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# Il futuro dell'efficienza energetica nelle costruzioni: Zero Energy Building

**Fabio Peron**

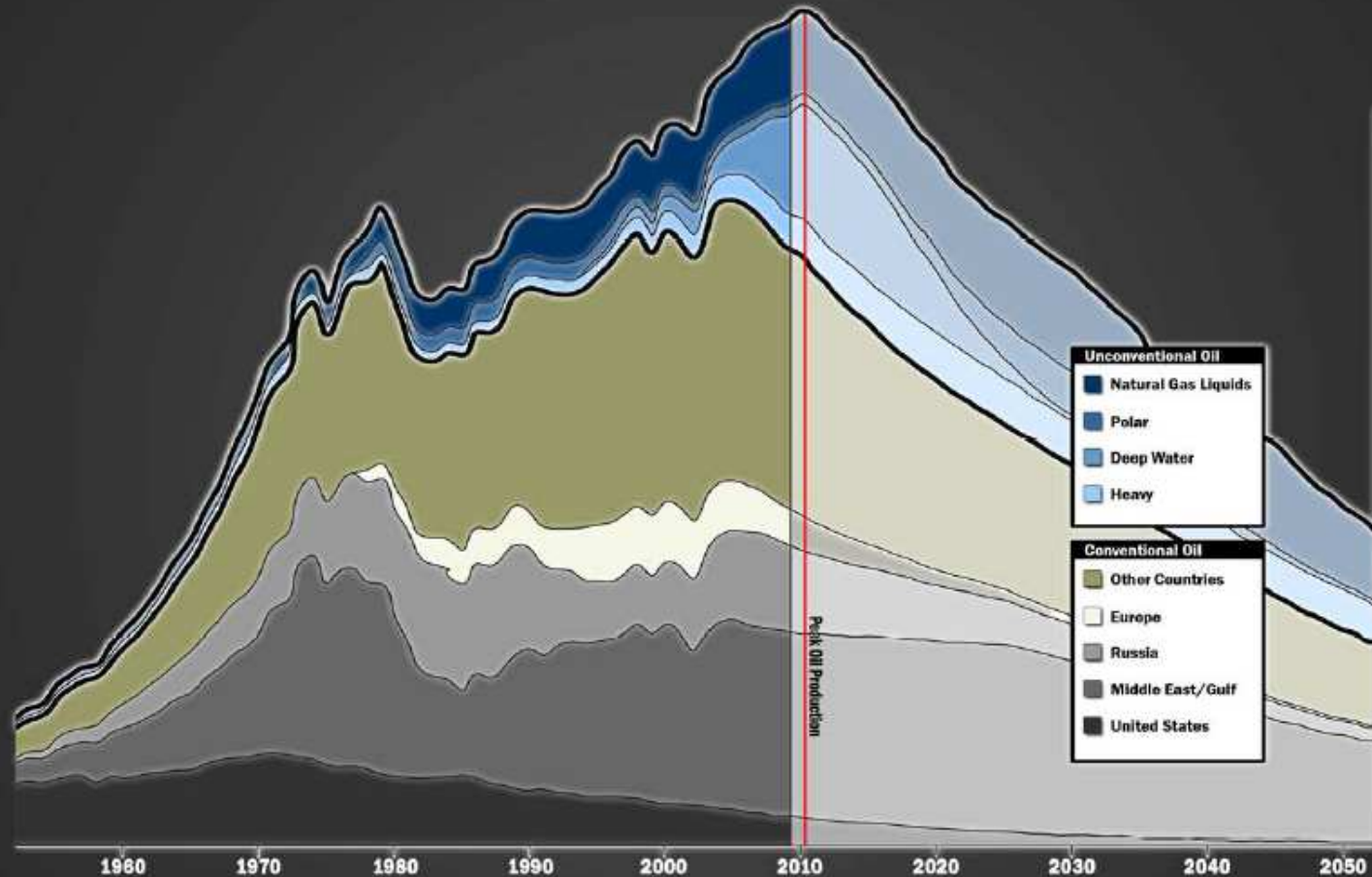
*Università IUAV - Venezia*



# Perché Zero Energy Building?



the OIL age

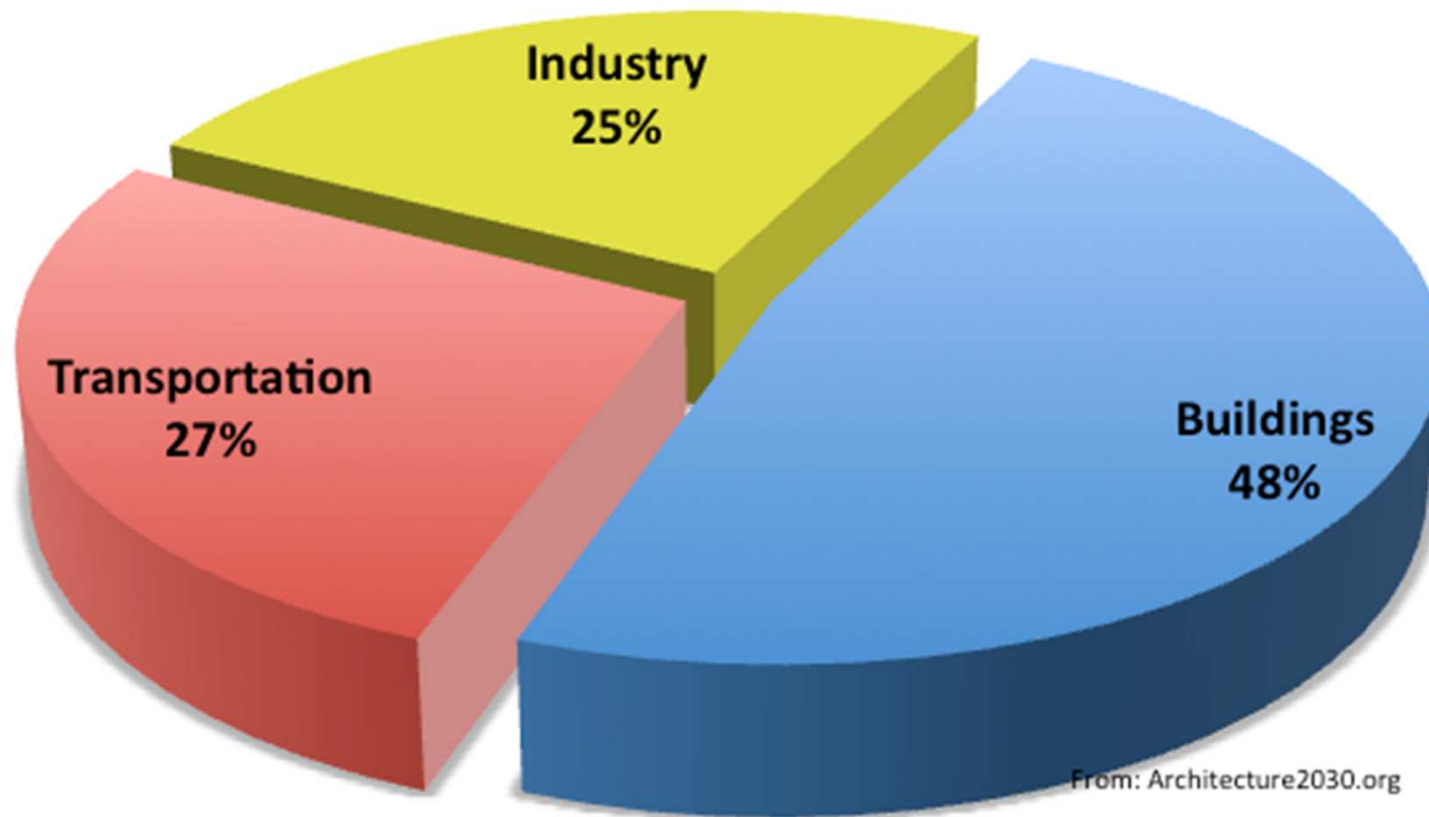


SOURCE: Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas, 2008

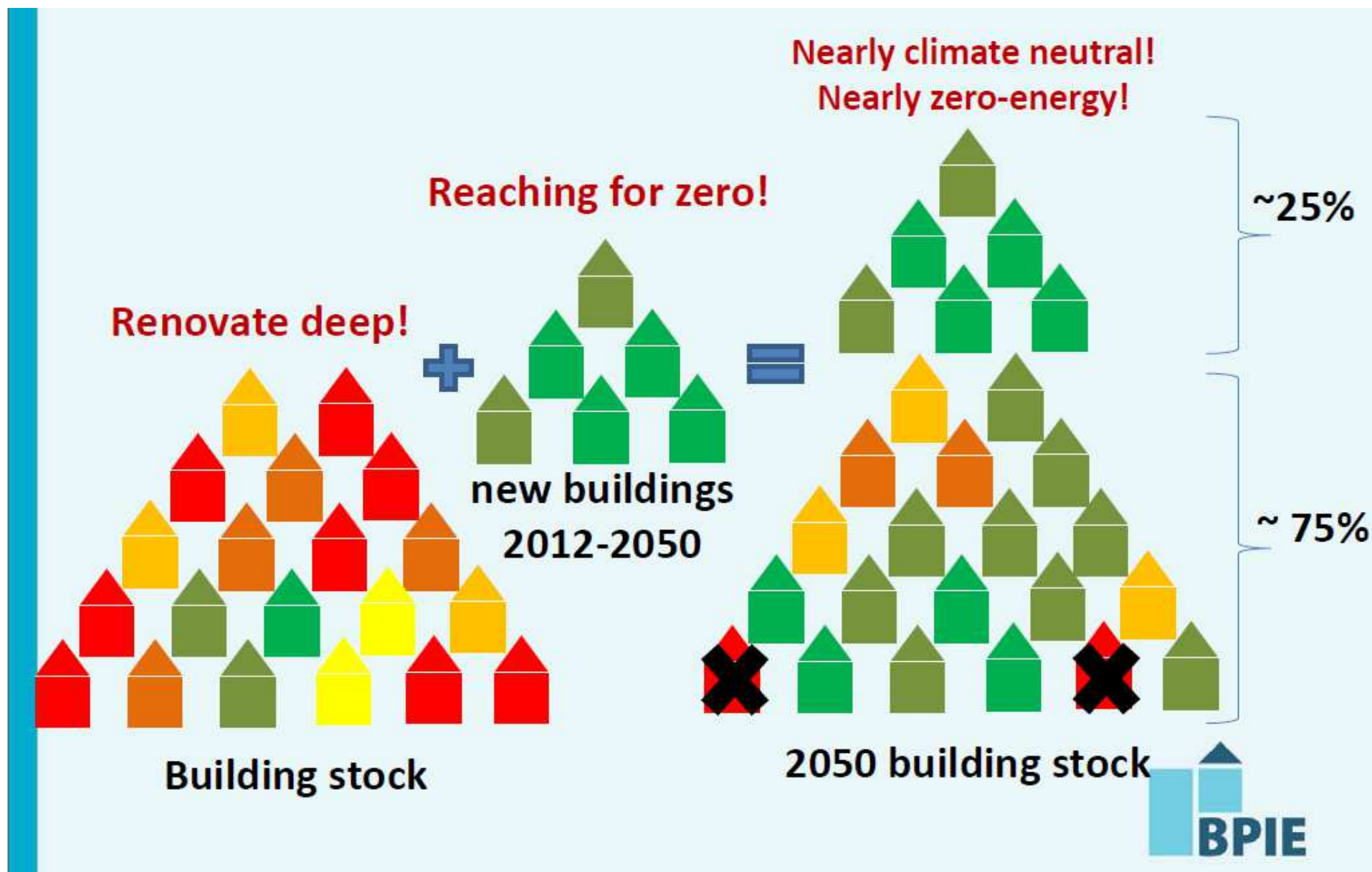
Net Zero Energy Buildings

# Perchè Zero Energy Building?

**Il settore delle costruzioni è un grande consumatore di energia e fonte di emissione di Gas Climalteranti**



# L'azione dell'Europa per il 2050: due grandi sfide

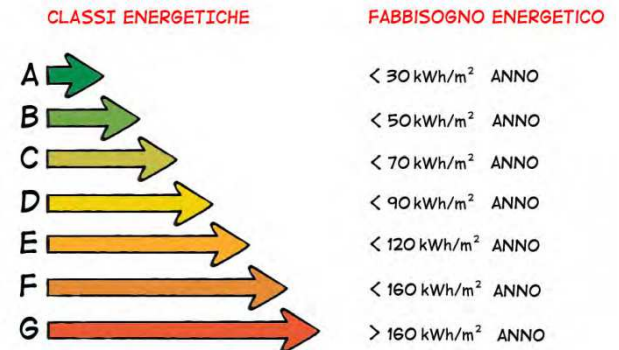


# L'azione dell'Europa negli ultimi venti anni

## Low energy building (LEB)

Building that use lower levels of energy than regular buildings.

- Determined by heating needs in kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year
- **Existing buildings: 80 - 300 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year**
- **Low-energy building: 30 - 70 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year**
- **Three-litre-building: 16 - 30 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year**

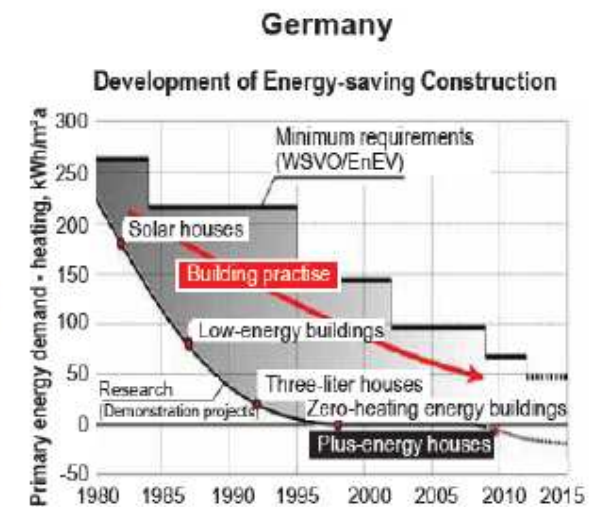
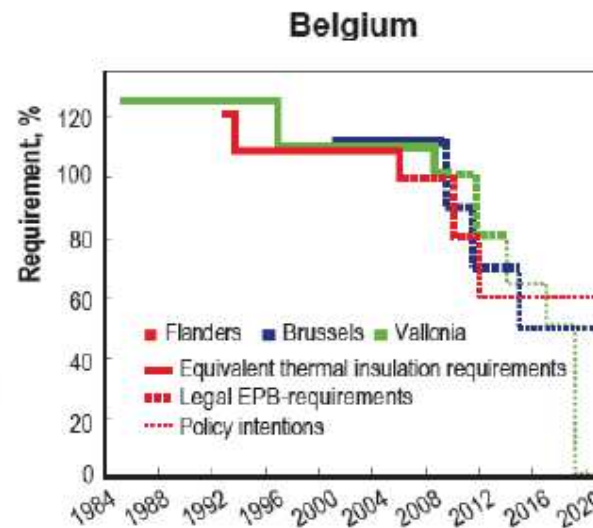
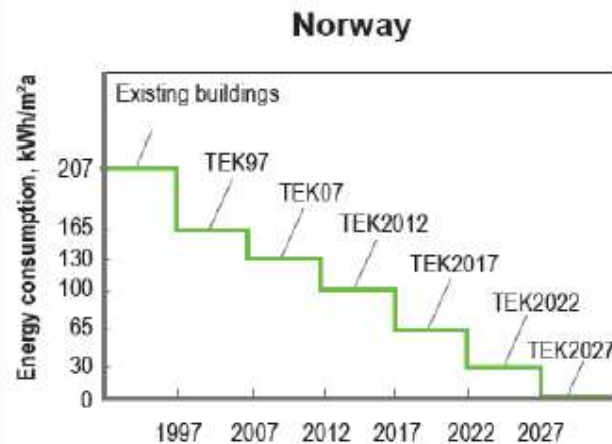
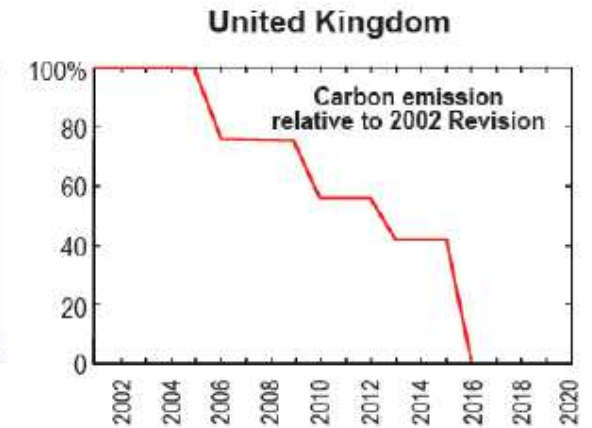
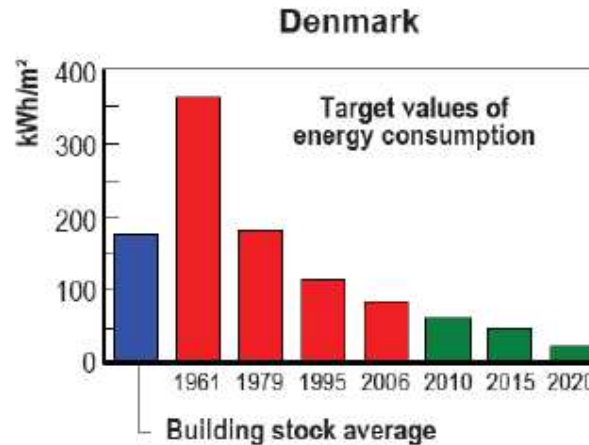
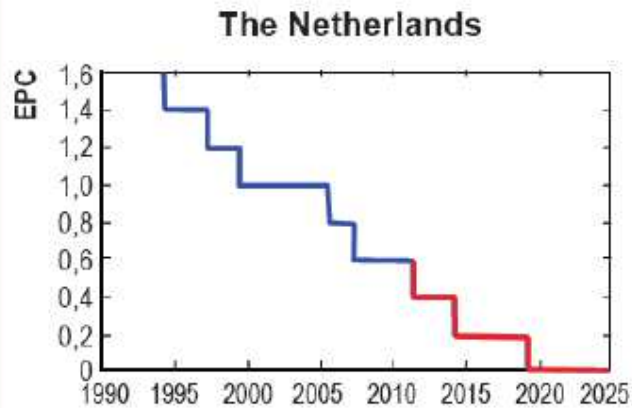


## Passive house

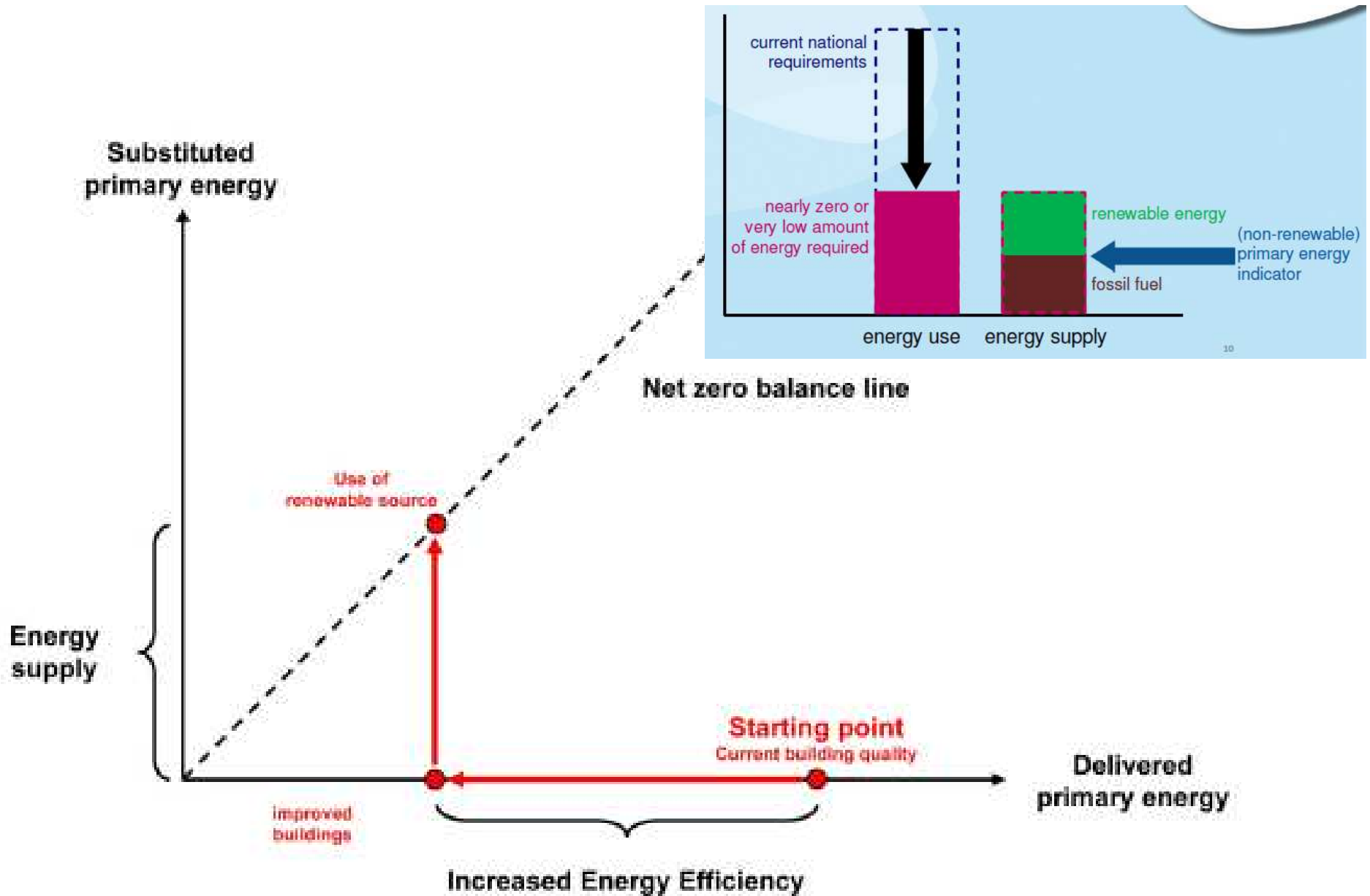
focuses on reducing energy demand, it doesn't include active systems e.g. photovoltaics:

- very high levels of insulation (wall U-values less than 0.15 W/m<sup>2</sup>K);
- high-quality building construction (thermal bridge free, air-tightness)
- high-performance glazing (U-value less than 0.85 W/m<sup>2</sup>K)
- high efficiency ventilation system with heat recovery (MVHR);
- high efficiency appliances and lighting.
- **max. 15 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year**

# Le roadmap europee per la riduzione dei consumi



# L'efficienza degli edifici di domani



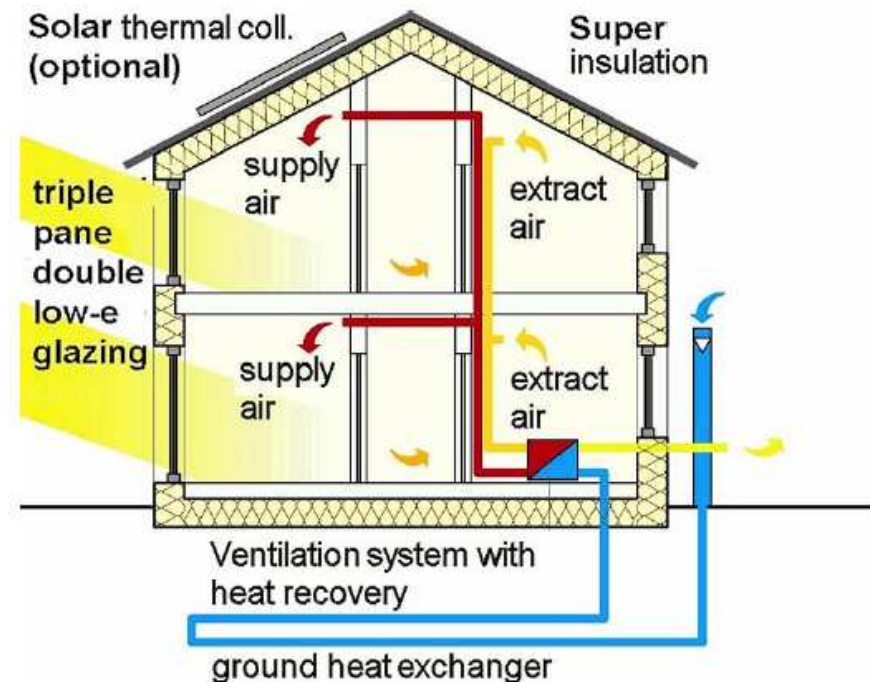
# Zero Energy Building issues

**ZEB is not a single product or technology**, but rather a combination of closely-integrated evolving technologies.

Whole-building energy-consumption system integration requires careful planning and computer modelling to make all the subcomponent parts work together cost effectively.

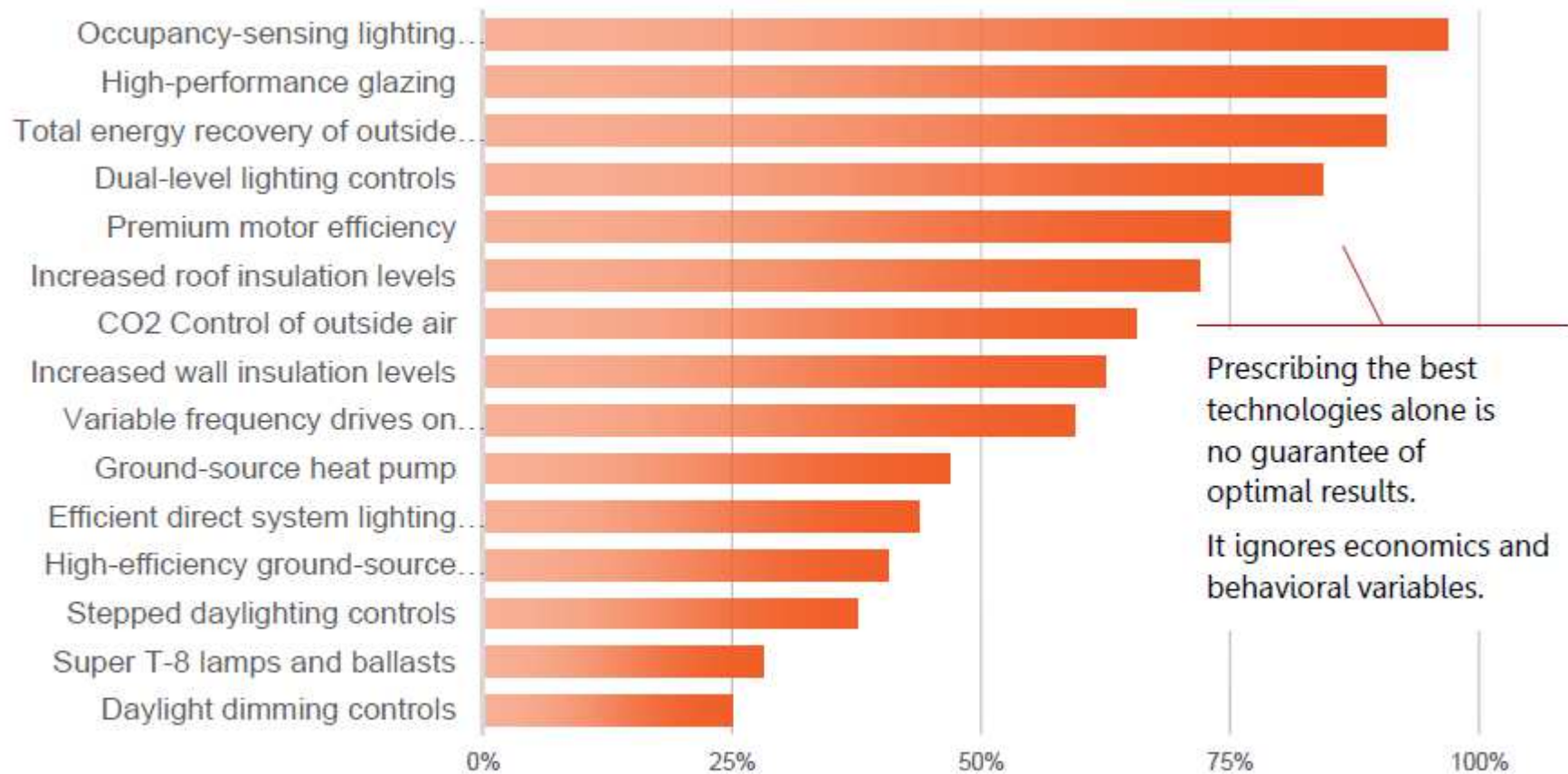
## Common energy efficiency (EE) features:

- Daylighting
- EE lighting
- EE electric equipment
- EE ventilation, DCV,
- Controls & Sensors
- Passive solar
- Insulation
- Energy management



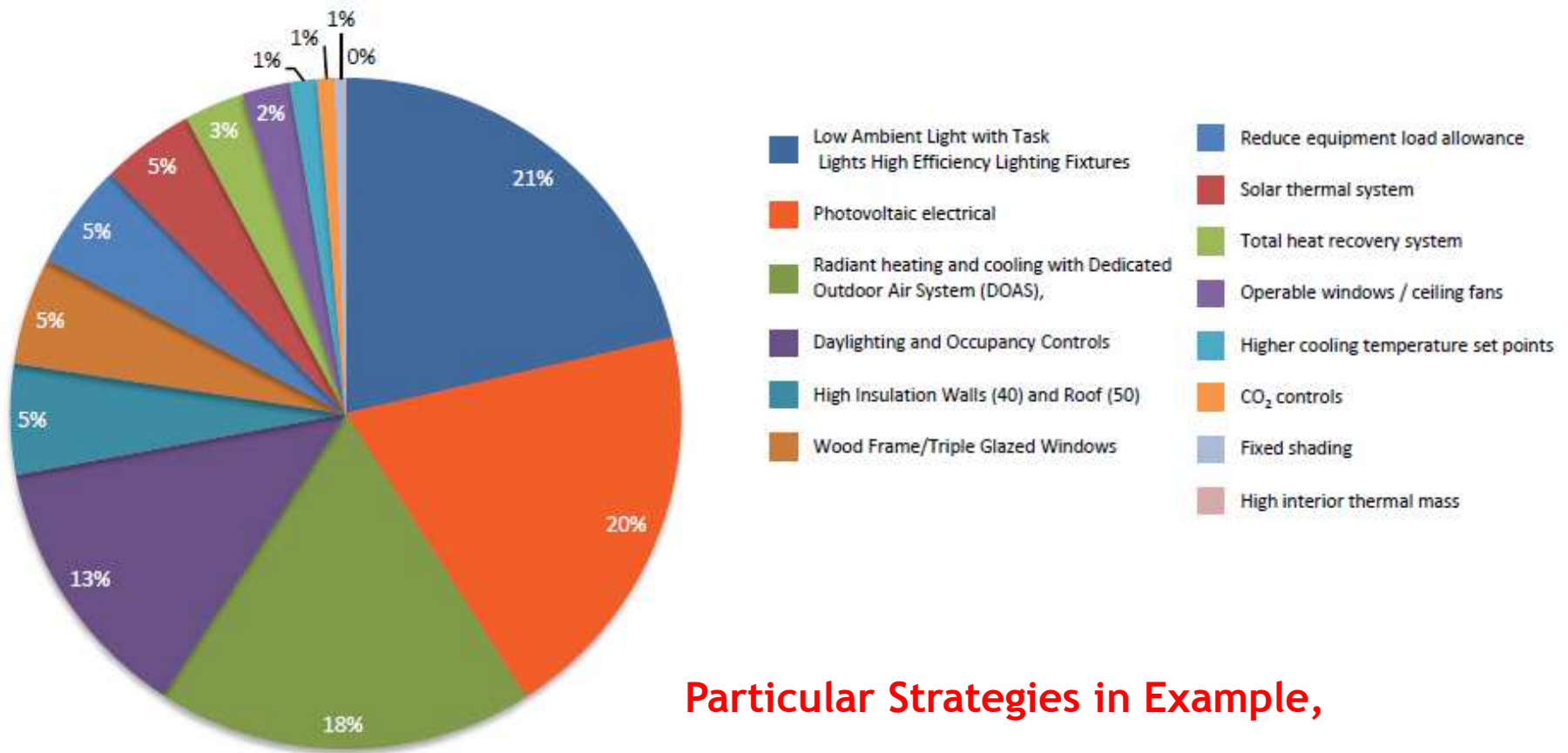


# Zero Energy Building issues



**General Frequency of Occurrence Projects that Saved 60%+ or NZE ready**

# Zero Energy Building issues



Particular Strategies in Example,  
Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Savings come from many choices

# Zero Energy Building: la definizione

## Zero Energy Building (ZEB)

A building that produce as much energy as it consumes (yearly basis)

- Consumes grid power when it needs it
- Feed power to grid when it has extra
- All energy considered
- Not Zero Carbon or Zero GHG
- Not off-grid
- does not consider Embodied energy

## Benefit of ZEB

- Reduce energy consumption and cost
- Reduce carbon emissions
- Reduce dependence on fossil fuels
- Higher asset value
- Comfortable and productive environments



# Zero Energy Building: la definizione

## near Zero Energy Building (nZEB)

A building approaching zero energy is called “Near-zero energy building or “ultra low energy building”.

## Net Zero site Energy Building (siteZEB)

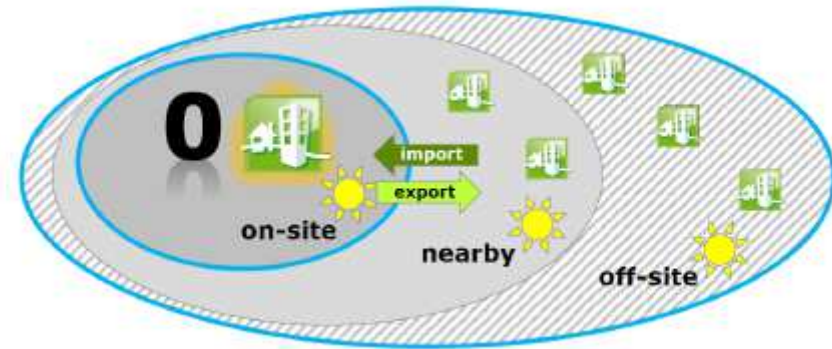
Amount of energy provided by on-site renewable energy sources is equal to the amount of energy used by the building. Self-sufficient stand-alone ZEB that is not connected to an offsite energy utility facility. It requires distributed renewable energy sources and energy storage capability.

## Energy-plus/-positive building (E+B)

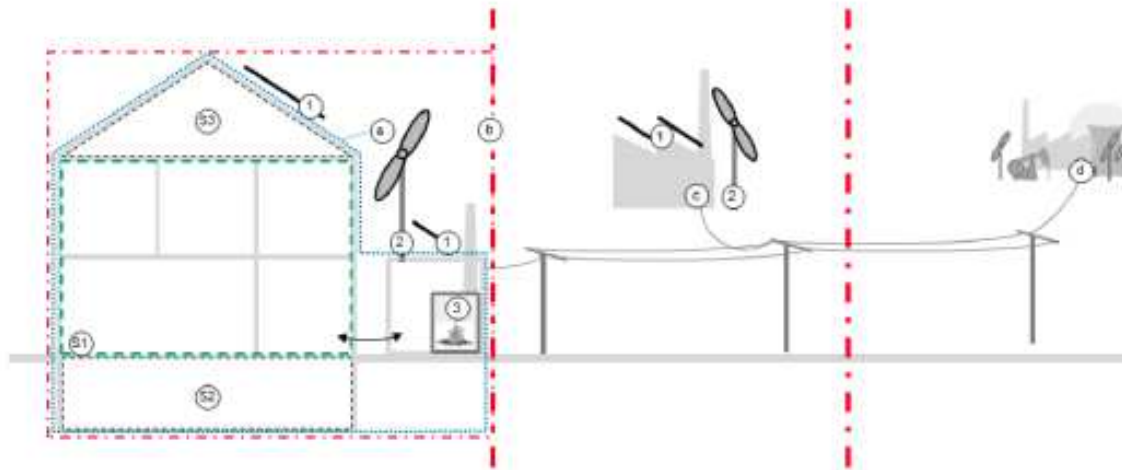
produces a surplus of energy during a



# Zero Energy Building: i confini del sistema



- On-site, off-site, nearby, distant?  
(pr-EN 15603-2013)



<b>Key</b>					
a	Assessment boundary (use energy balance)	S1	Conditioned space (needs energy certificate)	1	PV
b	On-site	S2, S3	Unheated space	2	Wind
c	Nearby				
d	Distant				

# Il primo esempio di nZEB

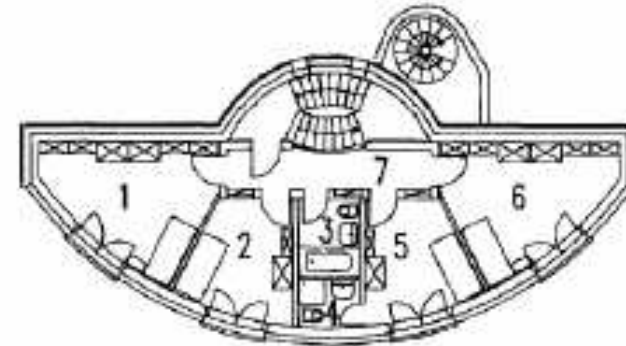
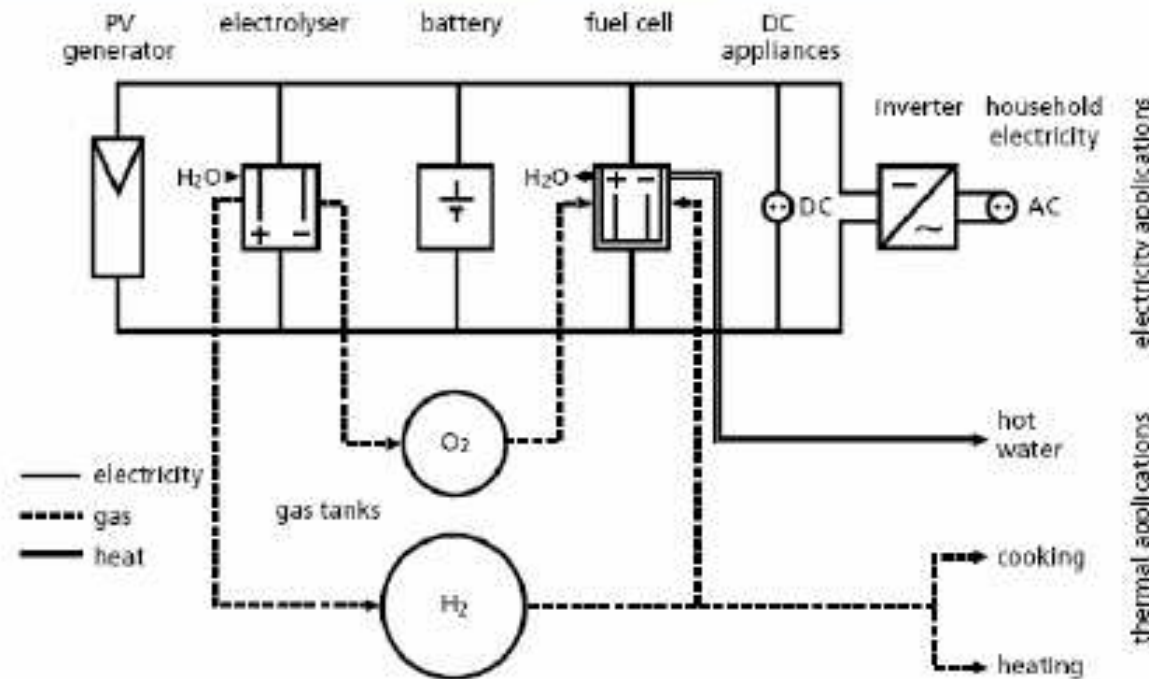


Fig. 3. The first floor of the SSSH  
 1: room 1, 2: room 2, 3: bath/toilet, 4: shower/toilet, 5: room 3, 6: room 4, 7: for.



Self-sufficient Solar House  
 Freiburg - Germany  
 Fraunhofer Institute

(Source: [www.ise.fhg.de](http://www.ise.fhg.de))

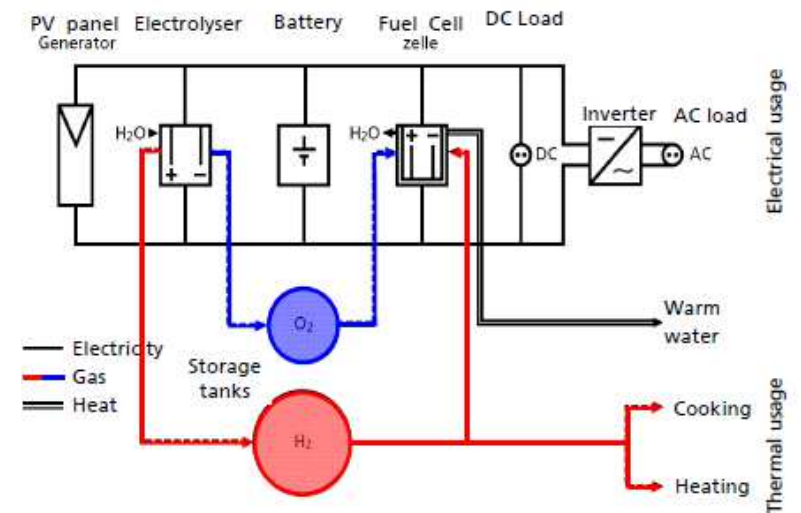
# Il primo esempio di nZEB



## Self-sufficient Solar House Freiburg - Germany Fraunhofer Institute

### Regenerative fuel cell:

- PEM electrolysis unit
- (30 bar / 2 kWel)
- H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> storage tanks
- PEM fuel cell
- No mech. compressor!



## BedZED, UK - 2002

Consisted of 99 **super-insulated dwellings** of various sizes, workspaces and community facilities. **Triple glazed windows**. on-site zero-carbon generation provided by a **prototype 120kWe wood-waste fuelled combined heat and power (CHP) system** with **777m<sup>2</sup> of photovoltaic panels** designed to meet all of the energy demands of the residents and potential to power up to 40 electric vehicles.







- Monitoring indicated:
  - that space heating demand was 90% lower than the UK average
  - electrical power consumption was 33% lower than average, due to residents using back-up electrical water heating

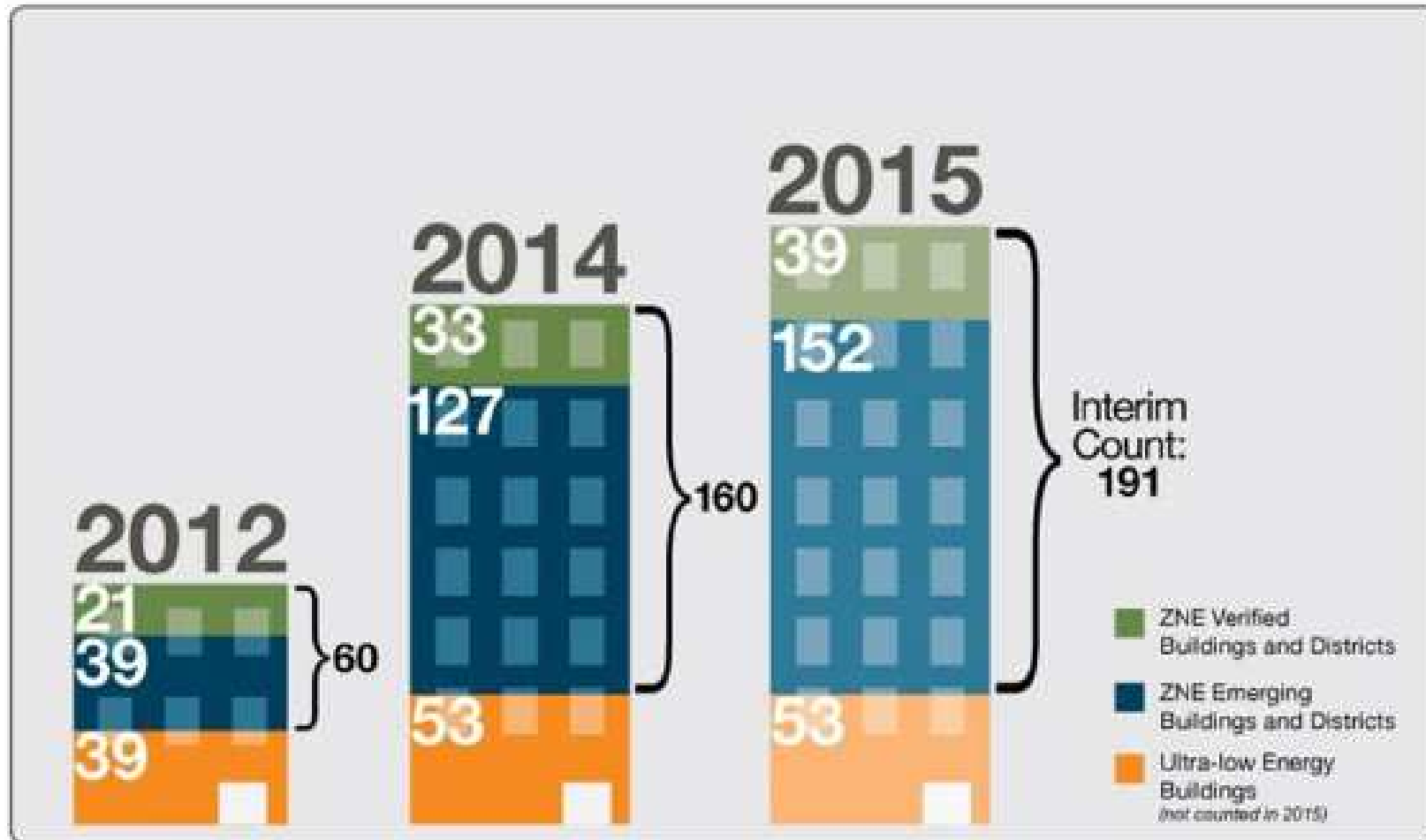




- The development did **not achieve zero-carbon** operation, primarily due to the fact that the prototype biomass CHP system was unreliable and never operated effectively (it was shut down in 2005)
- The remaining **PV system only offset around 20% of the total energy demands** of the community with the remainder being drawn from external supplies

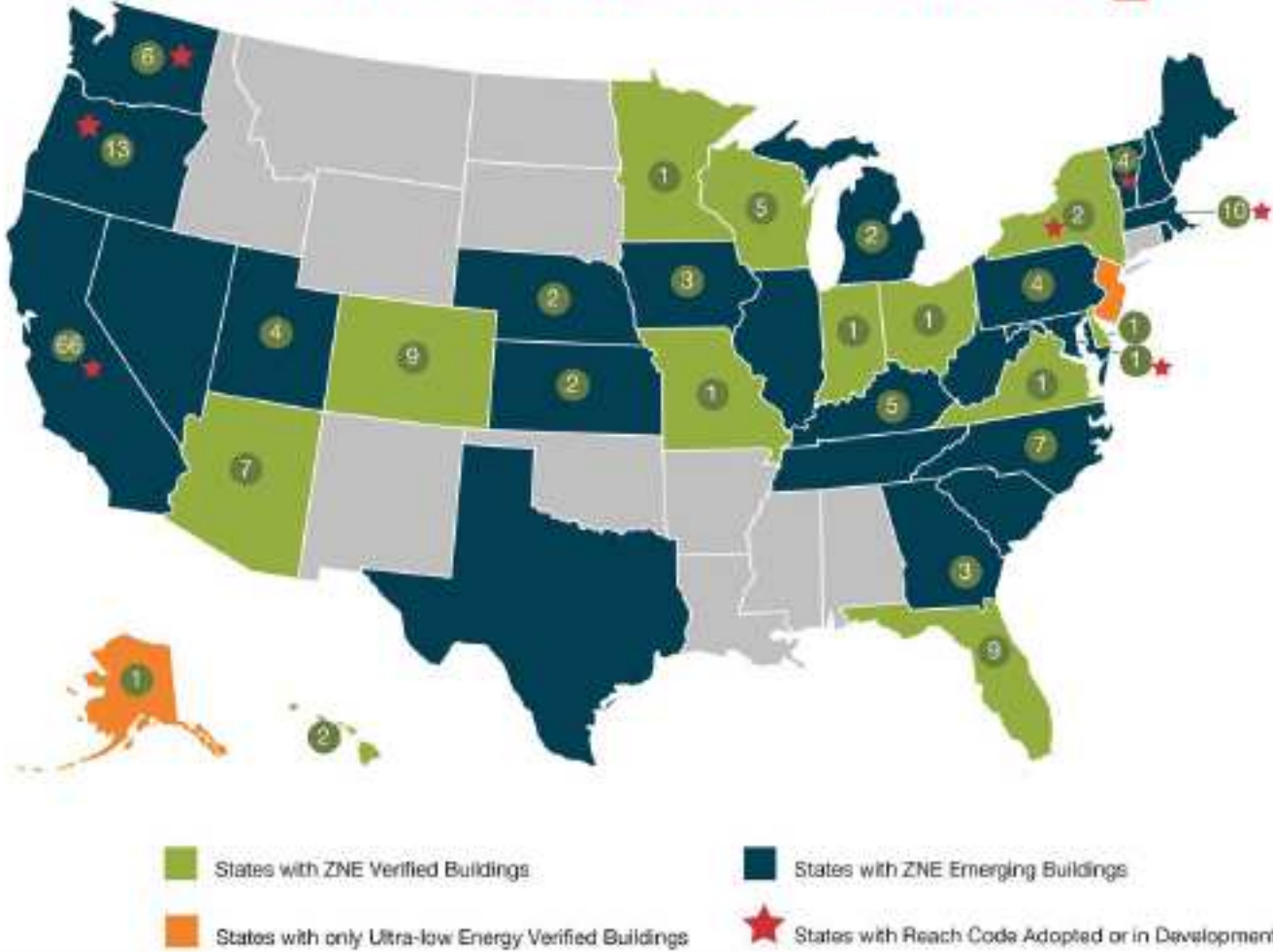


# Zero Energy Building in USA



# Zero Energy Building in the USA

## 40 States with ZNE Buildings



# Zero Energy Building data-base

## GETTING TO **zero** BUILDINGS DATABASE

New Buildings Institute is proud to introduce our **Getting to Zero Buildings Database**.

**NBI Featured Project**



**BUIE Foundation Cascade Center**  
Building Type: Office  
Gross Area: 125,000 SF  
Project Status: Completed (Open Apr 2012)  
[Learn More About This Project](#)

**Most Popular**

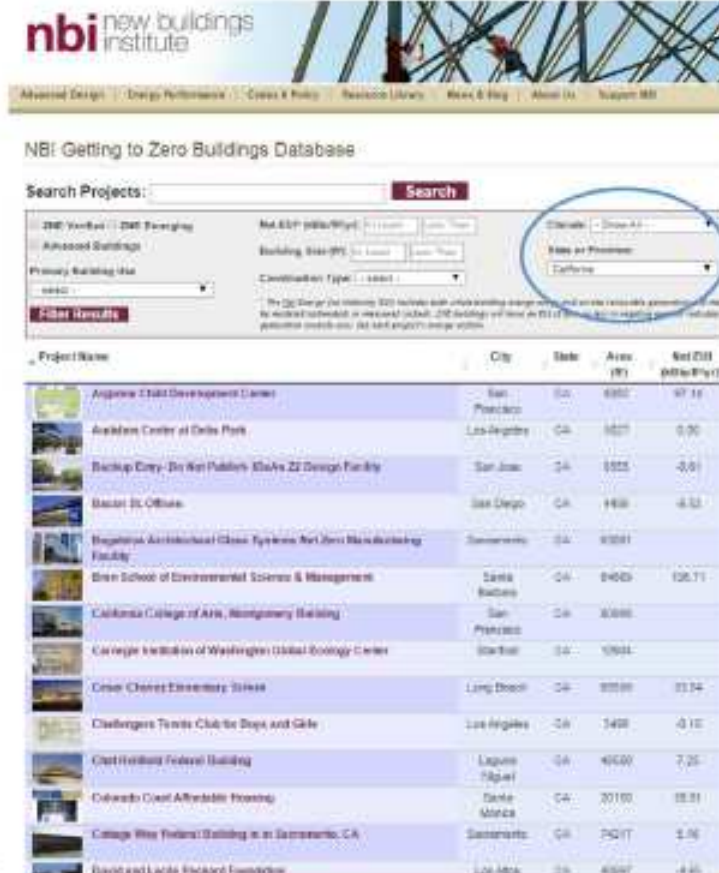


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NBI Getting to Zero Buildings Database

Search Projects:  **Search**

200 Verified | 200 Emerging | Net ZEB (kBtu/ft²/yr) | Building Size (SF) | Construction Type

Primary Building Use:  | State:  | City:

**Filter Results**

Project Name	City	State	Area (SF)	Net ZEB (kBtu/ft²/yr)
Angene Child Development Center	San Francisco	CA	6952	97.19
Avalon Center at Delta Park	Los Angeles	CA	1027	0.00
Backup City - Do Not Publish - Steve ZI Design Facility	San Jose	CA	1025	-0.01
Bank of America	San Diego	CA	1450	-4.52
Regional Architectural Glass Systems North Manufacturing Facility	Sacramento	CA	9381	
Bren School of Environmental Science & Management	Santa Barbara	CA	8400	126.71
California College of Arts, Montgomery Building	San Francisco	CA	3000	
Carnegie Institution of Washington Global Ecology Center	Stanford	CA	10601	
Cesar Chavez Elementary School	Long Beach	CA	8200	23.24
Challengers Tennis Club for Boys and Girls	Los Angeles	CA	1400	-0.10
Christ Church Federal Building	Laguna Hills	CA	4900	7.25
Calwest Coast Affordable Housing	Santa Monica	CA	20100	18.81
College Hill Federal Building in Sacramento, CA	Sacramento	CA	75217	1.56
David and Lucile Packard Foundation	Los Altos	CA	6597	-4.95

The largest database on ZNE buildings in North America and the only database searchable by ZNE Status & Energy Performance  
<http://newbuildings.org/getting-to-zero-buildings-database>

# David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Year Completed : 2012

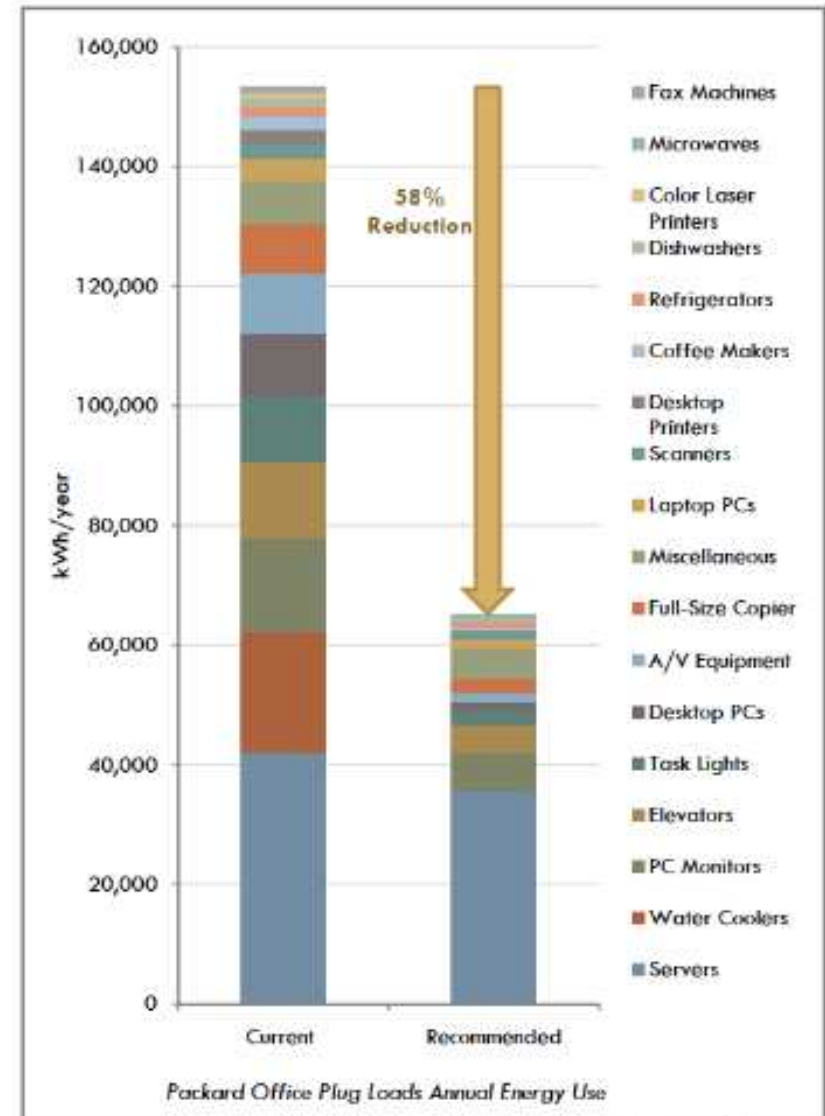
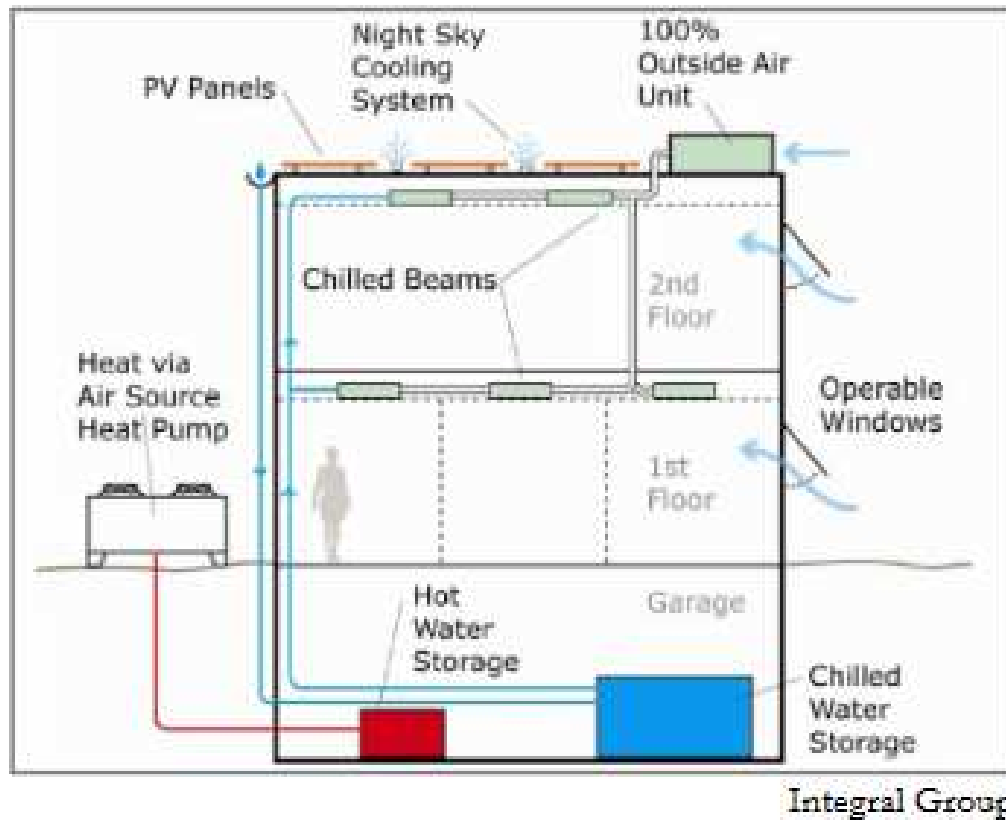
Size : 49,000 SF

Largest Certified Net Zero Energy Building (ILFI)

LEED Platinum certified (2009)



# David & Lucile Packard Foundation



# David & Lucile Packard Foundation

The Packard Foundation describes its headquarters project as “a conscious decision to live the values we support,” which it articulates for this project as a threesome:

*a physical manifestation of our long-term commitment to conserving the Earth's natural resources; a comfortable, healthful space for our employees to work collaboratively; support for a vital downtown in the community which has been the Foundation's home for over 45 years.<sup>1</sup>*





# La lezione appresa dagli esempi di ZEB

- From the evidence of the case studies achieving zero-carbon operation is not straightforward!
- A building *designed* to be zero-carbon does not necessarily *perform* as zero carbon
- Most **fail** to achieve this due to 1) **under-prediction of demands at the design stage** 2) **over-prediction of energy yields from renewables** or 3) **poorly performing equipment in-situ**
- **PV seems to be the ubiquitous** option for electricity generation
- **Most achieve significant reductions in thermal demand ... less success with curbing electrical and demands**
- usually **grid connection is allowed and necessary**. Excess production used to offset later energy use.



# Zero Energy Building: takeaway lessons

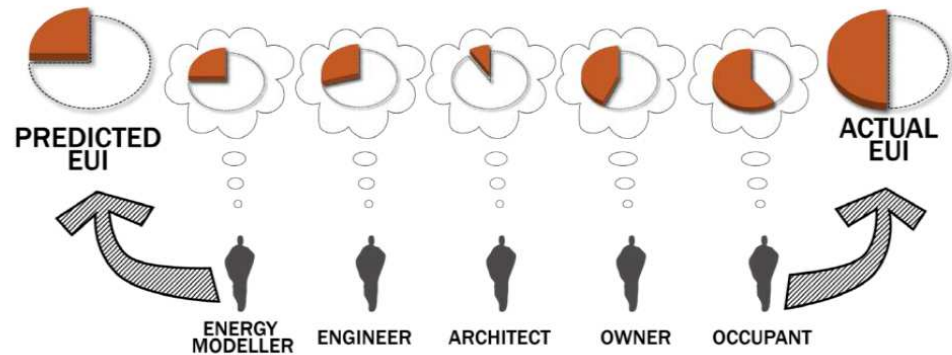
- Production is usually **MUCH** more expensive than reducing waste (efficiency/conservation)
- Energy demanded by building should always be reduced, before adding production. Check cost of reducing demand vs cost if supplying energy
- Conservation measures first! **Good design/orientation, good enclosure (shell), good mechanicals**, then add **renewable energy**.
- **Electrical energy becomes the predominant demand**; in the dwelling - currently over 80% of demand is thermal energy.
- **Zero-carbon buildings will have radically different energy demand** characteristics compared to existing housing: space heating demand is minimal electricity for appliances and lighting becomes the major energy demand.
- **Monitoring of actual performance indicates that most do not actually achieve zero-carbon operation.**
- Renewables can be more cost-effective than insulation after a point!
- **Net zero energy: good & noble target, but out beyond “neutral cost”.**



# La lezione appresa dagli esempi di ZEB



**ENERGY USE**  
PREDICTED vs. ACTUAL



# Zero Energy Building in Europe

**Energy Performance of Buildings Directive - EPBD 2002**, revised in May 2010, **EPBD Recast 2010**.

**Renewable Energies Directive (RES) - April 2009**

- Increase the use of **renewables up to 20%**, **biofuels up to 10%** in EU
- require **energy consumers (also buildings)** to include a given proportion of energy from **renewable sources** in their consumption

**Energy Efficiency Directive Recast (EEDR) - November 2012**

- **District heating**, Combined Heat and Power generation **CHP**, renovation 3% each year, public procurement, public buildings as exemplary model



European Union



# Zero Energy Building in Europe

## EPBD Recast

- By 31 Dec 2020, all new buildings are nearly zero energy buildings
- After 31 Dec 2018, public authorities that occupy and own a new building shall ensure that the building is a nearly zero energy building
- Minimum energy performance requirements based on calculation of cost-optimal levels, with the methodology developed by the Commission
- Primary energy target values have to be set in kWh/m<sup>2</sup>
- Different target values for new and existing buildings
- Specific regulations for building envelope and HVAC systems for renovated buildings



European Union



# Zero Energy Building in Europe

**In the directive ‘nearly zero-energy building’ means: “a building that has a very high energy performance. The nearly zero or very low amount of energy required should be covered to a very significant extent by energy from renewable sources, including energy from renewable sources produced on-site or nearby”.**

Since the Commission does not give minimum or maximum harmonized requirements, it will be up to the **Member States to define what for them exactly constitutes a “very high energy performance“ on the base of the cost optimal performance level.**

EPBD recast instructs Member States on how to set energy performance requirements: “with a view to achieving cost optimal levels”

**Cost optimal = “the energy performance that leads to the lowest cost during the estimated economic lifecycle” (the latter determined by Member States)**



European Union

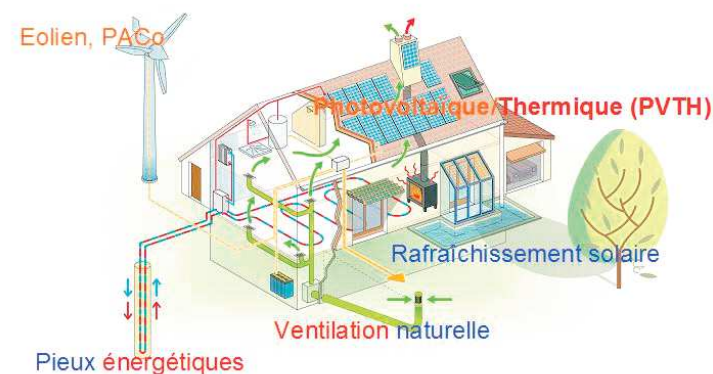
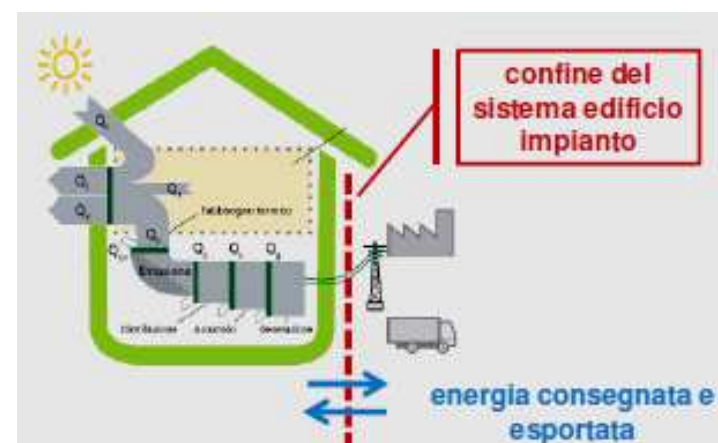


# Edifici n-ZEB: DL 90/2013

## Art. 2.

“**edificio a energia quasi zero**”:  
**edificio ad altissima prestazione energetica**,  
calcolata conformemente alle disposizioni  
del presente decreto, che rispetta i requisiti  
definiti al D.Lgs. 192 di cui all'articolo 4,  
comma 1.

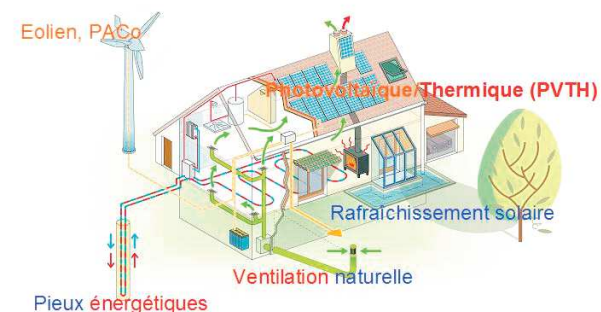
Il fabbisogno energetico molto basso o quasi  
nullo è coperto in misura **significativa da  
energia da fonti rinnovabili, prodotta  
all'interno del confine del sistema (in situ)**.



# Edifici n-ZEB DM 26/6/2015

Nel **DM 26/6/2015** sono “**edifici a energia quasi zero**” tutti gli edifici, siano essi di nuova costruzione o esistenti, per cui sono **contemporaneamente rispettati**:

- a) **tutti i requisiti previsti** dalla lettera b), del comma 2, del paragrafo 3.3 determinati con i valori vigenti **dal 1 gennaio 2019 per gli edifici pubblici** e **dal 1 gennaio 2021 per tutti gli altri edifici**;
- b) **gli obblighi di integrazione delle fonti rinnovabili** nel rispetto dei **principi minimi di cui all'Allegato 3**, paragrafo 1, lettera c), del **Decreto Legislativo 3 marzo 2011**, n. 28 (ricorso di energia prodotta da rinnovabili per coprire il 50% del consumo di acqua calda sanitaria e il 50% dei consumi globali per riscaldamento, condizionamento e acqua calda sanitaria).





# Edifici n-ZEB DM 26/6/2015

## EDIFICIO AD ENERGIA QUASI ZERO "NZEB"



Direttiva 2010/31/UE

### Art.2 Definizioni

«edificio a energia quasi zero»:

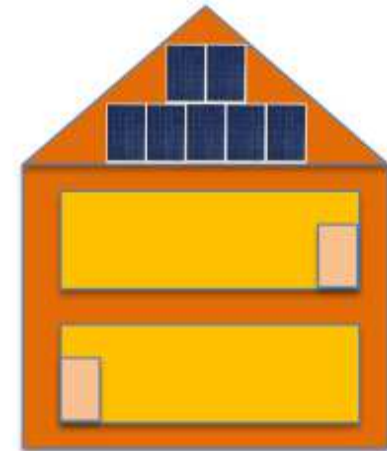
Edificio con **fabbisogno energetico molto basso** e coperto in misura **molto significativa** da energia **da fonti rinnovabili**



DM Requisiti - Allegato 1

Edificio che rispetta **tutti i requisiti** previsti al 2019/21 e gli **obblighi di integrazione delle fonti rinnovabili**

Edificio di riferimento  
con parametri al  
2019/21  
+  
FER



# Edifici n-ZEB DM 26/6/2015



- Parametri termofisici ed impiantistici al 2019/21
- 50% ACS da FER
- 50% (ACS+Risc+Raffr) da FER

Zona climatica	U (W/m <sup>2</sup> K)		
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	
A e B	0,45	0,43	
C	0,38	0,34	
D	0,34	0,29	
E	0,30	0,26	0,34
F	0,28	0,24	0,33

OPACHE VERTICALI

Zona climatica	U (W/m <sup>2</sup> K)		
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	
A e B	0,38	0,35	
C	0,36	0,33	
D	0,30	0,26	
E	0,25	0,22	0,30
F	0,23	0,20	0,29

COPERTURE OPACHE

Zona climatica	U (W/m <sup>2</sup> K)		
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	
A e B	0,46	0,44	
C	0,40	0,38	
D	0,32	0,29	
E	0,30	0,26	0,33
F	0,28	0,24	0,32

PAVIMENTI OPACHI

Zona climatica	U (W/m <sup>2</sup> K)		
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	
A e B	3,20	3,00	
C	2,40	2,20	
D	2,00	1,80	
E	1,80	1,40	2,2
F	1,50	1,10	2,0

CHIUSURE TECNICHE TRASPARENTI E OPACHE

Zona climatica	U (W/m <sup>2</sup> K)		
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>	
Tutte le zone	0,8	0,8	0,8

OPACHE DI SEPARAZIONE TRA EDIFICI O U.I.

Zona climatica	g <sub>gl+sh</sub>	
	2015 <sup>(1)</sup>	2019/2021 <sup>(2)</sup>
Tutte le zone	0,35	0,35

FATTORE TRASMISSIONE SOLARE PER FINESTRE S/E/O



# Edifici n-ZEB e NZEB

**nZEB = nearly zero energy building**

**NZEB = net zero energy building**

Il primo può includere il secondo

Il secondo può non soddisfare i requisiti del primo

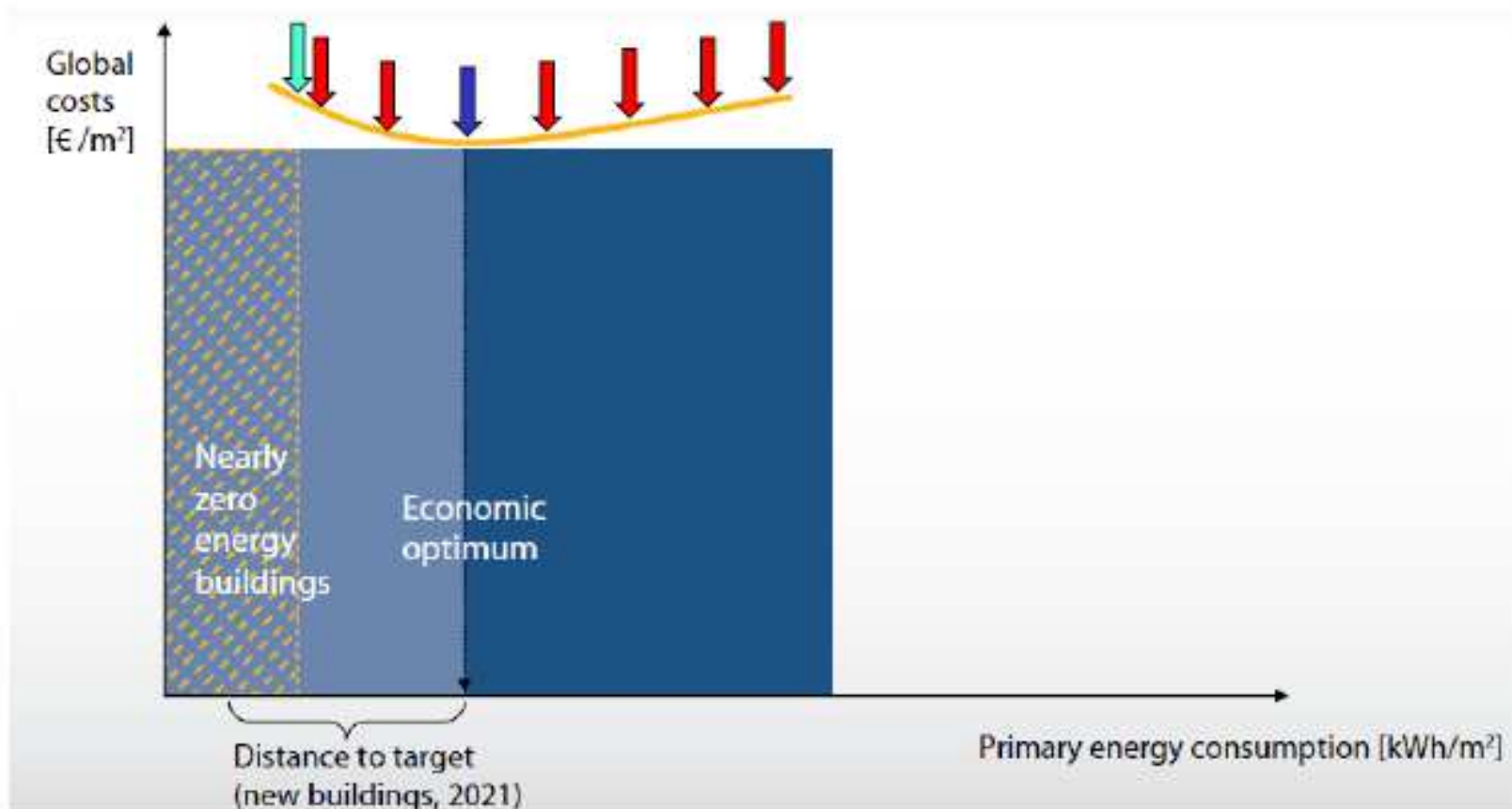
Posso definire l'edificio nZEB (nearly zero) tramite la relazione

$$0 < E_{p,x} < E_{p,x} \Big|_{\text{lim}}$$

Fissando  $E_{p,x} \Big|_{\text{lim}}$  mediante la procedura di cost optimality

(x = generico servizio)

# Zero Energy Building: cost optimal calculation



Source: The Buildings Performance Institute Europe (BPIE):  
[http://dl.dropbox.com/u/4399528/BPIE/BPIE\\_costoptimality\\_publication2010.pdf](http://dl.dropbox.com/u/4399528/BPIE/BPIE_costoptimality_publication2010.pdf)