

# Welcome to the *Climate-Safe Infrastructure* Webinar Series

Supporting AB2800 and the Work of California's Climate-Safe  
Infrastructure Working Group

June 6, 2018 | 12-1pm



# Hosts



**Juliette Finzi Hart** | USGS

Co-Facilitator of CSIWG's work

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# AB 2800 (Quirk): Purpose

Examine how to integrate scientific data concerning projected climate change impacts into state infrastructure engineering, including oversight, investment, design, and construction.



# AB2800 Working Group and Support Team

## The Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group

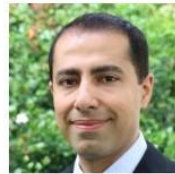
### Co-Facilitators



**Juliette Finzi Hart**  
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**Susi Moser**  
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Research & Consulting



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UC-San Diego, SIO



**David Groves**  
RAND



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DGS, Off. of Sustain.



**Deb Niemeier**  
UC-Davis



**James Deane**  
High-Speed Rail Auth.



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DWR



**Kristin Heinemeier**  
Realized Energy



**Kyle Meng**  
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**Noah Diffenbaugh**  
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### Project Team



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**Joey Wall**  
Natural Resources  
Agency



**Guido Franco**  
California Energy  
Commission

# AB 2800 (Quirk): Scope of Assessment and Recommendations

The working group shall consider and investigate, at a minimum, the following issues:

- (1) **informational and institutional barriers** to integrating climate change into infrastructure design.
- (2) **critical information needs** of engineers.
- (3) **selection of appropriate engineering designs** for different climate scenarios.



# The *Climate-Safe Infrastructure* Webinar Series

## Purpose

- Hear from others elsewhere with relevant experience and expertise.
- Hear from CSIWG members.
- Educate and engage with interested stakeholders on climate change and infrastructure issues.

## Sample of Webinar Topics

- What climate science can offer
- Various sectoral perspectives
- Processes of changing engineering standards and guidelines
- Holistic infrastructure planning and management
- Financing climate-safe infrastructure
- And others...

# A Couple of Housekeeping Items



- Please type your questions for presenters into the chat box
- We will try to answer as many as possible after the presentations
- Answers to remaining questions will be posted on the website
- Thank you to USC Sea Grant!



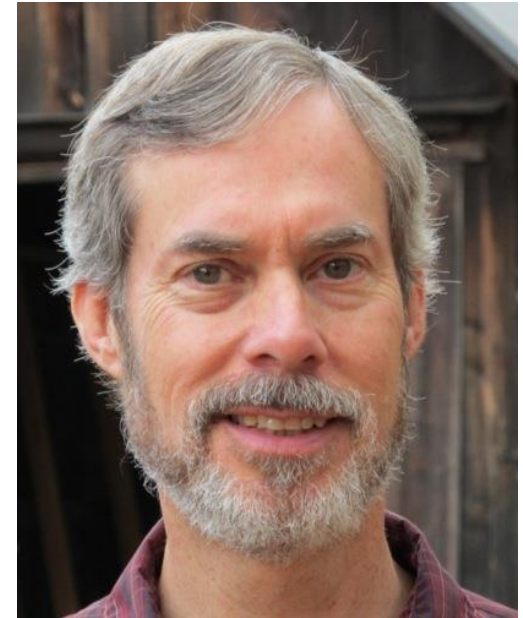
# ***Enabling Scientists and Engineers Working Together Effectively***



**Richard Moss**  
Columbia University



**Susi Moser**  
Susanne Moser Research & Consulting



**Alex Wilson**  
Resilient Design Institute  
& BuildingGreen, Inc.



# Accelerating Innovation of Applied Climate Science for Risk Reduction: A Role for the Sustained National Climate Assessment?

Richard H Moss

Visiting Senior Research Scientist, Earth Institute, Columbia University  
for

California Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group

June 6, 2018

# This Presentation

- Short background discussion of “assessment”
  - What is meant by the “sustained” assessment process?
- Advancing sustained assessment
  - Independent Advisory Committee
  - Climate assessment consortium
- Request for feedback
  - Possible working group participation in ‘communities of practice’?
  - Incentives for participation?



# What are Assessments?

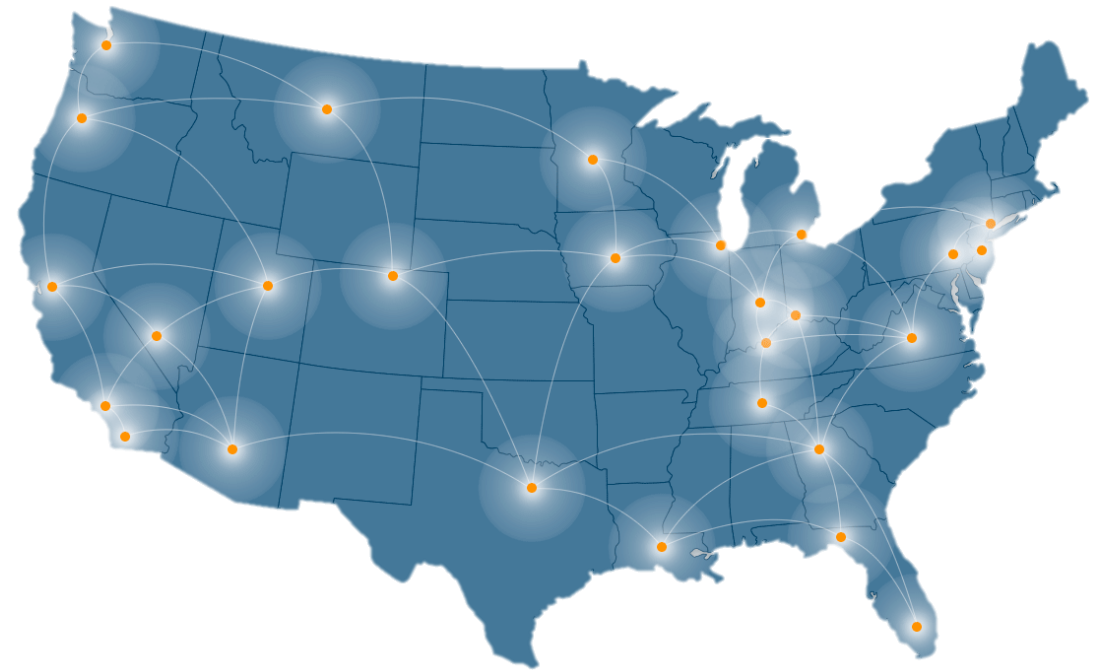
- ... synthesize and disseminate knowledge
  - Not 'climate services', but provide a foundation for them
- ... evaluate the state of knowledge available at a point in time relevant to decisions
  - Public policy to resource management and investment
- ... often are report focused but spawn other useful products



FEMA photo by Wendell A. Davis Jr.

# “Sustained Assessment”: An Evolving Process to Prepare the Nation for Change

- Concept: “sustained” interactions are required to build “salience, credibility, and legitimacy”
- Explored in 2013 Special Special Report on 4 “critical elements”:
  - Enduring collaborative partnerships
  - Scientific foundations
  - Programmatic infrastructure
  - Resource base and clear priorities
- Focuses on partnerships with the federal government (PREP, Resilience Dialogues, etc.)



# Ongoing Activities to Advance the Sustained Assessment Process

- Federal government (with thanks to USGCRP/Agency staff!):
  - NCA4 report process is continuing (expected release late 2018)
  - Additional activities including Sustained Assessment Working Group, Resilience Toolkit, sustained assessment specialists, scenarios, and others
- Civil society efforts – two inter-connected components:
  - Independent Advisory Committee on Applied Climate Assessment (IAC) is developing ideas on expanded approach to sustained assessment
    - Support of NY State, Columbia University, and AMS
    - ~20 members from academia, state/local/tribal government, NGOs, and private sector
    - Will deliver recommendations (~9/18) and disband (~12/18)
  - Climate Assessment Consortium forming for long-term implementation

# How the Sustained NCA Process Could Evolve

## Current

- Emphasizes “state of science”
- Organized by “sector” and “region”
- Federal predominance
- Emphasizes reports

## Future

- Adds “state of practice” in implementing solutions
- Includes “implementation challenges”, e.g., updating codes, financial risk, spatial planning, engineering and architectural design
- Shared partnership with state/local and civil society interests
- More diverse products, engagement, and capacity building



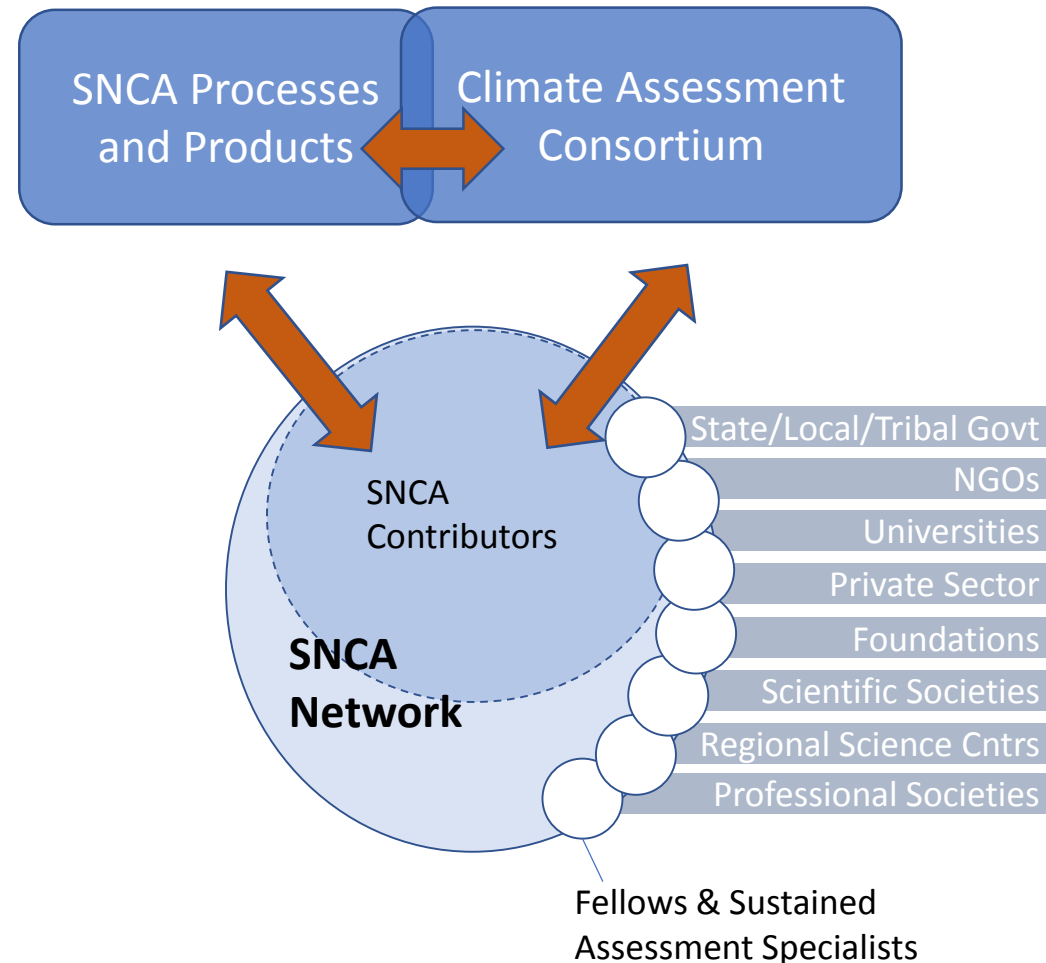
# IAC Report Outline



1. Introduction
2. Practitioner perspectives and needs for climate action
  - Reflect on what “users” are trying to do and what they need from the SNCA to support action
3. Assessing applied climate and adaptation science
  - Distinguish “state of science” and “state of practice” assessments (process, organization, and content)
  - Explore challenges including how to produce useful insight across individual “case studies”
4. Innovating methods: under-utilized opportunities and under-served practitioner needs
  - Topics such as cost-benefit tools, integrated geospatial/socioeconomic data, indicators, citizen science, artificial intelligence/big data, ...
5. Assessment network functions, design, and governance
  - How non-federal and federal NCA stakeholders can work more effectively together to distill, curate, and disseminate knowledge that is useful to action. QC? Priority setting? ...?
6. Next steps/recommendations

# Civil Society, a Climate Assessment Consortium, and the Federal Science Program

- GCRA of 1990 and USGCRP
- Data and other inputs
- Reports, multimedia, other resources
- Knowledge curation and exchange
- Engagement and participation



- Engagement and participation
- Context of decision- and policy-making
- Trusted, 'honest brokers'
- Maintain and enhance sustained process
- Communities of practice
- Evaluation and "best practices"
- Knowledge for climate services and 'tailoring'
- Technical inputs



# Communities of Practice – “Infrastructure” as Example?

- Much progress in critical elements of “sustained assessment” is in co-production developed in civil society, state/local levels
  - E.g., ASCE and other professional societies; AGU/TEX; AB2800; USDN indicators and resilience hubs; ASAP; AMS attribution studies; ...
- We are exploring possible benefits of using the NCA process to form ‘communities of practice’ drawn from these groups, relevant climate scientists, adaptation professionals/climate service providers, and users
  - Example areas: climate-ready infrastructures (specific types); managing coastal change; incorporate climate into financial risk; facility siting (approach to aggregating challenges is itself an issue for further exploration)
  - Topics to explore: adequacy of framing, ‘fit’ of climate and related information, approaches for ‘translation’ to decision/implementation metrics, monitoring, ...

# Feedback?

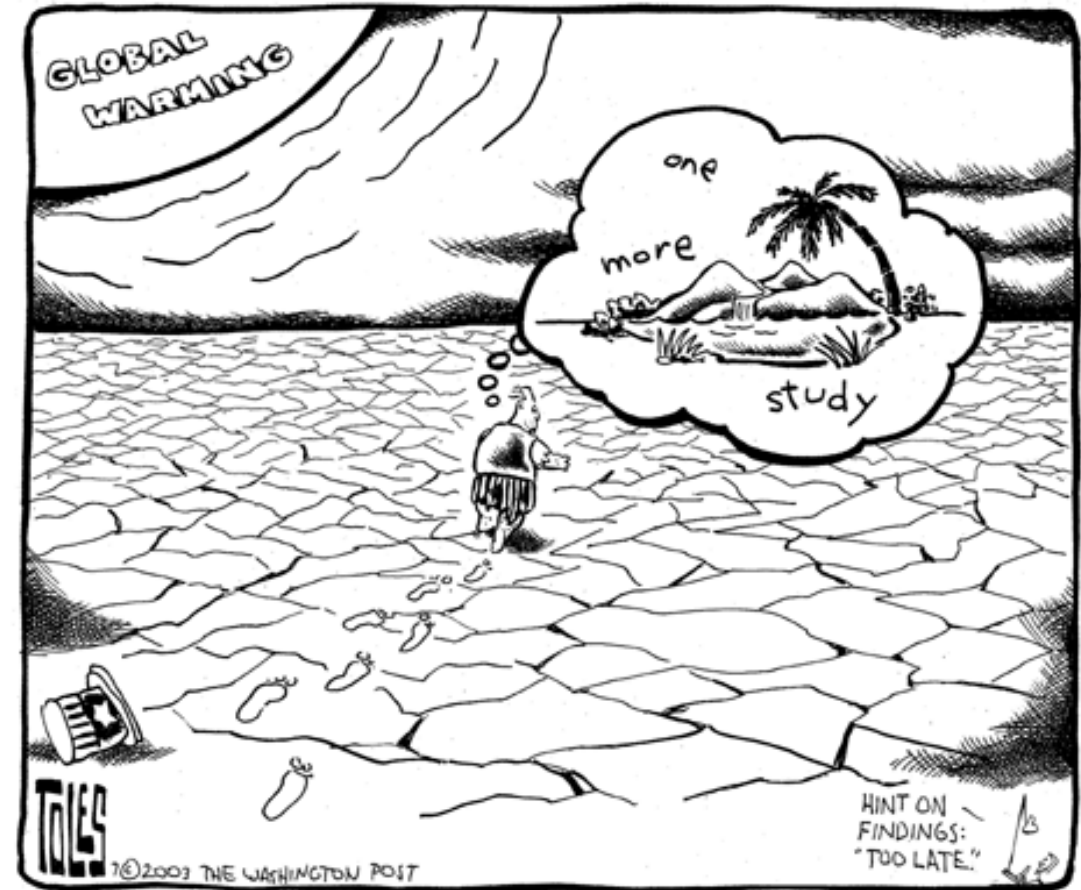
- What are your thoughts about the sustained NCA process?
- Is it possible and productive to aggregate individual instances of recurring adaptation challenges (e.g., design of specific infrastructures, updated codes and standards) to conduct comparative assessments and develop 'good practice' insights?
  - Typology of use?
  - What can we learn?
  - Pitfalls to avoid?
- Would it be of interest to the AB2800 WG (and/or groups you have engaged with) to participate in well-framed communities of practice?
  - How could you contribute?
  - What would you hope to gain? What would incentivize your participation?
- Note: opportunity to review draft IAC report (July/August timeframe) and participate in assessment consortium process (see email address next slide)

# Thank you!

Contact:

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For more information: [info@climateassessment.org](mailto:info@climateassessment.org)

Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group Webinar Series  
June 8, 2018

# TOWARD MORE EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT OF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

The Role of Formal and Informal Education

Susi Moser, Ph.D.  
Susanne Moser Research & Consulting



THE **RAND** BLOG



COMMENTARY (Inside Science)

February 22, 2016

## Why Engineers Need to Be Thinking About Climate Change

Cars stranded in flood waters from Hurricane Irene in lower Manhattan, August 28, 2011. Photo by Mike Segar/Reuters

by Kenneth Kuhn

Domenico Grasso  
Melody Brown Burkins  
Editors

## Holistic Engineering Education

Beyond Technology

Springer

# ASCE

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

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# Why Engineering Will Be Vital in a Changing Climate

Smithsonian Secretary G. Wayne Clough offers personal insights on the realities of climate change and the best ways for society to adapt

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## Climate Change: A Call to Action for Engineering & Design Professionals



By: Adam Efird

Climate change. It's happening. Those of us in the engineering, design, and infrastructure industry have never before been presented with such a grand opportunity to affect economies and society like we are now. The scientific community has been telling us for some time now that the way we behave must change immediately if we are to prevent climate change from becoming catastrophic. It's time for the infrastructure industry to fully embrace the crucial role we can play in moving society from discussion to action. It's time for us to demonstrate leadership.

# Engineering Education Is Changing

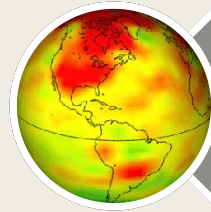
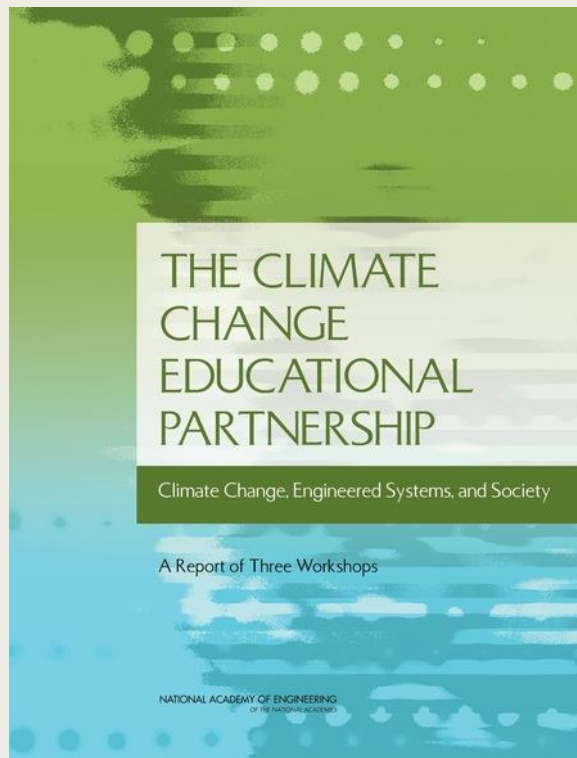
- From a focus on technical problems and technical competencies



- To a focus on sustainability problems requiring an integrated, adaptive and participatory approach.
  - *Recognition of sustainability and climate change challenges*
  - *Shift toward systems thinking emphasis*
  - *Necessity to develop and teach new methods, tools and competencies*
  - *Consideration of epistemology to deal with different kinds of knowledge and high levels of uncertainties*
- Engineering Education Research (EER) established as a field of inquiry since 2000s
- European EER finds it easier to educate about complex systems and train “the whole person”, while North American EER is more empirical than theoretical and upholds disciplinary boundaries more strongly

# A NASEM Workshop Series on Engineering Education and Climate Change

(2010-2014)



Climate



Engineering



Society



CEES CENTER FOR ENGINEERING ETHICS & SOCIETY

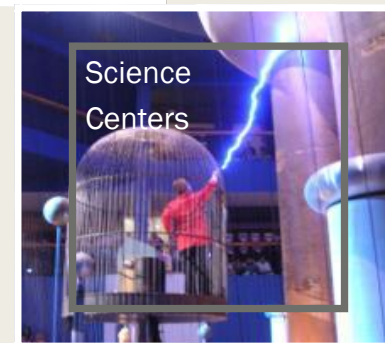
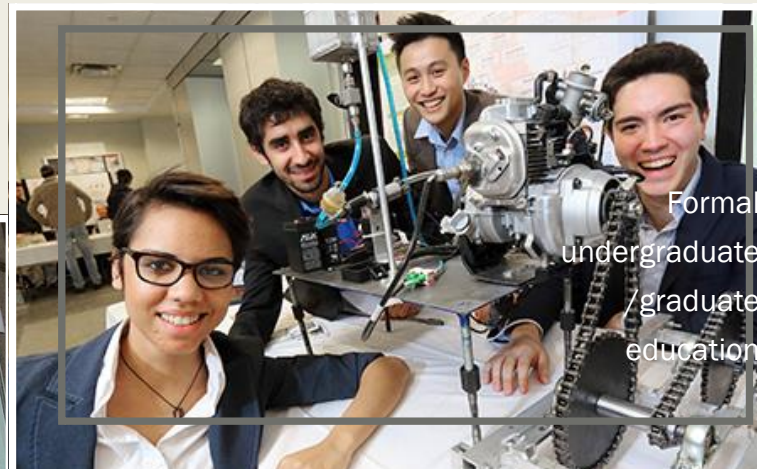
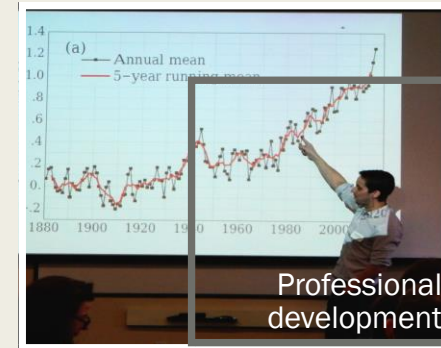


# Two Key Gaps in Engineering Curricula

- Climate change remains largely absent in engineering curricula (except renewables engineering)
- Few, if any materials, fully engage the integration of climate, society and engineering
- Needs/ways to promote:
  - *New case studies*
  - *Specialized courses & training*
  - *Courses into which climate change is fully integrated*
  - *Degrees*
  - *Modules*
  - *Exhibits*
  - *Extracurricular activities /service learning*
  - *Prizes*
  - *Institutes, Forums etc.*



# The Earlier We Start... The Broader We Think...



# NAS Report Recommendations

- Focus on youth, adults and professionals
- Identify and create integrated learning resources around key infrastructure vulnerabilities
- Design resources using latest insights into effective learning/teaching methods (active, engaged pedagogy)
- Establish networks of professional and online educational networks to expand educational opportunities
- Cross-cutting: Develop partnerships (professional societies, education experts, private sector, professionals, schools, colleges and universities) to accomplish the above



Borgen Magazine



# Building Engineering Competencies for a Changing World

## ■ “Hard” engineering skills

- an ability to **apply knowledge of mathematics, science, and engineering**
- an ability to **design and conduct experiments**, as well as to **analyze and interpret data**;
- an **ability to design a system, component, or process** to meet desired needs within realistic constraints such as economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, manufacturability, and sustainability;
- an **ability to identify, formulate, and solve engineering problems**; and
- an **ability to use the techniques, skills, and modern engineering tools** necessary for engineering practice.

## ■ “Professional” skills

- an ability to **communicate** effectively;
- an ability to **function on multi-disciplinary teams**;
- an understanding of **professional and ethical responsibility**;
- the broad education necessary to understand the **impact of engineering solutions in a global, economic, environmental, and societal context**;
- a recognition of the need for, and an ability to engage in **life-long learning**; and
- a **knowledge of contemporary issues**.

# Will Educating Engineers Be Enough?

- Societal decisions about climate change will involve a wide range of experts, decision-makers in various sectors and different publics
- Climate scientists are not usually trained in effective engagement, human concerns, ecology, governance
- Social scientists are not usually trained in engagement with publics or with physical / natural / engineering scientists
- Practitioners do not usually get trained in effective public engagement, not fluid in multiple sciences/disciplines
- None (engineers, scientists and practitioners) are sufficiently trained in matters of finance, law etc.



# In Conclusion: California's Role

- The first step is taken: recognition of what is at stake
- Incentivize a rapid and substantial expansion of **end-to-end**, multidisciplinary climate change research, education and application **programs**.
- **Set expectations** through professional standards, qualification requirements, qualifications of those receiving state \$\$ etc.
  - *Build technical competencies in all sciences (incl. social sciences) and among decision makers.*
  - *Build professional competencies (as described above) in all the sciences.*
- **Expand and institutionalize the state's decision support capabilities**, including a professional development pipeline of well-trained professionals.
- **Provide leadership, model in every sector, and set expectations for serious engagement of the public** in the development and debate of comprehensive climate risk management strategies with well-informed, rigorous debate of trade-offs.



# Thank you!



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# Achieving Engagement with Resilient Design

California Climate-Safe  
Infrastructure  
Working Group

Webinar - June 6, 2018

Alex Wilson, President  
Resilient Design Institute  
Founder, BuildingGreen



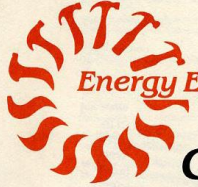
*Santa Rosa wildfire, October 10, 2017 - Photo: California Highway Dept.*



# Evolution of a resilience focus

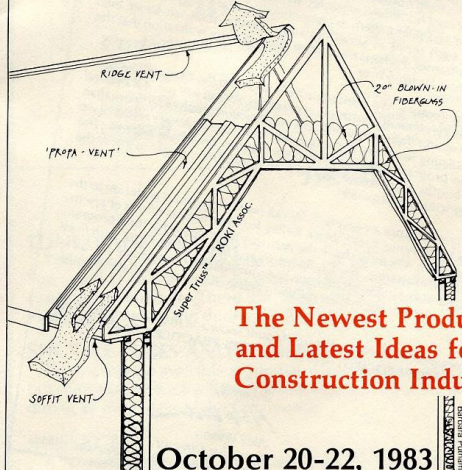


Solar greenhouse workshop in the 1970s.  
Photo: New Mexico Solar Energy Assoc.



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## Environmental Building News™

A Bimonthly Newsletter on Environmentally Sustainable Design and Construction

Volume 1, Number 1 July/August 1992

**Welcome to Environmental Building News**

**B**uildings have a tremendous impact on the environment. In North America, buildings and the building industry account for about 30% of carbon dioxide emissions, 35-40% of ozone depletion, 20-30% of municipal solid waste, vast quantities of natural resource consumption, and dramatic loss of open space each year. What can we do about it? How can you and I as builders, designers, and others involved in the building industry have an impact in turning the tide on this environmental destruction?

The challenges we face in bringing greater environmental sustainability into the building industry seem tremendous—indeed we need to be careful not to feel discouraged. Yet the opportunities, too, are tremendous. There is so much room for improvement that the strides we can make as an industry are huge.

*Environmental Building News* seeks to be a voice in the transition to environmentally sustainable building practices. In the pages of EBN we will expose the faults in our current practices, but more importantly, we will present the options we have for turning things around. We will provide a wide range of information on environmentally sustainable design and construction—from leading-edge case studies of sustainable design that will stimulate your creative juices, to hands-on construction details that will help you integrate these ideas into your daily work.

In each issue of EBN we will provide one or two in-depth feature articles—like the pieces on rigid foam insulation and site-work in this issue. In these articles we will try to probe deeply into an issue—getting into more detail than is found in most newsletters. Also in each issue, you will find information on new products and materials, news about environmental trends that relate to construction, re-

**Rigid Foam Insulation and the Environment**

**O**zone depletion and global warming are two of our most serious environmental problems—and foam insulation materials containing CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) contribute significantly to both of these problems. The environmentally concerned builder or designer should make it a highest priority to avoid them. Even many of the non-CFC alternatives that manufacturers are now switching to are still damaging to the environment—though less so than CFCs. This article takes a detailed look at various types of foam insulation materials—how the materials are produced, what their environmental impacts are, and what the alternatives available to you are.

Rigid foam has played an important role in the energy-efficient construction revolution we have witnessed since the mid-70s, permitting wall and roof R-values to be boosted dramatically with only minimal increases in wall thickness. The foam has such a significant effect in part because it covers the framing members, thus reducing the thermal bridging that occurs through framing members when only cavity-fill insulation is used. The increasing popularity of foam-core stress-skin panels—some of which are produced with CFC-based foams—for use in both timber frame and structural panel (frameless) buildings is further increasing the demand for environmentally sound alternatives.

*—Mike L...*

(continued on page 11)

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Our first issue of Environmental Building News in 1992



# Resilience as a motivator



*Flooding in New Orleans from Hurricane Katrina, 2005. Photo: FEMA*

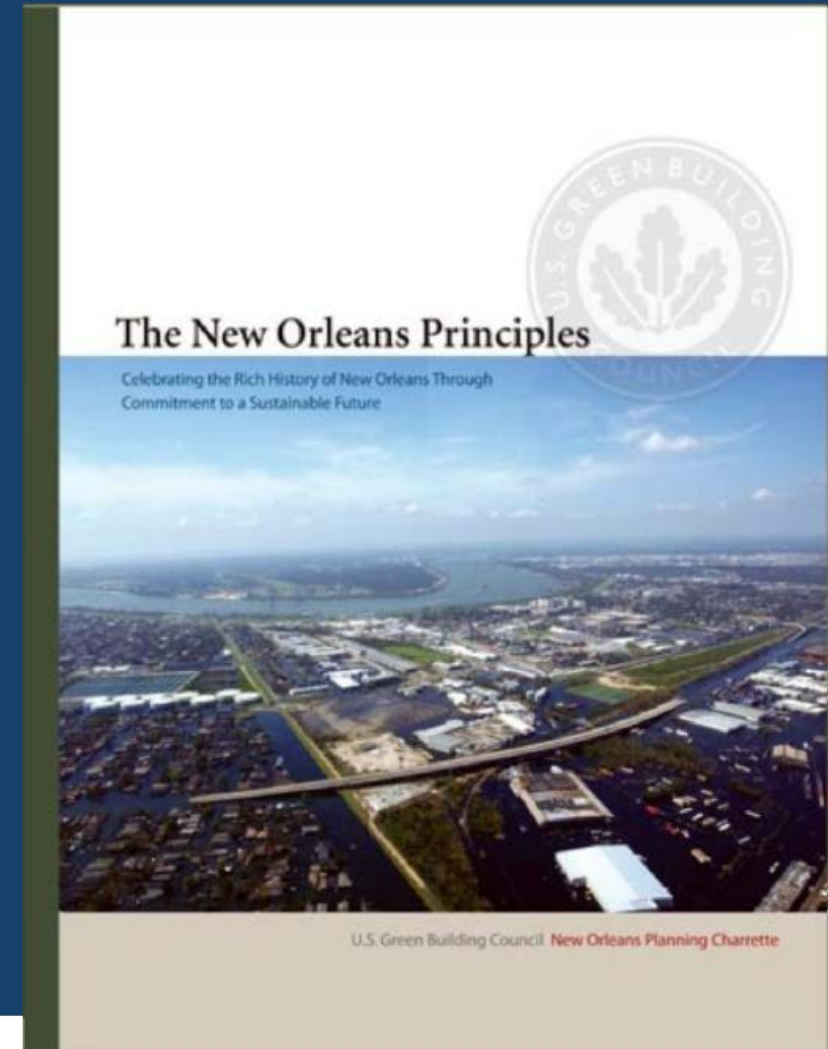


*Charrette on Gulf Coast reconstruction in the fall of 2005. Photo: Alex Wilson*



# Resilience as a motivator

- We're not making rapid enough progress in solving climate change
- Life-safety can be a greater motivator than “doing the right thing”
- Potential to appeal across the political divide
- Achieving passive survivability in buildings requires high levels of energy efficiency and passive design
- These buildings can be close to carbon-neutral—adaptation *and* mitigation
- Resilient Design Institute founded in 2012



## 8 • *Provide for passive survivability*

Homes, schools, public buildings, and neighborhoods should be designed and built or rebuilt to serve as livable refuges in the event of crisis or breakdown of energy, water, and sewer systems.

# Putting resilient design into practice – Spaulding



*Spaulding Rehab Hospital  
on Boston Harbor in Charlestown, MA  
Photos: Perkins+Will*



# Putting resilient design into practice – Spaulding



*Photo: Spaulding Rehab Hospital*



*Photo: Alex Wilson*

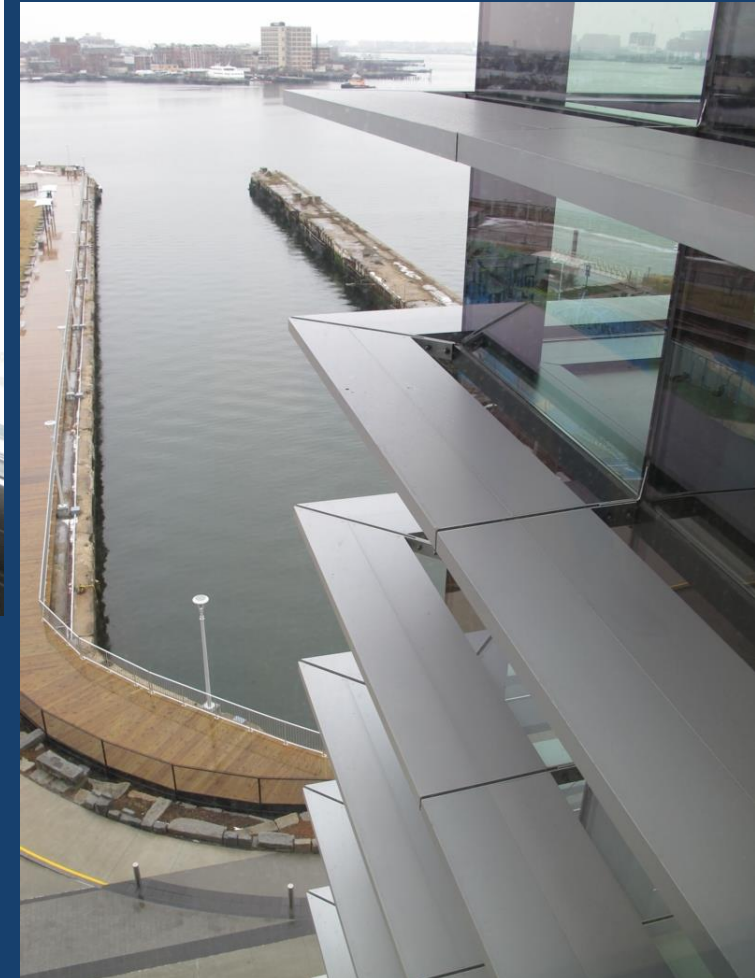
# Putting resilient design into practice – Spaulding



*Operable windows at Spaulding Rehab - Photo: Perkins+Will*

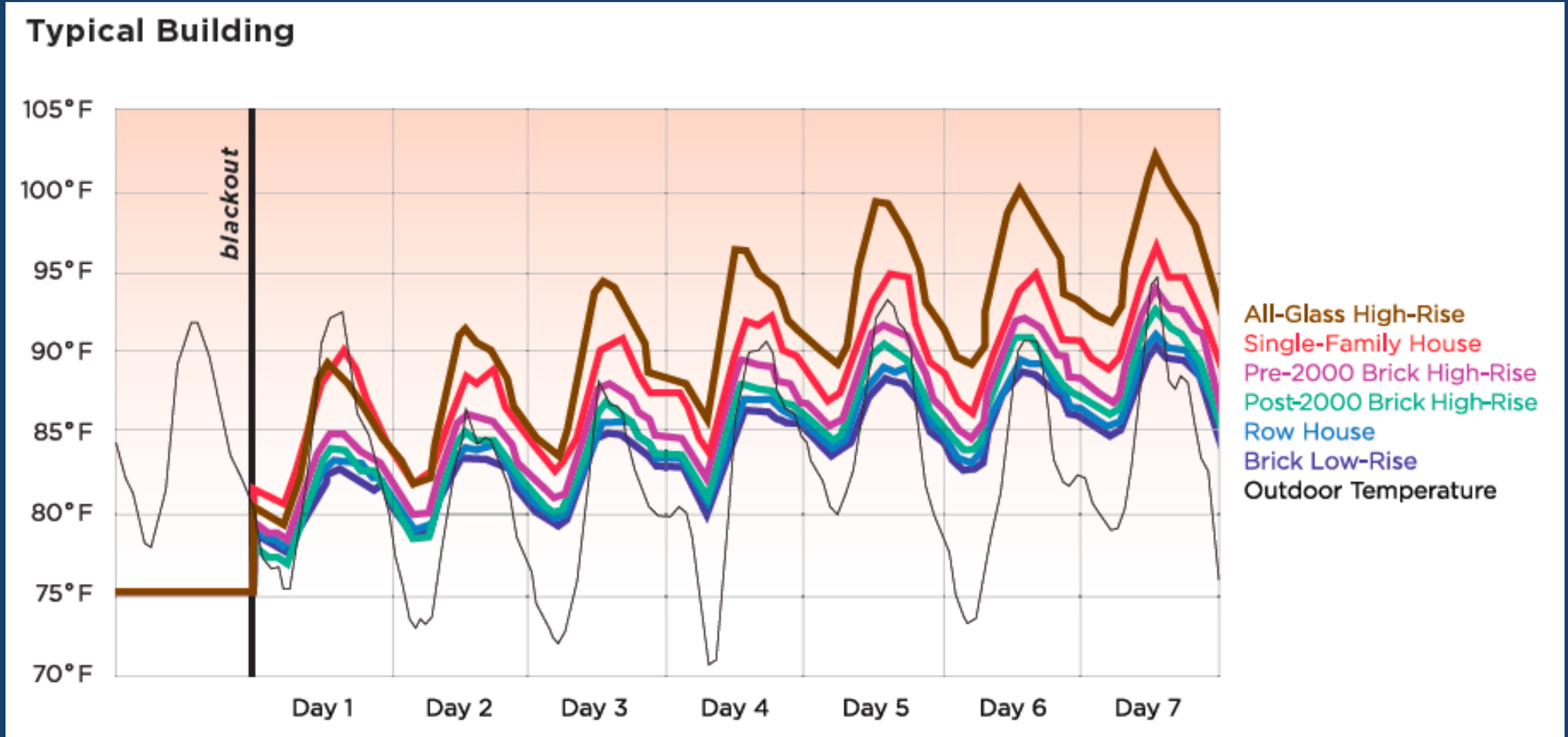


*Operable window  
(above) and exterior  
shading (right)  
Photos: Alex Wilson*





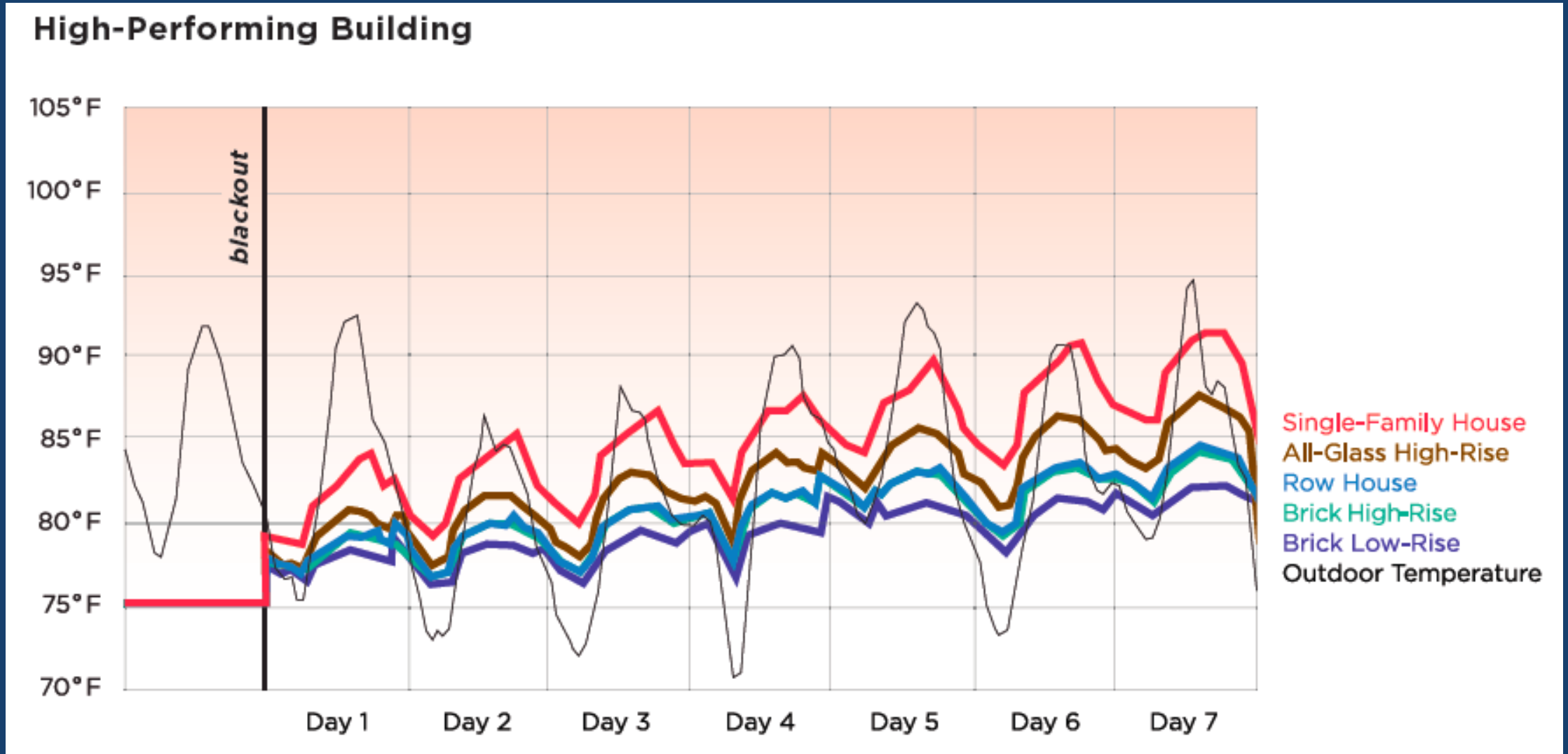
# Drift Temperatures During Power Outages – Summer



*Temperature Modeling: Atelier Ten, New York City in "Baby It's Cold Inside," Urban Green Council*



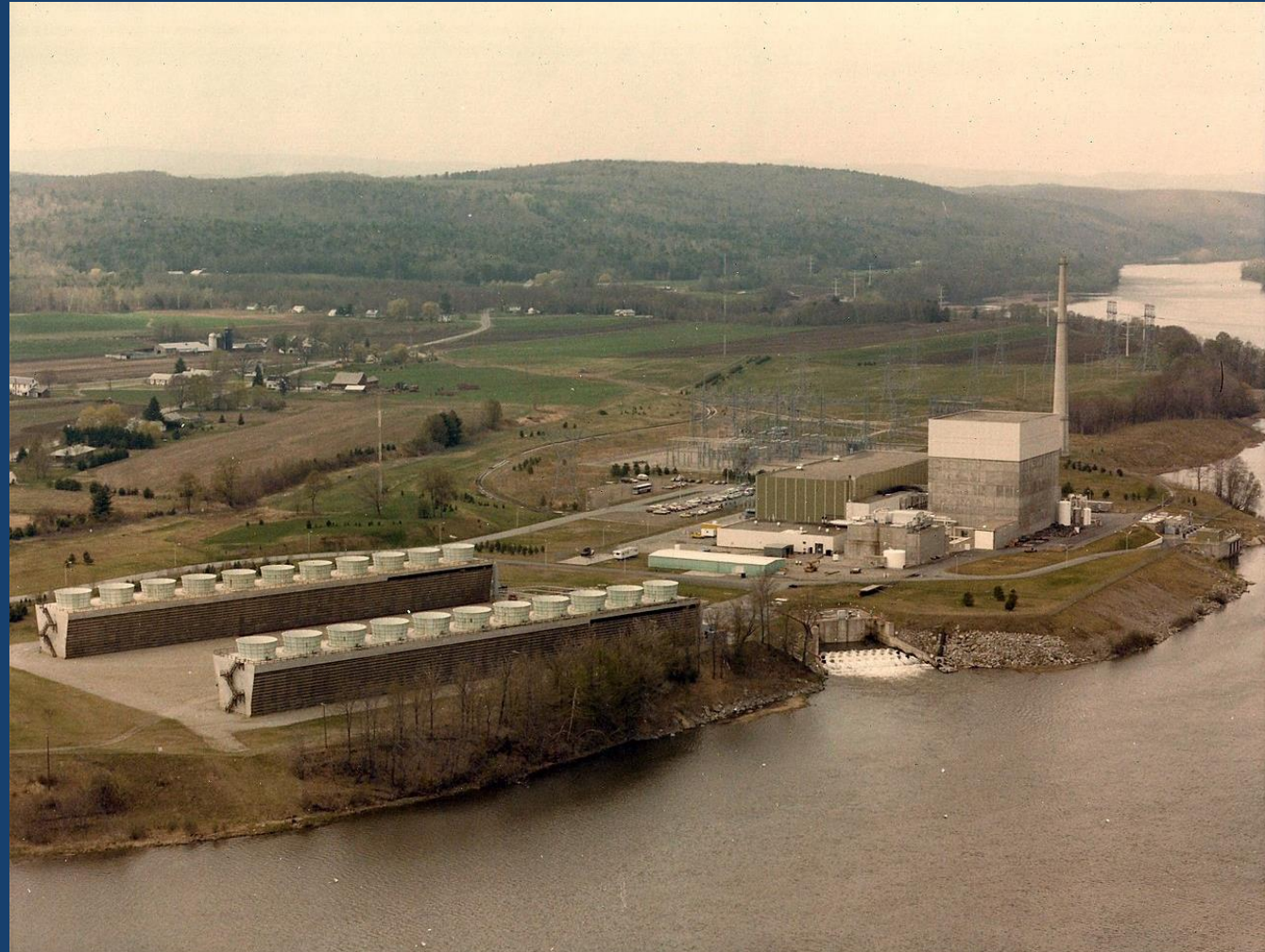
# Drift Temperatures During Power Outages – Summer



*Temperature Modeling: Atelier Ten, New York City in "Baby It's Cold Inside," Urban Green Council*

# Effecting change: the Ecovation Hub in New England

- Tri-state region centered in Brattleboro, Vermont faced with the economic challenge of losing a major employer
- Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant, which closed in 2014, employed 600 workers, with a median wage of \$105,000 per year
- A local initiative, the Ecovation Hub, has been working to spur economic growth within the “clean economy”
- Mapping local and regional assets, identifying business opportunities, creating business plan templates, attracting young people to the area



*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant in Vernon, VT closed in 2014  
Photo: Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Wikimedia Commons*



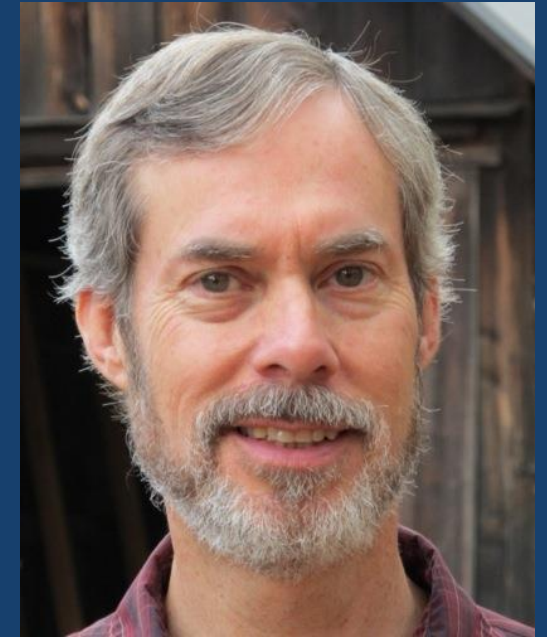
# Effecting change: Vermont Climate Economy Initiative

- Along with the threat of climate change are opportunities
- The Vermont Council on Rural Development is working to advance a climate economy in Vermont



*Catalysts of the Climate Economy Summit in Burlington, Vermont in September, 2017. Speakers included Paul Hawken and Jigar Shah. Photos: Vermont Council on Rural Development*

# Contact



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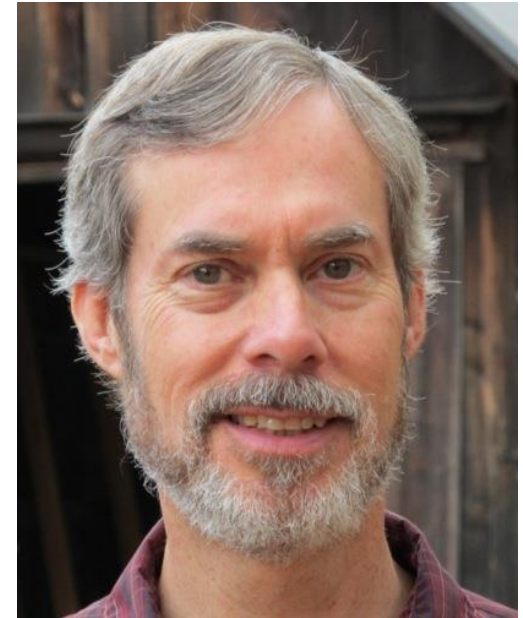
# ***Enabling Scientists and Engineers Working Together Effectively***



**Richard Moss**  
Columbia University



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Susanne Moser Research & Consulting



**Alex Wilson**  
Resilient Design Institute  
& BuildingGreen, Inc.

# Thank you!

- The ***Climate-Safe Infrastructure*** Webinar Series continues at least through July 2018
- Upcoming webinars:
  - Tools Supporting Climate-Safe Infrastructure Design – June 8
  - Monitoring Performance – Working Toward Success – June 11
  - Financing the Future, Part 3 – late June
  - Talking Climate Change with Engineers – July 10 or 12
  - Track webinars and progress of CSIWG at: <http://resources.ca.gov/climate/climate-safe-infrastructure-working-group/>
- Questions: Joey Wall - [Joseph.Wall@resources.ca.gov](mailto:Joseph.Wall@resources.ca.gov)