U.S. Department of Energy Building Energy Codes Program

2024 National Energy Codes Conference May 7, 2024 Sacramento, CA

Using Tools and Data Analysis to Inform Building Policy Adoption and Implementation

#### AIA Provider # 1014 AIA Course # 24NECC-D1S4







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### Course Description

As building codes and building performance standards become more advanced, new tools and insights are critical to help inform their adoption and implementation across the U.S. In this session, we will explore various databased solutions at the national, state, and local level helping jurisdictions realize savings and achieve their goals.







Learning Objectives

Understand how building energy data and new software tools can support the adoption and implementation of building energy policies.

Learn about novel approaches to analyze and synthesize large building energy use datasets.

Identify opportunities to utilize cost-effectiveness analysis and other policy analysis to support local energy code adoption efforts.

Understand how REScheck and COMcheck will support energy code compliance now and in the future.







### Speakers

Anna Stern (Moderator) – US Dept. of Energy, Building Technologies Office

Eric Engelman – Policy Studio

Rob Salcido – Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)

Duncan Prahl – The City University of New York (CUNY)







Digital Tools to Accelerate Decarbonization

# California and Beyond: Tool for Accelerating Code Adoption

Eric Engelman | Founder & Managing Director | Policy Studio

#### Overview

- My Energy Origin Story
- What We Built
- Beyond CA



# How did you end up in energy codes?





### My first role in energy policy Challenges

# I always felt like I lacked the understanding, data, and resources to do my job well

#### **Role:**

Energy Policy Advisor to Mayor's Office City of San Diego

#### **Responsibility:**

Accelerate adoption of clean energy initiatives

### My first role in energy policy Learnings

**1.** Most of the resources designed to be helpful do not save time

**1.** Policy disagreements can often be resolved with the right data

 If you have a good foundation of key knowledge to start with, you can make policies much better and faster

#### **Role:**

Energy Policy Advisor to Mayor's Office City of San Diego

#### **Responsibility:**

Accelerate adoption of clean energy initiatives

Since my first role in energy policy

### What we built Building Estimates



### What we built Policy Impacts



### What we built Policy Documents





### Outcomes Cost-Effectiveness Explorer



**600** 

Policies Designed

**10,000** Sessions "Something that used to take me 3 weeks to do by hand, I can now produce in 3 minutes." California City Policymaker

"I used to spend all my time helping California cities. Now with the Explorer tool in place for California, I just direct cities there and know their needs are taken care of-so I can now spend my time supporting cities in other states across the country." Decarbonization Policy Advocate



### **Beyond CA** Where is the need for a similar tool?

Local Gov Code Adoption Authority	Local Govs	States		Need	States
Type 1: None	11,000	25	Maybe	Help local governments understand code impact?	Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin
Type 2: Adopt stretch codes beyond state code	7,000	16	Yes	Help local jurisdictions adopt stretch codes	Alabama, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia
Type 3: Adopt code	4,000	9	Yes	Help local jurisdictions adopt code updates	Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, S. Dakota, Wyoming



### Beyond CA Is it possible to replicate this tool for other states?



#### **Technically Feasible**

-Data

-Policy Environment

-Technical Studies



#### Economically Feasible

-Leverage the investment California made -Leverage the accumulated team expertise -Economies of scale for many states



### Beyond CA What will it take to make it happen?



#### Collaboration and Partnerships

-Advocates

-State partners

-Regional partners

-Local partners

-Technical partners



#### Funding

-Development costs -Ongoing maintenance costs





Digital Tools to Accelerate Decarbonization

# Thank you

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Learn more at explorer.localenergycodes.com and policystudio.co





# REScheck and COMcheck Updates

2024 Department of Energy National Energy Codes Conference Building Energy Codes Program

May 7, 2024

#### V. Robert Salcido

Senior Engineer



PNNL-SA-197898

PNNL is operated by Battelle for the U.S. Department of Energy





### **Overview of Check Tools**



#### REScheck

- ✓ REScheck-Web
- ✓ REScheck-Desktop (Phase out plan)

#### COMcheck

- ✓ COMcheck-Web New (April 2024)
- ✓ COMcheck-Web Legacy (Phase out plan)
- ✓ COMcheck-Desktop (Phase out plan)
- The Check Tools clarify and simplify energy code compliance with the IECC, ASHRAE Standard 90.1 or state-specific energy codes.

### **REScheck & COM***check* Energy Codes

Pacific Northwest





- National, state and local energy codes (approved by DOE)
  - ✓ ASHRAE 90.1 Standard editions 2007/2010/2013/2016/2019/2022
  - ✓ IECC editions
     2006/2009/2012/2015/2021/
     2024 in 2024
  - ✓ Local Jurisdictions Boulder, Washington DC, Denver, Chicago, New York, Ontario
  - State Energy Codes Florida, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New York, Puerto Rico, Utah, Vermont



### **Overview of Check Tools**



#### DOE software policy for state energy codes

- ✓ The Energy Conservation and Production Act (ECPA) directs DOE to provide technical assistance to improve and implement state building energy codes
- ✓ DOE's Building Energy Codes Program (BECP) provides residential (REScheck) and commercial (COMcheck) energy code compliance software to facilitate code adoption
- ✓ DOE will not provide a custom version of REScheck or COMcheck for state/local energy codes that provide less energy savings than the current versions of the national model energy codes.

### Priorities of Check Tool development

- ✓ Current national model energy codes
- ✓ State or local codes based on current national energy codes with or without amendments that increase energy savings
- ✓ Current versions of state or local codes not based on or fundamentally diverging from the model codes with energy savings equal to or greater than the current national model code.
- ✓ DOE also releases regular updates of REScheck and COMcheck for maintenance and enhancement.





Number of Projects by State and Energy Code - Residential



124,316 New 31





#### Number of Projects by State and Energy Code - Commercial



**286,900 New** 32



# 2024 COMcheck / REScheck



### 2023 Development Plan – Objectives from DOE for the Check Tools

- Convert Check Tools to modern cloud-based applications
- Mobile friendly UI/UX
- Stakeholder workshops on enhanced features
- Digital compliance workflow permitting, compliance verification and reporting
- Basic and advanced navigation/usability
- Support for wizard-based workflows
- Customizable preferences for states and local jurisdictions
- Compliance process around advanced technologies supporting energy efficiency
- Advanced reporting to identify successful compliance measures
- Integration of compliance database for improved data tracking



### 2024 COMcheck / REScheck



### 2023 Development Plan – REScheck and COMcheck Stakeholder Workshops

- Data Exchange
  - ✓ Data import from BIM or BEM tools
  - ✓ Open-source data schema RMD or gbXML

### Code Officials' User Interface

 $\checkmark$  Code official access to project data with digital verification and compliance

### Advanced Reporting

✓ Additional reporting requirements for advanced technologies supporting energy efficiency, decarbonization and resilience

### Mobile Support

✓ Mobile checklist for field inspection

### Improved Help/Usability

✓ input wizards, help bubbles, user guides, tutorials, validation prompts

### Stakeholder Usability Suggestions

✓ project sharing, lighting schedules, sample projects, reducing number of clicks for data entry, better error reporting



### 2024 COMcheck / REScheck



### 2024 Status of REScheck and COMcheck enhancements

- Overhaul of COMcheck UI/UX Completed
- Advanced Reporting REScheck and COMcheck Completed
- Data Exchange lighting data import templates added to COMcheck Completed
- Lighting Fixture Schedule Completed
- Mobile Support digital inspection checklist for REScheck and COMcheck (iOS and Android) – Complete in May 2024
- Wizard based workflow in COMcheck Completed
- Stakeholder updates for usability for REScheck and COMcheck Completed
- Improved Help/Usability input wizards, help bubbles, user guides, tutorials, validation prompts, error reporting and project sharing Completed
- Code Officials' User Interface future workshops with code officials to determine need/strategy



### 2024 REScheck Updates



### Energy Code/Standard implementation

- New Energy Codes Added
  - ✓ 2022 Denver Energy Code
  - ✓ 2023 Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code
- Compliance paths UA and Performance
- Help bubbles
- Advanced reporting questions
- Mobile App for inspections





# 2024 COMcheck Updates



### Energy Code/Standard implementation

- Energy codes implemented
  - ✓ ASHRAE 90.1-2022
  - ✓ 2024 Minnesota Energy Code
  - ✓ 2022 Denver Energy Code May 2024
  - ✓ 2023 Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code May 2024
- New platform
- Project sharing
- Advanced reporting
- Data entry wizards
- Data imports for fixture schedule
- Improved user help and guidance
- Mobile app for inspections

### **COMcheck Project Dashboard**



### COMcheck Wizard Approach for Mechanica 🦯



#### ADD HVAC a - (5) Heating Configure System Details Equipment Equipment Economizer Heat Pump/ VRF Condensing Unit **Configure Heating Equipment** O None Central Furnace O Duct Furnace O Hydronic or Steam Coil Radiant Heater O Unit Heater O Other Heating Equipment ---CANCEL---NEXT ADD HVAC Heating Configure Cooling System Details Zoning Equipment Equipment Economizer **Configure Zoning Equipment** Perimeter Single Zone System O Multiple Zone Multiple Zone Details 🕜 Distribution Type: Single Duct -Terminal Unit Type: Reheat Type: ---CANCEL---BACK NEXT









### **COMcheck Interior Lighting: Add Fixture Schedule**

COMcheck lighting dashboard highlights building areas, spaces, fixtures, wattages and controls

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  | LIGHTING<br>TYPE   | FIXTURE<br>WATTAGE  |  |
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  | ^  | F4   | F4 FXD 15W   
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Will Jordan HelloWorld@gmail.com 123-123-2988	


#### **Mobile App**

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#### COMcheck•Web <

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In Compliance:	
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#### 8.4.2-Controls

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At least 50% of all 125 volt 15- and 20-Amp receptacles are controlled by an automatic control device. Exceptions

#### 8.4.3-Controls

New buildings have electrical energy use measurement devices installed. Where tenant spaces exist, each tenant is monitor... Exceptions

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#### 2024/2025 COMcheck/REScheck



#### Future Work

- 2024 IECC Implementation in REScheck and COMcheck
- 2023 Vermont Energy Code in REScheck and COMcheck
- 2023 Illinois Stretch Energy Code in REScheck and COMcheck
- Cloud based operation with scalability
- Refactoring of source code
- Further adaptation of mobile app
- Additional data exchange
- Compliance portals (proposed)
  - ✓ REScheck code official tool/portal
  - ✓ COMcheck code compliance portal

#### **COMcheck Compliance Portal**





V. Robert Salcido victor.salcido@pnnl.gov

Building Energy Codes Program www.energycodes.gov

**BECP** help desk

http://www.energycodes.gov/resource-center/help-desk



# Thank you







#### 2024 National Energy Codes Conference

#### Using Tools and Data Analysis to Inform Building Policy Adoption and Implementation

#### Data-Driven Commercial Building Energy Code Compliance Analysis for New York City

MAY 7, 2024 DUNCAN PRAHL, RA, AIA DIRECTOR, TECHNICAL SERVICES CUNY BUILDING PERFORMANCE LAB

### Research Project Overview

- NYC has been at the forefront of rigorous energy codes and has passed annual carbon limits on buildings that get progressively more stringent over time (2024-2029, 2030-2034, etc.)
- NYC has a very rich open data ecosystem
  - Data, data, everywhere...
  - Benchmarking, permits, energy audits, boilers, cooling tower inventories...
- Research Questions:
- 1. Can these data be used to evaluate how various policies (e.g., energy audits, benchmarking, carbon caps, energy codes) are impacting actual building energy use in the market?
- 2. Are there tools that can help building owners predict and better understand how energy is being used in the building?
- 3. What is the contribution of various plants, systems, and components to overall building energy consumption and GHG emissions?

### Acknowledgments and Caveats

- This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) under the Advanced Building Construction program, award number(s) DE-EE0009081
- Additional support was provided by the NYC Department of Citywide Administrative Services, Division of Energy Management
- Project partners include the NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice, the NYC Department of Buildings, and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
- Dedicated CUNY BPL staff and interns:
  - Honey Berk, Executive Director, Tyna Horn, Director of Data Solutions, Stephania Castro, Jr. Analyst
  - Interns: Po Ki Chui, Edgar Santamaria, Rami Khan, Sam Wolnerman, Tiffany Beckles, Lourdes Rivera, Golvis Tavarez, Samiul Ahmed
- Best efforts have been used to check and use correct data. There is conflicting and duplicative data and significant cross-referencing was necessary to reach conclusions presented here today.
- The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Department of Energy, the United States Government, the NYC Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice, the NYC Department of Buildings, or the New York State Research and Development Authority.

### High-Level Data Analysis

- Looked at NYC Open Data from 2013 to 2022, as well some limited proprietary data
- Benchmarking, audits, permits, energy, drawing sets, and real-time energy management data



So, what did we find?

#### EUI is Not Stable Over Time



### EUI – Multifamily with 5+ Years of Data



#### EUI – Offices with 5+ Years of Data



## 2019 EUI Distribution by Vintage



# 2019 EUI Distribution by Vintage – Multifamily



#### 2022 GHG per Sq. Ft. – Multifamily 2024-2029 LL97 0.007 0.00675 tCO2e/SF limit\_ NYC Rule 1 RCNY 103-14 0.006 Total tCO2e 2022 / Total sqft 0.005 0.004 0.003346640 tCO2e/SF NYC Rule 1 RCNY 103-14 0.003 2030-2034 LL97 limit 0.002 0.001 0.000 Pre-1979 1979-1991 1991-2002 2002-2008 2008-2010 2010-2014 2014-2016 2016-2018 2018-2020 n=5618 n=330 n=183 n=372 n=146 n=146 n=128 n=134 n=52 Year Built

## 2019 EUI Distribution by Vintage – K-12



#### 2022 GHG per Sq. Ft. – K-12 Schools



## BPS and New Construction Energy Codes

**QUESTION:** Are new buildings in NYC going to incur fines under the building performance standards enacted in 2019 as part of Local Law 97 (LL97)?

ANALYSIS: Find data on buildings > 25K square feet, permitted between 2015-2020

- Sorted by NYC code compliance and analysis pathways
  - NYC Energy Conservation Code (NYCECC), ASHRAE 90.1
  - Energy Modeling, COMCheck or Tabular Analysis
- Calculated GHG emissions from EPA Portfolio Manager (EPAPM) data for 2022 using same gross square footage based on the top three uses
- Calculated LL97 GHG limits (tCO2e per square foot) for 2024-2029 and 2030-2034



Image from https://www.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/h2g\_all\_2020\_nycecc.pdf

#### GHG Compliance by Code Compliance Path

- 1,000+ permits
  Filtered for buildings with 2022 benchmarking data and reliable square footage
- •Ended up with 114 buildings
- 5+ years between permitting and first benchmarking
- •90% will comply with 2024-29 caps
- •52% will comply with 2030-34 caps



## GHG Compliance by Occupancy Group

#### Percentage Compliance By Occupany Group

	A, F, H, I, S, U	E	В	R
2030-34 LL97 Compliance	73%	100%	72%	97%
2024-29 LL97 Compliance	32%	0%	39%	67%

A = Assembly

F = Factory and Industrial

H = High Hazard

I = Institutional

S = Storage

U = Utility and Misc

E = Educational

B = Business

R = Residential (multifamily)



## Modeled Compliance vs. 2022 EUI



- Not a statistical sample
- Group of buildings that used ASHRAE Appendix G (8760hour modeling) as compliance path
- Modeled performance does not appear to predict actual EUI

   In line with industry opinion

### Building Performance Standards as a "Code"

- No "inspections", just energy performance, some translated to emissions
- Simple in concept, may be hard for building owners
- Emissions may change year-over-year
- No indication of plant, system or component that uses the energy



State and Local Building Performance Standards

Image from https://www.energycodes.gov/BPS

# A Driving Performance Standard

#### Drive from point A to point B using a fixed amount of fuel

- Sheboygan, MI to Perth Amboy, NJ (~950 miles)
- 2005 Hybrid (~47 MPG)
- Four 5-gallon cans of gas

- Dashboard helpers don't work no check engine, no energy monitor, no gas gauge, just speedometer and odometer
- Will you make it?



## A Building Performance Standard

Run your 237,862 sq. ft. building from Jan 1-Dec 31, keep occupants happy, and use no more than 1,803 tCO2e/year, or incur a fine

- Your BAS is old and can't trend more than a week
- Your utility sends you a monthly energy bill
- Will you make it?



#### Use Building Data to Predict Performance

What data exists?

- Monthly utility bills?
- 15-minute interval data from the utility?
- Submetered data?
- Simple trend data from the BAS?
- Detailed trend data from a real-time energy management system?

"Simple" techniques to analyze data

- Linear change-point regression models
- Time-of-day or day-of-week models
- Time-of-week and temperature

#### Change-point Modeling

Regression model uses monthly energy consumption and monthly average outdoor air temperature

CUNY BPL uses monthly utility bills to generate estimates of baseload, heating, and cooling energy consumption

Change-point modeling provides an indicator of the rate of energy consumption for heating and cooling based on outdoor air temperature



Average Outdoor Air Temperature (F)

# Change-point Model Types

- Model types show how a building uses electricity and/or thermal energy
- May have different model types for the same building per energy type
  - Example: building with gas-fired boiler and electric cooling tower with watersource heat pumps
    - 4P electricity model
      - Uses electricity during heating and cooling seasons
    - 3P gas model
      - Uses gas during heating season



Re

Changepoints

- Setpoint temperatures
- Internal heat gain (loads from electric use, solar Identify areas of poor performance Prioritize audits and energy efficiency projects
  - envelope \_\_\_\_\_

envelope (infiltration) • Efficiency of heating / Ba coolinging El system system system system

• Heat loss /

gain through

#### Baseload Electricit

#### Baseload Fuel

# Lean Energy Analysis (LEAN)

- Used to compare building performance across change-point model parameters
  - Baseload
  - Change-points (cooling / heating)
  - Cooling sensitivity
  - Heating sensitivity



- Buildings are segmented into peer groups by use type (typically, EPAPM primary function)
- Regression coefficient values for each parameter are split into quartiles to rank good, average, and poor performers for each use type

### **LEAN Segmentation**

- Rankings can be used to segment buildings by desired attributes
- Attributes can be combined to target buildings for audits or specified types of efficiency projects (e.g., electrification, envelope, Building Re-tuning)

Use Type	Year Built	Sq Ft	EER Filed for Previous Audits	LL87 Target Sq Ft	Sq Ft > 25,000	Has Fuel Oil	EUI Percentile > 75%	GHG Percentile > 75%	2+ Electricity Coefficient Percentiles > 75%	2+ Fuel Coefficient Percentiles > 75%	Possible Simultaneous Heating/Coolin g
Veterinary Office	2019	5,000		False	False		True	True			
Urgent Care-Clinic- Other Outpatient	2016	15,000		False	False		True	True			True
Race Track	2016	12,600		False	False		True	True			
Prison-Incarceration	1993	128,914		True	True	True	True	True		True	
Other - Recreation	1939	2,500		False	False		True	True			
Vocational School	2012	750,000		True	True		True	True			True
Other - Entertainment-Public Assembly	1930	13,063		False	False		True	True	True		True
College-University	1907	3,145,589		True	True	True	True	True	True		
Personal Services Health-Beauty Dry Cleaning etc	1970	19,350		False	False	True	True	True			
Food Service	1970	111,450		True	True	True	True	True			
Enclosed Mall	1950	30,000		False	True		True	True			
K-12 School	1992	21,600		False	False		True	True			
Office	1900	3,200		False	False		True	True	True		
Food Sales	1941	15,000		False	False		True	True	True	True	True
Distribution Center	1954	200,000		True	True		True	True		True	
Library	1958	15,700		False	False		True	True			
Performing Arts	1854	61,420		True	True		True	True		True	
Police Station	1925	2,350		False	False		True	True			
Outpatient Rehabilitation- Physical Therapy	2004	8,560		False	False		True	True			
Medical Office	1920	10,900		False	False		True	True	True	True	
Fire Station	1907	4,500		False	False		True	True			
Fire Station	1896	5,278		False	False		True	True			True
Fire Station	1925	2,425		False	False		False	True	True		
Museum	1730	4,500		False	False		True	True			

## LEAN Quad Charts

- Regression coefficients can also be segmented visually
- Example:
  - Cooling change-point vs. cooling sensitivity – worst performers have low changepoints and high sensitivity
  - Identifies buildings where cooling energy starts at lower temperatures and rate of consumption is high



## Track Performance Over Time

- Each data point represents 12 months; successive points slide period forward by one month (e.g., Jan-Dec., Feb-Jan, Mar-Feb)
- Can reveal trends that cannot be seen in a single year of data
- Easy to see when performance degradation occurs
- Monitor persistence of savings, emissions reductions

#### Rolling Cooling Change-point and Sensitivity

Cooling Change-point Ocooling Sensitivity







#### Rolling Heating Change-point and Sensitivity



#### Rolling GHG Emissions (kgCO2e) by Energy Type



# Energy Analysis by End-Use

What is the contribution of particular plants, systems or components to overall building energy consumption and GHG emissions?

- CUNY BPL developed a "Stretch Standard of Care for Building Automation Systems"
- Breaks down enduses into plants, systems and components
- Uses tags compatible with Project Haystack



propane)

# Energy Analysis by End-Use

Collected data from real-time energy management (RTEM) systems installed in NYC and NYS under the NYSERDA RTEM program

https://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Real-Time-Energy-Management

- Compared contribution of measured plant, system or component to whole building energy consumption
- Evaluated various regression approaches
  - Linear change-point regressions
  - Time-of-week and temperature

R package by kW labs (https://github.com/kW-Labs/nmecr)



## Chiller End-Use – Office Building (2018)



#### Lessons Learned

#### Clear Definitions

- Square footage, annual usage, annual emissions
- Legislative language vs. implementable rules

#### Consider a Chief Data Officer

- Complicated analysis and calculations are critical square footage, emissions by use type, emissions by energy type, regional coefficients, time-of-use
- Need broad coordination of data permits, energy, square footage, other agency data

#### Consider Platforms that Serve All Stakeholders

- A one-way data flow (owner to code enforcement) limits value of data
- Data can be very valuable to policymakers, owners, consultants, A&E firms, contractors, researchers (others?)
Final Reporting being published on OSTI Target date September 30, 2024

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Questions?