

# DOE Building Technologies Office (BTO):

Some History, Buildings and the Grid

*Florida Energy Systems Consortium (FESC) Conference, Orlando, Florida, May 20 – 21, 2015*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

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May 21, 2015

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# Some History

# President Jimmy Carter speech: April 18, 1977

DOE created on August 4, 1977

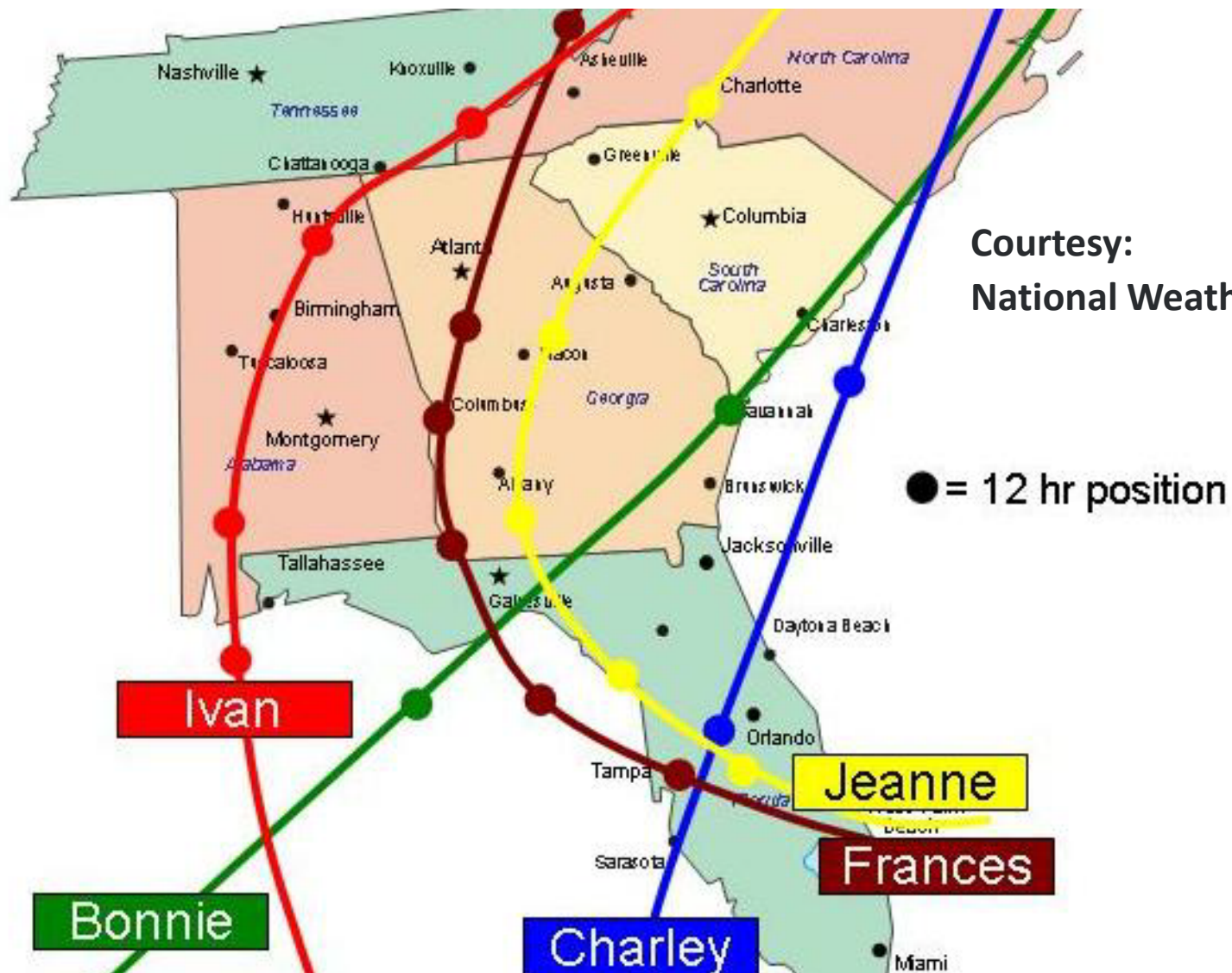
## A Vision – Creating the Department of Energy

1. Have an effective and comprehensive energy policy
2. Healthy economic growth must continue. Only by saving energy can we maintain our standard of living and keep our people at work.
3. Protect the environment.
4. Reduce our vulnerability to potentially devastating embargoes (aka Energy Security)
5. The cornerstone of our policy is to reduce the demand through conservation.
6. Government policies must be predictable and certain
7. Develop the new, unconventional sources of energy we will rely on in the next century.

Jimmy Carter, "The President's Proposed Energy Policy." 18 April 1977.  
*Vital Speeches of the Day*, Vol. XXXXIII, No. 14, May 1, 1977, pp. 418-420.

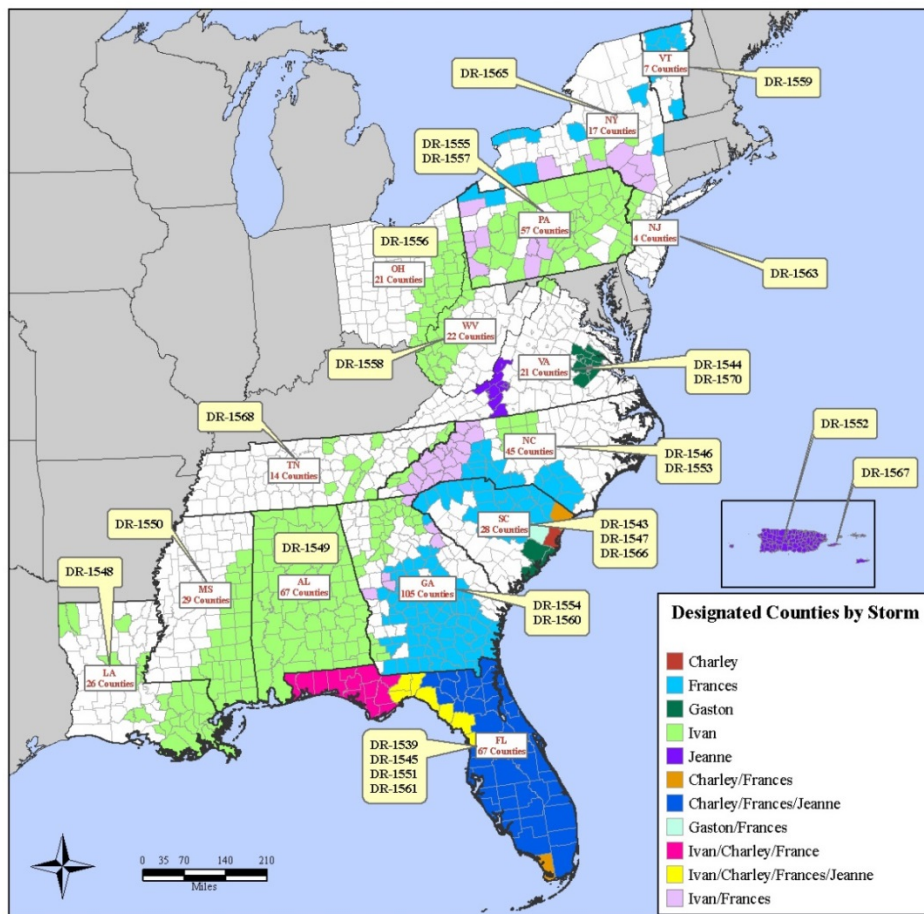


# 2004 Hurricane Season



# Counties Affected by the 2004 Hurricanes

## 2004 Multiple Hurricane Related Declarations & Designated Counties as Nov 4, 2004



## Florida Hurricanes

| Name    | Category | Landfall | From | To   |
|---------|----------|----------|------|------|
| Charlie | 4        | 8/13     | 8/9  | 8/14 |
| Frances | 4        | 9/2      | 8/24 | 9/8  |
| Ivan    | 5        | 9/16     | 9/2  | 9/24 |
| Jeanne  | 3        | 9/26     | 9/13 | 9/28 |
| Bonnie  | 0        |          | 8/3  | 8/13 |

Location Map



**FEMA**

ITS Mapping and Analysis Center  
Washington, DC  
11/04/04 -- 14:33:00 EDT

J:\2004\disaster\hurricanes\ALL\_Hurricanes\_States\_neoc.mxd

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# PG&E Utility Substation Attack

**Pacific Gas and Electric suffered an attack on its Metcalf Transmission Substation near San Jose, CA in April of 2013. There is a \$250K reward offered to assist Law Enforcement with the investigation.**

**Gunfire caused significant damage, with more than a hundred rounds expended. The weapon(s) used may have been an AK-47.**

## **Security Video:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQzAbKdLfW8>

## **PG&E Announcement**

[http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/newsreleases/20140410/pge\\_announces\\_reward\\_for\\_information\\_on\\_metcalf\\_substation\\_attack.shtml](http://www.pge.com/about/newsroom/newsreleases/20140410/pge_announces_reward_for_information_on_metcalf_substation_attack.shtml)

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# The Grid

# What Was And Is And Is To Come

In Amory Lovins 2011 book 'Reinventing Fire' he discusses electrical power systems (the grid) in four Scenarios (page 168):

1. **Maintain** – Business as usual with some PV, and a few plug in electric cars. Centralized power is king.
2. **Migrate** – A carbon reducing environment, more environmentally focused. Centralized power remains king.
3. **Renew** – Significant renewable energy generation. Centralized power remains king.
4. **Transform** – Significant renewable energy generation, coupled with significant distributed generation and local and centralized energy storage. The birth of the micro-grid on a national scale. **Major Change.**

*The fourth scenario **Transform** holds the promise for the greatest gains and most significant challenges.*



# Smart Grid Efforts within DOE

Goals include higher energy efficiency, improved asset utilization, integrating distributed energy sources with utilities, and improved redundancy, robustness and security

## **DOE Offices working on Grid Integration:**

Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Offices:

Wind and Water

Hydrogen and Fuel Cells

Solar

Buildings

Vehicles

# DOE Expects to Promote and Enable This Vision

**The future energy economy will include an open, interoperable transaction system that facilitates physical transactions of energy, energy related services, and the financial settlements associated with these transactions.** The characteristics of this system will include the development of common data taxonomy, robust open communication interfaces, and monetization scenarios for products and services for this fully integrated grid environment.

Joe Hagerman – Senior Policy Advisor for DOE/Buildings

Buildings to Grid Integration Technical Meeting:

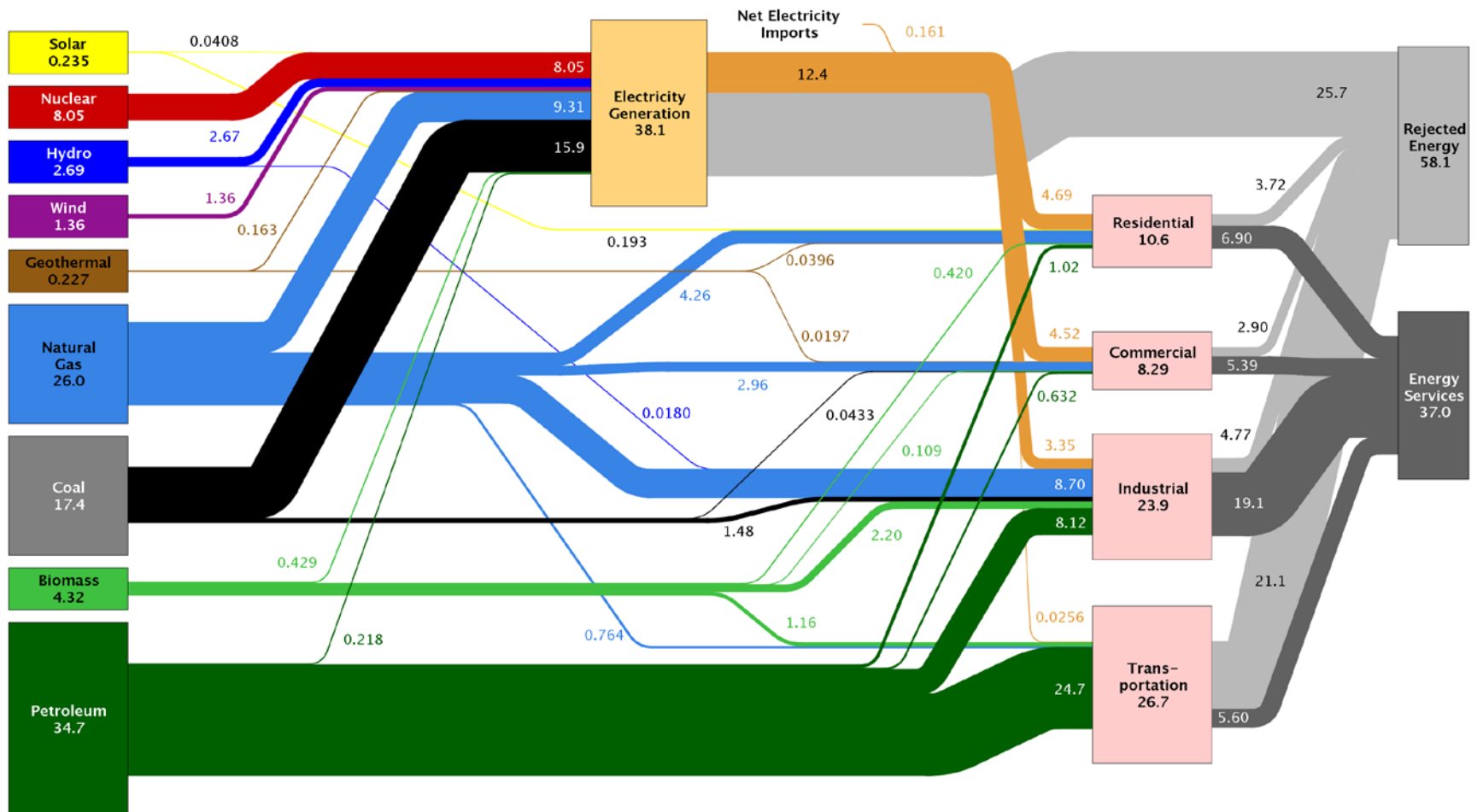
National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Energy Systems Integration Facility

Golden, CO

December 2012

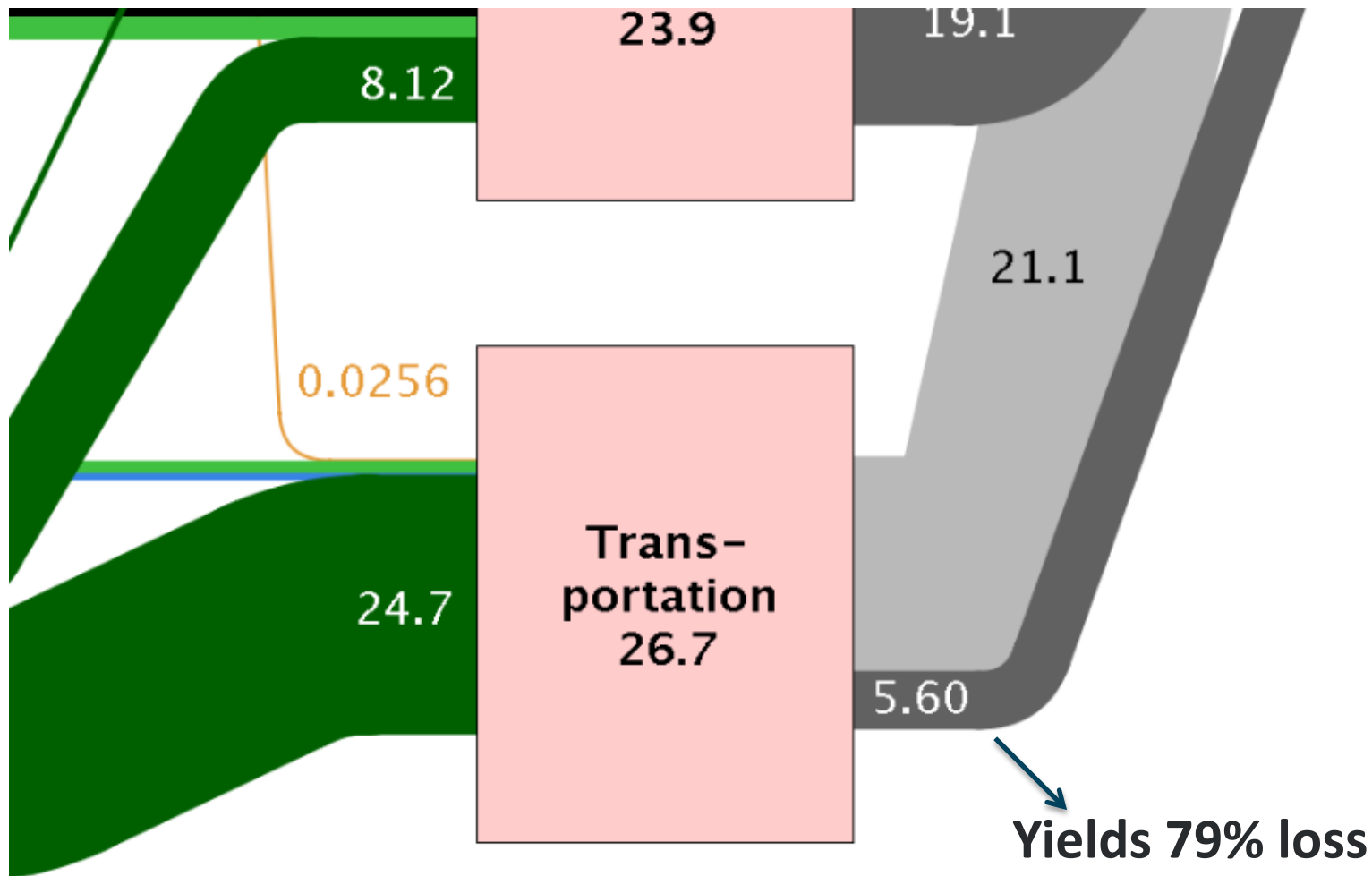
# Power – Source to Load/Loss (The Opportunity)

Estimated U.S. Energy Use in 2012: ~95.1 Quads



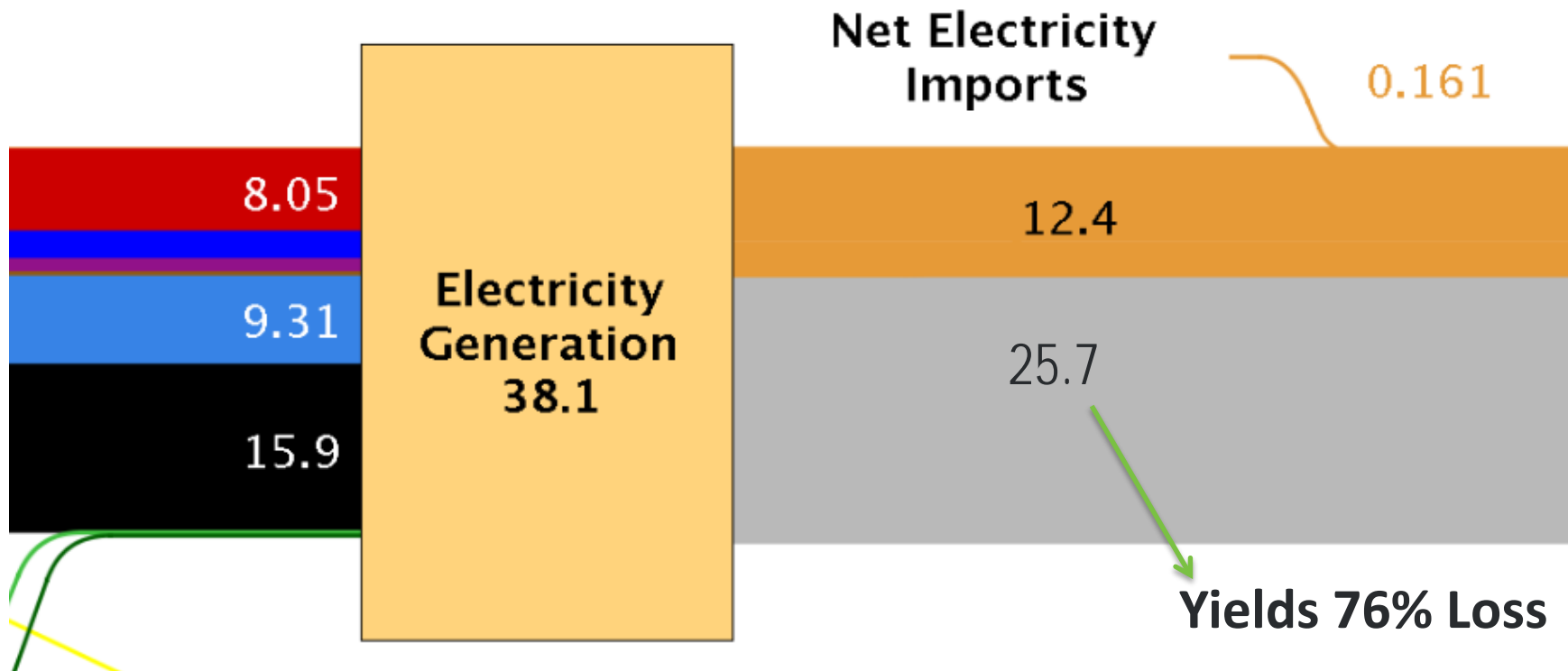
Source: LLNL 2013. Data is based on DOE/EIA-0035(2013-05), May, 2013. If this information or a reproduction of it is used, credit must be given to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and the Department of Energy, under whose auspices the work was performed. Distributed electricity represents only retail electricity sales and does not include self-generation. EIA reports consumption of renewable resources (i.e., hydro, wind, geothermal and solar) for electricity in BTU-equivalent values by assuming a typical fossil fuel plant "heat rate." The efficiency of electricity production is calculated as the total retail electricity delivered divided by the primary energy input into electricity generation. End use efficiency is estimated as 65% for the residential and commercial sectors 80% for the industrial sector, and 21% for the transportation sector. Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding. LLNL-MI-410527

# Transportation Sector (Energy in Quads)



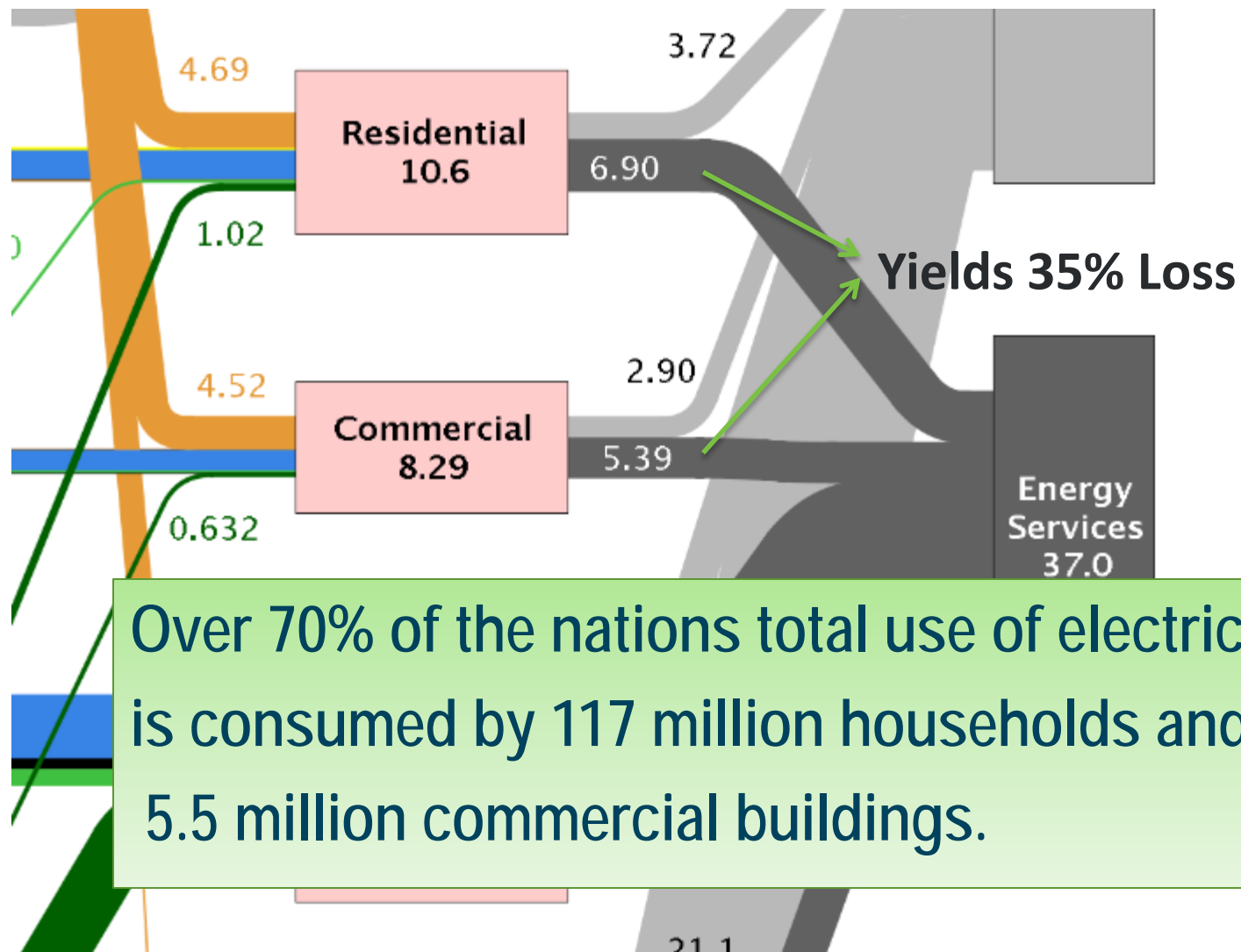


# Power Generation and Distribution (Energy in Quads)

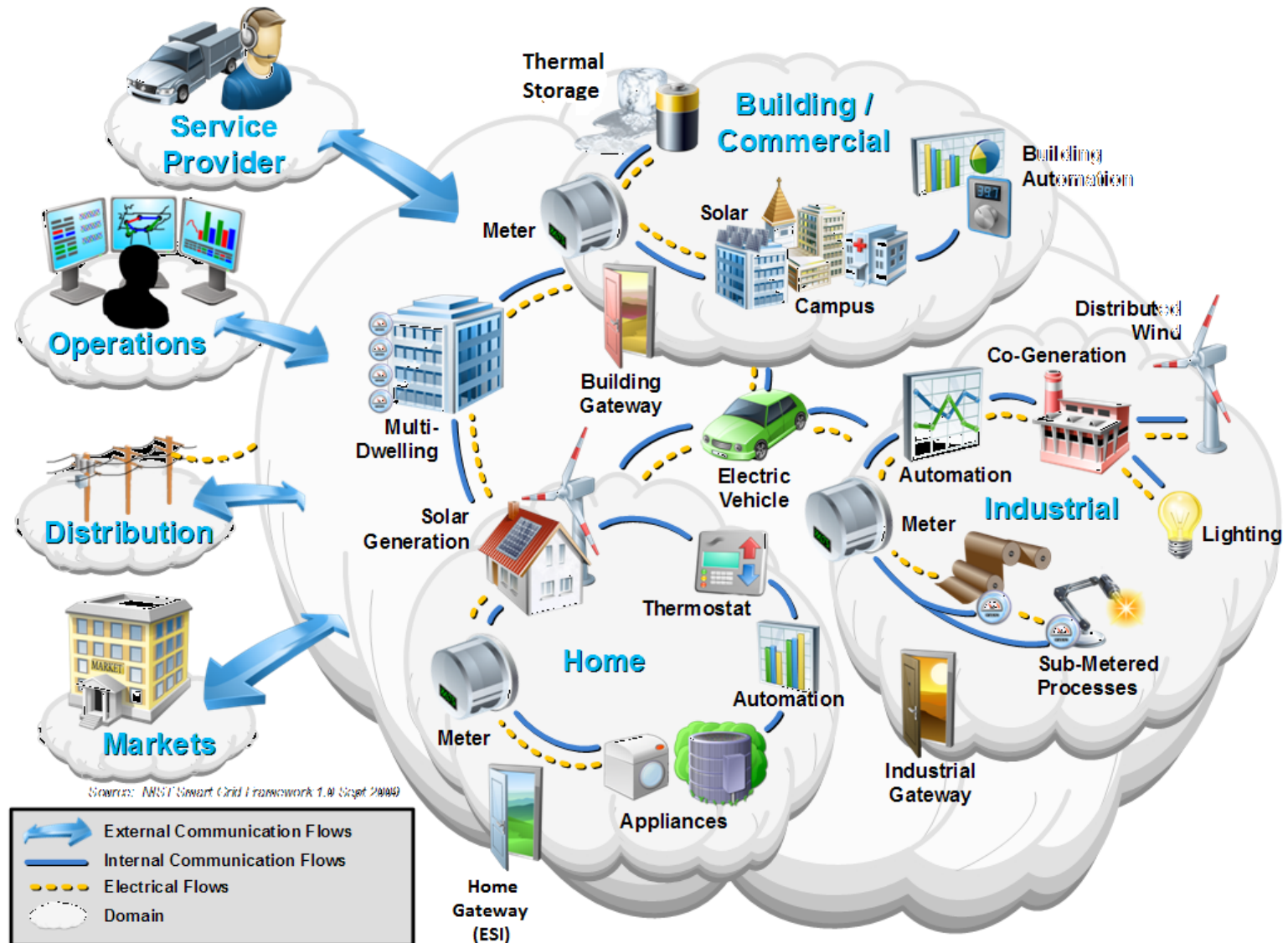


Transmission and distribution accounts for 6% of this loss

# Residential and Commercial Sector (Energy in Quads)



# Transform The Grid – Using Energy Transactions



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# Buildings



# What are we doing now? A Sampling.....

## Three Projects:

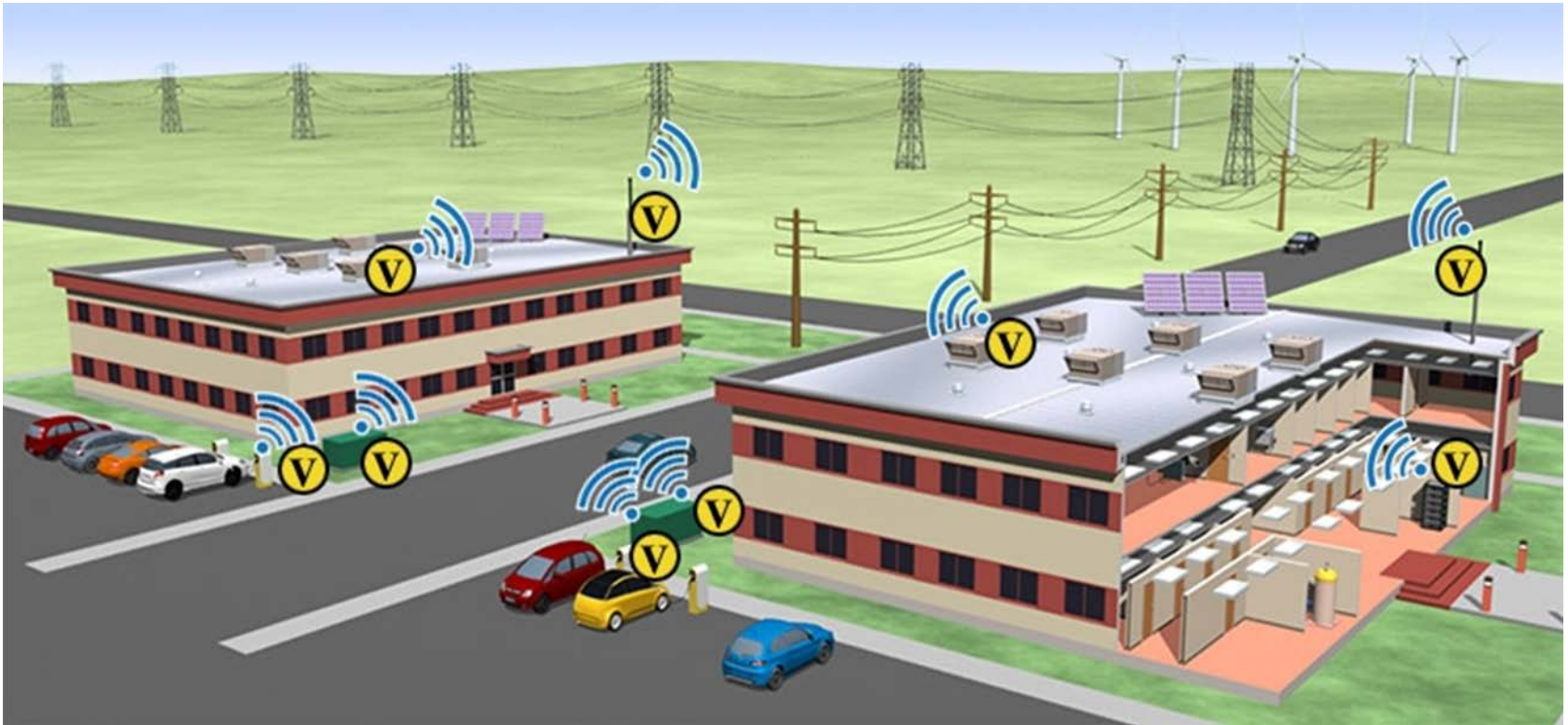
1. **PNNL - VOLTTRON**
2. **Virginia Tech - BEMOSS**
3. **PNNL, LBNL and ORNL – Retro Commissioning**

**PNNL – Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (WA)**

**LBNL – Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (CA)**

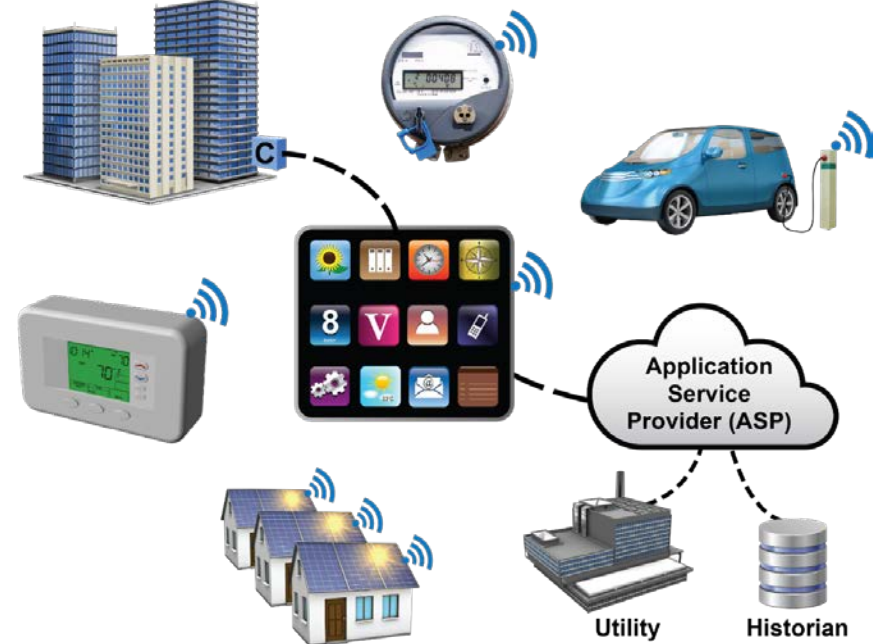
**ORNL – Oak Ridge National Laboratory (TN)**

# VOLTTRON™ developed at PNNL



# What is VOLTTRON?

- VOLLTRON is an application platform (e.g., Android, iOS) for distributed sensing, monitoring and controls applications
- VOLTTRON is open source, flexible and scalable
- It includes a suite of applications already implemented to perform transactions for improving energy efficiency and providing grid services



# What VOLTTRON is NOT

- A fully realized commercial grade product with a suite of applications already implemented to perform transactions
  - It enables application development, but in and of itself, it is not an energy efficiency solution
- A protocol
  - Protocols, such as SEP 2.0. (Smart Energy Profile) or OpenADR, are implemented as applications
- An application, such as demand response
  - DR can be implemented as an application



# VOLTRON Attributes

## Open, flexible and modular software platform

- Easy application development
- Enables interoperability across vendors and applications
- Simplifies power and control system complexities for developers
- Object oriented, modern software development environment
- Language agnostic. Does not tie the applications to a specific language



\$50 Beagle Bone Black CPU Board

**Ruby C C#**  
**C++ Python**  
**Java Perl**

# VOLTTRON Attributes (continued)

- ▶ **Broad device and control systems protocols support built-in**
  - **ModBUS, BACNet, and others**
  - **Multiple types of controllers and sensors**
  - **Low CPU, memory and storage footprint requirements**
  - **Supports non-Intel CPUs**
- ▶ **Secure**
  - **Security libraries and cryptography built-in**
  - **Manage applications to prevent resource exhaustion (CPU, memory, storage)**
  - **Robust against denial-of-service (e.g. does not crash when scanned via NMAP)**
  - **Supports modern application development environments**

# VOLTTRON Is Secure

## ▶ VOLTTRON Open Source

- Encrypted multi-node communication
- SSL to external resources supported

## ▶ VOLTTRON PNNL IP

- Agent validation – Signed agent code validated before execution
- Agent packaging – Agent code and files signed at each stage of development/deployment
- Resource management – Agents present resource contract. Platform determines if it can support agent and manages resource utilization during agent execution

## ▶ VOLTTRON 3.0+ Proposed Security Enhancement

- Hardening and penetration testing
- Sandboxing applications

# Load Management Using VOLTTRON



Transformer assigns energy consumption goals via VOLTTRON messaging



EVs share information with each other to coordinate Their charging via VOLTTRON application

VOLTTRON



VOLTTRON



VOLTTRON





# Frequency and voltage support using VOLTTRON

- **Management and integration of distributed storage**
  - **For voltage & frequency support**
  - **For integration of renewables**
    - **Wind-following or wind-compensating**
    - **Generation time-shift for solar**
  - **Utility-aware control of vehicle-to-grid**



- **Enable true two-way power flow for rooftop PV**
  - **Allow utility to have better awareness of PV generation**
  - **Use PV inverters for support of voltage or frequency**

# Gaining Research Acceptance & Increasing Commercial Interest

## A National User Community



University  
of Victoria



## Commercial Users



Siemens

Energy Analytics

Energy Analytics & Consulting



MelRok

**BOSCH** 

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# Building Energy Management Open Source Software

BEMOSS is an operating system that is engineered to improve sensing and control of equipment in small and medium sized commercial buildings



Virginia Tech - Advanced Research Institute  
900 N Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22203



# BEMOSS is Built upon Open-Source Software

VOLTTRON™ was used as a platform to host our BEMOSS solution. It is open-source and not hardware specific.



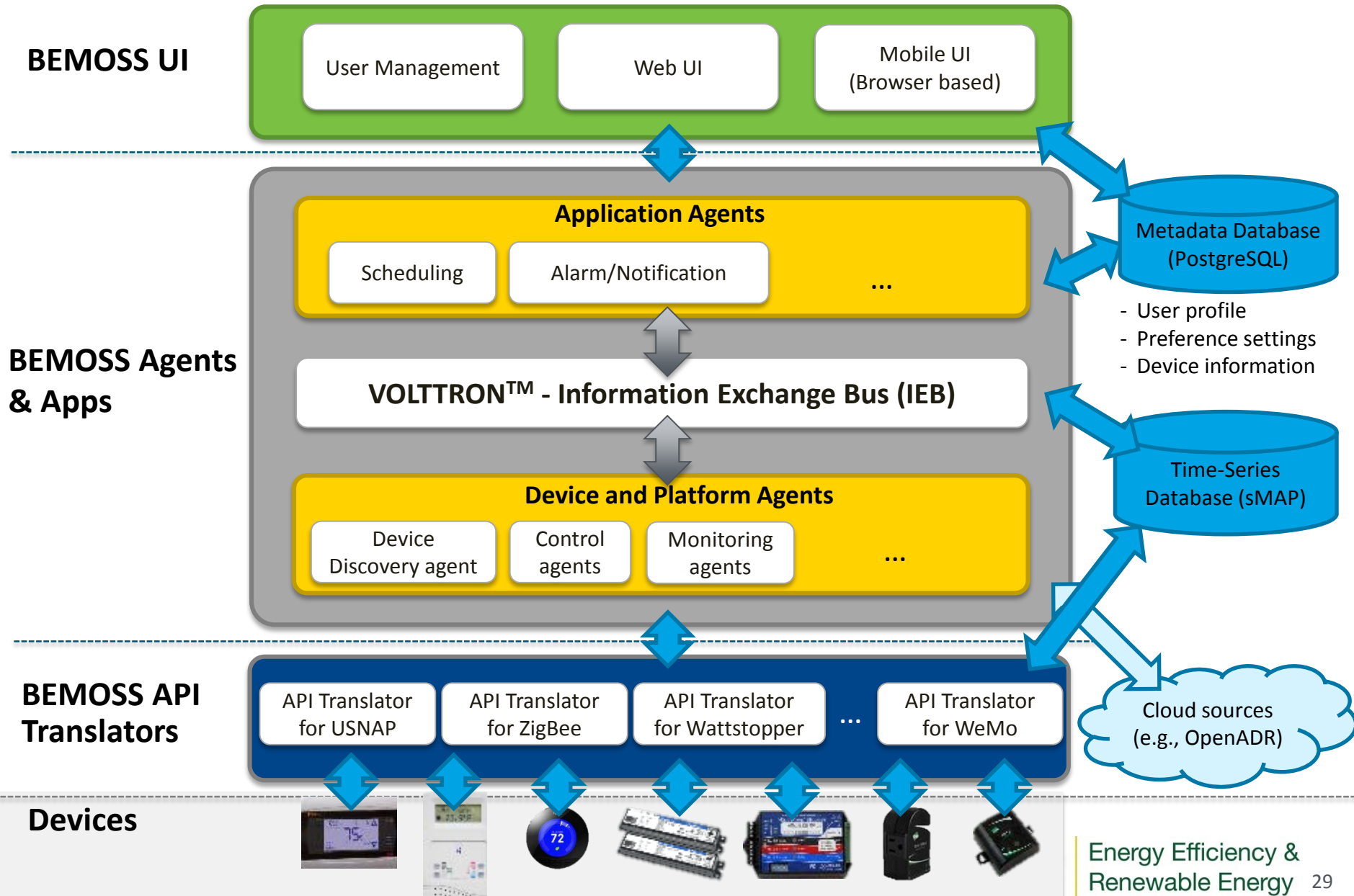
## Other software used:



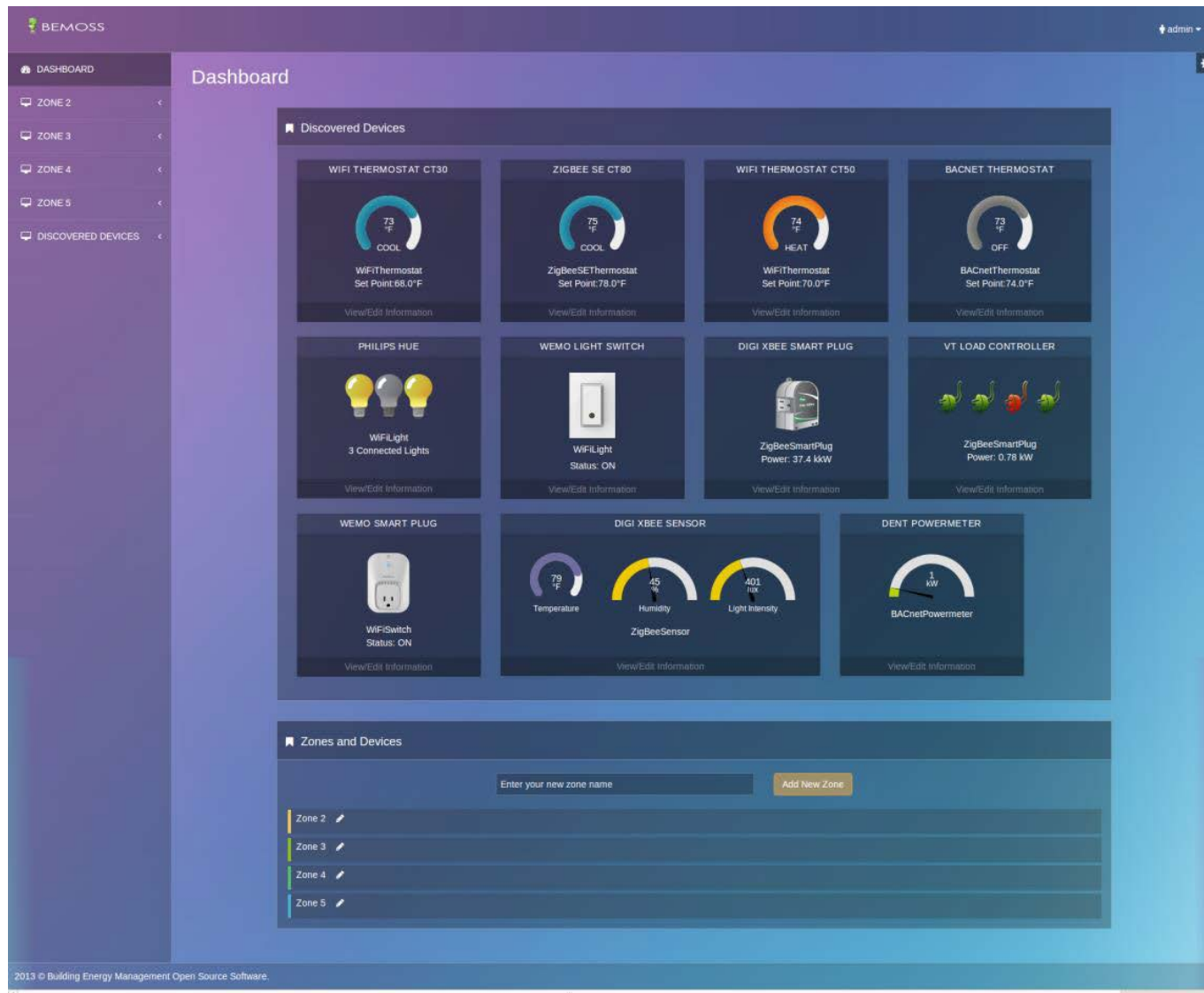
ZeroMQ

sMAP

# BEMOSS Software Architecture



# BEMOSS User Interface (PC, Tablet, Smart Phone)





# BEMOSS Thermostat Page

The screenshot displays the BEMOSS Thermostat web interface for Zone 1. The interface has a dark blue header with the BEMOSS logo and a user dropdown menu showing 'admin'. A left sidebar contains navigation links for HOME, DASHBOARD, and ZONE 1. The main content area is titled 'Zone 1 Wifi Thermostat 3M50' and features several interactive elements:

- Indoor Temperature:** A large display showing 75.0 F.
- Mode Selection:** A row of four buttons: Heat (green, active), Cool, Auto, and Off.
- Fan Control:** A row of three buttons: Circulate, Auto (green, active), and Off.
- Weather Widget:** Displays 'Arlington, VA' with a temperature of 93.0 F and 'Mostly Cloudy' conditions. It also shows humidity at 55%, precipitation at 0.00 in., and winds at 0.0 mph.
- Set Points:** Two vertical sliders for 'Heat Set Point' (set at 75) and 'Cool Set Point' (set at 0).
- Additional Controls:** Two buttons labeled 'Hold' and 'Schedule'.
- Footer:** Two buttons at the bottom: 'Submit All Changes' and 'View Past Usage and Set Points'.

At the bottom left of the interface, the text '2014 © Building Energy Management Open Source Software.' is visible.

# BEMOSS Advisory Committee

BEMOSS is developed in consultation with industry

**BEMOSS advisory committee has representatives from 21 organizations:**

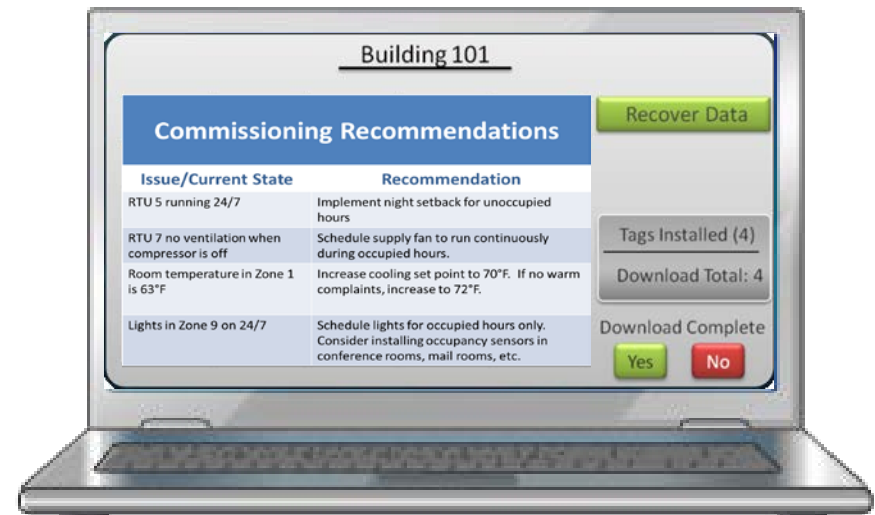


# Retro-Commissioning Sensor Suitcase – PNNL



with LBNL and ORNL

Sensors:  
Temperature  
Lighting  
HVAC State



BLDG90

Utility Expenses

Gas:

3,230 \$/year

Electricity:

4,042 \$/year

Total:

7,272 \$/year

Occupancy Schedule

6am

12pm

6pm

12am

Su

Mo

Tu

We

Th

Fr

Sa

Building Details

Owner:

Lawrence Berkeley Labs

Location:

East Campus

Address:

12 Main St.

Size:

10,000 sq.ft.

Timezone:

PST5PDT

Recommendations

| Problem   | Recommendation  | Location | Savings (\$/year) |
|---|---|----------|-------------------|
| Excessive lighting during occupied/daytime hours                                | Install occupancy sensors in locations with intermittent occupancy, or engage occupants to turn the lights off when they leave the area   | 151      | 70                |
| Excessive lighting during unoccupied/nighttime hours                            | Install occupancy sensors in locations where it is not necessary or intended for the lights to be on all night, or encourage occupants to turn the lights off upon exit                               | 151      | 50                |
| RTU cycling on and off too frequently, potentially leading to equipment failure | Ask HVAC service providers to check refrigerant levels, thermostat location, and control sequences  | 151      | 70                |
| Under use of free cooling, i.e., under-economizing                              | Ask HVAC service providers to check if free cooling is available, or if RTU does not have free cooling  | 151      | 330               |
| Overly narrow separation between heating and cooling setpoints                  | Adjust the heating and cooling setpoints so that they differ by more than four degrees  | 151      | 40                |
| Nighttime thermostat setbacks are not enabled                                   | Program your thermostats to decrease the heating setpoint, or increase the cooling setpoint during unoccupied times. Additionally, you may have a contractor configure the RTU to reduce ventilation. | 151      | 420               |
| Over-conditioning, thermostat heating setpoint is high                          | Program your thermostats to decrease the heating setpoint during occupied hours   | 151      | 30                |
| Over-conditioning, thermostat cooling setpoint is low                           | Program your thermostats to increase the cooling setpoint during occupied hours   | 151      | 3                 |
|   |   |          |                   |

Total recommendations: 8

Total Annual Cost Savings

\$ 1,013 / year

Print to PDF

Close Building

# BTO Technologies – An Incomplete Summary

- Solid State Lighting – including organic LED's
- Appliance Standards (Energy Star Program) and Building Codes
- HVAC
  - Air Sourced
  - Ground Sourced
  - Low Global Warming Potential Refrigerants
  - Vapor and Non-Vapor Compression cycles
- Refrigeration
- Building Automation Systems (Sensors and Controls)
- Building Energy Models and Calculators (EnergyPlus)
- Building Envelopes
  - Insulation (air blown, structural, vacuum insulated glazing)
  - Windows and Walls



# How To Get Involved with DOE and BTO

- Get on our email list  
(<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/buildings/newsletter.html>,  
and click on “Sign up to receive news and events from BTO”)
- Volunteer to be a reviewer
- Participate in workshops, RFIs (Requests for Information),  
and the annual program peer review. RFI responses are used  
to help improve our programs.
- EERE Post-Doctoral Science & Technology Policy Fellowships  
- <http://energy.gov/eere/energy-efficiency-and-renewable-energy-science-and-technology-policy-fellowships>
- Apply to a FOA (multiple FOAs to be released each year)



# Funding Opportunity Announcements

## DOE FOA's

- <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>
- <https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/>
- <http://science.energy.gov/funding-opportunities>
- <https://bpa-exchange.energy.gov/>
- <http://www.netl.doe.gov/business/solicitations>

## Major Repository

- <http://www.grants.gov>

## Catalog of Domestic Financial Assistance:

81.086 – Conservation R&D

81.087 – Renewable Energy R&D

# Questions?

**Jim Payne**

**Technical Project Officer**

**Building Technologies Office**

**Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

**Golden Field Office @ RSF**

**15013 Denver West Parkway**

**Mailstop RSF/C246-3**

**Golden, CO 80401-3111**

**[jim.payne@ee.doe.gov](mailto:jim.payne@ee.doe.gov)**

**720-356-1744 (Office)**

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# Additional Material

# Introductory Material

## Ariane 5 – first launch, June 4, 1996 - event at 53 seconds

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gp\\_D8r-2hwk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gp_D8r-2hwk)

*The failure of Ariane 501 was due to a software error. The navigation computers were almost clones of the Ariane 4 units, which had proved quite reliable. However, the horizontal velocity of the Ariane 5 was five times higher than that of its predecessor, triggering a data conversion error early in the flight that was not trapped. The last communication the navigation computer had with the engine steering system was an error code, not a command. The code was effectively interpreted as ‘turn around’, leading to loss of mission (about \$1B).*

*Lesson learned – the landscape changed much faster than expected, and systems were not prepared, leading to loss.*

# SuperTruck Making Leaps in Fuel Efficiency

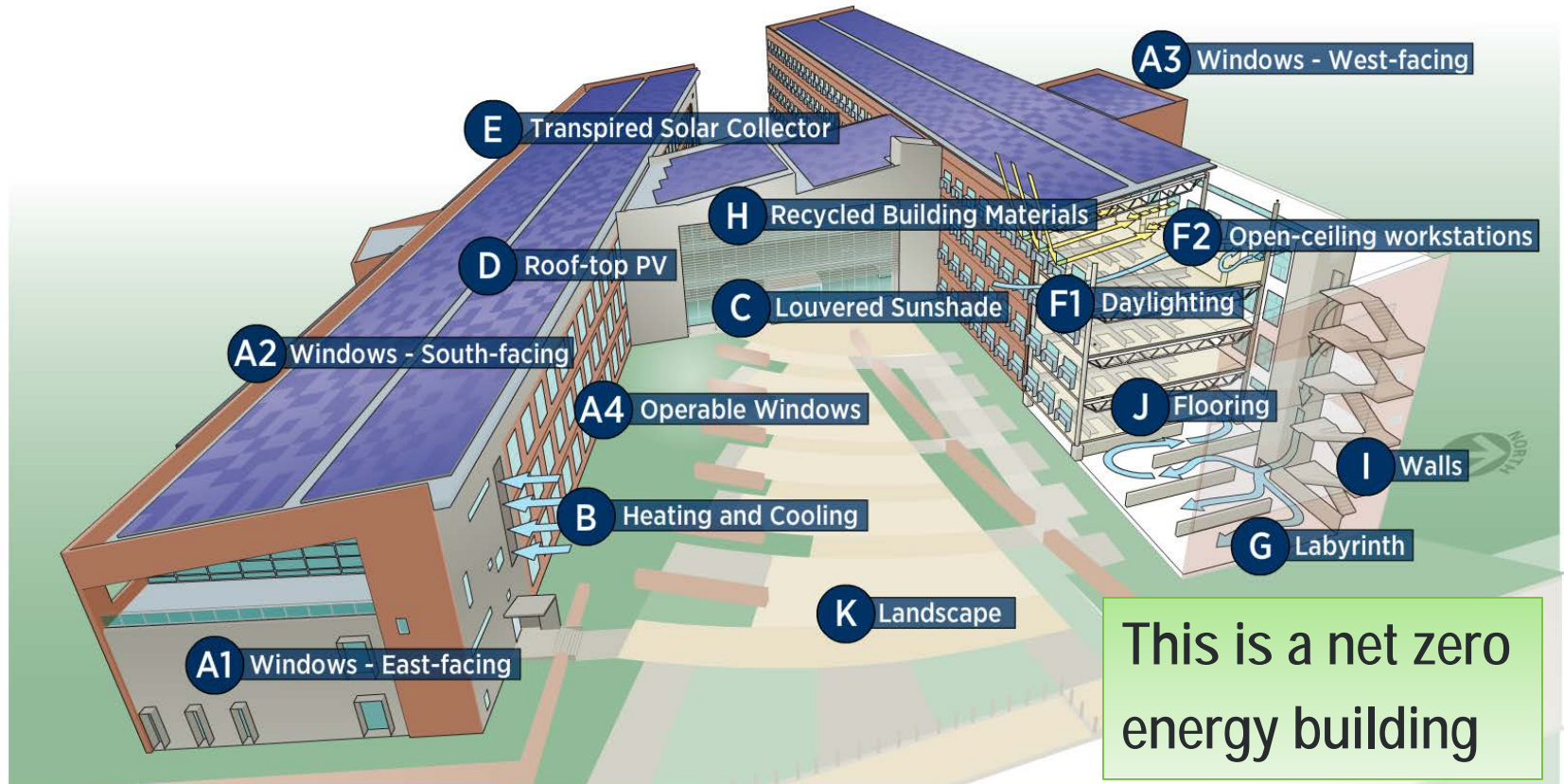


This SuperTruck is a demonstration vehicle that is part of the Energy Department's SuperTruck initiative. This program's goal is to develop tractor-trailers that are 50% more efficient than baseline models by 2015.

The truck on display, developed by heavy-duty manufacturers Cummins and Peterbilt, has exceeded this goal. Since 2010, the truck has demonstrated a 20% increase in engine efficiency and a 70% increase in freight efficiency, reaching over 10 miles per gallon under real world driving conditions on a Class 8 tractor-trailer (GVWR > 33,000lbs). In comparison, an average Class 8 truck typically gets 5.8 miles to the gallon.

# National Renewable Energy Laboratory - RSF Bldg.

## Research Support Facility



- |                               |                                  |                                   |                 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| ● A1 - Windows - East-facing  | ● B - Heating and Cooling        | ● F1 - Daylighting                | ● I - Walls     |
| ● A2 - Windows - South-facing | ● C - Louvered Sunshade          | ● F2 - Open-ceiling workstations  | ● J - Flooring  |
| ● A3 - Windows - West-facing  | ● D - Roof-top PV                | ● G - Labyrinth                   | ● K - Landscape |
| ● A4 - Operable Windows       | ● E - Transpired Solar Collector | ● H - Recycled Building Materials | ● Fullscreen    |

[http://www.nrel.gov/sustainable\\_nrel/rsf.html](http://www.nrel.gov/sustainable_nrel/rsf.html)

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