

Thermal Energy Efficiency in Vermont

VECAN Meeting

December 1st , 2012

Kelly Launder, Assistant Director
Planning and Energy Resources Division
Department of Public Service



VT Building Efficiency Goals

Title 10, Section 581

- Improve the energy fitness of 25% of the state's housing stock by 2020 (about 80,000 housing units).
- Reduce annual fuel use and fuel bills by an average of 25%.
- Reduce fossil fuel consumption across all buildings by an additional one-half percent each year.
- Save \$1.5 billion on fuel bills.
- Increase weatherization services to low-income Vermonters .



VT Building Efficiency Goals

Why do we need to meet them?

- Average age of homes in VT is 66 years old.
- VT ranked 44th out of 50 states in energy affordability.
- \$600 million for fossil fuels to heat homes, businesses, and other buildings.
- Fossil fuels used in buildings are the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions.

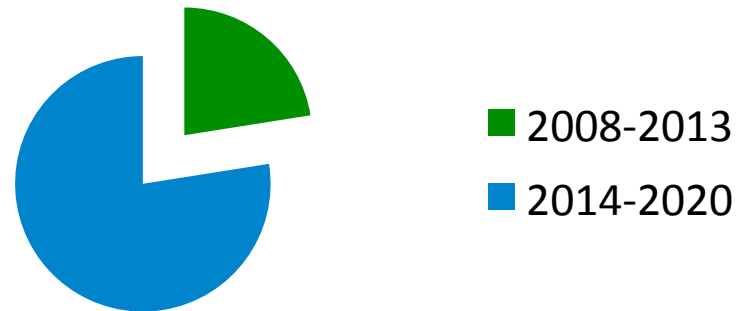


VT Building Efficiency Goals

Where are we at?

18,000 housing units completed 2008-2013

Retrofitted Housing Units

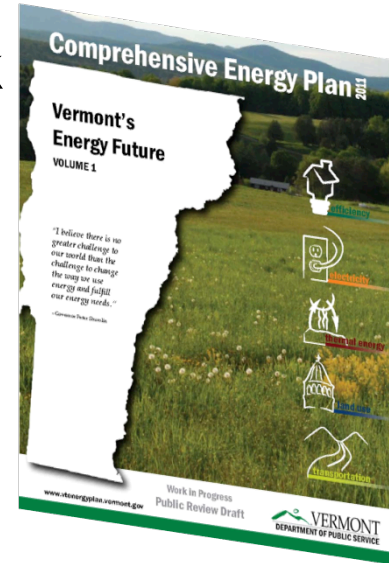


62,000 to complete by 2020
(over 8,800 per year)



Thermal Efficiency Taskforce

- CEP– Recommendation to create a task
- Started meeting March 2012
- Subcommittees:
 - Energy Service Providers
 - Residential (Single Family)
 - Multi-family
 - Commercial
 - Renewable Energy
 - Planning & Measurement
 - Finance & Funding



Thermal Efficiency

Market Research



- Phone survey of 615 households
- Preliminary Findings:

Work Completed

- 72% have completed projects (insulation, windows, heating equip.)
- 40% did the work themselves
- Contractors were found based on friend/family referrals
- 60% interested in making additional improvements (windows, insulation, & solar PV or hot water)
- Primary reason for project – save money, environmental benefits and increased comfort.



Thermal Efficiency

Market Research



- Preliminary Findings, continued:

NO Work Completed

- 50% Interested in making efficiency improvements
- Barriers
 - Cost!!
 - Hassle/time constraints
 - Other priorities/repairs

Valuable Features/Services

- 76% - Confidence that savings would be realized
- 74% - Rebates for equipment



Thermal Efficiency Taskforce

Residential Subcommittee Ideas:

- Deliver comprehensive services and provide roadmap
- Ensure easy access to information
- Develop a comprehensive statewide marketing strategy
- Improve confidence in energy savings
- Improve energy audit process

Next Steps:

- Finalize recommendations, including funding options
- Complete and submit report to Legislature in January



For more information on the
Comprehensive Energy Plan and/or
Thermal Efficiency Taskforce
go to:

[http://
publicservice.
vermont.gov](http://publicservice.vermont.gov)