

# Heat Pumps = Less Fire, but its not that simple

---

A guide on where to start and what to consider



# Center for Energy and Environment



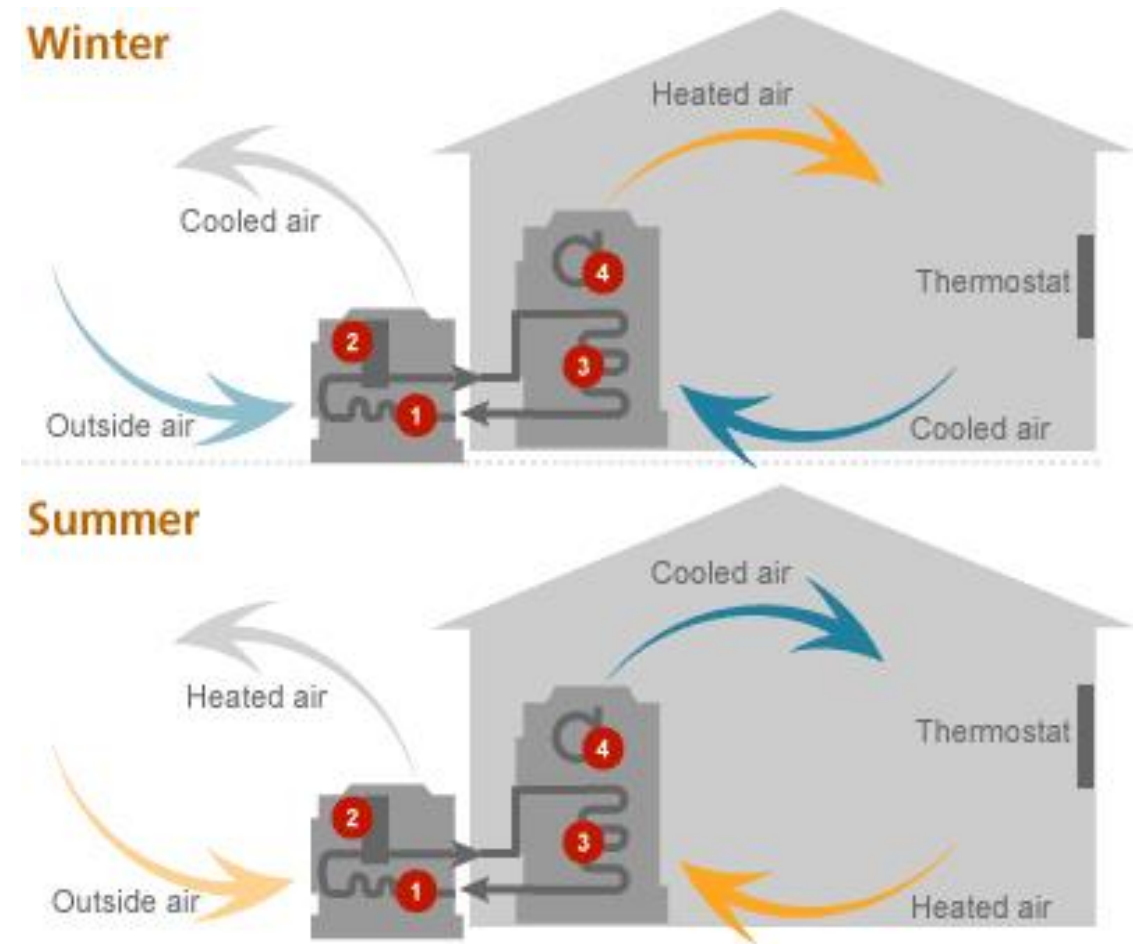


## Agenda

- Intro to ASHPs
- Applications: Full Speed Ahead!
- Applications: Pilot stage, ready to launch
- Applications: Still more to come
- What is needed for HP adoption

# Heat Pump technology is key to building electrification

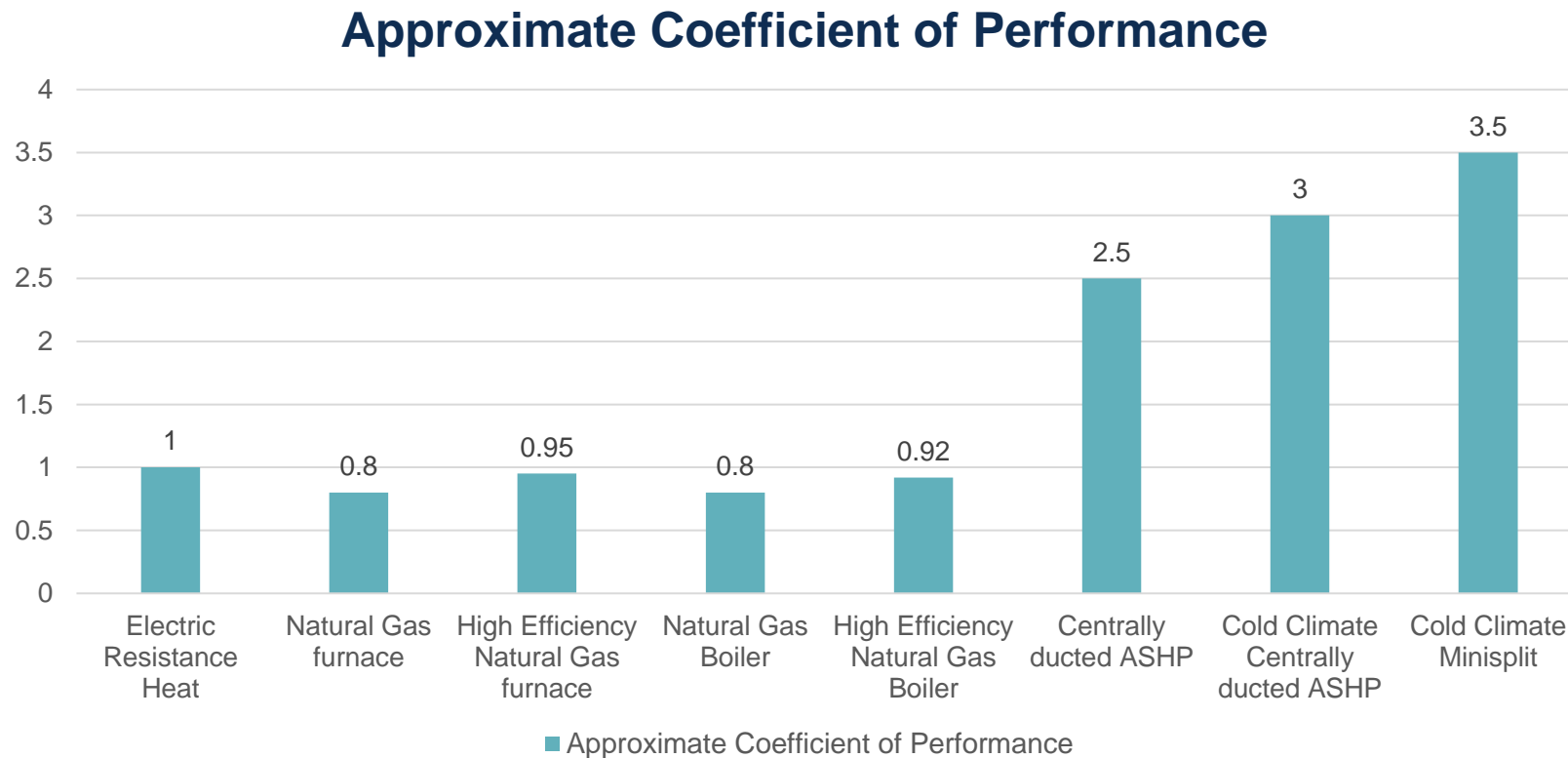
- Heat pumps are familiar technologies
  - Air conditioning
  - Refrigeration
- Strong gains in cold climate performance with variable speed HPs
- Innovation and rapid technology development
  - Disruptive technologies
  - Increasing scale
  - Policy support





# Comparing system types using COP

**Coefficient of Performance** – For every unit of energy utilized, how many units of heat are produced?





# CEE ccASHP Research Timeline

**2013**

- Inverter driven technology comes to market
- NEEP ccASHP spec.

**2015**

- CARD single family ccASHP field study

**2017**

- Xcel Energy all-electric ASHP projects

**2019**

- MN Potential Study
- CARD single family ccASHP optimization study
- CARD multifamily ccASHP study

**2020**

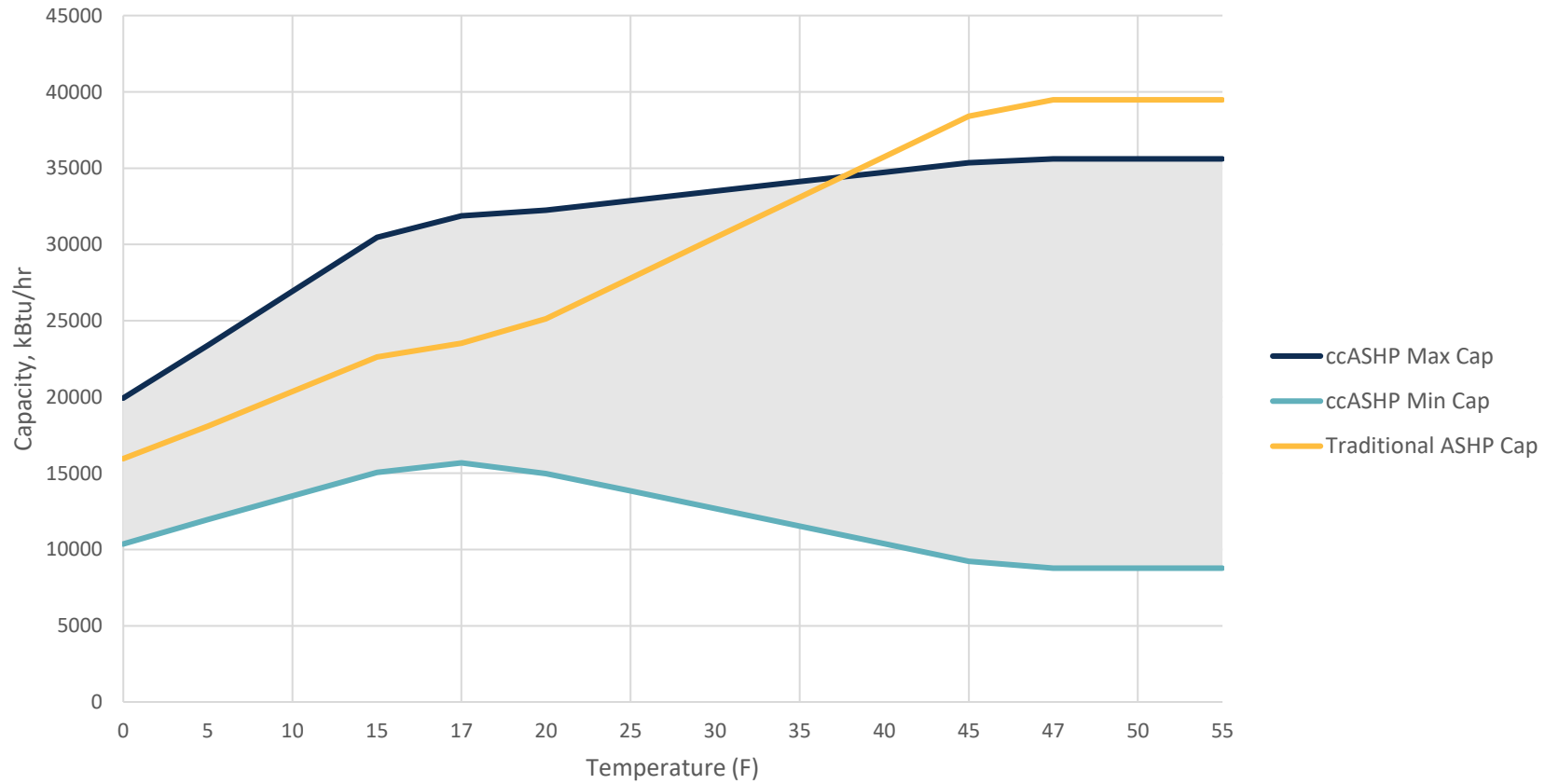
- ComEd ASHP research study
- NEEA ASHP modeling tool

**2021**

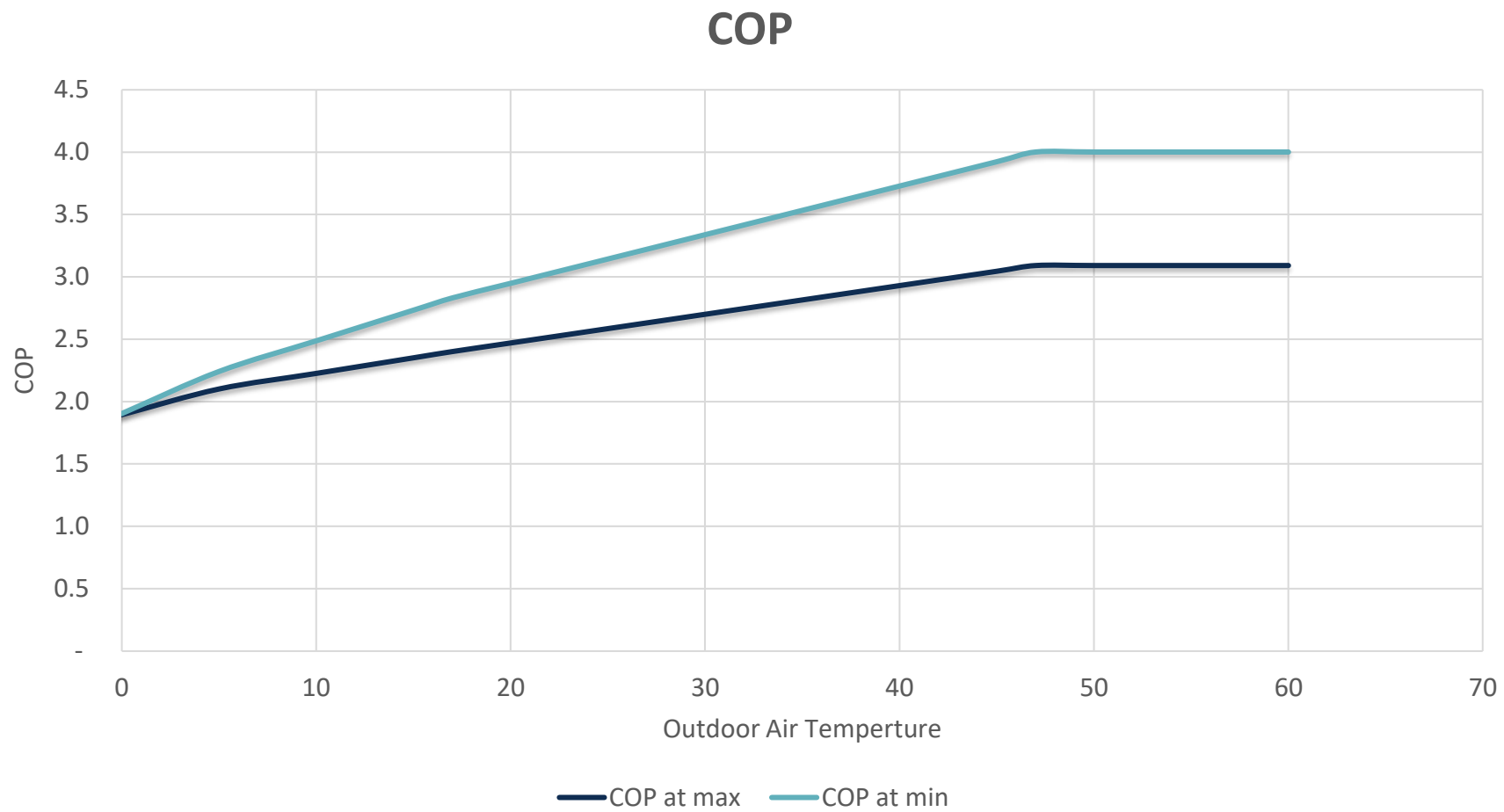
- Heat pumps for AC – multiple projects
- CARD air to water heat pump study

# ASHP Capacity

## Air Source Heat Pump Capacity Comparison



# ASHP COP







# ccASHP Research Findings

01

Perform well in cold climates

- Delivering heat as at temps as low as -25°F

02

Deliver increased capacity and COP

03

**Lets Go!**

Meet manufacturer specifications

**But they must be installed correctly**

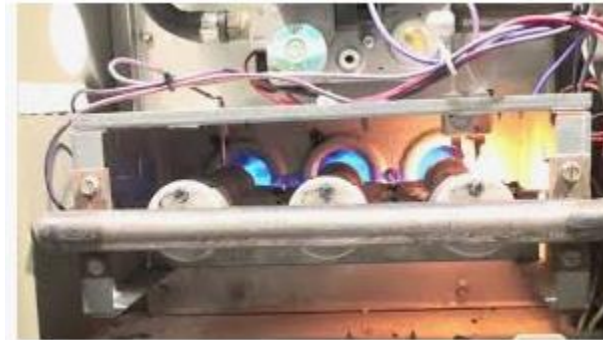


# Keys to Performance - Installation Considerations

Control and Operation



Integration with backup



Sizing





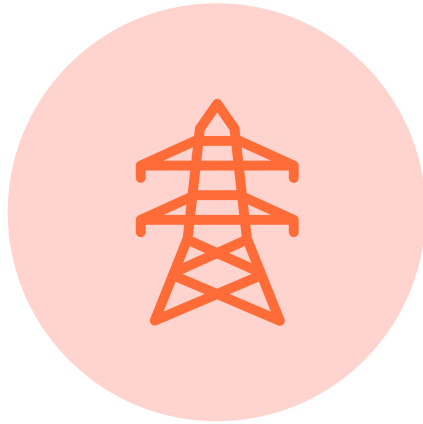
# Types of ASHPs - Gift and a Curse

- Residential Heat Pumps
  - Minisplit heat pumps
  - Multi-split heat pumps
  - Centrally ducted heat pumps
  - Dual-fuel heat pumps
  - Air-to-water heat pumps
  - Ground source heat pumps
- Commercial Heat Pumps
  - VRF heat pumps
  - Ground source heat pumps
  - PTAC heat pumps
  - RTU heat pumps
- Other heat pumps
  - High temperature heat pumps
  - Heat pump water heaters
  - Automotive heat pumps

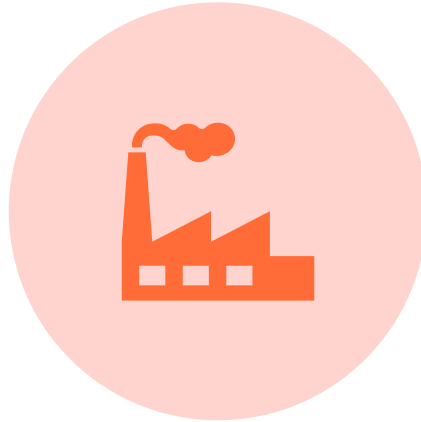




# Where do we start?



SOURCE ENERGY SAVINGS



EMISSION SAVINGS –  
EARTH OR WIND?



CUSTOMER SAVINGS



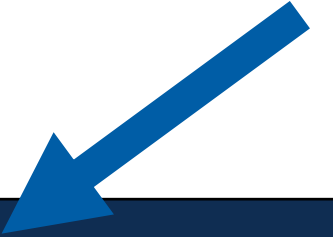
## Applications: Full Speed Ahead!

- Electric Heat Displacement
- Propane Heat or Delivered Fuel Replacement



# CEE's field research results

Percentage Reductions for ccASHPs				
	Site energy	Source energy	Homeowner cost	Emissions
Dual-fuel ASHP vs. propane furnace	40%	10%	30%	5%
All-electric ducted & ductless HP vs. electric resistance	55%	55%	55%	55%







# Electric Displacement via Ductless

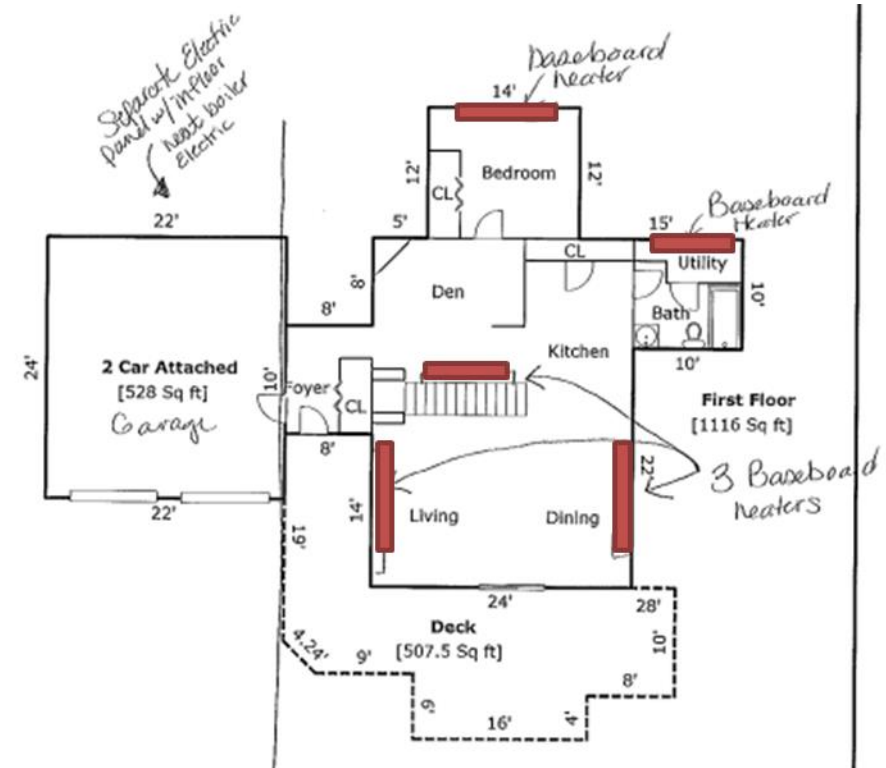




# Electric replacement via Ductless

## 55% homeowner cost savings

- Head location is important
  - Size for space
- Controls – integration with heating sources is key
- Ductless will operate whenever system is capable
- Lots of design and install flexibility







## Ducted Whole House Propane Heat Replacement

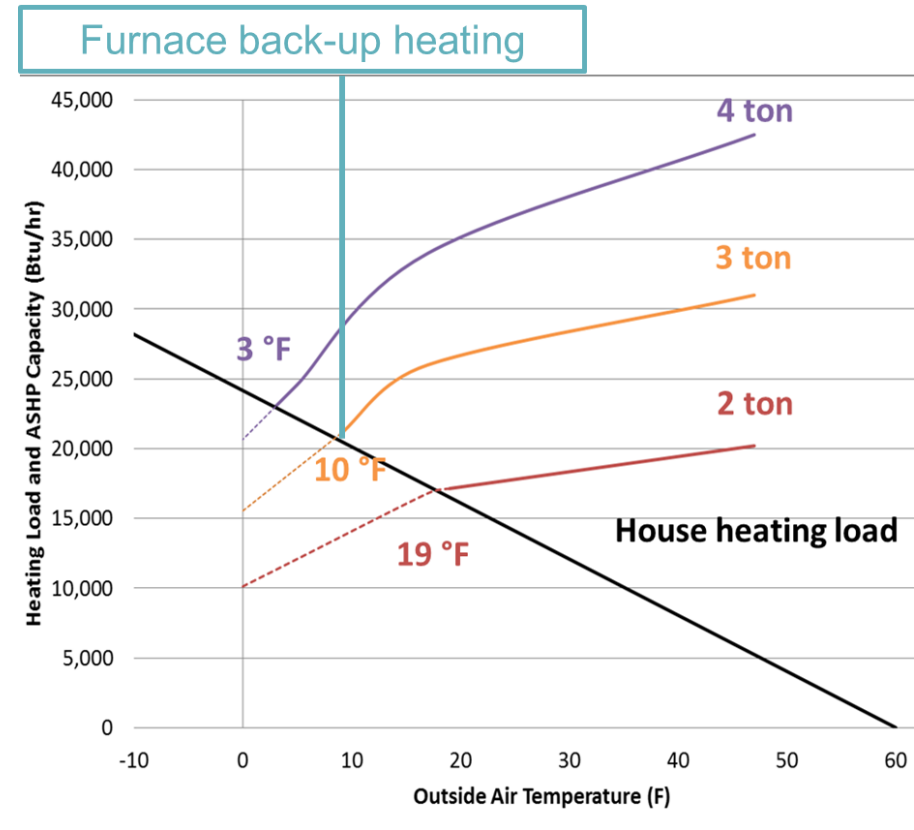




# Dual Fuel ccVSHP systems

## 30% homeowner cost savings

- Installation is very comparable to traditional furnace/AC
- Size HP for heating not cooling
- Simple, integrated controls
- Hard switch to backup heat





## • Applications: Pilot stage, ready to launch

- Beneficial Electrification
- AC Replacement
- All electric
- Multifamily (zoned ER)

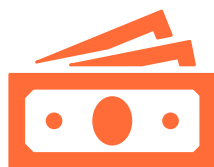


# Beneficial Electrification



## The fuel switching dream

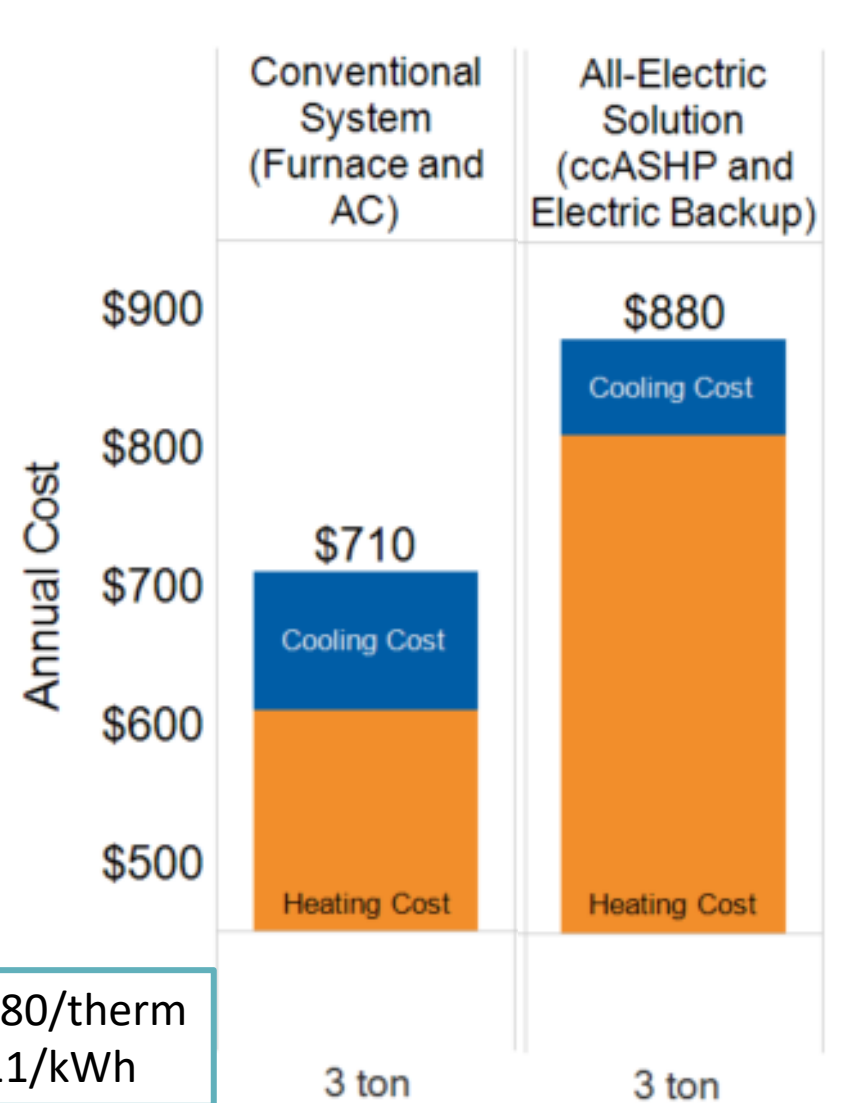
Electrify everything!



## The Reality

Often increases customer costs  
Starts with building envelope  
Consider peak impacts

Gas cost: \$0.80/therm  
Electric: \$0.11/kWh





## Starting Point – Dual-fuel / AC Replacement

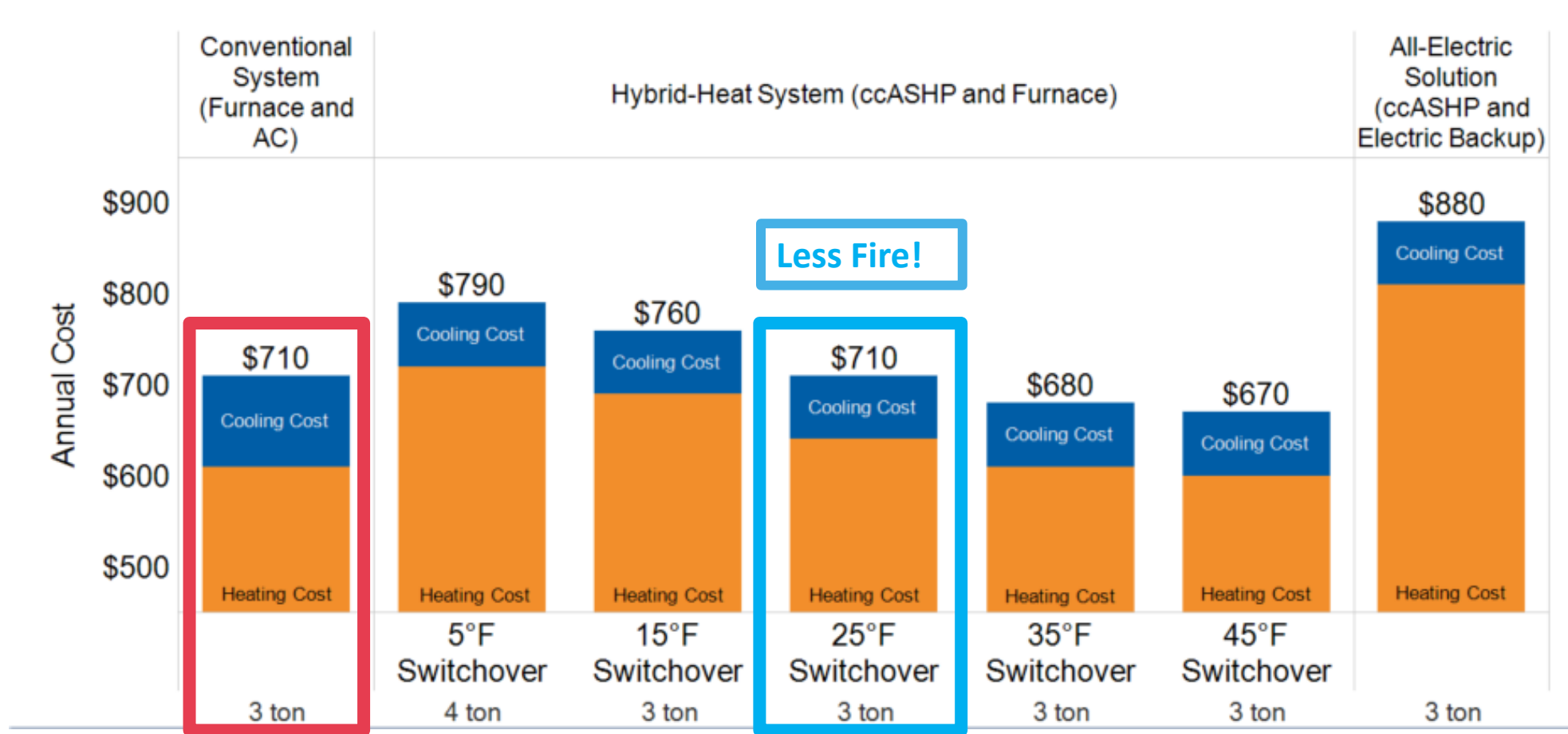
- Never install an AC again!
  - Stop incentivizing ACs
- Tiered HP rebates
  - Entry level – 15+ SEER and 8.5+ HSPF
  - Variable speed - 17+ SEER and 9.5+ HSPF
- New A-coil units
  - Compatible with existing furnace
- Eliminates peak concerns
- Current research
  - Paper coming soon







# AC Replacement – customer costs



Gas cost: \$0.80/therm  
Electric: \$0.11/kWh

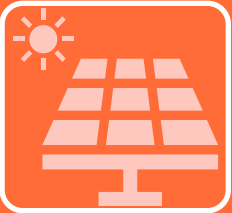


# When to go all-electric

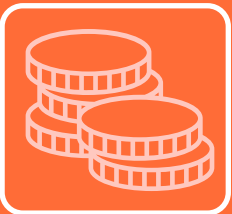


## Low load homes

- Weatherized, new construction



## Onsite renewables



## All-electric rates – 8 cents / kWh

- Competitive with \$0.80/therm gas





# Multifamily Applications – target electric heat

- Lower load living space
- Cost considerations
  - Should we install a head in every room?
- Integration with backup is key
- Split incentive
  - Who pays and who saves?
- Current research
  - 20 units
  - Monitor performance and savings
  - Install and controls







## • Applications: Still more to come

- Air to water heat pumps
- HP RTUs
- Through wall PTHPs



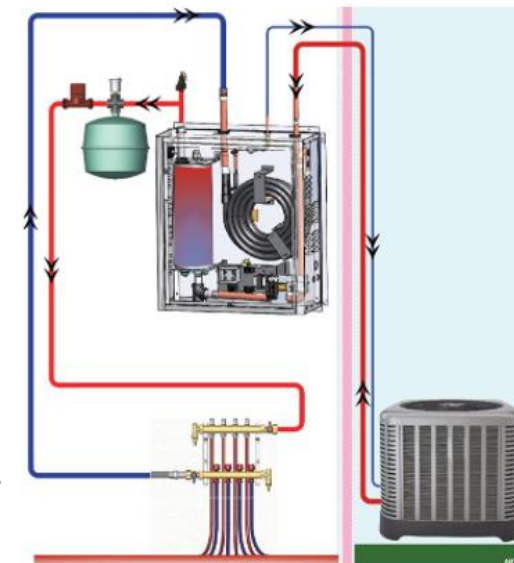
# Ever increasing applications of HPs



RTUs



PTHPs



AtWHP-  
CEE Research



# Overcoming HP Market Barriers

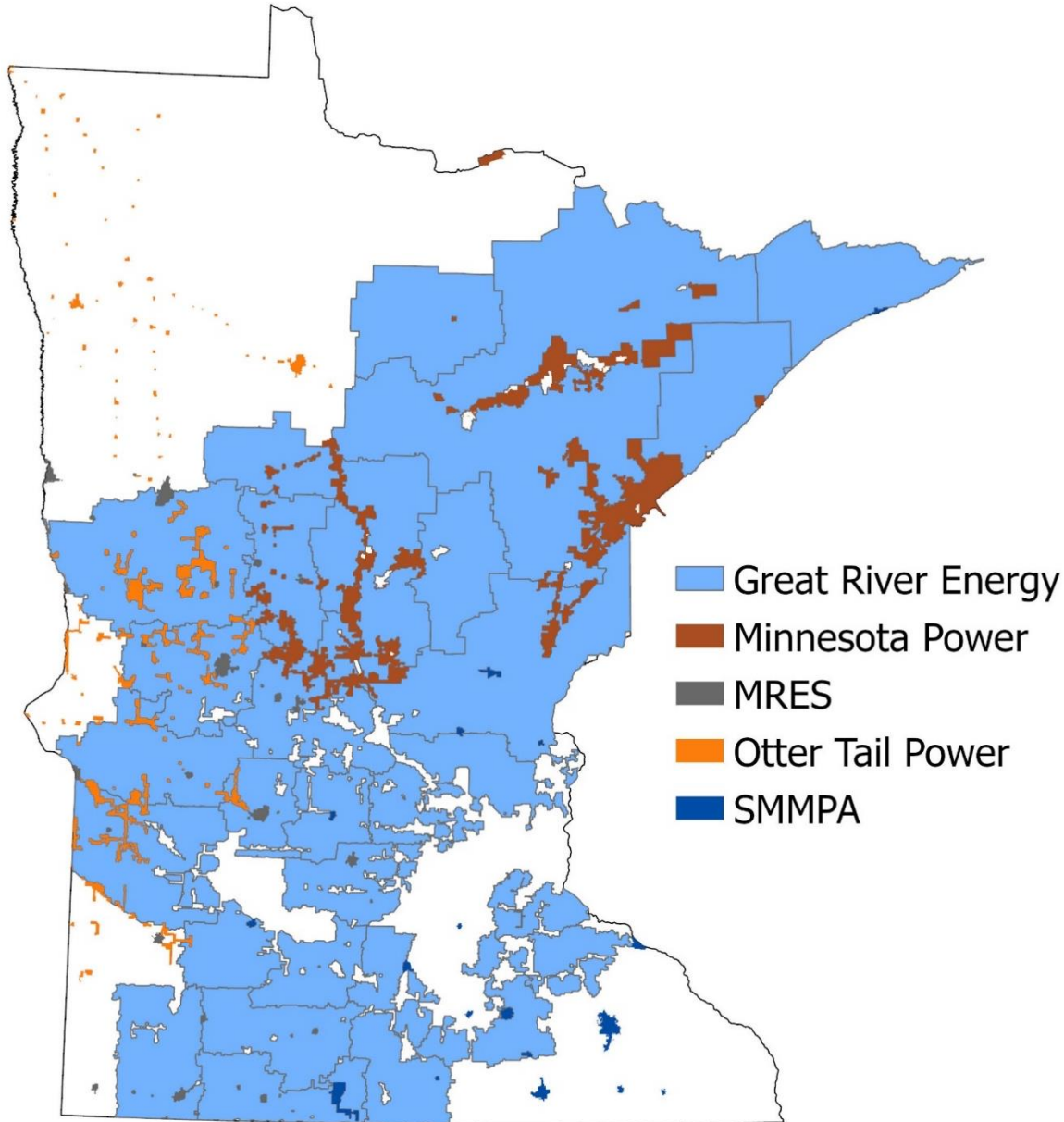
Contractor availability

Product availability

Up-front product cost

Familiarity of modern HP technology

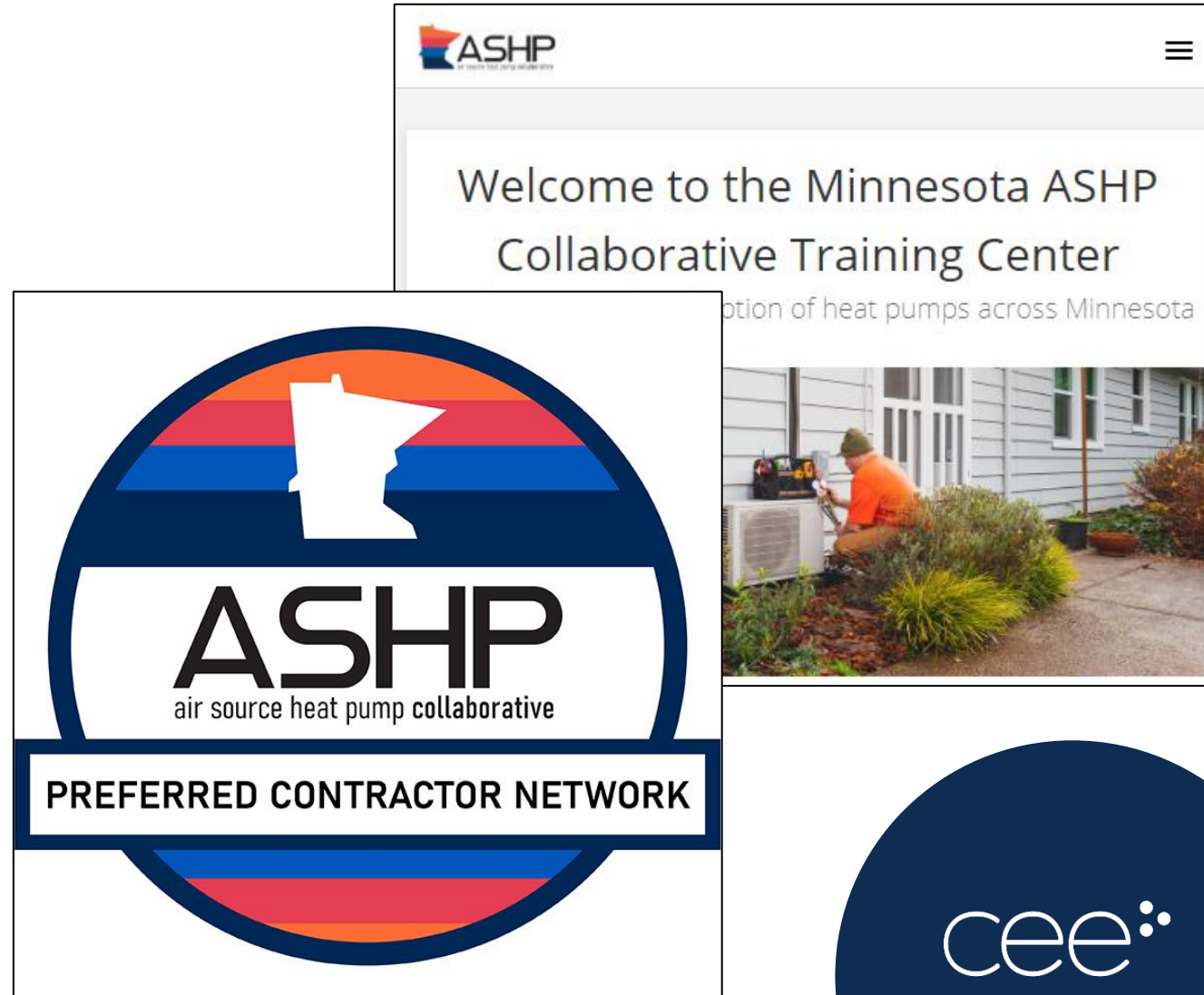
# MN ASHP Collaborative Members





# MN ASHP Collaborative Contractor Resources

- Free training modules
- Best practices guide
- Manufacturer promotions
- In person training
- Preferred Contractor Network





# MN ASHP Collaborative Homeowner Resources

- Case studies across MN
- Buying guides
- Product finders
- Financing information
- FAQs
- Blog (**recently launched**)
- Contractor lookup through Preferred Contractor Network (**coming soon**)

## Case Study

### Cold-Climate Heat Pump in Kenyon

#### For Homeowners

Transforming the way we heat and cool our homes.

who keeps careful track of his  
-2021 winter, he noticed that his  
ly tripled. However, what  
in a concerning jump didn't



# Thank You!

---

Isaac Smith – [ismith@mncee.org](mailto:ismith@mncee.org)

