

NORTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIPS

## ENERGY CODE BASICS PLAN REVIEWS AND FIELD INSPECTIONS

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#### NORTHEAST ENERGY EFFICIENCY PARTNERSHIPS "Facilitating Partnerships to advance the efficient use of energy"



#### MISSION

Promote the efficient use of energy in homes, buildings and industry in the Northeast U.S.

ORGANIZATION

Regional nonprofit since 1996

#### PRIMARY AUDIENCES

- State policy makers
- Efficiency program administrators



#### **APPROACH**

Overcome barriers to efficiency through *strategic regional collaboration* of public policies and programs



TO ADVANCE THE EFFICIENT USE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY

## WHERE IS ENERGY HEADING?



 Zero Net Energy Buildings (ZNEB)
 – Energy Input = Energy Output (what's produced on site equals what's used)

#### THE TIMETABLE (DOE)

 2010
 2015
 2030

 30%
 50%
 3% per year → → 0%

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR US



SAVING OUR ECONOMY FROM UNSUSTAINABLE VOLATILITY

Energy Security

- 1970 last year U.S. exports oil
- 1973 1<sup>st</sup> oil embargo
- 1978 2<sup>nd</sup> oil embargo
- www.peakoil.org





## A FIRM SET OF PRIORITIES



- CONSERVATION (NEGA-WATTS) Use less energy
  - Prioritize space utilization: THINK SMALL
  - Re-use energy; recycle waste
- EFFICIENCY Use most efficient equipment that does the job
  - Research your choices
  - Use the right tools: ACCA S/J/D/T, ASHRAE 183-07
  - TEST; COMMISSION to verify results
- THEN ADD RENEWABLES More cost-effective here
- SUSTAINABILITY: not a separate priority; permeates each and every one of the issues above
- VERIFICATION: not a separate priority; needs to be a normal procedure that measures actual performance of systems

## ENERGY SAVINGS STRATEGIES



#### ELIMINATE

- Unintended air leaks
- Voids, chases, chimneys
- Thermal bridging
- Attic ovens
- HVAC/SHW systems outside the envelope

#### REDUCE

- Uncontrolled Solar Gains
- Non-required Glazing\*

#### INNOVATE

Control Layer Functions:

- Water Barriers
- Moisture Retarders
- Air Barriers
- Thermal Barriers





## PLAN REVIEWS BASIC REQUIREMENTS

### USING ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS TO OBTAIN NECESSARY INFORMATION

## ...IT'S IN THE CODE



### IECC 103.2 Information.

Details shall include:

- Insulation materials/R-values
- Fenestration U-factors/SHGC's
- System & equipment efficiencies,
- Types, sizes & controls
- Duct sealing, insulation & locations
- Air sealing details

## BASIC CODE REQUIREMENTS



**OTHER INFORMATION** (meet mandatory requirements)

- RESCheck Compliance Report
- Energy Star Application w/information

SPECIAL REPORTS

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Inspectors
- Testing

# COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTATION & REPORTS – SECTION 104.2

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- Code Official has final acceptance authority
  - Software, worksheets
  - Above Code Programs
- Electronic media can be used
- Construction work for which a permit is required is subject to inspection
- A certificate is required to be posted\*



## BASIC CODE REQUIREMENTS



#### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - IECC 303

- Insulation Materials: Default R-Values/U-Factors
- Window & Door Default U-Factors (SHGC & VT)

#### CHAPTER 4

- Average Area-weighted U-Factors (maybe)
- HVAC & SHW Design information: sizing; equipment types
- Duct sealing/insulation

## ...IT'S IN THE CODE



## 401.3 CERTIFICATE

- PREDOMINANT R-VALUES
- U-FACTORS
- DUCT INSULATION
- HVAC & SHW EFFICIENCIES
- UNVENTED APPLIANCES



Insulation Rating	R-Value	
Ceiling / Roof	0.00	
Wall	0.00	
Floor / Foundation	0.00	
Ductwork (unconditioned spaces):		
Glass & Door Rating	U-Factor	SHGC
Window		
Door		
Heating & Cooling Equipment	Efficiency	
Water Heater:		
Name-	Date:	
	Date.	
omments		

#### 402.3.5 SUNROOM EXCEPTIONS

Less stringent insulation, R-value and glazing U-factor requirements – not changed in Chapter 5

#### Sunroom definition:

- Glazing area >40% glazing of combined gross exterior wall and roof area
- Separate heating or cooling system or zone (or none?)
- Must be thermally isolated (closeable doors or windows to the rest of the house)









#### Vigneau Residence Mansfield Center CT

## USING LESS: CONTROLLING THE ENVELOPE

#### ENVELOPE:



## **KEY CONTROL LAYERS**

• WATER







• WATER VAPOR

#### • THERMAL

#### www.buildingscience.com

## CONTROLLING GAINS, LOSSES



#### HEAT GAIN

- Solar Heat Gain
- Shading / PF
- Attic ventilation AIR MOVEMENT
- Make-Up Air Dampers
- Reduced Leakage

### EXHAUSTS

- Baths
- Kitchens
- Laundry

## MAKEUP AIR

- Combustion Eqp't.
- Fireplaces
- Central Vac

## THE PERFECT WALL

#### HOW IT WORKS

- Uses thermal breaks
- Controls temperature
- Controls humidity
- Controls air Relies on ventilation systems



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#### THE SANDWICH

- Outside Cladding
  - Imperfect Weather Barrier
- Control Layers
  - Rain\*
  - Air
  - Vapor\*
  - Thermal
- Structure Why here?
- Interior Finish

## WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

#### "OUT-SULATION"

- Insulates the structure
- Provides/protects:
  - Drainage plane
  - Air barrier
  - Vapor retarder

#### The Perfect Wall functions

- as the Perfect Roof (over the structure)
- as the Perfect Floor (under the slab)









## LEARNING HOW TO BUILD IT

## IRC SECTION R601.3 - VAPOR RETARDER



New vapor retarder requirements allow the use of a coat of vinyl paint to satisfy the requirement when:

- An impermeable insulating sheathing with a value of <u>R-5</u> is located outside of a 2x4 stud wall with <u>cavities insulated to R-3.4 per inch</u> minimum in <u>Zone 5</u>;
- An impermeable insulating sheathing with a value of <u>R-7.5</u> is located outside of a 2x6 stud wall with <u>cavities insulated to R-3.4 per inch</u> minimum in <u>Zone 5</u>;



#### **CONTROLLING VAPOR**





1.00 – 10.0 perm III.

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## MOISTURE DIFFUSION IN MATERIALS



MATERIAL	PERM RATING	VAPOR RETARDER(?)
1⁄2″ GWB	38 - 42	NO
TYVEK	52	NO
Latex <u>Primer</u>	7.0 - 10.0	NO
7/16" OSB (w/exterior glue)*	0.77*-3.48	SOMETIMES
1" XPS	0.40 - 1.60	SOMETIMES
7/16" Plywood (exterior glue)	0.70	YES
Kraft Paper Facing	1.0	YES
2 mil polyethylene	0.06 - 0.22	YES
Alkyd-base or V/R paint	< 0.05	YES
1 mil aluminum foil laminate	< 0.05	YES
½" GWB + VWC	0.05 - 0.80	YES

#### HOW TO CONTROL VAPOR (MOISTURE)

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## IS WATER VAPOR...

## LIGHTER THAN AIR? HEAVIER THAN AIR? THE SAME?



**Does it matter?** 



### ...ANY QUESTIONS?



#### 402.2.7 SLAB EDGE INSULATION



- R-10 (typically 2 inches) insulation in Zones 4 and above; Note 'd' requires 5" more for heated slabs
- Downward from top of slab a minimum of 24" (Zones 4 and 5) or 48" (Zones 6, 7, and 8)
- Insulation can be vertical or extend horizontally under the slab or out from the building (must be under 10 inches of soil)



## **INSULATION - VAPOR RETARDER**



#### BEST PRACTICES

- Use R-601.3/Tbl.601.3.
   R 5 on 2x4; R 7.5 on 2x6
- Midpoint air/VR barrier

### <u>CONVENTIONAL</u>

- Full cavity R-20; face stapled
- Fitted at boxes
- Class 1 V/R warm side
- Air barrier at exterior



## **1998 AIRTIGHT STUDY**



#### SINGLE FAMILY - ACH

- Mean Age: 20-30yr
- Tight: 0.19-0.24
- Good: 0.48-0.59
- Typical: 0.96-1.18
- Leaky: 1.93-2.35

- Canada: 0.11+
- ASHRAE 62 min 0.35

MOISTURE MIGRATION PRIORITIES Significantly more water vapor travels through a wall by air leakage than by diffusion



## HOW TO DO IT?

W/LIL

#### **CONTROLLING VENTILATION**



Core: Heat Recovery Units feature a lifetime warranty on the aluminum core.

#### Washable Electrostatic Filters -

Superior EBM Motors: Units are designed with German manufactured EBM external rotor motorized impellers – the most durable motors in the industry. – Precise balancing ensures vibration-free operation. No maintenance needed. 7 Year Limited Warranty.



#### **Fully Insulated Cabinet:**

Baked powder-coat finish. Insulated with 1° (25mm) foil-faced, high density polystyrene foam. For quiet, trouble-free operation.

#### Electronic Control Board:

Units feature state-of-the-art control boards for easy connection to existing HVAC equipment. All units are designed for easy operation from a series of optional remote controls.







## Measuring Leaks -Blower Door Test

CFM x 60/CF of house. Air natural leakage (1/20 of test) should be expected between <0.70 (leaky) and >0.35 (tight).





## **CONTROLLING FENESTRATION**



- WINDOWS
- SKYLIGHTS



• DOORS

## FENESTRATION PERFORMANCE

- NFRC Ratings
  - NFRC 100, U-factors
  - NFRC 200, SHGC
  - Windows, doors, skylights
- Default U-factors & SHGC's
- Manufactured fenestration
  - Standardized infiltration rates
  - AAMA/WDMAI.S.2, or
  - NFRC 400
- "Site-built" fenestration
  - Caulk, gasket or weather-strip for infiltration control











U-Factor

Solar Heat Visible Gain Coefficient Transmittance

Air Leakage



### GLASS & TOTAL INCIDENT SOLAR ENERGY

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### **RE-RADIATION:** LOW – E





Inside Glass Surface Temperature (deg F)

http://www.efficientwindows.org/selection.cfm

# CORRELATION: Low E and SHGC

### <u>LOW 'E'</u>

- VLT transparent
- Reflects primarily
   infrared
- Pyrolitic coating
- May be sputtered

### <u>SHGC</u>

- Reduces VLT
- Reflects more energy
- Sputter coat 'silvered'
- May be film or tint

## LOCATIONS WITH SHGC REQUIREMENTS

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## Thermal Bypass Checklists



### VENTILATION

- Kitchens & bathrooms
- Limiting exhaust CFM\*
- Clothes dryers vent outside
- Air inlet/exhaust locations

- Ventilation controls
- MERV filtration required\*
- Limitations on fan noise\*
- NO vent-less combustion\*
- CO detector for fueled\* appliances



## Thermal Bypass Checklists



### WATER MANAGEMENT

- Cover foundation drains
- Slope patios, walks, grades
- Slab capillary breaks

- Flash base of exterior wall
- Drainage plane outward
- <u>Damp-proof foundation walls</u>
   <u>Roof/window/door flashings</u>
- Gasket sump drain covers
- Backer board tubs & showers



## MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

## WHERE EFFICIENCY MATTERS

# SELECT



# HVAC EQUIPMENT

- Energy Star qualified
- Right sized
   \*(15-40%)
   (see 2012 EC-121)

Service Hot Water



## MECHANICAL & CONTROL SYSTEMS



- "Right-sized"

   Better than NAECA
   ACCA: S/J/D/T
- Tested
  - Ductwork
  - Balancing
  - Proper charge
- Commissioned\*
  - Post-occupancy (C.O.)



# ACCA SYSTEM DESIGN PROCESS



AGGREGATED LOADS FOR INDIVIDUAL SPACES

- <u>Sensible:</u> envelope, air leakage & exhaust, equipment, occupants & activities
- <u>Latent:</u> cooking, bathing, occupant, weather-related (A/C)

SYSTEM LOAD REQUIREMENTS

SELECTIONS OF EQUIPMENT

DELIVERY NETWORK SIZING

TESTING, LOAD BALANCING



# LOADS – ACCA MANUAL J8



## DESIGN ISSUES

- Exposure, orientation
   Latitude, altitude
- Large glazing areas
   NFRC compatible
  - Glazing orientations
- Solariums
- Shading devices
- Internal loads

## **CONSTRUCTION ISSUES**

- Gains/losses for many materials systems
- Roofing color, loads
- Duct loads
- Infiltration loads
- Internal loads



## VENTILATION AND EQUIPMENT SIZING

- Ventilation
  - Outdoor air intakes and exhausts shall have automatic or gravity dampers that close when the ventilation system is not operating
- Equipment Sizing
  - IECC references Section M1401.3 of the IRC
  - Load calculations determine the proper capacity (size) of equipment
    - Goal is big enough to ensure comfort but
       no bigger
  - Calculations shall be performed in accordance with ACCA Manual J or other approved methods





## CHAPTER 5 - EQUIPMENT SIZING

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UNIT	MAXIMUM OVERSIZING PERCENTAGE	MINIMUM EFFICIENCY AND TESTING PROCEDURE
Air Conditioners	15%	Table 503.2.3(1)
Multi-speed Air Source Heat pumps & GSHP	15%	Table 503.2.3(2)
Single-speed GSHP	25%	Tables 503.2.3(2) or (3)
All fuel-fired heating appliances	40%	Tables 503.2.3(4) or (5)



## Thermal Bypass Checklists



### EQUIPMENT

- Design, spec, document
- Ducts ACCA "D"
- Duct Terminals ACCA "T"
- Design Loads ACCA "J"



- ARI condenser/evaporator
- Drain pan to plumbing trap
- Equipment specs ACCA "S" LIGHTING (N1104)



## Thermal Bypass Checklists



### FIELD VERIFY EQUIPMENT:

- Heat gains latent/sensible
- Air flows/static pressures
- Fan motor type, speed

- Refrigerant type/charge
- Refrigerant metering devices
- Return/supply air temps.
- Outdoor ambient temp.
- Line pressures/temps.

## MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS





# THINKING **OUTSIDE** THE BOX



## **SERVICE WATER EFFICIENCY**





## **RE-THINKING WATER USAGE**



### **DESIGN**

### **SYSTEM FEATURES**

- Centralize Functions
- Compact Layout
- "Right Size" piping\*
- Insulate HW lines

- <u>Minimize</u> MANIFOLDS
- Make more "TWIGS"
- <u>Shut off CIRCULATORS</u>
- Reduce SOURCE TEMPS\*

**Traditional Trunk System** 









# INSPECTIONS

## What Are We Looking For?

# When Should We Be Looking For It?

## ....A RESCHECK REPORT





### REScheck Software Version 4.3.1 Inspection Checklist

#### Ceilings:

- Ceiling 1: Cathedral Ceiling (no attic), R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: Sloped ceilings in 2nd Floor bedrooms, bath & hall
- Ceiling 2: Flat Ceiling or Scissor Truss, R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: Flat ceiling portion, 2nd Floor
- Ceiling 3: Flat Ceiling or Scissor Truss, R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: Ceiling of 1st Floor
- Ceiling 4: Other, U-factor: 0.599 Comments: Insulate under stairs to 2nd floor

#### Above-Grade Walls:

- Wall 1: Wood Frame, 24" o.c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: North Wall 1st Floor - FRONT
- Wall 2: Wood Frame, 24" o.c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: East Wall 1st Floor
- Wall 3: Wood Frame, 24" o.c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: East Wall 2nd Floor - lower
- Wall 4: Wood Frame, 24" o .c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: East Wall 2nd Floor - upper
- Wall 5: Wood Frame, 24" o.c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: South Wall 1st Floor - REAR
- Wall 6: Wood Frame, 24" o .c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: West Wall 1st Floor - lower
- Wall 7: Wood Frame, 24" o .c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: West Wall 2nd Floor -upper
- Wall 8: Wood Frame, 16" o.c., R-0 (uninsulated) Comments: 1/2 x 2 stair walls to unconditioned basement

#### Windows:

Window: Kitchen: Vinyl Frame, Double Pane with Low-E, U-factor: 0.290 For windows without labeled U-factors, describe features:



#### Project Title: MBOIA TEST HOME

inergy Code: ocation: Construction Type: Conditioned Floor Area: Stazing Area Percentage: leating Degree Days: Climate Zone:	2009 IECC Lewiston, Maine Single Family 1500 ft2 10% 7244 6	
Construction Site:		Owner/Agent:
ANYWHERE STREET		
LEWISTON, ME		

Designer/Contractor: DONALD VIGNEAU NEEP 91 HARTWELL AVE LEXINGTON, MA 02421 781-860-0177 eXT.136 dvigneau@neep.org

#### Compliance: Wall orientation not specified

Assembly	Gross Area or Perimeter	Cavity R-Value	Cont. R-Value	Glazing or Door U-Factor	UA
Ceiling 1: Cathedral Ceiling (no attic)	317	0.0	0.0		187
Skylight: 2 Bath: Wood Frame, Double Pane with Low-E SHGC: 0.47	6			0.350	2
Ceiling 2: Flat Ceiling or Scissor Truss	368	0.0	0.0		209
Ceiling 3: Flat Ceiling or Scissor Truss	442	0.0	0.0		251
Ceiling 4: Other	50			0.599	30
Wall 1: Wood Frame, 24" o .c. Orientation: Front	340	0.0	0.0		69
Window: Kitchen: Vinyl Frame, Double Pane with Low-E SHGC: 0.40 Orientation: Front	14			0.290	4
Window: Bath: Vinyl Frame, Double Pane with Low-E SHGC: 0.40 Orientation: Front	14			0.290	4
Window: Entry: Vinyl Frame, Double Pane with Low-E SHGC: 0.40	7			0.290	2

# **INSPECTING FOUNDATIONS**



## FOR NOW

- Sill sealer under sill plates
- Dampproofing
- Exterior foundation insulation





- Slab edge insulation
- Under-slab EPS/XPS



# **ROUGH FRAMING / ROUGH-INS\***



### CONVENTIONAL

- Air Sealing Table 402.4.2
   Insulation location(s) (but see EC-25 FAH)
- Openings/holes
- Caulking/foam

\*How do you resolve split jurisdiction inspections?

## ENERGY STAR etc.

- Taped sheathing
- Drainage plane



## AIR LEAKAGE INSPECTIONS 402.4.1



- Joints, seams, other penetrations
- Dropped ceilings
- Between sole plates
- Behind tubs, showers
- Floors/exterior walls unconditioned space
- Plumbing/Electrical utility penetrations
- Service access doors or hatches



### - AROUND PENETRATIONS





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CARACT DE WEEK FUTURE NOD COTTOLIN BOARD OR SEALART MOLING OPENING

THE CAREPRILAS WITH CRETHED TEMED 2.0 OM WARKING AR WONTHEN















### **OTHER AREAS**







Add R-value to the knee-wall door, by achering rigid insulation board (sandwiched together with construction adhesive and screws) to the back of the door. The clearance between the insulation and the sloor frame as well as air sealing details will require special attention.

## INSULATION INSPECTIONS ANYTHING WRONG HERF?







photo by Britt-Makela Group

## **EQUIPMENT / APPLIANCES**



### CONVENTIONAL

- Gravity Venting
- Power Venting
- Combustion air (leaks)
   Insulating lines



#### Hot Exhaust Out Combustion Air In

### **Co-Axial Direct Venting**

Direct vent pipe is two pipes in one: a 4" or 5" exhaust pipe inside a 6-5/8" or 8" combustion air intake pipe.

Combustion air is pre-heated through contact with the hot inner exhaust pipe, resulting in increased efficiency.

### ENERGY STAR etc.

- Direct Venting
- Fuel-fired direct vent



# THERMOSTAT CONTROLS 403.1.1

- One per dwelling for forced air required
- Programmable
- Heat/AC or HVAC
- Deadband  $\geq$  5<sup>0</sup> F

• One per ZONE really needed, but not code



## SECTION 403.2 DUCT EFFICIENCY -BY TESTING





4 cfm WITHOUT (0.1" w.g.)

### LIGHTING SOLUTIONS - N1104\*

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### THANK YOU PLAN REVIEWS AND FIELD INSPECTIONS

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Massachusetts Building Commissioners and Inspectors Association OCTOBER 23, 2010

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## MASSACHUSETTS APPENDIX 120.AA

### NEW RESIDENTIAL

### **NEW COMMERCIAL**

- Energy Star 2.0 based\*
- Prescriptive Option
- RESNET performance

• Prescriptive/Performance

NBI & ASHRAE based

• Commissioning measures



# **ENERGY STAR**



# A 120.AA REQUIREMENT



Thermal Bypass Checklists

### WALLS - "O.V.E." FRAMING

- Minimize framing
- Two-stud corners
- Insulated headers
- Single jacks or hangers
- 24" stud/floor/truss alignments
- Envelope/partition intersections sealed/insulated





### High Performance DEFINITION:

- Insulated sheathing
   OR
- Structural insulated panels OR
- Insulated concrete walls
   OR
- Double wall framing



## Thermal Bypass Checklists

### THERMAL BYPASS

- Overall Barrier Alignment
- Wall envelope interfaces
- Floor envelope interfaces
- Attic/ceiling interfaces
- Shafts; utility penetrations
- Attic/ceiling interfaces



### FRAMING FEATURES - ATTIC

- Trusses raised heel
- Raised equipment platform

**NO FREEBIES** 

• No free window/door/ceilings


# NEW RESIDENTIAL COMPLIANCE

BASED ON:

- 120AA Chapter 1; IECC 2009 Chapter 4
- ENERGY STAR Thermal Bypass Checklists
- HERS Rating Index for the dwelling -
- 65 for > 3,000 sf (greater than)
- 70 for < 3,000 sf (less than)







• NOT IRC



#### H.E.R.S. is based on the 2004 IRC

## **RESIDENTIAL RENOVATIONS COMPLIANCE**



AFFECTED ENVELOPE PORTIONS:

- Meet/exceed IECC 2009, OR
- Fully fill cavities (R-3.7 minimum) OR
- Use ENERGY STAR Checklists w/
- HERS Performance Option
  - 85 for < 2,000 sf (less than)</p>
  - 80 for > 2,000 sf (greater than)
- Exceptions:
  - Construction not disturbed
  - Sash repairs



**NOT IRC** 

#### H.E.R.S. changing in 2011

# 404.7 H.E.R.S. COMPLIANCE OPTION



• The Home Rating Energy System (HERS) is an optional path to compliance



# SOLVING PROBLEMS



Do we address:

 The SYMPTOM or
 The CAUSE





# **GREENHOUSE GAS NEWS**



YEAR CO<sub>2</sub> (PPM) NOTES

- 2009
   387.35

   2009
   385.57
- 2008 385.57
- 2007 383.71
- 2006 381.85
- 1997
   363.47
- 1992356.271987348.98

1959 315.98

COPENHAGEN ACCORD THE LATEST YEAR FOR WHICH A FULL YEAR OF DATA IS AVAILABLE

Kyoto Protocol Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro The last year in which the annual CO<sub>2</sub> data was less than 350 ppm The first year for which a full year of precise instrument data is available

# HOW DO WE GET THERE -USE GLOBAL THINKING



- SOURCE ENERGY: Extract, process, store, modify, use; reuse; dispose of; all in a controlled/managed way; as opposed to water, lightning, wind, fire, geothermal that we can capture, and manage to exert some control over.
- CONTROL/MANAGE/FIND THE NEGAWATTS
- "The cheapest BTU is one you never have to use"
- What don't I understand about energy?
- What makes energy efficiency visible?

