

Welcome

**Welcome to the Design
Professionals Guide to Zero Net
Energy Buildings**

**Mitchell Park Library
May 23rd , 2017**

Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings - Slide 1 Palo Alto ZNE Training, May 23, 2017

Welcome

Training Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:15 AM Welcome, Housekeeping items, Introductions & Training Overview
- 9:15 – 10:30 AM Training Begins
- 10:30-10:40 AM Break
- 10:40 11:50 AM Training Resumes
- 11:50– 12:00 PM Closing Remarks

Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings - Slide 2 Palo Alto ZNE Training, May 23, 2017

ZNE Readiness Ordinance

Zero Net Energy Video

Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings – Slide 3 Palo Alto ZNE Training, May 23, 2017

ZNE Readiness Ordinance

The Road to Zero Net Energy

Transforming the built environment towards Zero Net Energy (ZNE)

1 2009
Energy Reach & Green Building Ordinances
 Energy Reach Code Ordinance, Phase 1
 • 15% more stringent than 2008 Energy Code
 • Energy Benchmarking & Monitoring

2 2014-15
Energy Reach & Green Building Ordinance, Phase 2
 Energy Reach Code Ordinance, Phase 2
 • 15% more stringent than 2013 Energy Code
 • Solar-ready requirements for new homes

3 2015-17
Adopt a Single Family Residential Zero Net Energy Ordinance
 • Prepare a cost-effectiveness study
 • Develop a cost-effective policy using the California Energy Commission's definition for a Single-Family Residential Zero Net Energy Building.

4 2016-20
Study Electrification & Create a Multifamily Residential Zero Net Energy Reach Code
 • Prepare a cost-effectiveness study
 • Develop a Multi-Family Residential Zero Net Energy Ordinance
 • Consider incentivizing and/or mandating the conversion of appliances from gas to electric in line with ZNE Ordinance for new and/or existing structures
 • Analyze and implement electrification to be effective in 2020

5 2020-23
Adopt a Commercial Zero Net Energy Ordinance for Smaller Buildings
 • Prepare a cost-effectiveness study
 • Study and adopt a Zero Net Energy Ordinance for all types of smaller commercial buildings to be effective in 2023

6 2023-26
Adopt a Commercial Zero Net Energy Ordinance for Larger Buildings
 • Prepare a cost-effectiveness study
 • Study and adopt a Zero Net Energy Ordinance for all types of larger commercial buildings to be effective in 2026

California State Goals

- 2020** Zero Net Energy for all New Residential Buildings
- 2030** Zero Net Energy for all New Commercial Buildings
- 2050** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels (Source: SB 137)

CITY OF PALO ALTO
 Development Services 2015

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ZNE Readiness Ordinance

Palo Alto ZNE Readiness Ordinance Background

October 4 th , 2016	- First reading of ordinances - Public hearing (Passed unanimously)
October 24 th , 2016	- Second reading of ordinance - Signed by council and filed with California
January 1 st , 2017	- Now effective

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ZNE Readiness Ordinance

Palo Alto ZNE Readiness Ordinance - Residential

	New Single-Family Residential	New Multi-Family Residential
No PV	10% More efficient than Base Code (16.17.050.a.1)	10% More efficient than Base Code (16.17.050.b.1)
With PV	20% More efficient than Base Code ¹ (16.17.050.a.2)	12% More efficient than Base Code ¹ (16.17.050.b.2)

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ZNE Readiness Ordinance

Palo Alto ZNE Readiness Ordinance – Commercial

	New Commercial
No PV	10% More efficient than Base Code (16.17.050.c.1)
With PV	Comply with minimum Base Code + Install a 5 kW or larger PV system (16.17.050.c.2)

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ZNE Readiness Ordinance

Questions?

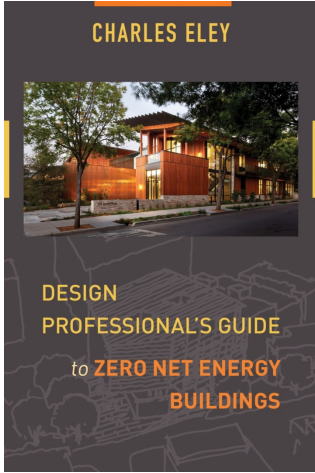
Upcoming Training Opportunities:

Heat Pump Water Heater Workshop
Mitchell Park Community Center
 Wednesday, May 24, 2017 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM (PDT)
 Palo Alto, CA

Overview of Palo Alto's Current Green Building and Energy Reach Code Requirements
Palo Alto City Council Chambers
 Monday, June 5, 2017 from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (PDT)
 Palo Alto, CA

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Today's Program



ZNE Training
Mitchell Park Library
Conference Center,
Palo Alto, May 23, 2017

Charles Eley, FAIA, PE

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Today's Program

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, attendees will :

1. Have a basic understanding of the contribution of the North American building sector to greenhouse gas emissions
2. Be able to explain why increasing basic building energy efficiency is essential to achieving zero net energy
3. Be able to describe how building form and configuration and enclosure design, a prime area of responsibility for architects, can make possible deep reductions in the need for energy
4. Be able to site two building types that are the easiest to achieve ZNE, and two building types likely to require off-site renewable energy

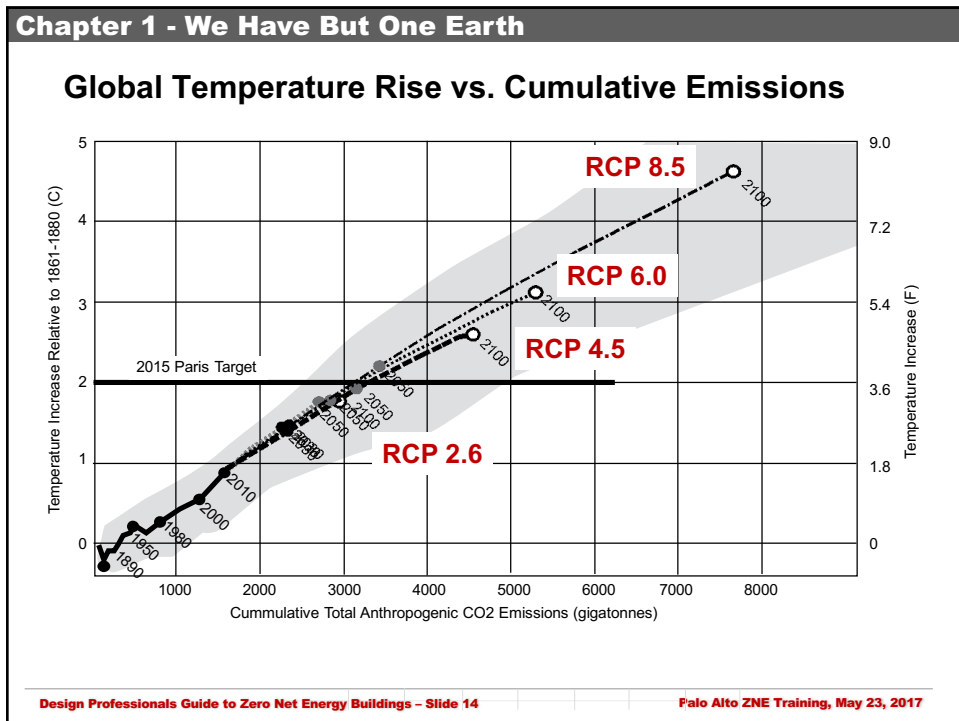
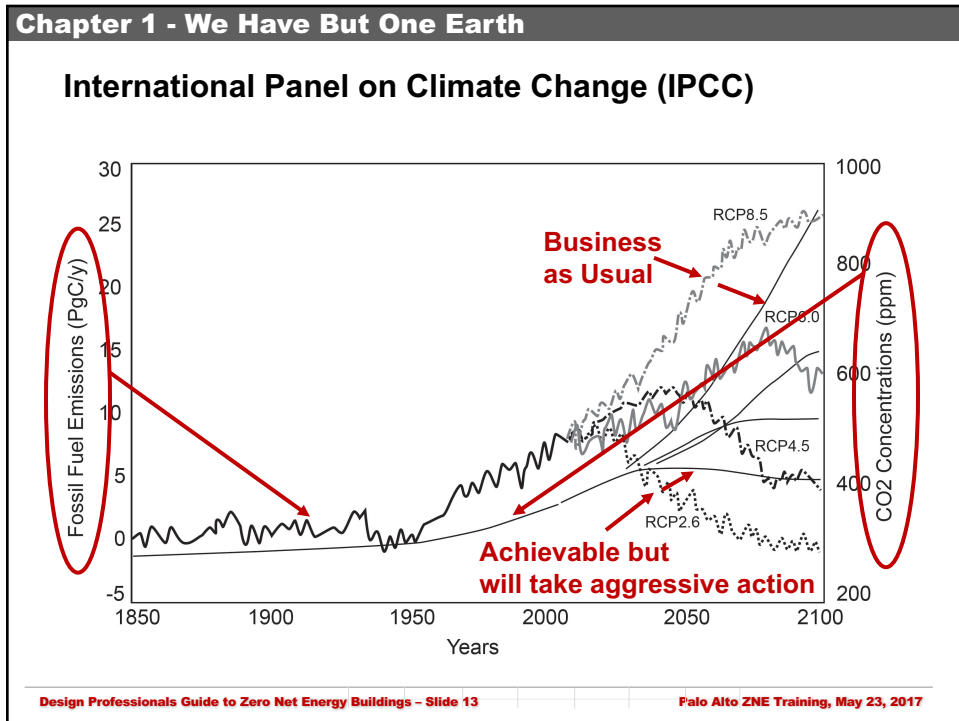
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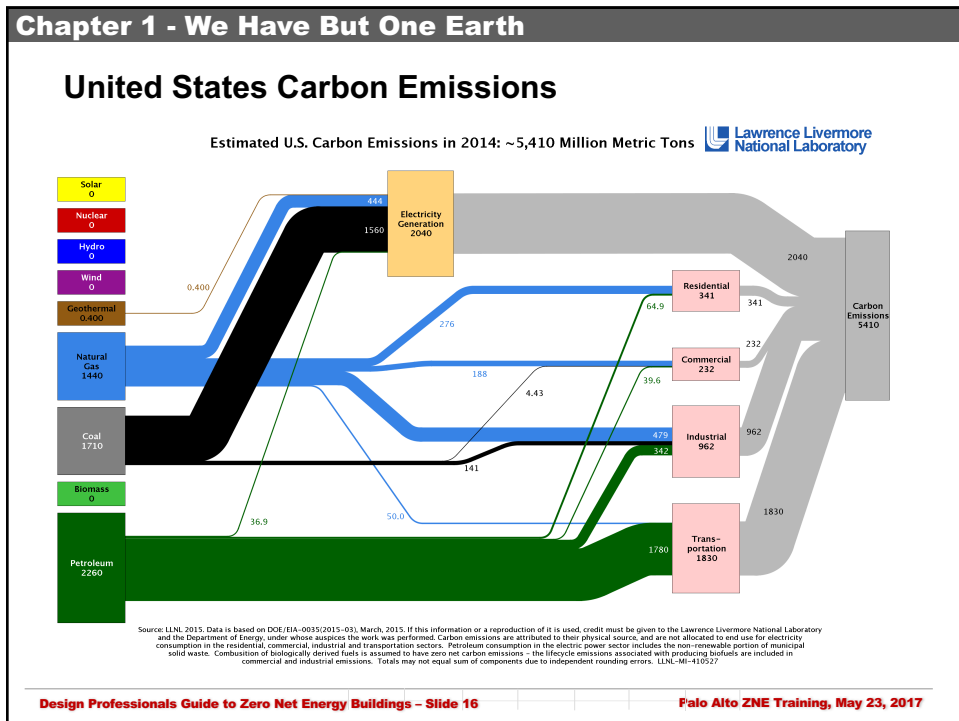
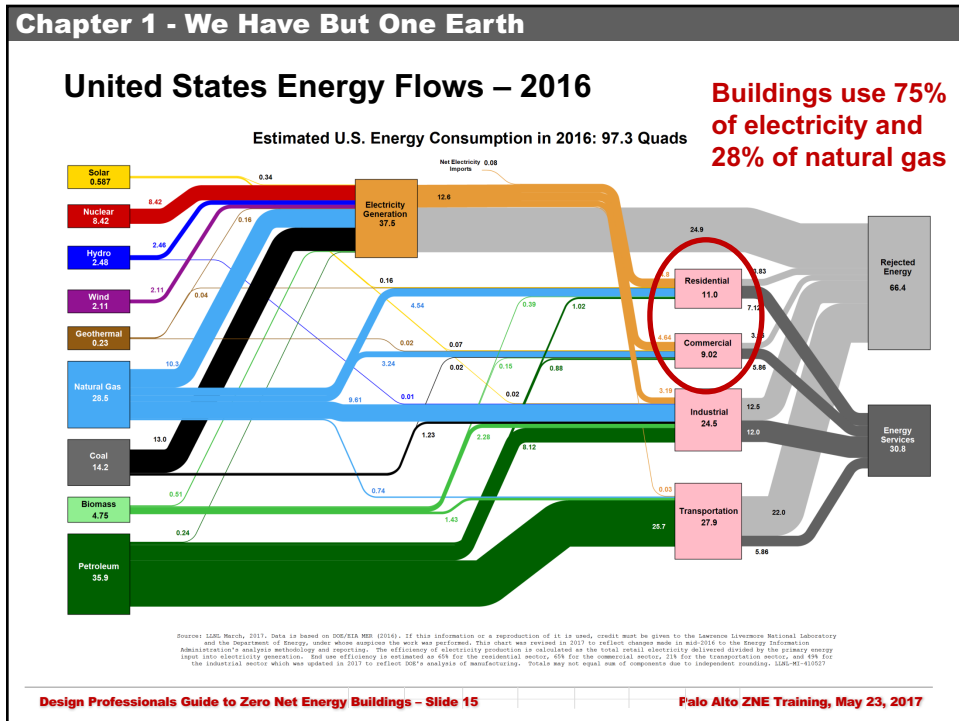
Today's Program

Book Contents

1. **Introduction:** *We Have But One Earth*
2. **Smart Building Design:** *Contextual Design, Energy Efficiency and Curtailment*
3. **Here Comes the Sun:** *The Future of Renewable-Energy Systems*
4. **Making it All Work:** *Integrated Project Delivery, Commissioning, Intelligent Controls and Mobile Devices*
5. **Metrics and Boundaries:** *What Exactly is a Zero Net-Energy Building?*
6. **Energy Modeling:** *Evaluating ZNE before the Utility Bills Arrive*
7. **ZNE for the Mainstream:** *Scaling Up the Concept*
8. **Beyond ZNE:** *The World of Our Grandchildren*

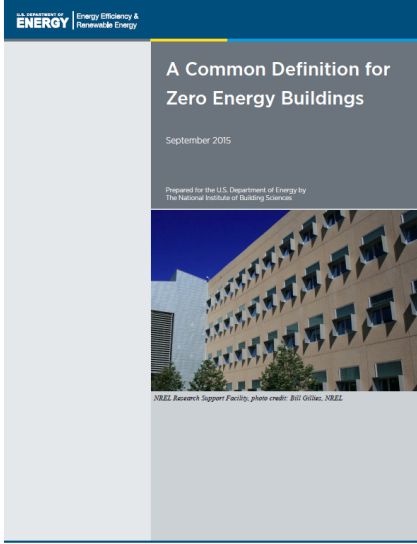
Chapter 1 - We Have But One Earth





Chapter 1 - We Have But One Earth

DOE Common Definition



<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/common-definition-zero-energy-buildings>

Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings – Slide 17 **Palo Alto ZNE Training, May 23, 2017**

Chapter 1 - We Have But One Earth

ZNE Definition

- The sum of all energy that is **delivered** to the property line must be less than the energy that is **exported** from the property.
- All energy use is included.
 - Electricity
 - Gas
 - District energy
- EV charging is considered exported energy.
- No combustion is allowed for International Living Building Institute certified ZNE buildings

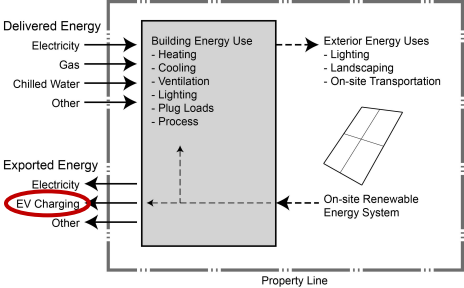
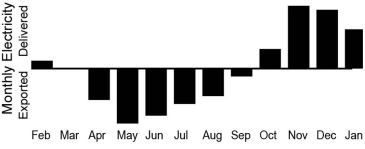



Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016


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**Chapter 2 -
Smart Building
Design**

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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Long Life, Loose Fit



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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

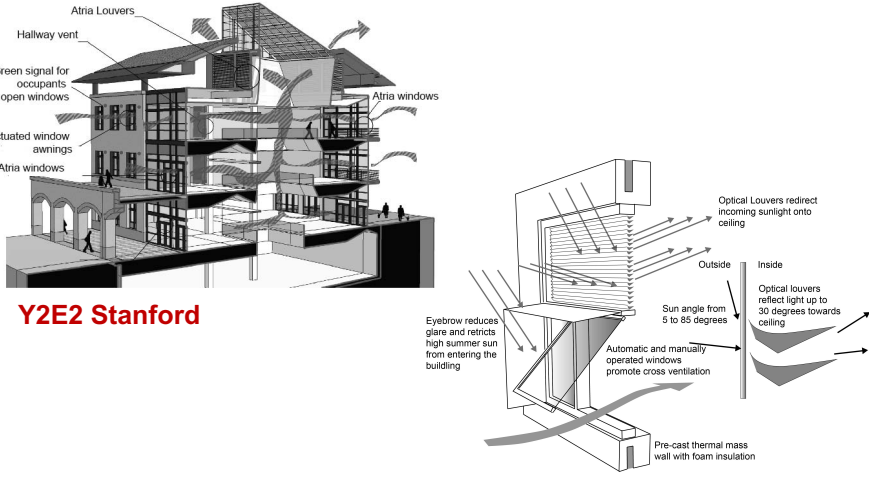
Form and Configuration



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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Building Envelope



Y2E2 Stanford

NREL RSF South Window

Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Lighting and Visual Comfort

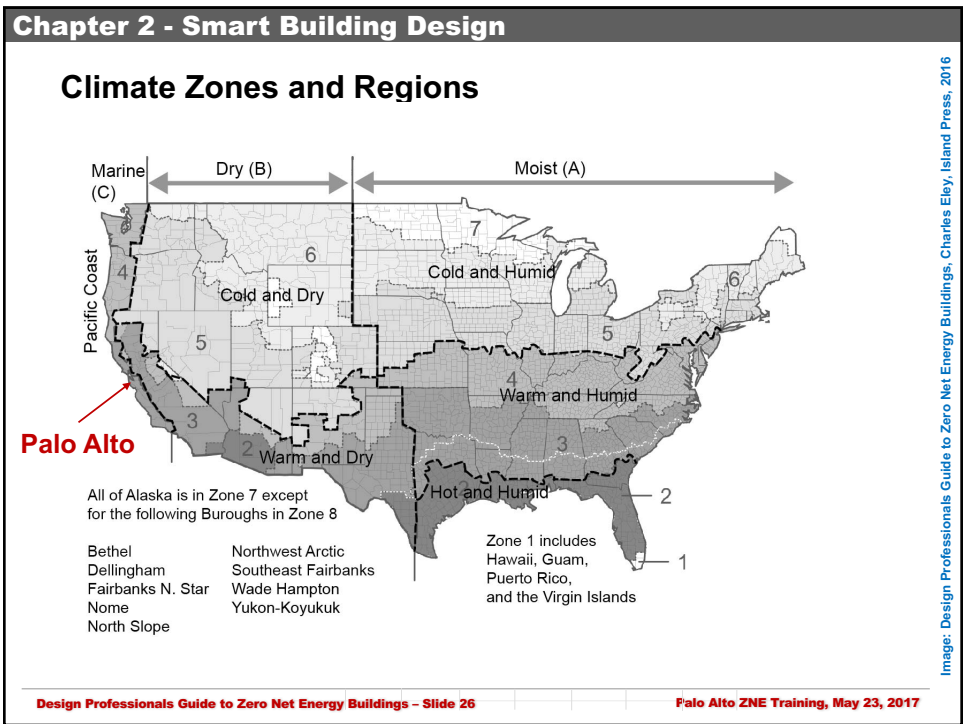
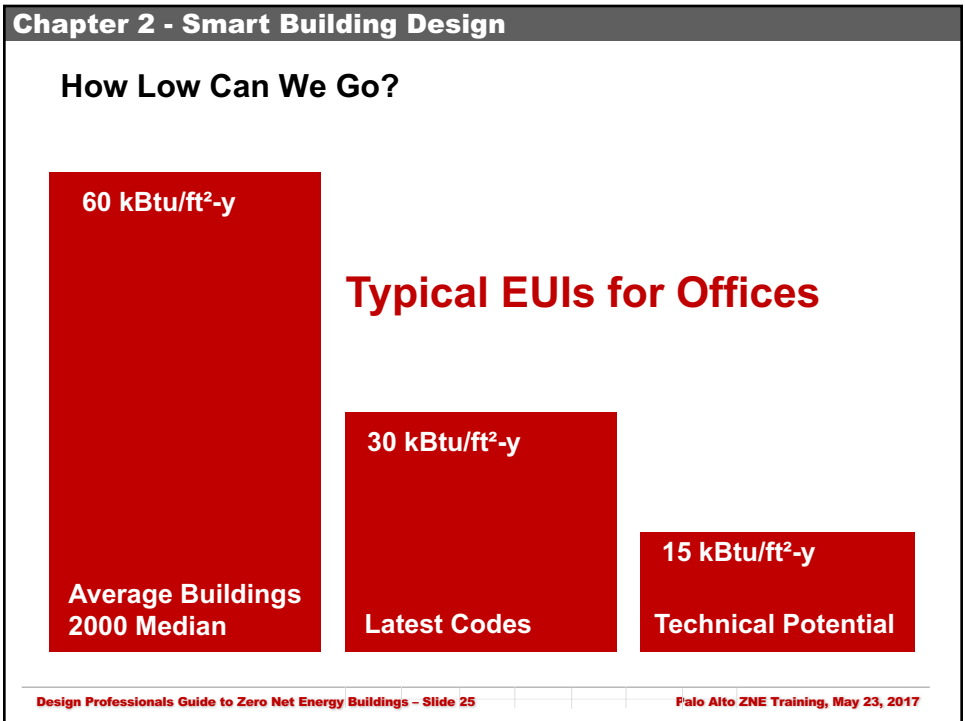
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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

HVAC and Thermal Comfort

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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016



Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Turn-of-the-Millennium Buildings (site kBtu/ft²-y)

	Pacific Coast	Warm and Dry	Hot and Humid	Warm and Humid	Cold and Dry	Cold and Humid	Artic
	(3c, 4c)	2b, 3b, 4b)	(1a, 2a)	(3a, 4a)	(5b, 6b)	(5a, 6a, 7)	(8)
Warehouses	34	20	23	40	53	65	161
Offices	58	62	69	69	69	77	126
Retail	101	86	99	114	122	142	249
Schools	70	59	71	78	77	91	165
Apartments	62	42	52	69	73	86	153
Hotels	122	99	119	126	126	134	151
Healthcare	232	202	232	242	218	238	281
Restaurants	558	497	522	569	598	660	965

Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Standard 90.1-2013 (site kBtu/ft²-y) Title 24 is similar

	Pacific Coast	Warm and Dry	Hot and Humid	Warm and Humid	Cold and Dry	Cold and Humid	Artic
	(3c, 4c)	2b, 3b, 4b)	(1a, 2a)	(3a, 4a)	(5b, 6b)	(5a, 6a, 7)	(8)
Warehouses	16	15	12	17	20	26	33
Offices	22	31	33	32	31	34	41
Retail	35	49	48	50	53	59	81
Schools	35	46	49	47	48	50	68
Apartments	35	48	48	51	53	61	76
Office w/ Data Center	62	69	71	70	72	77	88
Hotels	57	75	80	78	77	83	100
Healthcare	101	108	117	116	111	120	140
Restaurants	360	431	414	471	513	574	759

Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Chapter 2 - Smart Building Design

Maximum Technical Potential (site kBtu/ft²-y)

	Pacific Coast	Warm and Dry	Hot and Humid	Warm and Humid	Cold and Dry	Cold and Humid	Arctic
	(3c, 4c)	(2b, 3b, 4b)	(1a, 2a)	(3a, 4a)	(5b, 6b)	(5a, 6a, 7)	(8)
Warehouses	6	6	5	6	7	8	7
Offices	8	10	11	11	11	11	12
Retail	13	18	18	17	18	19	27
Schools	16	21	23	22	21	23	26
Apartments	24	30	29	31	32	34	35
Offices/Data Center	43	47	47	44	47	46	47
Hotels	40	49	49	51	51	54	58
Healthcare	62	64	68	67	66	68	73
Restaurants	265	323	324	336	343	353	377

Study did not look at comprehensive measures to reduce cooking and refrigeration energy.

Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Solar



Primary source of on-site renewable energy for ZNE buildings



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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Wind



- **Limited on-site potential for ZNE buildings**
- **More potential is at the utility scale**



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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Hydro




Limited or no on-site renewable energy potential

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Geothermal



Limited or no on-site renewable energy potential

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Biomass

Regenerative, but not renewable in the same sense as wind and solar.

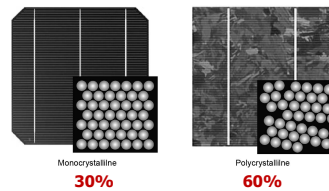


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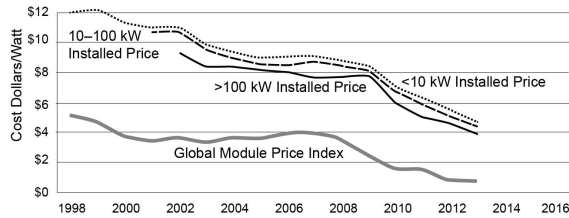
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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Solar PV is Affordable



Costs are less than \$4/W before tax credits or incentives



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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Renewable Energy Production (kWh/y)/kW_{stc}

Climate	Orientation	0° Tilt	10° Tilt	20° Tilt	30° Tilt	40° Tilt	50° Tilt	60° Tilt
Warm and Dry	East	1,414	1,385	1,336	1,269	1,191	1,105	1,013
	Southeast	1,414	1,470	1,493	1,486	1,450	1,383	1,292
	South	1,414	1,518	1,581	1,605	1,594	1,540	1,451
	Southwest	1,414	1,498	1,545	1,560	1,537	1,483	1,399
	West	1,414	1,425	1,409	1,368	1,310	1,236	1,149
Pacific Coast	East	1,378	1,353	1,304	1,244	1,172	1,092	1,010
	Southeast	1,378	1,437	1,467	1,466	1,434	1,373	1,289
	South	1,378	1,485	1,553	1,582	1,571	1,523	1,436
	Southwest	1,378	1,464	1,518	1,534	1,518	1,466	1,389
	West	1,378	1,389	1,372	1,336	1,282	1,213	1,132

Source: PV Watt Calculations


Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

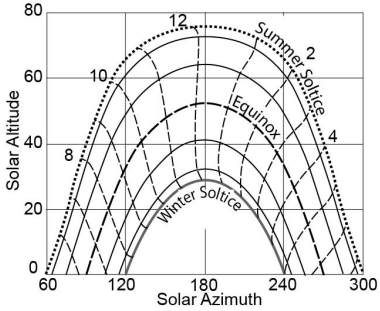
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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

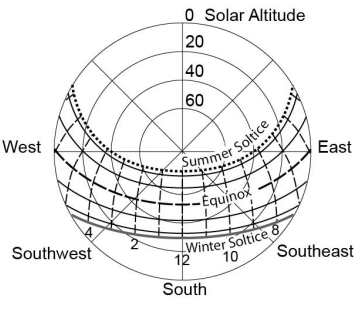
Shading is a Big Issue (especially in Palo Alto)

Customized charts available at
<http://solardat.uoregon.edu/>





Cartesian Coordinates



Polar Coordinates

Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

The Benefit of (near) Horizontal Tilt

Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Bullitt Center

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Chapter 3 - Here Comes the Sun

Production per Square Foot

	Pacific Coast	Warm and Dry	Hot and Humid	Warm and Humid	Cold and Dry	Cold and Humid	Arctic
	(3c, 4c)	(2b, 3b, 4b)	(1a, 2a)	(3a, 4a)	(5b, 6b)	(5a, 6a, 7)	(8)
Horizontal Production (kWh/y)/kW (stc)	1,378	1,414	1,359	1,316	1,311	1,138	748
Horizontal Production (kWh/y)/kW (stc)	4,702	4,825	4,637	4,490	4,473	3,883	2,552
kBtu/ft²-y of Collector Area	72	74	71	69	69	60	39

Maximum site EUI to achieve ZNE for a one story building with the roof covered with PVs.

Source: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Challenging Building Types and Climates

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Challenging Building Types and Climates

Collector to Floor Area Ratio of 0.33

The diagram illustrates the collector to floor area ratio for three different building types. Each building is represented by a vertical rectangle with a horizontal line at the top indicating the collector area. The collector area is highlighted in red. The buildings are labeled as One Story Building, Two Story Building, and Three Story Building. The collector area for each building is shown as a red bar extending from the top of the building. The ratio of the collector area to the floor area is 0.33 for all three building types.

One Story Building

Two Story Building

Three Story Building

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Challenging Building Types and Climates

Collector to Floor Area Ratio of 0.5

The diagram illustrates the collector to floor area ratio for three building types. For a one-story building, a red horizontal bar representing the collector area is positioned above the building footprint, extending to a length that is half the width of the building. For a two-story building, the red bar is positioned above the second floor, extending to a length that is half the width of the building. For a three-story building, the red bar is positioned above the third floor, extending to a length that is half the width of the building.

One Story Building

Two Story Building

Three Story Building

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Challenging Building Types and Climates

Collector to Floor Area Ratio of 1.0

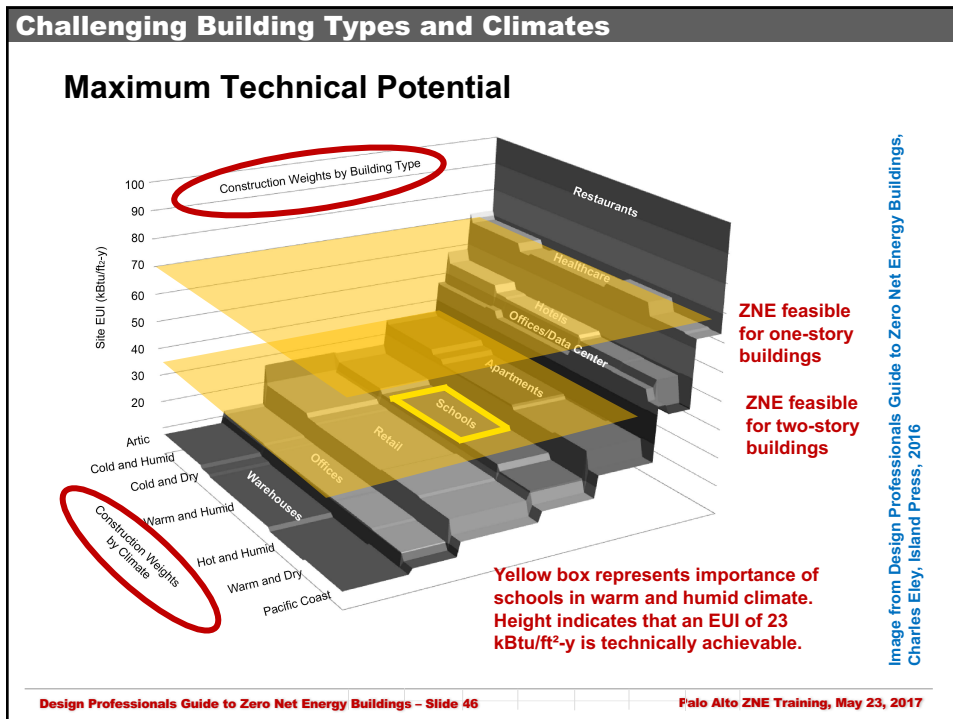
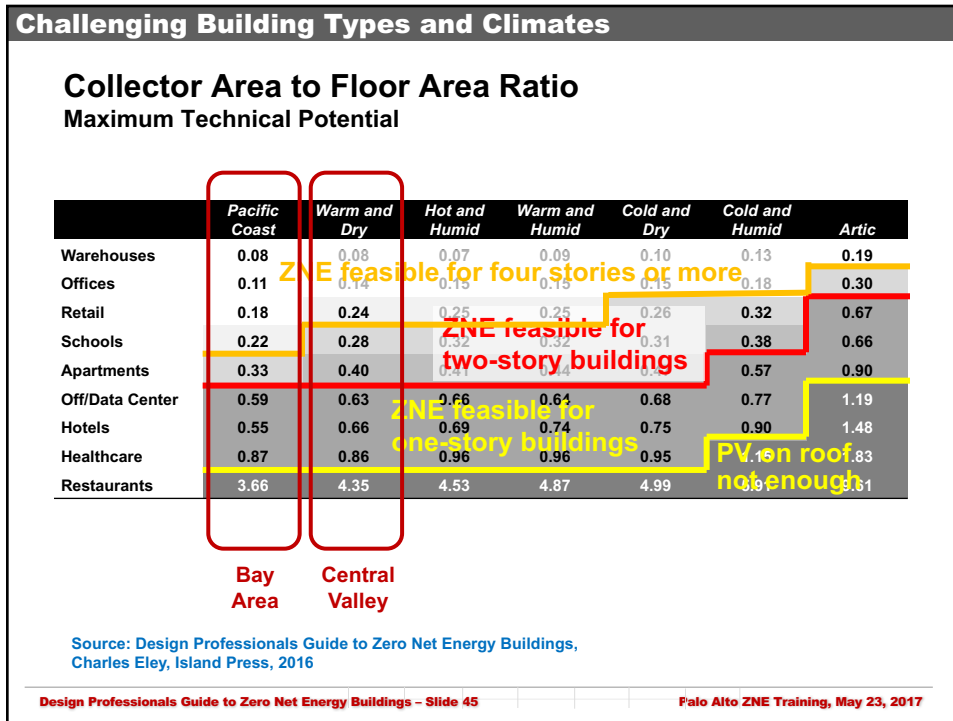
The diagram illustrates the collector to floor area ratio for three building types. For a one-story building, a red horizontal bar representing the collector area is positioned above the building footprint, extending to a length equal to the width of the building. For a two-story building, the red bar is positioned above the second floor, extending to a length equal to the width of the building. For a three-story building, the red bar is positioned above the third floor, extending to a length equal to the width of the building.

One Story Building

Two Story Building

Three Story Building

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Chapter 4 - Energy Modeling

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Chapter 4 - Energy Modeling

Methods of Assessing ZNE

Operational Assessment

- Based on utility bills
- Actual building operation
- Based on actual weather
- DGS uses source energy

Asset Assessment

- Based on energy model
- Standard modeling assumptions
- Standard weather file
- CEC uses TDV as metric

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Chapter 4 - Energy Modeling

Energy Model Uncertainties

```

    graph TD
      A[Predictions of Weather and Building Operation] --> C[Calculation Procedures]
      B[Physical Description of Building] --> C
      C --> D[Results]
      style A stroke:#f00,stroke-width:2px
  
```

Greatest uncertainty

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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Chapter 4 - Energy Modeling

Scenario Analysis

Energy Performance (EUI)

Energy Services Index

Minimum Reference Best Guess Maximum

PV over roof and parking

PV on roof

Accuracy is critically important when the target is ZNE.

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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Chapter 5 - Making it all Work

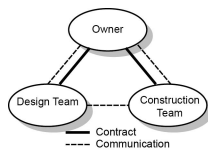
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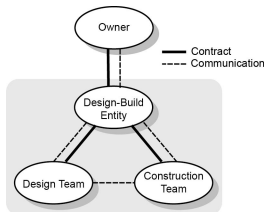
Chapter 5 - Making it all Work

Project Delivery Methods

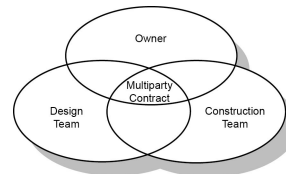
Design-Bid-Build



Design-Build

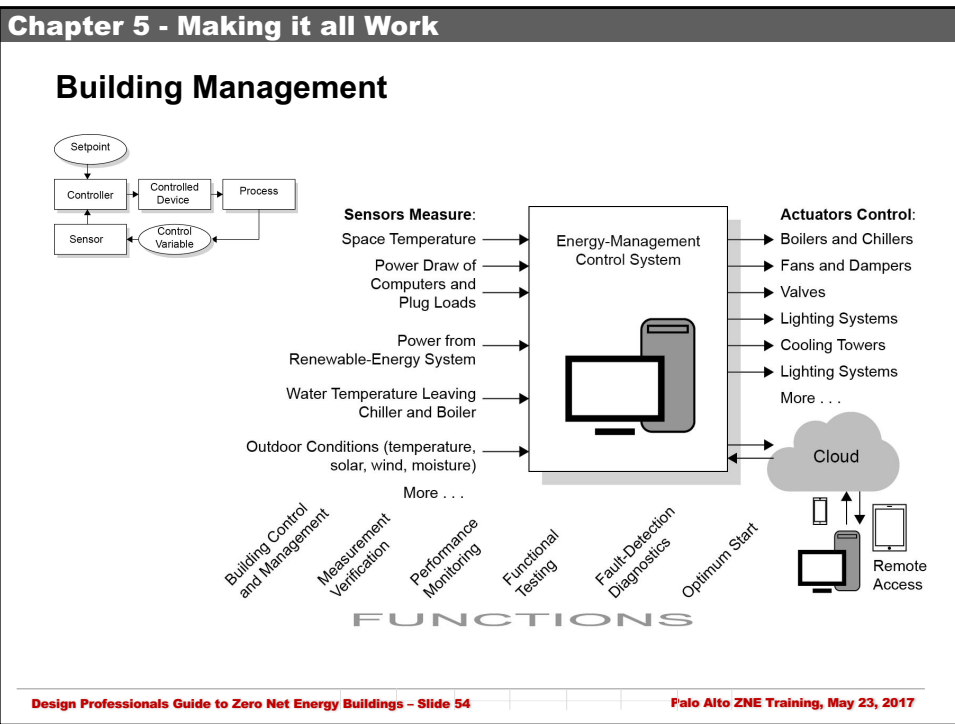
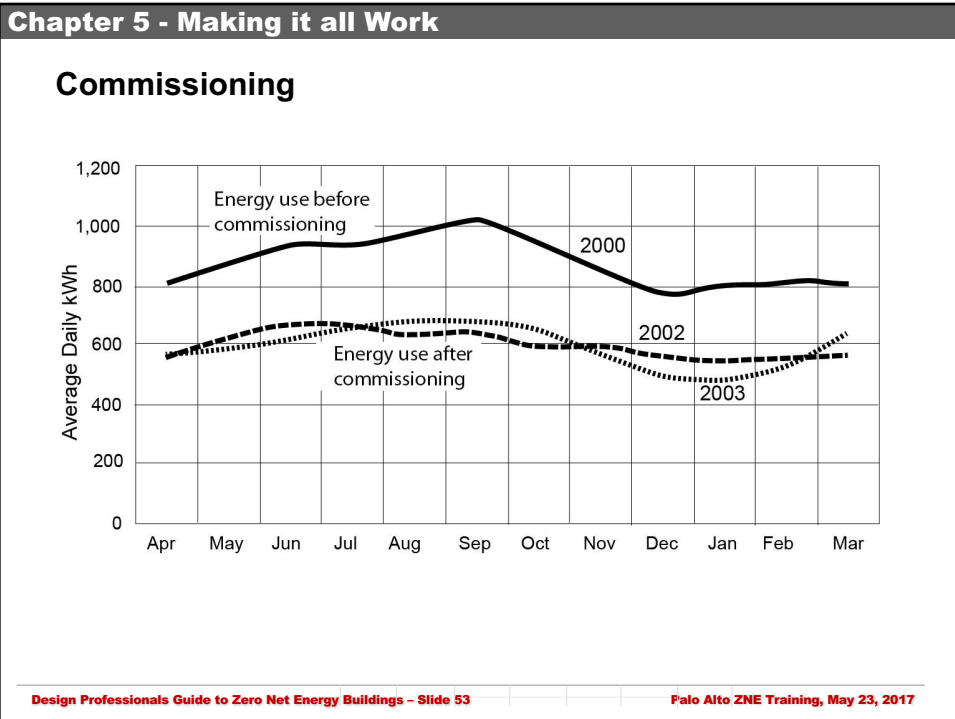


Integrated Project Delivery



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Chapter 5 - Making it all Work

Mobil Devices and Occupant Interaction

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Chapter 5 - Making it all Work

Managing Plug Loads – Bullitt Center

Category	Percentage
LIGHTS	23%
MONITORS	9%
IT SERVERS	7%
DOMESTIC HOT WTR	3%
ELEVATOR	3%
VENTILATION FANS	7%
"BIG ASS" CEILING FANS	2%
SPACE COOLING	2%
SPACE HEATING	3%
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ALLOWANCE	5%
COPIERS & PRINTERS	7%
REFRIGERATORS	1%
MICROWAVES	1%
DISHWASHERS	0.4%
TOILETS	0.2%
GARAGE DOOR OPENER	0.1%
DDC SYSTEM	5%

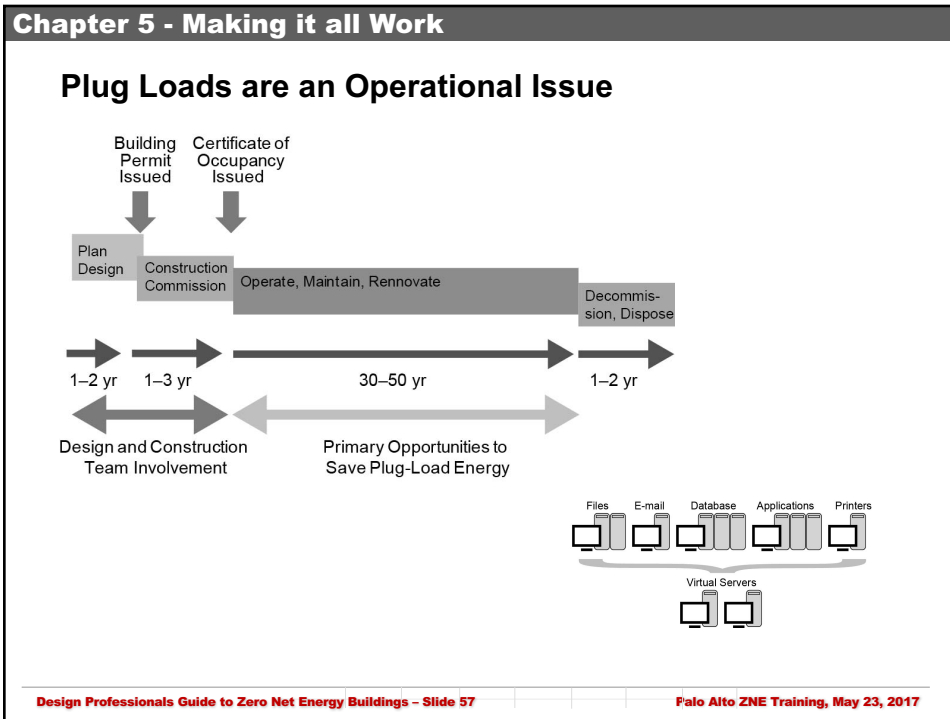
Unregulated energy is half or more in many ZNE buildings

Regulated energy (addressed by standards)

Figure 1: Bullitt Center - Energy Use

<http://greentechadvocates.com/2013/05/07/plug-loads-a-growing-concern/>

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Chapter 6 - Metrics and Boundaries

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Energy Accounting

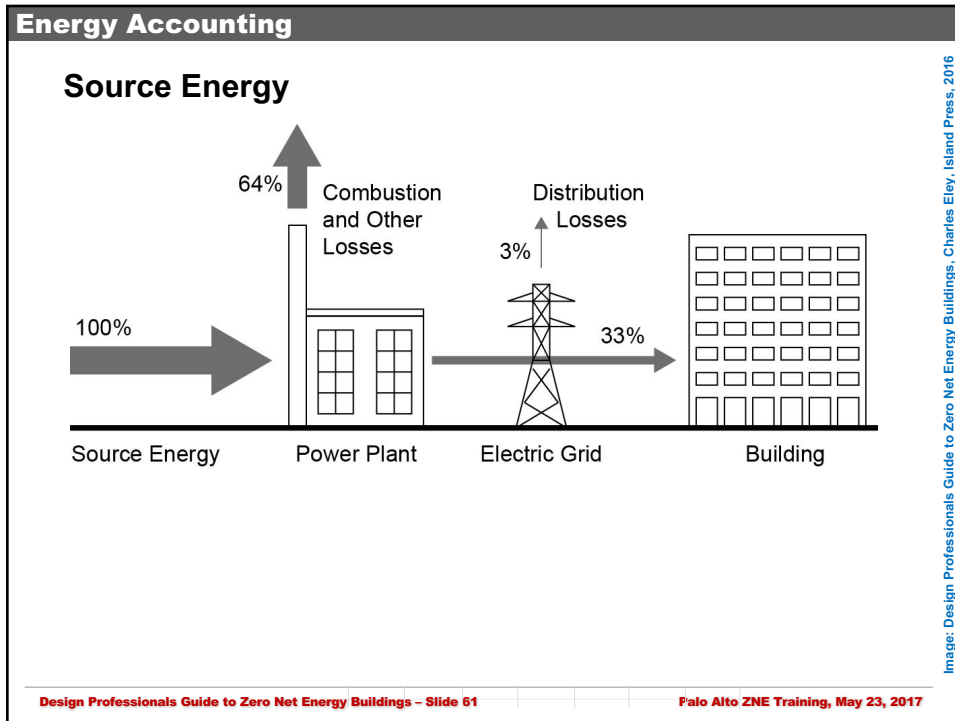
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Energy Accounting

Site Energy

British Thermal Unit (Btu)	=	kiloWatt-hour (kWh)	=	kiloJoule (kJ)
1 Btu	=	.000293 kWh	=	1.055 kJ
3,412 Btu	=	1 kWh	=	3,600 kJ
0.948 Btu	=	.000278 kWh	=	1 kJ

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Energy Accounting

Site Source Multipliers

Energy Type	Source Multiplier	Common Units	Site Btu / unit	Source Btu / unit
Imported Electricity	3.15	kWh	3,412	10,751
Exported Renewable Electricity	3.15	kWh	3,412	10,751
Natural Gas	1.09	Therms	100,000	109,000
Fuel Oil (1,2,4,5,6,Diesel, Kerosene)	1.19	Gallons	138,000	164,220
Propane & Liquid Propane	1.15	Gallons	91,000	104,650
Steam	1.45	lb	1,000	1,450
Hot Water	1.35	millions Btu	1,000,000	1,350,000
Chilled Water	1.04	millions Btu	1,000,000	1,040,000
Coal or Other	1.05	short ton	19,210,000	20,170,000

Notes: The Btu per lb of steam will vary depending on how much the steam is superheated.

Source: DOE Common Definition and ASHRAE Standard 105

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Energy Accounting

Time Dependent Valued Energy

- Used by the California Energy Commission for performance calculations.
- Proposed as the metric for meeting the code-based ZNE requirement.

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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Energy Accounting

Comparison of Metrics

	All Electric Buildings	Mixed Fuel Buildings
Site Energy	Equal difficulty in achieving ZNE	Most difficult to achieve ZNE
Source Energy (recommended)		Easier to achieve ZNE
Energy Cost (flat rate)		
TDV or Energy Cost (time-of-use)	Used to be the easiest to achieve ZNE, but this is changing	

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Table: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

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Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

ZNE Campus

The diagram illustrates a ZNE Campus within a 'Campus Boundary'. On the left, 'Delivered Energy' enters the campus, including Electricity, Gas, Chilled Water, and Other. On the right, 'Exported Energy' leaves the campus, including Electricity and Other. An 'On-site Renewable-Energy System' is shown as a grid within the campus boundary. The campus contains several buildings of varying sizes.

**Contiguous boundary,
usually the same owner**

Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

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Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

ZNE Communities

The diagram illustrates a ZNE Community with a 'Virtual Boundary'. On the left, arrows indicate 'Total Delivered Energy' (Electricity, Gas, Other) entering the community. On the right, arrows indicate 'Total Exported Energy' (Electricity, Other) leaving. Inside the boundary, there are 'Dwelling Units' (represented by small squares), a 'Commons' area (represented by a larger irregular shape), and a 'Community Renewable Energy System' (represented by a grid of rectangles). Arrows show energy being delivered to and received from the Dwelling Units and Commons, and being generated by the Renewable Energy System.

Multiple owners, non-contiguous boundary

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Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

ZNE Portfolio

The diagram illustrates a ZNE Portfolio with a 'Virtual Boundary' encompassing three separate building footprints. On the left, arrows indicate 'Total Delivered Energy' (Electricity, Gas, Other) entering the portfolio. On the right, arrows indicate 'Total Exported Energy' (Electricity, Other) leaving. Each building footprint has its own energy flow arrows, showing energy being delivered to and received from the buildings.

Single owner or manager, non-contiguous boundary

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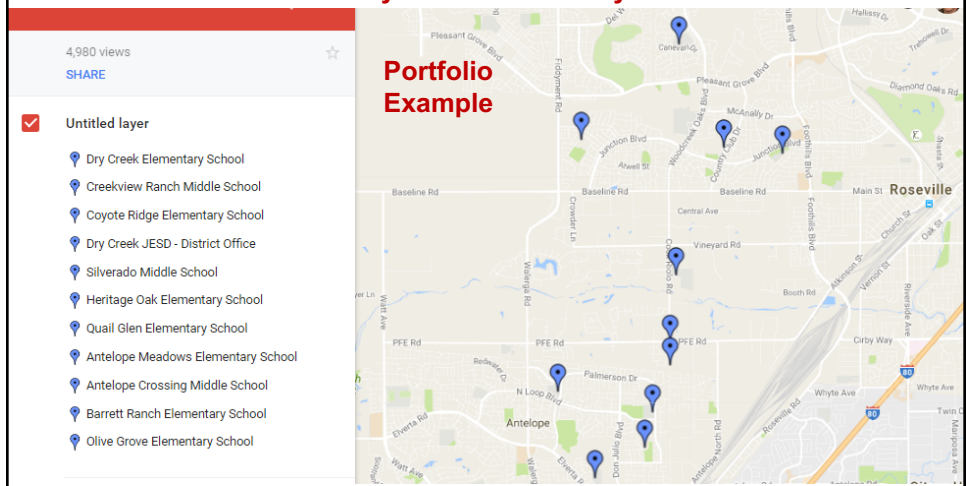
Image: Design Professionals Guide to Zero Net Energy Buildings, Charles Eley, Island Press, 2016

Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

Combining Buildings within a School District

Dry Creek Elementary School District

Portfolio Example



- 4,980 views
- SHARE
- Untitled layer
 - Dry Creek Elementary School
 - Creekview Ranch Middle School
 - Coyote Ridge Elementary School
 - Dry Creek JESD - District Office
 - Silverado Middle School
 - Heritage Oak Elementary School
 - Quail Glen Elementary School
 - Antelope Meadows Elementary School
 - Antelope Crossing Middle School
 - Barrett Ranch Elementary School
 - Olive Grove Elementary School

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Campuses, Communities and Portfolios

Combining Supermarkets with Distribution Centers

Portfolio Example



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Off-Site Renewable Energy

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Off-Site Renewable Energy

Stanford University
Palo Alto Campus

73 MW Solar System in California Desert

All Electric Central Plant

Not the actual site

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This slide features a central map of California with a red circle highlighting the Palo Alto region. To the left of the map are three images: a photograph of a Stanford University building, a rendering of an 'All Electric Central Plant' with a large solar panel array on its roof, and an aerial view of an industrial facility with several large storage tanks. To the right of the map is a photograph of a vast solar farm with rows of solar panels stretching into the distance. A red line connects the map's circle to the solar farm image, with the text 'Not the actual site' next to it. A scale bar at the bottom of the map shows 0, 100 KM, and 100 Miles.

Community Solar



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Community Solar


One of the first examples . . .

SMUD Residential Business About SMUD My Account

- Environment
 - Greenenergy®
 - Solar for Your Home
 - Smart Homes
 - SolarShares®**
 - Carbon Offsets
 - Shade Trees
 - Electric Vehicles



Locally-grown solar power
Buy your electricity fresh off the farm.
[Watch video](#)



Energy savings begin here
See where your energy dollars may be going.

“SolarShares gives everyone the opportunity to benefit from the sun’s power whether you rent or own your home”

SolarShares®: Solar for Everyone!

Solar energy should be available and affordable for everyone, but putting a solar system on your roof is not always an option. SMUD’s SolarShares gives everyone the opportunity to benefit from the sun’s power whether you rent or own your home. Plus, SolarShares is 100% local with the solar farm located in our service area, providing local environmental benefits in Sacramento County.

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Community Solar

Electric Utilities are Embracing the Concept

UtilityDIVE

Unlock value for the customer and utility with personalized advice

Why utilities across the nation are embracing community solar
The shared renewables movement is catching on from coast to coast

By Herman K. Trabish | January 22, 2015

share tweet post email



<http://www.utilitydive.com/news/why-utilities-across-the-nation-are-embracing-community-solar/354164/>

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Community Solar

Significant Growth is Expected


gtm: A Good Machine Business

MARKETS & POLICY

US Community Solar Market to Grow Fivefold in 2015, Top 500MW in 2020

California, Minnesota, Colorado and Massachusetts will pave the way.

by Mike Munsell
June 23, 2015



<http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/us-community-solar-market-to-grow-fivefold-in-2015-top-500-mw-in-2020>


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Community Solar

Participation Models

Capacity Model A participant pays money up front (or arranges financing) to lease a certain number of panels High additionality probability Likely included in capital improvement budget	Subscription Model A participant contracts to purchase output from the system on a monthly basis Low additionality probability Likely included in operating budget
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Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)

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Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)

RECs

Per Year				
Annual Revenue/Cost	=	Electricity Sales/Cost	+	Renewable Energy Certificate Sales/Cost
For the Life of the System				
Value of Renewable Generation Asset	=	Net Present Value of Electricity Production	+	Net Present Value of Future RECs

National average price for RECs (\$/MWh)

Important qualifiers:

- Vintage (year of production)
- Source (solar, wind, etc.)
- Location (of energy system)

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Renewable Energy Credits (RECs)

RECs are often retained by Solar Service Providers

Feeling smug about your solar rooftop? Not so fast

Severin Borenstein, professor of business | January 21, 2016
[11 comments](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

If you installed solar panels on your roof and feel aglow with environmental virtue, you may be in for a rude awakening. There's a good chance someone else has purchased your halo and is wearing it right now.

In most states (including California) power generated by rooftop solar panels earns [Renewable Energy Certificates](#), which quantify how much clean electricity they produce. But if panels are leased or installed under a power purchase agreement, it's the "third-party owner" — not the homeowner — who gets those certificates. Most then turn around and sell the RECs, which magically turns some other brown electrons green.

Here's how it works: Joe's Solar puts panels on your roof that produce 7,500 kilowatt-hours a year, and Joe sells you the electricity under a power purchase agreement. Because Joe still owns the panels, he gets credit — in the form of RECs — for that renewable electricity. Meanwhile, Bob's all-fossil utility wants to "green up" so it buys the RECs from Joe. That allows Bob to relabel 7,500 kilowatt-hours of its coal or gas-fired power generation as "renewable energy."

It may sound strange, but a market

(Photo: Roofjockey via Wikimedia Commons)

<http://blogs.berkeley.edu/2016/01/21/feeling-smug-about-your-solar-rooftop-not-so-fast/>

All Authors

More than 350 UC Berkeley scholars share their perspectives on local, national and global issues.

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- Marketplace
- Medium

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Prioritizing Off-Site Options

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Prioritizing Off-Site Options

Off-Site Priorities

1	On-Site Test	
		The Zero Net-Energy Criteria
	$[Q_{\text{Delivered}} - Q_{\text{Exported}}]$	≤ 0
Description	Basic definition of on-site zero net-energy building	
Additionality	New renewable energy is added as part of the construction project	
Funding	Capital Improvement Budget	

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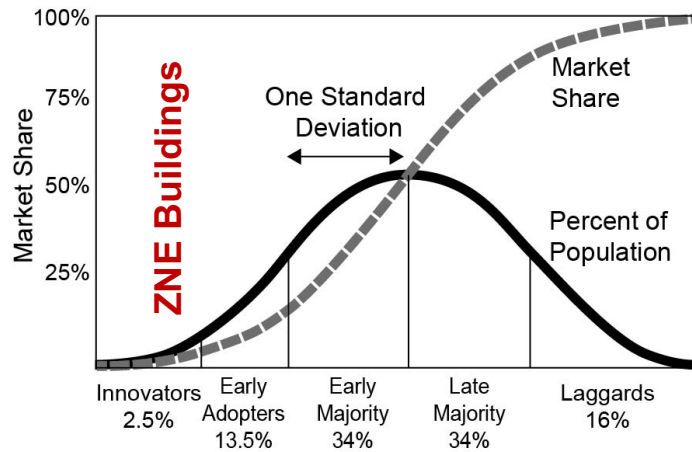
Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

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Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

Innovation Diffusion Curves



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Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

Standards

- Appliance Standards
- Building Standards
 - Prescriptive
 - Performance

Year	Energy Use Index
1975	100
1980	100
1989	~85
1999	~85
2004	~75
2007	~70
2010	~60
2013	~55
90.1-2016	90.1

Energy Code Adoption in the United States

Legend for Energy Code Adoption:

- No mandatory code or weak code
- 90.1-2007
- 90.1-2009 or equivalent
- 90.1-2010 or equivalent
- 90.1-2012 or equivalent
- 90.1-2015 or equivalent

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Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

Making the Market Work

- Cap and Trade
- Carbon Taxes
- Subsidizing Renewable Energy
- Reducing Subsidies for Fossil Fuels
- Labeling Programs and Mandatory Disclosure
- Recognition Programs
 - LEED
 - Zero Energy Building Certification (LBC)
 - New Buildings Institute Verified Zero Energy Buildings List

- EPA estimates that the cost of carbon emissions is about \$60/ton, which would cause electricity to increase by \$0.037/kWh
- Harvard Medical School study estimates externalities from coal would cause electricity to increase an average of \$0.18/kWh

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Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

SUNSHINE STATE

California is getting so much power from solar that wholesale electricity prices are turning negative

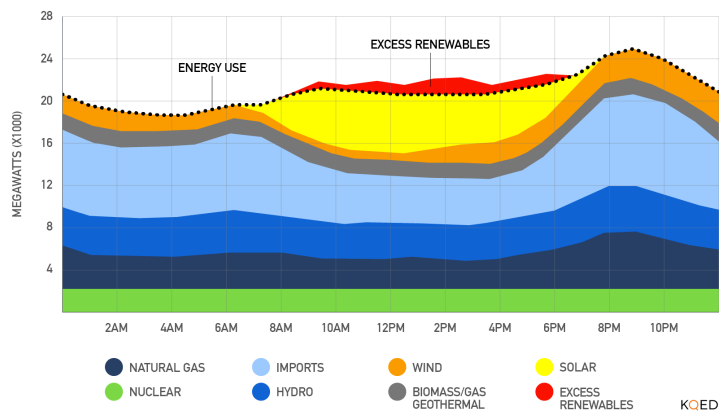


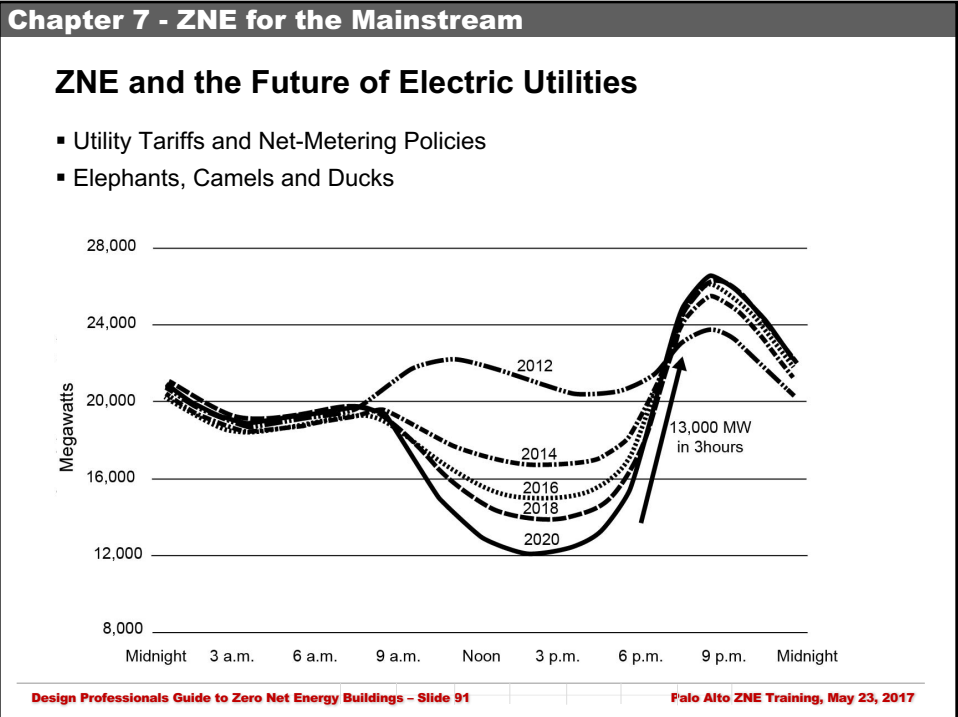
Chapter 7 - ZNE for the Mainstream

California Power Generation – March 2016

On March 27, a sunny day, some solar farms had to shut down because there was more power on the grid than Californians were using.

<https://ww2.kqed.org/science/2016/04/04/what-will-california-do-with-too-much-solar/>





Chapter 8 - Beyond ZNE

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Chapter 8 - Beyond ZNE

Indirect Building Energy Use

- Transportation
- Water
- Materials and products

The focus of ZNE buildings

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Resources and Wrapup


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Resources and Wrapup

Design Professionals Guide

CHARLES ELEY



DESIGN
PROFESSIONAL'S GUIDE
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 charles@eley.com

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