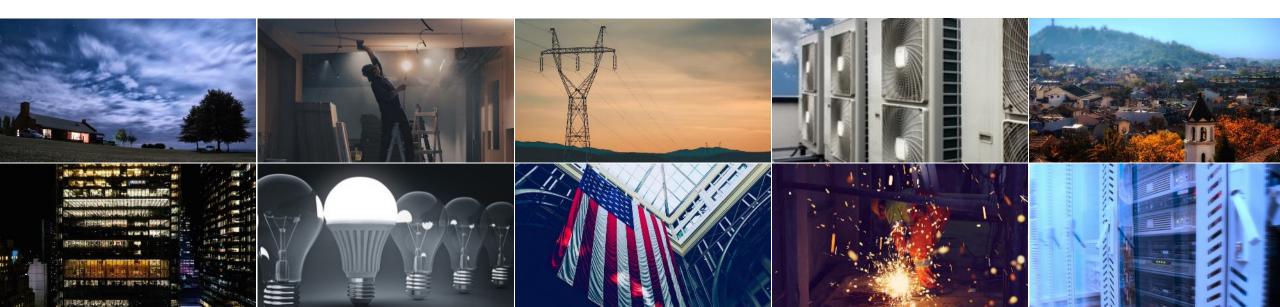


## 63 and Me: What Have We Learned From the Field Studies in the Northwest Region?

National Energy Codes Conference Seminar Series Building Technologies Office

Fall 2020



## NECC Seminar Series Lineup

Catch the entire lineup of sessions weekly—Thursdays @ 1p ET:

- 10/01: Kickoff to the Series
- 10/08: Electronic Permitting
- 10/15: HVAC for Low-Load Homes
- 10/29: 2021 IECC Commercial

- 11/12: New for ASHRAE Standard 90.1
- 11/19: 2021 IECC Residential
- 11/24: Energy Codes Around the World
- 10/22: Performance-Based Compliance 12/03: Advanced Technology and Codes
  - 12/10: Policies for EE + Resilience
- 11/05: Remote and Virtual Inspections 12/17: Field Studies in the NW Region
- > Learn more: energycodes.gov/2020-building-energy-code-webinar-series



## 63 and Me: What Have We Learned From the Field Studies in the Northwest Region?



David Freelove

Cornerstone Integrated Industries



Greg Lasher TRC

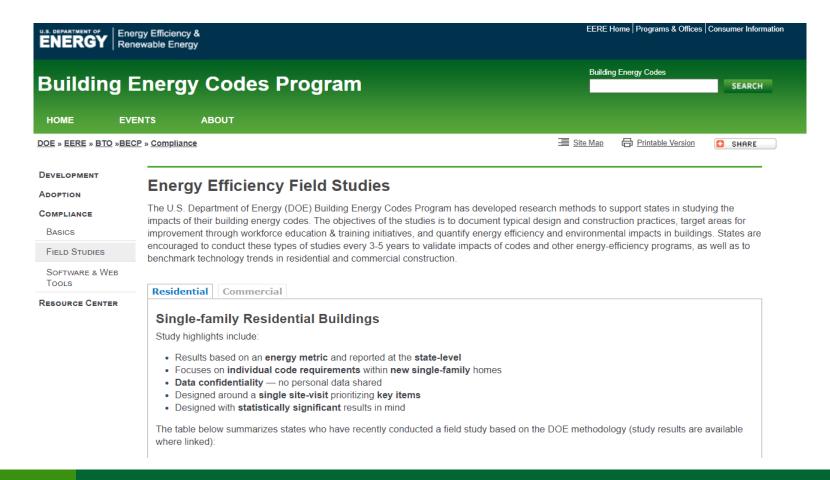


Bruce Manclark
CLEAResult

#### **DOE Field Studies**

#### For more information on DOE Energy Efficiency Field Studies, visit:

https://www.energycodes.gov/compliance/energy-code-field-studies



# Team CII & NEEA Partnership

**Data Collection Studies** 

12.15.2020



**Cornerstone Integrated Industries** 

Collaborate. Innovate. Integrate.

## Field Data Collection Recruitment Strategies



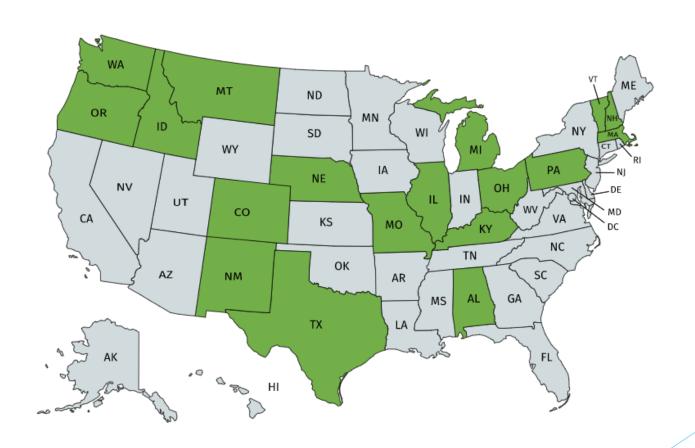






### Involvement

- Kentucky (2)
- Oregon (2)
- Alabama (2)
- Missouri
- Ohio
- Washington
- Texas
- Idaho
- Montana
- Michigan



## Sample Plan Examples

#### **IDAHO**

	Option 5	
	Location	Count
1	Meridian, Ada County	7
2	Boise City, Ada County	3
3	Caldwell, Canyon County	2
4	Eagle, Ada County	5
5	Ada County Unincorporated Area, Ada County	5
6	Nampa, Canyon County	4
7	Kootenai County Unincorporated Area, Kootenai County	4
8	Coeur dAlene, Kootenai County	3
9	Bonneville County Unincorporated Area, Bonneville County	1
10	Post Falls, Kootenai County	4
11	Kuna, Ada County	2
12	Twin Falls, Twin Falls County	1

#### **MONTANA**

Location	Count
Yellowstone County	14
Unincorporated Area, Yellowstone	
County	
Billings, Yellowstone County	10
Gallatin County Unincorporated	12
Area, Gallatin County	
Bozeman, Gallatin County	8
Missoula, Missoula County	5
Missoula County Unincorporated	1
Area, Missoula County	
Cascade County Unincorporated	1
Area, Cascade County	
Belgrade, Gallatin County	2
Kalispell, Flathead County	3
Whitefish, Flathead County	3
Helena, Lewis and Clark County	2
Great Falls, Cascade County	2
Total	63

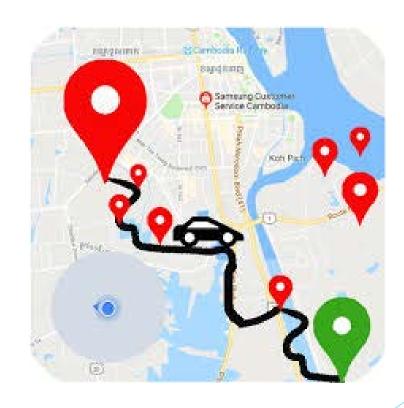
### Recruitment

- Follow DOE protocols
- Efficient travel plans
- Initial contact
- Image
- Conversations
- Follow up



### **Travel Plans**

- Route efficiently
- Schedule with builders in same area
- Leave openings for random homes/ leads
- Ship/store test equipment
- Travel trailers/motorhomes
- Apartments
- ▶ 10-14 day trips



### **Initial Contact Conversation**

- Make small talk
- Find a connection
- Power of persuasion
- Ease into reason for visit
- Do not overwhelm with technical talk
- Minimize testing
- Stress no contact with building dept.
- Insure anonymity



## Image!

- DO NOT overdress
- What are you driving?
- License plate?







### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Pants
- Steel toe boots
- Hard hat
- Eye protection
- High visibility vest
- Some contractor require all of it



### Follow Up

- Offer feedback to builder
- Test results
- Ask if you can provide any other information
- Provide contact information
- Provide study overview information



### My Contact Information

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Idaho Energy Code Collaborative

David Freelove Idaho Energy Code Circuit Rider

208.880.7589 energy@idabo.org





### NEEA 2019 Oregon Residential New Construction Field Study

December 17, 2020

RESILIENT

**SUSTAINABLE** 

### **AGENDA**



- Oregon's Energy Code
  - Prescriptive vs Additional Measures
- Building Trends & Observations
  - Above Code
  - Water Heating
  - Envelope
  - Ducts
  - Infiltration



## Prescriptive plus Additional Measures

## Prescriptive Requirements

TABLE N1101.1(1)
PRESCRIPTIVE ENVELOPE REQUIREMENTS<sup>a</sup>

DUIL DING COMPONENT	STANDARD BASE CASE		LOG HOMES ONLY	
BUILDING COMPONENT	Required Performance	Equiv. Value <sup>b</sup>	Required Performance	Equiv. Value <sup>b</sup>
Wall insulation—above grade	U-0.059 <sup>c</sup>	R-21 Intermediate <sup>c</sup>	Note d	Note d
Wall insulation—below grade <sup>e</sup>	C-0.063	R-15/R-21	C-0.063	R-15/R-21
Flat ceilings <sup>f</sup>	U-0.021	R-49	U-0.020	R-49 Ah
Vaulted ceilings <sup>g</sup>	U-0.033	R-30 Rafter or R-30A <sup>g,h</sup> Scissor Truss	U-0.027	R-38A <sup>h</sup>
Underfloors	U-0.033	R-30	U-0.033	R-30
Slab edge perimeter	F-0.520	R-15	F-0.520	R-15
Heated slab interior <sup>i</sup>	n/a	R-10	n/a	R-10
Windows <sup>j</sup>	U-0.30	U-0.30	U-0.30	U-0.30
Window area limitation <sup>j, k</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Skylights <sup>I</sup>	U-0.50	U-0.50	U-0.50	U-0.50
Exterior doors <sup>m</sup>	U-0.20	U-0.20	U-0.54	U-0.54
Exterior doors with > 2.5 ft <sup>2</sup> glazing <sup>n</sup>	U-0.40	U-0.40	U-0.40	U-0.40
Forced air duct insulation	n/a	R-8	n/a	R-8

### Additional Measures

#### TABLE N1101.1(2) ADDITIONAL MEASURES

	1	High efficiency walls
	1	Exterior walls—U-0.045/R-21 cavity insulation + R-5 continuous
		Upgraded features
res	2	Exterior walls—U-0.057/R-23 intermediate or R-21 advanced, Framed floors—U-0.026/R-38, and Windows—U-0.28 (average UA)
asn		Upgraded features
Enhancement Measures (Select One)	3	Exterior walls—U-0.055/R-23 intermediate or R-21 advanced, Flat ceiling <sup>e</sup> —U-0.017/R-60, and Framed floors—U-0.026/R-38
nce ect		Super Insulated Windows and Attic OR Framed Floors
Envelope Enha (Sel	4	Windows—U-0.22 (Triple Pane Low-e), and Flat ceiling <sup>e</sup> —U-0.017/R-60 or Framed floors—U-0.026/R-38
velo		Air sealing home and ducts
En	5	Mandatory air sealing of all wall coverings at top plate and air sealing checklist <sup>f</sup> , and Mechanical whole-building ventilation system with rates meeting M1503 or ASHRAE 62.2, and All ducts and air handlers contained within building envelope <sup>d</sup> or All ducts sealed with mastic <sup>b</sup>
	-	High efficiency thermal envelope UA <sup>g</sup>
S 0	6	Proposed UA is 8% lower than the code UA
		High efficiency HVAC system <sup>a</sup>
aure	A	Gas-fired furnace or boiler AFUE 94%, or Air source heat pump HSPF 9.5/15.0 SEER cooling, or Ground source heat pump COP 3.5 or Energy Star rated
leas		Ducted HVAC systems within conditioned space
Conservation Measure (Select One)	В	All ducts and air handlers contained within building envelope <sup>d</sup> Cannot be combined with Measure 5
(Se	С	Ductless heat pump
suo		Ductless heat pump HSPF 10.0 in primary zone of dwelling
0		High efficiency water heater <sup>c</sup>
	D	Natural gas/propane water heater with UEF 0.85 OR Electric heat pump water heater Tier 1 Northern Climate Specification Product

## Additional Measures 5A

HVAC DUCTS R-8

PRESCRIPTIVE GLAZING

WINDOWS AND SLIDING DOORS U= 30 FRONT ENTRY DOORS U.54 GARAGE TO HOUSE DOOR U.20

ADDITIONAL MEASURES

ENVELOPE ENHANCED MEASURE 5
MANDATORY SEALING OF WALL COVERINGS AT TOP PLATES
CONTINUOUS AIR BARRIER AT AREAS SUCH AS BEHIND TUBS
ALL DUCTS SEALED WITH MASTIC

CONSERVATION MEASURE A
GAS FIRED FURNACE AFUE 94%

OTHER ENERGY CODE REQUIREMENTS

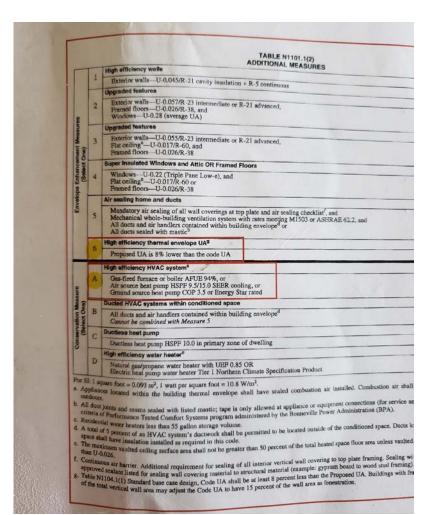
ALL PERMANENTLY INSTALL LIGHT FIXTURES TO HAVE HIGH EFFIC LAMPS, SCREW IN COMPACT FLUORESCENT AND LED COMPLY

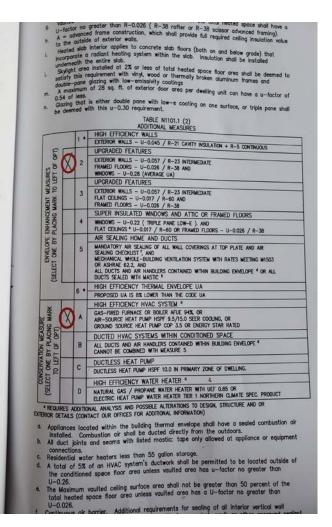
DOMESTIC HOT WATER PIPING OUTSIDE BUILDING ENVELOPE SHABE INSULATED TO R-3

WATER CLOSETS SHALL BE EPA WATERSENSE LABELED WITH FL VOLUME NOT EXCEEDING 1.28 GALLONS PER FLUSH

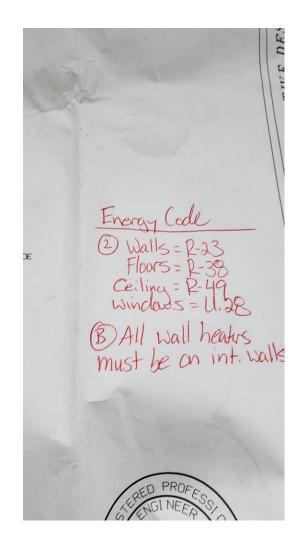
SHOWER HEADS SHALL BE EPA WATERSENSE LABELED WITH MA

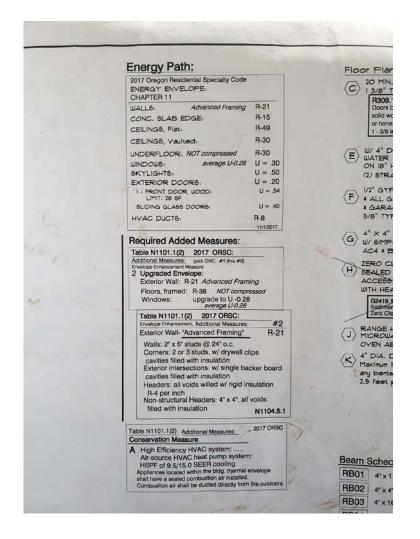
## Additional Measures 6A & 2A



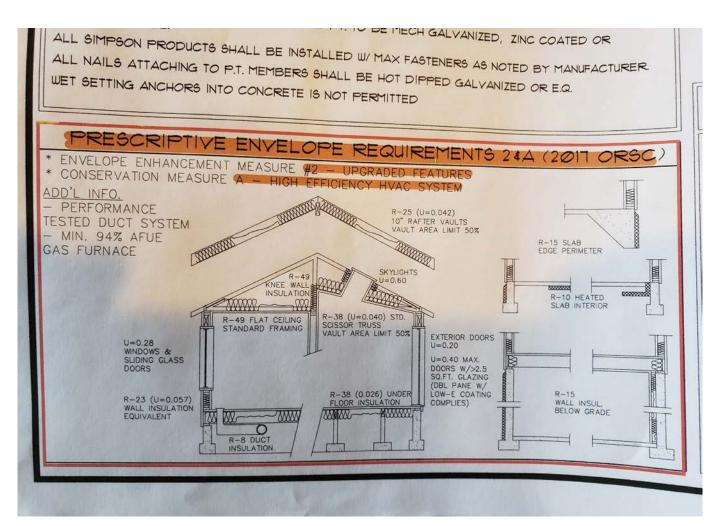


## Additional Measures 2B & 2A

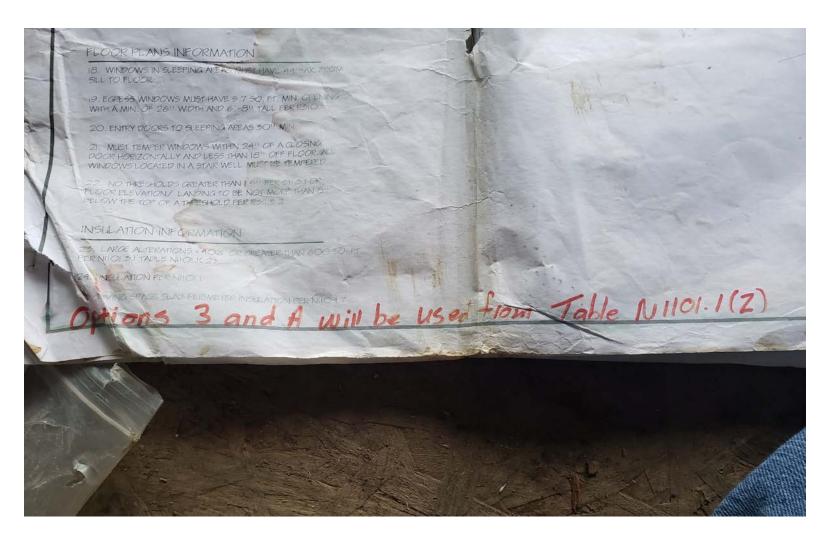




## Additional Measures 2A



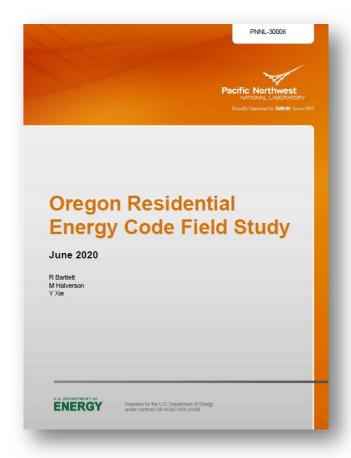
## Additional Measures 3A



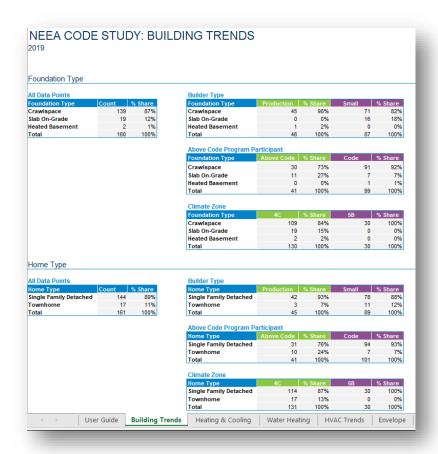












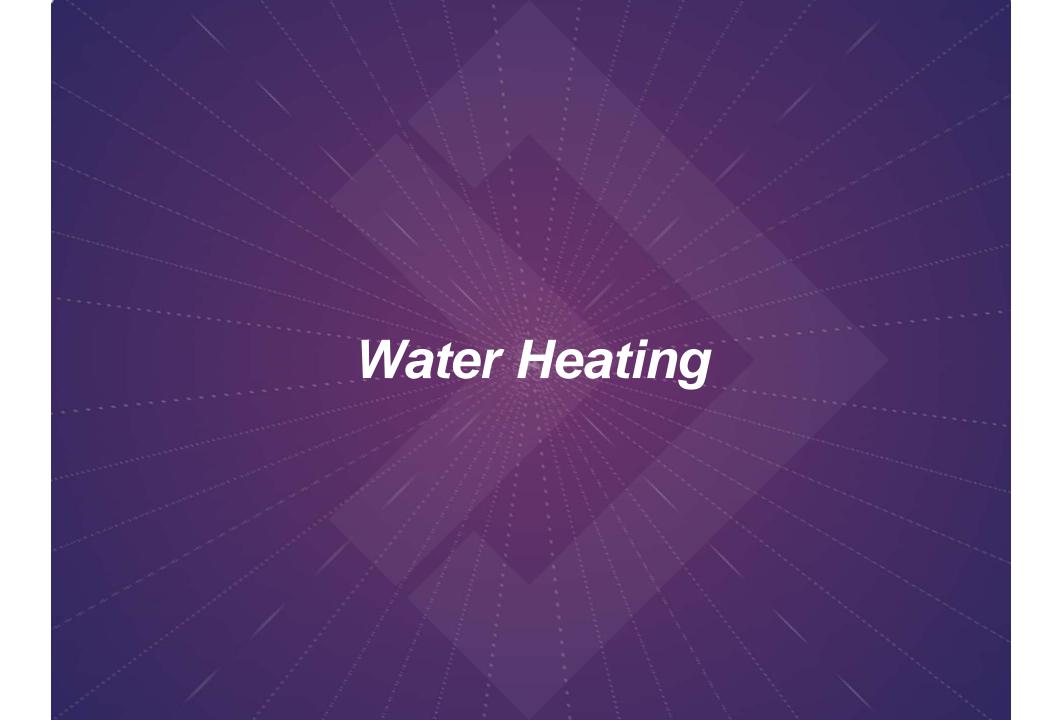
https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Oregon\_Residential\_Field\_Study.pdf



### **Definitions of Line 15**

 Above Code Program Participant: Home was certified or incentivized as an above code home through EPS for New Construction, Earth Advantage, or LEED





## Water Heating Tankless Gas Water Heater





## Water Heating Gas Storage Water Heater





## Water Heating Electric Storage Water Heater





## Water Heating Heat Pump Water Heater





## Water Heating Above Code Participation

#### **Above Code Program Participant**

Device	Above Code	% Share	Code	% Share
Electric Storage	0	0%	8	21%
HPWH	9	35%	3	8%
Gas Storage	1	4%	22	56%
Gas Tankless	16	62%	6	15%
Total	26	100%	39	100%



#### **KEY INSIGHT**

Builders who participated in an above code program chose the two most efficient options, gas tankless and HPWH, in far higher numbers than builders who did not participate in an above code program.

## Water Heating 2014 vs. 2019

#### **Code Study Comparison**

Equipment	2014	% Share	2019	% Share
<b>Electric Storage</b>	25	28%	11	18%
HPWH	-	-	15	25%
Gas Storage	55	61%	13	21%
Gas Tankless	10	11%	22	36%
Total	90	100%	61	100%



#### **KEY INSIGHT**

The 2014 Oregon code field study found no heat pump water heaters, despite their market availability. The 2019 code study found heat pump water heaters comprised 25% of all water heating systems.



### Hatch Insulation

#### **All Data Points**

Compliance	Count	% Share
Complies	20	53%
<b>Does Not Comply</b>	18	47%
Total	38	100%



#### **KEY INSIGHT**

Nearly half of homes with hatch insulation did not meet surrounding R-value.

## Hatch Insulation Poorly Insulated







## Hatch Insulation Not Insulated

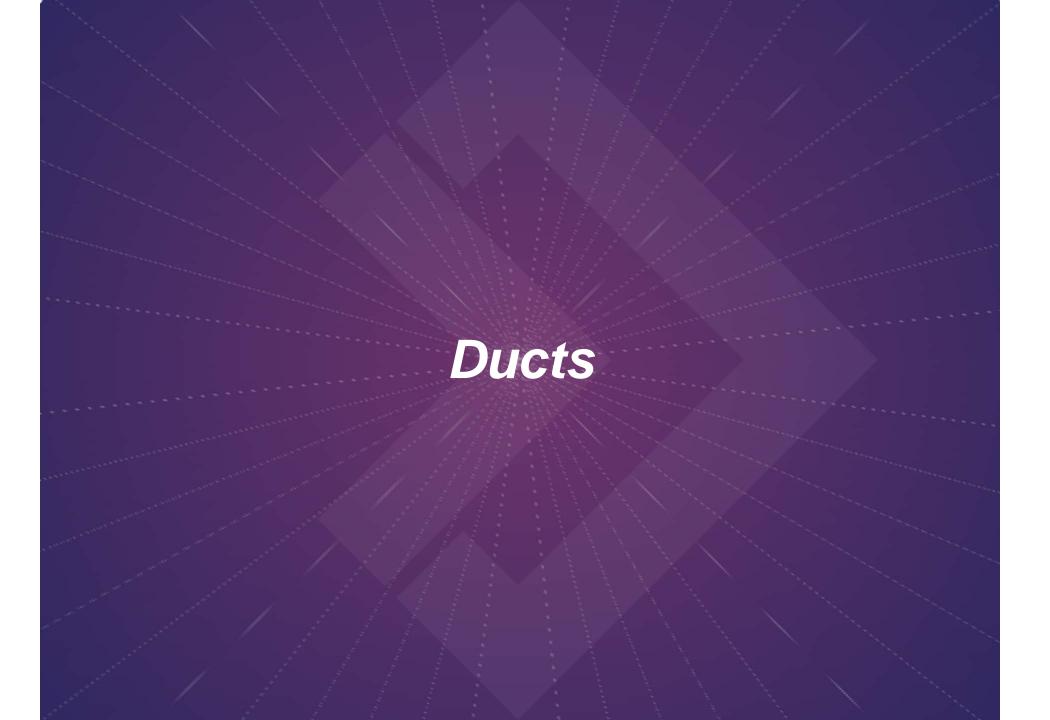




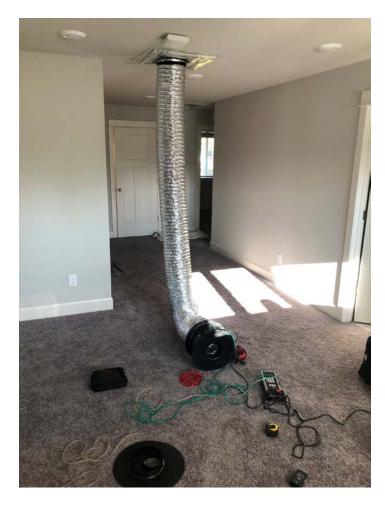
## Wall Insulation Grade 3

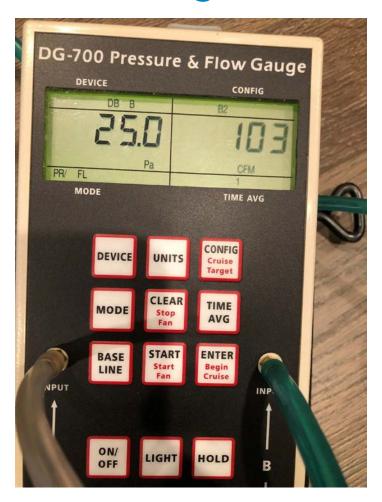






## **Ducts**Duct Leakage Test







## **Ducts**Good Duct Sealing







### **Ducts** Duct Leakage

#### **All Data Points**

CFM	Value
Average	6.1

#### **Above Code Program Participant**

CFM	Above Code	Code
Average	4.9	6.8

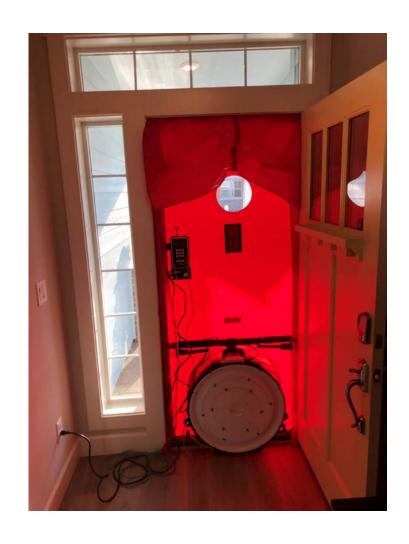


Above code program participants lowered the duct leakage rate to an average of 4.9 CFM/100 square feet. Conversely, homes built to code had a higher than average leakage rate of 6.8 CFM/100 square feet.





#### **Blower Door**







### Envelope Infiltration

#### **Above Code Program Participant**

ACH50	Above Code	Code
Min	1.7	2.9
Average	3.4	4.6
Max	5.3	8.1

#### KEY INSIGHT



Reducing the air leakage from a home's envelope requires a concerted effort on the part of the builder. Homes built by above code program participants had an average ACH50 of 3.4, compared to 4.6 for homes built by non-participants.

### Air Sealing Examples







## Good Air Sealing Examples







### Air Sealing Missed Opportunities







Thank You

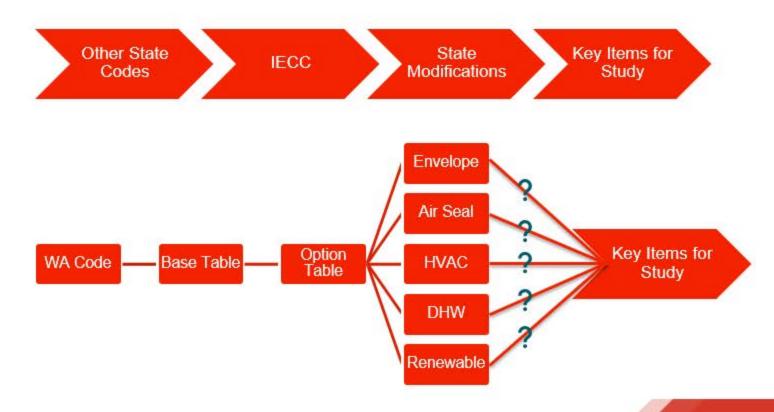
Greg Lasher

TRC
glasher@trccompanies.com

## 63 And Me, or A Field Person's View of Code Compliance



#### **WA Code vs Other State Codes**





#### **Two-Stage Approach**

- Phase 1: What combination of options are being used to meet code?
  - Review plans from sample of Jurisdictions
  - Use results to build prototypes and prototype weights in final analysis
- Phase 2: Field data collection of components
  - Similar to standard data collection, but with more end points because of the mechanical pathways that can be used to meet code

#### **Findings**

- Phase 1
  - 92% homes built with just 6 combinations of options
  - HVAC and DHW options always selected in these 6 common combinations
  - Then either select the first level of envelope or air sealing options
  - Data collected from 342 homes plans from 13 jurisdictions (small, medium, and large size jurisdictions represented)

#### Phase 2

- 184 homes to get 63 observations of 11 key items (7 from DOE protocol + 4 from WA compliance pathways identified in Phase 1)
- Annual Statewide potential:

Measure	TotalEnergy Savings (MMBtu/year)	TotalEnergy Cost Savings (\$/year)
Wall Insulation	25,672	328,142
Air Sealing	7,019	91,558
Duct Tightness	6,218	75,733
Low-Flow Fixtures	5,816	73,124
DHW	3,653	63,694
Ceiling Insulation	2,438	31,202
Foundation Insulation	1,116	14,028
Tota1	51,932	677,480



How We Found The Homes and Convinced Builders to Let us in



Start With The Local Jurisdiction

### Responses From Code Officials







Here is a list of open projects

Here is a list of builders with open projects

No response





We don't have time

It's an unfunded mandate \$\$\$\$\$



Follow The Flags



# Track The Truck





Zero In With Zillow



Utilize the Utilities

Reel in the Real Estate Agents (They work Sundays too)





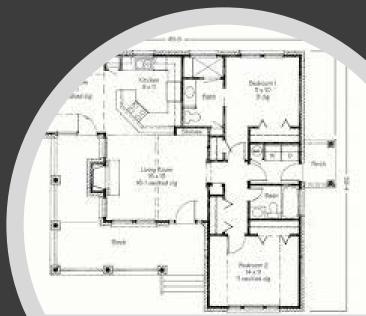


Search For The Shack

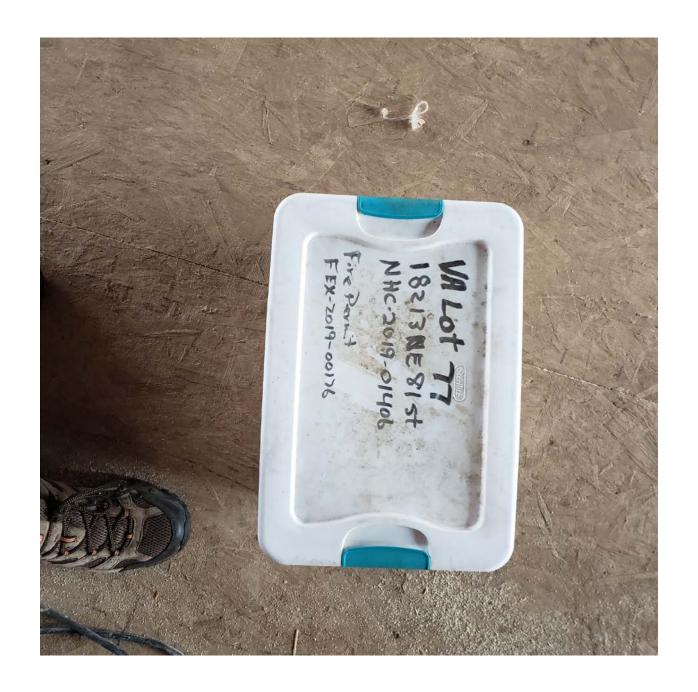
### Finding The Plans

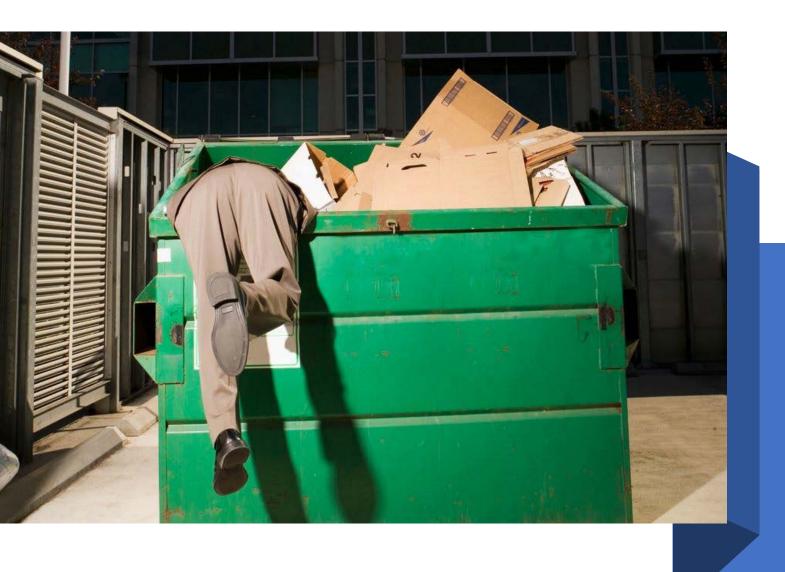
- At the house (think Easter egg hunt)
- Back to the building department
- The site shack





## The Ideal





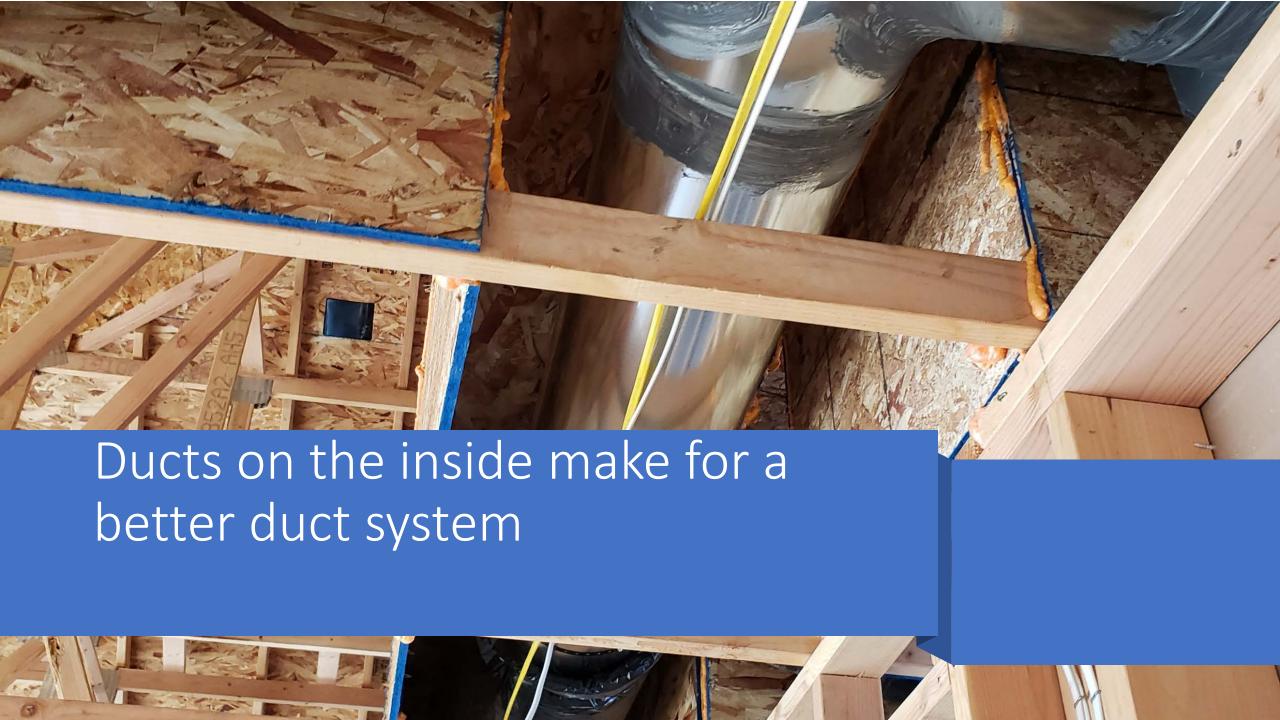
## Dumpster Diving



Revisit Local Jurisdiction



Other
Findings And
Trends



Ducts have migrated from the crawl to the attic





Web Trusses Used as Garage Ceilings: Hard Not to Have Gaps



10 foot walls

## Controllers Control What?



Ventilation
System
Controllers
not set

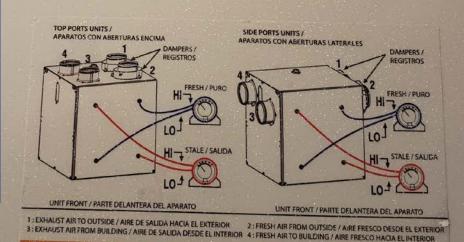


# Ventilation Timers Usually Not Set



### HRVS Not Balanced, Or Results Posted are Wrong

#### BREAN



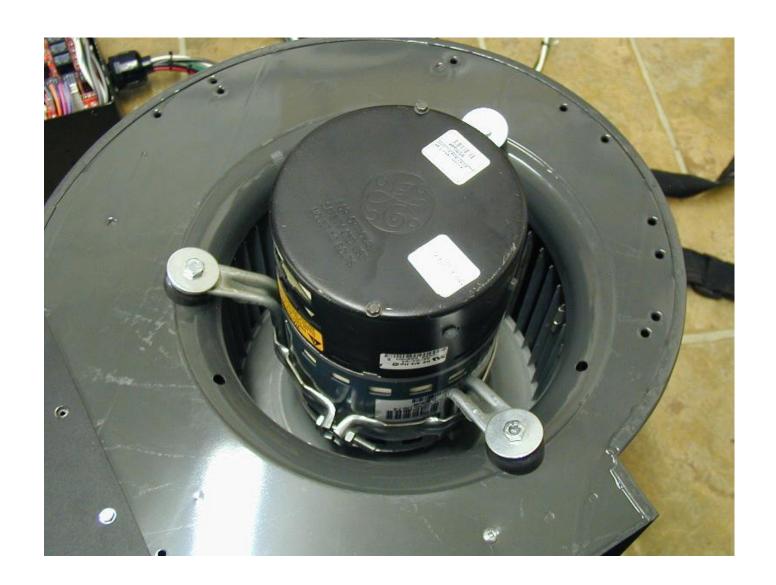
A WARNING

#### A ADVERTENCIA

Risk of electric shock: Can cause injuries or death. Read manual and disconnect unit from power source before performing any maintenance or servicino.



Riesgo eléctrico: Puede causar lesiones o muerte. Lea el manual y desconecte la unidad de la corriente eléctrica antes de llevar a cabo cualquier reparación o operación de mantenimiento. ECMS Not Used on Air handlers Used With Ventilation Systems.



#### **HVAC Sizing Project**

- Heat pump balance points were in the mid 20's
- HVAC sizing calculations were seldom located
- Gas furnaces are oversized



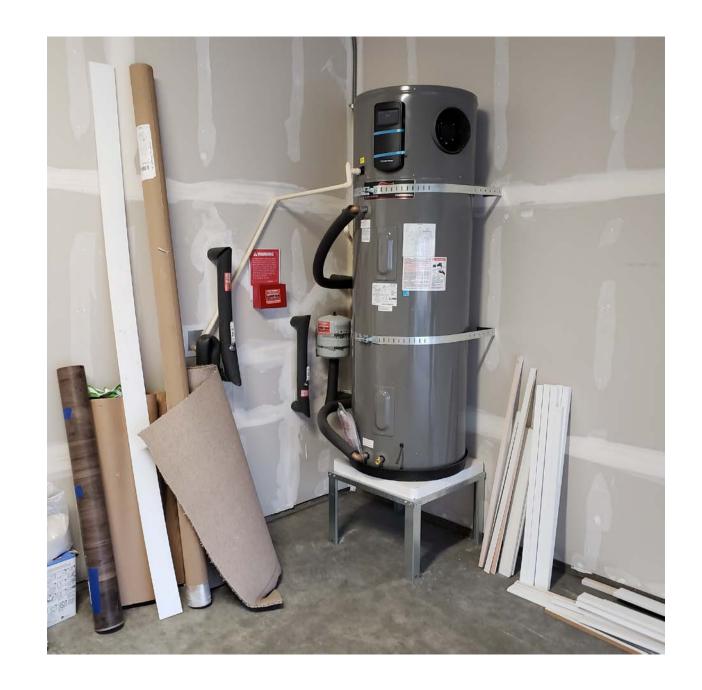


Heat Pump Controllers Not Set up



New
Subdivisions
may have non
utility fuel
sources

Local Code
Officials
Sometimes
Require Strange
Things



#### Looking Ahead to the Next Code: Where we Think Additional Training and Assistance is Needed

- Getting Ducts inside
- Ventilation commissioning
- HRV design, installation and commissioning
- Heat Pump commissioning
- Advanced air sealing techniques

#### Thank you for your time!

#### **QUESTIONS?**

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Neil Grigsby <a href="mailto:ngrigsby@neea.org">ngrigsby@neea.org</a>

#### Thank You!

**Building Energy Codes Program** 

www.energycodes.gov/training

**BECP** help desk

https://www.energycodes.gov/HelpDesk





