



# It's 2020: Are You Capping & Trading Your Carbon Footprint Yet?

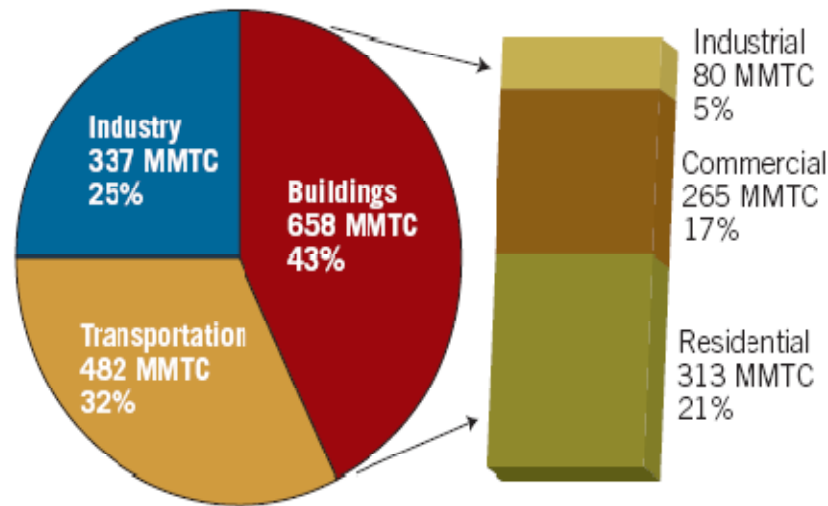
Bill Prindle & Dean Gamble  
RESNET Conference  
November 7, 2008

# Carbon Footprints in a Nutshell

- Buildings consume energy
- The energy consumed is either generated on-site or off-site
- Most energy produces emissions when it's generated
- The amount of emissions produced depends on where, when, and how the energy is generated
- The quantity of emissions produced defines the building's carbon footprint

# Buildings As a Whole Have a Large Carbon Footprint

CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion by End-Use Sector, 2002



Source: Pew Center on Global Climate Change, Towards a Climate Friendly Built Environment

# Two Key Considerations

- What's the baseline (or initial carbon footprint) from which savings are measured?
- How are emissions reductions quantified?

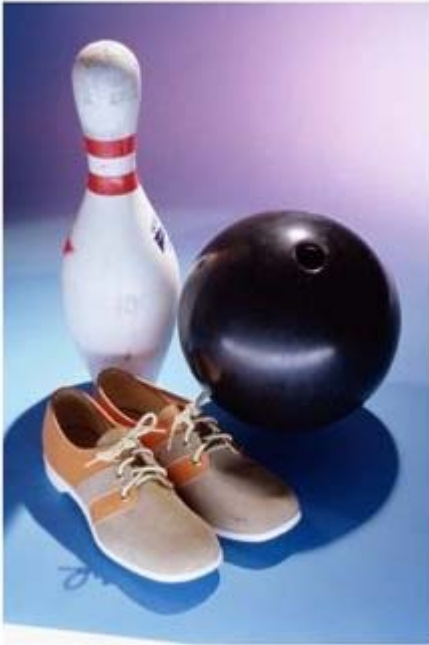
# Determining Carbon Footprints

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# Factors That Impact Footprint

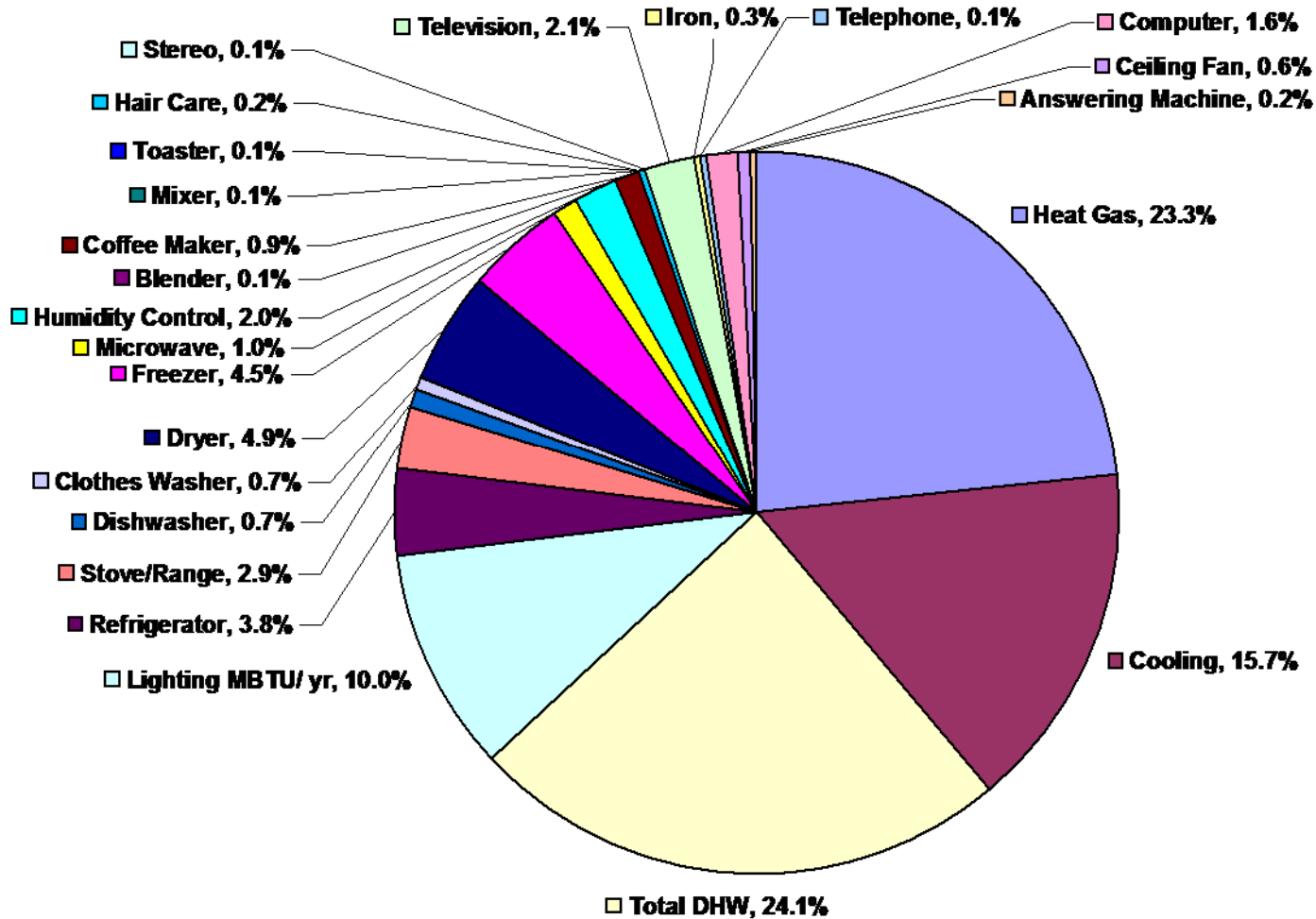
- Some Factors Are Constant for a Given Building
- Architectural Characteristics
  - Building Size
  - Number of Stories
  - Foundation Type
  - Window Area
- Energy Efficiency Features
  - Insulation Levels
  - Equipment Efficiency
  - Infiltration

# Factors That Impact Footprint

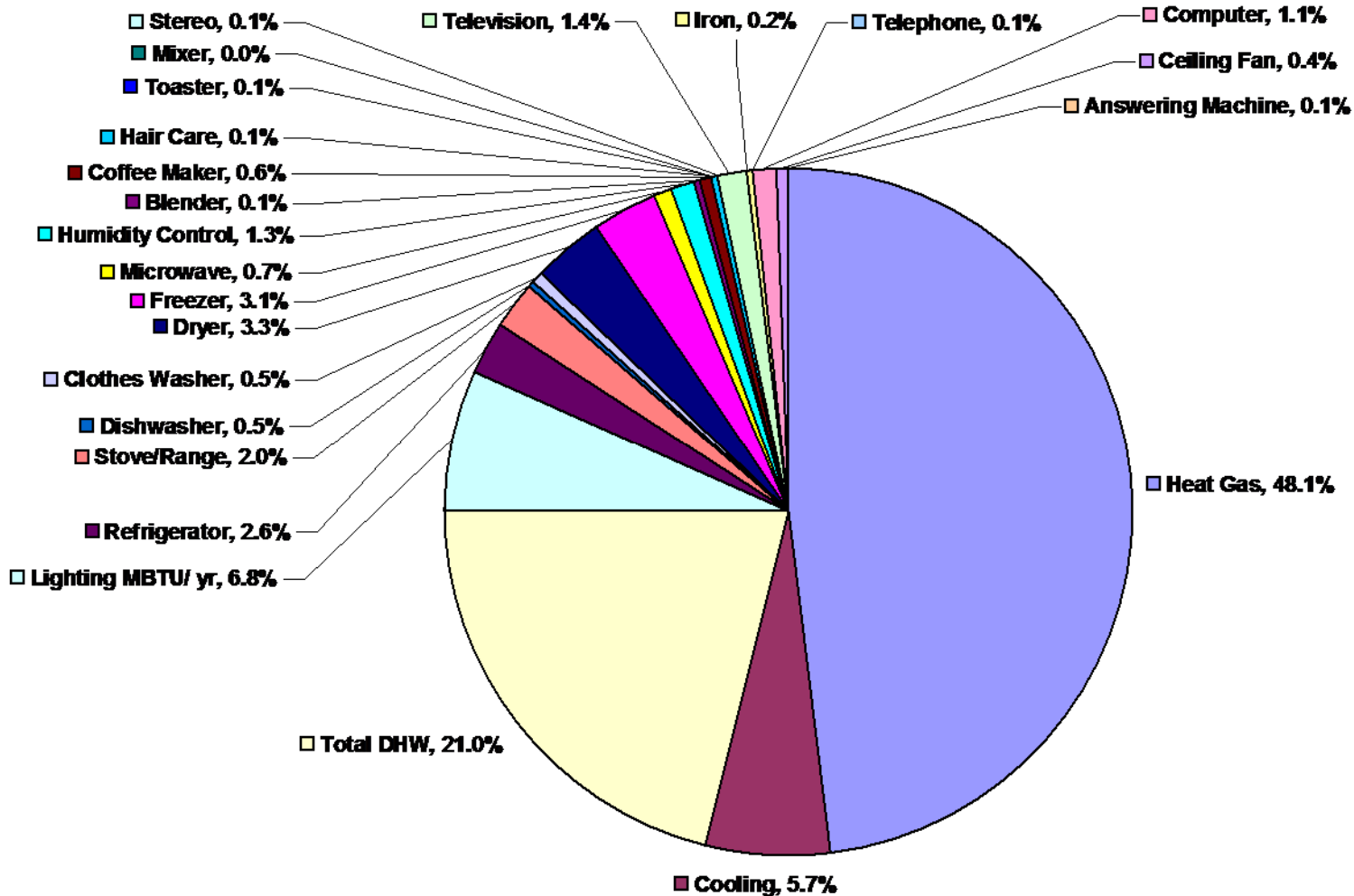
- Some Factors Are Not Constant
- Schedules of Use / Occupant Behavior
  - Hours of Operation
  - Thermostat Setpoints
  - Hot Water Setpoint Temperature
- Geographic Location
  - Weather Conditions



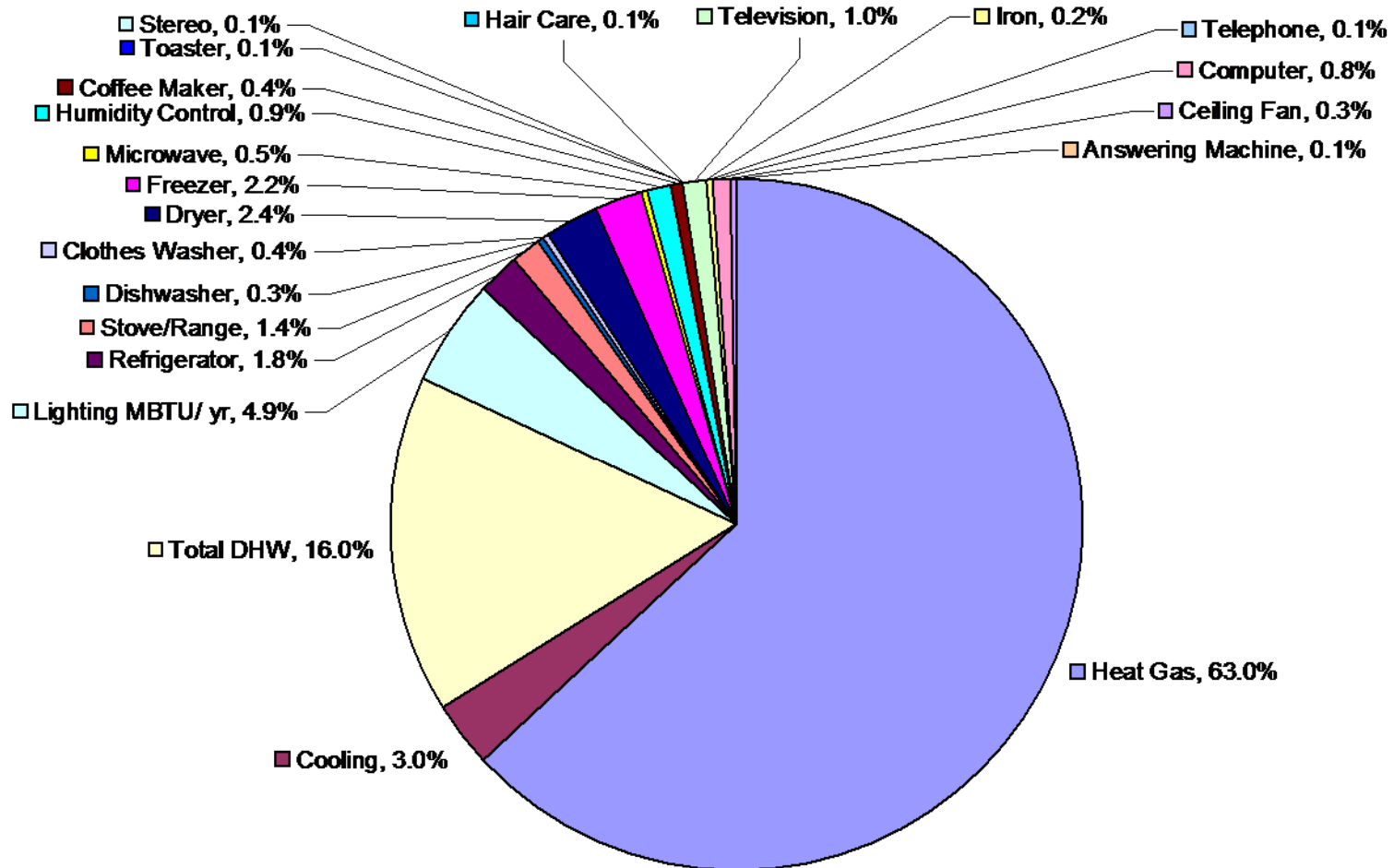
# Sample Consumption - Houston



# Sample Consumption - Baltimore



# Sample Consumption - Minneapolis



# Potential Impact of Behavior

Category	Variations Considered	Absolute Impact		
		Houston	Balt.	Minn.
Thermostats	Setpoints	46%	41%	39%
Lighting	Fixture quantity and % fluorescent lighting	26%	16%	10%
Freezers	Equipment efficiency and quantity	12%	7%	4%
Refrigerators	Equipment efficiency and quantity	10%	6%	3%
Cooking Range	Burner efficiency and hours of use	8%	5%	3%
Dishwashers	Equipment efficiency and annual wash cycles	7%	7%	6%
TV/DVD	Equipment efficiency and annual hours of use	6%	3%	2%
Clothes Washer	Equipment efficiency and annual wash cycles	5%	4%	3%
Computers	Equipment efficiency and annual hours of use	4%	3%	1%
Microwaves	Equipment capacity and quantity	3%	2%	1%
Telephones	Equipment efficiency and annual hours of use	3%	2%	1%
Ceiling Fans	Equipment efficiency and quantity	2%	1%	1%

# Some Key Questions on Baseline

- To what extent do you account for varying behavior, including the influence of occupants on plug loads?
- To what extent do you account for variations in weather conditions?

# How Are Emissions Reductions Quantified?

- No “carbon meter” used in buildings yet
- Energy savings must be determined first
- Then energy can be converted into carbon using an intensity factor
- However, intensity factors vary:
  - By fuel location (direct vs indirect)
  - For indirect, by generation method
  - For indirect, by generation period

# Intensity Varies by Fuel Location

- Fuel Combustion On-site Produces Emissions
- Electricity Consumption On-Site Results in Offsite Emissions Production

## Residential Emissions Intensity by Fuel Type

(Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. / PJ)

Fuel Type	Emissions Source	Intensity
Natural gas	Direct	51
LPG	Direct	60
Lighting kerosene	Direct	69
Heating oil	Direct	70
Black coal	Direct	90
Electricity	Indirect	234

# Intensity Varies by Generation Source

- Electricity Can Be Generated by Many Different Fuels

## Emissions Intensity for Electricity Produced by Various Fuel Types

(Gg CO<sub>2</sub>-eq. / PJ)

Brown coal	345
Black coal	255
Gas	157
Biomass	0
Other renewable/ hydro	0



# Intensity Varies by Generation Period

- Time of Generation Can Impact Emissions Intensity

**Emissions Intensity for Electricity  
Produced At Varying Times**

**(Lbs CO<sub>2</sub> / MW)**

<b>Broad Peak</b>	<b>Winter Peak</b>	<b>2,027</b>
	<b>Winter Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,287</b>
	<b>Summer Peak</b>	<b>1,788</b>
	<b>Summer Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,233</b>
<b>Narrow Peak</b>	<b>Winter Peak</b>	<b>n/a</b>
	<b>Winter Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,076</b>
	<b>Summer Peak</b>	<b>1,476</b>
	<b>Summer Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,073</b>
<b>Shoulder Scenario</b>	<b>Shoulder Peak</b>	<b>2,186</b>
	<b>Shoulder Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,269</b>
	<b>Non-Shoulder Peak</b>	<b>1,945</b>
	<b>Non-Shoulder Off-Peak</b>	<b>2,260</b>

# Intensity Varies by Generation Period

- Energy Systems Laboratory has used hourly output from DOE-2, combined with EPA's eGRID emissions database to estimate time-dependent emissions impacts
- E3 has developed a methodology in CA that similarly ties in with eGRID to produce time-dependent emissions impacts

# Some Key Questions on Savings

- How do you quantify consumption for fuels that are not metered?
- To what extent do you tie buildings to specific generation sources? Over what time period?

# Climate Policy and EE Overview

- About ICF and our climate/energy practice
- How efficiency reduces CO2 emissions—or not
- How climate policy might engage EE—or not
- Hybrid policy solutions that can engage EE effectively
- How RESNET members and others in the building performance business can position themselves to profit in a climate policy future

# ICF does climate as well as EE

*July 2008  
survey  
of corporate  
carbon  
consultancies*



# ICF EE and Climate Clients:

- Federal agencies like EPA on energy efficiency (ENERGY STAR), and air quality and climate policy
- Electric and gas utilities and other energy industry companies, implementing efficiency programs
- State and local governments on energy seeking to meet environmental challenges
- State initiatives like the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and the Western Climate Initiative
- Corporate clients looking to develop business-friendly sustainability strategies, from Yahoo and Ebay to BP and Rolls-Royce

# How Efficiency Reduces CO2 Emissions....or not





# Potential Studies Limitations

- Studies look only at technology and cost, not market structure or policy design
- In electricity markets, EE technologies provide indirect reductions
- CO<sub>2</sub> impacts of electric EE depend on marginal generation emission factors
- Timing matters—saving energy in a given hour may not reduce emissions over an annual compliance period

# How Climate Policy Might Engage EE—or not

# Policy Design Can Limit EE's Ability to Play in Carbon Markets

- Cap and trade the most likely policy paradigm
- Setting caps “upstream” means indirect reductions (like EE) won't be directly marketable
- Allowance holders will be “upstream” in energy markets, and traders won't buy indirect reductions without a dedicated mechanism

# Fortunately, there are Policy Solutions

- Within climate policy design:
  - Allocate allowances to parties that will use them for EE purposes
  - Auction allowances and use the proceeds for EE investment
  - Create set-asides for EE
  - Allow use of EE for offsets

# Policy Options Pros and Cons

- Allocations—simple to administer, hard to control
- Auctions—not simple to administer, but easier to control
- Set-asides—history shows them to be weak
- Offsets—depends on the geographic and technical scope of the cap and trade system, and can be complex to administer

# Hybrids to the Rescue: Climate and Energy Policies

- Complementary energy policies work outside the cap and trade system, but advance its goals and reduce its costs
- Examples include:
  - Building codes
  - Appliance standards
  - Utility EE resource standards
  - Utility public benefits funds
  - Rating/labeling/benchmarking

# It's Already a Hybrid World

- RGGI
  - States auctioning 100% of allowances, using much of proceeds for EE
  - Most RGGI states have complementary policies
- CA AB 32
  - Scoping plan shows ~80% of CO2 reductions from complementary policies
- Congress
  - Recent bills auction % of allowances, allocate allowances to states and utilities for EE, and include building codes provisions

# How Can RESNET Members Profit in a Climate Policy Future?



# Catch the Climate Dollars

- Allocation and auction funds, flowing from:
  - State and regional programs
  - Federal legislated program
- Learn the key state entities that will be programming climate dollars
- Propose and support programs that use building performance rating methods

# Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

- EERS in place or emerging in ~20 states
- Markey bill introduced this year would set national EERS of 15% by 2020
- RPS bill could also incorporate EE as a defined resource, as in NV or CT
- Pressure to enable third-party credit systems is growing
- Building efficiency measures could be aggregated into marketable “white tags”
- Limited white tag transactions in CT, NV
- More action in Europe, though more bilateral tradable commodity

# Rating/Labeling/Benchmarking

- States and localities beginning to mandate rating/benchmarking, at time of sale or otherwise
  - CA
  - NV
  - Austin
  - DC
- Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, under federal control again, may emerge with workable EEM programs

# Building Codes

- IECC becoming more performance-oriented
  - Duct sealing, air sealing in 2009 version
- Code officials and builders may turn to RESNET and others to provide technical services for compliance
- Beyond-code programs booming, and most require ratings of one kind or another
- Stimulus grants to states contingent on adoption of latest codes, PLUS plan for 90% compliance within eight years

# Rating Methods

- Can/should RESNET integrate carbon calculations into rating standards or allied methods?
  - Complexity—average vs. marginal
  - Relative vs. absolute
  - Additionality

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