

# *Passive Buildings as baseline for the new grid*

**PANEL C1: We Are Building Tomorrow Today**  
*MIDWEST ENERGY SOLUTIONS CONFERENCE 2020*

*February 27, 2020*

**Lisa White, Associate Director**  
**Passive House Institute US**

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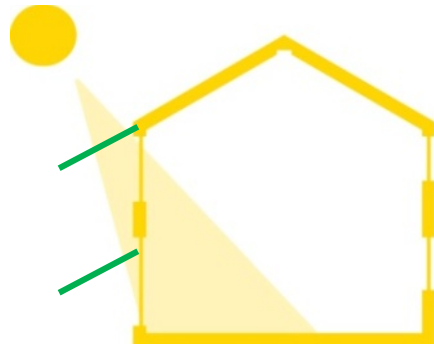
# PASSIVE BUILDING PRINCIPLES

## Thermal Control



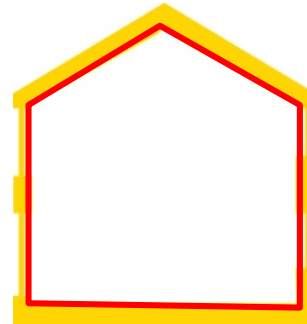
CONTINUOUS  
INSULATION

## Radiation Control



OPTIMIZED  
WINDOWS  
& SOLAR  
GAINS

## Air Control



AIR-TIGHT  
CONSTRUCTION



BALANCED  
VENTILATION  
WITH HEAT  
RECOVERY



MINIMIZED  
MECHANICAL  
SYSTEMS

# PHIUS+2018

A *performance* based  
***passive building standard***  
with *prescriptive*  
requirements.

<https://www.phius.org/phius-certification-for-buildings-products/project-certification/phius-2018-getting-to-zero>

PHIUS+ 2018

Space Conditioning Criteria Calculator v2

METHOD:

CALCULATOR

UNITS:

IMPERIAL (IP)

STATE / PROVINCE

ILLINOIS

CITY

CHICAGO MIDWAY AP

Envelope Area (ft<sup>2</sup>) / iCFA (ft<sup>2</sup>)

1.10

or enter here:

iCFA (ft<sup>2</sup>) / person

405

or enter here:

\*Calculator method is used for official certification targets.

Space Conditioning Criteria

Annual Heating Demand	4.6	kBTU/ft <sup>2</sup> yr
Annual Cooling Demand	5.7	kBTU/ft <sup>2</sup> yr
Peak Heating Load	5.0	BTU/ft <sup>2</sup> hr
Peak Cooling Load	2.6	BTU/ft <sup>2</sup> hr

Typed entry will override sliding scale.

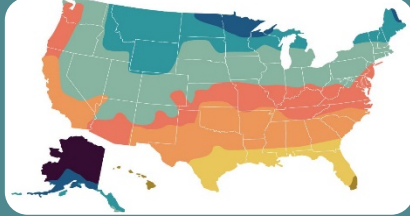
The results of the CALCULATOR method take precedence over the ESTIMATOR method.

Update

Reset

# MAIN CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PHIUS+ CERTIFICATIONS



## SPACE CONDITIONING TARGETS

- Based on cost optimization analysis
- Vary based on climate, occupant density, and envelope/floor area ratio



## AIR-TIGHTNESS

- 0.060 CFM50/ft<sup>2</sup> envelope area
- Required limit set based on building durability. Pass/Fail.



## ON-SITE QUALITY ASSURANCE TESTING/INSPECTION

- Ensure quality for elements not reflected in energy modeling
- Required for all projects

VARIES

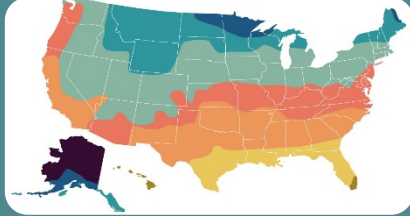


## NET SOURCE ENERGY TARGET

- Used instead of site energy as a better proxy for carbon emissions
- Target and renewable energy offsets vary based on program version

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## NET SOURCE ENERGY TARGET

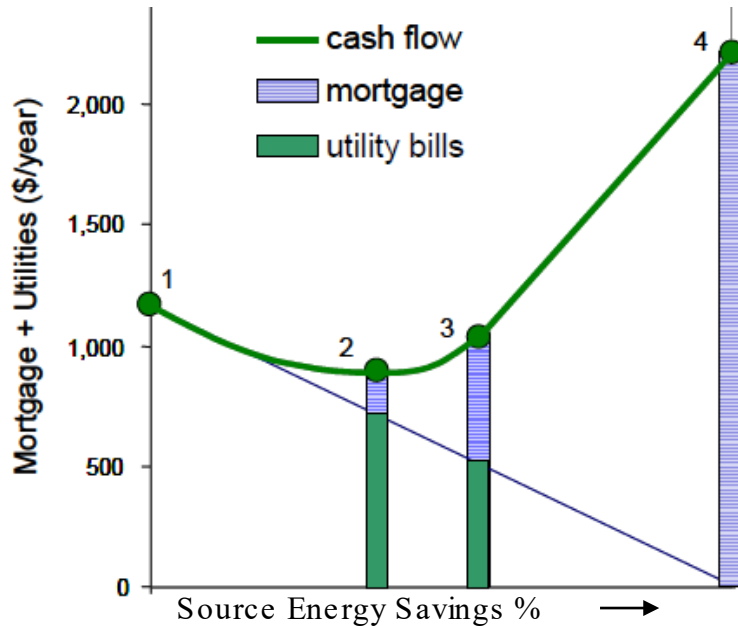
- Used instead of site energy as a better proxy for carbon emissions
- Target and renewable energy offsets vary based on program version

VARIES

How low can (and *should*) you  
go with passive measures,  
i.e. ***when to stop?***

# TARGET SETTING METHODOLOGY

## Setting Cost Competitive Space Conditioning Criteria



NREL BEopt optimizes upgrade package, set target at optimum point

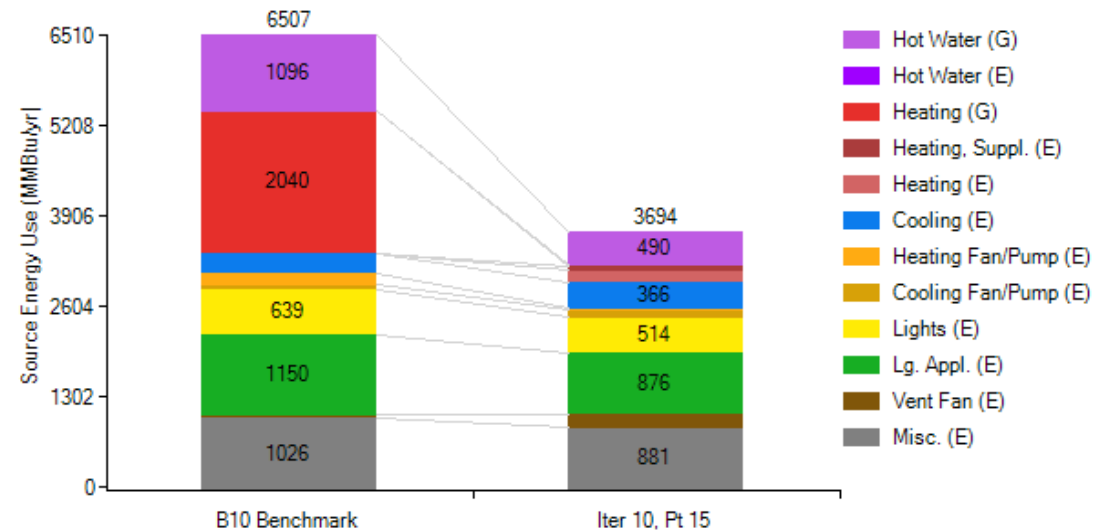
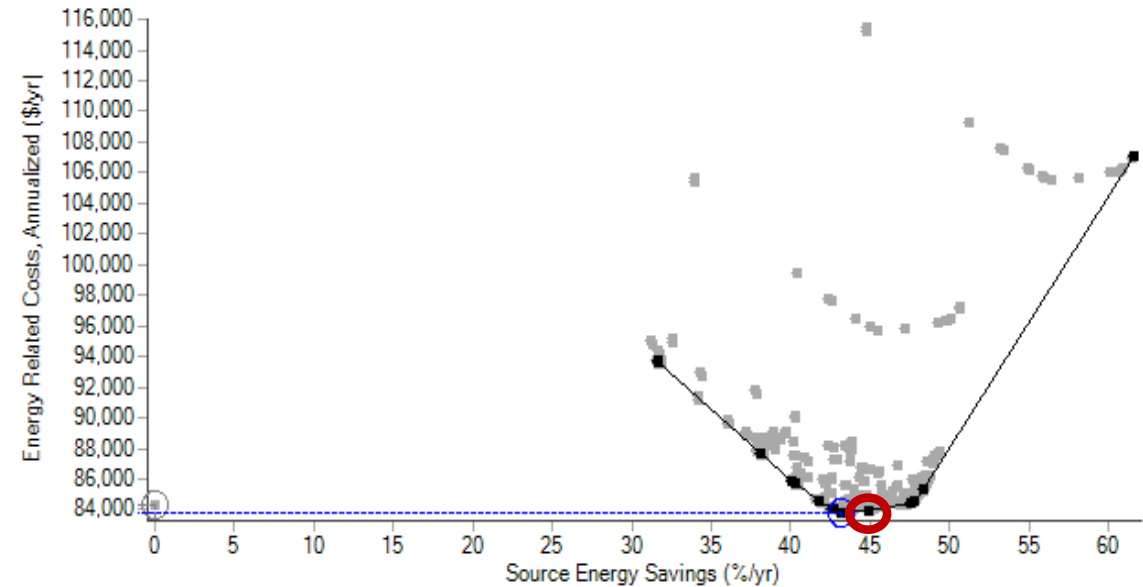
Factors:  
Climate  
Building Size  
Occupant Density

Ignore PV for space conditioning targets!!

Forced Constraints:  
Air-sealing (meet PHIUS+ target)  
Window performance (comfort & low loads)



# Cost optimal sweet-spot for investment in conservation





# First Passive, then Zero

Passive building provides a proven methodology for designing a Net Zero energy building.

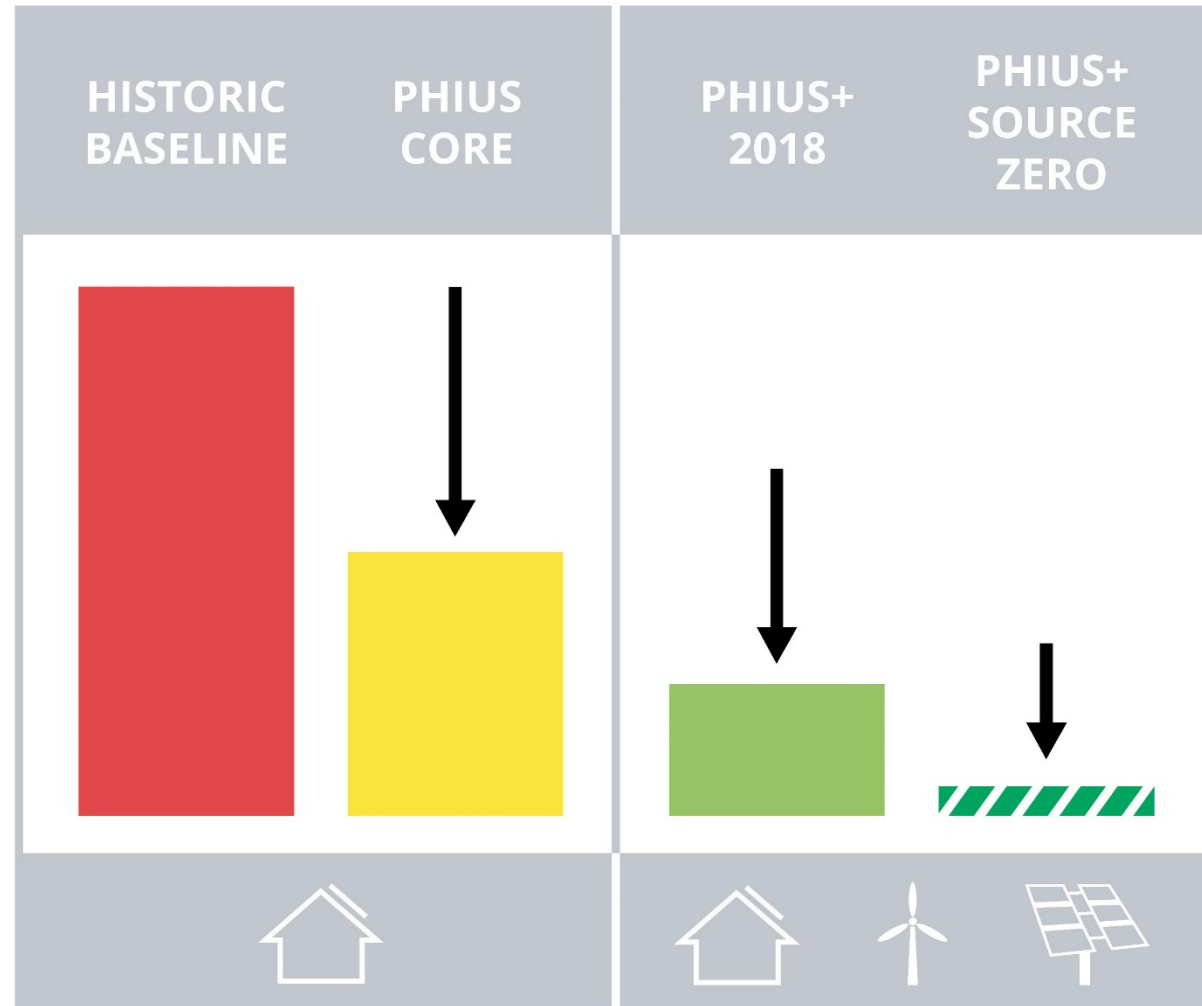
**Step 1** - Conservation - first through passive measures, then through active measures.

**Step 2** – Renewable Energy - on-site or off-site renewable energy to offset remaining energy use.

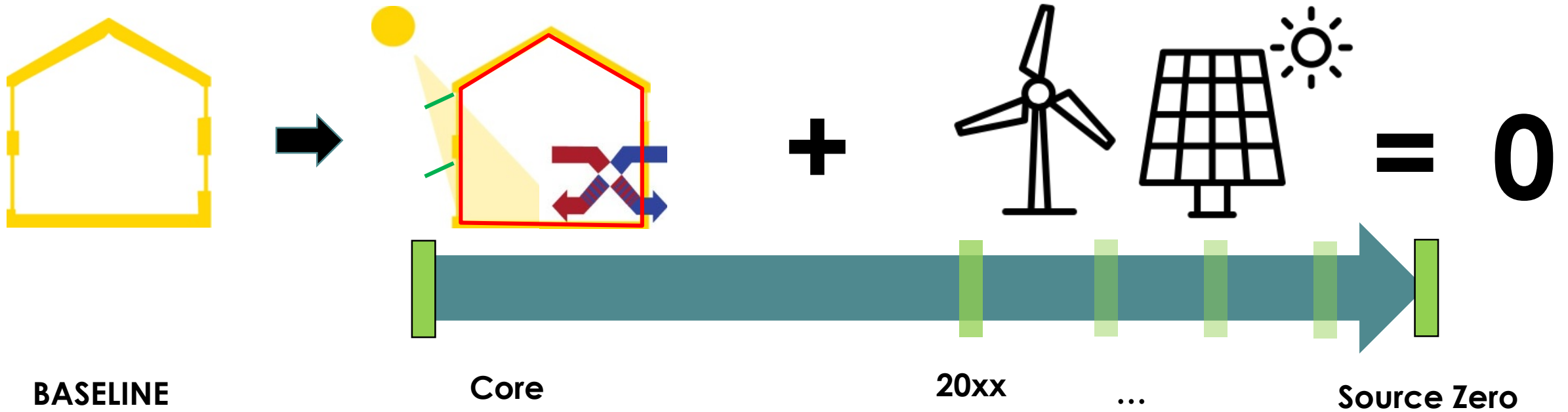
With reduced loads, less renewable energy is needed, and less grid support is needed when the building isn't powered by renewable energy production. **Conservation efforts up-front will be critical for the widespread facilitation of Net Zero buildings into the existing electric grid.**



# NET SOURCE ENERGY

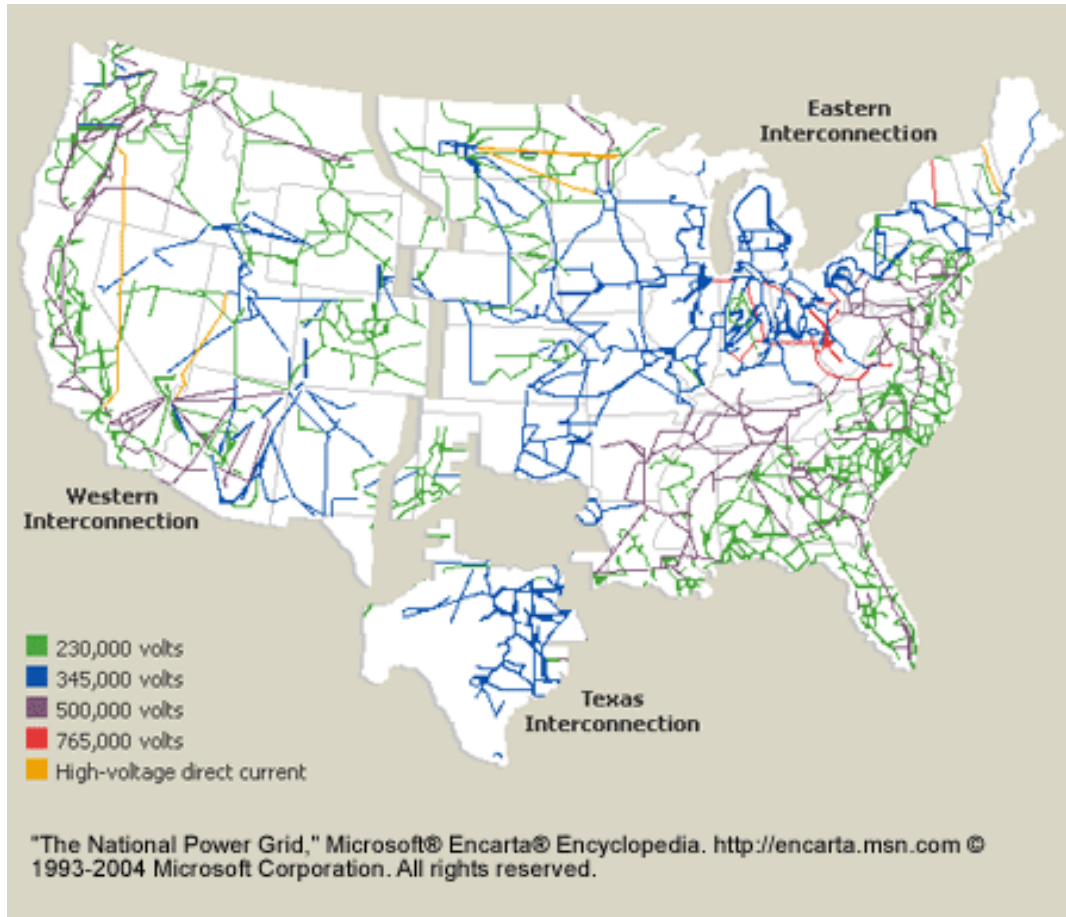


# NET SOURCE ENERGY GOALS

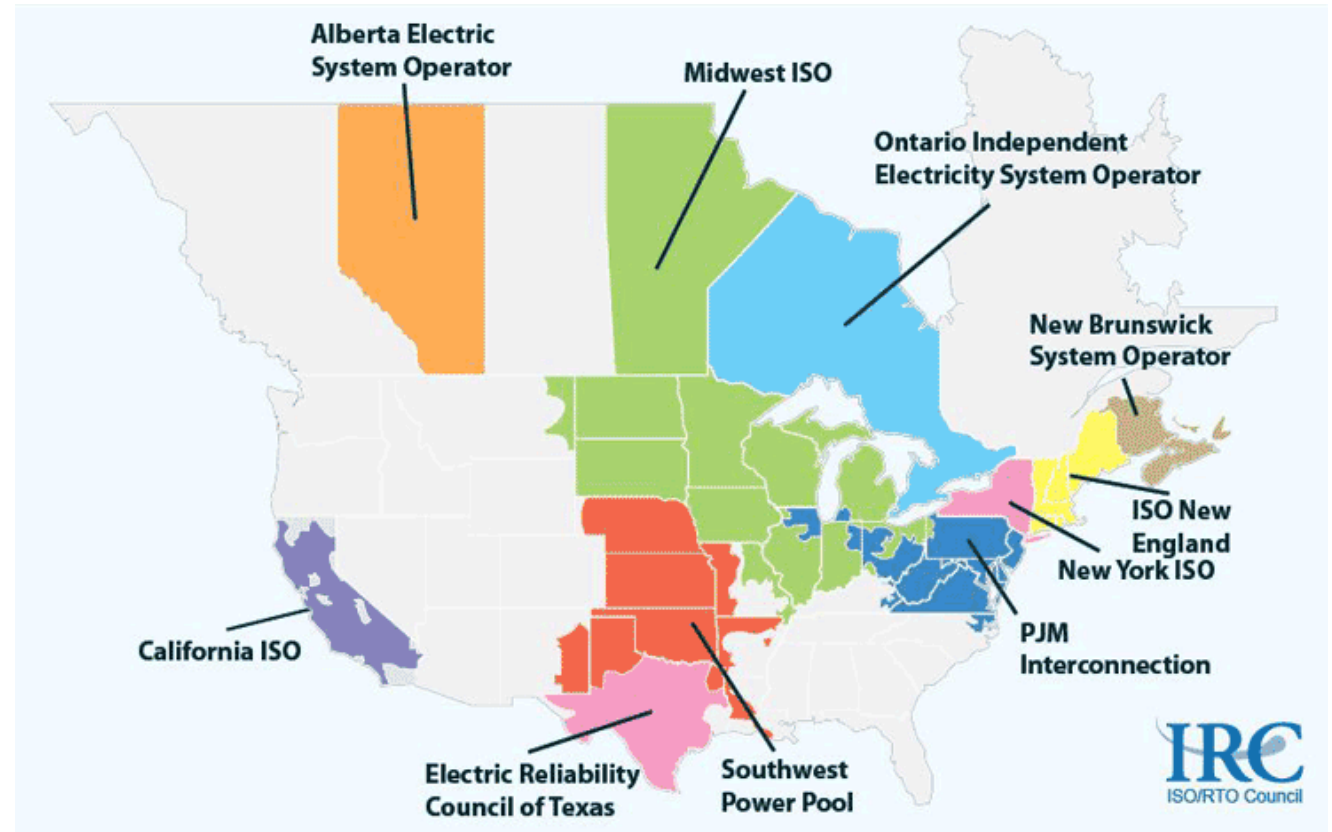


If PV was free (or very cheap),  
why would I invest in  
conservation at all?

# ***“The biggest machine on earth”***

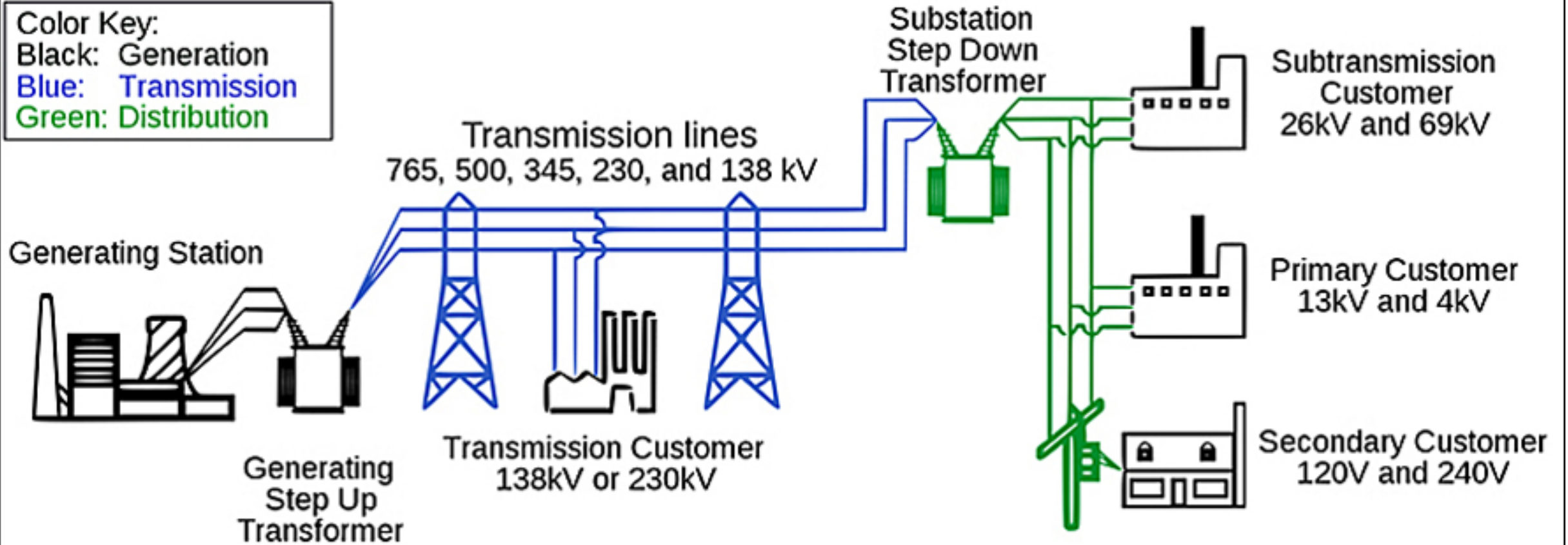


## **3 Interconnections**



## **ISO's (Independent Service Operators)**

Color Key:  
Black: Generation  
Blue: Transmission  
Green: Distribution



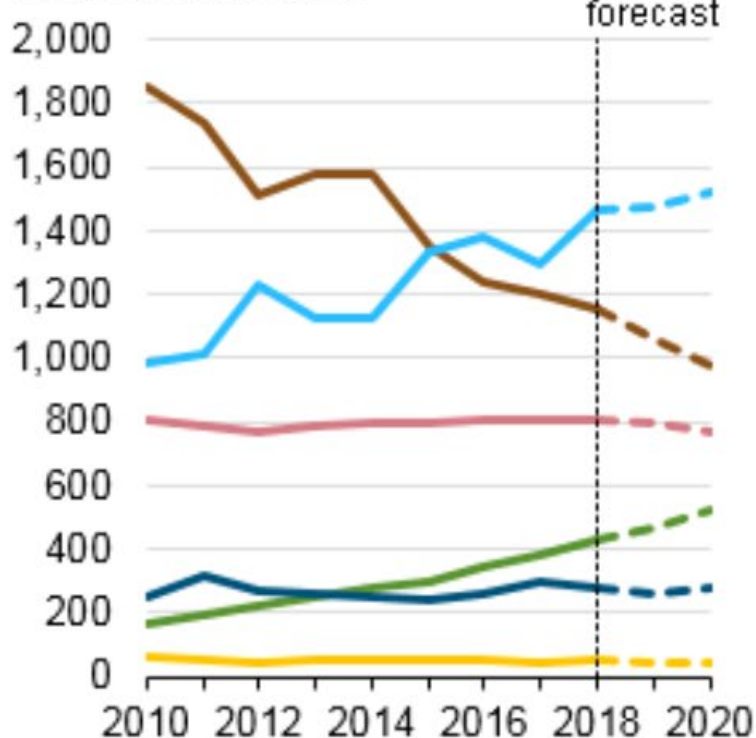
# CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE

# GENERATION RESOURCES

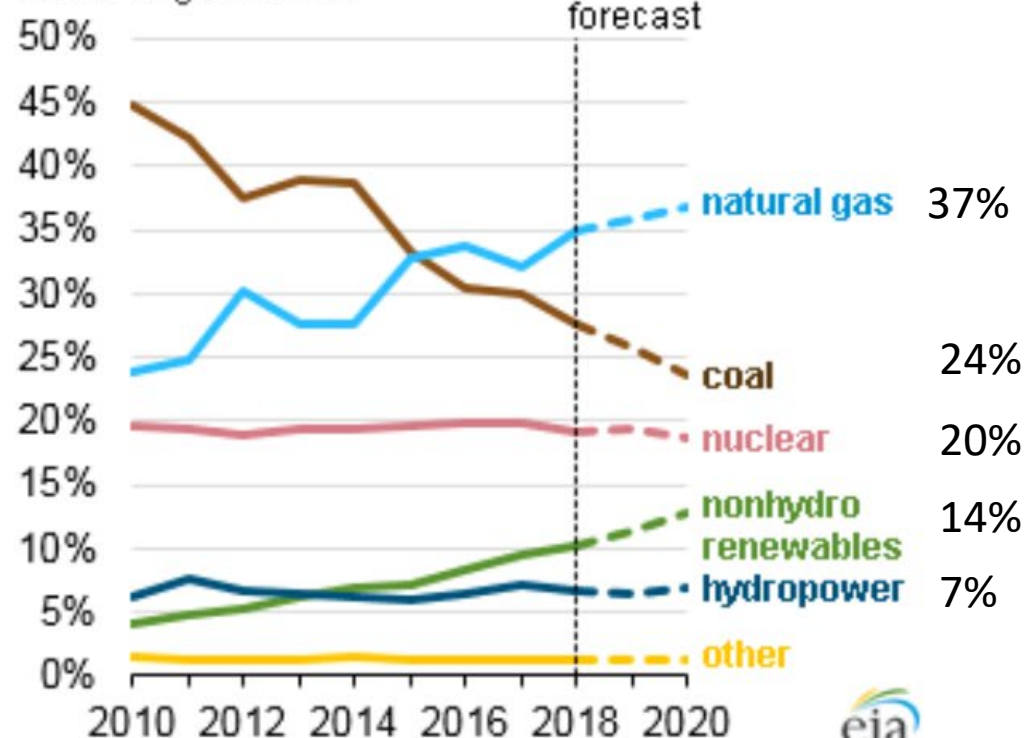
EIA forecasts renewables will be fastest growing source of electricity generation

**U.S. electricity generation by energy source (2010-2020)**

billion kilowatthours



share of generation



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [Short-Term Energy Outlook](#), January 2019

Note: Confidence interval derived from NYMEX options market information.



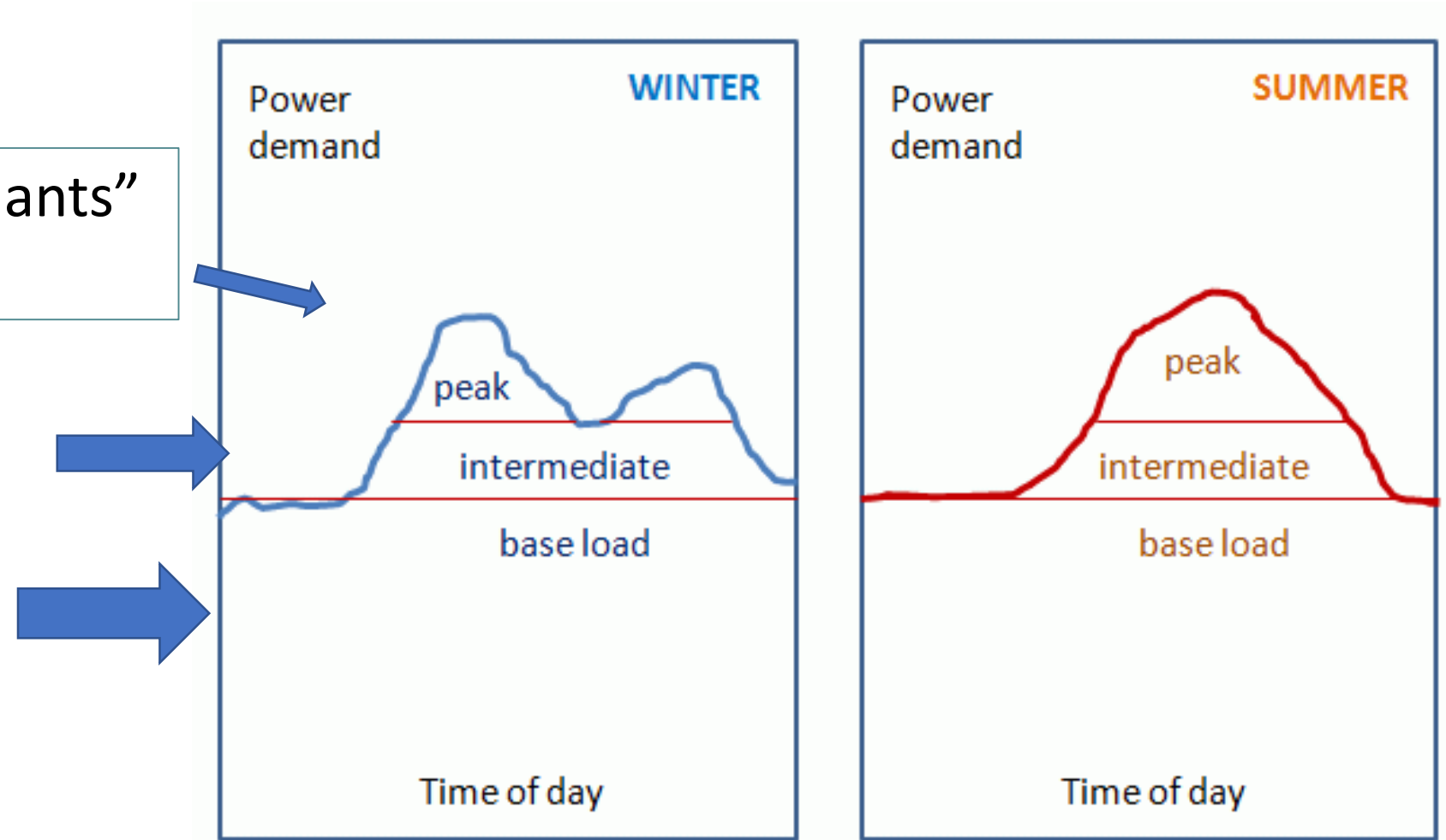


# SEASONAL LOAD PROFILES ON GRID

Natural gas “peaker plants”  
Hydro

Natural gas CC  
Some renewables

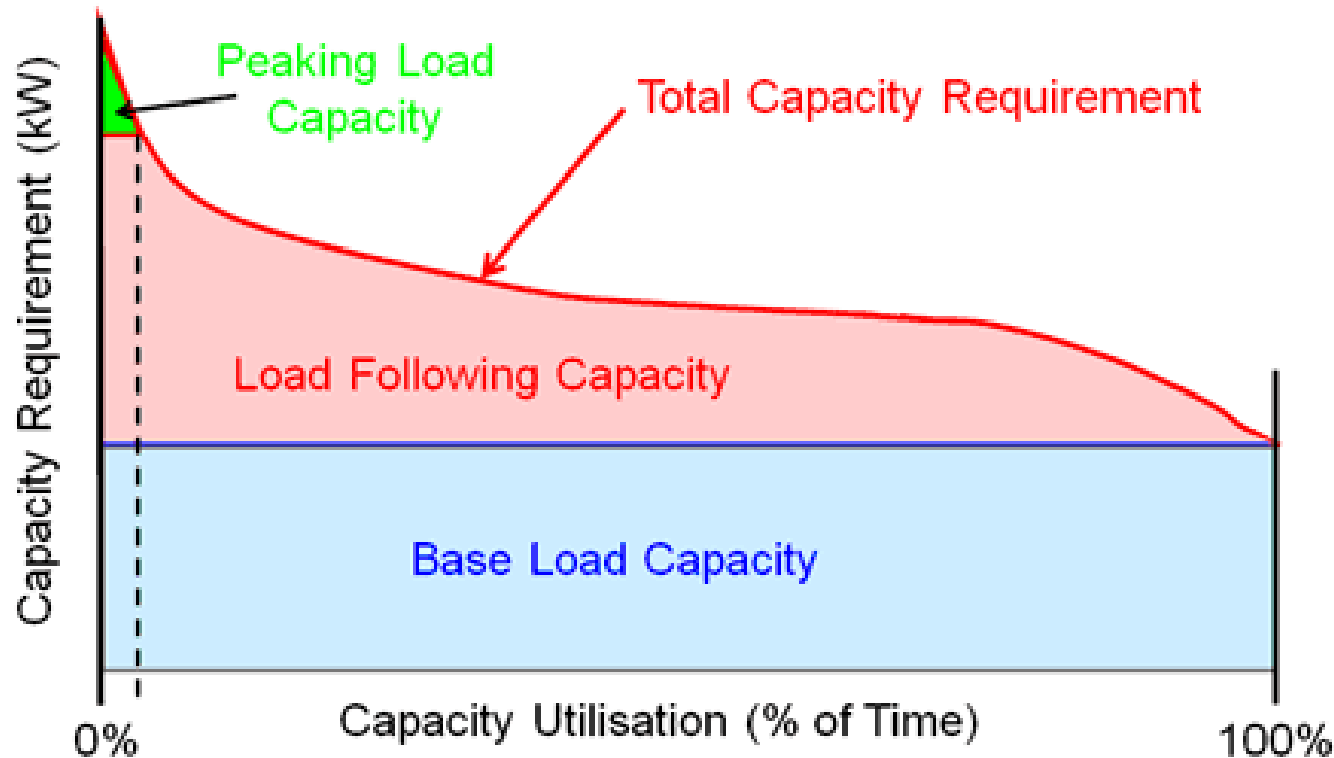
Coal  
Nuclear  
Some renewables



\*Baseload power is constrained to a constant output

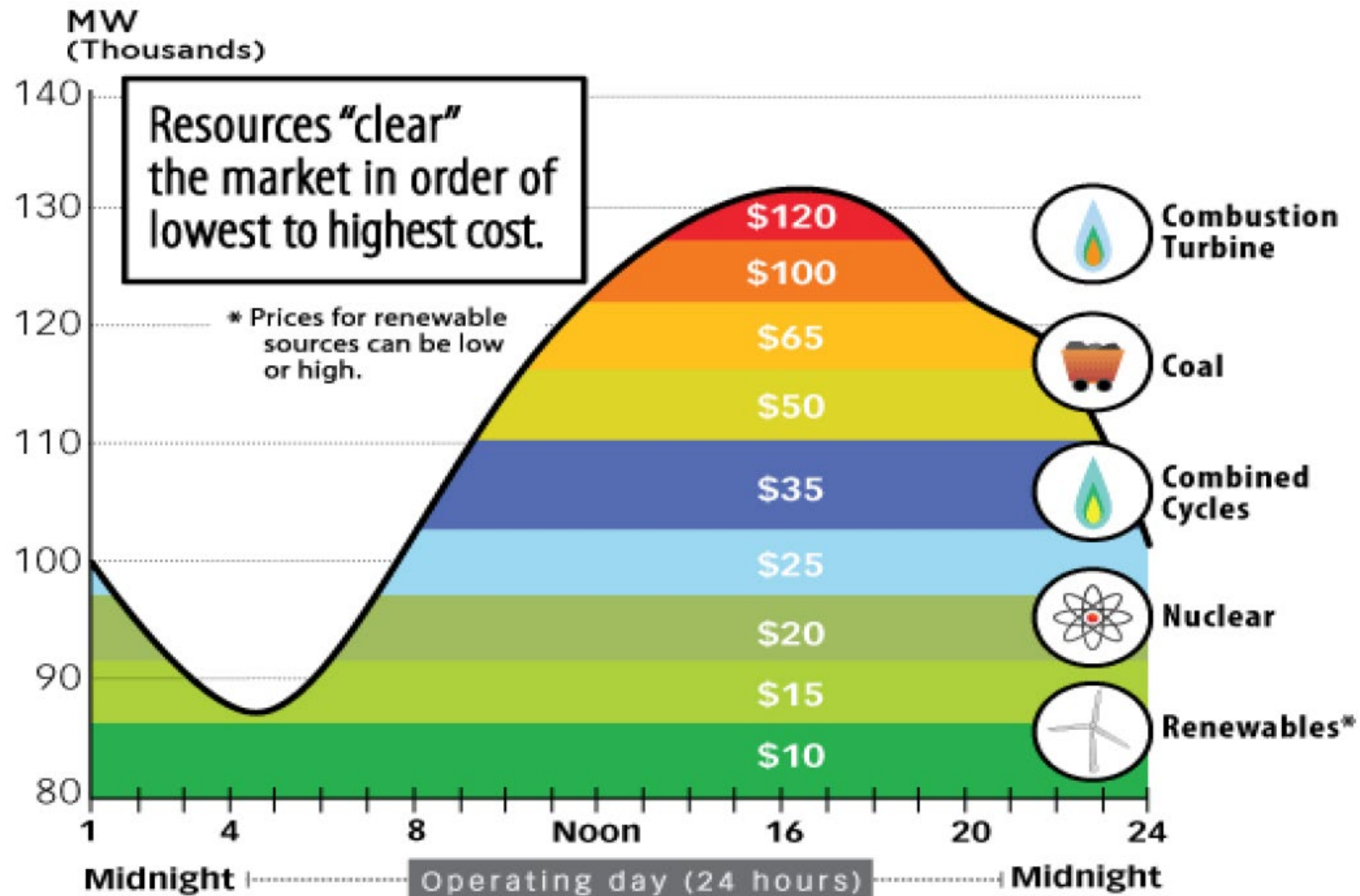


# Electricity Generation Sector – Load Duration Curve



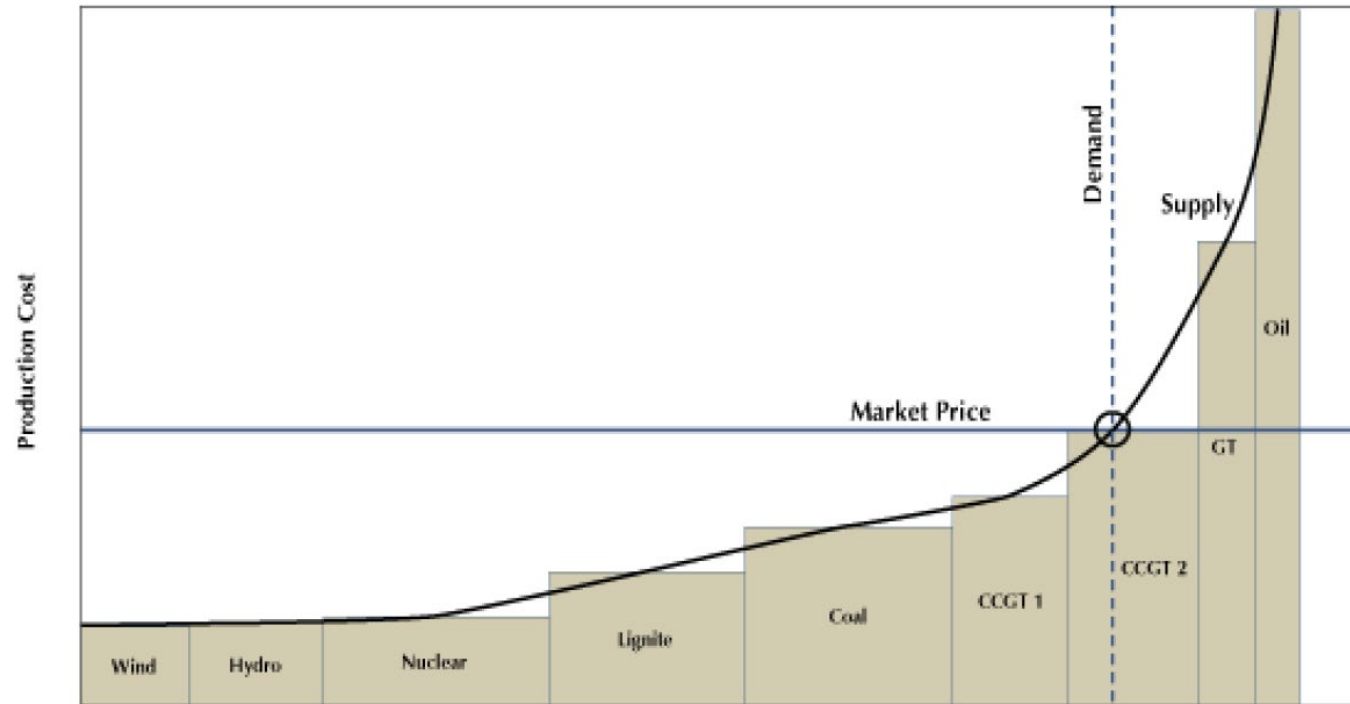
- US currently has about 1.2 TW of generating capacity
- 2.5x higher than what's used annually.
- Vehicles + building heating conversion to electricity may double consumption

# MEETING THE ELECTRIC LOAD

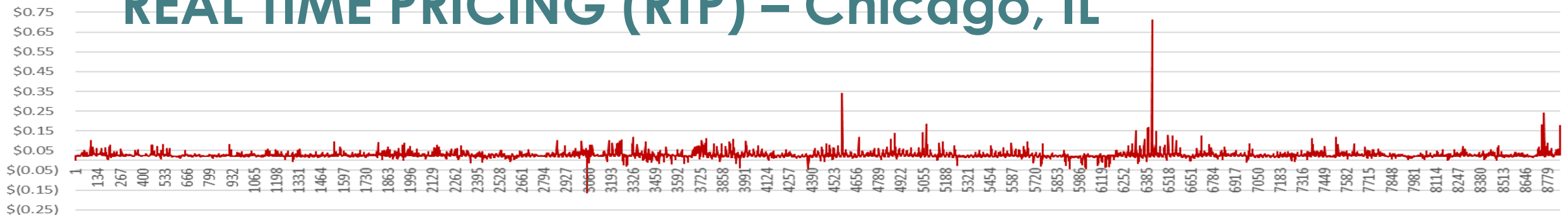


# Electricity Generation Sector - Scheduling

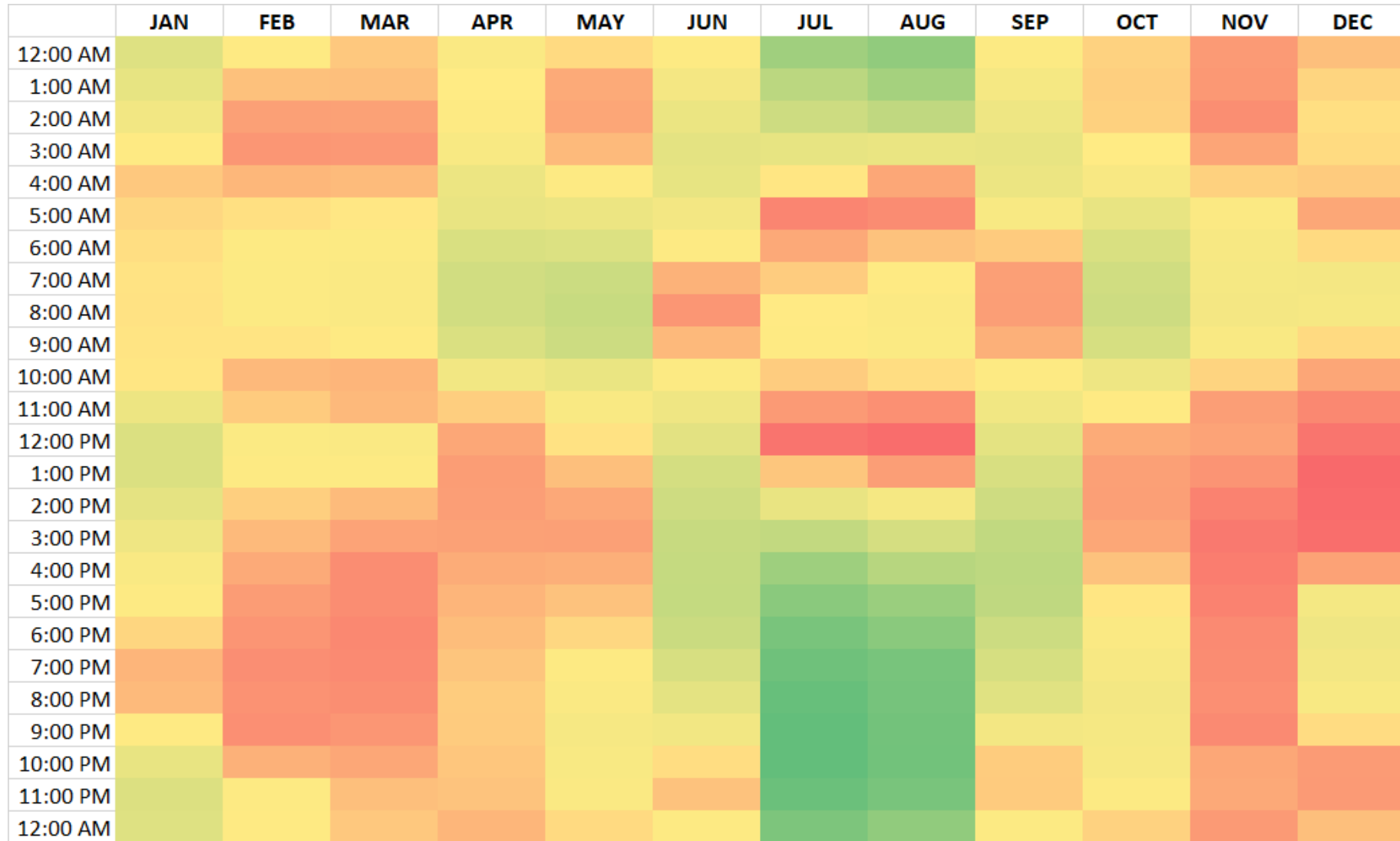
Image Source: Mark Pruitt



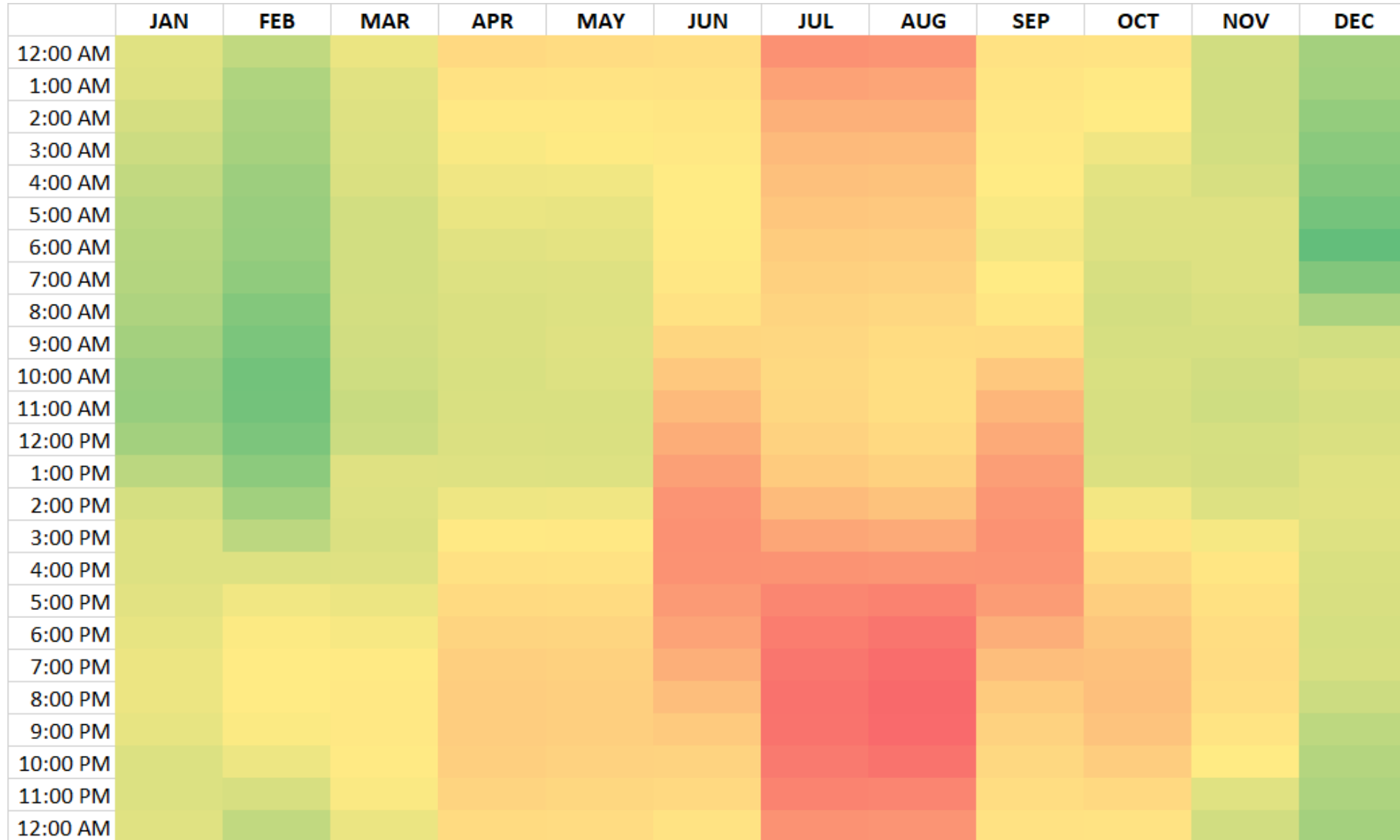
## REAL TIME PRICING (RTP) – Chicago, IL



# CHICAGO, IL - 2019

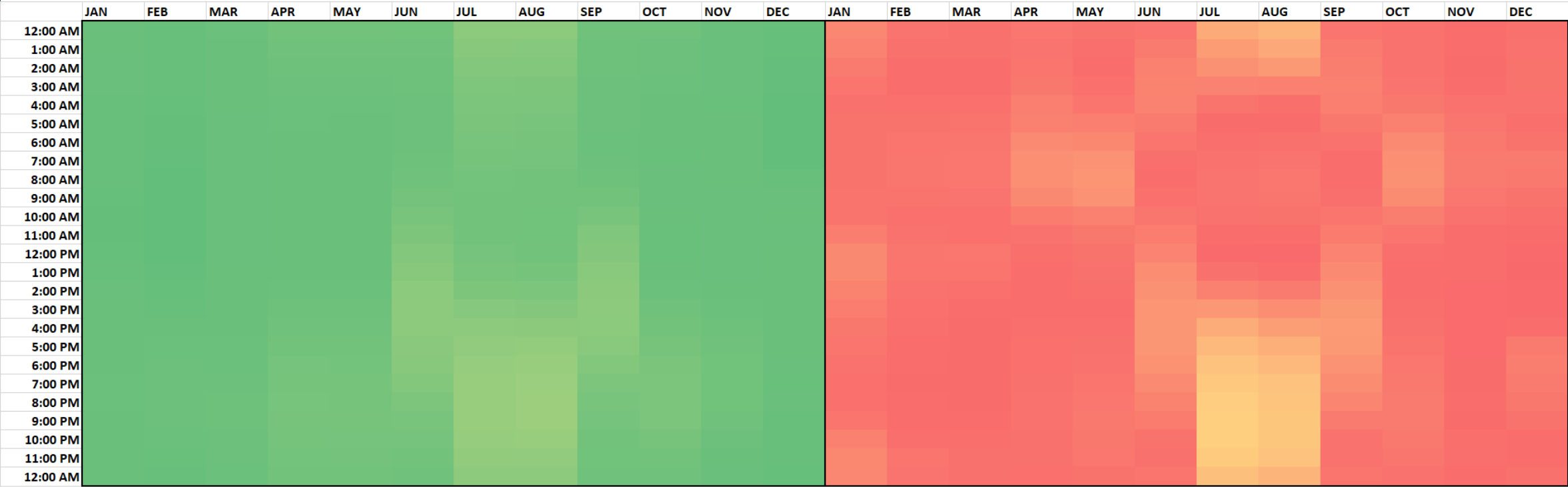


# LOS ANGELES, CA - 2019

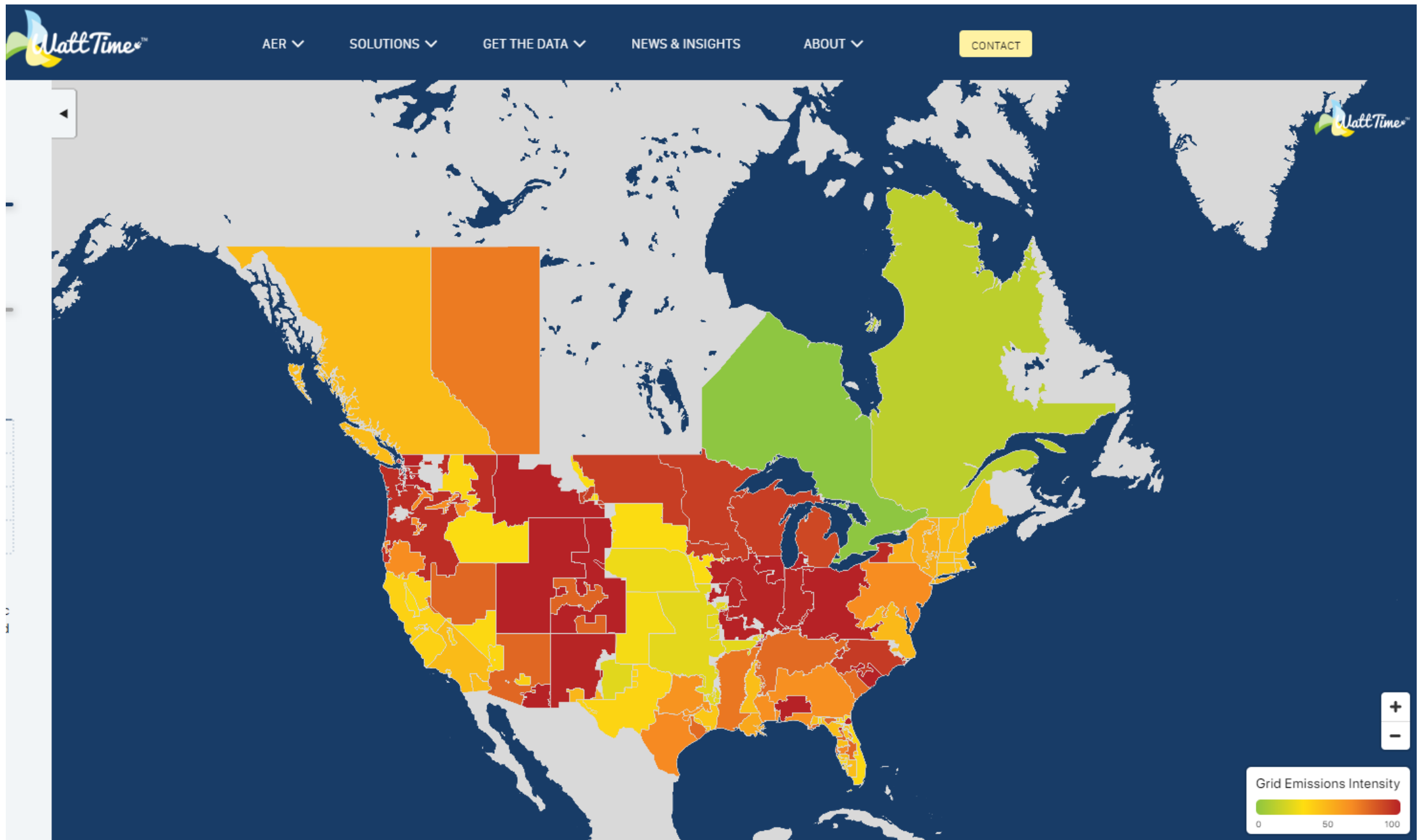


# LOS ANGELES, CA - 2019

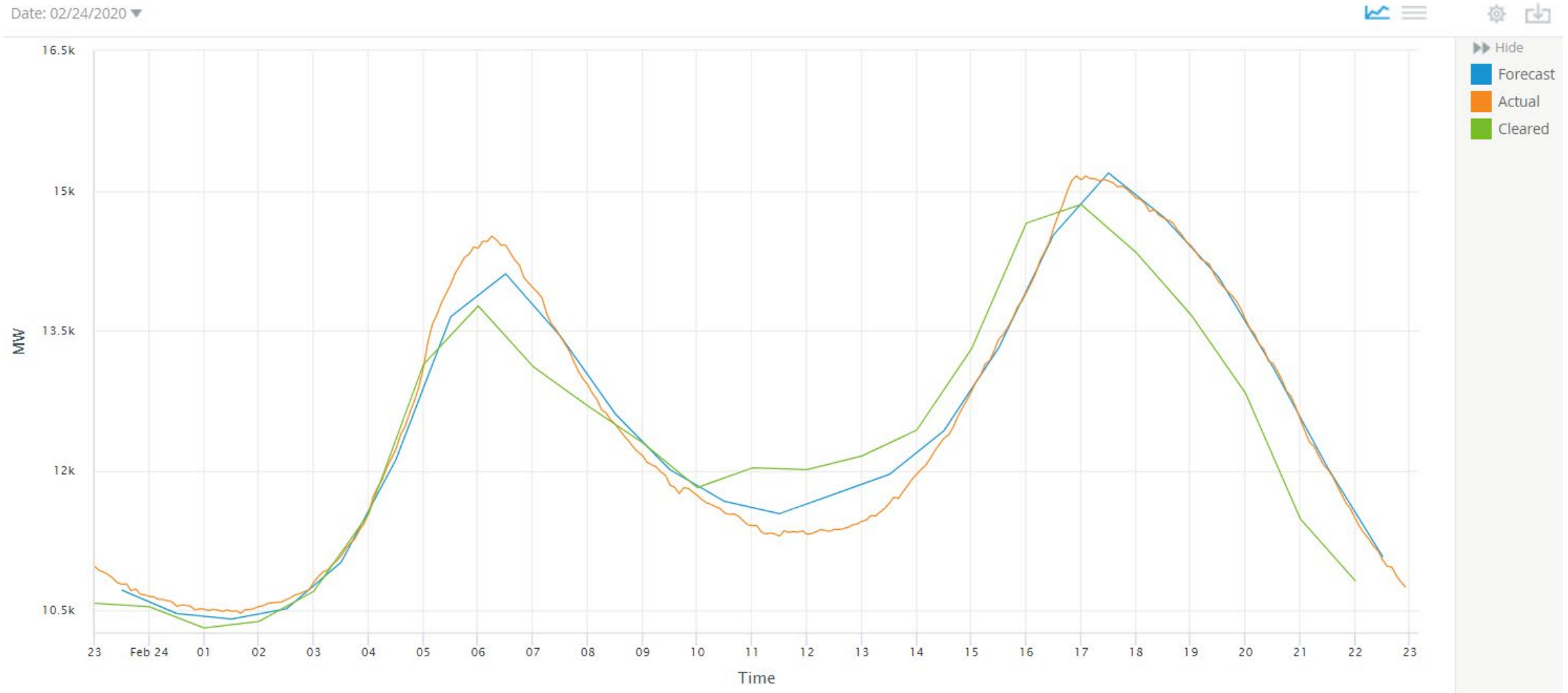
# CHICAGO, IL - 2019



# MARGINAL CARBON EMISSIONS

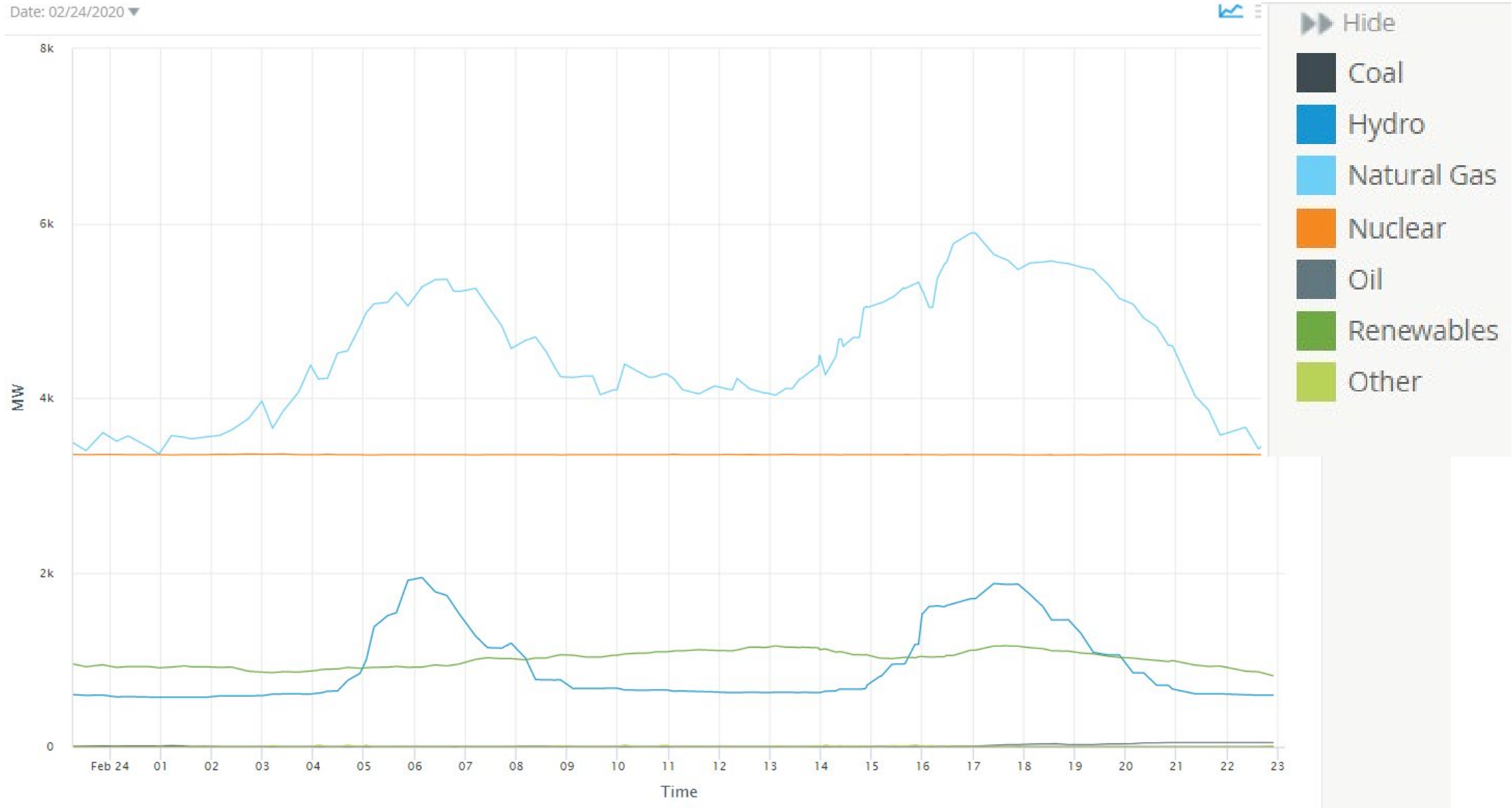


## New England ISO - February 24, 2020

Source: <https://www.iso-ne.com/isoexpress/>



## New England ISO - February 24, 2020



## ELECTRIFICATION

Critical to long-term carbon goals and will be a relevant distributed resource

### Key technologies:

Electric vehicles, vehicle to grid/home, smart charging, heat pumps



## DECENTRALIZATION

Makes customers active elements of the system, though requires significant coordination

### Key technologies:

energy efficiency, solar PV, distributed storage, microgrids, demand response,



## DIGITALIZATION

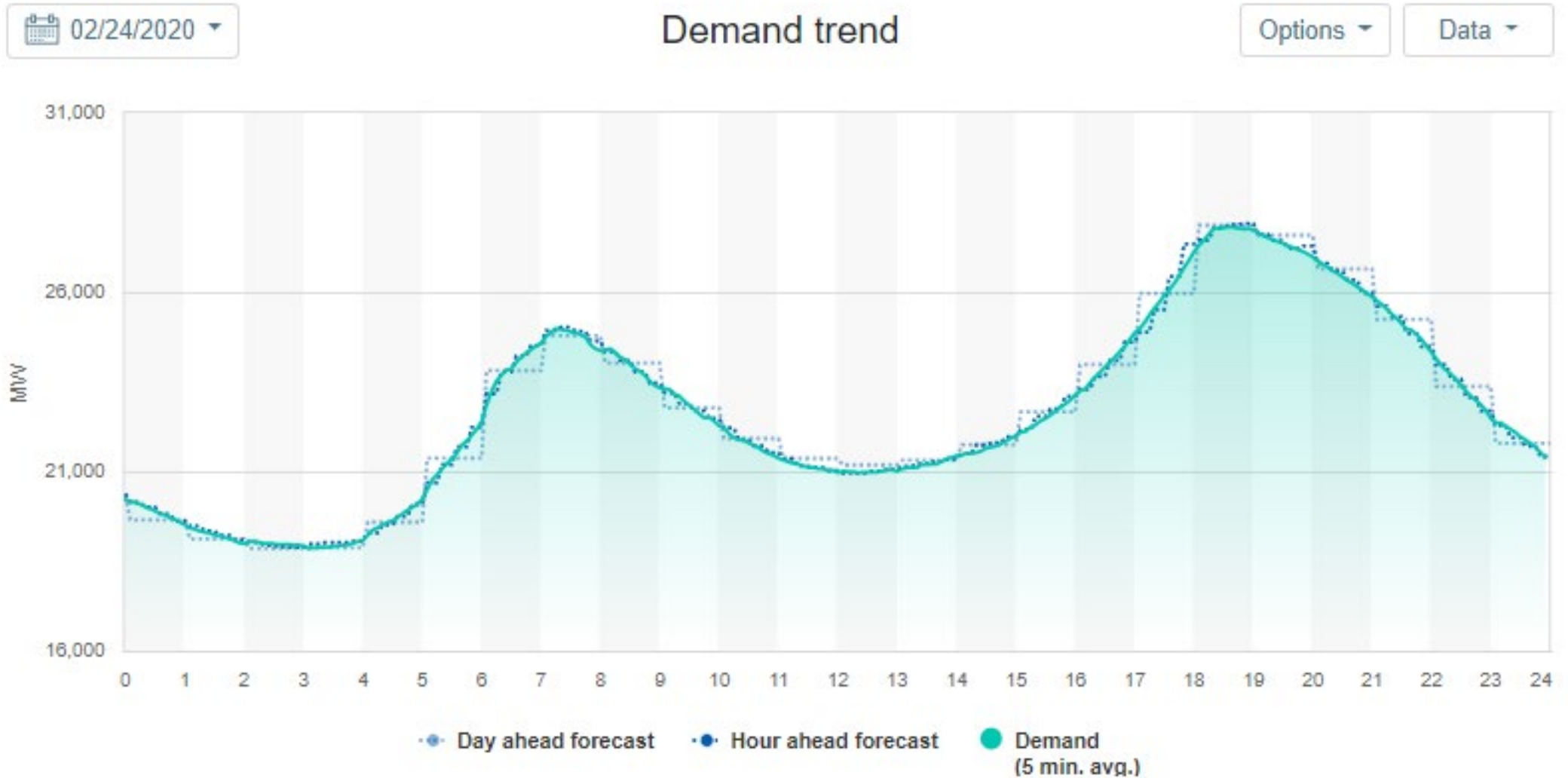
Allows for open, real-time, automated communication and operation of the system



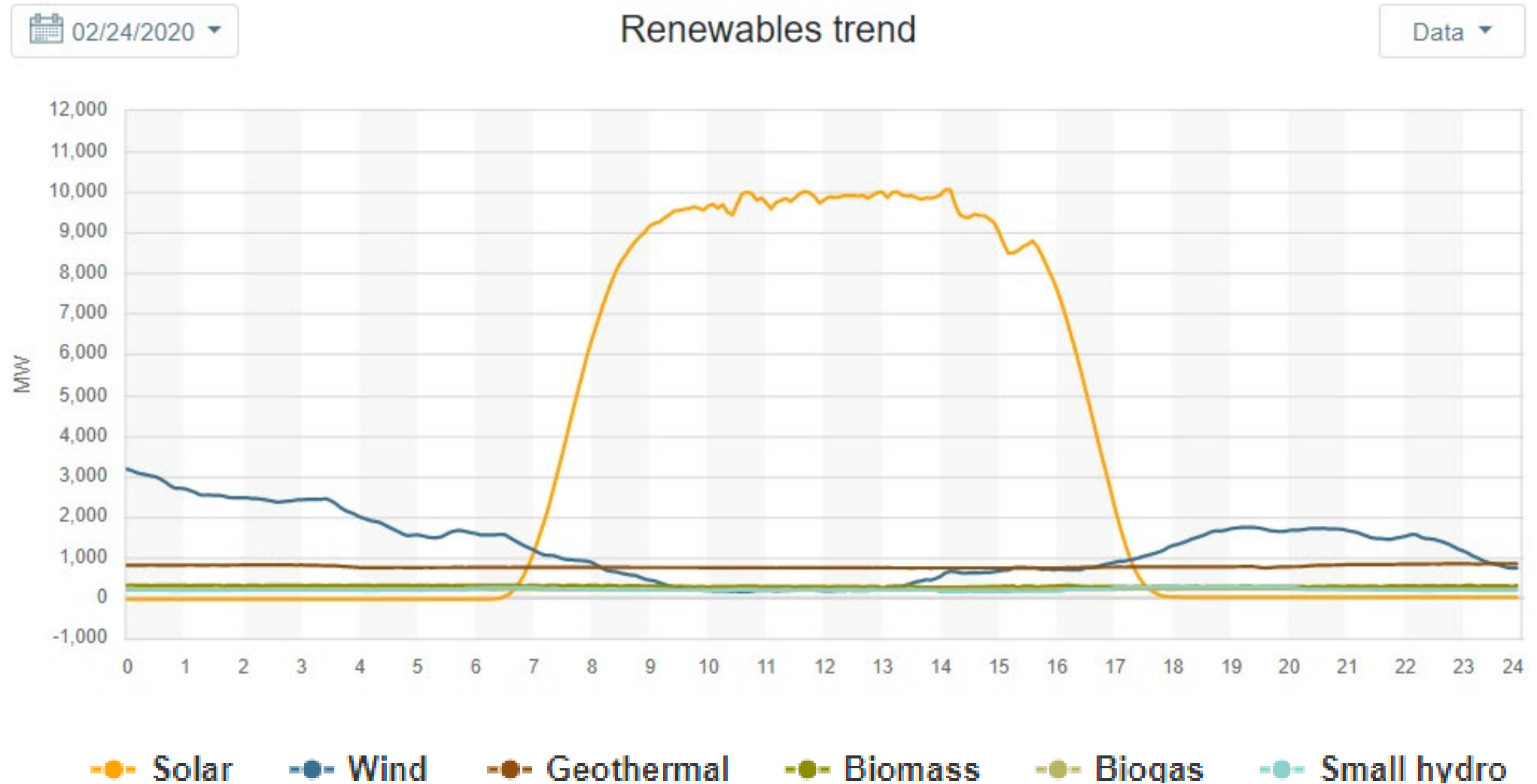
### Key technologies:

Network technologies (*smart metering, remote control and automation systems, smart sensors*) and beyond the meter (*optimization and aggregation platforms, smart appliances and devices, IoT*)

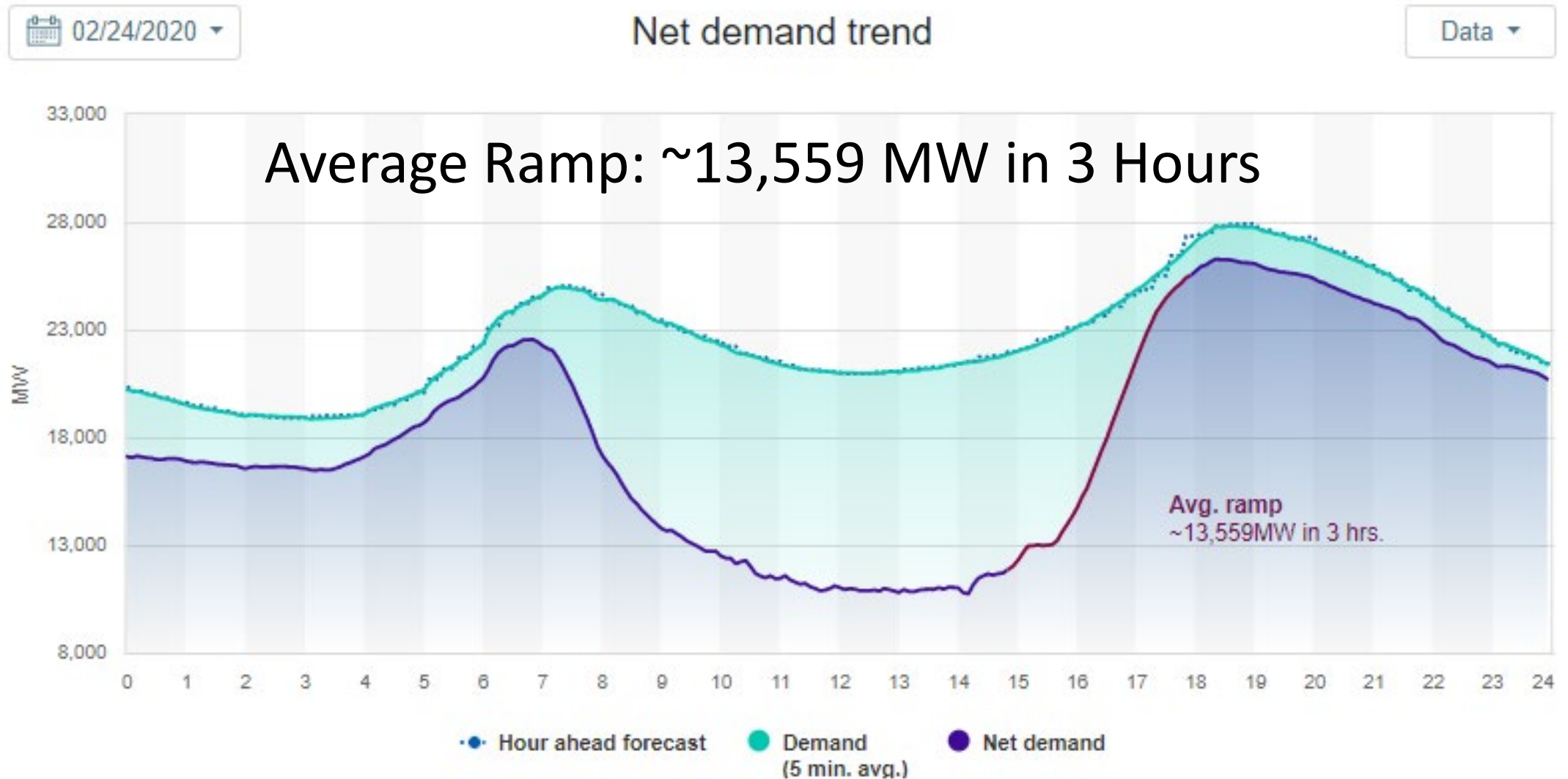
# California ISO (CAISO) – February 24, 2020



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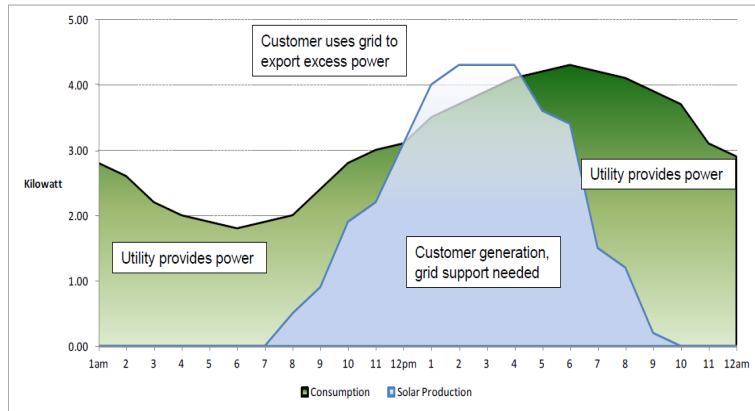
# California ISO (CAISO) – February 24, 2020



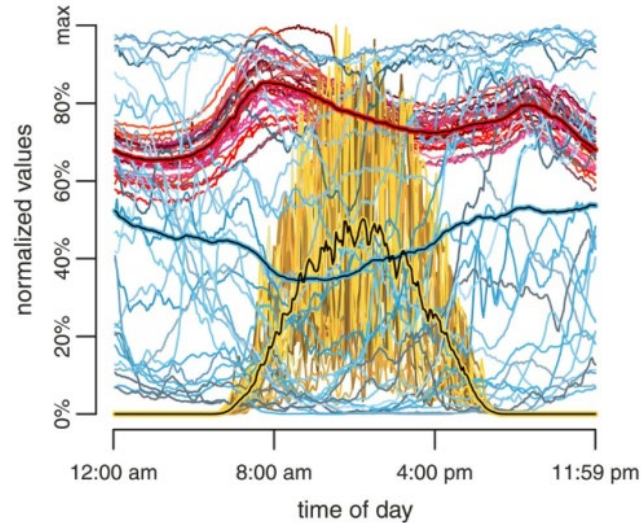
<http://www.caiso.com>



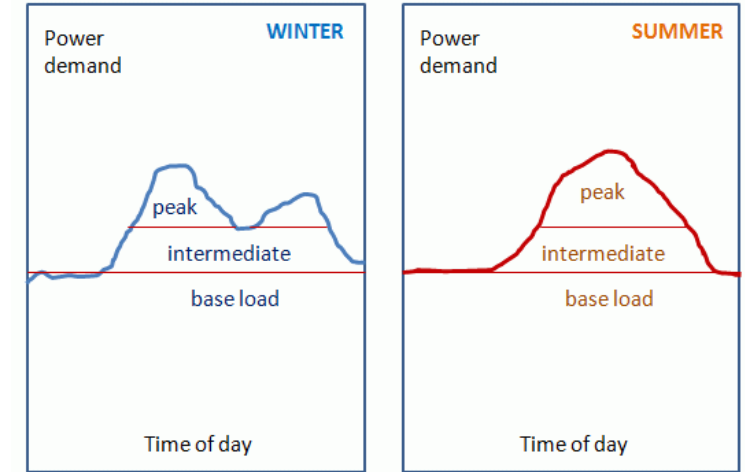
# CHALLENGES OF RENEWABLE ENERGY INTEGRATION



## MISMATCH

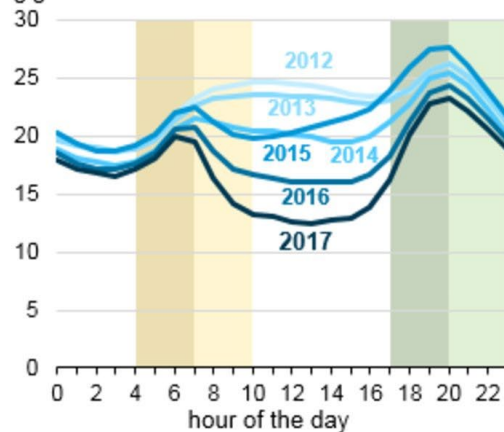


## INTERMITTENCY



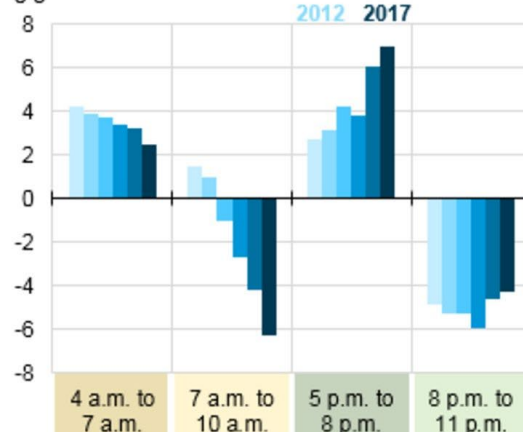
## BASELOAD CHALLENGES

California ISO average net electric load last week of March gigawatts

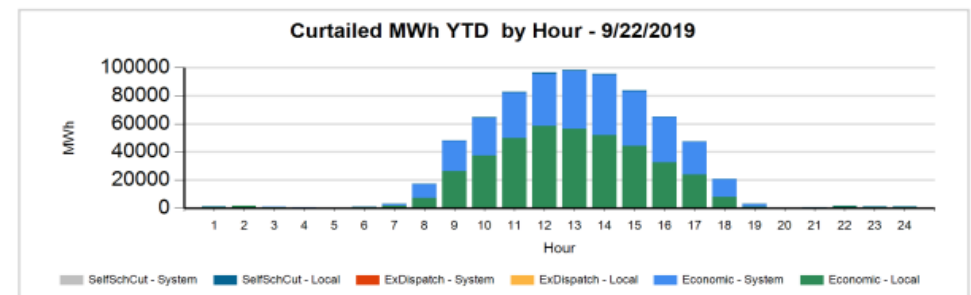
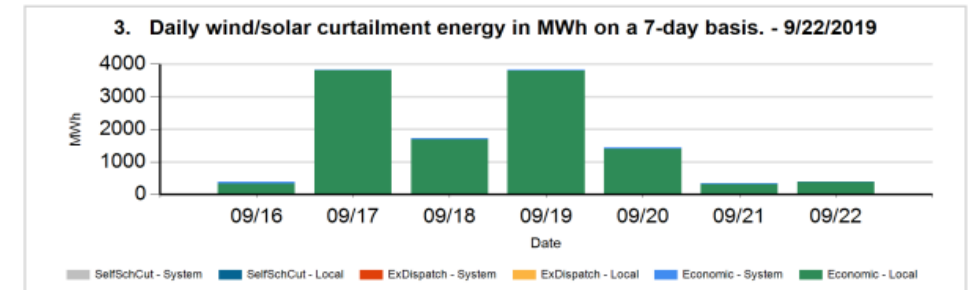


Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, based on [ABB Energy Velocity](#)

Net load change during ramping periods last week of March gigawatts



## NET LOAD/RAMPING



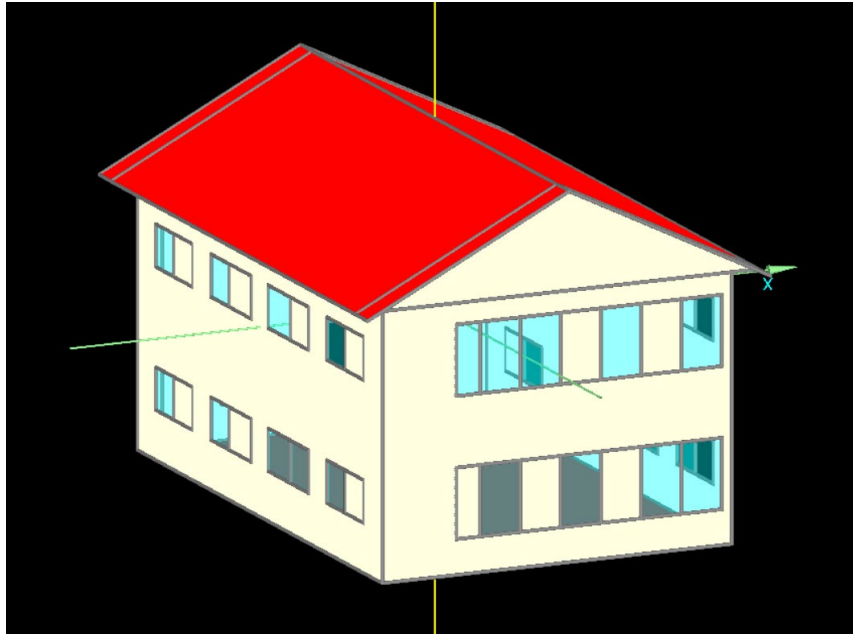
## CURTAILMENT

# “GRID-FRIENDLY” STRATEGIES

## *Passive at core*

1. Reduce overall electrical load / peak  
*Build passive*
2. Flatten daily electrical load curve  
*Build passive*
3. Reduce mismatch between on-site PV generation and energy use  
*Build passive*
4. Deploy flexibility/demand response systems  
*Better suited to passive buildings than conventional*
5. Control electric water heaters  
*Electric water heaters common in passive buildings*

# CASE STUDY PROTOTYPE – PEAK SHAVING



## Single Family building

Location: Minneapolis, MN

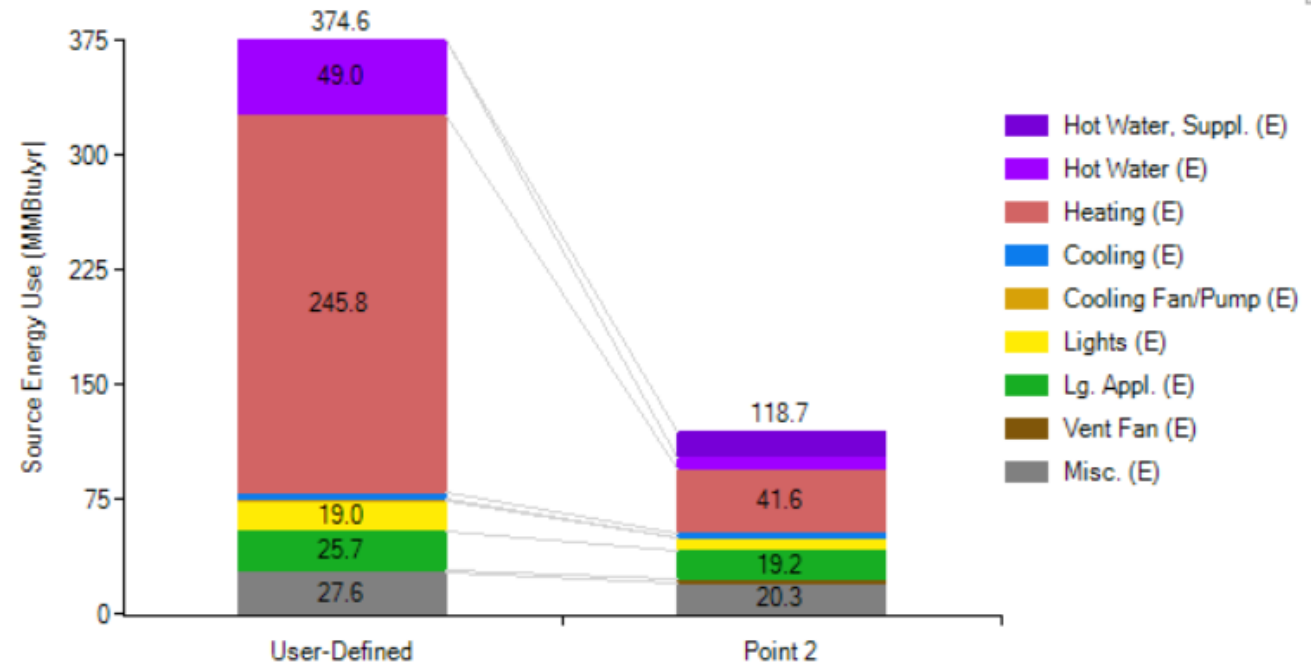
5 occupants, ~1,800 sf

All Electric – Elec resistance heating only

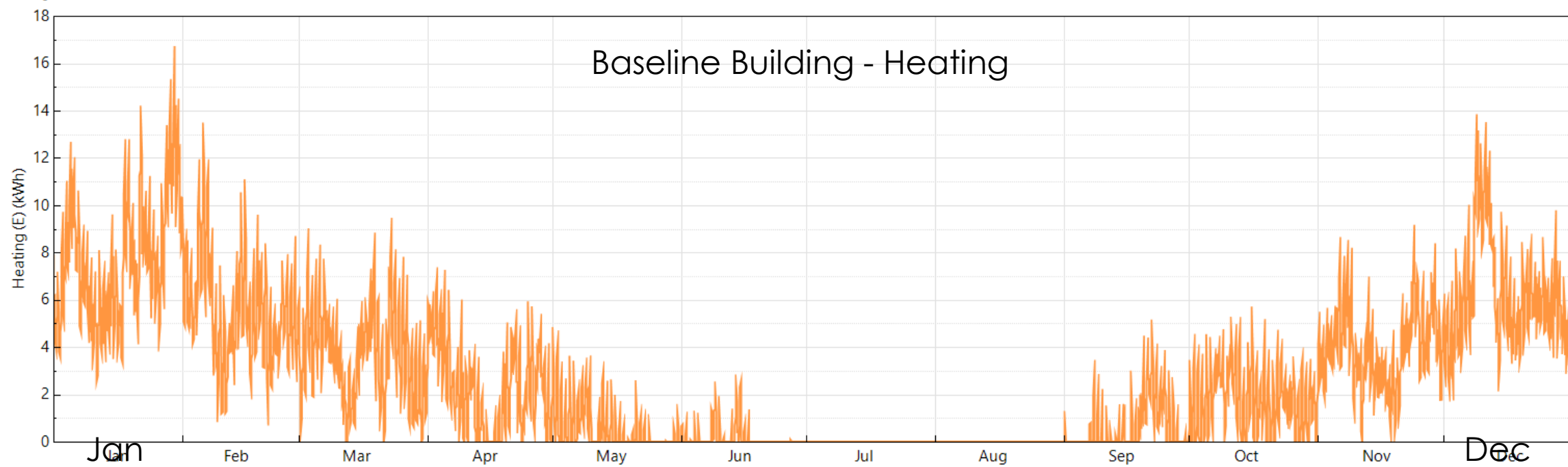
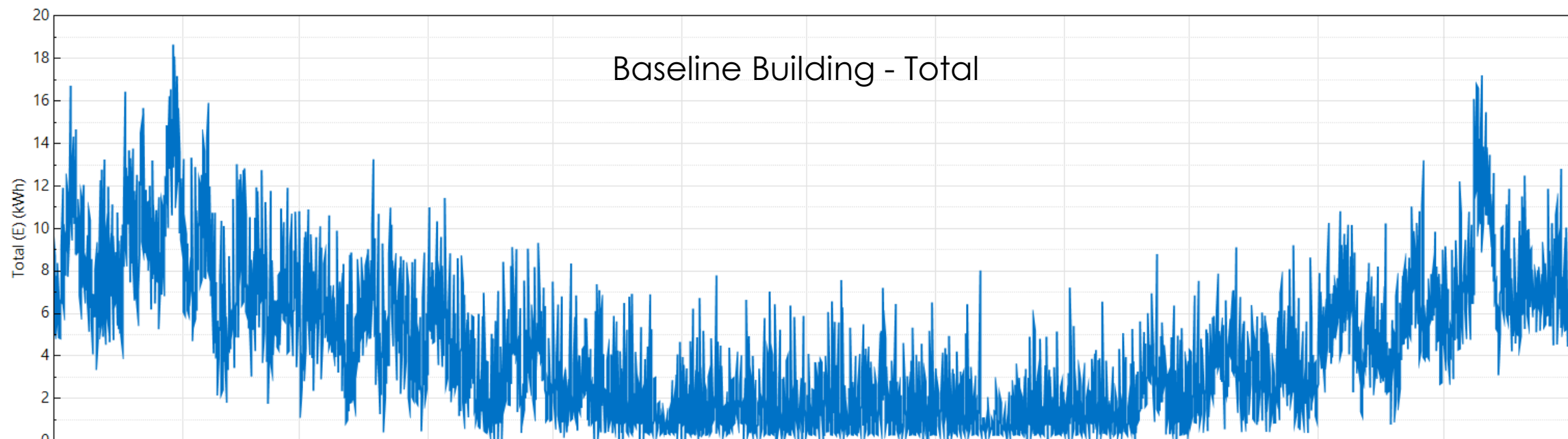
Energy Model: BeOpt (Energy Plus engine)

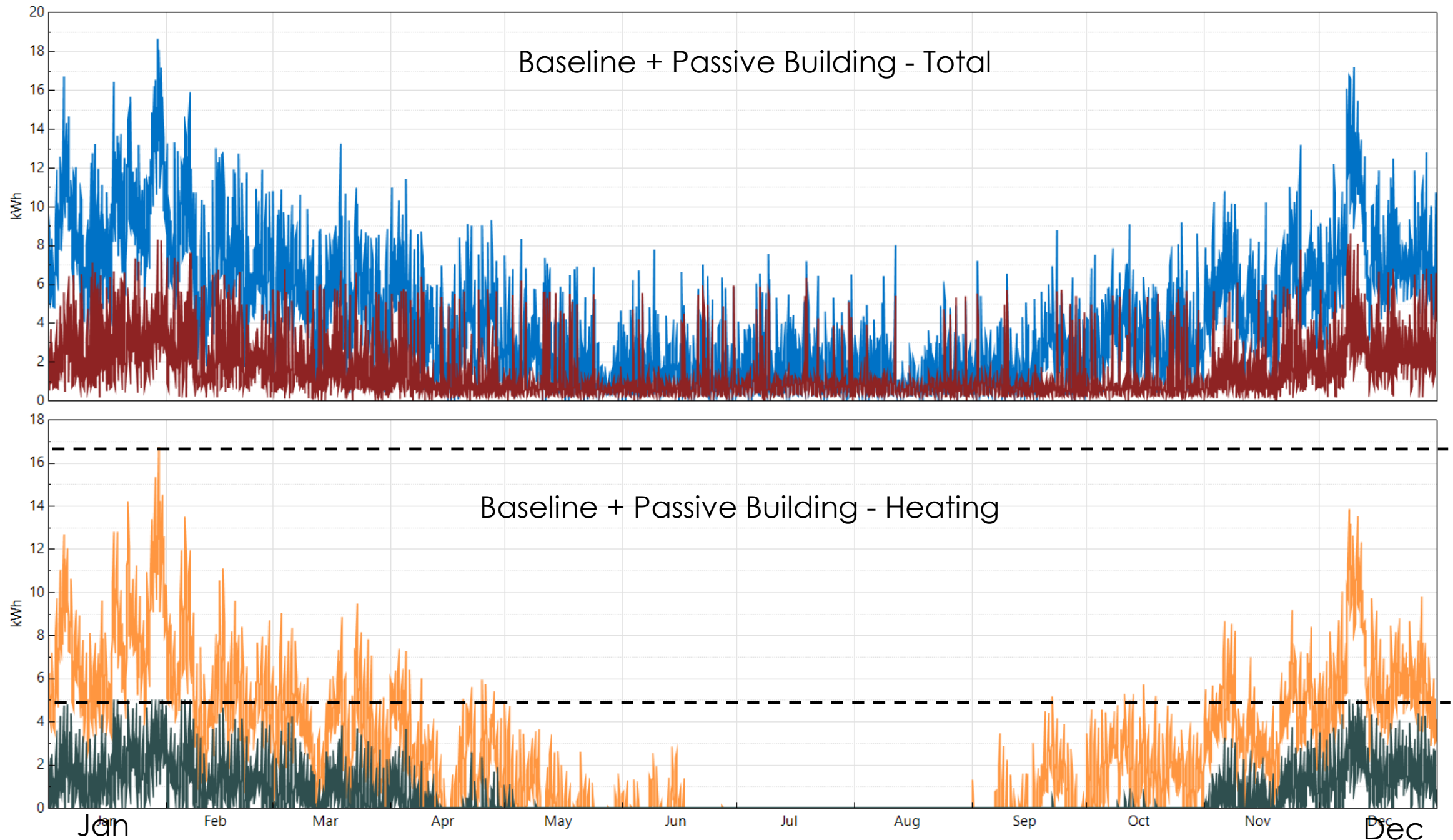
## Two buildings studied:

1. Building America 2009 Benchmark
2. Passive building - (PHIUS+ Core)



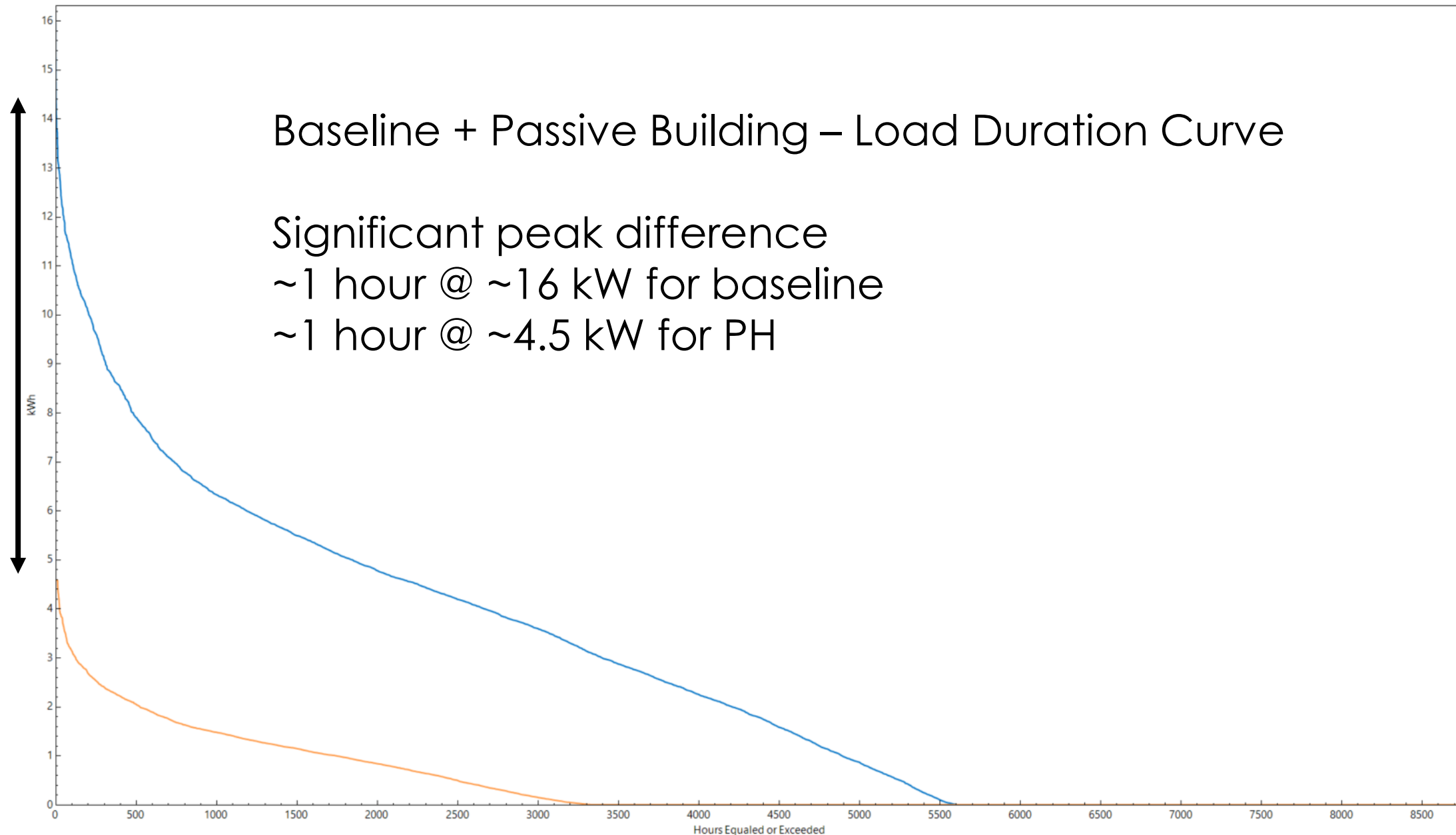






## Baseline + Passive Building – Load Duration Curve

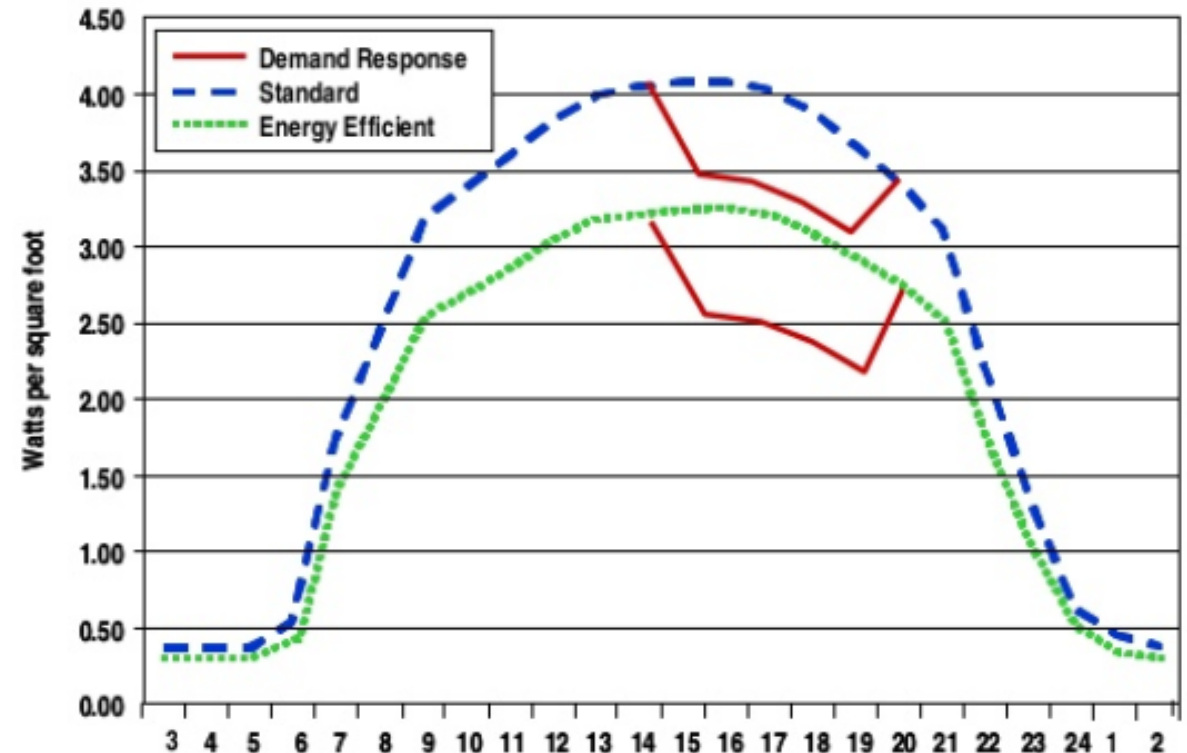
Significant peak difference  
~1 hour @ ~16 kW for baseline  
~1 hour @ ~4.5 kW for PH



# DEMAND RESPONSE / LOAD FLEXIBILITY

Passive buildings can shift and change the load shape!

## Demand Response vs. Energy Efficiency

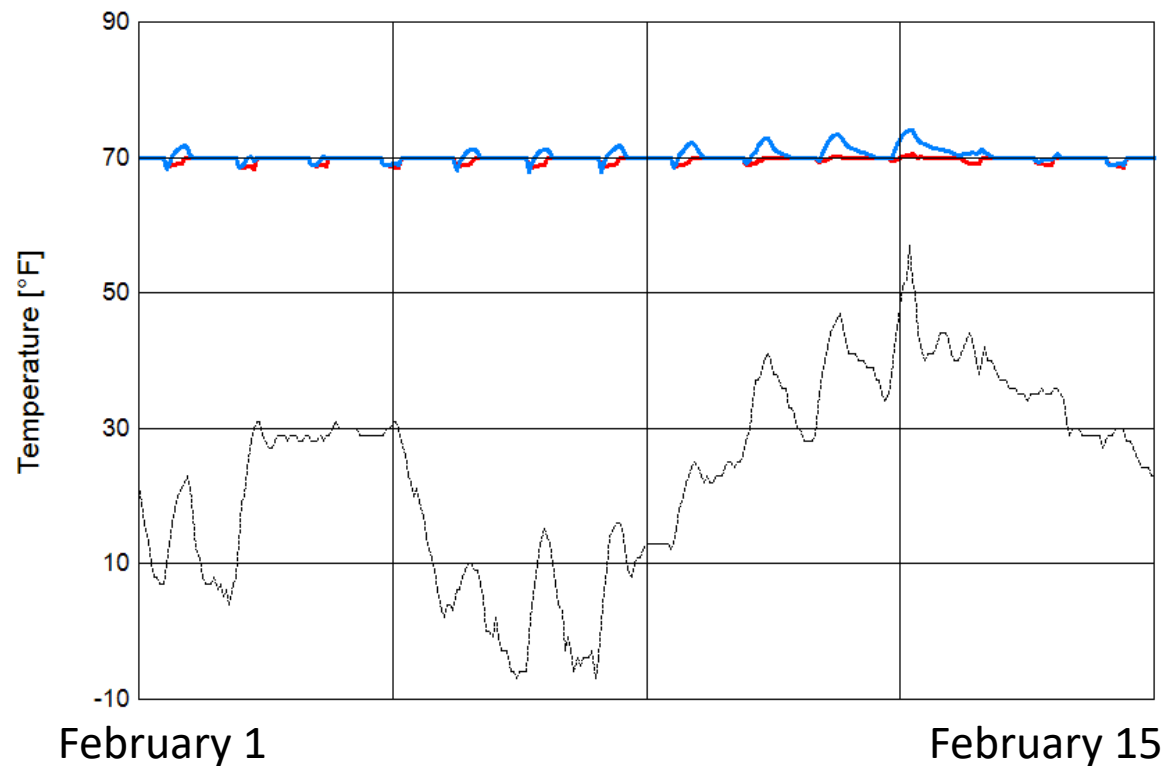


Source: Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) Demand Response Research Center

# DEMAND RESPONSE – NO HEATING FROM 8 AM - 2 PM FOR 2 WEEKS IN FEBRUARY

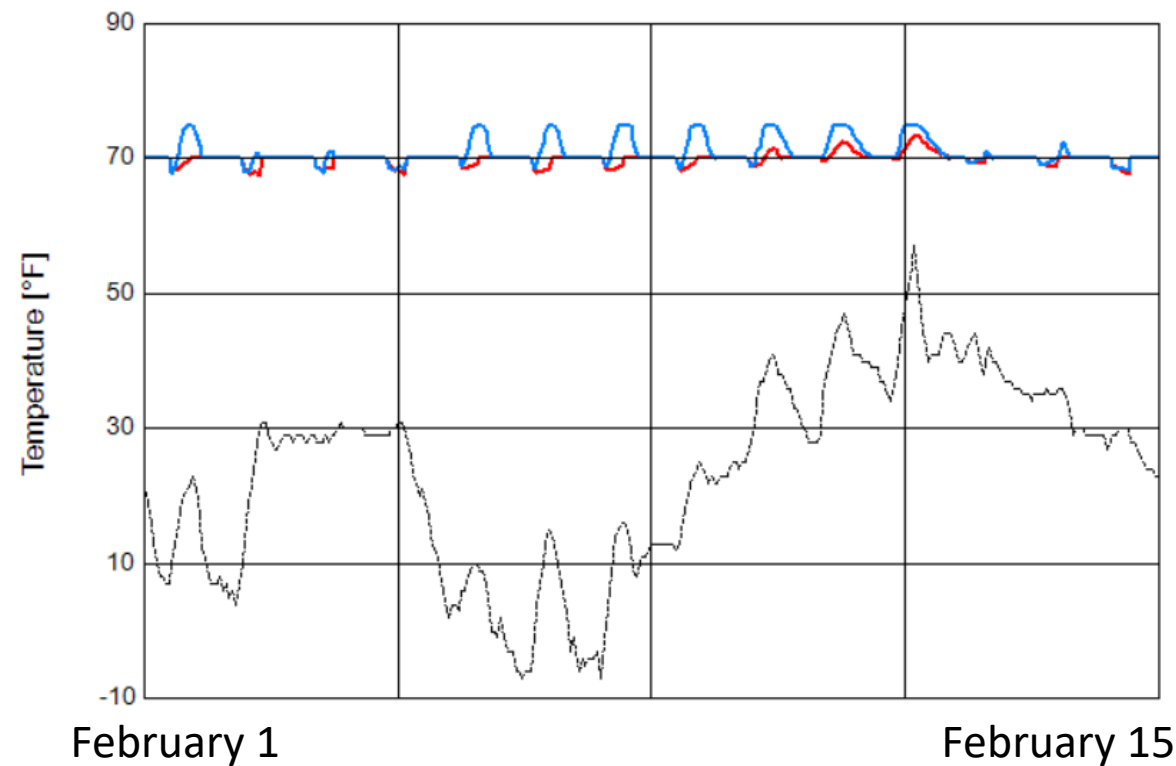
Starting set-point for Heating 70F

## HIGH MASS



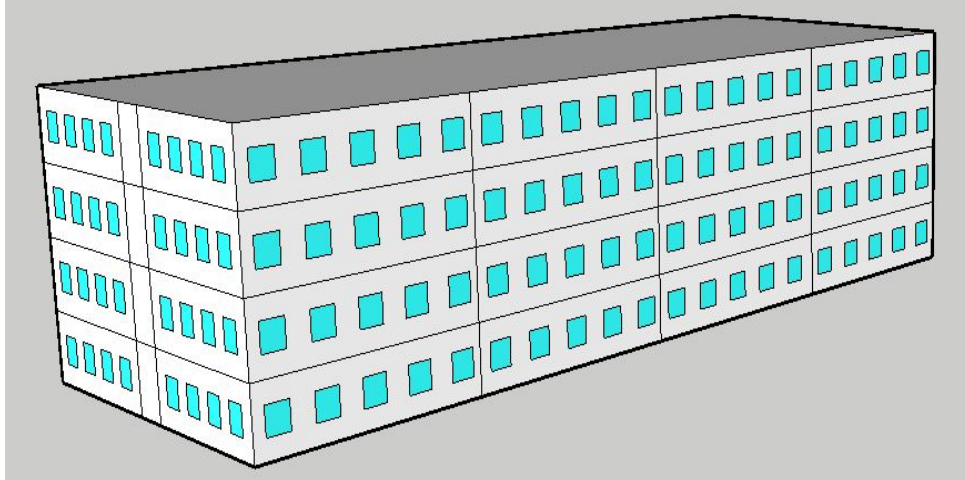
— Temp of Interior Air (20% WWR)  
— Temp of Interior Air (60% WWR)  
----- Temp of Exterior Air

## LOW MASS



— Temp of Interior Air (20% WWR)  
— Temp of Interior Air (60% WWR)  
----- Temp of Exterior Air

# GRID IMPACT - 'NET ZERO' CASE STUDY PROTOTYPE



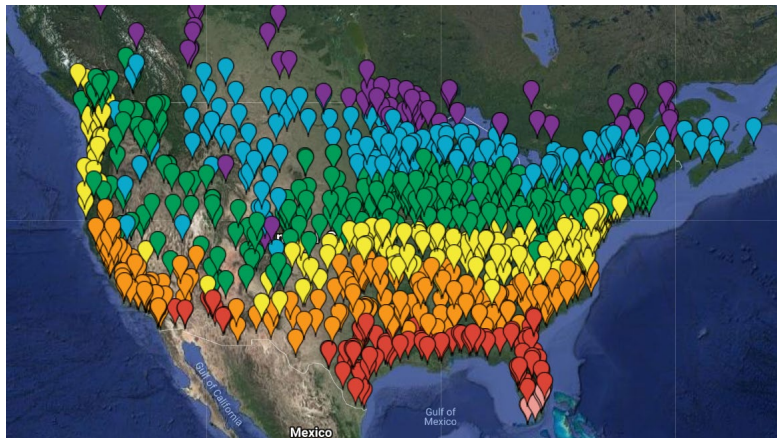
## Multifamily Building – DOE Prototype

Location: Chicago, IL

32 units, 96 occupants, ~35,000 sf iCFA

All Electric

Energy Model: BeOpt (Energy Plus engine)



## Two 'Net Zero' buildings studied:

### 1. Baseline "Renewable Oriented" (code compliant):

290 kW PV Array

All south facing, 10 degree tilt

### 2. Passive building (PHIUS+ 2015 compliant):

159 kW PV Array

All south facing, 10 degree tilt

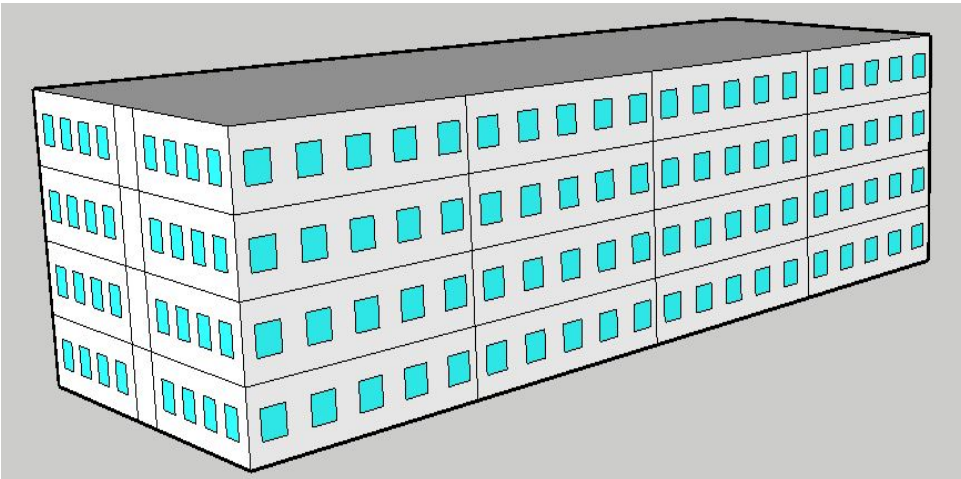
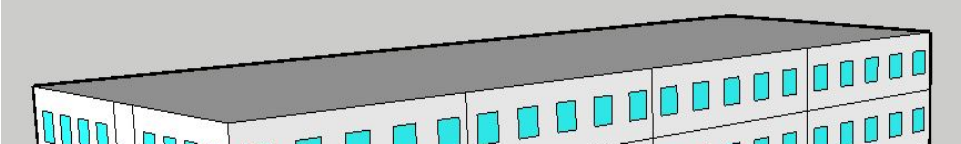
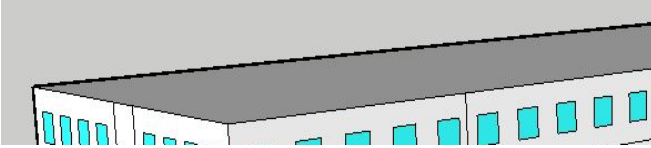


290 kW PV Array  
All south facing, 10 degree tilt  
Site EUI: **33.4** kBTU/ft<sup>2</sup>.yr

*Baseline building*

Roof Area = 9,000 ft<sup>2</sup>  
Estimate 80% usable = 7,200 ft<sup>2</sup>  
Estimate 1 ft<sup>2</sup> = ~15 W

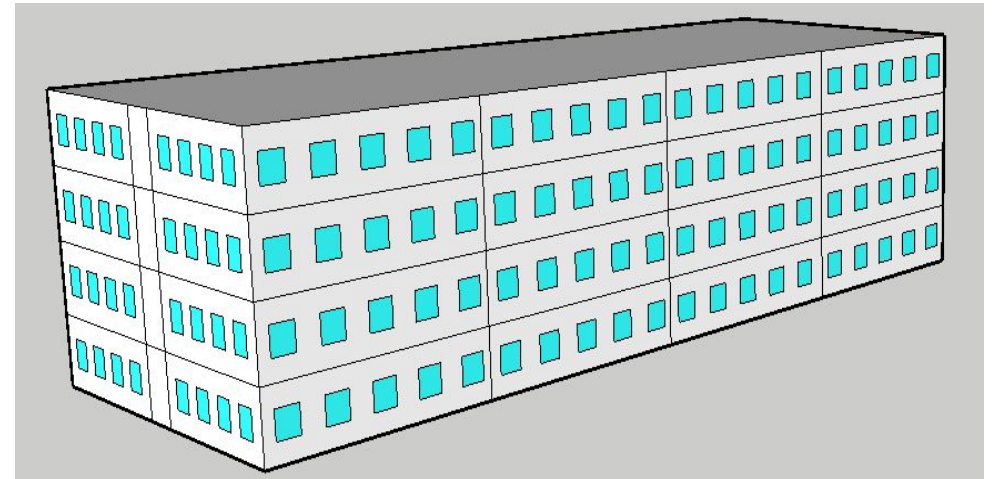
Need 19,333 ft<sup>2</sup>, or **2.7x** roof area!



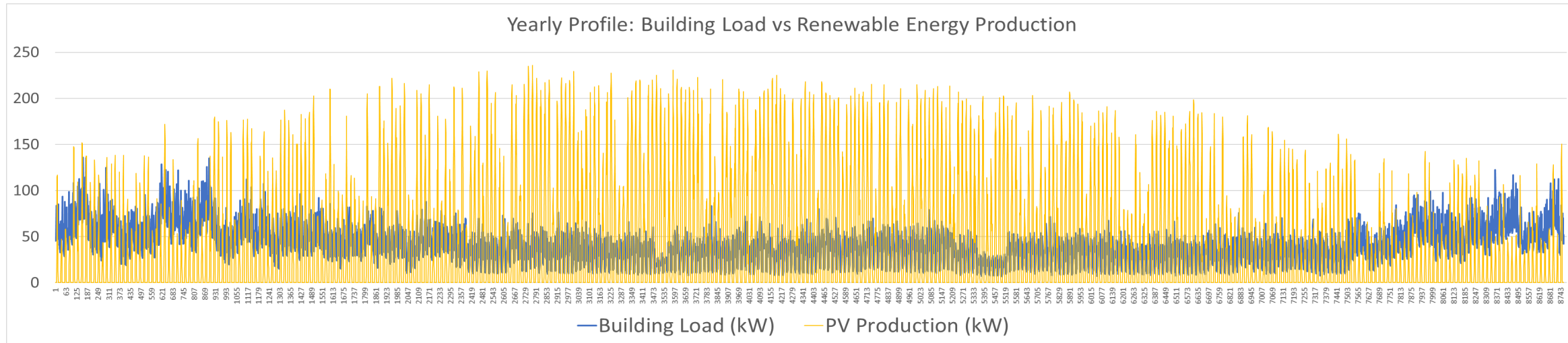
159 kW PV Array  
All south facing, 10 degree tilt  
Site EUI: **18.7** kBTU/ft<sup>2</sup>.yr

*Passive building*

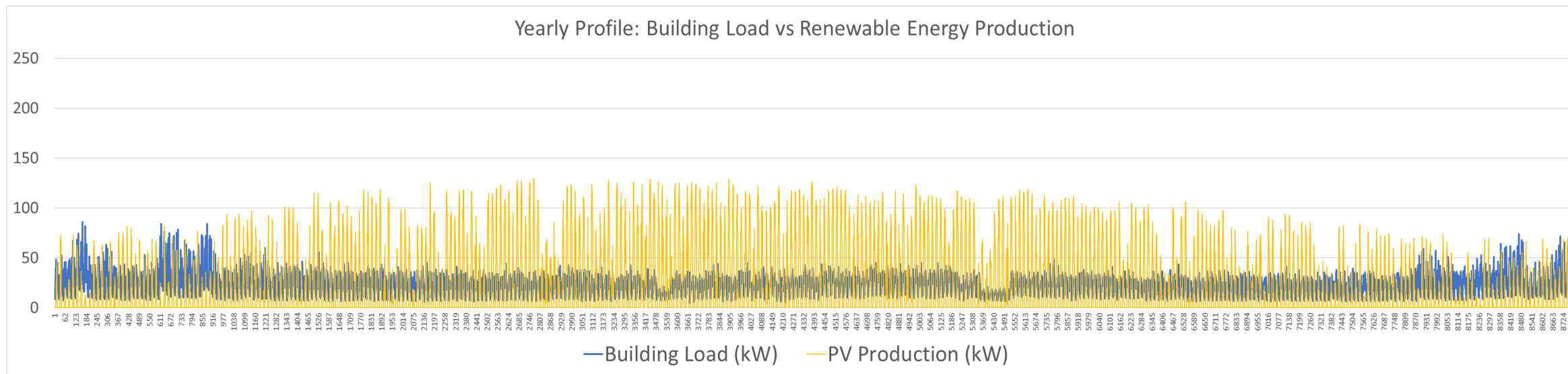
Need 10,600 ft<sup>2</sup>, or **1.5x** roof area!



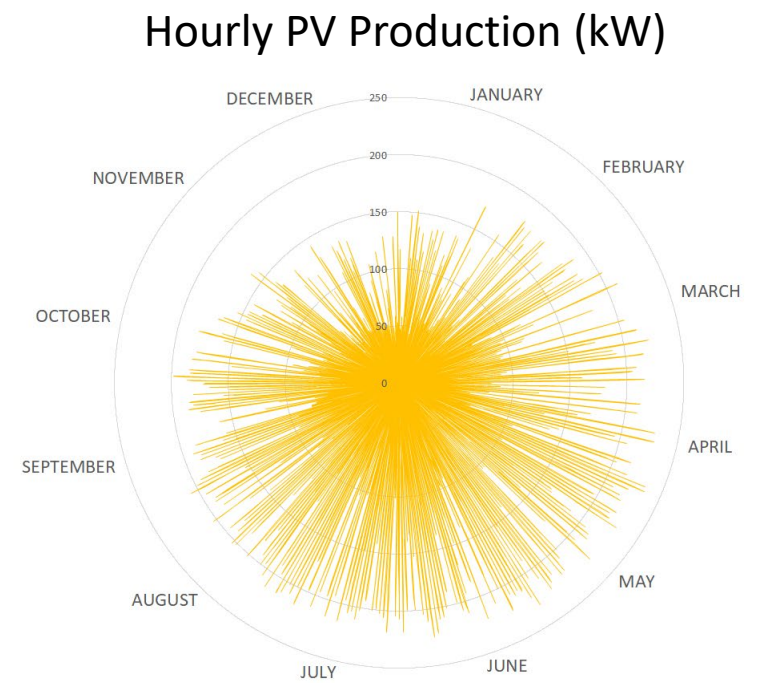
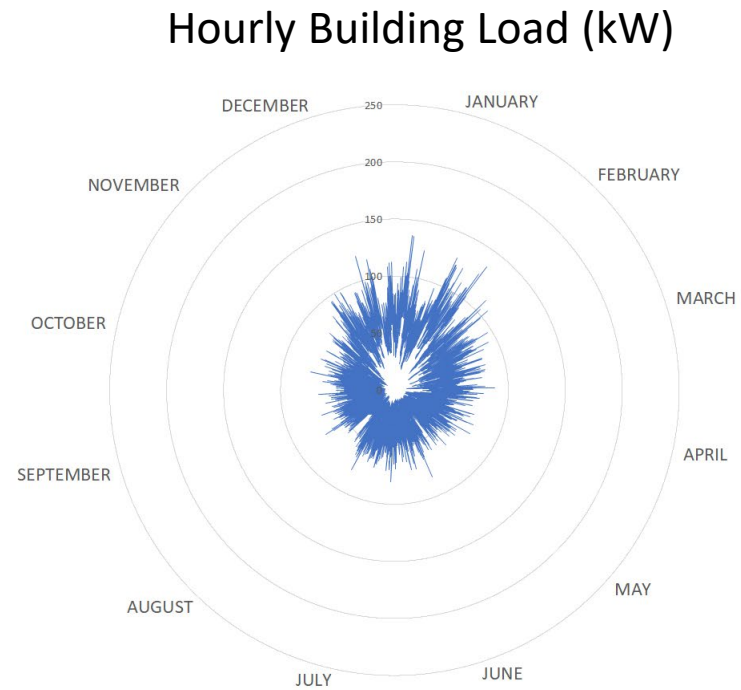
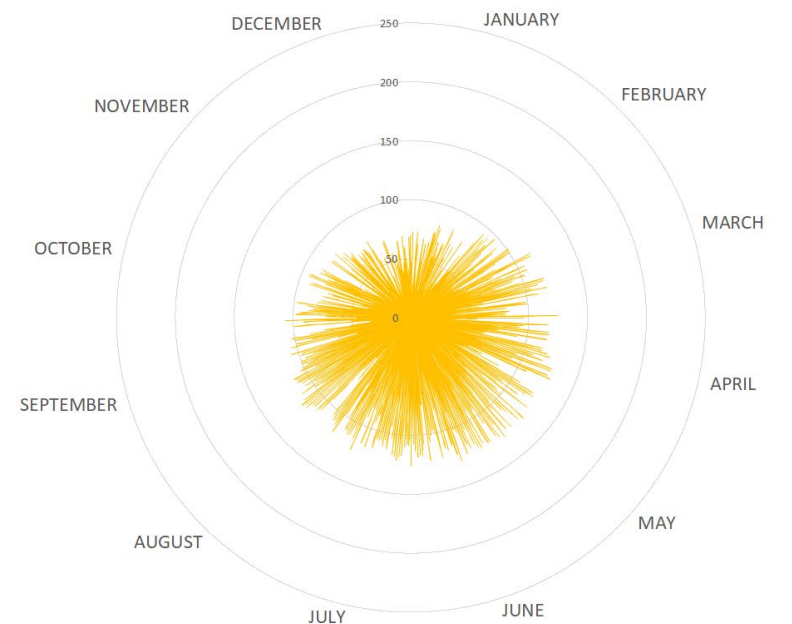
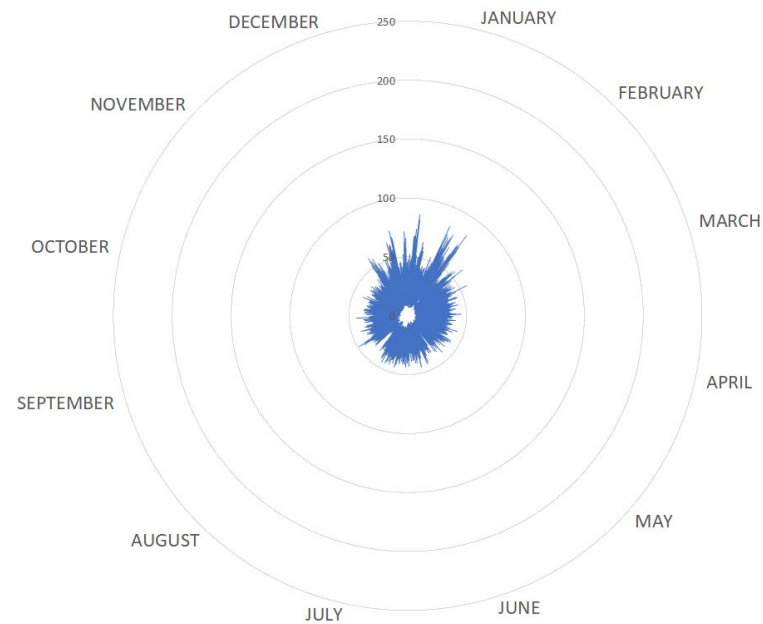
## Baseline building



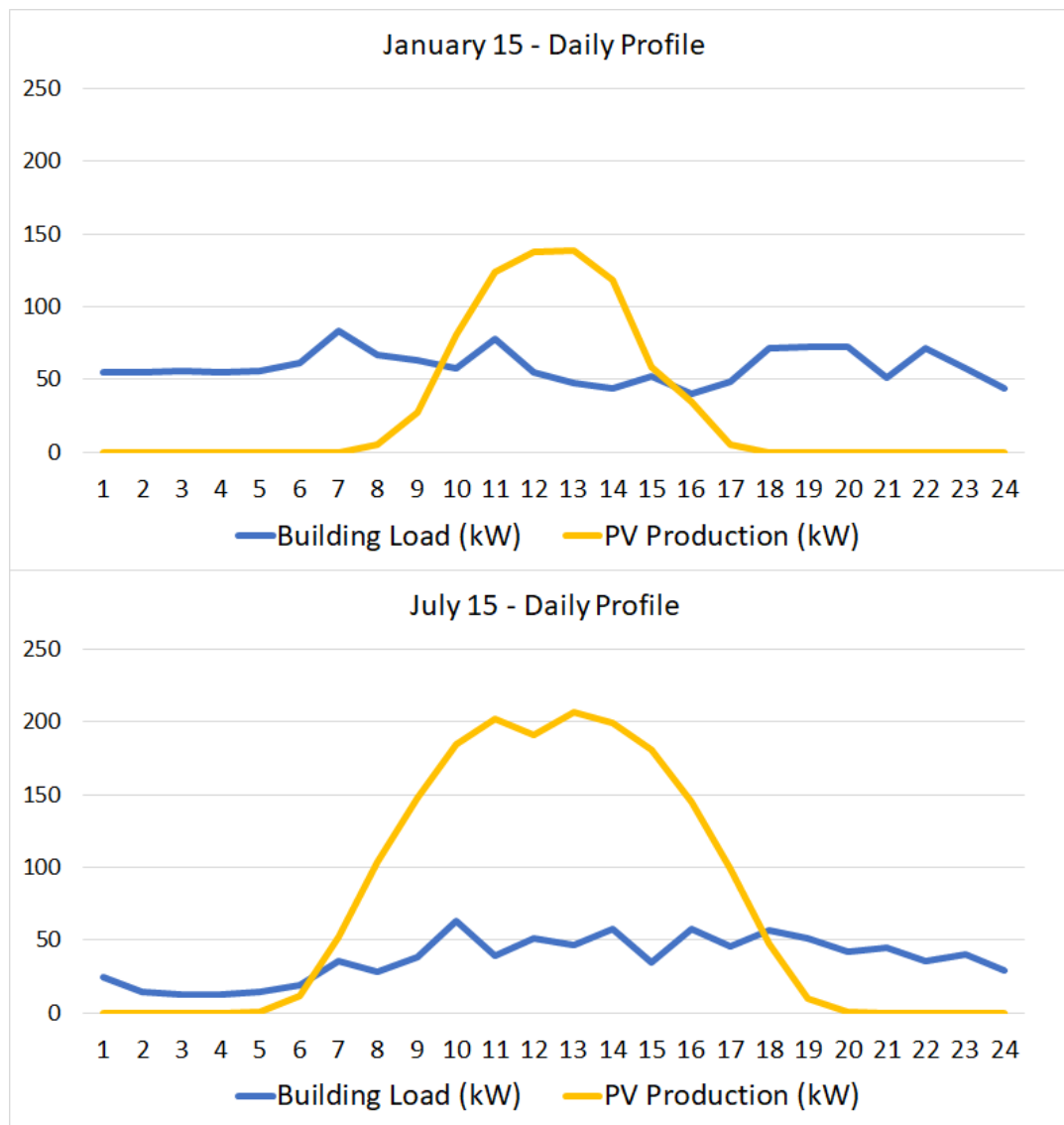
## Passive (PHIUS+) building



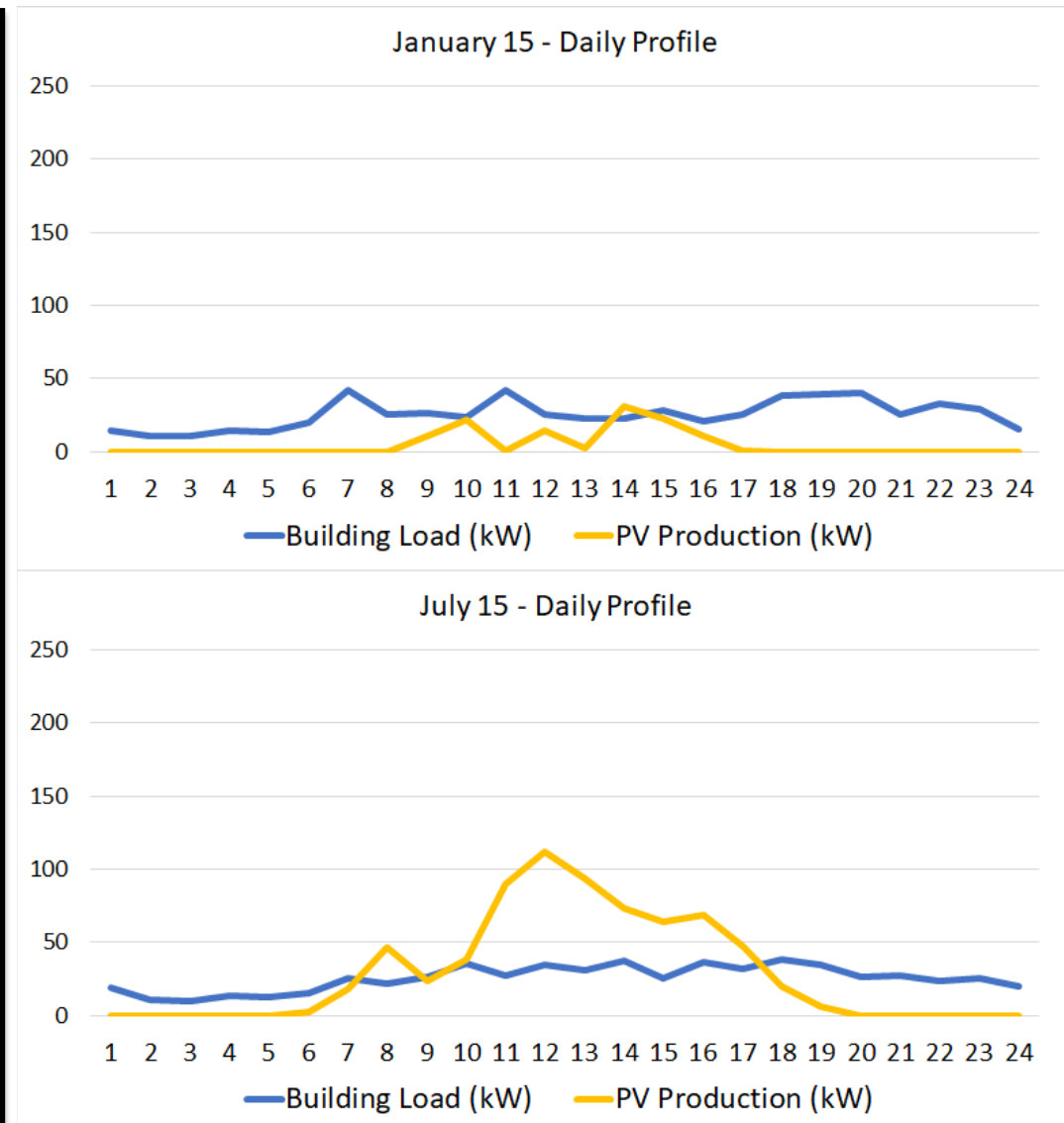


*Baseline building**Passive building*

# Daily Analysis – January & July



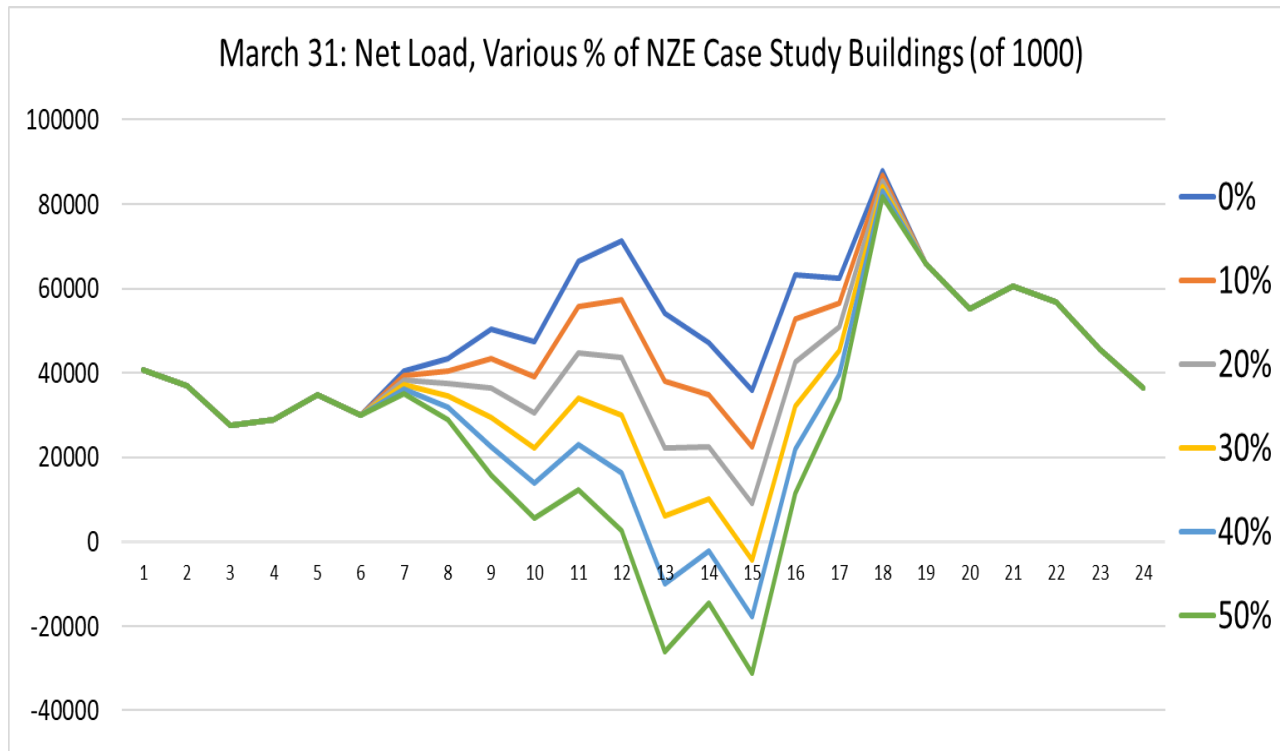
*Baseline building*



*Passive building*

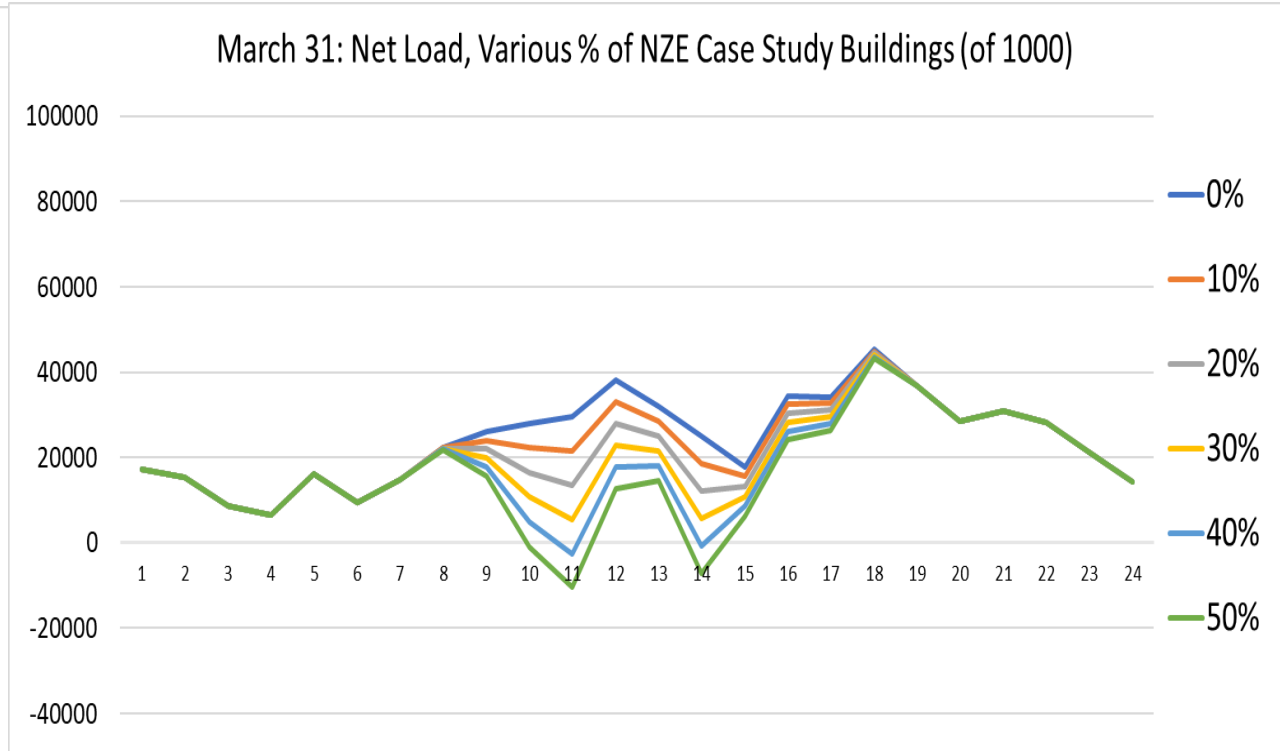
# Net Load on Grid/Ramping Analysis

*Community Scale -- Of 1000 Multifamily Buildings - % OF NZE Integrated*



*Baseline building*

*Greatest 3-hr ramp ~3x higher than passive building*



*Passive building*

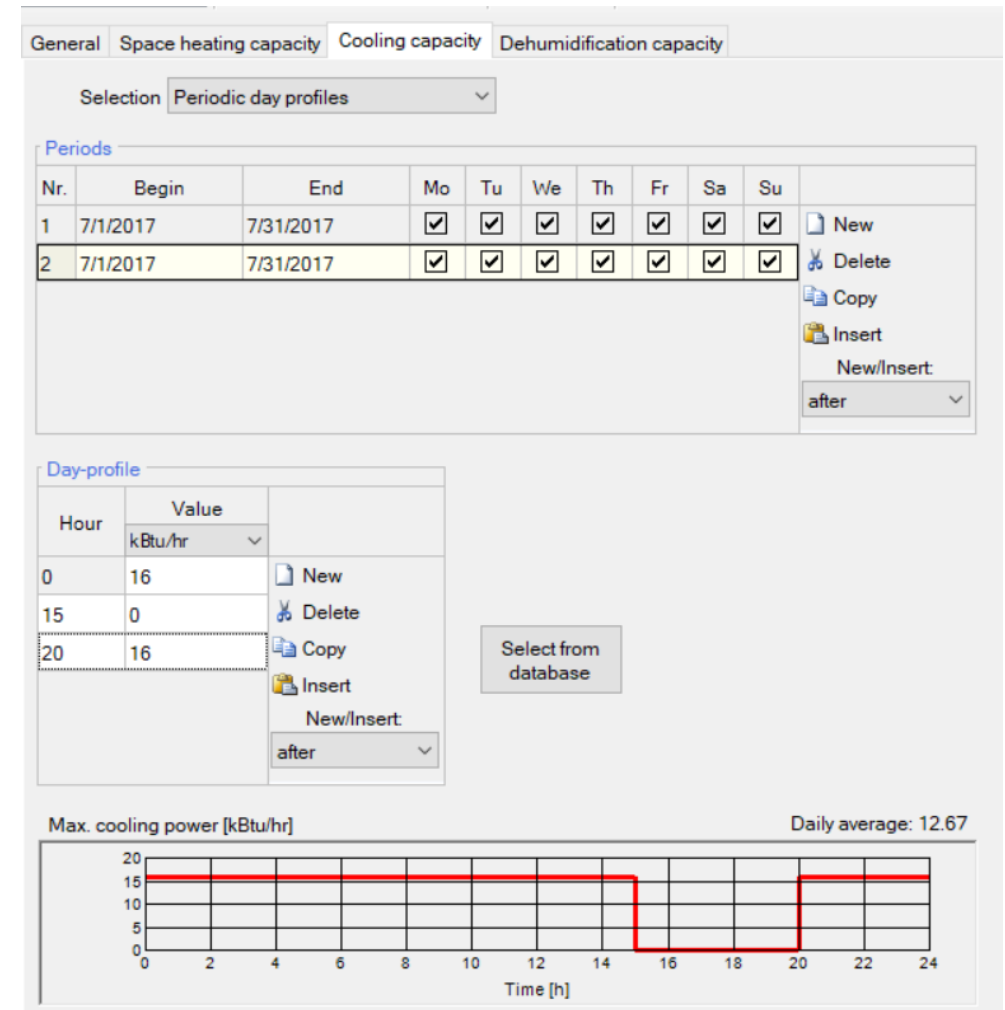
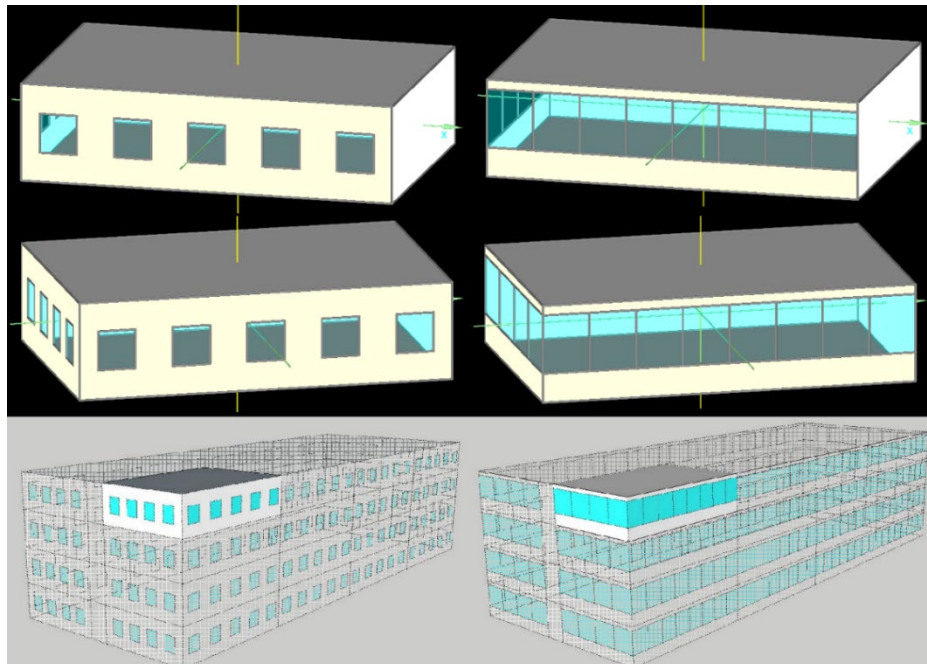
CASE STUDY

# DEMAND RESPONSE SIMULATION

Remove space cooling/dehumidification capacity from 3pm-8pm

July 14-July 21– Chicago O'Hare

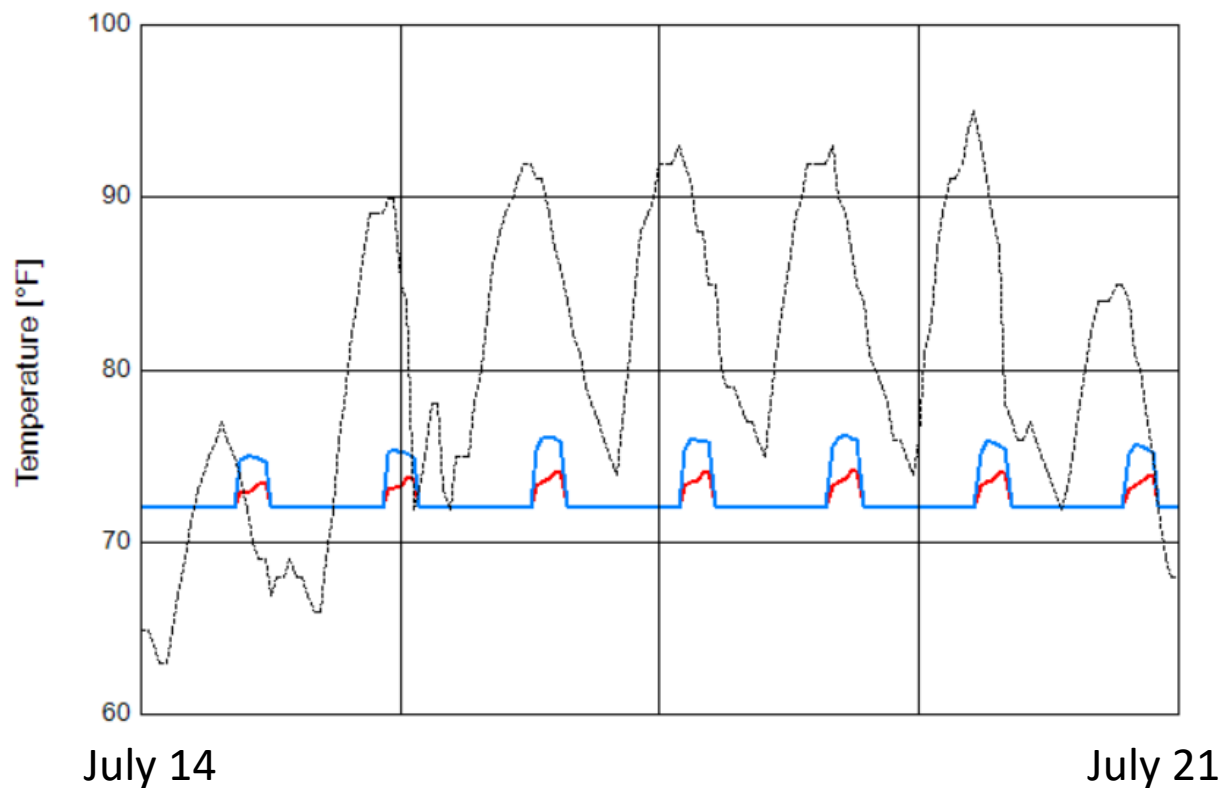
Single SW corner unit of study building  
20% & 60% WWR, Low Mass & High Mass



# DEMAND RESPONSE – NO COOLING/DEHUM FROM 3-8 PM FOR A WEEK IN JULY

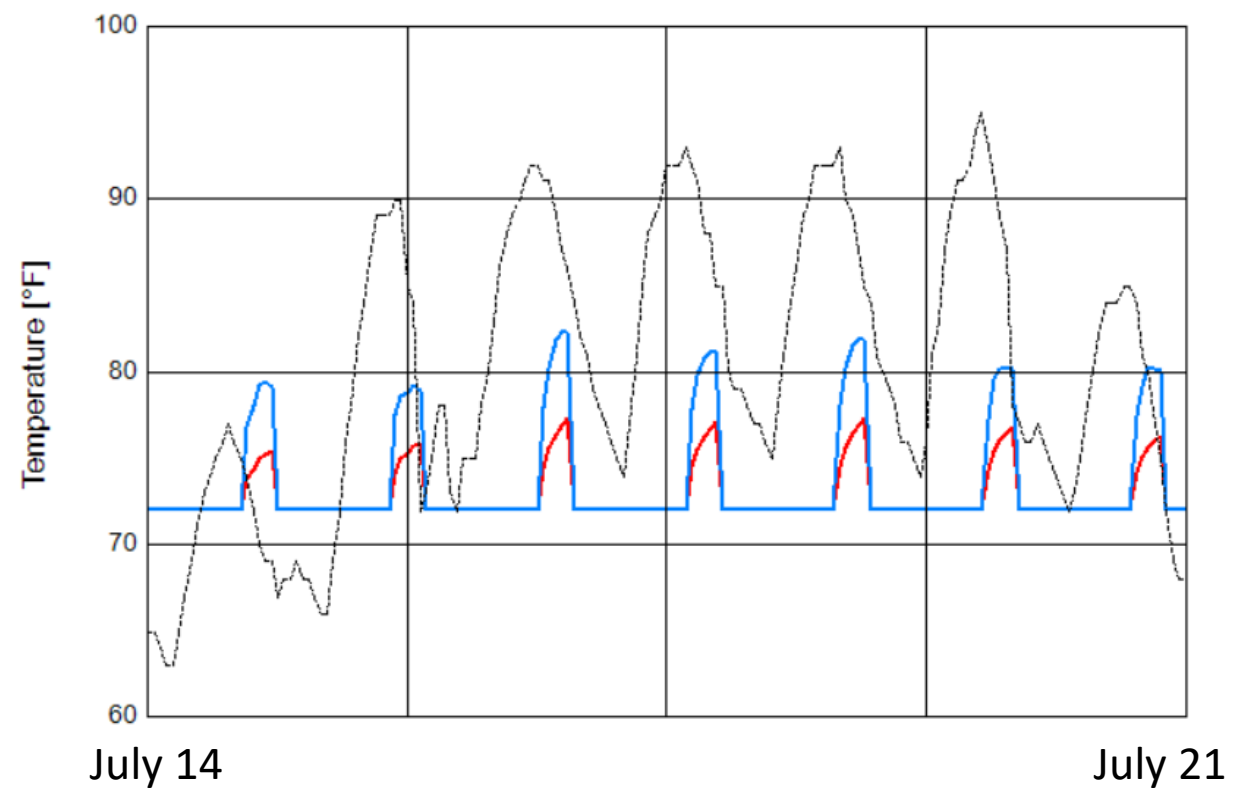
Starting set-point for cooling 72F

## HIGH MASS



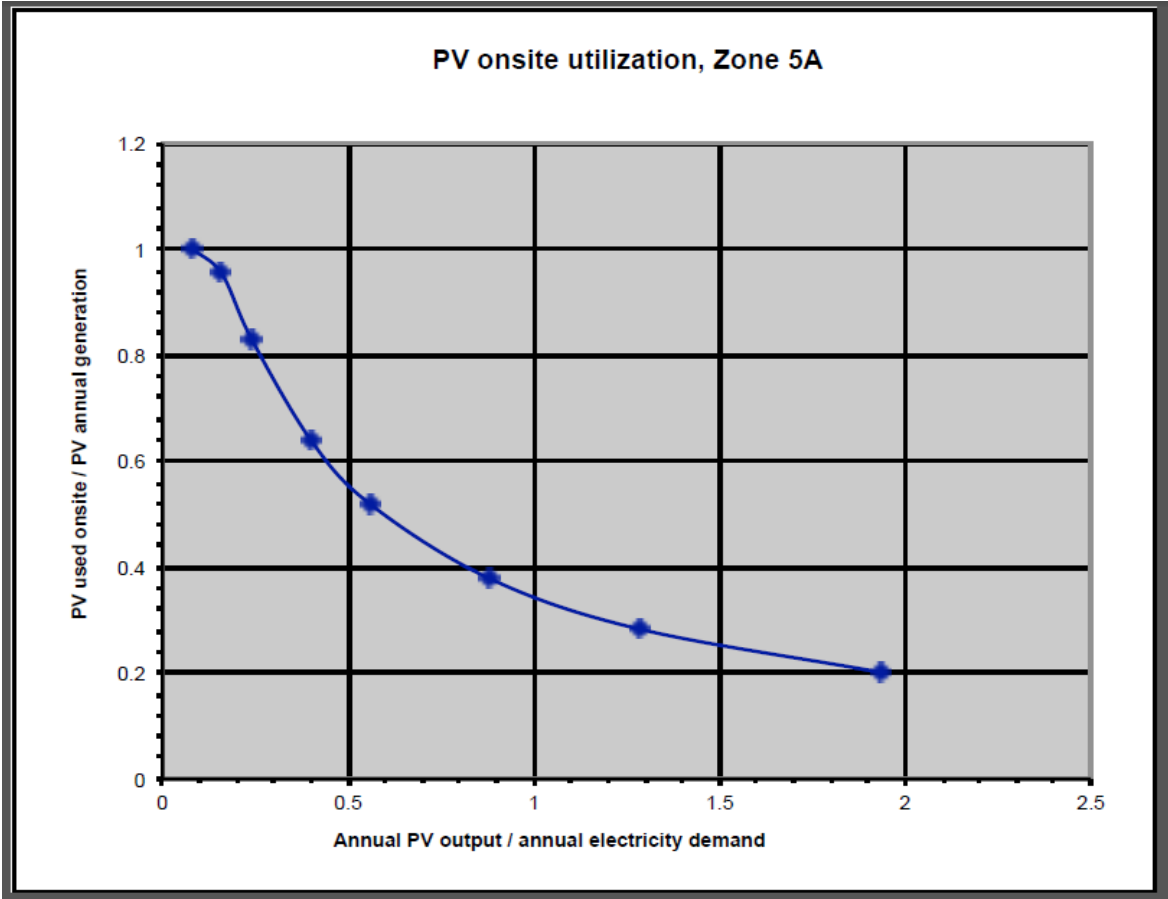
— Temp of Interior Air (20% WWR)  
— Temp of Interior Air (60% WWR)  
..... Temperature of exterior air

## LOW MASS



— Temp of Interior Air (20% WWR)  
— Temp of Interior Air (60% WWR)  
..... Temperature of exterior air

	Site Energy Use (kWh/yr)	PV Production (kWh/yr)	Utilization Factor (%)	On-site Coverage (kWh/yr)	Covered by Grid (kWh/yr)
CODE/BASELINE	352,162	352,187	36%	126,788	225,374
PHIUS+	197,636	198,234	36%	71,364	126,272



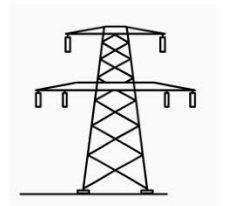
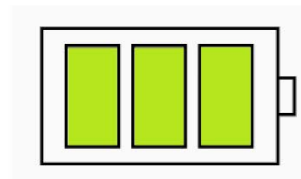
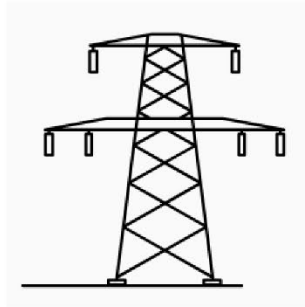
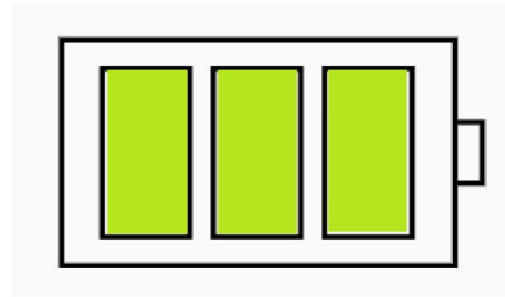
Two ‘NZE’ buildings:  
**BUT, the difference in electricity covered by grid = 99,102 kWh/yr!**

That’s half the annual energy use of the PHIUS+ building.



# THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF CONSERVATION

*Conservation means less generation, less storage, and less transmission capacity needed*





*Questions?*

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