# ZERO NET ENERGY AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN CALIFORNIA

By SEAN ARMSTRONG of REDWOOD ENERGY

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THE PROPERTY OF

#### PROJECT MANAGER SEAN ARMSTRONG

- Founded Redwood Energy in 2011 to provide consulting for Zero Net Energy design in low-income housing
- Project Manager for 6 years with affordable housing developers that innovated multifamily ZNE
- Co-directed an off-grid demonstration house with solar, wind, biodiesel and human power at HSU, volunteer since 1995
- Second generation farmer specializing in grass-fed Kunekune pigs





#### ENERGY ANALYST MICHAEL WINKLER



- **Current Mayor** of the City of Arcata, 8 years on the Planning Commission
- CABEC and CalCERTS Certified Energy Analyst, HERS Rater and LEED Green Rater
- B.S. in Environmental Resources Engineering and Physics, Phi Beta Kappa
- Technical Lead for the world's first cell phone system
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell Engineer Engineer







# WHAT IS MEANT BY "ZERO NET ENERGY?"





BUILDING ON THE FRAMEWORK PURSUANT TO AB 32 THE CALIFORNIA GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS ACT OF 2006

- AB 32 necessitates "Zero Net Carbon" buildings to get 80% below 1990 GHG emissions. ZNE is a proxy for ZNC.
- Zero Net Energy residences produce 100% of energy used on-site each year with on-site renewables.



 No on-site combustion of fossil fuels is part of the international definitions of ZNE, and used in President Obama's Energy Initiatives of 2009 and 2013 to direct Federal Agencies to begin implementing ZNE into all Federal buildings

# ZERO NET ENERGY HOUSING OUTSIDE OF CALIFORNIA



PIS 2011: KAUPUNI VILLAGE, Oahu—19 ZNE affordable houses for Hawaiian natives



PIS 2011: ZHOMES, Seattle, WA—First ZNE multifamily in America. 10 ZNE market rate townhomes.

# ZERO NET ENERGY ON THE NORTH COAST



PIS 2012: PLAZA POINT, Arcata—29 senior apartments in mixed use downtown building. Danco Communities



PIS 2014: COTTAGES AT CYPRESS, Fort Bragg. With 24 ZNE houses, it is now the largest ZNE single family housing development in the USA. Danco Communities

# ZERO NET ENERGY IN THE CENTRAL AND COASTAL VALLEY



PIS 2015: SPRING LAKE, Woodland— 62 farmworker apartments. Mutual Housing California



PIS 2014: KING STATION, King City—56 family and senior apartments. Pacific Communities

### ZERO NET ENERGY IN WINE COUNTRY



FORTABLE GARDE

PIS 2015: CALISTOGA APTS, Calistoga—48 farmworker apartments. Corporation for Better Housing

PIS 2016: CLOVERDALEAPTS, Cloverdale—32farmworker apartments.Corporation for BetterHousing

### ZERO NET ENERGY IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

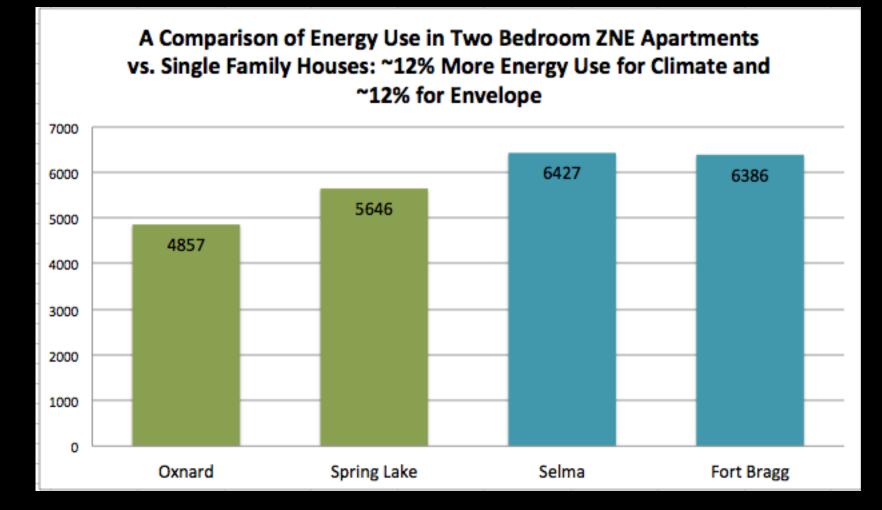


PIS 2014: COLONIAL HOUSE, Oxnard—44 farmworker apartments. Pacific Communities

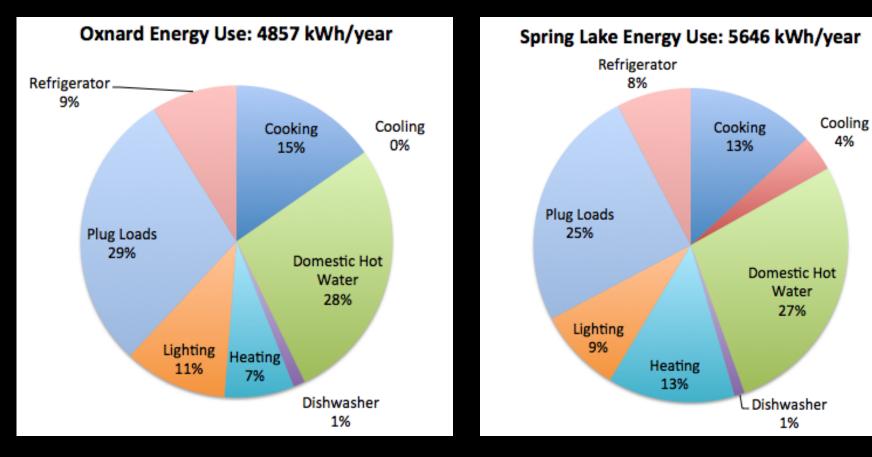


PIS 2015: RIO VISTA, San Ysidro—160 family apartments with a ZN-Electric retrofit, could not afford fuel switching costs. Standard Property

### COMPARING HOUSING TYPES AND CLIMATES



# THE SOCAL COAST VS. THE CENTRAL VALLEY: HVAC IS A SMALL IMPACT TO ZNE GOALS



#### TECH: SOLAR ELECTRIC POWER



- Solar array credited Tenants and Owners
- Tenants' solar can be directly credited (LADWP) or "virtually" billed (PG&E, SDG&E, etc.)
- Up to 80% co-funding with State rebates, plus 30% Fed tax credits and accelerated deprecation





# TECH: HEATING AND SPACE COOLING



- Individual Units vs Central Systems
- Air Conditioners now work as Heat Pumps
- Chillers now work as Heat Pumps
- Ducted is standard, ductless used in some small apartments







#### TECH: DOMESTIC HOT WATER



- Individual Units vs Central Systems
- Air conditioners can heat water
- Commercial Chillers now work as Central DHW Heat Pumps
- Solar Hot Water can make the system more efficient





#### PLUG LOADS



- In ZNE apartments tenants are given daily energy budgets. <u>Educational monitors</u> help tenants learn to live efficiently
- Home Office and Entertainment are 80% of Plug Loads
- Requiring Energy Star cable boxes, as other appliances are required to be E.S., would be a significant improvement in CTCAC housing

### LIGHTING AND KITCHEN APPLIANCES



 <u>LED bulbs</u> and <u>Energy Star appliances</u> cost no more than fluorescent bulbs and less efficient appliances, but use 1/3 to <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> less electricity.





### QUALITY CONTROL INSPECTIONS





- HVAC systems are frequently inappropriately installed (fans, air conditioning fluid, duct work, etc.) and are brought into Code compliance with specialized quality control inspection
- HERS inspections save solar construction costs in CTCAC buildings

**QUESTIONS?** 

