



**Low carbon buildings – a pathway to lowering  
CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**

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**University of New South Wales**

SPREE Seminar Series  
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# Low carbon cities?

- Energy efficiency
- Renewable energy & storage
- Integrated low carbon design (new and retrofit)
- Grid to suit above
- Low carbon behaviour

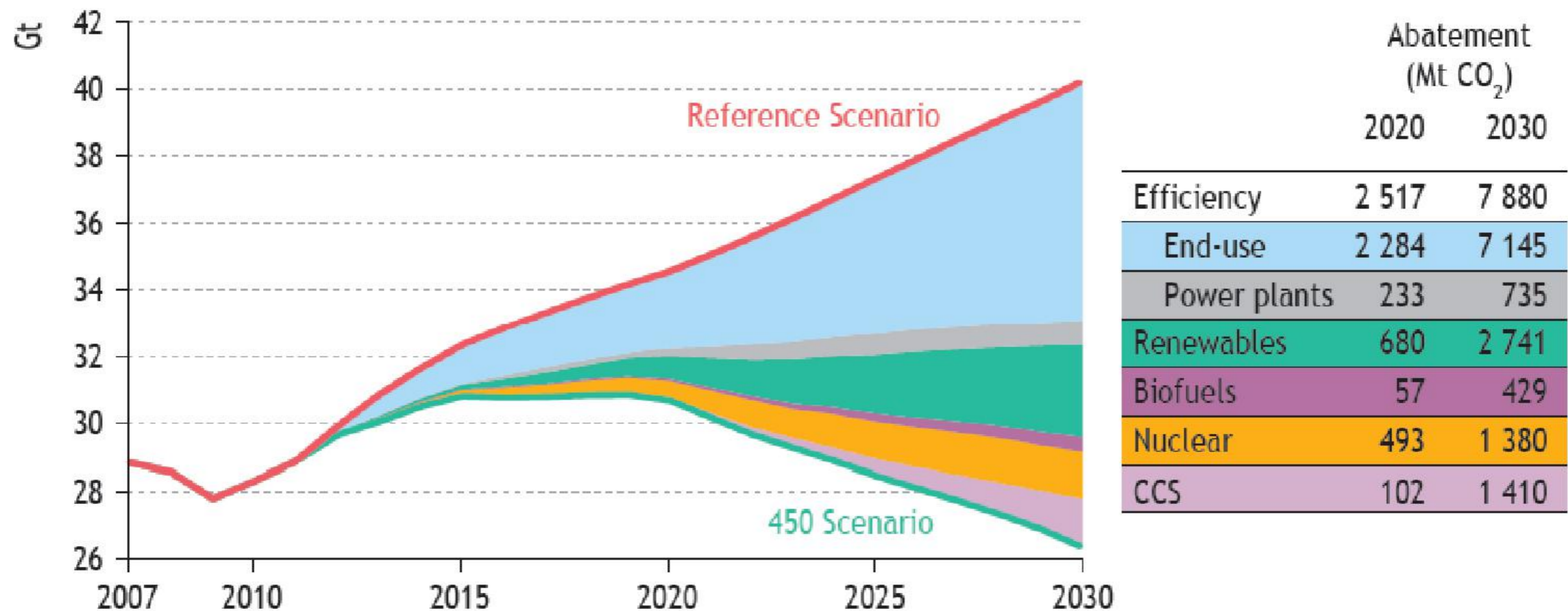




Energy efficiency

# IEA : WORLD ENERGY OUTLOOK

**Figure 5.8** ● World energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emission savings by policy measure in the 450 Scenario



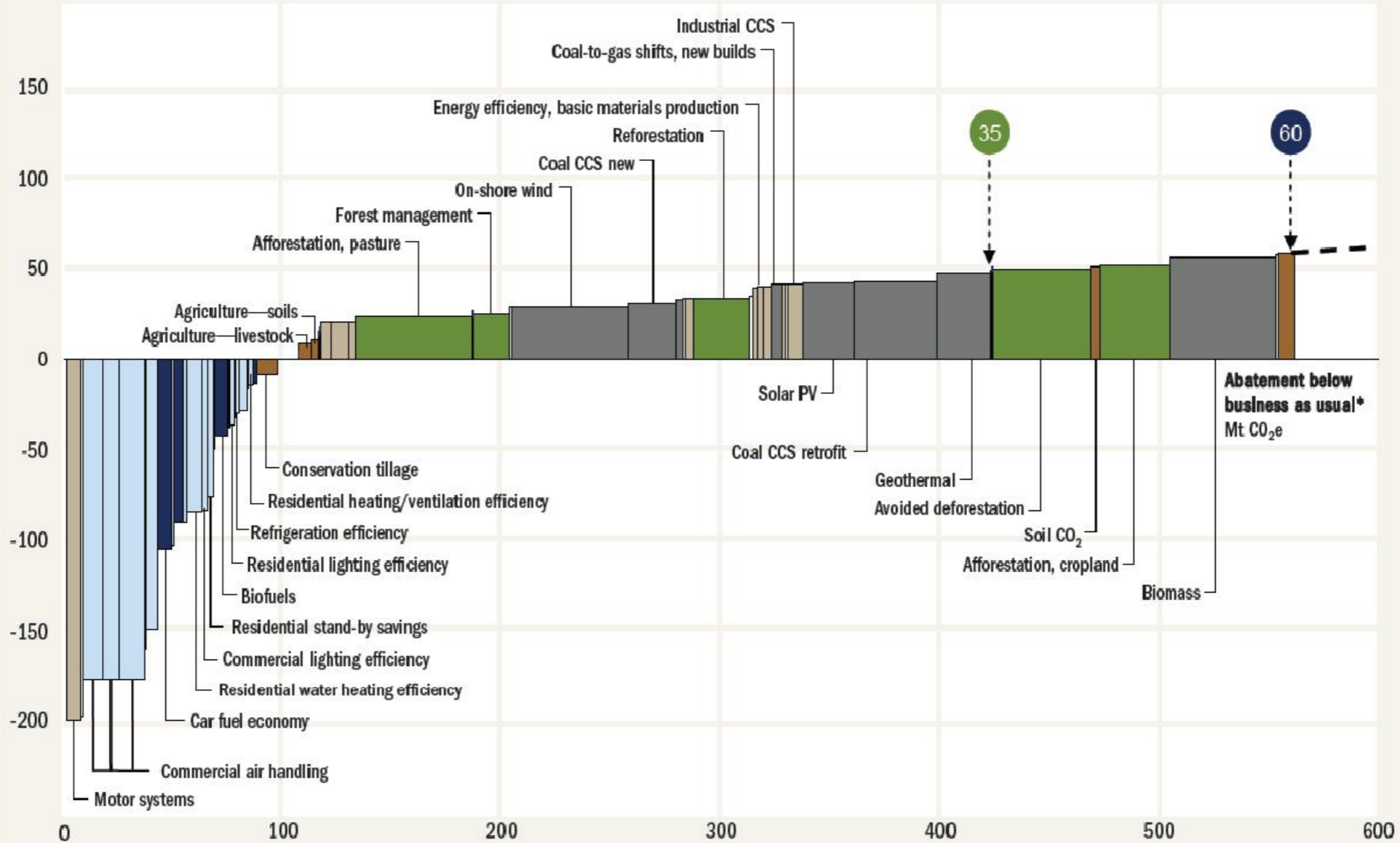
<http://www.worldenergyoutlook.org/>

# Exhibit 5

## Australian 2030 carbon abatement cost curve

Cost of abatement  
A\$/t CO<sub>2</sub>e

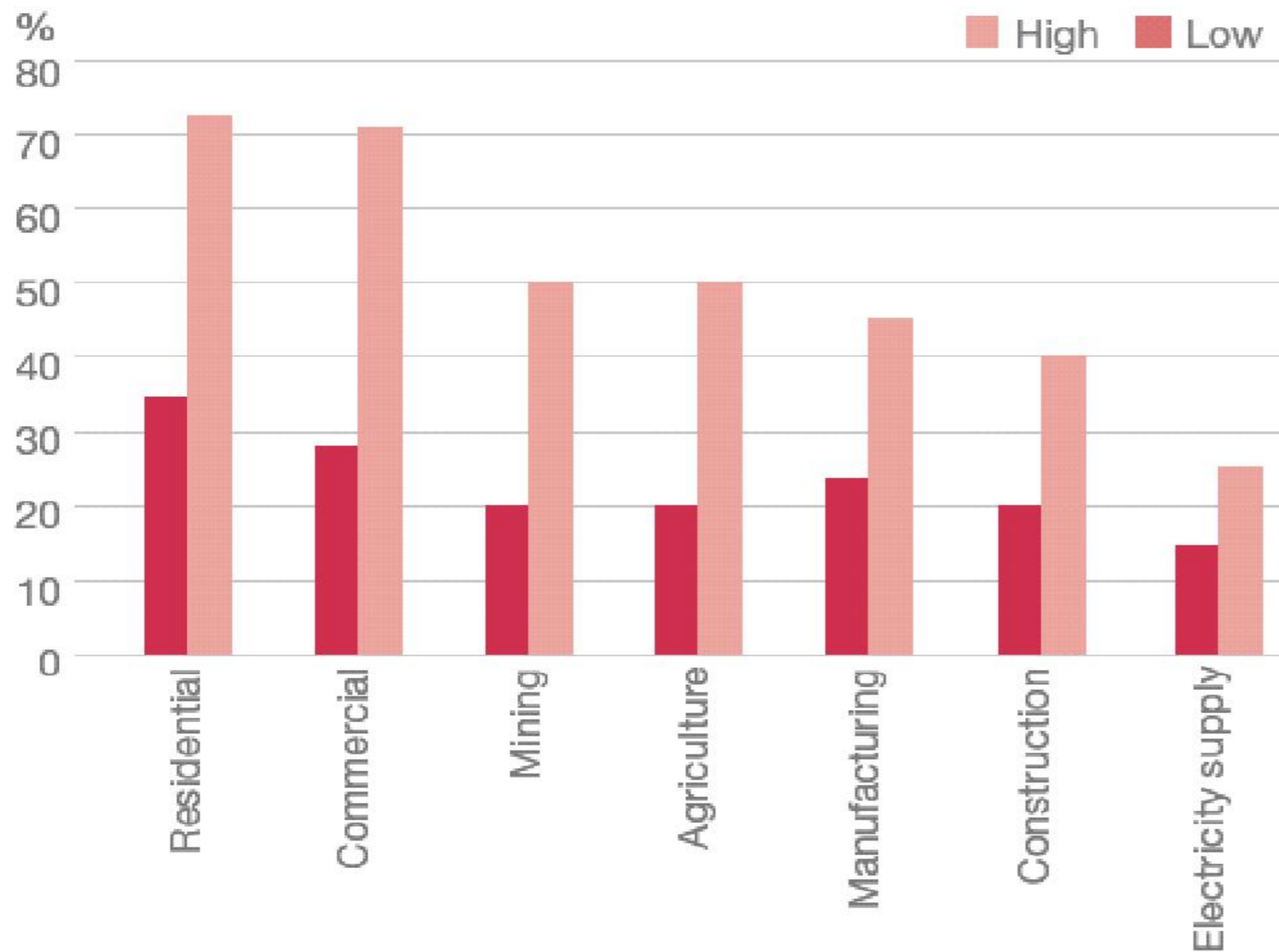
- X Reduction below 1990 levels, percent
- Break-even point
- Industry
- Buildings
- Power
- Transport
- Forestry
- Agriculture



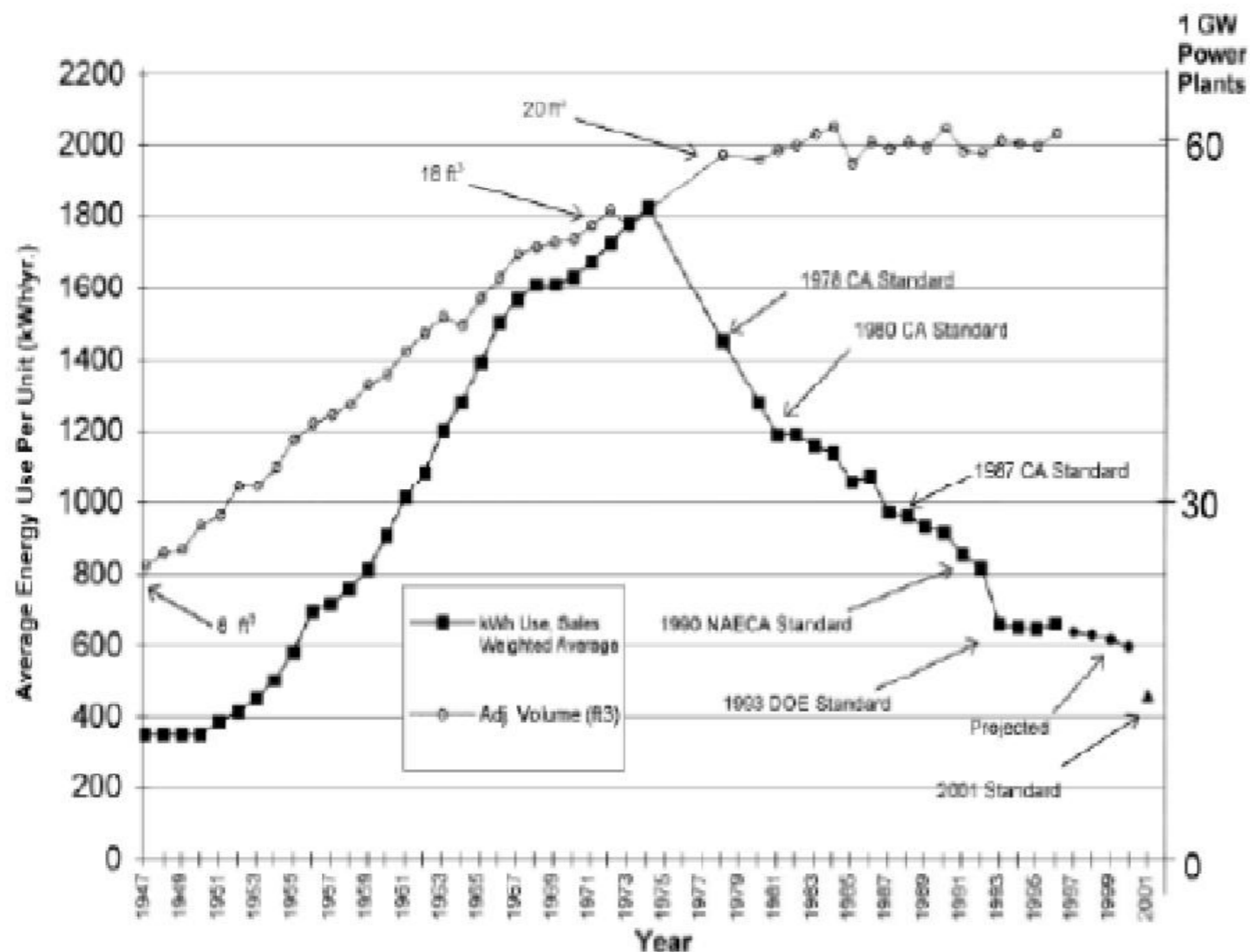
Note: Abatement opportunities are not additive to those of previous years

Source: McKinsey Australia Climate Change Initiative

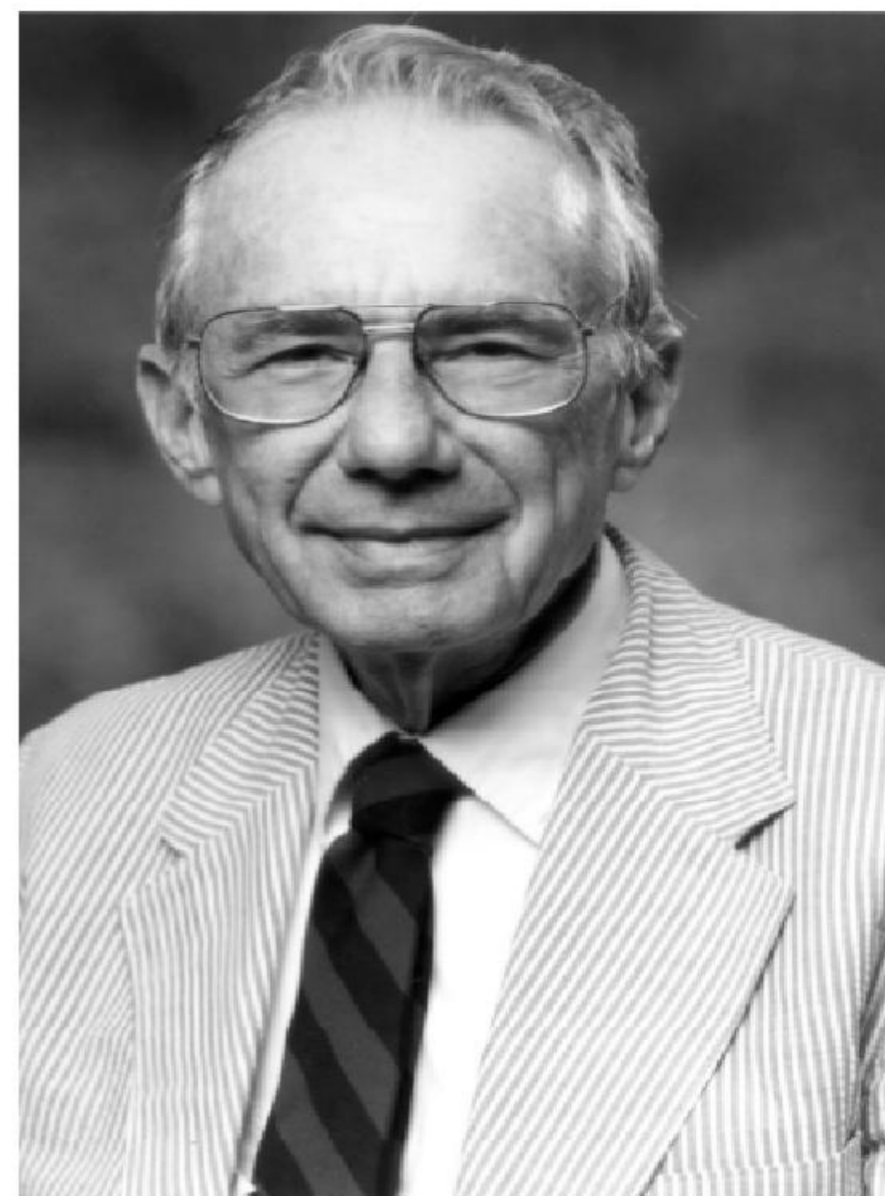
# Figure 4: Percentage cost-effective energy consumption reduction potential across different sectors.



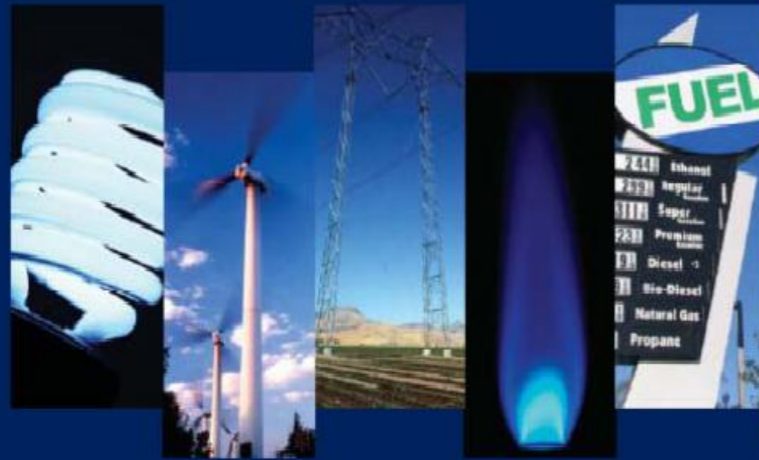
NFEE (2003) *Towards a National Framework on Energy Efficiency – Issues and challenges Discussion Paper*, National Framework on Energy Efficiency



**Figure 3** Electricity use by new U.S. refrigerators, 1947–2001. The *heavy line with dark squares* is the sales weighted average annual kWh use of new refrigerators, unadjusted for increasing volume. The volume growth, from 8 cubic feet to 20, is the *lighter line with open circles*. The right-hand scale shows the number of large (1 GW) base-load (5000 hours/year) power plants required to power 150 million refrigerators + freezers, each with the kWh use on the left scale. The difference between 1974 (1800 kWh) and 2001 (450 kWh) is 1350 kWh. The eventual saving from 1350 kWh/year  $\times$  150 million units is 200 TWh/year, equivalent to 50 avoided 1 GW plants. At 8 cents/kWh, the avoided annual cost is \$16 billion.



Art Rosenfeld



2005

## Integrated Energy Policy Report

November 2005



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

CEC-100-2005-007CMF

“Reducing the demand for energy is the most effective way to reduce energy costs and bolster California’s economy.”

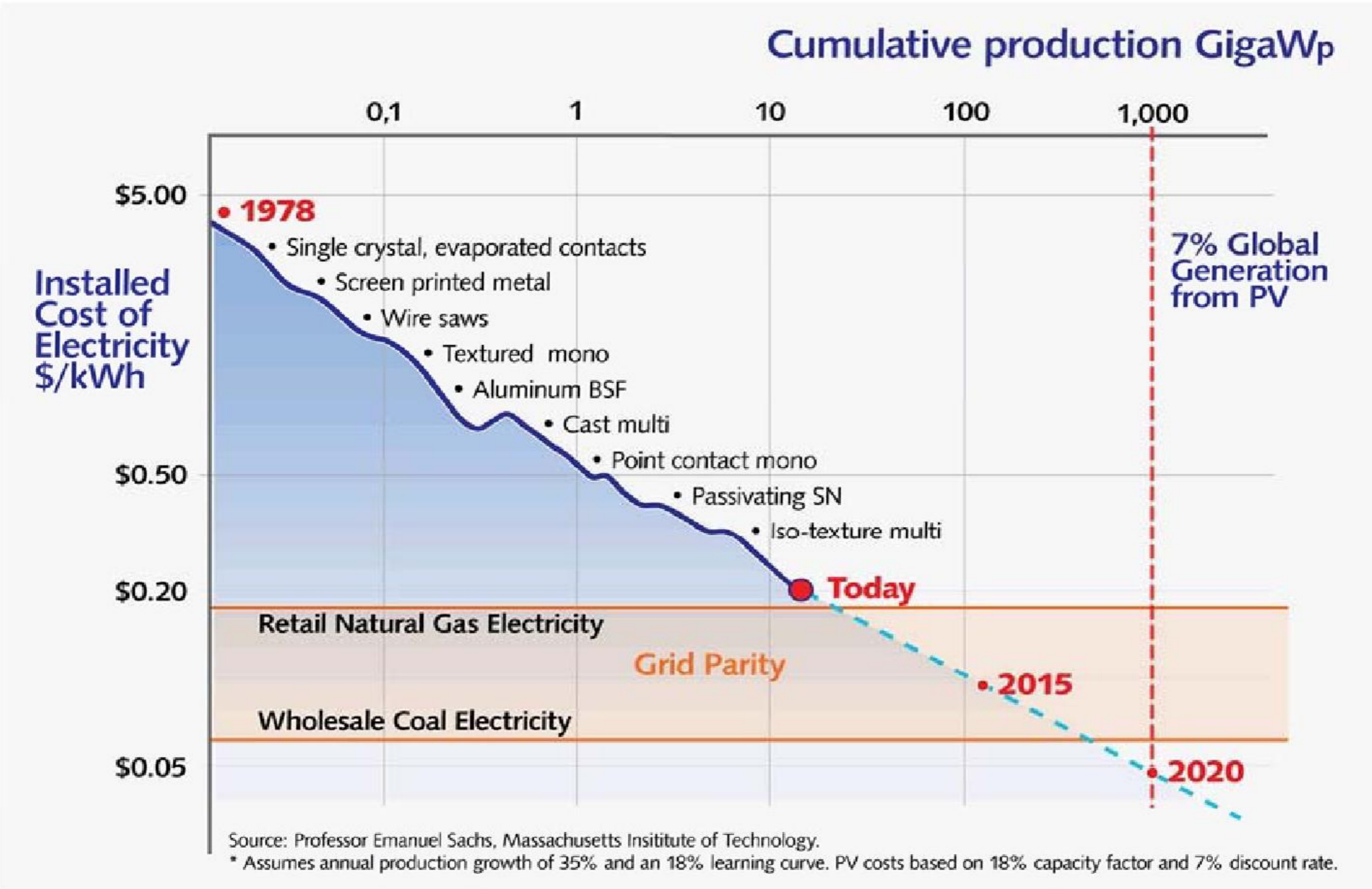






Renewables & storage

# PV is growing fast and getting cheaper



## Current Regulated Retail Tariffs and Charges

As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

### Domestic All Time

Energy: cents/kWh	Ex GST	Inc GST
First 1,000 kWh per quarter <sup>^</sup>	24.4000	26.8400
Next 1,000 kWh per quarter <sup>^</sup>	25.5000	28.0500
Remaining usage per quarter	34.3000	37.7300
Service Availability Charge (cents/day/connection point)	62.8000	69.0800
NOTE: This tariff may not be applicable where capability supports Time of Use billing.		
<sup>^</sup> based on an average daily quantity of 10.989kWh per billing day.		

### Controlled Load

Energy: cents/kWh	Ex GST	Inc GST
Off Peak 1	10.1000	11.1100
Off Peak 2	13.3000	14.6300
NOTE: These tariffs are only available with a principal tariff.		

### PowerSmart Home

Energy: cents/kWh	Ex GST	Inc GST
Peak: 2pm – 8pm on working weekdays	47.7700	52.5470
Shoulder: 7am – 2pm and 8pm – 10pm working weekdays and 7am – 10pm on weekends and public holidays	19.4000	21.3400
Off Peak: all other times	11.9000	13.0900
Service Availability Charge (cents/day/connection point)	74.7000	82.1700

[http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Electricity/Reviews/Retail\\_Pricing/Changes\\_in\\_regulated\\_electricity\\_retail\\_prices\\_from\\_1\\_July\\_2012/25\\_Jun\\_2012\\_-\\_Energy\\_Australia\\_-\\_Approved\\_annual\\_pricing\\_proposals/EnergyAustralia\\_-\\_Regulated\\_Electricity\\_retail\\_tariffs\\_and\\_charges\\_for\\_201213](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Electricity/Reviews/Retail_Pricing/Changes_in_regulated_electricity_retail_prices_from_1_July_2012/25_Jun_2012_-_Energy_Australia_-_Approved_annual_pricing_proposals/EnergyAustralia_-_Regulated_Electricity_retail_tariffs_and_charges_for_201213)

### PowerSmart Business

Energy: cents/kWh	Ex GST	Inc GST
Peak: 2pm – 8pm on working weekdays	44.3000	48.7300
Shoulder: 7am – 2pm and 8pm – 10pm working weekdays and 7am – 10pm on weekends and public holidays	20.7000	22.7700
Off Peak: all other times	11.6000	12.7600
Service Availability Charge (cents/day/connection point)	133.0500	146.3550

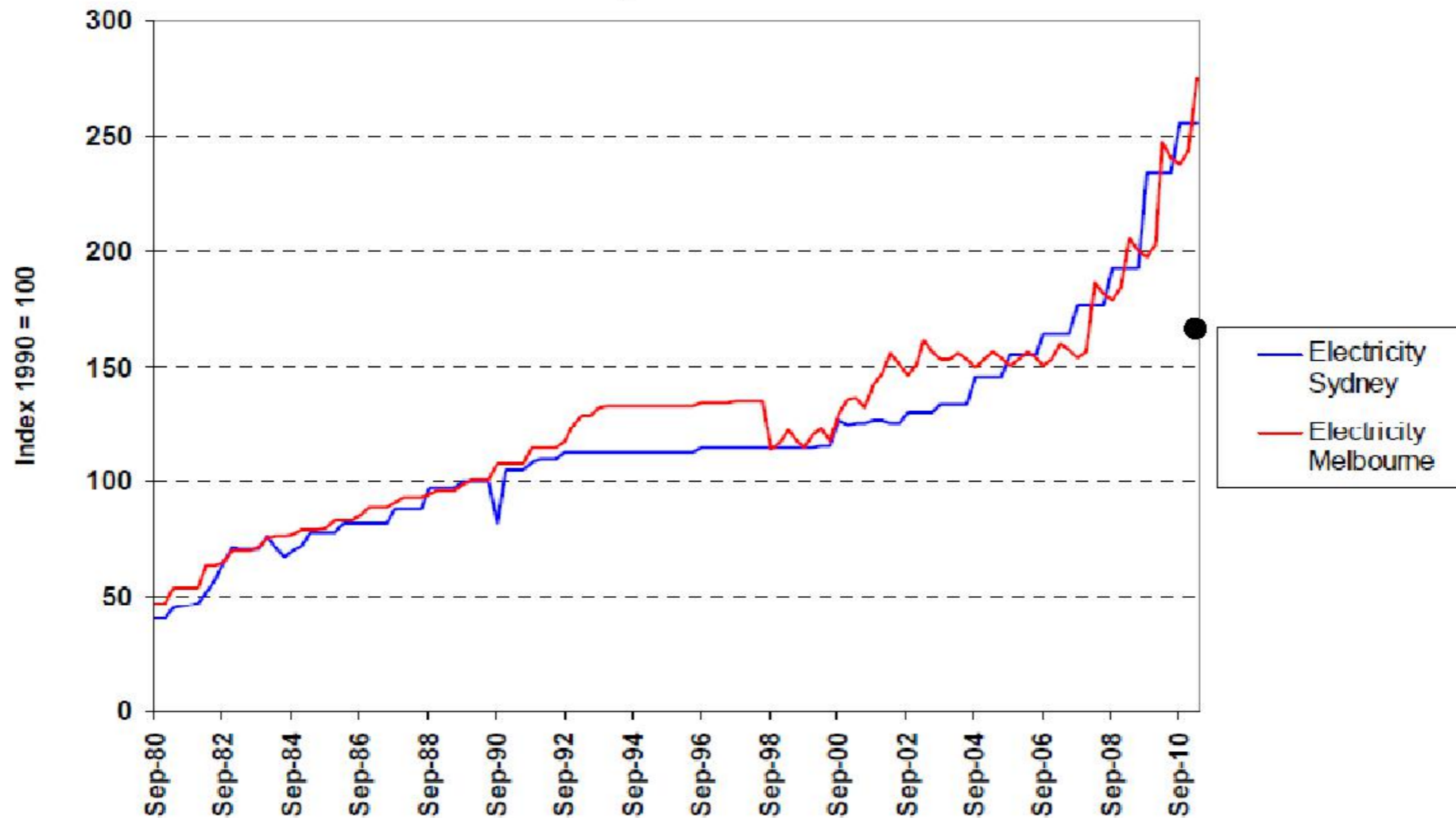
### LoadSmart (Low Voltage)

Energy: cents/kWh	Ex GST	Inc GST
Peak: 2pm – 8pm on working weekdays	30.9000	33.9900
Shoulder: 7am – 2pm and 8pm – 10pm working weekdays	23.5000	25.8500
Off Peak: all other times	14.8000	16.2800
Service Availability Charge (cents/day/connection point)	550.0000	605.0000
Capacity Charge*: c/kW/day	Ex GST	Inc GST
Peak: 2pm – 8pm on working weekdays	33.0000	36.3000

Tariffs as of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 – for PowerSmart Business customers an average increase of 39% in three years, i.e. 13% per annum predominantly driven by peak demand upgrades to poles and wires

[http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Electricity/Reviews/Retail\\_Pricing/Changes\\_in\\_regulated\\_electricity\\_retail\\_prices\\_from\\_1\\_July\\_2012/25\\_Jun\\_2012\\_-\\_Energy\\_Australia\\_-\\_Approved\\_annual\\_pricing\\_proposals/EnergyAustralia\\_-\\_Regulated\\_Electricity\\_retail\\_tariffs\\_and\\_charges\\_for\\_2012/213](http://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Electricity/Reviews/Retail_Pricing/Changes_in_regulated_electricity_retail_prices_from_1_July_2012/25_Jun_2012_-_Energy_Australia_-_Approved_annual_pricing_proposals/EnergyAustralia_-_Regulated_Electricity_retail_tariffs_and_charges_for_2012/213)

## Residential electricity tariffs 1980 - 2010



Most of the increase of electricity tariffs over the years has been in line with the CPI (average 4.4% p.a) **except** over the period 2007 – 2010, - electricity increases have been more like 14% p.a. (I have added a black dot to indicate the electricity price **IF** it had followed the CPI.

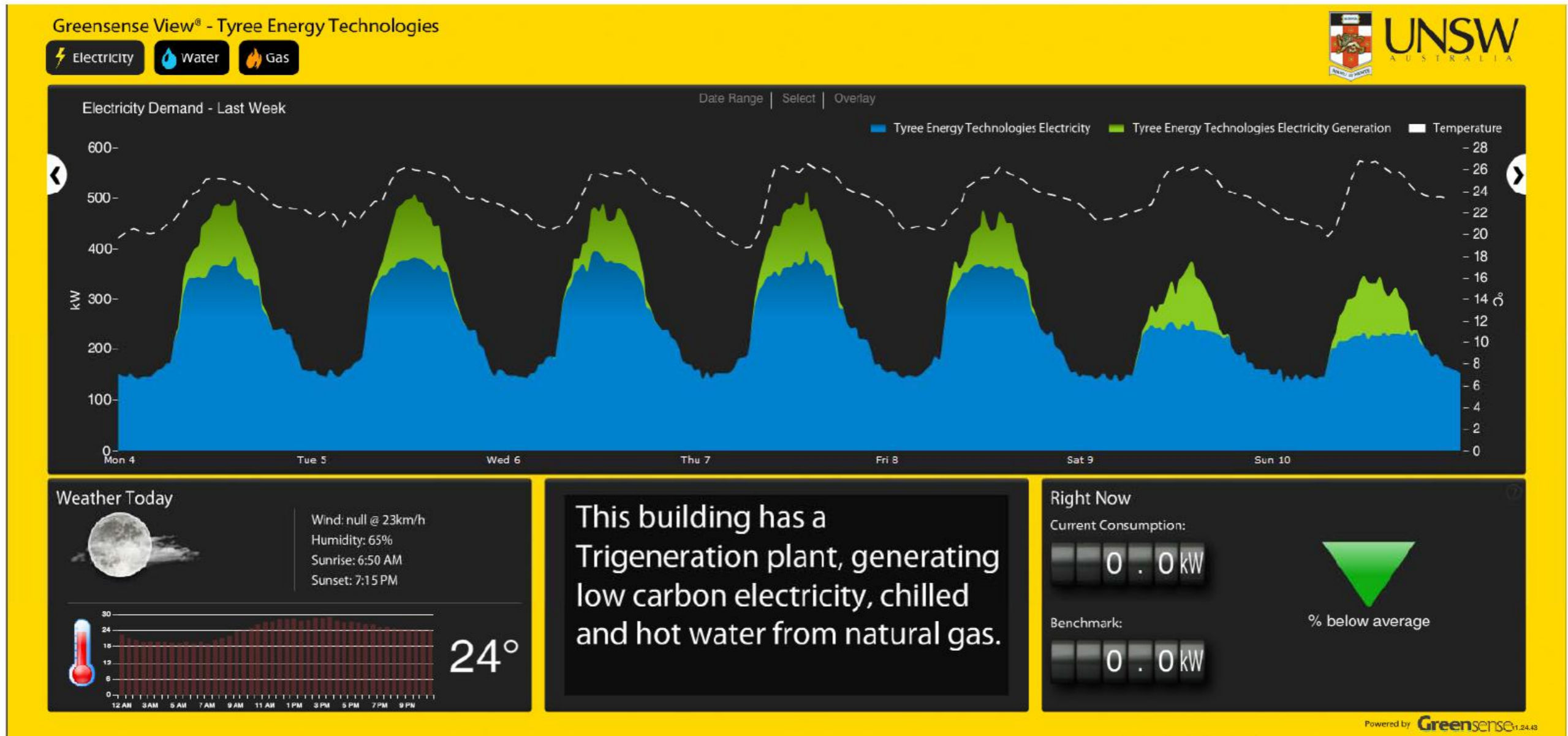
<http://www.ausgrid.com.au/Common/About-us/Newsroom/Discussions/Syd-v-Mel-household-energy-bills.aspx>



**UNSW TYREE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY  
BUILDING - 150 kWp PV ARRAY**

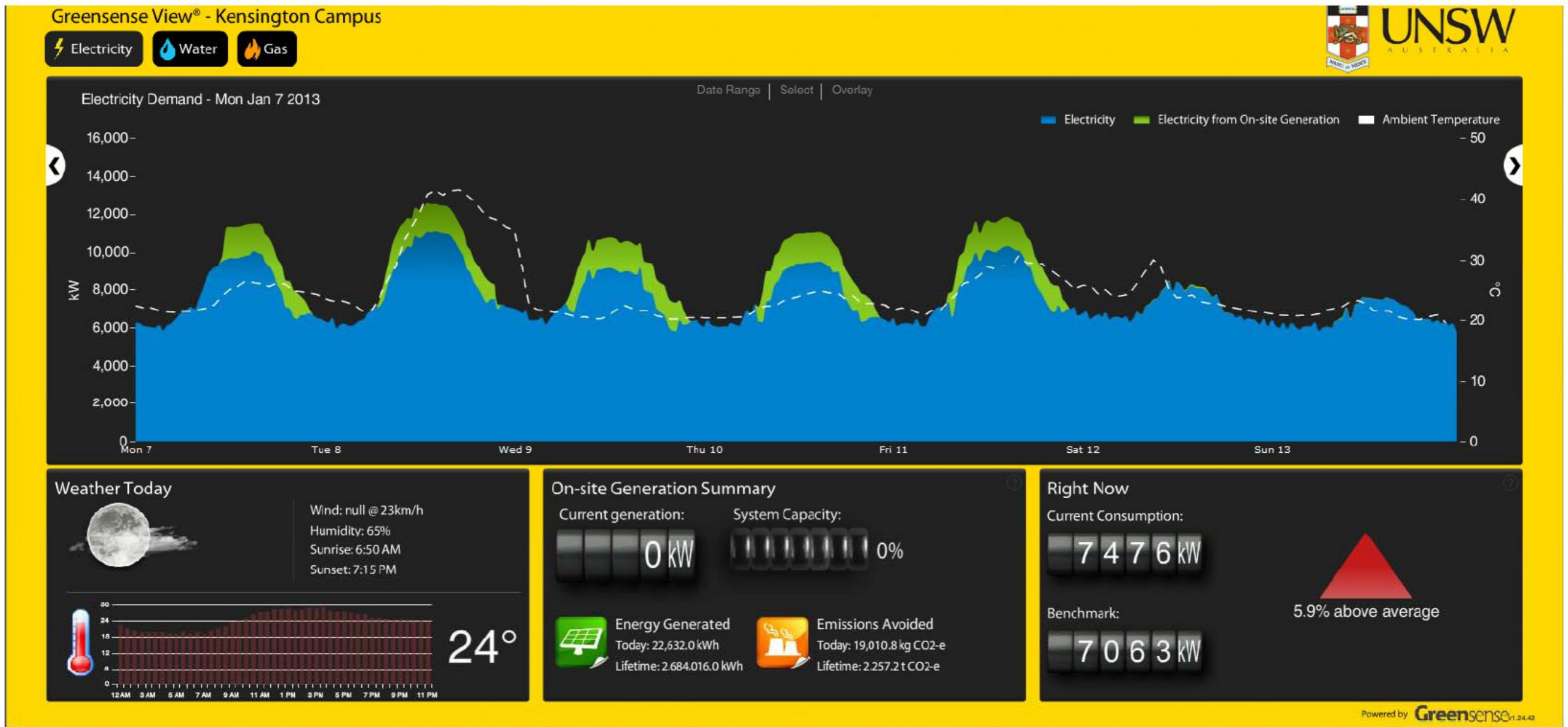
# UNSW TETB Electricity

## Mar 4 – 10, 2013



# UNSW Kensington Electricity

## Jan 7 – 13, 2013



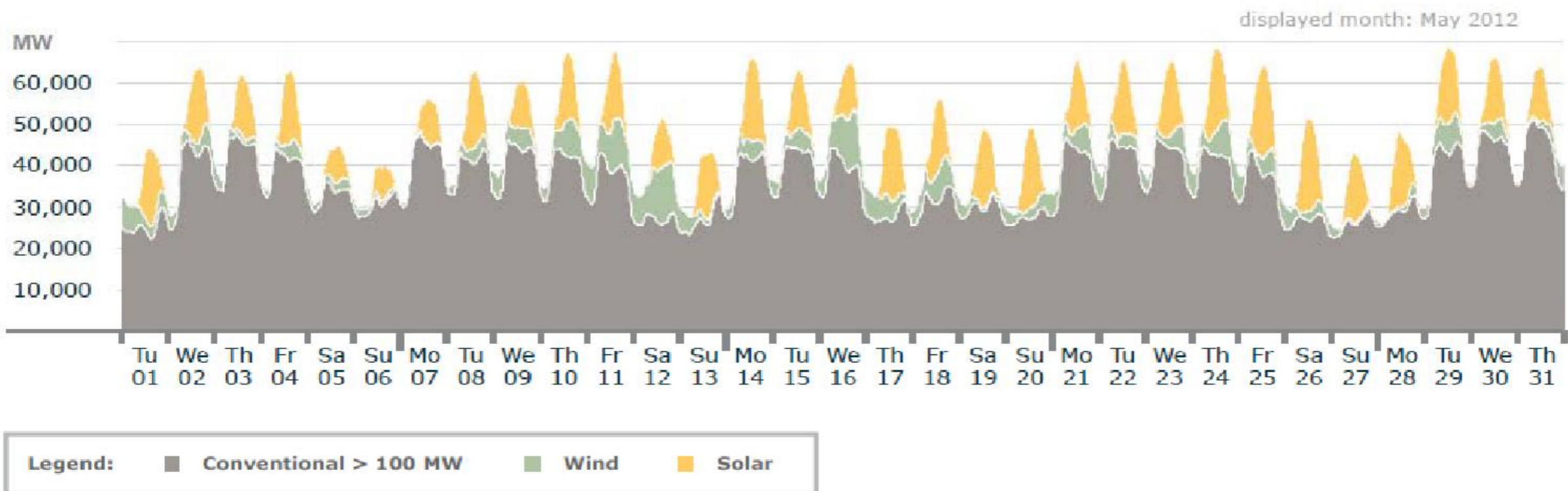


# Wind energy



# Electricity Production in Germany: May 2012

## Actual production



■ Solar: max. 22.4 GW; 4.1 TWh (Fr 25 May, 12:45)

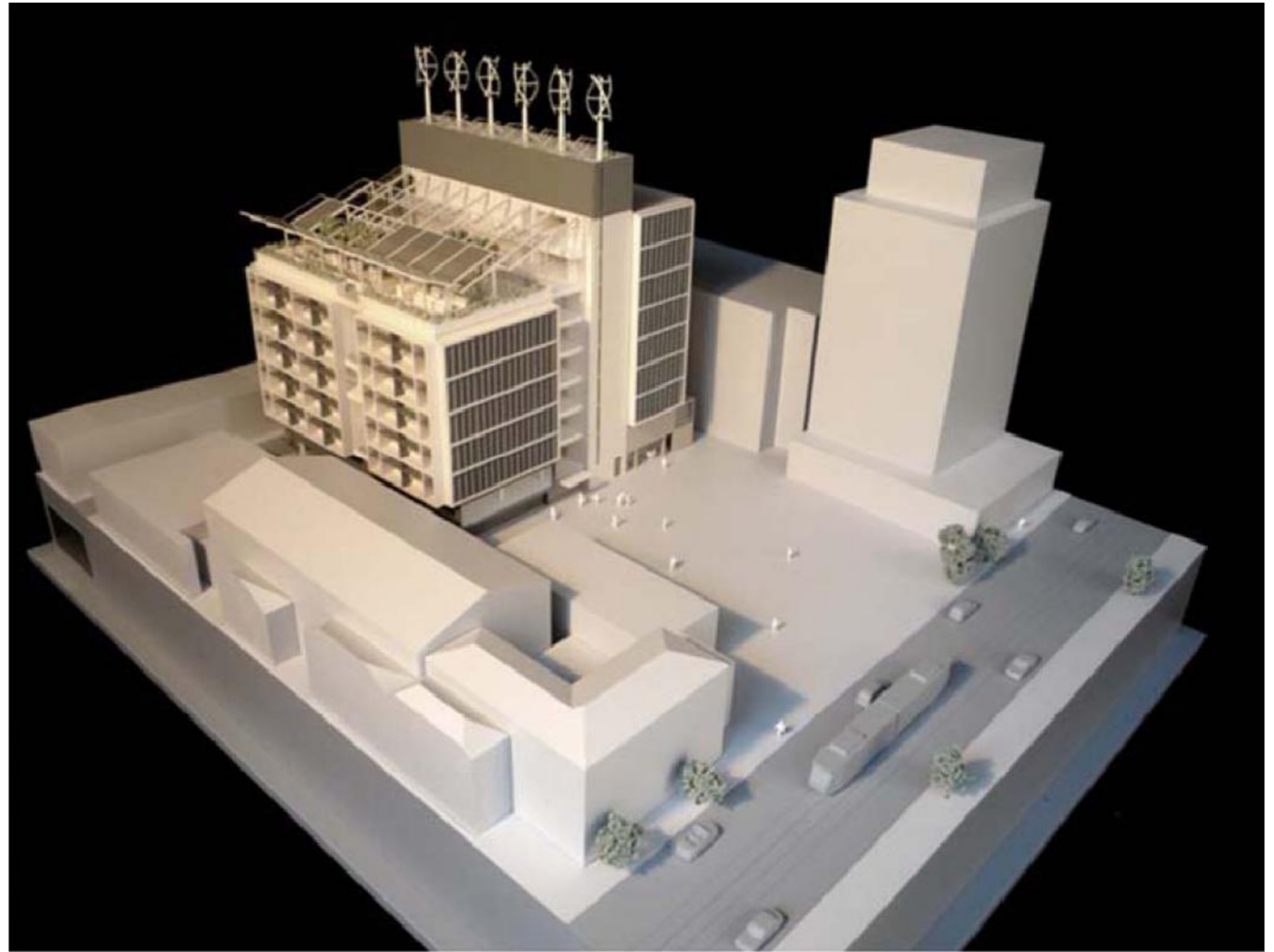
■ Wind: max. 14.1 GW; 2.9 TWh

■ Conventional: max. 51.2 GW; 26.6 TWh

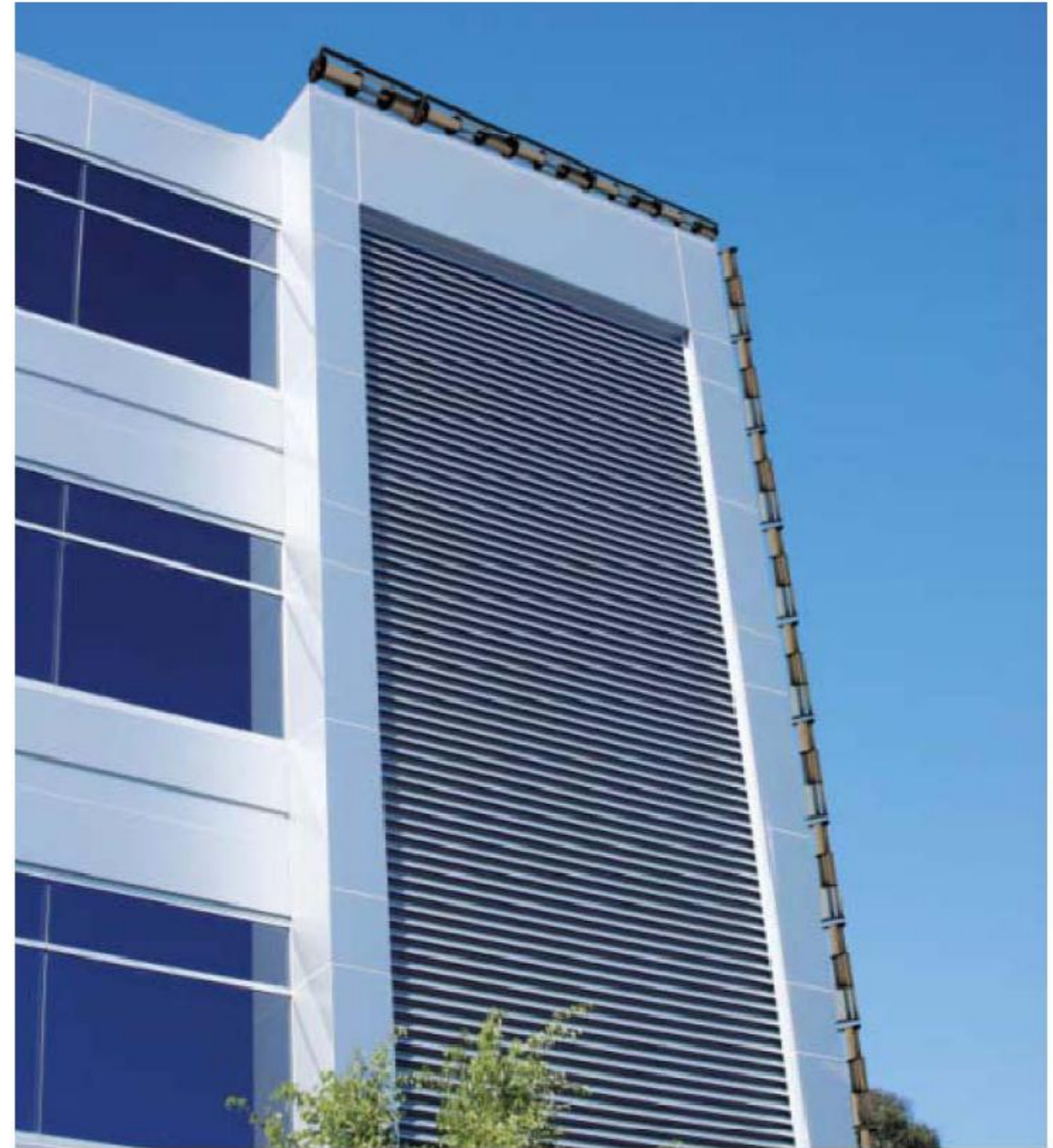
Graph: Bruno Burger, Fraunhofer ISE; Data: EEX, <http://www.transparency.eex.com/de/>



<http://www.buildinggreen.com/auth/article.cfm/2009/4/29/The-Folly-of-Building-Integrated-Wind>



[http://www.temc.org.au/documents/51-101004\\_TEFMA-Presentation.pdf](http://www.temc.org.au/documents/51-101004_TEFMA-Presentation.pdf)

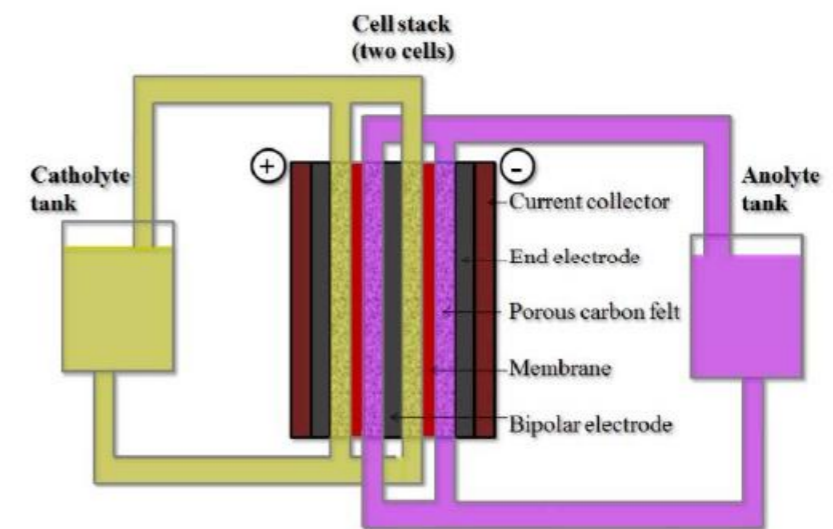


[http://www.windpods.com/pdf/Windpods\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.windpods.com/pdf/Windpods_Brochure.pdf)

# Vanadium redox battery



<http://de.cellcube.com/index.htm>

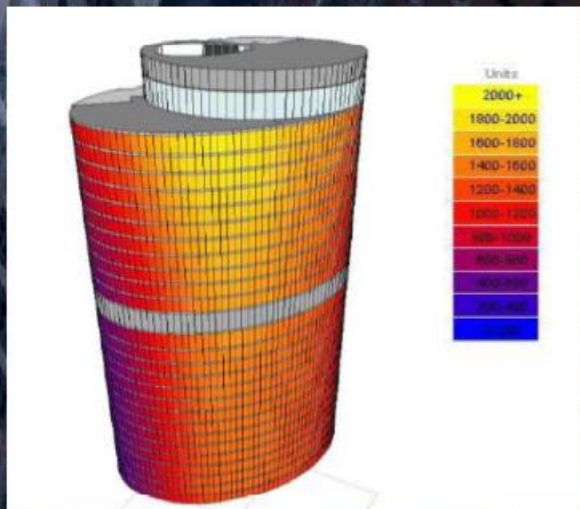


<http://www.ceic.unsw.edu.au/centers/vrb/technology-services/vanadium-redox-flow-batteries.html>



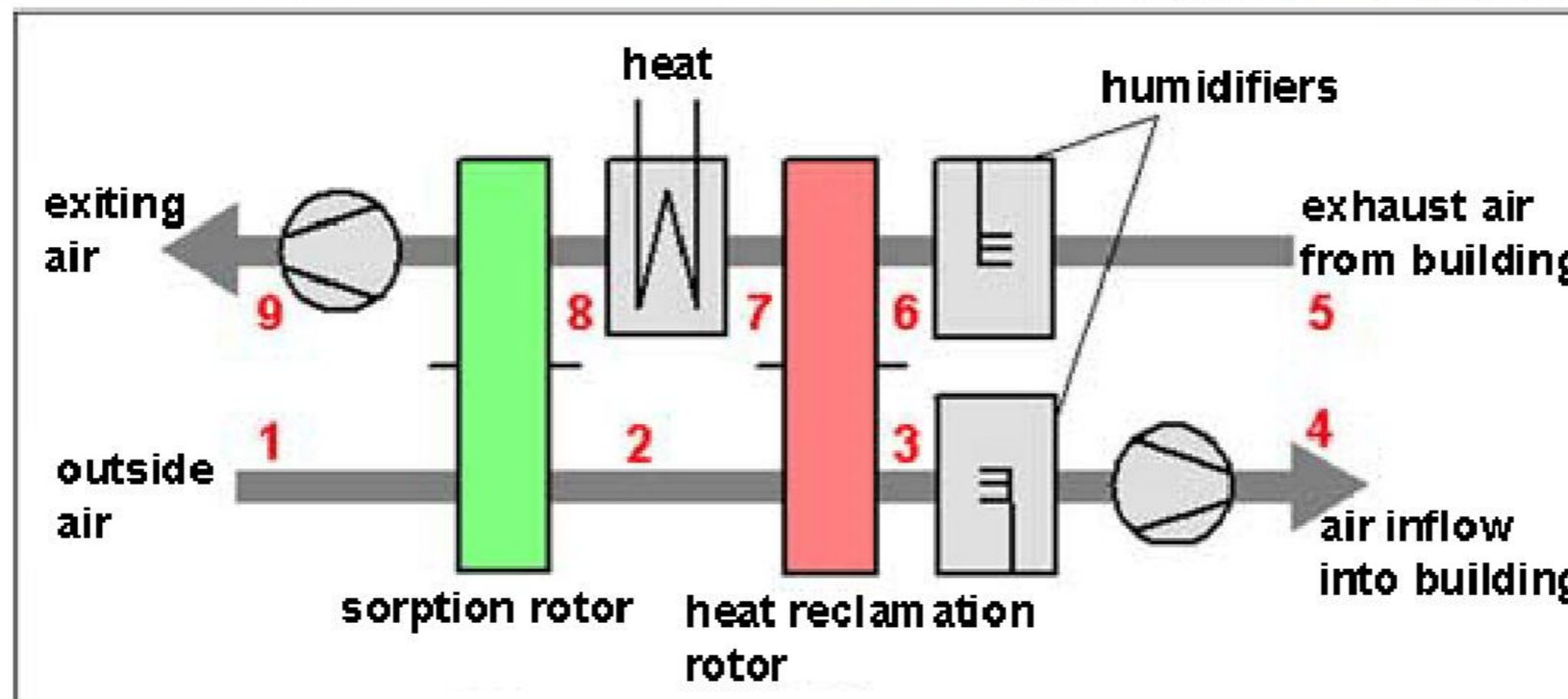
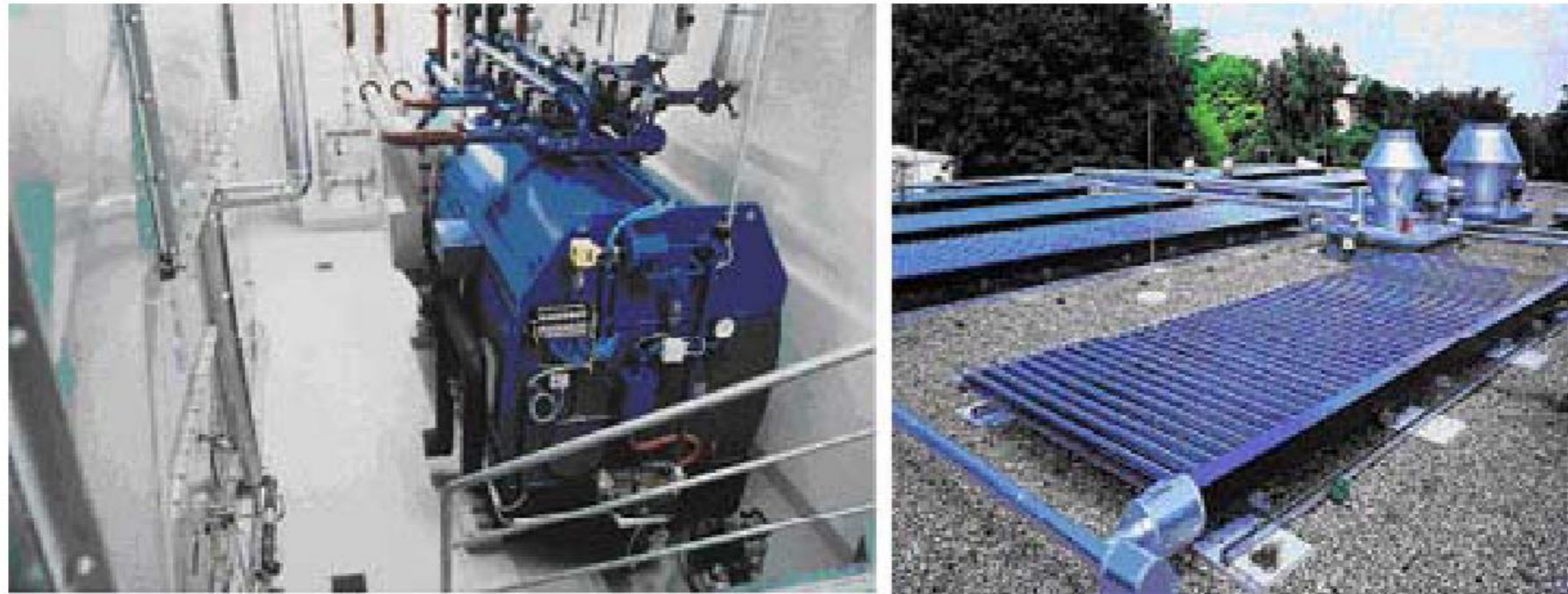
Low carbon design & integration

# Low energy buildings need integrated low energy building systems

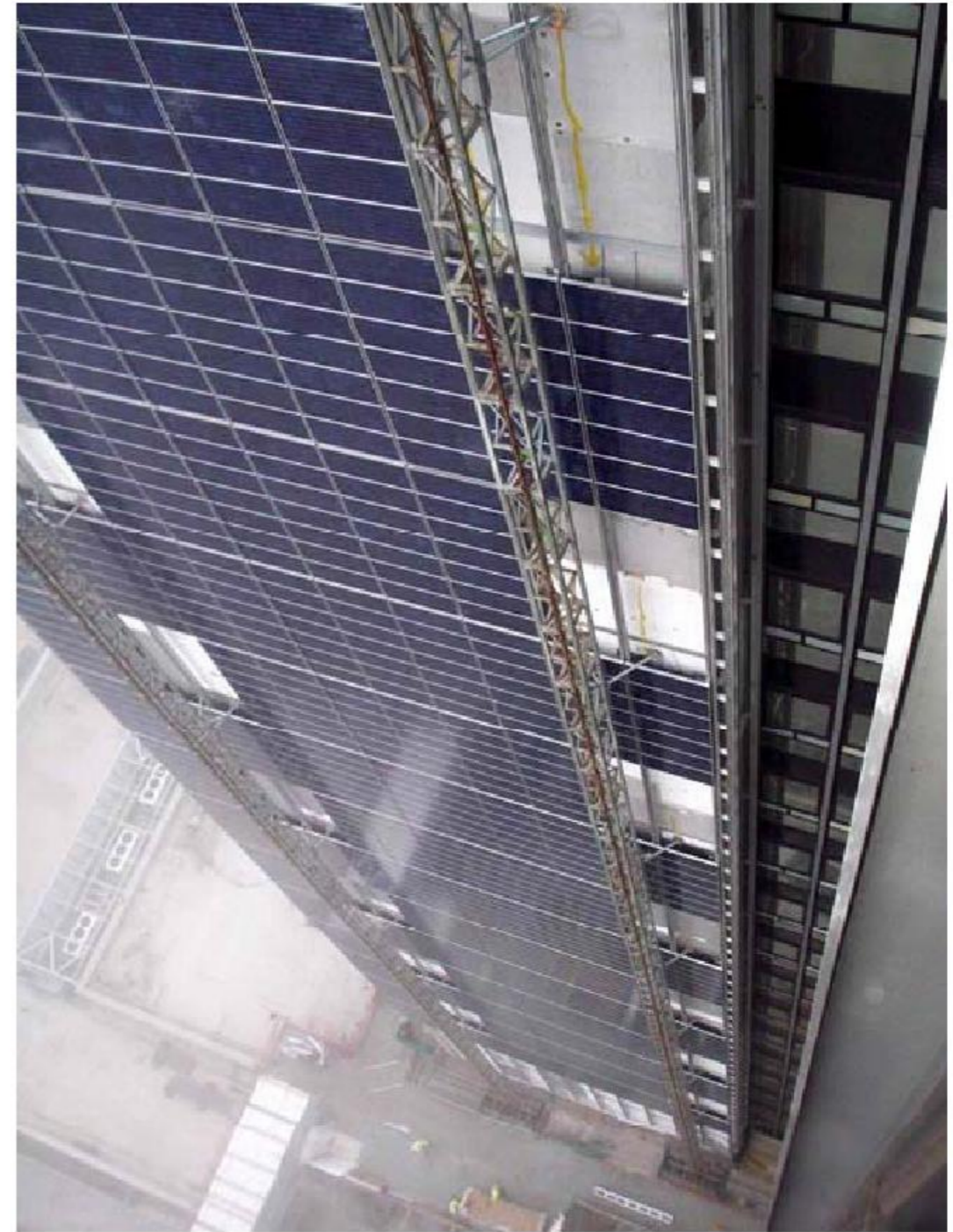


1 Bligh Street, Sydney  
6 star office building

# Solar cooling in Germany using adsorption air-cooling and solar heat.

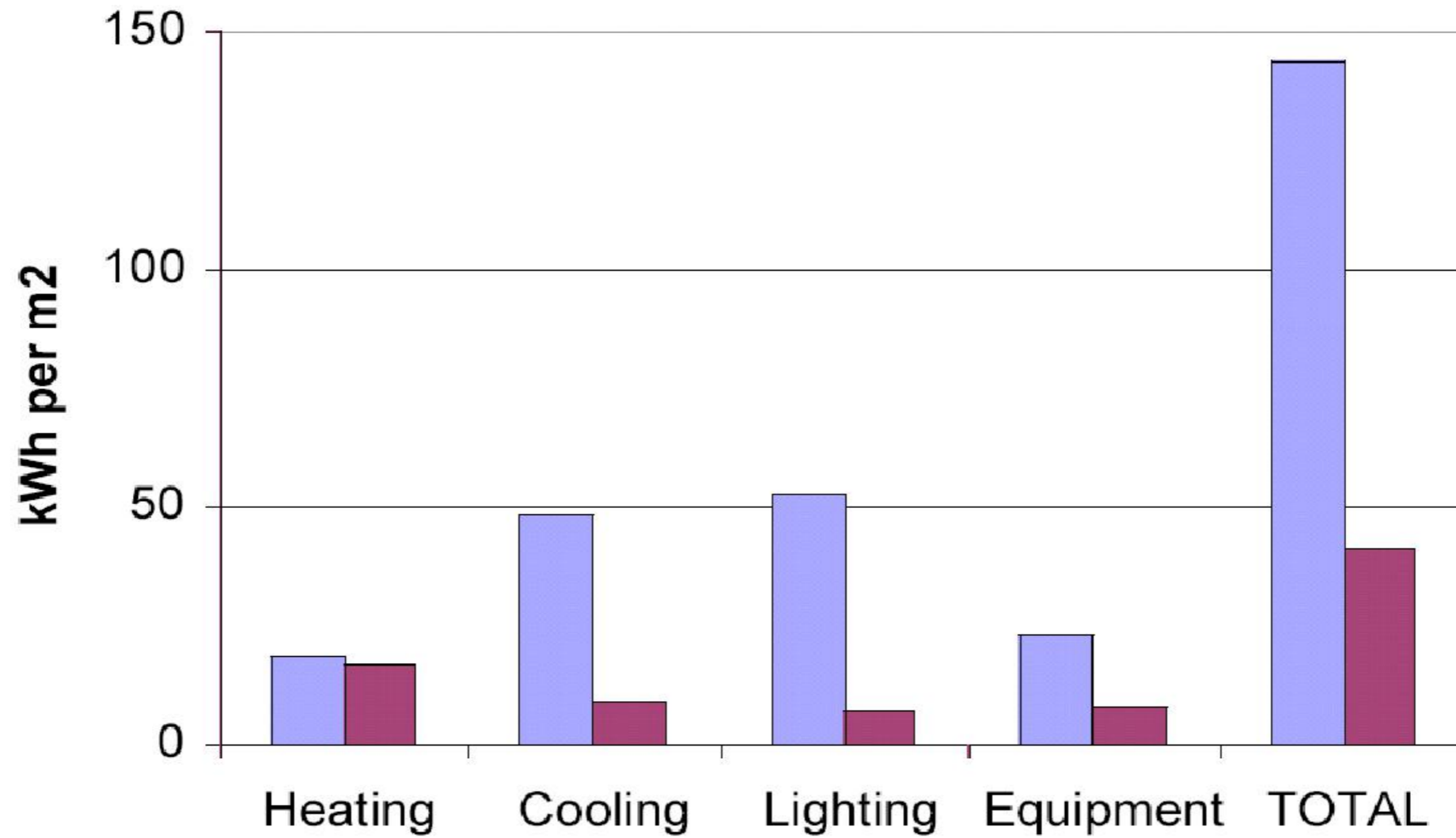






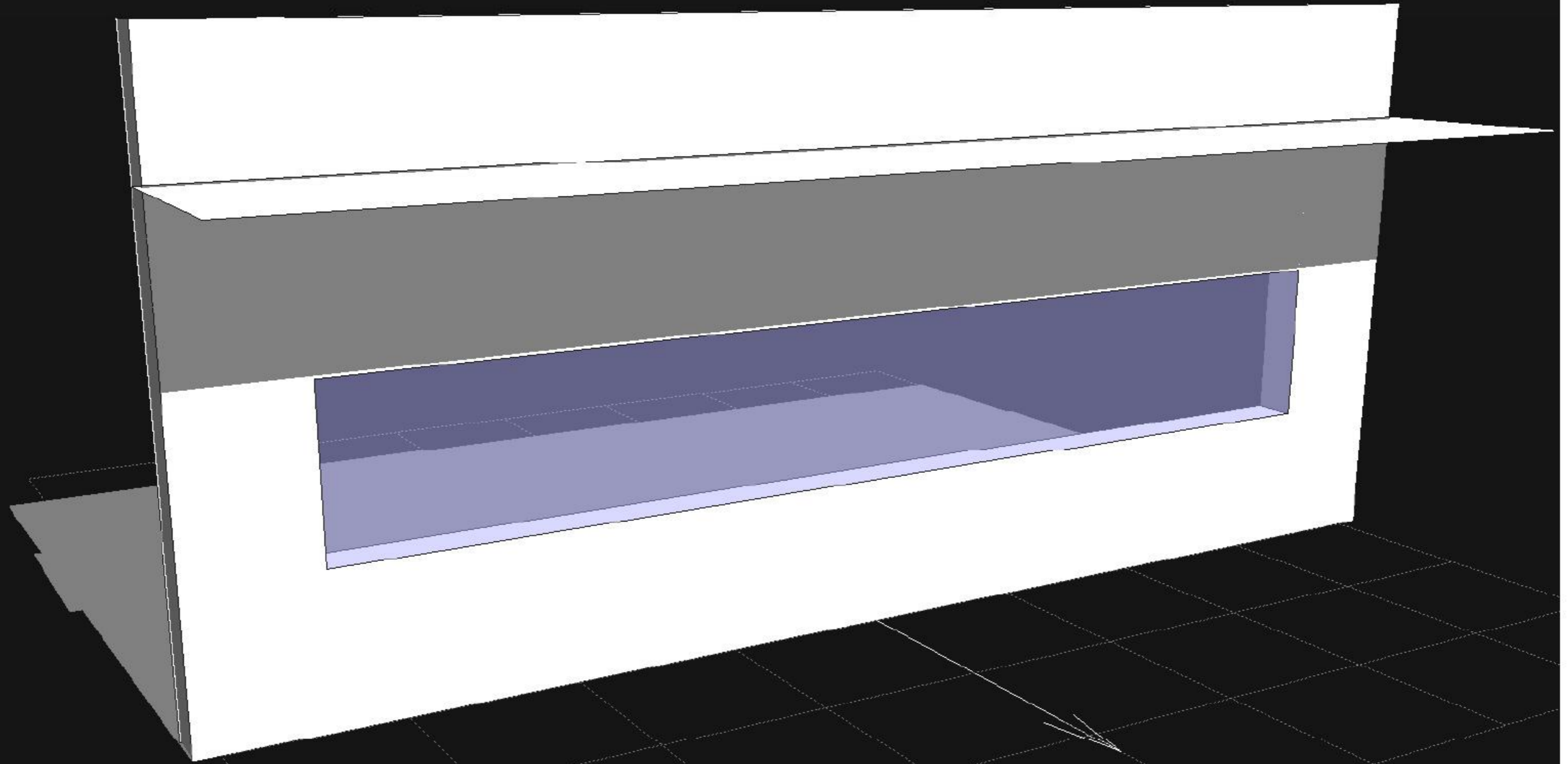
- <http://www.metaefficient.com/architecture-and-building/skyscraper-gets-covered-in-7000-solar-panels.html>

## Annual Electrical Energy Consumption

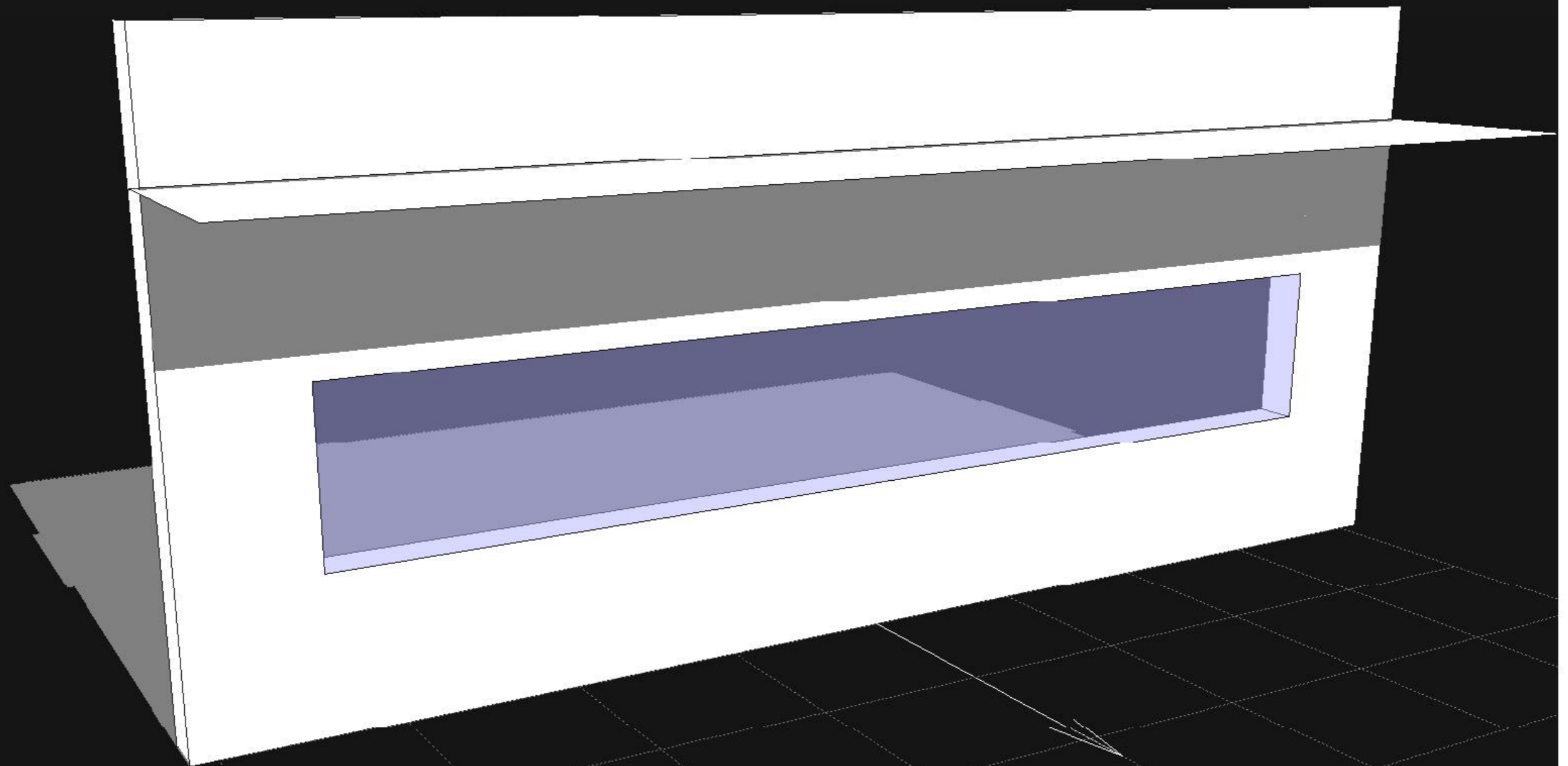


# Shading of windows

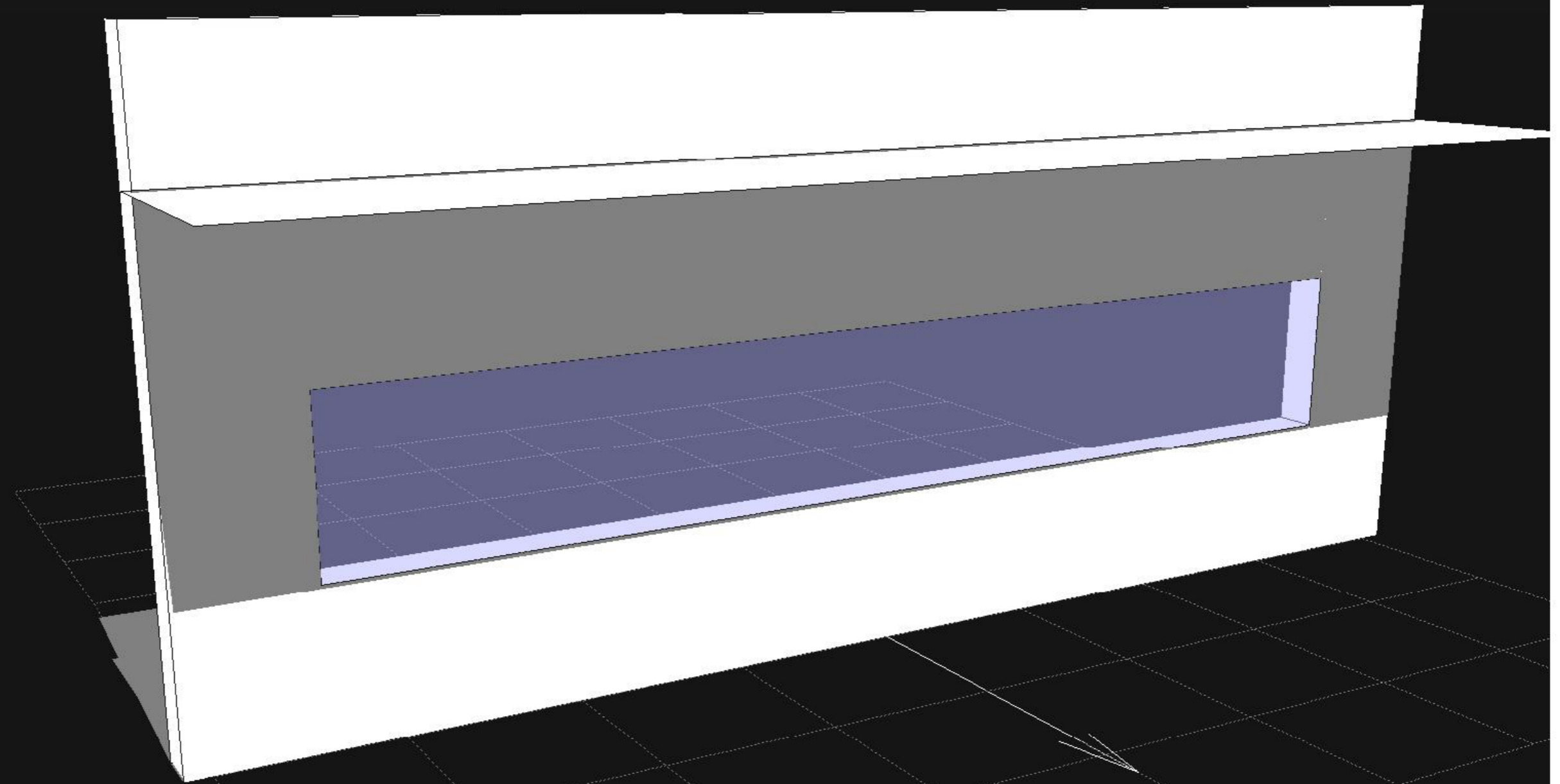
Sydney, March 21<sup>st</sup>, midday



Sydney, May 21<sup>st</sup>, midday



Sydney, June 21<sup>st</sup>, midday

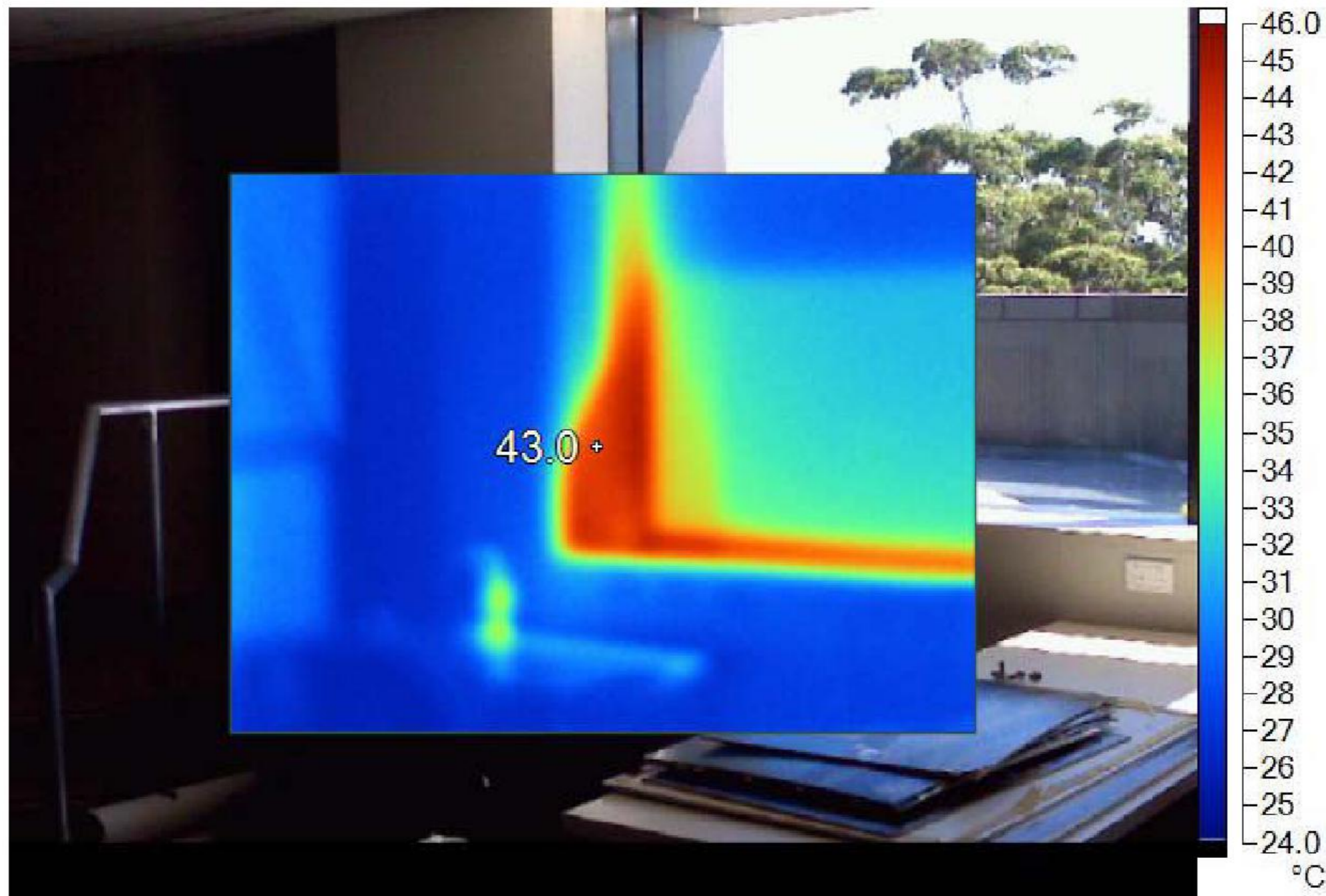


Sydney, Sep 21<sup>st</sup>, midday



Sydney, Dec 21<sup>st</sup>, midday

A 3D shading model of a building facade. The model consists of a grey rectangular volume with a white horizontal band at the top. A large rectangular window is cut out of the front face, revealing a blue grid pattern inside. The model is set on a dark grey grid floor. A white arrow points from the text at the bottom towards the window area. The background is black.



March 13, 10:15 am, 2013 TETB Northern window. Sydney DBT = 28°C max.  
Opportunity to improve external shading to exclude direct solar gain  
(Sep 21<sup>st</sup> – Mar 21<sup>st</sup>)? PV panels - which currently have an installed system cost of 32  
~ \$250/m<sup>2</sup> may be the best option?



# PV and Rooftops



PV and rooftops equals green electricity delivered to the customer offsetting electricity at retail prices.

PV modules can provide shading and lighting at no extra cost.



**Conservatory ECN Building, Holland**



**PV roof at De Kleine Aarde**



Conserval Engineering - [SolarDuct PV/T](#), generates electricity *and* heat.



WESINC

**Halogen downlight nightmare**

**65 lamps @ 60W each ~ 4000 W of lighting**

# MORE PROFIT WITH LESS CARBON

BY AMORY B. LOVINS

Focusing on energy efficiency will do more than protect Earth's climate—it will make businesses and consumers richer

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Amory Lovins – founder of  
the Rocky Mountain  
Institute - Energy  
Efficiency proponent and  
pioneer

*MAP/Ming Visiting Professorship, Engineering School, Stanford University, 26 March 2007*  
*CEE 173L/273L: Advanced Energy End-Use Efficiency*

***Public Lectures in Advanced Energy Efficiency:***  
***1. Buildings***

<http://www.rmi.org/sitepages/pid231.php>



**Amory B. Lovins, Hon. AIA**

Chairman and Chief Scientist  
Rocky Mountain Institute  
[www.rmi.org](http://www.rmi.org)



# -44 to + 46 °C with no heating/cooling equipment, *less construction cost*



2200 m, frost any day, 39 days' continuous midwinter cloud...yet 28 banana crops with no furnace



Key: integrative design—multiple benefits from single expenditures



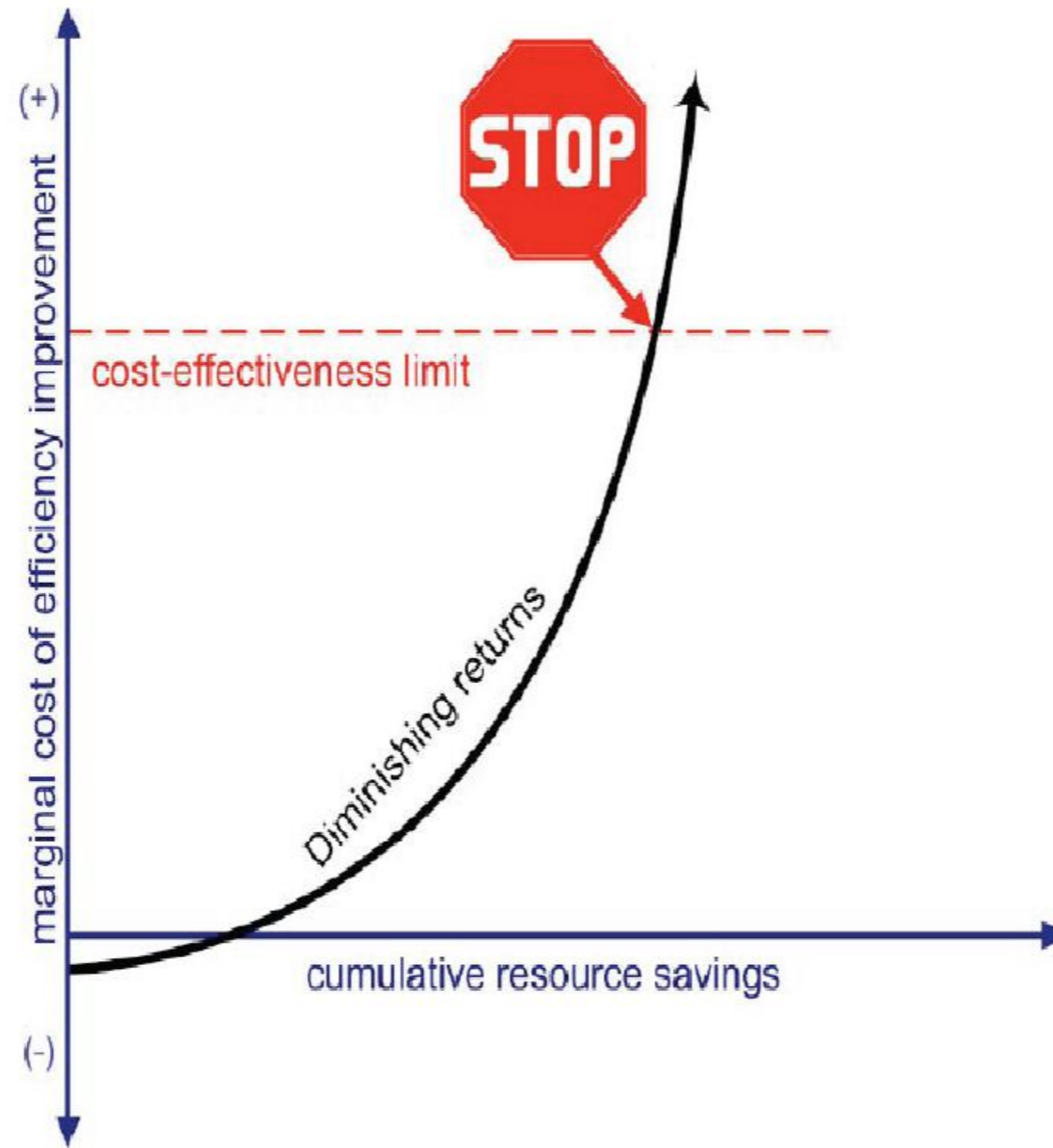
- ◇ Lovins house / RMI HQ, Snowmass, Colorado, '84
  - Saves 99% of space & water heating energy, 90% of home el. (372 m<sup>2</sup> use ~120 W<sub>av</sub> costing US\$5/month @ \$0.07/kWh)
  - 10-month payback in 1983
- ◇ PG&E ACT<sup>2</sup>\*, Davis CA, '94
  - Mature-market cost -\$1,800
  - Present-valued maint. -\$1,600
  - 82% design saving from 1992 Ca code, ~90% from U.S. norm
- ◇ Prof. Soontorn Boonyatikarn house, Bangkok, Thailand, '96
  - 84% less a/c capacity, ~90% less a/c energy, better comfort
  - No extra construction cost

\*\$18M experiment, 1990-97, 7 old & new bldgs, [www.pga.com/003\\_save\\_energy/003c\\_edu\\_train/pec/info\\_resource/act2\\_proj.shtml](http://www.pga.com/003_save_energy/003c_edu_train/pec/info_resource/act2_proj.shtml)



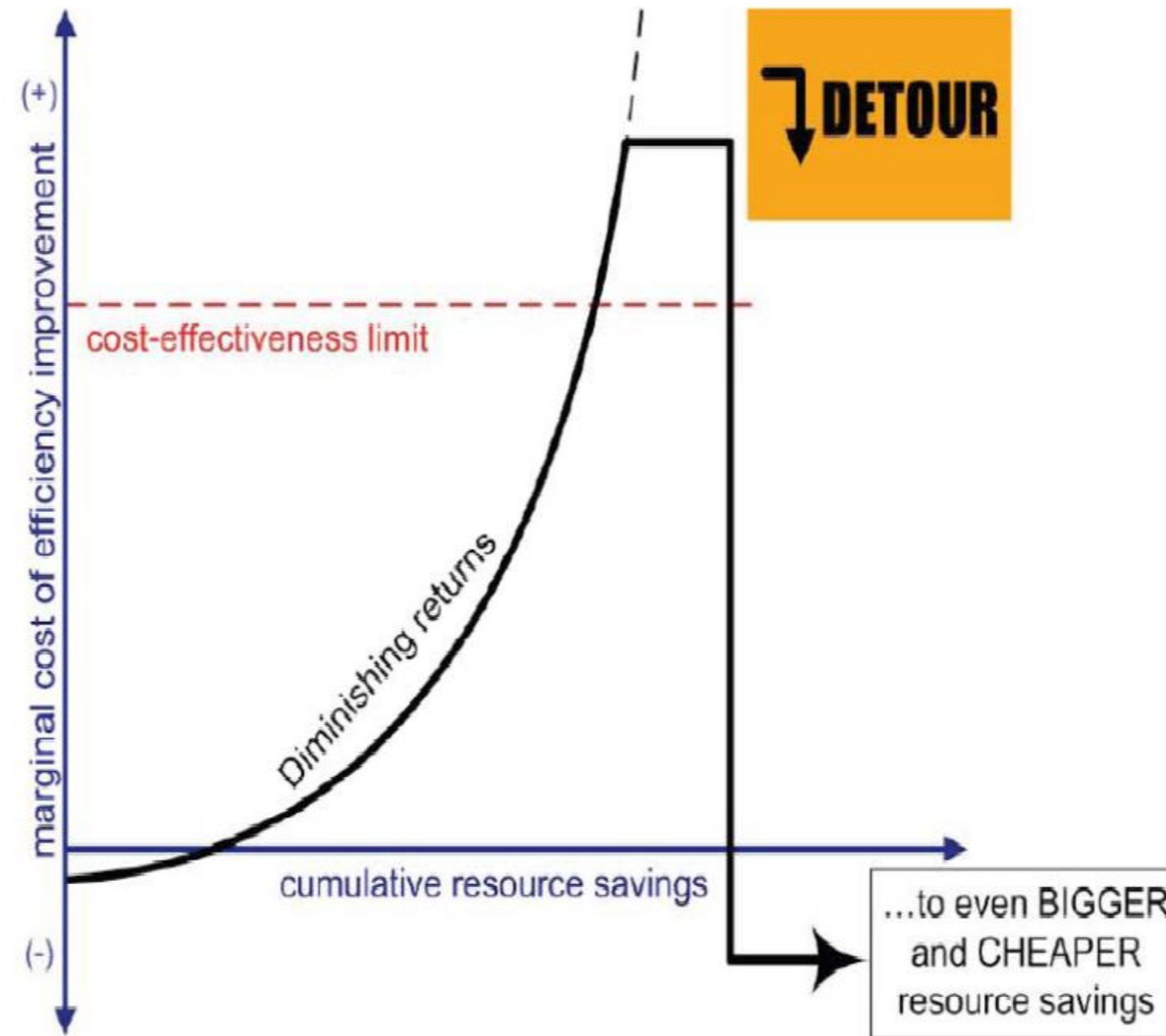


# Old design mentality: always diminishing returns...



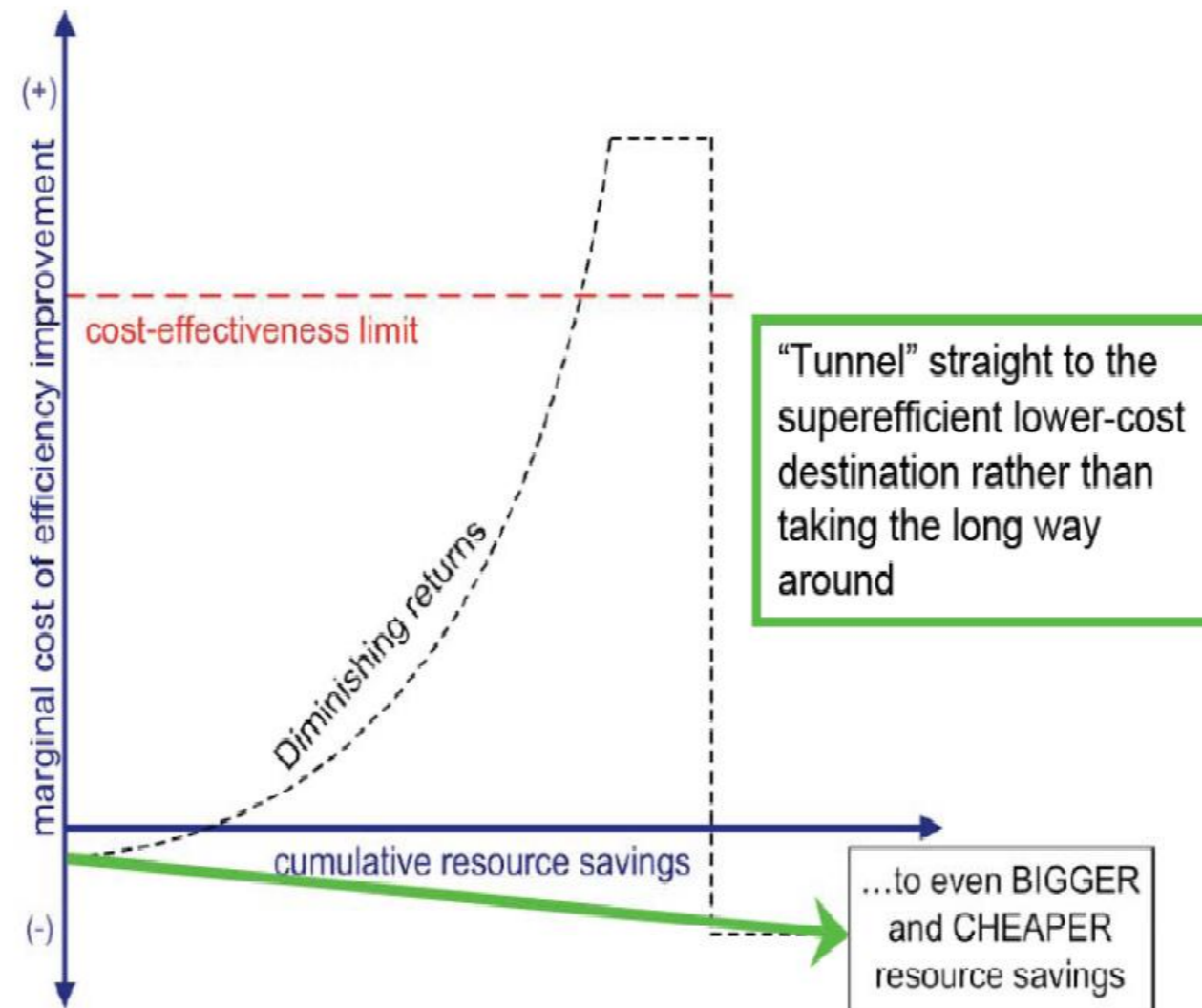


## New design mentality: expanding returns, "tunneling through the cost barrier"





## New design mentality: expanding returns, "tunneling through the cost barrier"



# NREL's Zero Energy Building

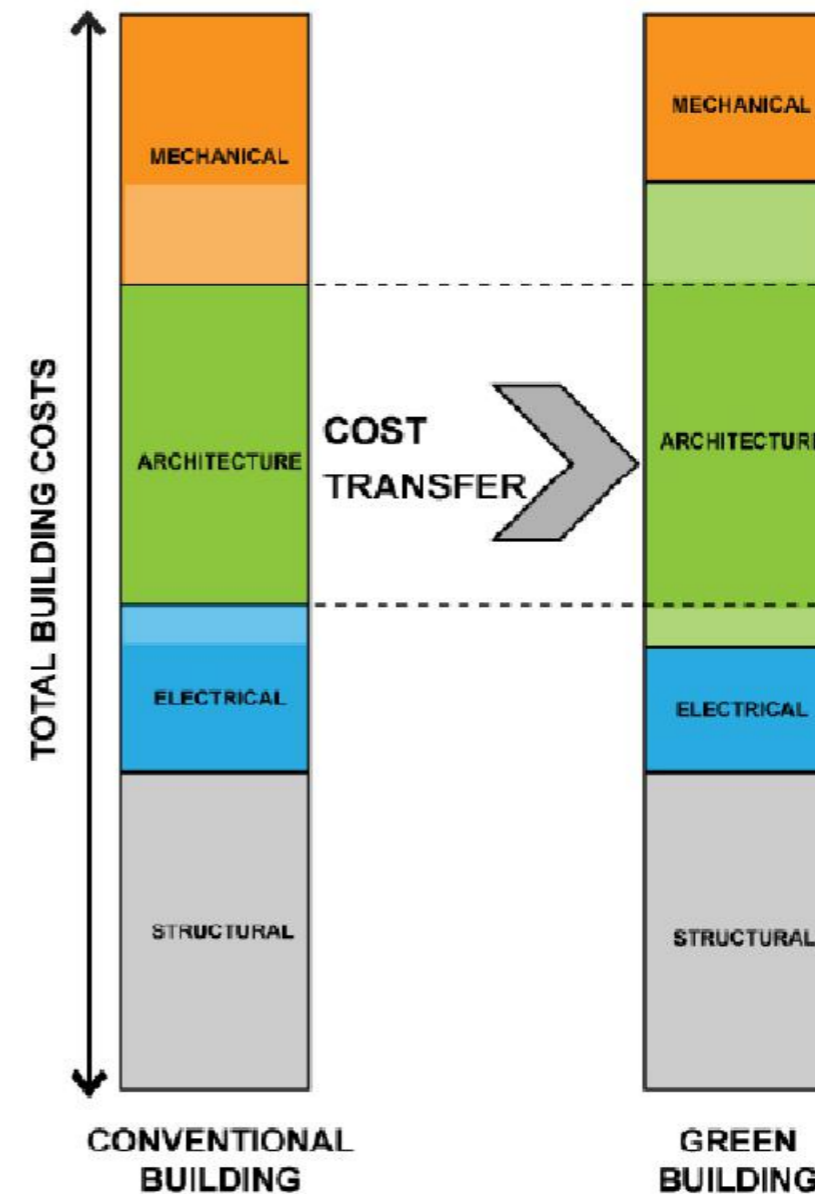


[http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/corporate/ns/webinar\\_rsf\\_03182010.pdf](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/corporate/ns/webinar_rsf_03182010.pdf)

# Integrated Design

## Cost Transfer

Transfer costs from mechanical and electrical systems to building architecture



[http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/corporate/ns/webinar\\_rsf\\_03182010.pdf](http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/publications/pdfs/corporate/ns/webinar_rsf_03182010.pdf)



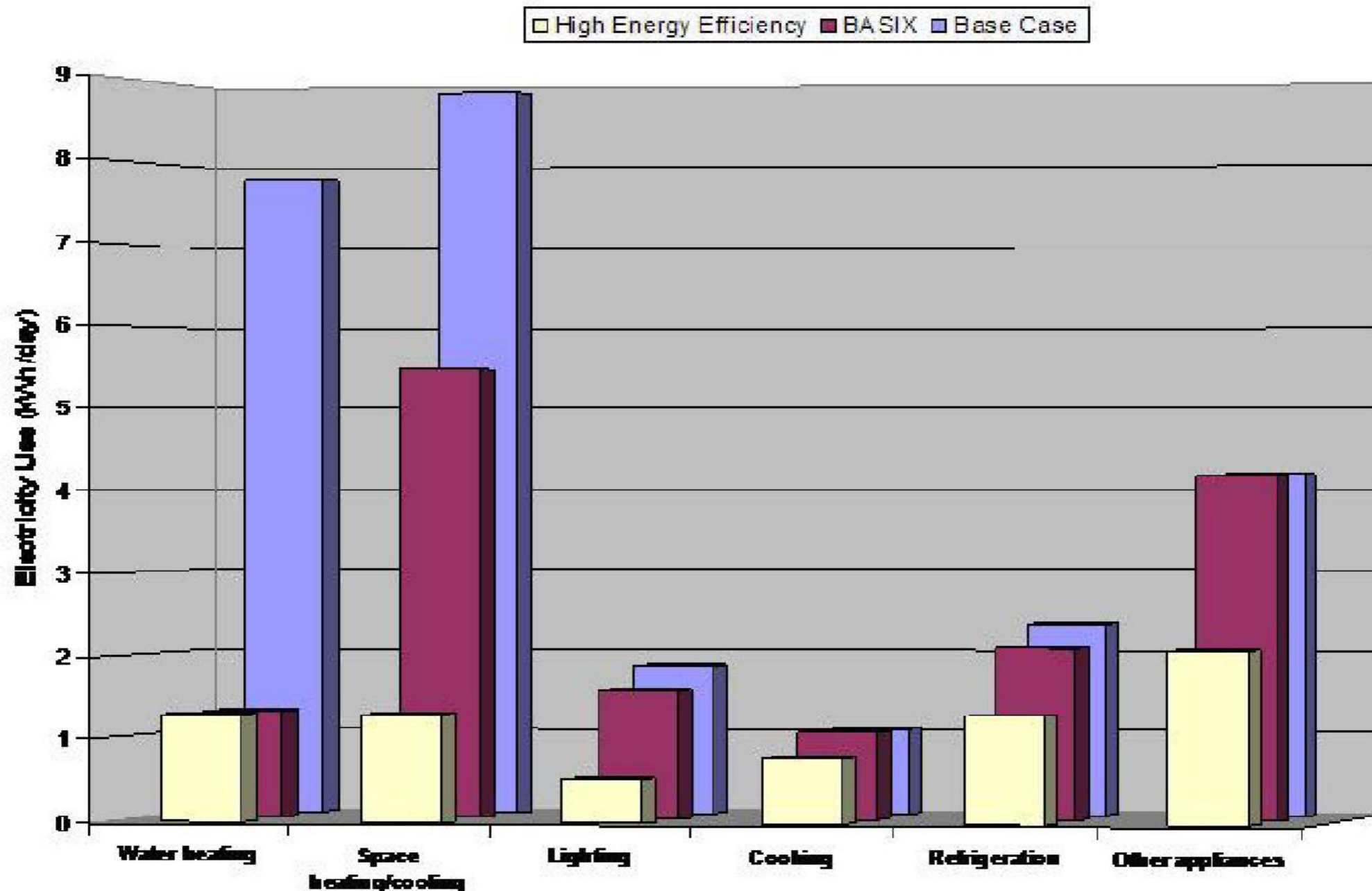
## Pumping systems

Redesigning a standard (supposedly optimized) industrial pumping loop cut its power from 70.8 to 5.3 kW (–92%), cost *less* to build, and worked better in every way. No new technologies — just two changes in the design mentality. Many other examples are in *Natural Capitalism*, free at [www.natcap.org](http://www.natcap.org)

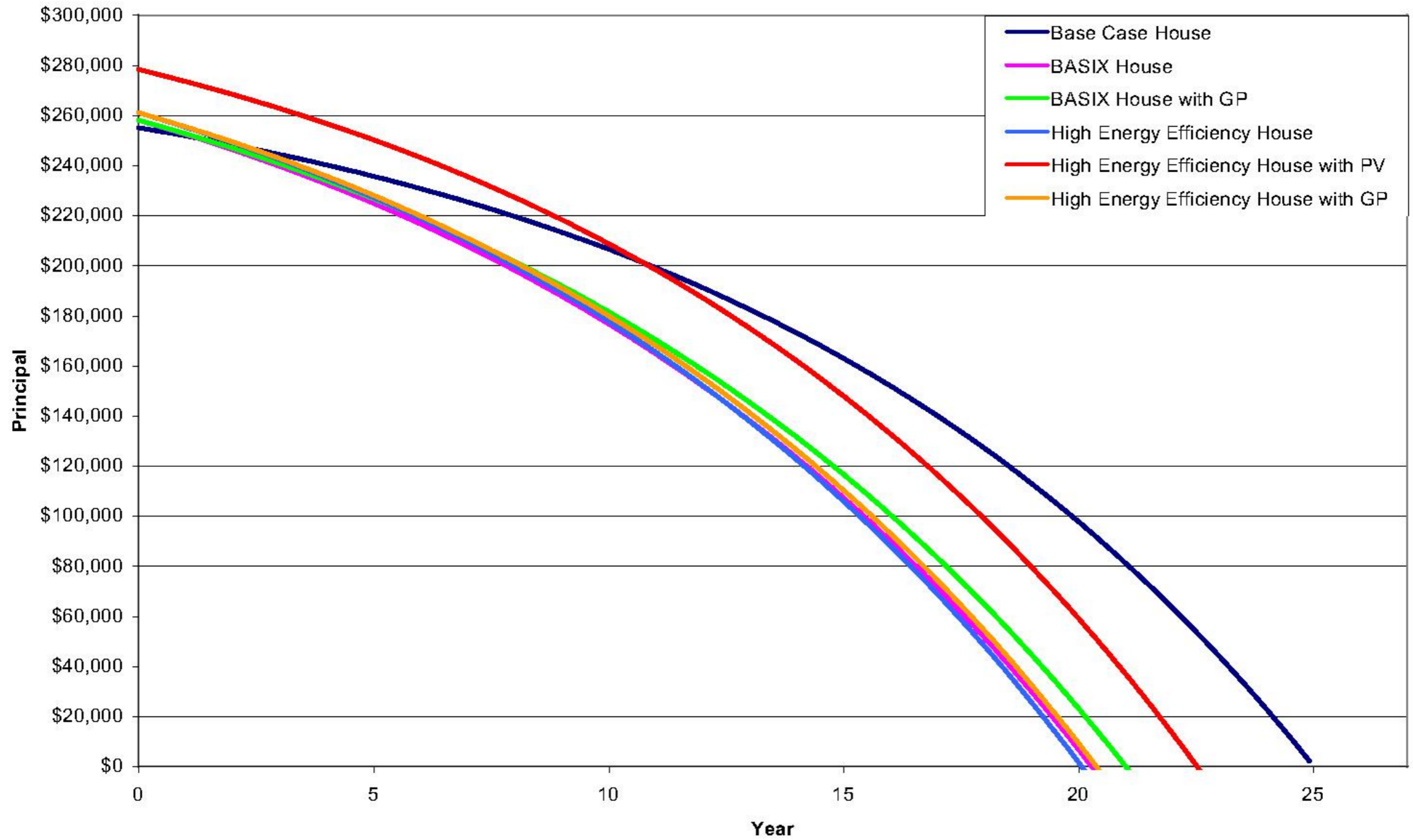
1. Big pipes, small pumps (not the opposite)
2. Lay out the pipes first, then the equipment (not the reverse).

**LOWER PRESSURE =  
LESS ENERGY LOSS =  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY!**

# Carbon Neutral Homes



*Expected breakdown of electricity consumption*



*Loan amortisation graph*



# Optimum energy design for a house in Sydney?

Table 2: Summary of house characteristics for simulation of typical and optimised house

	<b>Typical House</b>	<b>Optimised House</b>
Construction	Walls: Brick veneer, R1.5 Insulation Floor: Suspended timber floor, R1 Insulation Ceiling: Gyprock, R2.5 Insulation Roof: Steel roof	Walls: Reverse brick veneer, R5.7 Insulation Floor: Insulated concrete slab, R5.7 Insulation Ceiling: Gyprock, R5.7 Insulation Roof: Steel roof, R1 Insulation
Thermal mass	No internal thermal mass	Walls & Floor: 0.2m
Windows	Single glazed, unshaded with aluminium frames	Double glazed, shaded with timber frames
Ventilation	Normal ventilation: 2 ACH	Normal: 0.6 ACH Night ventilation: 10 ACH (summer) Heat exchange system

S.M. Bambrook, A.B. Sproul, D. Jacob, Design optimisation for a low energy home in Sydney, Energy and Buildings, Volume 43, Issue 7, July 2011, Pages 1702-1711,

# PV/T air systems

- Outlet temp suitable for space heating
- Array ventilation increases PV output
- Additional PV elec output > fan energy
- Good potential for residential application



S.M. Bambrook, A.B. Sproul, Maximising the energy output of a PVT air system, Solar Energy, Volume 86, Issue 6, June 2012, Pages 1857-1871



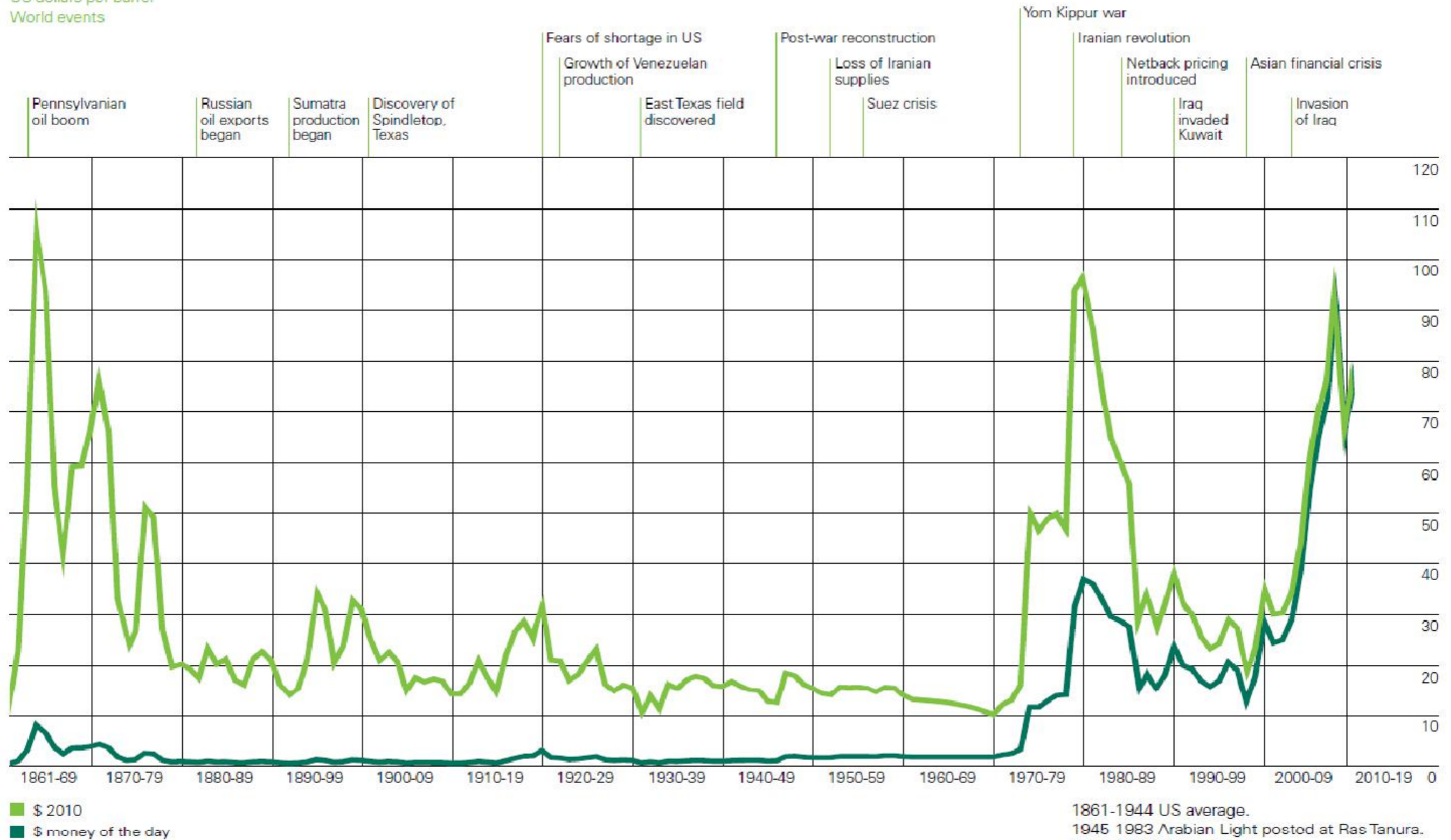
Transport

# Chart of crude oil prices since 1861

## Crude oil prices 1861-2010

US dollars per barrel

World events



Increasingly electric vehicles/hybrids are becoming more widely available as the technology is offered to customers by a wider range of companies.



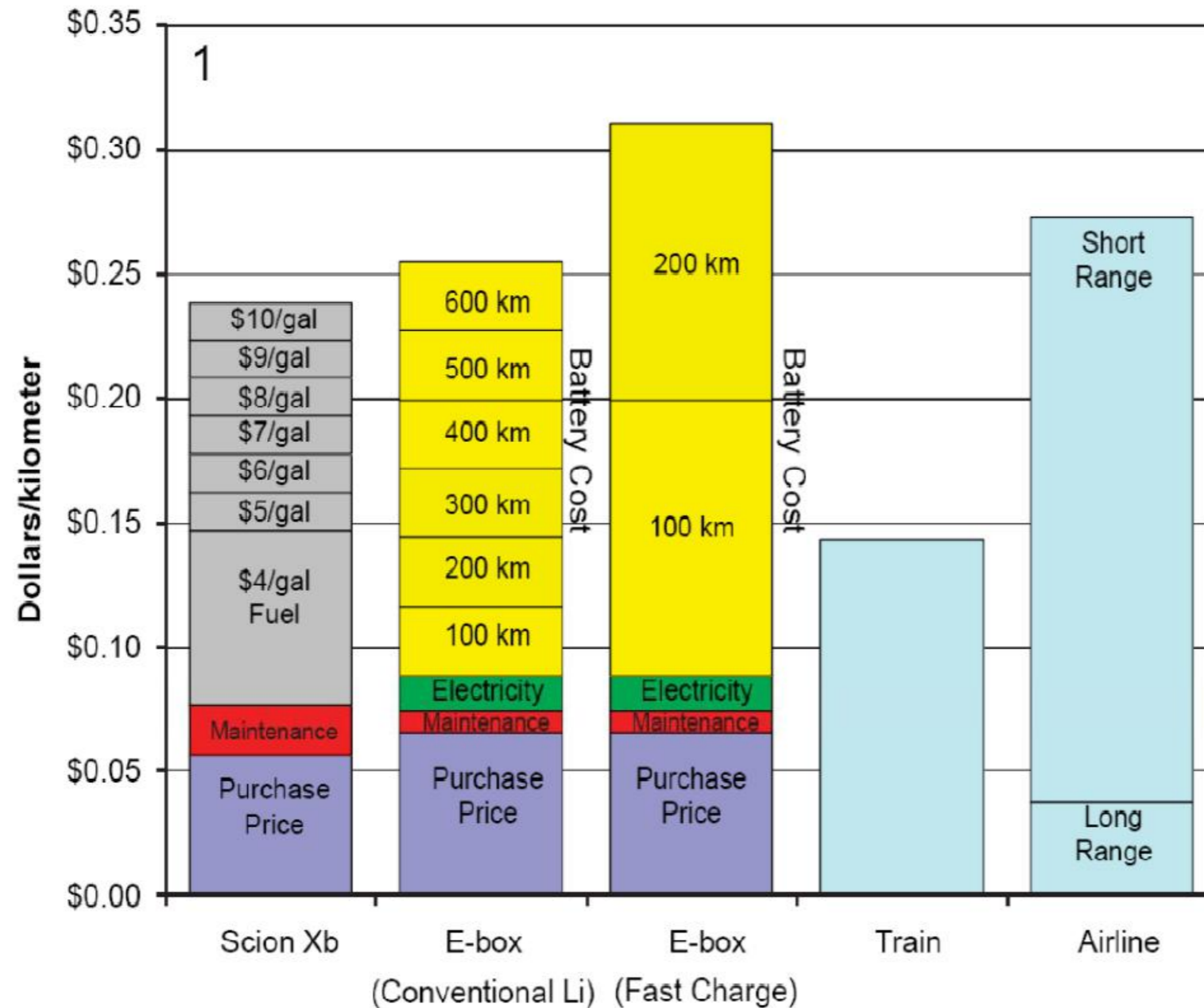
<http://www.chevrolet.com/volt/>

# Batteries: Lower cost than gasoline?

Mathew Werber, Michael Fischer, Peter V. Schwartz \*

Cal Poly Physics Department, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407, United States

Energy Policy 37 (2009) 2465–2468



Oslo – plans to run all the city's buses on biogas produced from food waste.



[http://www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item\\_id=4826](http://www.bioenergy-news.com/index.php?/Industry-News?item_id=4826)



Where to from here?



Termites don't burn coal yet they have a low carbon built environment

"High rise" termite mound

Indoor climate control

Solar driven ventilation

Air-earth heat exchange

10 m high,  
maintains  
 $31 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  in  
 $3-42^\circ\text{C}$  for  
termites'  
fungus-  
farming



# CRC FOR LOW CARBON LIVING



LOW CARBON LIVING  
CRC

CRC FOR LOW CARBON LIVING

# THE CRC PROGRAMS

## ✓ Integrated Building Systems

- **Integrated solar technologies for buildings**
- **Low carbon materials**
- **Integrated design, showcase, ratings and standards**

## ✓ Low Carbon Precincts

- **Digital information platform**
- **Integrated assessment of design**
- **Precinct level demand forecasting for distributed infrastructure networks**
- **Health and productivity co-benefits**

## ✓ Engaged Communities

- **Transition scenarios and affordability**
- **Drivers and barriers to community engagement**
- **Living laboratories**
- **Education and capacity building**



# LIVING LABORATORIES

- ✓ **Property developments**
  - *Trialing new infrastructure solutions and technologies*
- ✓ **Community groups**
  - *Trialing behaviour change, social engagement programs*
- ✓ **Making it real**
  - *Research by doing*
  - *Program delivery & cost by partner*
  - *Ongoing metering and survey work by CRC*

***First step to widespread adoption***



**Energymark**

Guidelines for group convenors



Questions?