

# We will be starting soon!

Thanks for joining us



# Home Electrification Planning Class 1: Soup to Nuts



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August 22, 2023





#### HOME ELECTRIFICATION PLANNING SERIES

Learn how to develop customized home electrification plans for customers or your own home!

Home Electrification Planning Classes **TODAY!** Class 1: Electrification Planning: Soup to Nuts

- What is an electrification plan
- Importance of electrification planning
- Methods for calculating heating load

#### Aug 29 Class 2: Electrical Panel Optimization

- How to calculate existing electrical load
- Incorporate planned electrification upgrades
- Optimize existing electrical panel capacity

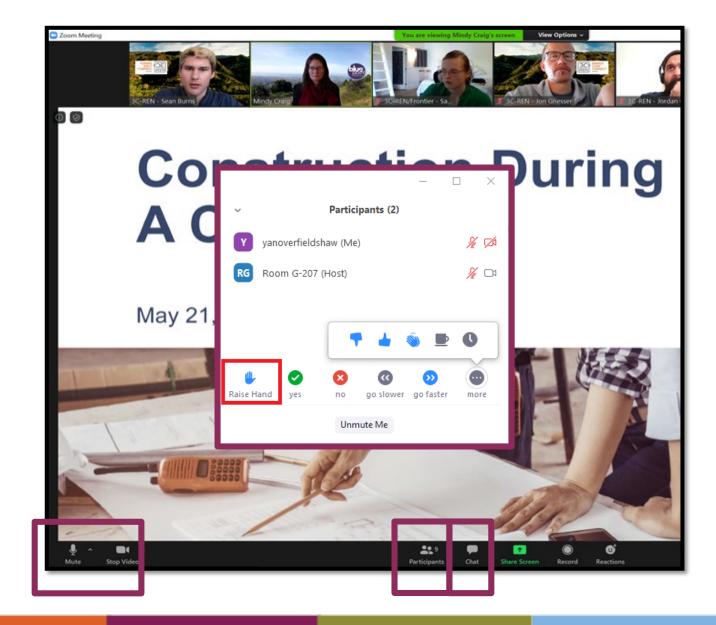
#### Sept 5 Class 3: Developing an Electrification Plan

- Selecting proper type, sizing, and location for new equipment
- Essential components of an electrification plan
- Setting the homeowner and contractors up for success



#### **Zoom Orientation**

- Please be sure your full name is displayed
- Please mute upon joining
- Use "Chat" box to share questions or comments
- Under "Participant" select "Raise Hand" to share a question or comment verbally
- The session may be recorded and posted to 3C-REN's on-demand page.
   Feel free to ask questions via the chat and keep video off if you want to remain anonymous in the recording.



#### 3C-REN: Tri-County Regional Energy Network

- Three counties working together to improve energy efficiency in the region
- Services for
  - Building Professionals: industry events, training, and energy code compliance support
  - Households: free and discounted home upgrades
- Funded by ratepayer dollars that 3C-REN returns to the region











#### **Problems of Electrifying WITHOUT a Plan**



- Homeowner's 1st electrification projects use up too many panel amps
- Advised by contractor who is not thinking about whole-home electrification
- Worst offenders:
  - 50-amp car chargers
  - 50-amp HVAC systems



#### **Problems of Electrifying WITHOUT a Plan**



- Electric panel is full!
- Panel and service line need to be UPSIZED
- Utility gets involved
- Long wait times
- Could cost \$5,000 (overhead service line) and \$20,000 (underground)



## **Benefits of Electrifying WITH a Plan**

- Helps avoid ~\$5,000+ electric panel upgrade
- Provides roadmap for homeowner
- Helps guide tradespeople
- Helps avoid unnecessary work and costly mistakes
- Facilitates right sizing equipment (vs. oversizing)
- Home more likely to be power efficient and grid-friendly

Panel optimization works:

- If house is <3000 sq ft and located in mild climate, 100 Amp panel is usually sufficient
- Caveat: Homes with 60 Amp panels or smaller should upsize panel and service line

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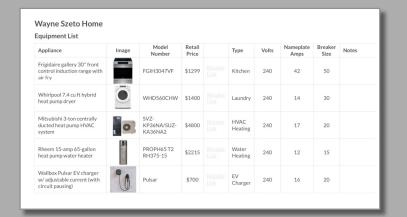
## **Components of an Electrification Plan**

- 1. Recommended equipment list
- 2. Electrical load calculations per NEC 220.83(B) or 220.87
- **3**. Project list for contractors with photos of existing equipment and locations
- 4. Wiring plan

#### Note:

- Homeowners can do their own or get help from an expert
- Plan takes expert ~30 minutes, homeowner ~3 hours

#### **Electrification Plan**











#### **Data for electrification comes from 3 sources**

1. Utility data showing home's current energy needs

- Best to gather before home visit

- 2. Homeowner preferences
- 3. Home visit observations, measurements and photos



### **Utility Data**

- Electricity usage history for home
  - Ideally 1 year of 15-minute interval data, but 60-minute is okay
  - Downloadable from utility using green button
- Gas usage history for home
  - Ideally 1 year of daily interval data
  - Downloadable from utility using green button



#### **Homeowner Preferences**

- 1. Which gas appliances to replace?
- 2. Do they want a home EV charger?
- 3. If they don't have solar/battery today, will they want it in the future?
- 4. Ideal location for new HVAC compressor?
- 5. Ideal location for new EV charger?
- 6. How many miles do you drive in a typical week?
- 7. On a cooktop, do they prefer buttons or knobs?
- 8. Could they live with a 4.3 cu ft (European-sized) dryer or do they need the typical 7.4 cu ft (American-sized) dryer?
- 9. Would they like a combo washer/dryer?
- 10.Happy with performance of current gas appliances or should adjustments be made in transition to electric?



#### **Home Visit Data**

- Observations, for example:
  - Shut-off breaker capacity on main panel
  - Open breaker spaces in main panel or subpanels
  - Size and location of all gas appliances
  - Nameplate ratings of all major electric appliances
- Measurements, for example:
  - Dimensions of spaces for new appliances
  - Dimensions of attic or crawlspace hatches, if contractors need access
  - Wire run lengths for new circuits (estimates okay)
  - Condensate line lengths for new HVAC and water heater



#### **Home Visit Data: Stations**

- Collect data in these groups/stations
  - Main panel & subpanels
  - Existing electric appliances
  - Each gas appliance to be replaced
    - Cooking
    - Water heater
    - Furnace
    - Clothes dryer
    - Other: fireplace, pool heater
  - EV charger location
  - Attic
  - Crawl space
  - Other: vents, ducts, wall insulation
  - Solar & Battery



#### Home Visit Data: Home, Main Panel & Subpanels

- Square footage of home
- Year home was built
- Shut-off breaker capacity of main panel
- Open breaker spaces in main panel and subpanels
- Busbar capacity of main panel and subpanels
- Feeder breaker capacity of subpanels







## Home Visit Data: Existing Electric Appliances

- Find name plate for each major electric appliance:
  - Voltage
  - Amps
- Major appliances defined as:
  - Affixed to house or
  - Dedicated circuit
- Take a photo





## Home Visit Data: Existing Electric Appliances

#### Kitchen

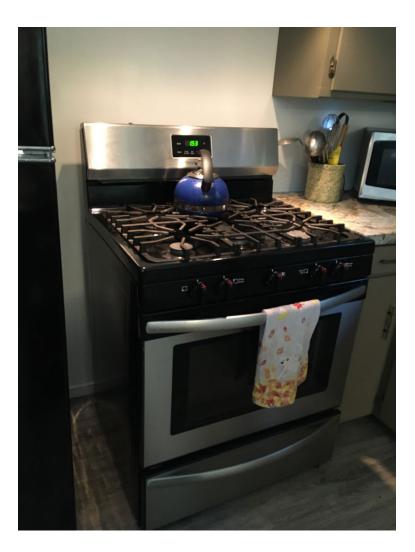
- Electric Range (single appliance with oven under cooktop)
- **Electric Cooktop**
- Electric Wall Oven
- Stove Vent Hood
- Built-in Microwave (not countertop model)
- Refrigerator (on dedicated circuit)
- Dishwasher
- Garbage Disposal
- Instant Hot Water Tap
- Garbage Compactor
- Extra Řefrigerator or Freezer (standalone and on dedicated circuit)
- Laundry
  - Washing Machine
  - Electric Dryer
- Bathroom
  - **Towel Warmer**
- **HVAC** Heating
  - Heat Pump HVAC
  - Electric Baseboard Heating or Similar
  - Heated Floor
  - **Bathroom Heater**

- HVAC Air Conditioning
  - Central Air Conditioner
  - Window Mounted Air Conditioner
  - Whole House or Attic Fan
  - **Evaporative Cooler**
- Water Heating
  - Electric Resistance Tank Water Heater
  - Electric Resistance Tankless Water Heater
  - Heat Pump Water Heater
- Whirlpool Tub (in bathroom)
- Spa/Hot Tub (outdoors) Hot Water Circulation Pump
- Pool
  - Swimming Pool Main Pump
  - Swimming Pool Supplemental Pump
  - Swimming Pool Heater
- **EV** Charger
  - Level 1 Electric Vehicle Charger/Outlet
  - Level 2 Electric Vehicle Charger/Outlet
- Home Battery System



#### Home Visit Data: Gas Cooking

- Number of burners on cooktop
- Physical dimensions (width)
- Range type: free-standing vs. slide-in
- Number of oven cavities
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo



#### Home Visit Data: Gas Water Heater

- Tank or tankless?
- Tank size
- Recirculating pump?
- Location
- Dimensions of physical space for water heater
- 400 cu ft space around it?
- Route for condensate drainage
- Water heater efficiency
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo





## Home Visit Data: Gas Furnace

- Type: ducted forced air, wall furnace, floor furnace
- Location
- Dimensions of physical space for heat pump air handler
- Route for condensate drainage
- Furnace efficiency
- Distance between furnace and preferred compressor location
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo





#### Home Visit Data: Gas Clothes dryer

- Drum size
- Dimensions of physical space for dryer
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo



#### Home Visit Data: Gas Fireplace & Pool Heater

- Dimensions of physical space for fireplace/pool heater
- Heating capacity of pool heater (BTUs/hr)
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo





### Home Visit Data: EV Charger

- Desired location
- New circuit length and feeder panel
- Take a photo





#### Home Visit Data: Attic & Crawl Space

- Condition & thickness of insulation
- Knob and tube wiring?
- Distance between joists
- Square feet of attic/crawl space
- Min/max height
- Access door dimensions
- Whether new circuits are best run through attic or crawl space
- Take photos





#### Home Visit Data: Vents, Ducts, Wall Insulation...

- Number of heating vents
- Number of duct air returns
- Vents in floor, ceiling or wall?
- Condition of ductwork
- Asbestos on ductwork?
- Ductwork diameter
- Walls insulated?
- Knob and tube wiring in walls?





#### Home Visit Data: Solar & Battery

- Roof material
- Any shade issues?
- Potential battery location
- Take photos





#### **Data Gathering Now Complete**

- Assuming no Manual J for HVAC, you have all the data you need for a plan
- Next step, crunching the numbers:
  - HVAC load calculations (today)
  - Electrical load calculations (8/29 class)
  - Equipment selection (8/29 class)
  - Wiring plan (9/5 class)
  - Project plan for contractors (9/5 class)



# **SCP Methods for Calculating Home Heating Load**

HEAT PUMP HVAC SIZING



#### Why size heat pumps?

- For comfort
- For energy savings and operating cost savings
- For quiet operation
- For capital cost savings
  - (right size it the first time)



## Methods (from worst to best)

1) Put in the same size as before	Example Result							
( 60,000 Btuh = 5 tons, <b>Yowza!!</b> )	5 tons	1 minute						
2) Follow another region's Rule of Thumb								
(e.g. 0.25 tons per hundred square feet)	5 tons	1 minute						
(e.g. 0.15 tons per hundred square feet)	4 tons	1 minute						
3) Perform Manual J calculation								
For hypothetical family	3.3 tons	4-6 hours						
4) Base it on real life peak day gas usage								
For this family	2.4 tons	15 minutes						

#### **Manual J Method**

#### During site visit gather info on:

- 1. All wall lengths and heights
- 2. All window sizes and types
- 3. All door sizes and types
- 4. Floor area to ground (**note:** by type of space under floor)
- 5. Ceiling area (note: by type of space above ceiling)
- 6. Other features like chimney area to outside.
- 7. Air leakage estimate (in house air volume exchanges per hour [ACH] )



#### Manual J: Materials

#### Gather info on the building materials for:

- Roof and attic
- Walls
- Windows
- Doors
- Floors to unconditioned space

- Pay attention to whether they are insulated and with how much insulation

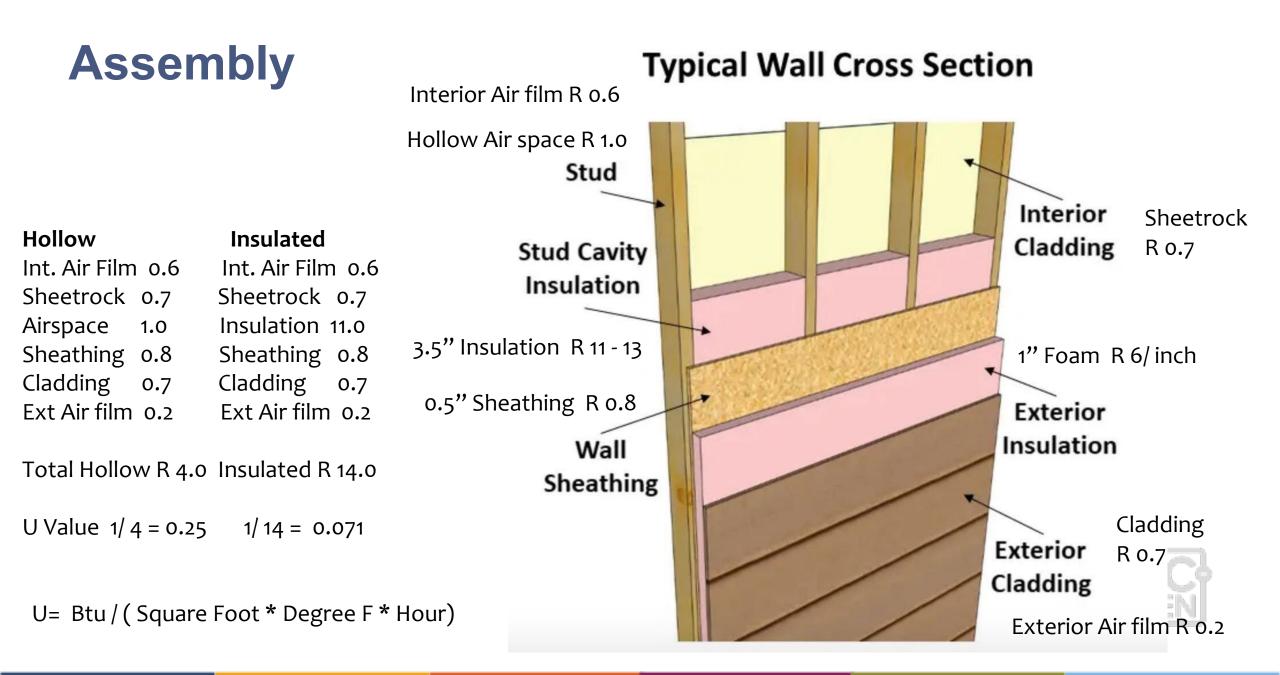


# Manual J: Assemblies

#### • Find R-Value for each Assembly Component:

- Inside air film
- Sheetrock
- Vapor barrier ( if present )
- Air space or insulation R-Value
- Sheathing material (plywood, OSB, diagonal boards etc.)
- House wrap or building paper ( if present)
- Stucco or wood siding etc.
- Exterior air film
- Add them up to find the total R-Value of the wall
- Invert the R Value to give U-Value of the wall





### Manual J: Assemblies

### Repeat The Assembly R-Value Calculations for each Different situation:

- (Assembly type or exterior space type)
- Different type of wall
- And for the wall to the garage
- Repeat for each different type of ceiling
- Repeat for each different type of floor
- Repeat for each different type of unconditioned space under floor

### Manual J: Assembly UAs

#### For every Assembly:

- Multiply the assembly area by its U-Value and by the design temperature difference (indoor temp minus outdoor temp)
- Use the buffered unconditioned space temperatures for the garage wall and for the floor over crawl space or basement etc. E.g. crawlspace = 50F design CA coast
- These give the rate of design heat loss through each assembly/outdoor space condition (Btu/ Hour @Design temperature)



### Manual J Calculations

#### Sum the Design Heat Loss rates of all components

- All walls to exterior
- All ceilings to exterior
- All floors to exterior
- All windows (from conditioned space)
- All doors (from conditioned Space)
- The total is the design heat loss rate of the surfaces



### Manual J: Air Infiltration

#### Make an estimate of the design air leakage rate.

- Typically:
  - 1 House volume per hour for a normal 2 story house (1 ACH)
  - 0.9 House volume per hour for a normal 1 story house
- Can use a blower door test and that may matter in severe climates
- Example result:
  - 1 ACH \* 2,000 sqft floor \* 8 foot wall height = 16,000 Cubic feet of air infiltration per hour
  - 16,000 \* 0.18 Btu/cubic foot per degree F \* (70F-30F) = 11,520 Btuh design infiltration loss



### Manual J Calculations

#### Sum the design heat loss rates of surfaces and infiltration

Example:

- All surfaces subtotal
- Infiltration
- Total for building

22,000 Btuh 11,520 Btuh **33,520 Btuh** 

- Ductwork ~20%
   6,500 Btuh
- Total with ductwork

40,000 Btuh 3.3 tons

The culmination of a hundred estimates



# **SCREN** Alternative Method

#### HVAC Sizing Using Peak Day Gas Usage



#### Concept:

- Future peak days are similar to prior peak days for this family
- So determine how much gas heat was required on a prior peak day
- Then size the heat pump to be able to deliver that much heat in a reasonable number of hours



#### Method:

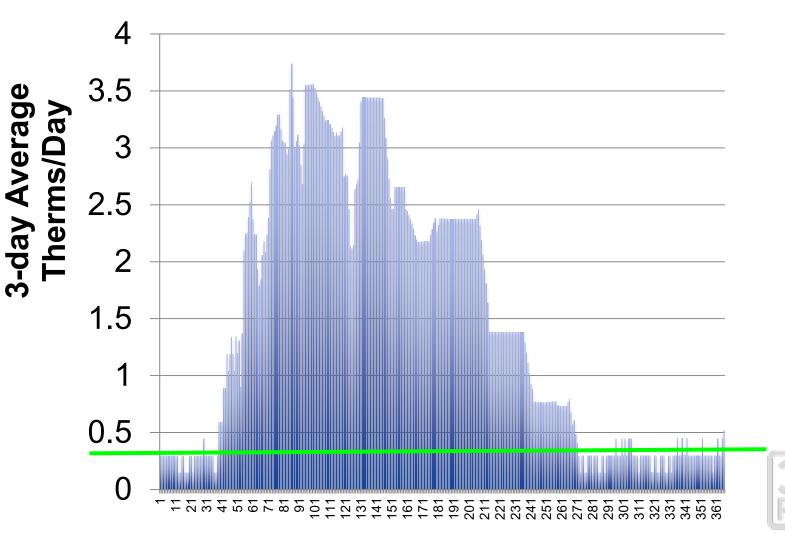
- Get utility smart meter data for daily gas use for the prior year
  - (365 numbers... gas therms used per day)
- Find Average daily gas use in summer months when family is home
  - e.g. 0.4 Therms/day
- Find peak gas use day in winter
  - e.g. 5.1 Therms of gas/ peak day



### **Actual Therm Use 3-Day Average**

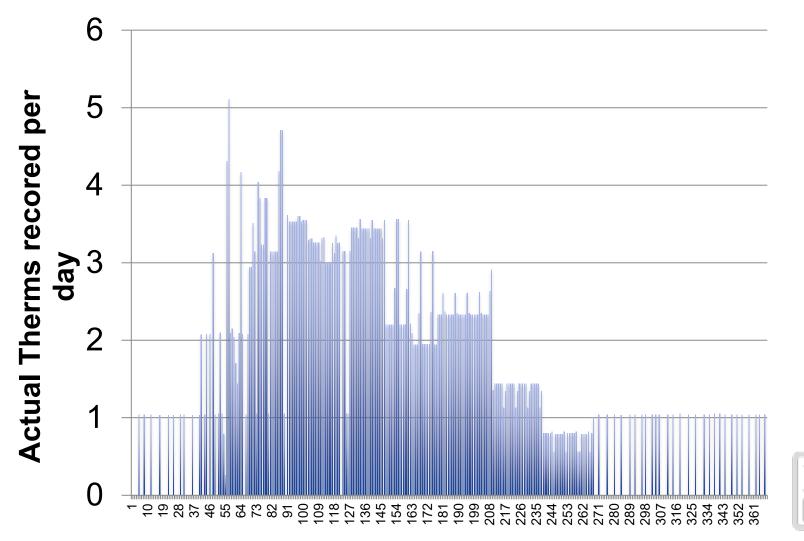
Looking at 3-day rolling average

to find daily (summer) average of non-heat gas usage.



### **Actual Therm Use Recorded**

For finding the peak day gas usage



#### Method Continued:

- Subtract the summer gas average daily usage (water heat and cooking, drying) from the winter peak day usage to see they needed: 5.1 minus 0.4 = 4.7 Therms of gas
  - 4.7 Therms of gas for heating on peak day
- If furnace nameplate indicates furnace is 80% efficient then 376,000 Btus of heat were delivered at the furnace bonnet
  - (4.7 TH \* 0.8 Eff \* 100,000 Btu/Therm
    - = 376,000 Btu of heat/peak day)



#### Method:

- Convert to ton-hours of heating
- 376,000 Btu / 12,000 Btu/ton-hour

= 31.3 ton hours of heat needed on peak day

Tidbit: Gas furnace ran for 6.3 hours on peak day
 ( 376,000 BTU / 60,000 Btu/hr = 6.3 hours)

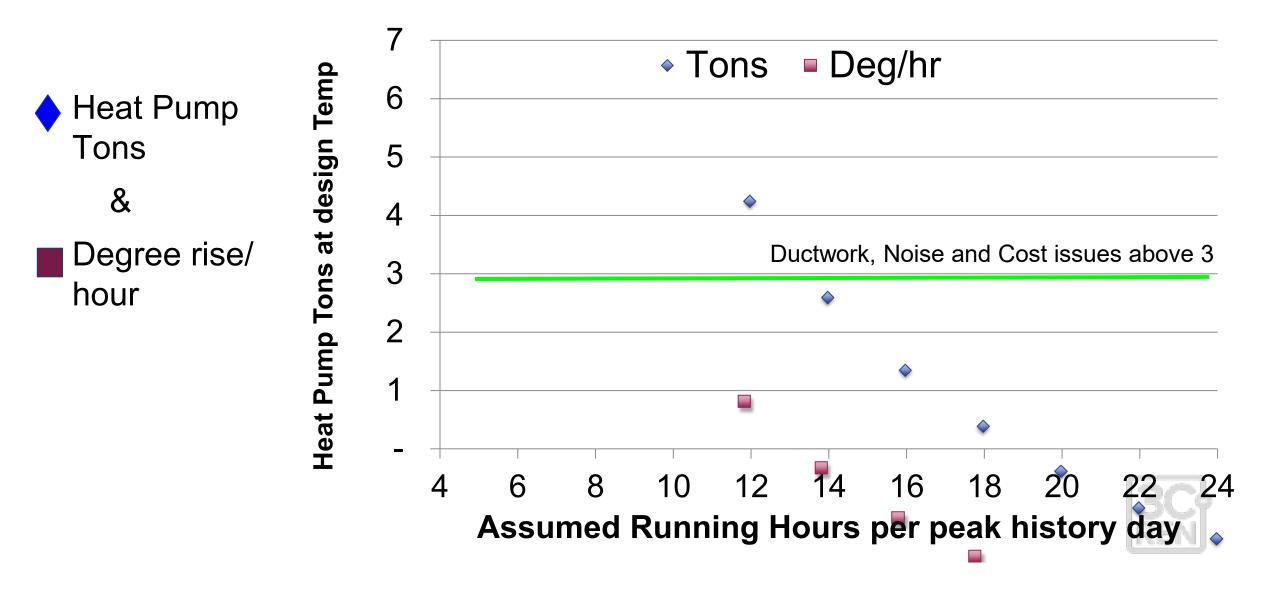


#### Method:

- Pick a heat pump size that can deliver the needed heat for the peak day
- 31.3 Ton-hours needed / 13 hours of full load operation on peak day = 2.4 tons needed to provide heat to the bonnet of ductwork
- 2.4 \* (1- 20% duct heat loss and leakage) = 1.9 tons needed if it was ductless
- The culmination of reality & 4 assumptions (listed later)



#### Heat Pump size and outcomes



The 4 assumptions we make:

- 1. That the peak day rounding error is small enough
- 2. That the future will similar to the recent past (can adjust)
- 3. That the nameplate, e.g. 80%, efficiency was right
- That the heat pump will have about 13 hours to get the heating done in the peak day



## The peak day gas usage method quickly gives real world answers.

- Operating adjustments can be made like running the unit longer on the peak day in real life
- An added insulation project can be separately evaluated as a single surface UA change (BTU saved on peak day) This lets you explore whether insulation and air sealing projects let you downsize the heat pump



#### Manual J Cons and Pros

#### Cons:

- Lots of data
- Lots of estimates and assumptions
- Lots of effort & attention

#### **Pros:**

- Can help explore the \$ value of insulation projects and air sealing
- Can help explore room issues
- Can explore whether insulation and air sealing can let you downsize the heat pump

#### **Time Comparison of Methods**

	Manual J	Peak Day Gas Usage
Gathering data off site	10 min	10 min
Gathering data on site	60 min (x 2 people )	2 min
Entering data	60 min	1 min
Calculations	0-80 min	0-5 min
	Can give room info + ½ AC info (not crucial) May overlook something	
Total Minutes	130 – 210 (190-270) min	13 - 18 min
Best for	New House Plans	Retrofits

### **Questions?**



### Closing

- Coming to Your Inbox Soon!
  - Slides, Recording, & Survey Please Take It and Help Us Out!
- Upcoming Courses:
  - Home Electrification Planning Class 2: Panel Optimization (8/29)
  - Home Electrification Planning Class 3: Developing and Electrification Plan (9/5)
  - Getting Past Heat Pump Objections (9/8)
  - Introduction to Passive House Retrofits (9/11)
  - Installing Heat Pumps: Lessons from the Field (9/13)



#### **Links & Resources Mentioned**

 Calculator for determining R-value of wood framed walls: <u>https://www.builderscalculator.com/wall-r-value-calculator-for-wood-framed-walls/</u>

Electrification Planning Tool: <a href="http://www.zerocarbon-home.com">www.zerocarbon-home.com</a>





#### Thank you!

For more info: 3c-ren.org

For questions: info@3c-ren.org



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