

DOE Buildings Performance Database

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Problem Statement:

- Large-scale high-quality empirical data on building energy performance is critical to support decision-making and increase confidence in energy efficiency investments.
- While there are a many potential sources for such data, they:
 - are dispersed and not easily obtainable;
 - do not have a common data definitions;
 - vary widely in scope, formats and data quality.

Building Owners & Managers, Service Providers

Assess opportunities

- Identify high or low performing buildings, and identify improvements that will likely have a significant savings impact

Understand performance risk

- Analyze the range of likely returns from an investment

Evaluate investment performance

- Compare efficiency project performance to similar projects

Federal, State & Local Governments

Assess opportunities

- Identify high or low performing buildings, and identify improvements that will likely have a significant savings impact

Understand performance risk

- Analyze the range of likely returns from an investment

Evaluate investment performance

- Compare efficiency project performance to similar projects

Influence local real estate markets

- Enable public access to general statistical information about buildings, without sharing building-level information

Energy Efficiency Program Administrators

Help participants
assess opportunities

- Help building owners, managers, and contractors identify improvements that will likely have a significant savings impact

Target program
design

- Identify buildings and efficiency measures with the greatest savings potential

Support M&V

- Optimize M&V requirements based on measured savings uncertainty and persistence

Lenders and Investors

Assess opportunities

- Identify high or low performing buildings, and identify improvements that will likely have a significant savings impact

Increase confidence in returns

- Analyze actual building performance (as opposed to modeled or predicted performance)

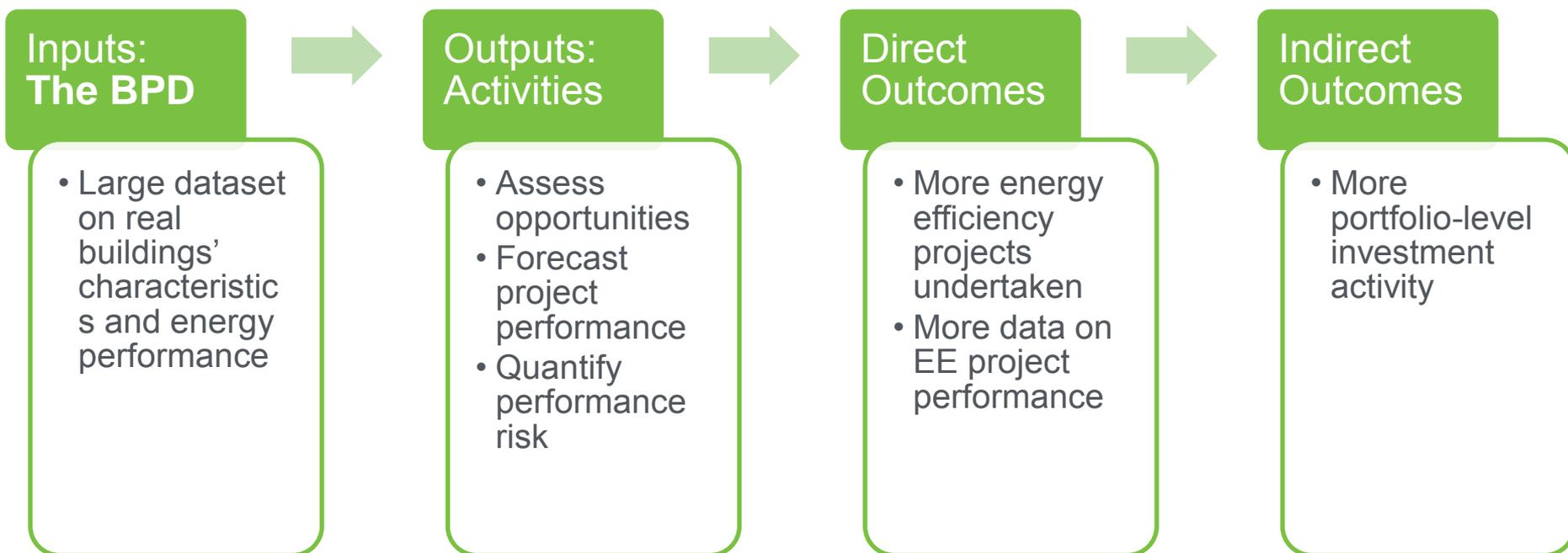
Conduct performance risk analysis

- Quantitatively distinguish between expected returns and performance risk

Support portfolio-level investment strategy

- Diversify risk by investing in a range of buildings and measures

The BPD can analyze trends in the energy performance and physical and operational characteristics of commercial and residential buildings.



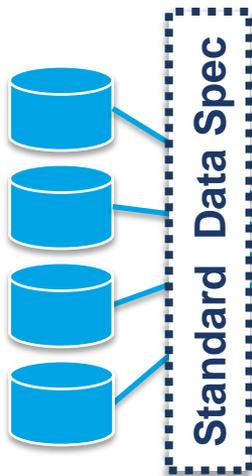
- The target market is all commercial and residential buildings.
- The BPD is an enabling technology that provides information to support energy efficiency investment decision-making.
- *If we assume that information from the BPD enables an additional 5% of investments to be made, increasing the floor area retrofit by 5% in the residential and commercial sectors, the annual energy savings attributable to BPD would amount to about 20 trillion Btu site energy savings.*

Alignment with EERE and BTO goals

- BPD is a key component of the DOE and White House Energy Data Initiative.
- BPD directly addresses three strategies identified in the BTO multi-year plan:
 - Increase transparency of energy use by allowing comparisons of energy efficiency between buildings to encourage owner/occupier action and drive demand
 - Increase awareness among commercial building owners and operators of opportunities to cost-effectively save energy ...
 - Reduce investment risk to increase financing for commercial retrofits

- The BPD contains data about the physical and operational characteristics and energy consumption of real buildings.
- The BPD enables statistical analysis without revealing information about individual buildings.
- The BPD cleanses and validates data from many sources and translates it into the standard data spec.
- In addition to the BPD's analysis tools, an API will enable third parties to create applications using the database.

DATA SOURCES



DATA PLATFORM



ANALYTICAL TOOLS



- Data acquisition, mapping & cleansing
 - Identify and acquire large datasets that include actual energy use and characteristics data; Provide incentives for data providers and address any legal concerns;
 - Mapping rules to transform source data to standard data spec;
 - Data cleansing protocol, including out-of-range and in-range checks for each data field and record.
- Standard data specification
 - Must be flexible enough to accommodate a wide range of current and anticipated analysis use cases;
 - Must support a wide range of existing data sources while anticipating future richer datasets.

- Data platform
 - Software solutions suited to building performance data – relational and time series.
 - “Agile” development approach to accommodate changing data spec, new tools.
 - API for third party tools.
- Tools
 - Develop and evaluate various algorithms suited to building energy analysis use cases and data.
 - Develop a basic set of tools to explore data and analyze energy performance of efficiency measures.
 - Encourage development of third party tools via API.

“Actuarial” Method for Retrofit Savings Analysis

My building:
now

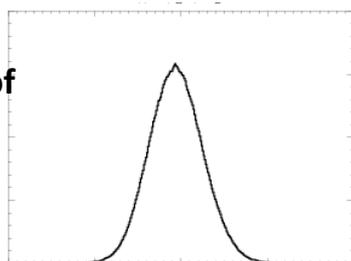
My building:
after retrofit



Peer group in
Database

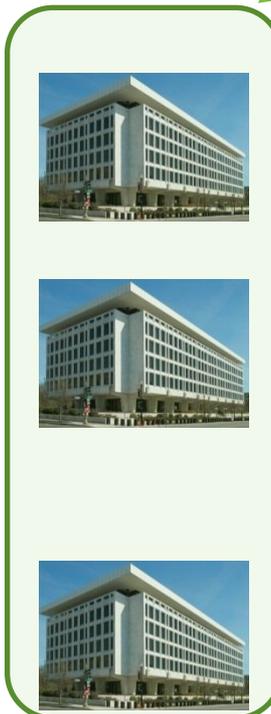
Peer group in
Database

Number of
Buildings



Energy/SqFt

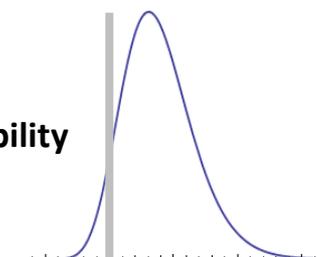
Number of
Buildings



Energy/SqFt

“Subtract” the two
histograms to get savings
histogram

%
Probability



Savings/SqFt

Initial effort (Jan 2011 – Sep 2012)

- Booz Allen Hamilton – overall project management and software implementation.
- National labs (ANL, LBNL, NREL, PNNL) – technical approach, methods, data.

Current effort (Oct 2012 – Sep 2013)

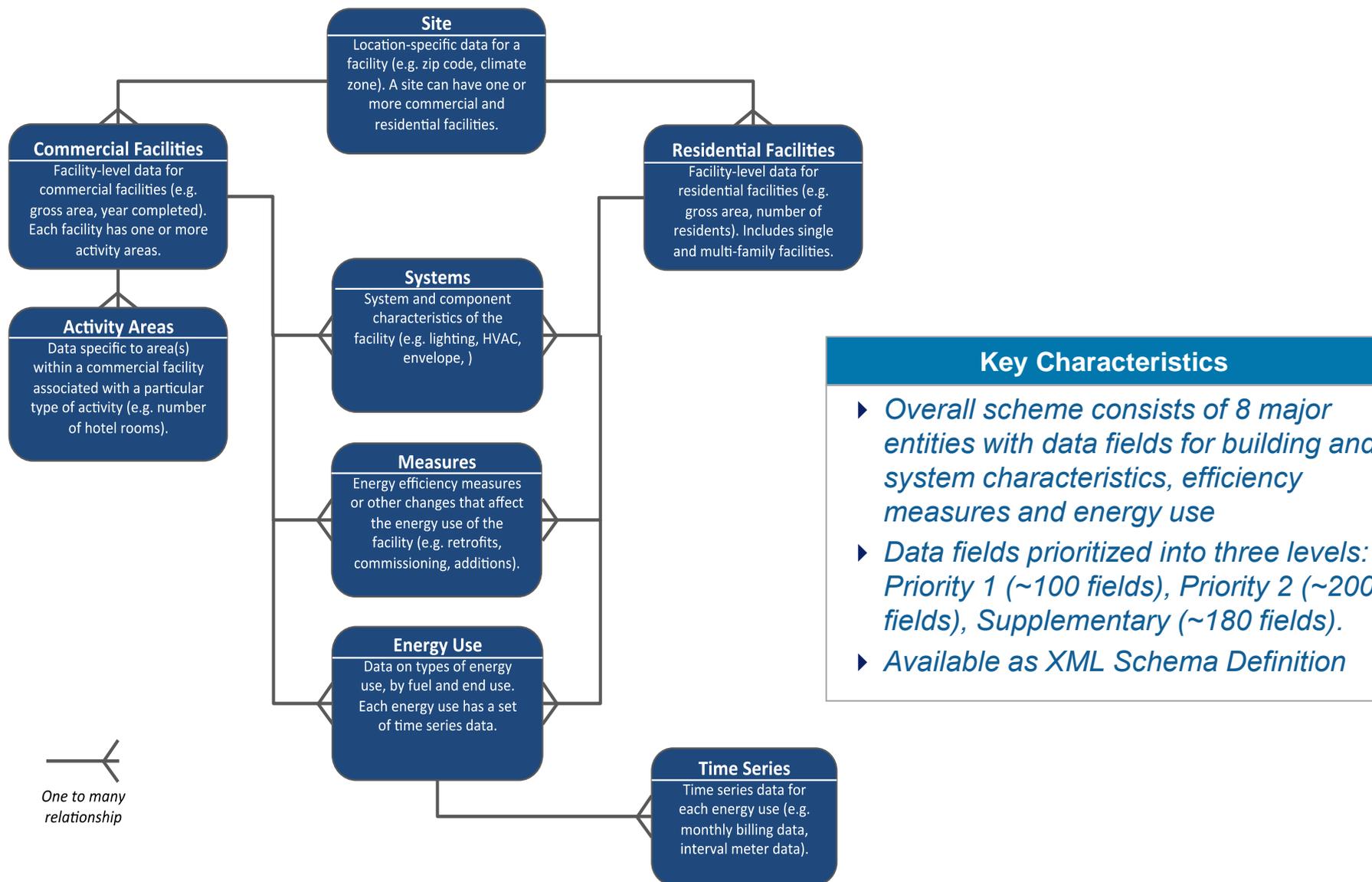
- LBNL is primary performer
 - Software implementation by BuildingEnergy (sub contractor to LBNL).
 - Support from PNNL for analysis methods.

- *Data acquisition*
- *Data exchange specification*
- *Software implementation*
 - *Beta*
 - *Version 1*

BPD's Current Data Sources

- Acquired more than 70,000 buildings from 18 public and private sector data sources (as of March 20, 2013).
 - Data continually being mapped, cleansed and imported into BPD.
 - System level data (lighting type, HVAC efficiency, etc.) more limited.
 - Active outreach to more than 30 additional data sources





Several related data specs /taxonomies were reviewed and mapped to BPD data spec.

ASHRAE Audit procedures

ASTM BEPA

GRI Reporting Protocols

SkyFoundry Haystack

Home Energy Saver

HPXML

HVAC Data Model

IEP

Industry Foundation Classes

ISO Standard 12655

NAESB PAP10

Omniclass

OpenADE

...

How do these vary?

1. Overall scope.
e.g. Is water use, IEQ data included?
2. How a feature is defined.
e.g. qualitative vs. quantitative description of air tightness
3. Classification of building system types.
e.g. types of heat pumps
4. Granularity.
e.g. multiple lighting types in each space vs. predominant lighting type for building.

Selecting a Comparison Dataset (location, size, use, equipment type,...)

Commercial Building Location Pre: 2140 records Post: 2140 records

Climate Zone: City Zip

Climate Zone: Zone: 5A (2324)

Zipcode: 12205 (2), 12207 (2), 18103 (2), 48105 (2), 60005 (2), 13021 (2), 14020 (3), 44122 (2), 25801 (3), 45305 (38), 49022 (2), 44147 (2), 45309 (69), 14202 (8), 14224 (2), Albany, NY (5), Allentown, PA (3), Ann Arbor, MI (5), Arlington Heights, IL (2), Auburn, NY (2), Batsavia, NY (3), Beachwood, OH (2), Beckley, WV (3), Bellbrook, OH (38)

Building Location

Residential Building Information 754 records

Residence Type *
 Apartment
 Mobile Home
 Multifamily
 Single Family
 Studio

Select any of these fields to further specify a peer group: Square Footage Year Built

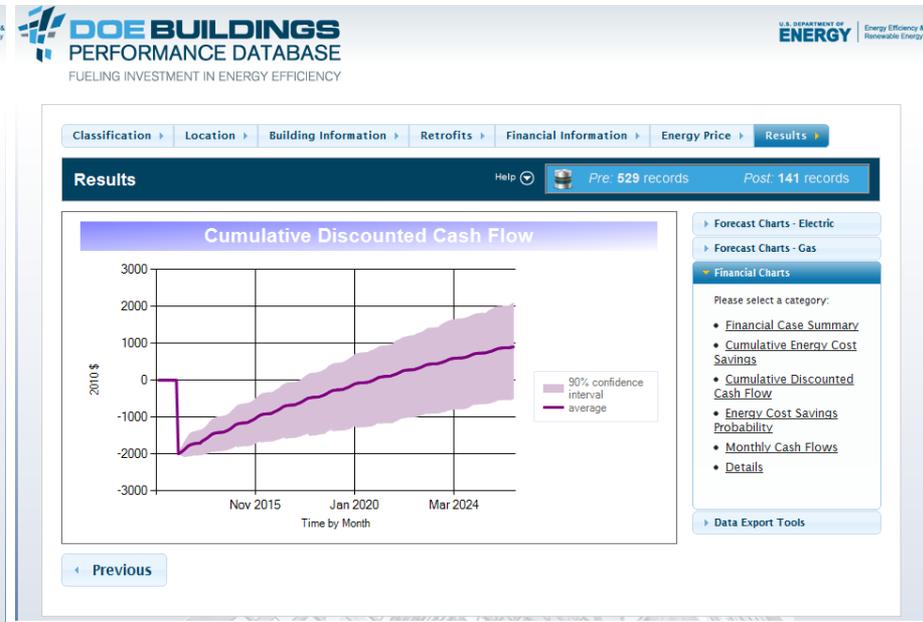
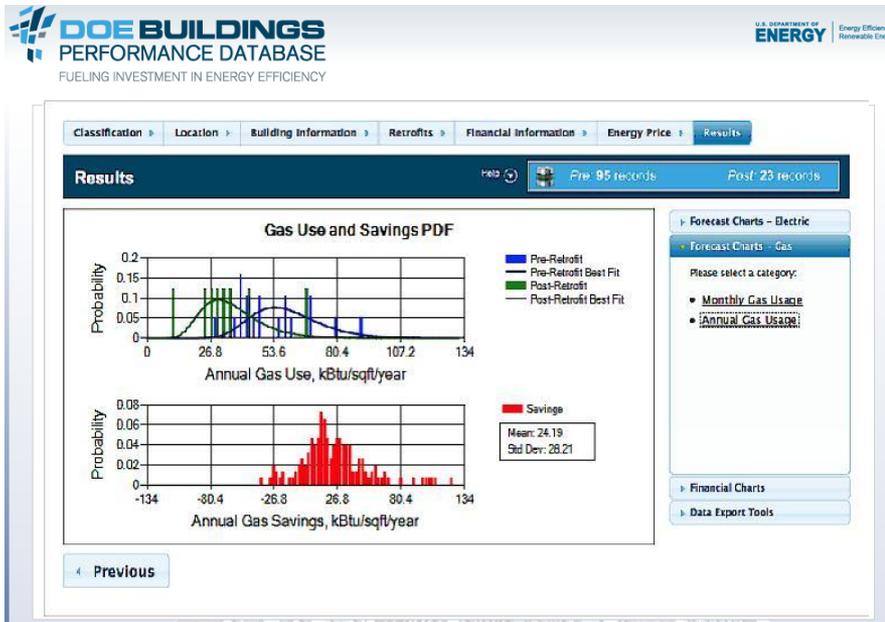
Square Footage (sq. ft.)
 Min: 180 Max: 5094
 (180 - 5094)

Year Built
 Min: 1910 Max: 2008
 (1830 - 2008)

Heating Fuel Type: Natural Gas
 Heating System Type: Furnace
 Cooling Fuel Type: Select an Item
 Cooling System Type: Select an Item

Building Characteristics

Analytical tools quantify energy use, financial performance, and risk



The screenshot displays the DOE Buildings Performance Database (BPD) interface. A modal window is open in the center, featuring a welcome message and a login form. The background shows a sidebar with filters for building classification, location, and building characteristics, and a main area with a search bar and a data visualization chart.

Filters:

- BUILDING CLASSIFICATION:** Classification Type: Commercial
- BUILDING:** Facility Type, Gross Floor Area, Year Built, Hours Occupied, Number of People
- LOCATIONS:** Climate Zone, State, Zip Code
- BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:** Lighting, Heating, Cooling, Air Distribution, Window, Wall, Roof / Ceiling

Search Location: State, Zip code or Climate Zone

Modal Window:

- Header:** DOE BUILDINGS PERFORMANCE DATABASE | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy
- Text:** Welcome to the DOE Buildings Performance Database
- Log in:** pamathew@lbl.gov, [password field]
- Buttons:** LOG IN, CANCEL
- Footer:** Powered by: BUILDING ENERGY™

Data Explorer Chart:

- X-axis:** Energy Use Intensity kWh/Sqft/Mo (0 to 300)
- Legend:** circle size represents the number of building records

FILTERS

BUILDING CLASSIFICATION

Classification Type 1 2 >

BUILDING INFO

Facility Type All >

Floor Area 0 - 2,000,000 >

Year Built 1800 - 2013 >

Hours Occupied 0 - 168 >

Number of People 0 - 1,000 >

LOCATION

Climate Zone All >

State All >

Zip Code All >

BUILDING DETAILS

Lighting All >

Heating All >

Cooling All >

Window Glass Type All >

Window Glass Layers All >

Air Flow Control All >

Wall Insulation R-Value 0 - 80 >

Roof/Ceiling All >

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DOE BUILDINGS PERFORMANCE DATABASE

FEEDBACK **LOG OUT**

Buildings % Per Region: >1 2 3 4+

5, 499 / 49,379 Buildings

Graph 1 Dimension 2 Dimensions **DISPLAY: Energy Use Intensity by** Source Consumption

COMPARE YOUR OWN BUILDING: kBtu/ft²/year Compare **PEER GROUP AVG:** 308 kBtu/ft²/year

Energy Use Intensity (kBtu/ft²/year)

BUILDINGS PER CIRCLE: 11 98 350

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FILTERS

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State All >

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BUILDING DETAILS

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Heating All >

Cooling All >

Window Glass Type All >

Window Glass Layers All >

Air Flow Control All >

Wall Insulation R-Value 0 - 80 >

Roof/Ceiling All >

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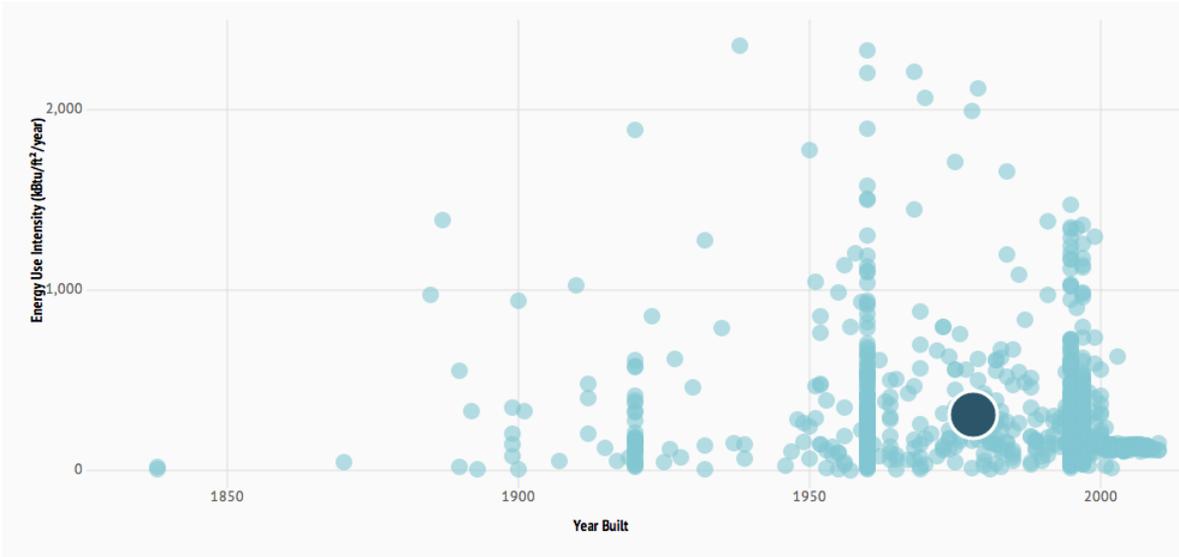
DOE BUILDINGS PERFORMANCE DATABASE

FEEDBACK **LOG OUT**

5,499 / 49,379 Buildings

Graph 1 Dimension 2 Dimensions DISPLAY: Energy Use Intensity by Source Consumption and Year Built

COMPARE YOUR OWN BUILDING: kBtu/ft²/year year PEER GROUP AVG: 308 kBtu/ft²/year 1978 year built



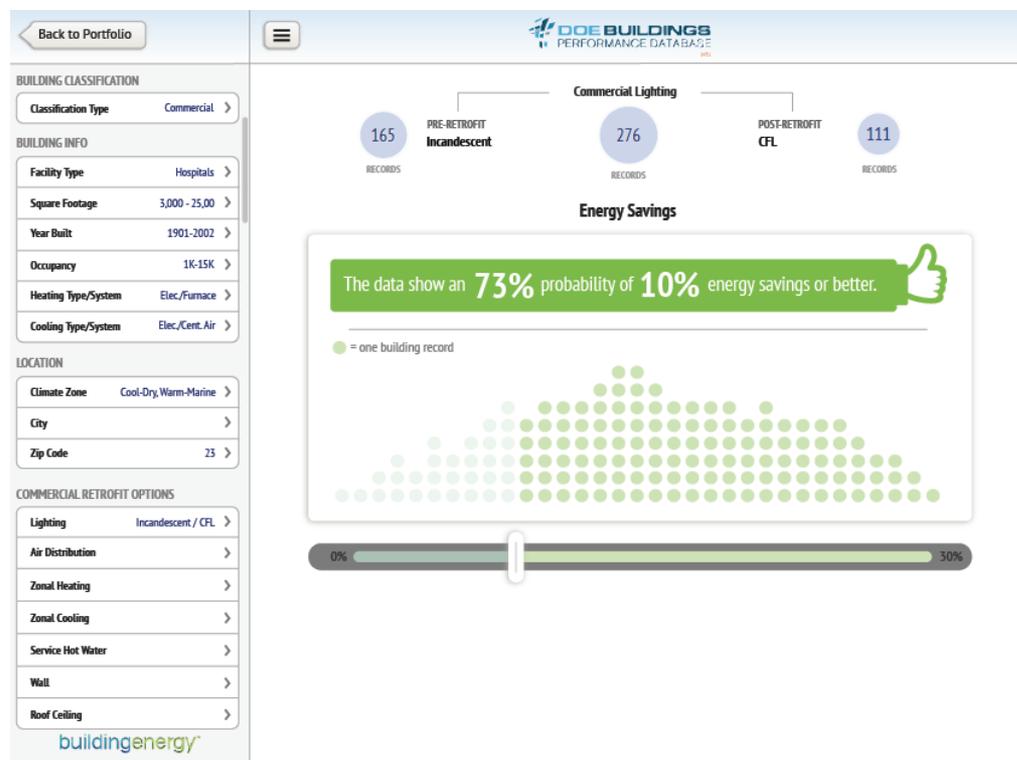
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY** Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

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BPD Version 1: Retrofit tool (in development)

- Retrofit app will allow user to evaluate savings from various energy efficiency measures
- Tool features and designs were tested with potential users.
 - In-person interviews
- Currently being implemented.
 - Expected May 2013



| ID | Deliverable | Due date | Status |
|---|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Task 1: Acquire and map new data sources into the BPD | | | |
| LBNL-FY13-12-01 | Updated data acquisition plan | 11/1/2012 | Completed |
| LBNL-FY13-12-02 | Working list of data sources | ongoing | Regularly updated |
| LBNL-FY13-12-03 | Acquisition, mapping and cleansing of at least 6 new data sources, with collective total of 200,000 buildings | 9/30/2013 | More than 6 acquired and mapped. On schedule. |
| Task 2: Software Development for BPD version 1 | | | |
| LBNL-FY13-12-04 | BPD version 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data explorer tool - Retrofit analysis tool - Financial analysis tool | 2/15/13 4/30/13 7/31/13 | Completed Expected May 15. On schedule |
| Task 3: Support implementation of load-shape benchmarking algorithms | | | |
| LBNL-FY13-12-05 | Load shape benchmarking (LSB) implementation | 4/30/2013 | On schedule. Click through version completed |
| LBNL-FY13-12-06 | Convene LSB industry technical advisory committee and compile summary report | 6/30/2013 | On schedule |
| LBNL-FY13-12-07 | Reference dataset for LSB | 7/31/2013 | On schedule |

| ID | Deliverable | Due date | Status |
|---|---|--------------------|---|
| Task 4: Development of enhanced actuarial analysis approaches | | | |
| LBNL-FY13-12-08 | Documentation of actuarial analysis methods, their application use cases with examples using BPD data | 3/30/2013 | On schedule |
| LBNL-FY13-12-09 | Software specification for actuarial analysis approaches selected to be implemented in BPD tools | 4/30/2013 | On schedule |
| Task 5: Development of Standard Building Energy Performance Data Specification | | | |
| LBNL-FY13-12-10 | At least two revisions in XML format and natural language documentation | 6/30/13 9/30/13 | Updated version released 2/15/13. On schedule |
| LBNL-FY13-12-11 | Stakeholder assessment including the following: interview questions, assessment report, options for finalizing data specs, Implementation plan. | 4/30/13 | On schedule |

Project Budget: \$1,005K (FY13)

Variances: 55K added Jan 2013 for conducting data spec stakeholder review.

Cost to Date: 288K spent (29%) as of Feb 28, 2012.

Additional Funding: N/A

Budget History (LBNL)

| FY2010 | | FY2011 | | FY2012 | |
|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|
| DOE | Cost-share | DOE | Cost-share | DOE | Cost-share |
| \$0 | \$0 | \$264 | \$0 | \$343K | \$0 |

Partners, Subcontractors, and Collaborators:

- BuildingEnergy is software implementation partner.
- PNNL supports analysis methods.
- ~200 stakeholders engaged in BPD development as advisors, data providers, and beta testers

Technology Transfer, Deployment, Market Impact:

- “Soft launch” approach – users invited in phases.
- Over 400 on pending request list (as of 3/20/13)

Communications:

Presentations at ASHRAE Conference, Better Buildings Alliance meetings, Consortium for Energy Efficiency, EE Finance Forums, Regional Energy Efficiency Orgs, SEED user group, White House CEQ.

Future plans: An iterative strategy for taking the BPD to scale

- Use data and tools available today to demonstrate the value of empirical building energy performance data.
- As stakeholders begin to collect and contribute richer data, the BPD will be able to conduct more advanced analyses.
- Promote standard data spec to facilitate data collection and aggregation at scale.

