What We've Learned Since 2007 -Efficiency, Load Management and De-Carbonization

Wendell Brase

Associate Chancellor - Sustainability University of California, Irvine

Co-Chair, Global Climate Leadership Council University of California





Three-Part Strategy

- Minimize demand through efficiency
- Procure biomethane to mitigate Scope 1 emissions
- Procure renewable energy to mitigate Scope 2 emissions



"Deep" Energy Efficiency

- Goal for efficiency retrofit projects = 50%
- Goal for new construction = outperform T24 by 50%
- How: "Smart" controls
- Why: 1. Efficiency = "First Principle"
 - 2. How can we afford decarbonized energy?

Key Components of a "Smart" Building

- Demand-controlled HVAC
- Many HVAC zones
- Right-sizing airchanges to minimize reheat, as well as cooling and ventilation energy
- Demand-controlled, high-CRI LED lighting and more efficient plug-loads





Energy Efficiency Impact Much Greater Than Expected

- Smart Labs > 60% energy reduction
- Lighting retrofits > 70% energy reduction
- Non-laboratory energy retrofits ≈ 40%
- Housing target 35% reduction





Mechanical System Energy Performance Requirements

Overall building energy performance	U.S. Green Building Council LEED Platinum
Air-handler face velocity / air-speed through filtration	300 ft. (91.4 m.)/minute maximum
Total HVAC pressure drop (supply+filtration+distribution +exhaust)	Labs: < 5 in. W.G. (1,250 pascals) Non-lab spaces: < 3.5 in. W.G. (875 pascals)
Static pressure setpoint reset (supply and exhaust)	Reduce static setpoints based on zone voting
Supply temperature setpoint reset	Raise supply setpoint based on zone voting
Air-handler and duct sound-attenuators	None
Minimum occupied lab air-changes per hour	4 air-changes/hour with contaminant sensing (Aircuity)
Minimum unoccupied lab air-changes per hour	2 air-changes/hour with contaminant sensing and reduced thermal conditioning during setback
"Purge" laboratory air-changes per hour	10-12 air-changes/hour when contaminants sensed
Laboratory exhaust stack discharge velocity	Requires wind study; design goal ~1,500 FPM; > 1,500 FPM when necessary during re-entrainment conditions
Exhaust stack height (labs)	As determined by wind study, minimum 10 ft.
Exhaust bypass damper (outside air into exhaust header)	Only activated by adverse wind conditions
Laboratory illumination power density	< 0.5 watt / sq. ft. including bench task lighting
Fume hoods	Occupancy controlled, low-flow/high performance
Heat-generating equipment exhaust	Exhaust grilles directly over equipment such as freezers, etc.
Non-laboratory (recirculating) HVAC delivery and outside air	HVAC delivery occupancy-based w/relief air CO2-controlled

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25 Years of Energy Efficiency





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25 Years of Energy Efficiency





25 Years of Energy Efficiency



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Co-Benefits of Deep Energy Efficiency

- Many HVAC deferred maintenance problems fixed/funded through energy savings
- "Information layer" provides real-time commissioning and air quality track-record
- Lighting efficacy improved (especially labs, studio arts, clinical settings, streets)
- Quieter buildings inside and outside
- Cleaner indoor air
- Longer service life for heat-producing and friction-producing building system components
- Avoided capital investments for generation, central plant chillers, and infrastructure
- Deferred maintenance problems fixed/funded through energy savings
- Safer laboratories
- More reliable research infrastructure.



Lessons Learned

- Big goals change the culture, not just results at the margin
- Deep energy efficiency was attainable
- Waste had been designed-into mechanical systems
- Sensors and software enabled a new paradigm
- Some energy retrofits/redesigns yielded highly nonlinear savings
- Co-benefits *much* greater than expected

Do "Smart" Building Controls Provide a Demand-Response Opportunity?

Smart Buildings = Precision Control of Energy



Just enough energy, at just the right place, at just the right time!







Managing demand as important as reducing

- Time-of-use pricing inevitable (and desirable)
- Efficient buildings provide limited demand-response
- Best form of energy storage may not be a battery!
- Demand management can radically reduce carbon footprint



Exploiting the "Duck Curve" to Reduce Carbon Footprint



Net load - March 31



More Subtle Lessons Learned

- Attitude is as important as technology
- "Information layer" as important as control system technologies themselves
- Demand-response concept changed radically with "smart" buildings
- Demand management requires an *enterprise* solution
- Batteries not the best storage solution





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Biogas procurement not as easy as renewable electricity

- Not a mature market
- Natural gas real prices at prolonged low
- Delivery infrastructure costs











Co-benefit: Methane Emissions Reduction

This Could Be a Game-Changer!

SoCalGas Announces Vision to Be Cleanest Natural Gas Utility in North America

Utility commits to delivering affordable and increasingly renewable energy to customers - Includes replacing 20 percent of traditional natural gas supply with renewable natural gas by 2030

Senate Bill 1383 requires 40 percent methane capture from California's waste streams -- from sewage treatment, and landfills, and agriculture, and dairies



UCI Carbon-Capture Symposium

- Bob Mroz, President of Bio-Tek, a Baltimore startup firm
- Jack Brouwer, Professor of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Environmental Engineering and Associate Director of the UC Irvine Advanced Power and Energy Program
- Professor Jenny Yang, UCI Chemistry
- Dr. Sahag Voskian, Chemistry Department, MIT
- Gaurav Sant, Professor of Engineering at UCLA
- Liang-Shih Fan, Distinguished University Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, The Ohio State University





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How Do We Pay for Exemplary Energy Efficiency in New Buildings?

Areas Into Which Savings are Redirected

Cost-Control & Savings Opportunities

"Smart Labs" energy design standards Sensible ratios for floorplates & exterior "skin" Cost-effective architectural detailing and articulation strategies Small, demand-controlled HVAC zones for comfort as well as efficiency Consolidate/separate non-laboratory functions into adjoined **LEED Platinum** structure Outperform Title 24 by >> 20% Generic, modular approach to laboratory design Stretch goal to outperform Title 24 by 50% Moderate column-spacing in laboratory structures for cost-effective Robust laboratory core infrastructure systems to support inexpensive future vibration control modifications Avoid unconventional structural, seismic, and foundation systems Durable materials and system quality to avoid major maintenance expenses Unconditioned exterior stairways (weather-protected) Long-life/low maintenance exterior finishes Avoid custom-fabricated, exotic, specialized materials High-quality teaching spaces Conventional interior finishes Stainless steel flashings No floor coverings in laboratories Durable hardware and interior finishes Generic acoustical materials Operable office windows (w/HVAC interlocks) No sound absorption in partial-height partitions or walls w/doors Quality hardscape and landscape features Downsize HVAC due to sun shading Sound isolation where needed (e.g., offices) Essentially eliminate window coverings if electrochromic glass is Weather-protection canopy to extend life of roof-mounted equipment used Sun-shading 85% overall annual effectiveness Eliminate exterior wall insulation, furring, sheetrock, and paint Exterior walls \geq 12 in. concrete integral color, exposed both sides

Feasibility Success Factors

- 1. Adopt a challenging goal and aggressive sub-goals
- 2. Technology
- 3. Questioned status-quo design practices
- 4. Targeted energy waste that was built-into building systems
- 5. Made intentional, explicit trade-offs to fund life-cycle performance
- 6. Assumed that de-carbonized energy might cost 2X status quo

Awards and Recognitions



CLIMATE AND ENERGY LANDS AND WATERS ADVENTURE GREEN LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE SUBSCRIBE



UCI Sustainability Recognitions & Awards

- Sierra Magazine's top ten "Coolest Schools" ten consecutive years
- Princeton Review's Green Honor Roll six consecutive years
- CA Governor's Environmental & Economic Leadership Award Climate Change (2008)
- CA Governor's Environmental & Economic Leadership Award Leadership (2013)
- EPA Climate Leadership Award (2014)
- **President Obama's Better Buildings Challenge: first to improve efficiency 20% (7 years early)**
- Clean Air Excellence Award in Transportation Efficiency from the U.S. EPA (2016)
- Best Practice Award for Sustainability in Academics (2016) and New Construction (2017), California Higher Education Sustainability Conference
- APPA's Sustainability Award in Facilities Management for sustainability excellence (2012)
- Second Nature Climate Leadership Award (2011)
- **Urban Land Institute's** "Best of the Best" Award for campus wide sustainability (2011)
- NACUBO Innovation Award for Energy Efficiency (1996)
- Gold level Bicycle Friendly University designation from League of American Bicyclists (2016)
- National Arbor Association "Tree Campus" designation nine years

QUESTIONS?



Presented Wednesday, April 22, at CalPlug 2020 Virtual Workshop © 2020 Regents of the University of California



Formal Assessment at Financial Cross-roads when Co-generator is Amortized

- Progress toward gas de-carbonization
- Feasibility of procuring more biogas
- Feasibility of on-site carbon capture
- Electrification of carbon-emitting plant equipment
- Hydrogen co-generation
- Emergent technologies

