Ductless Heat Pump Applications in Factory-built Housing

Gaps and barriers addressed:

- Retrofitting homes with existing electric forced-air furnace systems
- Designing hybrid zonal heating systems for new homes

Presented by Brady Peeks, Northwest Energy Works, Inc.

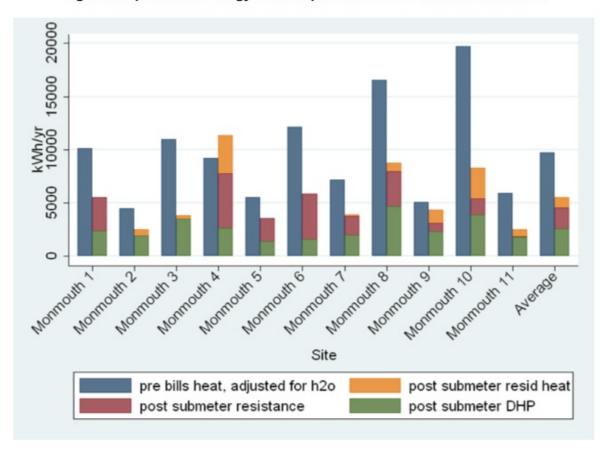
Spring 2012 Residential Energy Efficiency Meeting, Austin, TX

Ductless Heat Pump Retrofits in Manufactured Homes

- Gaps and Barriers:
 - DHP interaction with existing ducted electric forced-air furnace system is unknown
 - Pacific Northwest utilities are monitoring a handful of mfd. homes to determine if savings differ from other housing types—no attempt to influence furnace interactions
 - Building America Partnership for Improving Residential Construction (BA-PIRC) team effort to monitor sites where measures are implemented with the aim of optimizing forced air system interactions

Ductless Heat Pump Retrofits in Manufactured Homes

Figure 2: Space Heat Energy Consumption Deltas for 11 Monmouth Sites



Ductless Heat Pump Retrofits in Manufactured Homes

- BA-PIRC Research Test Plan
 - Recruit and perform audits on five test homes that have electric forced-air furnaces
 - Determine Design heating load of each home
 - De-energize heat strips in furnace beyond what is needed to supplement DHP to meet design heating load
 - Reduce furnace blower speed and/or replace with efficient blower to maintain air temperature and reduce duct system operating pressure
 - Test thermostat and/or other control strategies for ability to maintain secondary zone temps
 - Develop best practice guidelines for use by utility programs and other stakeholders

- Gaps and barriers
 - System's ability to maintain year-round even temperatures throughout home is unproven
 - Factory installation is complex and may present transport issues
 - Industry and homebuyers are accustomed to central forced-air systems
 - Pricing of the DHP hybrid zonal system is unknown

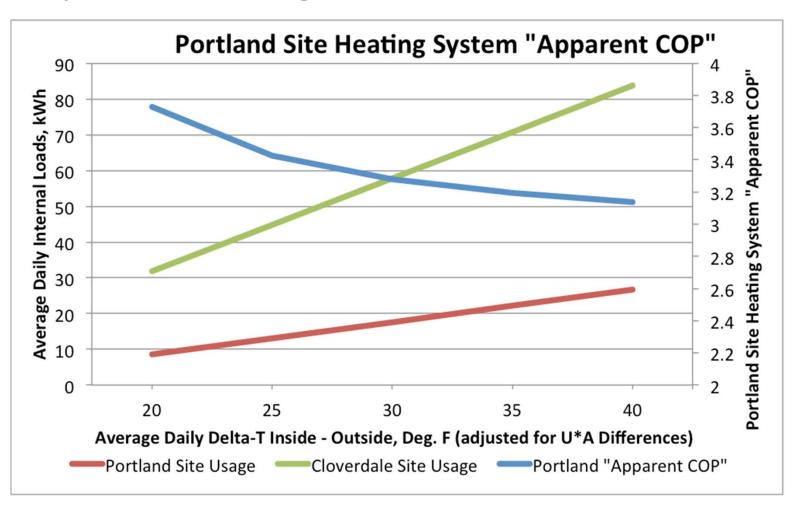
Work to date:

- NW Energy Efficient Manufactured Home program (NEEM) has factory-prototyped three DHP hybrid zonal homes
 - Homes received DAPIA approvals
 - Homes traveled to their destinations without problems

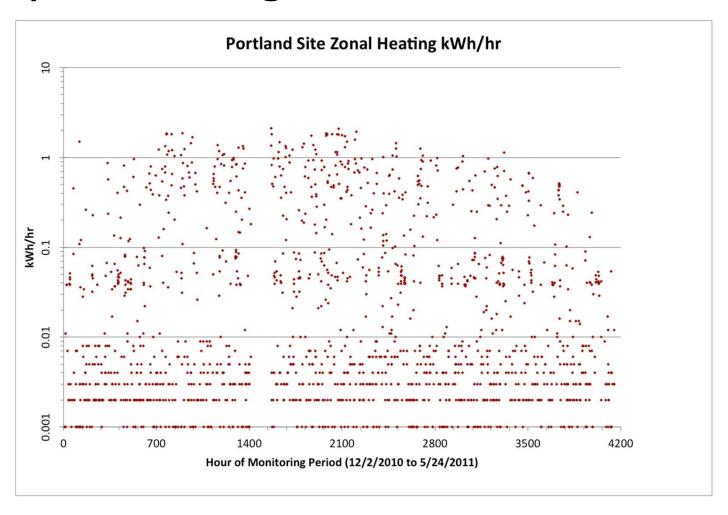
Work to date, cont.:

- NW Energy Works has worked with PNNL on a Building America research project to monitor a DHP hybrid zonal mfd. home vs. a similar conventional electric zonal home over a heating season
 - DHP maintained more even temperatures than conventional zonal home (much more even than typical forced-air mfd. homes)
 - Significant reduction in heating energy use

Hybrid DHP Zonal Electric Heating System Design—Research to Date



Hybrid DHP Zonal Electric Heating System Design—Research to Date



Next Steps:

- BA-PIRC work bringing technical support to BPA and NEEA utility initiatives
 - Assist home manufacturers with DHP hybrid system designs to facilitate bringing the option to market
 - Continue monitoring of prototype homes:
 - Collect summer cooling data
 - Optimize system performance through "extend-a-zone" techniques