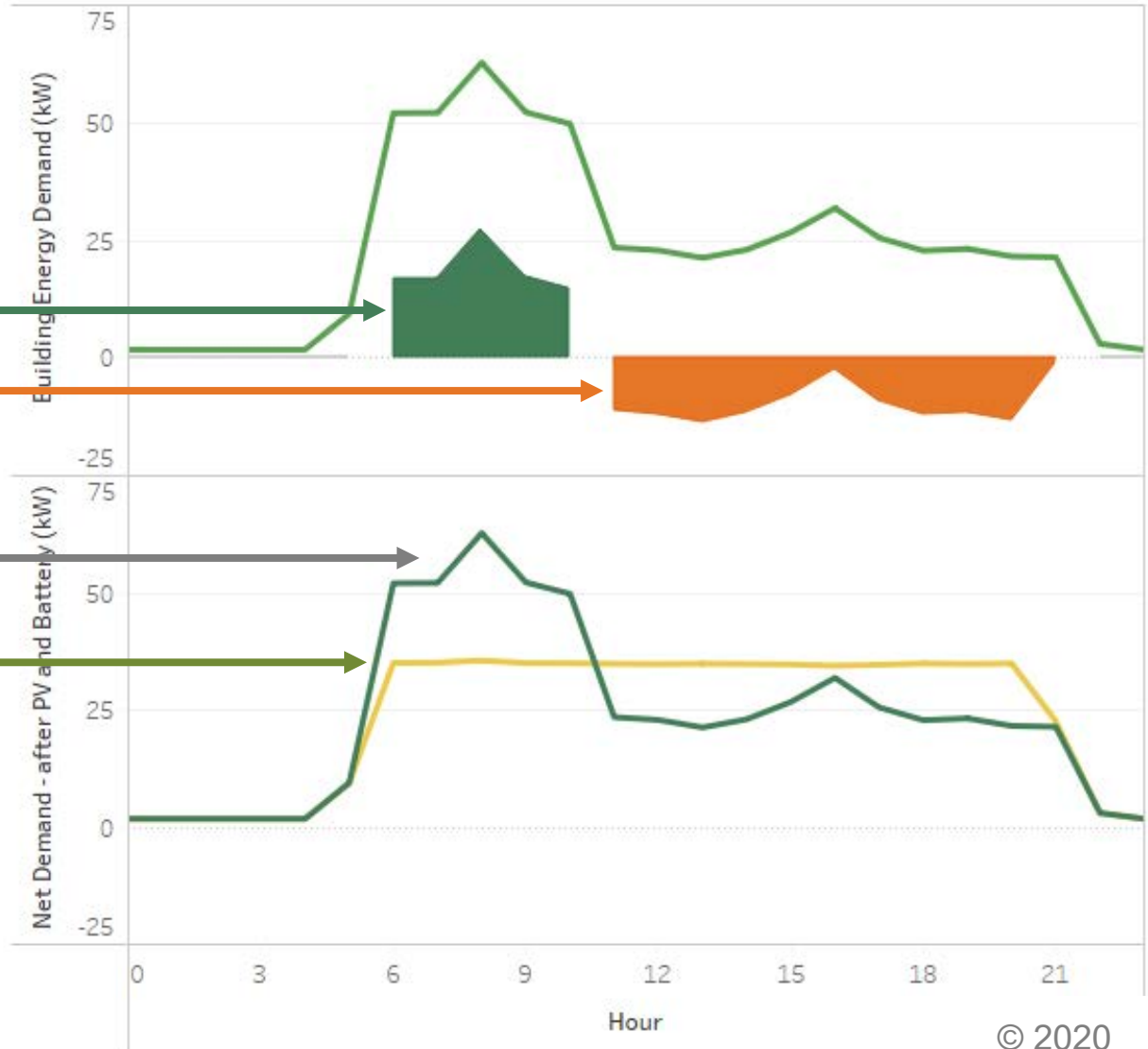
Monday, December 16

Battery Discharging

Battery Charging

Original Load Shape

Improved Load Shape



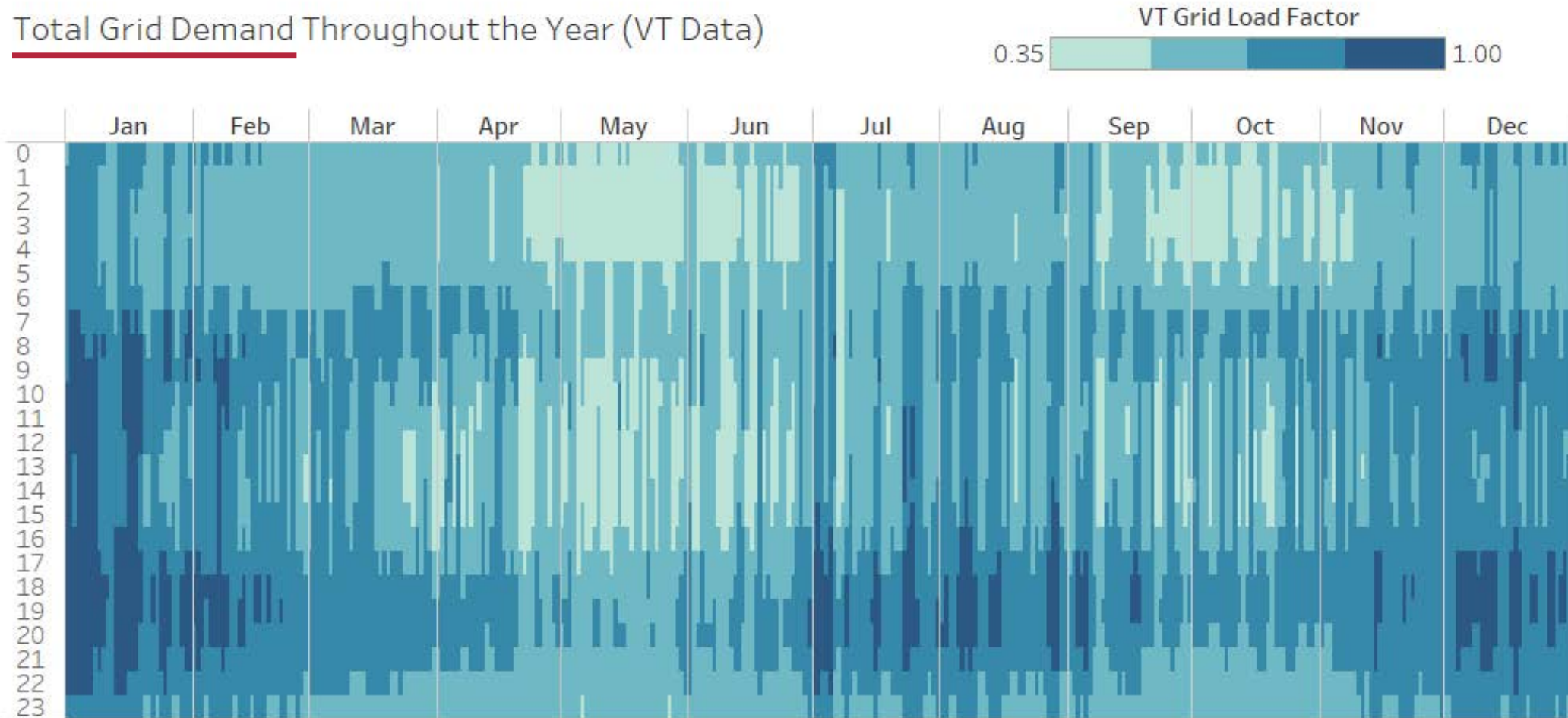
# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

- 20,000 square foot secondary school
- All-electric
- 2,000 gallon thermal storage tank
- What is the benefit of thermal storage?
  - Improved chiller COP
  - Shifting loads away from:
    - peak demand hours (utility \$\$)
    - higher carbon hours (societal \$\$)
    - demand response hours (rate savings \$\$)



# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

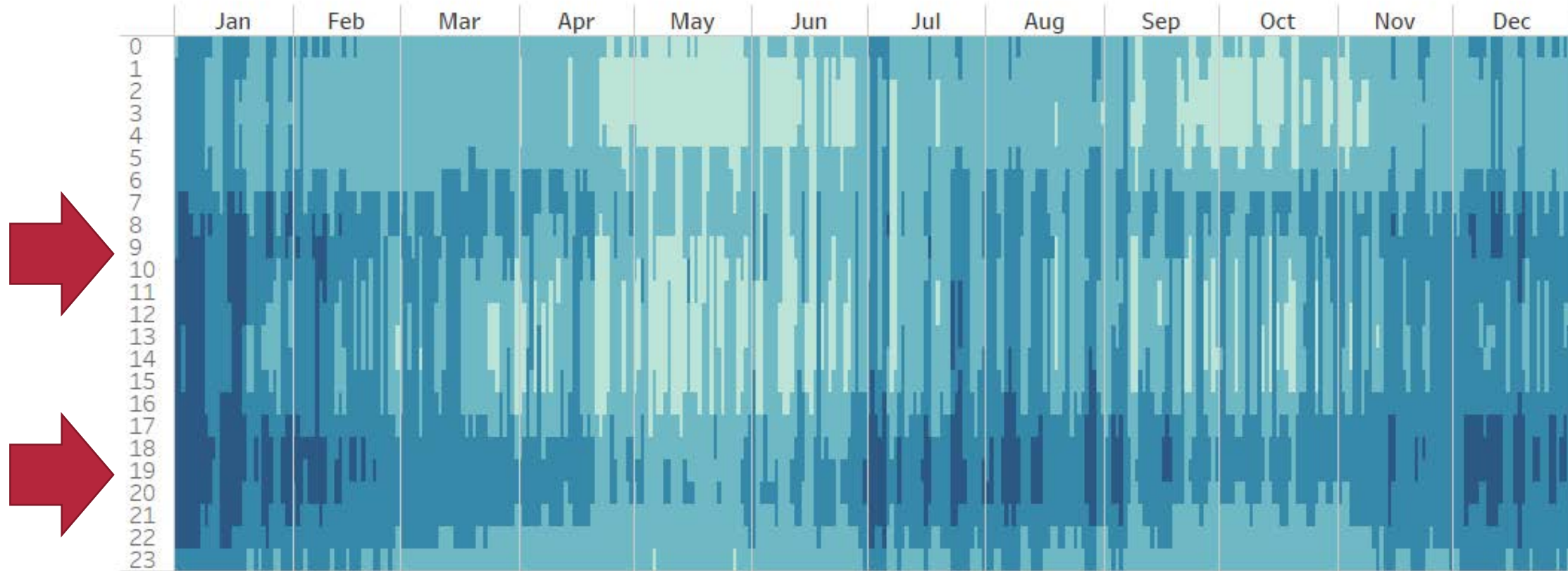
Total Grid Demand Throughout the Year (VT Data)



# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

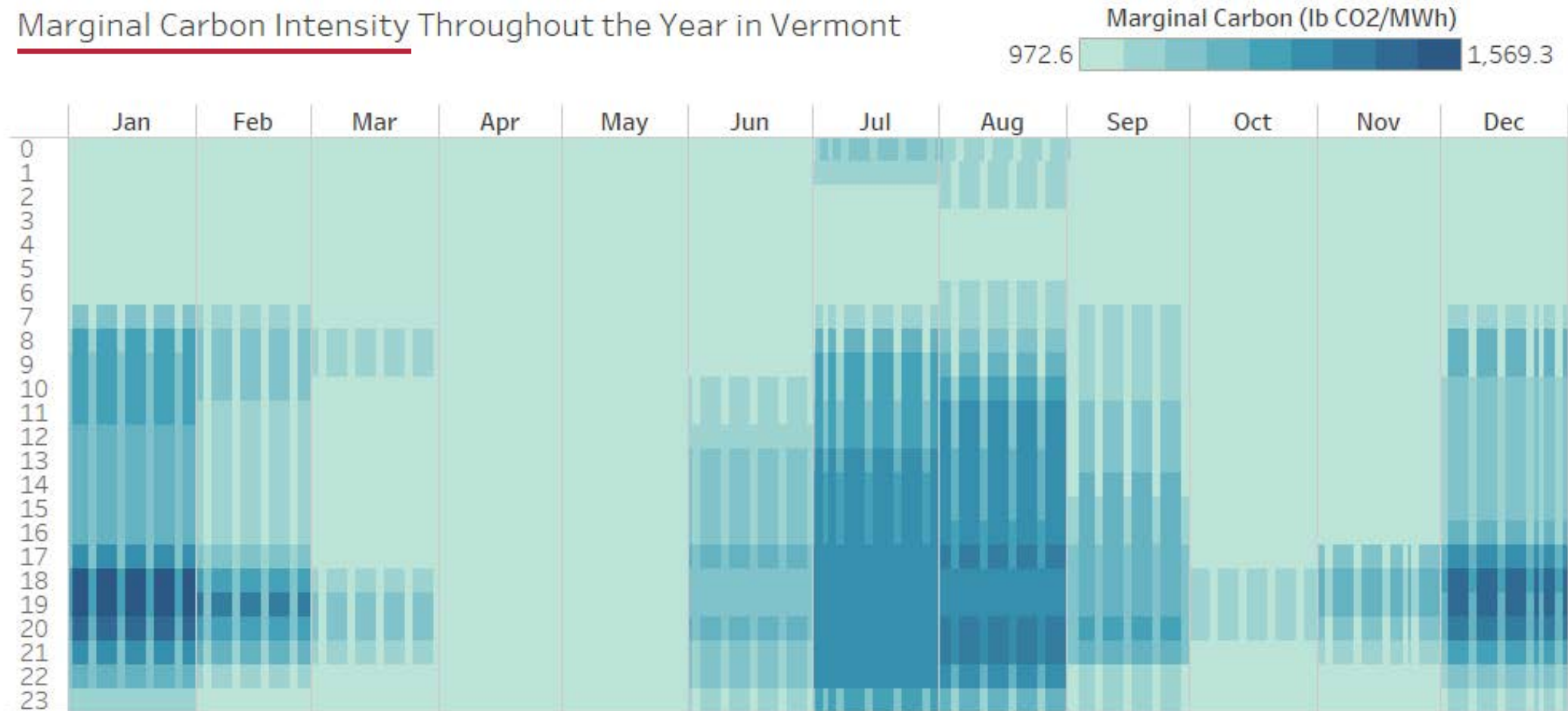
Total Grid Demand Throughout the Year (VT Data)

VT Grid Load Factor  
0.35 1.00



# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

Marginal Carbon Intensity Throughout the Year in Vermont

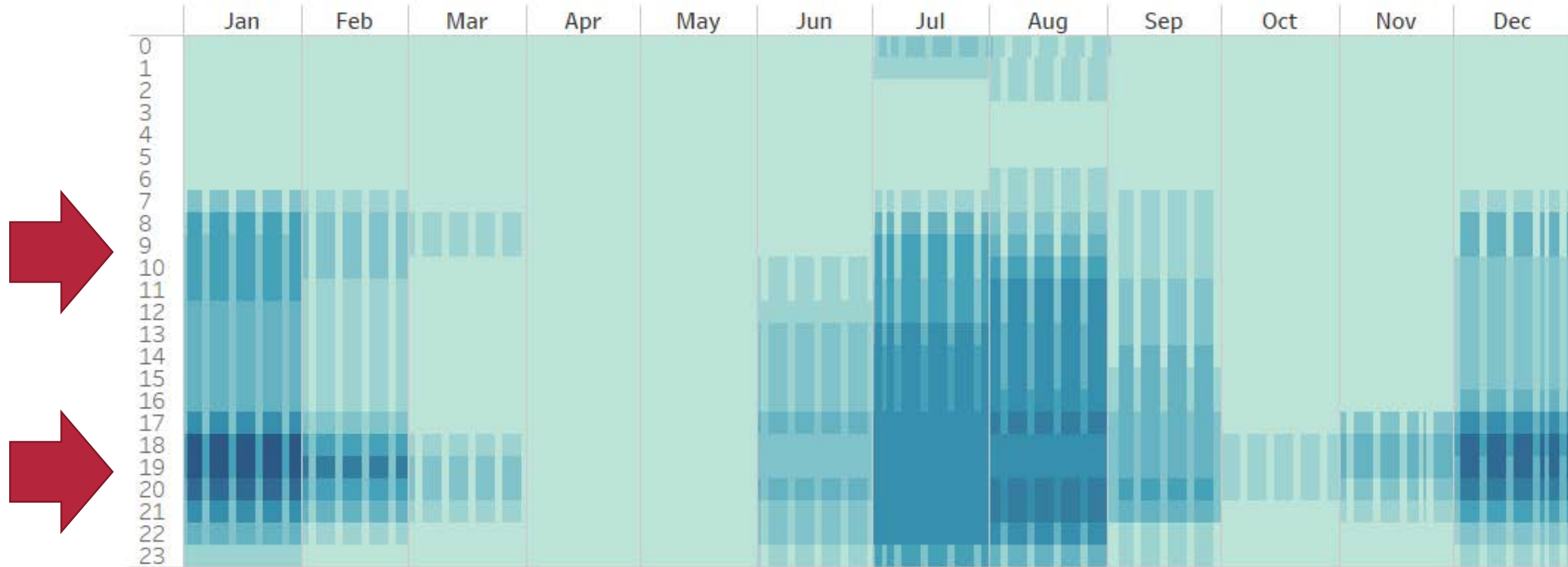




# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

Marginal Carbon Intensity Throughout the Year in Vermont

Marginal Carbon (lb CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh)  
972.6 1,569.3



# Thermal Energy Storage in a Vermont School

	Default Deployment	Simple Schedule
Operation	Charge until full Discharge until empty Rinse and repeat	Charge midnight to 7am Discharge 8am to 11am Charge noon to 5pm Discharge 5pm to 10pm
Energy vs. No storage scenario	0.5% Penalty	8.9% Savings
Carbon vs. No storage scenario	0.5% Penalty	9.7% Savings

# Office Building Example

## STATS

58,000 SF  
4 Floors of Office  
1 Floor Retail

## BENCHMARKS

Living Building  
Net Zero Energy & Water

## ENERGY

- 19 EUI
- 325 kW PV Array for Net Zero Energy
- 160 kWh Battery required for LBC

## PASSIVE FEATURES

- High performance envelope
- Manual and automatic windows
- All occupied spaces within 10' of an operable window
- Designed for maximum daylighting







Lights Off



Temperature Set Back



Ventilation Off



Plug Loads reduced to laptops only



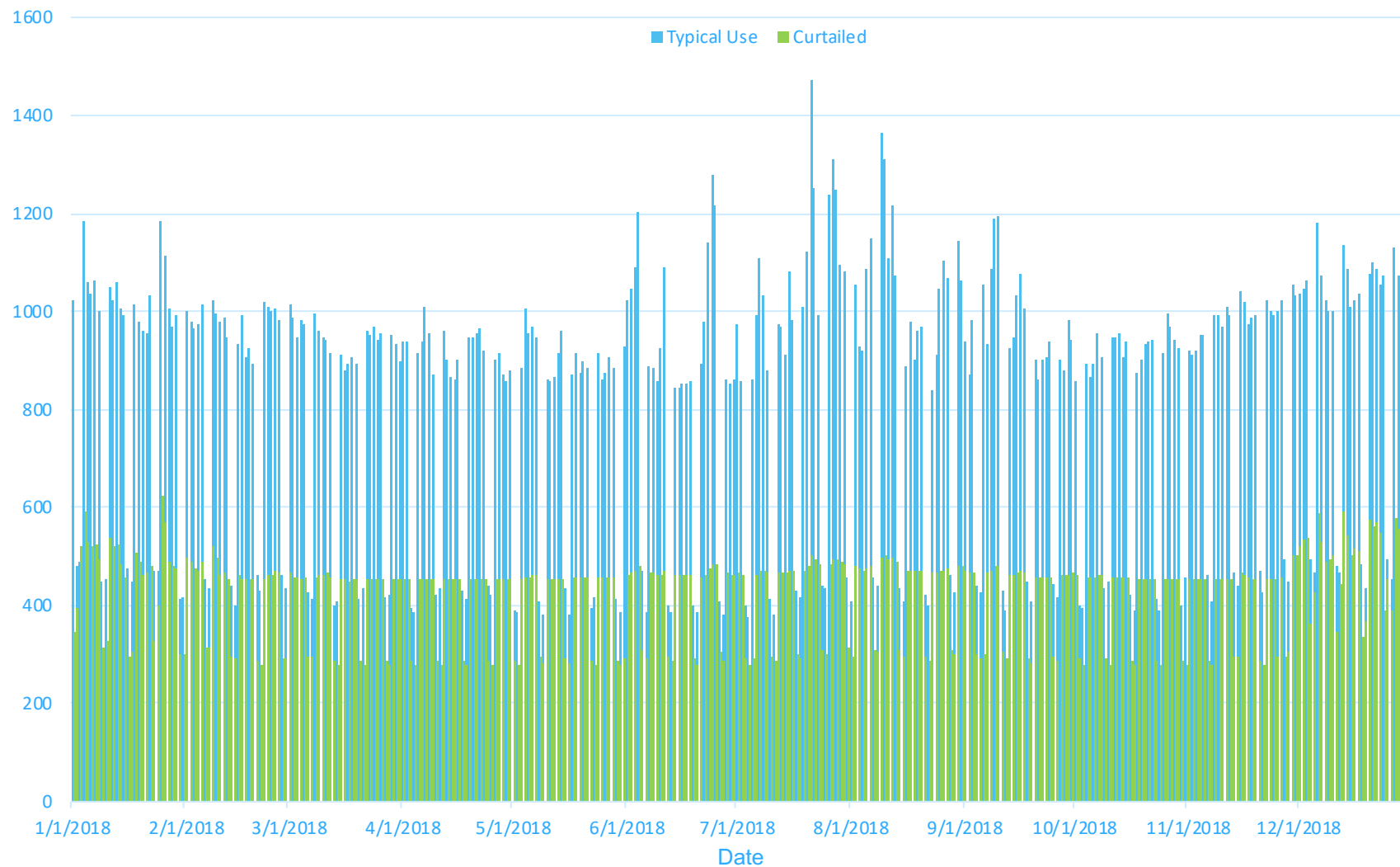
Elevator not used



Cold Domestic Water Only

## Annual Energy Use Profile

Daily kWh Used





Lights Off



Temperature Set Back



Ventilation Off



Passive Design Features

70%  
OF  
REDUCTION



Plug Loads reduced to laptops only



Elevator not used



Cold Domestic Water Only

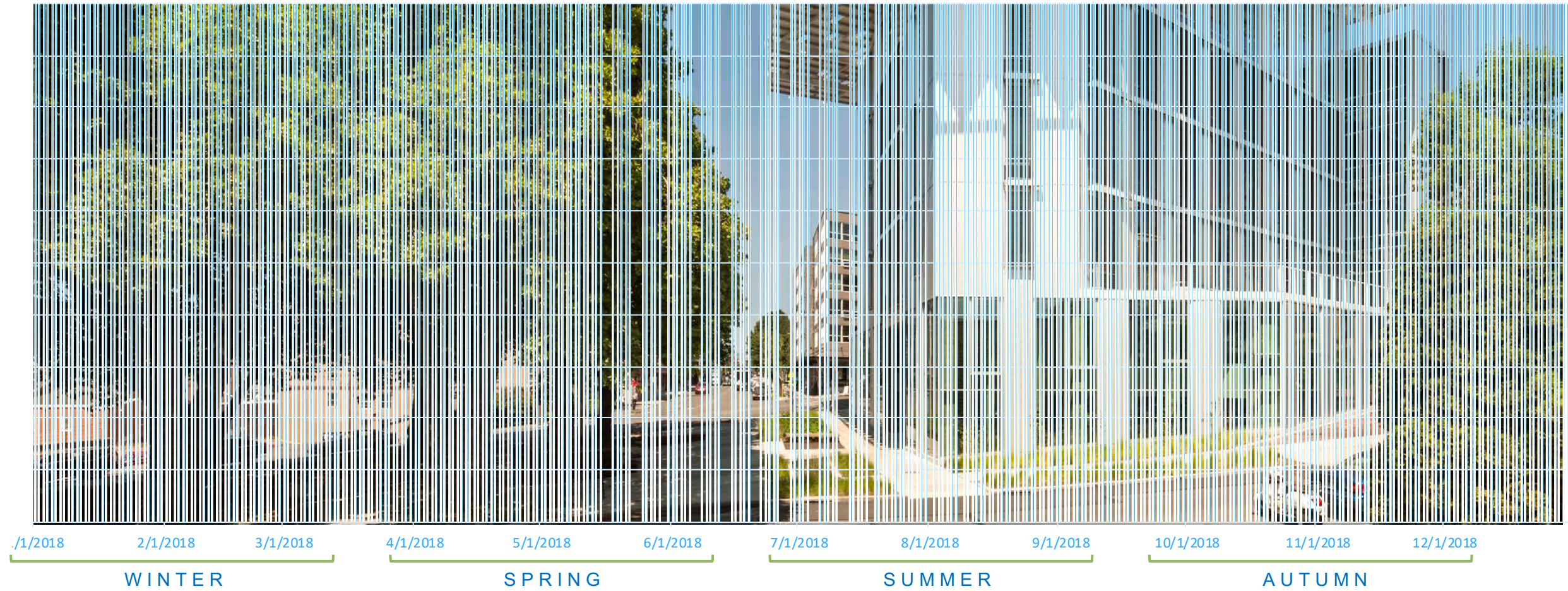


Usage curtailment

30%  
OF  
REDUCTION

# Days at Risk of an Empty Battery when Islanding

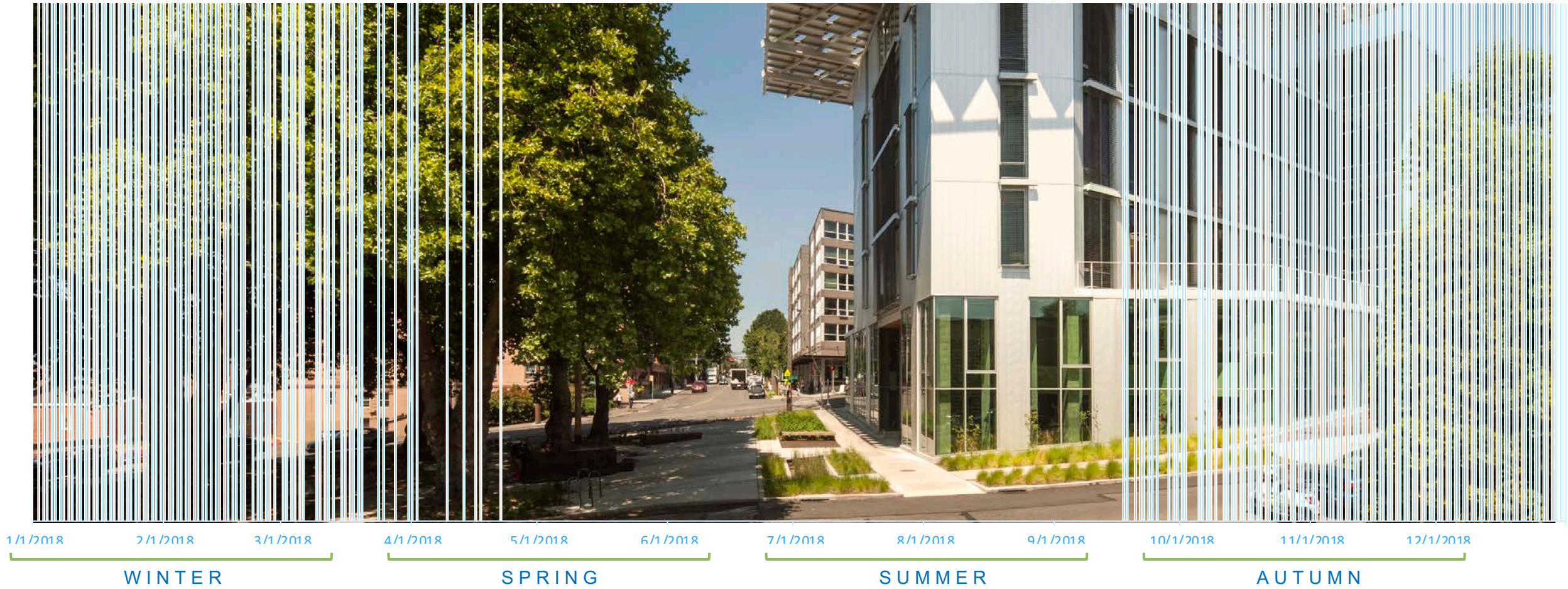
No curtailment, Net Zero with LBC-Size Battery (160 kWh)  
8 Resilient Workdays





# Days at Risk of an Empty Battery when Islanding

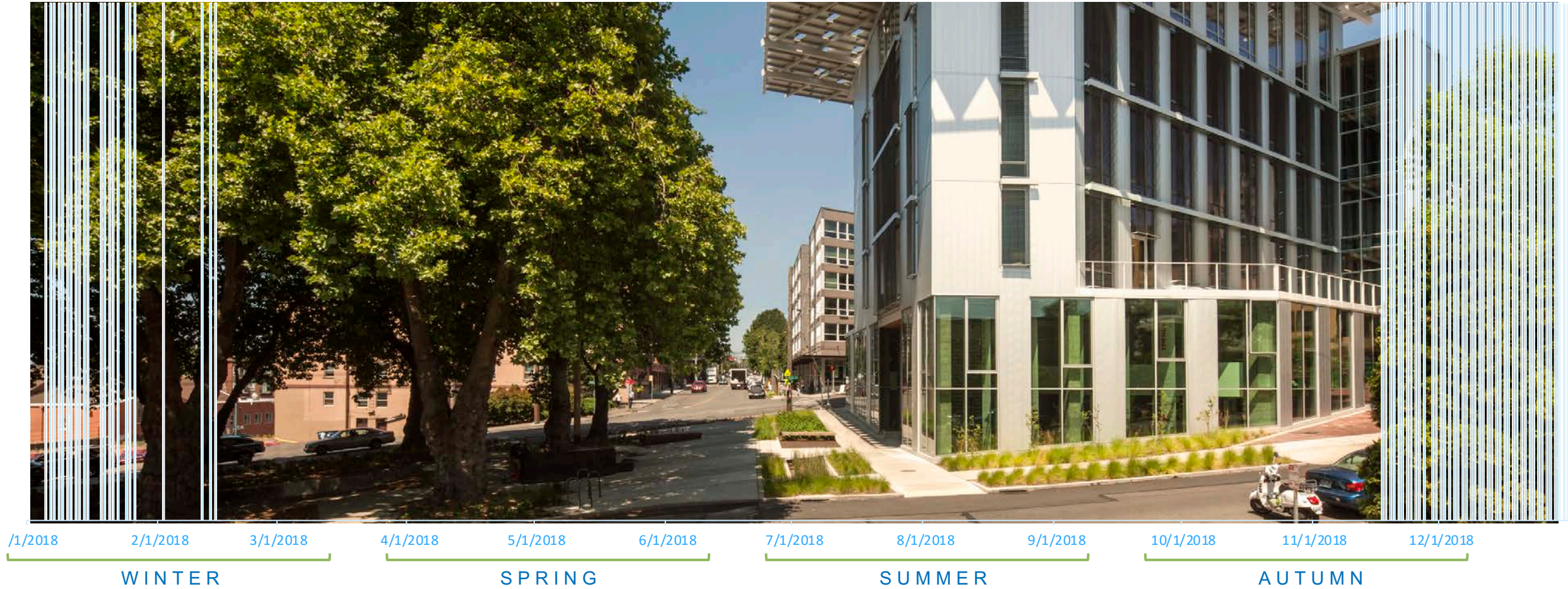
With energy curtailment, Net Zero with LBC-Size Battery (160 kWh 124 Resilient Workdays





## Days at Risk of an Empty Battery when Islanding

Increase battery from LBC-minimum to about 100% of a typical daily load 1000 kWh  
210 Resilient Days





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# Looking Ahead





# What's coming down the line?

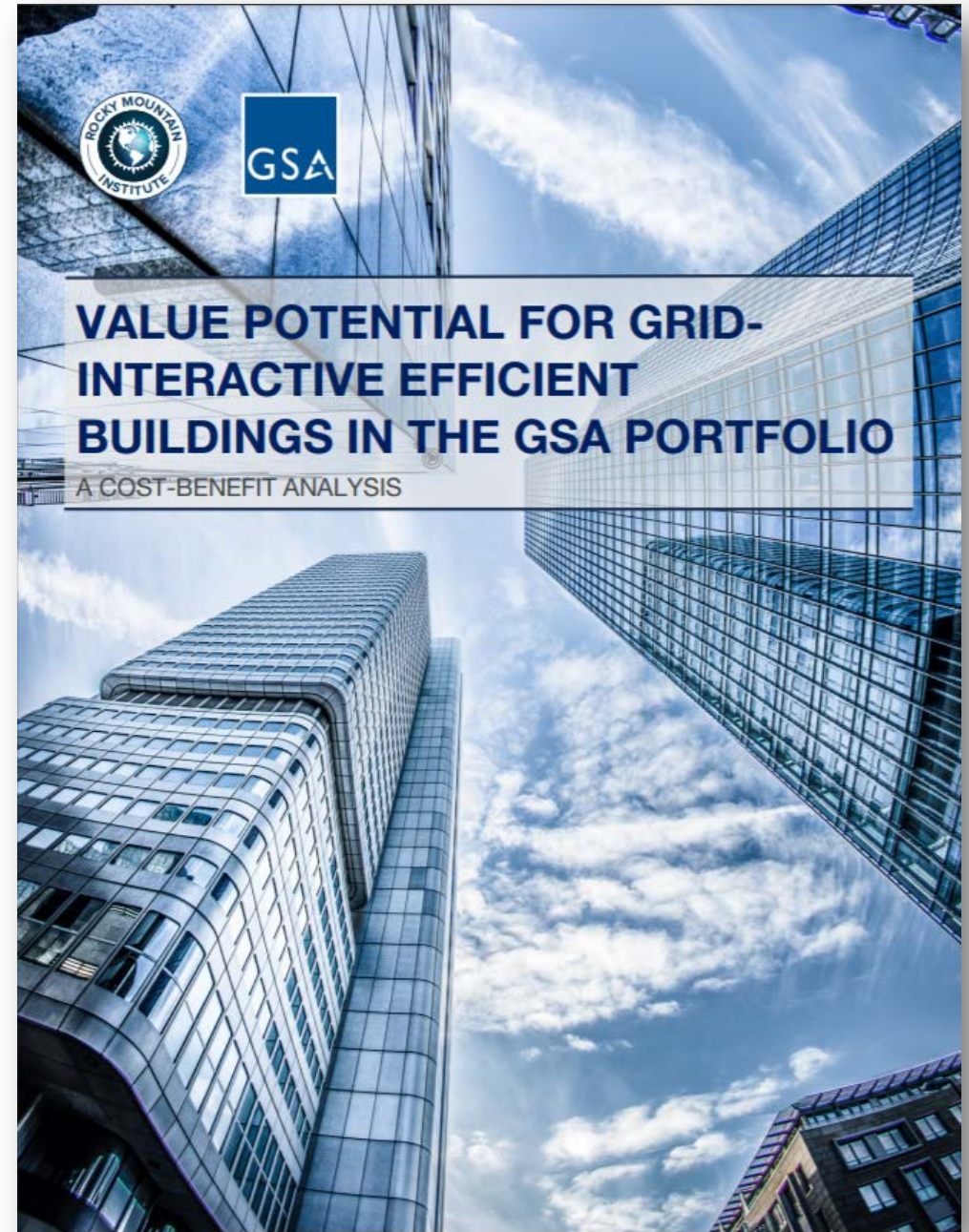
- GridOptimal version 1 metrics expected Q2 2020
- LEED Pilot Credit
- LEED Carbon credit – Grid Harmonization + Energy
- Utility programs
- **Utility rates: Real-time pricing**

---

# Grid-Integration Value

# Value Potential - GSA

- \$50 million in annual cost savings to the GSA
- \$70 million in value to grid users by reducing generation and transmission and distribution costs, benefiting all ratepayers



© New Buildings Institute 2020



# Grid Resiliency



Puerto Rico, 9/22/17 (NBC)

## Grid Integration Features in Buildings Support Resiliency Goals

- Independent power sources (PV) may allow grid-independent operation (islanding)
- Passive features support building habitability during no-power operation
- Staged start up capabilities can support faster grid recovery after outages
- On-site energy storage can provide emergency support for communities (communication, refrigeration, etc.)

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# Call to Action!



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# What can you do?

- Join the initiative
- Pilot a new project
- Keep an eye out for guidance coming out of the initiative
- Sponsor the upcoming Forum

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BUILDINGS INITIATIVE



San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco, CA | Credit: KMD Architects



# Interested in Learning More?

**Visit the web page:** <https://newbuildings.org/gridoptimal/>

- Factsheets
- Recorded Webinars
- Articles

**Join the GridOptimal Buildings Initiative! Make your voice heard and help define the future of buildings and the grid. Contact us:**

[alexi@newbuildings.org](mailto:alexi@newbuildings.org) | [mark@newbuildings.org](mailto:mark@newbuildings.org)  
[kevin@newbuildings.org](mailto:kevin@newbuildings.org)

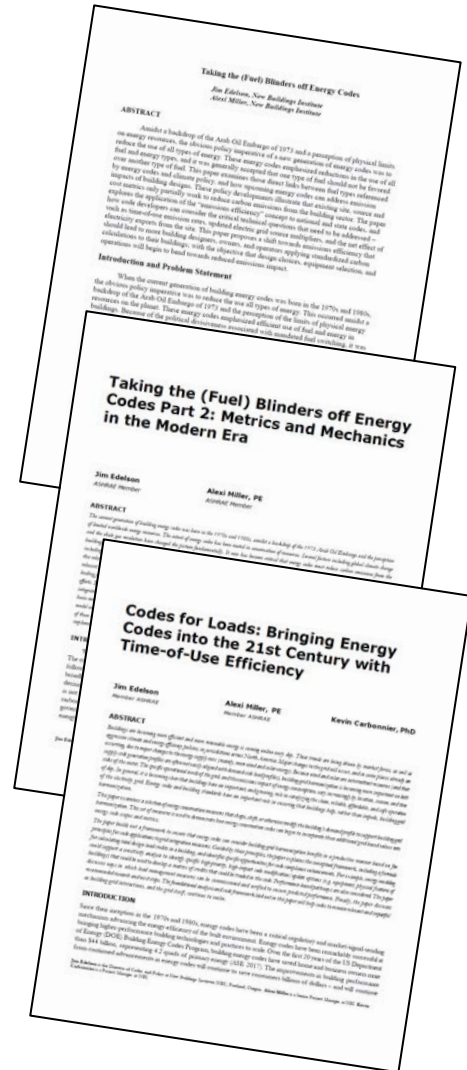
# Additional Resources

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- New Buildings Institute – GridOptimal Initiative
  - <https://newbuildings.org/resource/gridoptimal/>
- Rocky Mountain Institute - GEBs Homepage
  - <https://rmi.org/gebs>
- U.S. General Services Administration – GEBs Advice Letter
  - <https://www.gsa.gov/cdnstatic/Bldg%20Grid%20Integration%20Advice%20Letter%202-21-19%20-%20508.pdf>
- DOE BTO – GEBs Homepage
  - <https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/grid-interactive-efficient-buildings>
- Berkeley Lab – FlexLab
  - <https://flexlab.lbl.gov/>
- NASEO/NARUC – States Working Group
  - <https://www.naseo.org/issues/buildings/naseo-geb-resources>

# Codes for Loads Thought Leadership

- Three NBI white papers
  - Alexi Miller, Jim Edelson, & Kevin Carbonnier
- Considering and scoping IECC code proposal(s) for new informative appendix
  - Allows a jurisdiction to select most-critical load hours and credit targeted building load modifications during those hours
- Framework:
  - Sum of LOAD CREDITS  $\geq$  Jurisdiction's threshold
    1. Formula for Load Credits – related to load (kW) modification
    2. Must be Commissioned
    3. Can be minimum requirement or Section 406 credit







# Save the Date!

GETTING TO  
**zero**  
FORUM 2021

March 15-17, 2021

**New York City**

Leading policymakers, design professionals, building owners and commercial real estate representatives, and others will gather at the **2021 Getting to Zero Forum**. Participants will share perspectives on the growth of ZE, learned about best practices for successful projects and collaborated on opportunities for ZE to transform the built environment.

**nbi** new buildings  
institute



**NYSERDA**



---

# Thank you!

Ralph DiNola

[ralph@newbuildings.org](mailto:ralph@newbuildings.org)

**nbi** new buildings  
institute



San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, San Francisco, CA | Credit: KMD Architects





# GREENING THE GRID: GRID FRIENDLY BUILDINGS

February 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 | 32BJ



# SPEAKERS

Ralph DiNola | CEO, New Buildings

Ellen Honigstock | Director of Education, Urban Green Council  
(Moderator)

**Charles Marino** | Director of Energy Services, AKF Group

**Christopher Wetzel** | Associate, Jaros Baum & Bolles

A wide-angle photograph of the New York City skyline, featuring numerous skyscrapers and buildings along the waterfront. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the middle of the skyline.

THANK YOU!

# GREENING THE GRID: GRID FRIENDLY BUILDINGS

February 27<sup>th</sup> 2020 | 32BJ



# UNLOCKING THE GRID: GETTING RENEWABLES TO NYC



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