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# Cost Effectiveness of Energy Efficiency and On-Site Photovoltaic Power for 2015 International Energy Conservation Code ERI (Energy Rating Index) Compliance

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FLORIDA SOLAR ENERGY CENTER\* Creating Energy Independence

# **Cost Effectiveness of Energy Efficiency and On-site Photovoltaic Power for 2015 International Energy Conservation Code ERI (Energy Rating Index) Compliance**

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### **Submitted to**

Natural Resources Defense Council 40 West 20th Street, New York, New York 10011

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### **Cost Effectiveness of Energy Efficiency and On-site Photovoltaic Power for 2015 International Energy Conservation Code ERI (Energy Rating Index) Compliance**

Philip Fairey Florida Solar Energy Center February 21, 2017

### **Background**

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) contracted the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) to conduct cost effectiveness analysis of new homes configured to comply with the Energy Rating Index (ERI) compliance provisions of Section R406 of the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Simulation analysis of homes configured to comply with the minimum envelope efficiency provisions and mandatory requirements of Section R406.2 of the 2015 IECC were used as the baseline for the analysis. These homes are compared against homes meeting the minimum prescriptive compliance requirements of Section R402 of the 2015 IECC and homes meeting the ERI thresholds of Section R406 of the 2015 IECC across representative U.S. climates. EnergyGauge® USA v.5.1, a RESNET-accredited HERS software tool, is used to conduct the simulation analysis.

This study builds on previous simulation and cost effectiveness analysis work used in the development of the ERI compliance values that were adopted by the 2015 IECC (Fairey 2013). This study extends the earlier work to include cost effectiveness analysis of homes using only energy efficiency to meet the ERI requirements, homes using only on-site photovoltaic power to meet the ERI requirements and homes using a combination of energy efficiency and on-site photovoltaic power to meet the ERI requirements.

### **Abstract**

EnergyGauge® USA v.5.1 is used to simulate the energy use of one-story, threebedroom, 2000 ft<sup>2</sup>, single-family, frame homes in sixteen representative U.S. climates comprising all eight IECC climate zones. The energy use of the Section R406.2 minimum efficiency home (the Baseline Home) is compared against the energy use of homes complying with the prescriptive requirements of Section R402 of the 2015 IECC and against homes complying with the Section R406 Energy Rating Index (ERI) Compliance Alternative. The improvement cost and energy savings of the improved homes relative to the Baseline Home are then used to determine the cost effectiveness of the home improvements.

The Baseline Home is compared against four improved home scenarios, as follows.

- 1. 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance case
- 2. Baseline Home + PV case
- 3. 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance + PV case
- 4. Energy efficiency only case

Results from the analysis are useful in comparing the cost effectiveness of achieving compliance with Section R406 of the 2015 IECC using the Energy Rating Index (ERI) and particularly for comparing the cost effectiveness of on-site photovoltaic power generation with the cost effectiveness of improved home efficiency measures.

### **Methodology**

One-story, 2000 ft<sup>2</sup>, 3-bedroom, frame homes are configured to represent the minimum envelope efficiencies and mandatory requirements specified by Section R406.2 of the 2015 IECC. These home configurations represent the baseline against which other home configurations are compared for improvement costs and energy cost savings in eleven representative TMY3 locations across six IECC climate regions of the United States. Best case window orientation is simulated such that 35% of the total window area is located on the front (north) and rear (south) faces of the home and 15% is located on the east and west faces. The front of the homes also have a 20-foot adjoining garage wall. The foundation for the homes is varied by IECC climate zone with slab-on-grade foundations in zones 1 - 2, vented crawlspaces in zones 3 - 4, and unconditioned basements in zones 5 - 8.

### *Baseline Homes*

Tables 1 through 5 present the characteristics for the Baseline Home configurations used in the simulation analysis. This baseline represents the Section R406 efficiency "backstops" of the 2015 IECC Energy Rating Index Compliance Alternative. Envelope characteristics are limited to the provisions of the 2009 IECC with "mandatory" requirements of the 2015 IECC included. Thus, the Baseline Home represent the *maximum ERI* allowed under the energy efficiency provisions of the 2015 IECC.





<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IECC</b> <b>CZ</b>	<b>Ceiling</b> <b>R-value</b>	Wall <b>R-value</b>	Found. Type	<b>Slab</b> <b>R-value</b>	<b>Floor</b> <b>R</b> -value	Fen <b>U-factor</b>	Fen <b>SHGC</b>
Miami, FL	1A	30	13	SOG	none	n/a	1.20	0.30
Houston, TX	2A	30	13	SOG.	none	n/a	0.65	0.30
Orlando, FL	2A	30	13	SOG.	none	n/a	0.65	0.30
Phoenix, AZ	2В	30	13	SOG.	none	n/a	0.65	0.30
Charleston, SC	3A	30	13	Crawl	n/a	19	0.50	0.30
Charlotte, NC	3A	30	13	Crawl	n/a	19	0.50	0.30
Oklahoma City, OK	3A	30	13	Crawl	n/a	19 <sup>1</sup>	0.50	0.30
Las Vegas, NV	3Β	30	13	Crawl	n/a	19	0.50	0.30

Table 2: Baseline Component Insulation Values



#### **Notes for Tables 2:**

Wall R-value:  $1<sup>st</sup>$  value is cavity fill and  $2<sup>nd</sup>$  value is continuous insulation

 $SOG = slab$  on grade

 $C$ rawl = crawlspace

ucBsmt = unconditioned basement



### Table 3: Additional Baseline Home Characteristics

#### Table 4: Baseline Home Air Distribution Systems (ADS)



Base heating and cooling thermostat set point temperatures for all simulations were maintained at 78 °F for cooling and 68 °F for heating with programmable thermostat setup/setback of 2 °F for 6 hours per day in accordance with ANSI/RESNET/ICC Standard 301-2014.

Table 5: Baseline Home Equipment

	<b>IECC</b>	<b>Heating System</b>			Cooling System	Water Heater	
<b>LOCATION</b>	CZ	Fuel	Eff	Fuel	<b>SEER</b>	Fuel	EF
Miami, FL	1A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Houston, TX	2A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Orlando, FL	2A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Phoenix, AZ	2B	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Charleston, SC	3A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Charlotte, NC	3A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Oklahoma City, OK	3A	elec	8.2	elec	14	elec $(40)$	0.95
Las Vegas, NV	3B	gas	80%	elec	14	gas(40)	0.62
Baltimore, MD	4A	gas	80%	elec	14	gas $(40)$	0.62
Kansas City, MO	4A	gas	80%	elec	14	gas $(40)$	0.62
Chicago, IL	5A	gas	80%	elec	13	gas $(40)$	0.62



#### **Notes for Tables 5 and 7:**

 $Eff = heating system efficiency$  where gas-fired furnace is given as AFUE (%) and electric heat pump is given as HSPF

The Baseline Home equipment shown in Table 5 is minimally compliant with the 2015 federal standards (U.S. Department of Energy, 10 CFR Part 430) for heating, cooling and water heating equipment.

#### *Improved Homes*

In addition to the baseline homes, four additional home configuration scenarios are simulated as follows:

- 1. 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance case
- 2. Baseline + PV case
- 3. 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance + PV case
- 4. Energy efficiency only case

Scenario 1 is configured to be minimally compliant with the prescriptive requirements of Section 402 of the 2015 IECC. The configurations for these homes are given in Table 6 through Table 8. The values in *bold italic* font represent changes from the Baseline Home configurations.

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IECC</b> CZ	<b>Ceiling</b> <b>R-value</b>	Wall <b>R-value</b>	Found. <b>Type</b>	<b>Slab</b> <b>R-value</b>	<b>Floor</b> <b>R-value</b>	Fen <b>U-factor</b>	$\mathbf{Fen}$ <b>SHGC</b>
Miami, FL	1A	30	13	SOG	none	n/a	0.50	0.25
Houston, TX	2A	38	13	SOG	none	n/a	0.40	0.25
Orlando, FL	2A	38	13	<b>SOG</b>	none	n/a	0.40	0.25
Phoenix, AZ	2B	38	13	SOG	none	n/a	0.40	0.25
Charleston, SC	3A	38	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.25
Charlotte, NC	3A	38	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.25
Oklahoma City, OK	3A	38	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.25
Las Vegas, NV	3B	38	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.25
Baltimore, MD	4A	49	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.40
Kansas City, MO	4Α	49	20	Crawl	n/a	19	0.35	0.40
Chicago, IL	5A	49	$13 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	30	0.32	0.40
Denver, CO	5B	49	$13 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	30	0.32	0.40
Minneapolis, MN	6A	49	$20 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	30	0.32	0.40
Billings, MT	6В	49	$20 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	30	0.32	0.40
Fargo, ND	7A	49	$20 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	38	0.32	0.40
Fairbanks, AK	8	49	$20 + 5$	ucBsmt	n/a	38	0.32	0.40

Table 6: 2015 IECC Prescriptive Insulation Values used for Scenario 1

**Notes for Tables 6:**

Wall R-value:  $1<sup>st</sup>$  value is cavity fill and  $2<sup>nd</sup>$  value is continuous insulation

 $SOG = slab$  on grade

 $C$ rawl = crawlspace



 $ucBsmt = unconditioned basement$ 









The heating, cooling and hot water equipment in the 2015 IECC Homes is the same as the equipment in the Baseline Homes (see Table 5.)

Mechanical ventilation in both the Baseline Homes and the Improved Homes (IECC 2015 or better) is variable by climate location. Table 9 provides the ASHRAE 62.2-2013 weather and shielding factors (wsf) for each location and the resultant mechanical ventilation rates (cfm) used in the simulations for this study.

	<b>IECC</b>	62.2-2013		Mech vent rate (cfm)	
Location	Zone	wsf	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>IECC 2015</b>	
Miami, FL	1A	0.41	43	57	
Houston, TX	2A	0.42	42	56	
Orlando, FL	2A	0.39	42	56	
Phoenix, AZ	2B	0.43	41	55	
Charleston, SC	3A	0.43	41	69	
Charlotte, NC	3A	0.43	41	69	
Oklahoma City, OK	3A	0.56	30	63	
Las Vegas, NV	3B	0.55	30	63	
Baltimore, MD	4A	0.50	33	66	
Kansas City, MO	4A	0.60	30	61	
Chicago, IL	5A	0.60	30	61	
Denver, CO	5B	0.59	30	61	
Minneapolis, MN	6A	0.63	30	62	
Billings, MT	6B	0.66	30	58	
Fargo, ND	7A	0.69	30	56	
Fairbanks, AK	8	0.70	30	56	

Table 9: Mechanical Ventilation Rates by Location

Scenario 2 comprises the Baseline Home plus sufficient on-site photovoltaic power to achieve compliance with the ERI score requirements of Table R406.4 of the 2015 IECC. The ERI scores for both the Baseline Home and for 2015 IECC compliance are given in Table 10, showing the ERI point difference that must be compensated by on-site photovoltaic power to achieve 2015 IECC ERI compliance.





Scenario 3 is similar to Scenario 2 except it comprises the 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance Home plus sufficient on-site photovoltaic power to achieve compliance with the ERI compliance score requirements.

Scenario 4 comprises only energy efficiency options to achieve the ERI compliance score requirements. The most common efficiency improvements employed in Scenario 4 are 100% high-efficiency lighting; higher efficiency heating, cooling and water heating equipment; interior, leak-free air distribution systems; enhanced envelope efficiencies; and energy star refrigerators, dishwashers and clothes washers.

Appendix A provides the full economic analysis for each of these four scenarios along with a complete listing of the specific home improvements for each scenario and climate location.

### **Improvement Costs**

Incremental improvement costs are determined using the methodology used by Fairey and Parker (2012). In most cases, improvement costs used in the investigation parallel those available from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) National Residential Efficiency Measure Database<sup>[1](#page-8-0)</sup> and from the NAHB (2009) economic database.

For heating and air conditioning equipment costs, Fairey and Parker (2012) relied on a separate methodology whereby the costs are expressed as a function of the equipment capacity and efficiency along with an offset, derived using available retail data and estimated fixed costs. The data and analysis that underlie the heating and cooling equipment cost equations are presented in Appendix B. For certain other costs, the NREL cost data were reduced to equations based on component areas and incremental improvement changes. For example, examination of the NREL data on blown cellulose insulation reveals that the cost is approximately  $$0.034/ft^2$  per R-value. For these types of

<span id="page-8-0"></span> <sup>1</sup> [www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/index.cfm](http://www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/index.cfm)

improvements these costs are cast in such terms. For most other costs, the costs contained in the NREL database are adopted.

For ENERGY STAR appliance costs, representative pricing from the internet is used to determine incremental costs. However, this is difficult because most new appliances are now ENERGY STAR compliant and it is often difficult to find appliances with similar features that are not rated as ENERGY STAR.

Attic radiant barrier systems (RBS) are employed to enhance efficiency in a number of cooling dominated and mixed climate homes. The cost of the RBS is determined as \$0.25 per square foot of roof area. For each of the improved homes, the forced air distribution systems is brought into the conditioned space and tested to be leak free. The cost of this improvement is taken as \$0.50 per square foot of conditioned floor area.

For HVAC equipment, the following equations are used to calculate installed costs (see Appendix B for derivations).

- Heat pumps:  $-5539 + 604*SEER + 699*tons$
- Air conditioners (with strip heat):  $-1409 + 292*SEER + 520*$ tons
- Gas furnace/air conditioner:  $-6067 + 568*SEER + 517*$ tons + 4.04\*kBtu + 1468\*AFUE
- Gas furnace only:  $-3936 + 14.95*kBtu + 5865*AFUE$ where:

tons = air conditioning capacity, which is limited to a minimum value of 1.5 tons  $k$ Btu = gas furnace capacity, which is limited to a minimum value of 40 kBtu

The estimating equations are valid for heat pump and cooling system sizes of 1.5–5 tons. Similarly, the costs of gas heating equipment are based on heating capacities of 40–120 kBtu/h.

For envelope measures, incremental costs are determined as the difference between the measure cost for the Baseline Home component and the measure cost for the Improved Home component. For example, if the ceiling insulation level requirement in the Baseline Home is R-30 and it is increased to R-38 in the Improved Home, the incremental cost would be the R-value difference (8) times \$0.034 per square foot of ceiling area (for blown cellulose).

Wall R-value is increased in some Improved Homes. Wall R-value may be increased in two ways: 1) the sheathing insulation R-value may be increased and 2) the wall cavity insulation R-value may be increased. Where the sheathing insulation R-value is increased, it is increased from R-5 (base case) to R-10. The incremental cost for this increase is taken as the difference in cost between the R-5 XPS base case  $(\$1.30/ft^2)$  and the R-10 XPS improved case (\$1.70/ft<sup>[2](#page-9-0)</sup>), as given in the NREL cost database.<sup>2</sup> The cost for the R-5 XPS base case sheathing can also be cross checked by examining the NAHB (2009) economic database developed in support of 90.2 (ASHRAE 1481-RP). Matrix B.1 of this report provides the cost values shown in Table 11.

<span id="page-9-0"></span> $^{2}$  <http://www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/measures.cfm?gId=12&ctId=410>

Construction	$\frac{\text{S}}{\text{t}^2}$	$\Delta \frac{\mathcal{S}}{\mathcal{H}^2}$	
$2x4$ , 16" oc; R-13	\$5.72	$---$	base wall
add R-5 XPS	\$6.95		$$1.23$ increase for sheathing on 2x4 walls
$2x6, 24$ " oc; R21	\$6.58		\$0.86   increase for 2X6 studs + R-21
add R-5 XPS	\$7.69	\$1.97	increase for $2x6 + R-21 + R-5$ sheathing

Table 11: Construction cost for wood frame walls with fiberglass insulation

Table 11 data show the added cost for R-5 XPS sheathing to be  $$1.23/ft^2$  of wall, which is very similar to the NREL cost database value of \$1.30/ft<sup>2</sup>. The ASHRAE 1481-RP report does not report construction costs for R-10 XPS so the values given in the NREL cost database are used for sheathing insulation improvements in the economic cost effectiveness analysis conducted here.

For wall cavity insulation, R-value may be increased from R-13 for 2x4 frame walls to R-20 for 2x6 frame walls. Table 11 shows that this increase in cavity wall R-value, including the change from 2x4 studs on 16" centers to 2x6 studs on 24" centers, has an incremental cost of  $$0.86/\text{ft}^2$ . The wall construction costs shown in Table 8 are used for wall cavity insulation improvements for the economic cost effectiveness analysis conducted here.

Window thermal characteristics are also improved. Window improvement costs are given as a function of window U-factor by ASHRAE 1481-RP. Figure 1 of ASHRAE 1481-RP casts the incremental window cost above the cost of a standard, double pane window in terms of an exponential equation as a function of window U-factor, as follows:

$$
Incremental Window Cost = 1851.9 * e^{(-19.29 * U)}
$$
 Eq. 1

Equation 1 represents the incremental cost of improving the window U-Factor with respect to the cost of the standard, double pane window of the same frame type. Table 3 of ASHRAE 1481-RP provides 2009 construction costs for 5 standard, double pane, vinyl, frame windows with an average U-factor of 0.49 and an average cost of \$15.09. Escalating this cost from 2009 to 2015 at a general inflation rate of 2.5% yields an average 2015 cost of \$17.50. Thus, the total cost of vinyl frame windows in new construction can be represented by equation 2.

$$
Window Cost = $17.50 + 1851.9 * e^{(-19.29 * U)}
$$
 Eq. 2

Incremental window improvement costs as a function of U-factor can also be derived from data provided in the NREL cost database.<sup>[3](#page-10-0)</sup> Figure 1 shows the results from such an analysis of the incremental costs in the NREL cost database. While the resulting exponential equation has somewhat different coefficient values, the results are quite close and provide an additional level of confidence in the ASHRAE 1481-RP data in that they can be effectively confirmed using a second, independent data source. Figure 2 shows the similarity between the resulting equations along with the three window U-factors specified by the 2015 IECC, where climate zone  $1 = 0.40$ , zones  $2-4 = 0.35$  and zones  $5 - 8 = 0.32$ .

<span id="page-10-0"></span> <sup>3</sup> <http://www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/measures.cfm?gId=16&ctId=190>



Figure 1: Incremental window cost versus window U-Factor derived from NREL cost database.



Equation 2 is used in this study to determine baseline and improved window costs where windows are improved.

Installed PV costs are taken at \$4.00/Wp (watts at peak solar). This cost is somewhat greater than the costs reported by the Solar Market Research Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2014, which shows residential turnkey Rooftop PV system costs steadily declining from \$3.83/Wp during the 1st quarter of 201[4](#page-11-0) to \$3.60/Wp in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year.<sup>4</sup> A 30% income tax credit (ITC) is applied to the \$4.00/Wp cost of PV systems. Net metering is assumed for the PV systems. PV power production is subtracted from the total electricity energy use of the home to arrive at the net electricity use for the homes given in Appendix A and in the tables contained in the findings of the study.

### **Economic Analysis**

Economic analysis is based on a 30-year, present value, life-cycle-cost analysis using the methodology specified by Section 4.6, ANSI/RESNET 301-2014, which is based on the P1, P2 method of determining present worth values by Duffie and Beckman (1980). The equations used to determine P1 and P2 are given in Appendix C. The economic parameter values published on the RESNET web site for 2014<sup>[5](#page-11-1)</sup> are used in the analysis. These economic parameter values are given in Table 12.

$10010$ $12.$ Devilvement and the value of	
General Inflation Rate (GR)	2.53%
Discount Rate (DR)	4.53%
Mortgage Interest Rate (MR)	5.42%
Down payment Rate (DnPmt)	10.00%
Energy Inflation Rate (ER)	4.18%

Table 12: Economic Parameter Values

The life-cycle-cost analysis includes replacement costs (escalated at the general inflation rate) for measures lasting less than the full analysis period (standard residential mortgage period of 30 years in this case). For example, HVAC equipment, with an assumed service life of 15 years, would be replaced in year 16 and high efficiency CFL lighting, with an

<span id="page-11-0"></span> <sup>4</sup> <http://www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-market-insight-report-2014-q3>

<span id="page-11-1"></span><sup>5</sup> <http://www.resnet.us/professional/standards/mortgage>

assumed service life of 5 years, would be replaced five times during the analysis period. Where incremental maintenance is required, a maintenance fraction is also included in the analysis.

Energy prices used in the economic analysis are the 2015 annual average U.S. prices for residential electricity and natural gas as provided by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.<sup>[6](#page-12-0)</sup> The base prices used for the analysis are  $$0.1267/kWh$  for residential electricity<sup>[7](#page-12-1)</sup> and \$1.03[8](#page-12-2)/therm for residential natural gas.<sup>8</sup> Energy prices are not varied by location in this report.

### **Cost Effectiveness**

For the purposes of this study 'cost effective' is defined as the case in which the present value of the life-cycle energy cost reductions (the savings) exceeds the present value of the life-cycle improvement costs (the investment). The ratio of these two present values (Savings / Investment) is referred to as the savings-to-investment ratio or SIR. If the SIR is greater than unity, there is a net financial benefit derived from the investment. The net present value (NPV) of the improvements is also calculated, where NPV equals the present value of the life-cycle energy cost savings minus the present value of the lifecycle improvement costs.

Figure 3 illustrates life-cycle cost economic analysis theory with respect to residential energy efficiency. The Baseline Home has no improvement costs, no energy savings and 100% of the Baseline life-cycle total costs (the red dot on the plot). The Improvement Cost curve (dotted red line) represents the life-cycle costs of energy improvements that can be made to the baseline home. There are normally improvements that can be made to the baseline home that will reduce energy use at very



Figure 3: Generalized plot of life-cycle cost economic analysis theory.

low cost. However, as energy use continues to be reduced, the cost of the improvements per unit of energy savings increases, resulting in an Improvement Cost curve that is exponential in nature. The sum of the Improvement Cost curve and the Energy Cost line (dashed purple line) yield the Total Cost curve (solid green line).

There is a point on the Total Cost curve where the present value of the life-cycle cost of the residence is minimized. For Figure 3, this point occurs at about 37% life-cycle energy cost savings (light green tringle). There is another point on the Total Cost curve where

 <sup>6</sup> <http://www.eia.gov/>

<span id="page-12-1"></span><span id="page-12-0"></span><sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> [http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm\\_table\\_grapher.cfm?t=epmt\\_5\\_3](http://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_5_3)

<span id="page-12-2"></span><sup>8</sup> [http://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng\\_pri\\_sum\\_dcu\\_nus\\_a.htm](http://www.eia.gov/dnav/ng/ng_pri_sum_dcu_nus_a.htm)

the total life-cycle cost of the improved home is equal to the total life-cycle cost of the baseline home (light blue diamond at about 59% life-cycle energy cost savings). This point is often referred to as the neutral cost point. By definition it has an SIR of exactly 1.0 (i.e. life-cycle costs = life-cycle savings). While Figure 3 is only illustrative, it accurately represents the principles of life-cycle cost economics and cost effectiveness for home energy improvements.

### **Findings**

### *This Work*

The summary of findings in this study are presented in Tables 13 - 16 for each study scenario by IECC climate zone. Results are given as climate zone averages for the TMY3 sites in each climate zone. The column labels are as follows:

ERI = Energy Rating Index (per ANSI/RESNET/ICC Standard 301-2014)  $1<sup>st</sup> Cost = initial cost of energy improvements with respect to the Baseline Home$  $LC Cost = present value of the life-cycle energy improvement costs$ 1stYr Save = initial year energy cost savings with respect to the Baseline Home LC Save = present value of the life-cycle energy cost savings  $NPV = Net Present Value of energy improvements = (LC Save) - (LC Cost)$  $SIR =$  Saving/Investment Ratio = (LC Save) / (LC Cost)

	Table 13. Summary results for Scenario 1: 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance case			
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Table 13 illustrates the fact that compliance with the prescriptive minimum efficiency requirements of the 2015 IECC is highly cost effective. Interestingly, the largest SIR occurs in the climate (zone 1) with the smallest stringency increase between the 2009 and 2015 IECC. However, the NPV for climate zone 1 is relatively small, especially when compared with the present value savings that are achieved in climate zone 8.

However, compliance with only these minimum prescriptive requirements does not achieve ERI scores that are compliant with Section R406 of the 2015 IECC.

<b>Climate Zone</b>	<b>ERI</b>	1st Cost	<b>LC Cost</b>	<b>1stYr Save</b>	<b>LC</b> Save	<b>NPV</b>	<b>SIR</b>
Zone 1	52	\$7,140	\$10,870	\$467	\$12,756	\$1,886	1.17
Zone 2	52	\$7,000	\$10,657	\$469	\$12,818	\$2,161	1.20
Zone 3	51	\$8,925	\$13,587	\$597	\$16,319	\$2,731	1.23
Zone 4	54	\$11,760	\$17,903	\$733	\$20,027	\$2,124	1.12
Zone $5$	55	\$11,340	\$17,264	\$702	\$19,194	\$1,930	1.11
Zone 6	54	\$13,440	\$20,461	\$818	\$22,353	\$1,893	1.09
Zone 7	53	\$17,430	\$26,535	\$1,041	\$28,441	\$1,906	1.07
Zone 8	53	\$33,600	\$51,152	\$1,406	\$38,433	$-$12,719$	0.75

Table 14. Summary results for Scenario 2: Baseline Home + PV case

On the other hand, the ERI scores for Scenario 2 shown in Table 14 are fully compliant with Section R406 of the 2015 IECC. However, because these scores are achieved using only on-site photovoltaic power, the NPV and SIR for Scenario 2 are significantly smaller than for Scenario 1, with climate zones 6 and 7 showing only marginal cost effectiveness and added PV in climate zone 8 being not cost effective to the consumer.

$1000$ $101$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$ $000$											
<b>Climate Zone</b>	ERI	1st Cost	<b>LC</b> Cost	<b>1stYr Save</b>	<b>LC</b> Save	<b>NPV</b>	<b>SIR</b>				
Zone 1	52	\$6,348	\$9,514	\$461	\$12,596	\$3,082	1.32				
Zone 2	52	\$5,840	\$8,249	\$429	\$11,730	\$3,481	1.42				
Zone $3$	51	\$7,170	\$9,385	\$505	\$13,808	\$4,424	1.47				
Zone 4	54	\$9,695	\$13,413	\$650	\$17,775	\$4,362	1.32				
Zone 5	55	\$9,793	\$14,102	\$640	\$17,485	\$3,383	1.24				
Zone 6	54	\$11,214	\$15,994	\$744	\$20,339	\$4,345	1.27				
Zone 7	53	\$12,957	\$18,337	\$901	\$24,619	\$6,282	1.34				
Zone 8	53	\$23,252	\$34,012	\$1,237	\$33,807	$-$ \$204	0.99				

Table 15. Summary results for Scenario 3: 2015 IECC + PV case

Scenario 3 combines the enhanced efficiency measures of the 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance case with sufficient on-site photovoltaic power to achieve Section R406 ERI compliance. This scenario requires smaller photovoltaic systems to reach this ERI compliance thresholds than does Scenario 2 and takes advantage of the improved energy efficiency cost effectiveness of the 2015 IECC prescriptive compliance to achieve larger NPV and SIR results than Scenario 2. Added PV in climate zone 8 continues to be not cost effective to the consumer in this scenario.

<b>Climate Zone</b>	<b>ERI</b>	1st Cost	<b>LC</b> Cost	<b>1stYr Save</b>	<b>LC</b> Save	<b>NPV</b>	<b>SIR</b>
Zone 1	52	\$3,086	\$5,367	\$410	\$11,211	\$5,844	2.09
Zone 2	52	\$3,613	\$5,673	\$421	\$11,515	\$5,842	2.03
Zone 3	51	\$4,064	\$6,018	\$444	\$12,122	\$6,104	2.02
Zone 4	54	\$3,893	\$5,322	\$482	\$13,159	\$7,837	2.47
Zone 5	55	\$3,361	\$5,086	\$425	\$11,614	\$6,528	2.28
Zone 6	54	\$3,793	\$5,457	\$499	\$13,632	\$8,176	2.50
Zone 7	53	\$4,252	\$5,840	\$627	\$17,123	\$11,283	2.93
Zone 8	53	\$4,260	\$5,854	\$848	\$23,182	\$17,328	3.96

Table 16. Summary results for Scenario 4: Efficiency only case

Scenario 4 comprises only energy efficiency upgrades to achieve R406 ERI compliance scores. This scenario achieves the largest NPV and SIR of the four scenarios. Thus, it is the most cost effective means of R406 ERI compliance of the scenarios studied. In all

climate zones the SIR exceeds a value of 2.0, meaning that the present value of life-cycle energy cost savings are at least two times greater than the present value of the life-cycle improvement costs.

#### *Other Works*

Apart from the findings of this study, a study of the economic cost-effectiveness of  $3<sup>rd</sup>$ party Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) has also been conducted (Fairey and Sonne, 2016). This PPA study uses the same building configurations and TMY3 locations as reported in this study with the exception that climate zones  $7 \& 8$  are not included. The PPA study was different in the following ways:

- Only the Baseline Home configuration is used in the analysis
- The amount of annual PV production added to the Baseline Home is approximately equal to 75% of the annual electrical consumption
- The cost to the consumer for PV-produced power is set equal to 80% of the cost to the consumer for utility-purchased power
- A 20-year, present value life-cycle cost analysis is used
- Both the life-cycle present value cost of the conventional power system and the life-cycle present value cost of the PPA power system are computed
- A savings to investment ratio (SIR) is not calculated because there is no investment cost to the consumer
- The net present value (NPV) to the consumer is equal to the difference between the life-cycle present values of the conventional power case and the PPA case

Results from the PPA study for the 14 TMY3 cities are shown in Table 17 and the results for the climate zone 1-6 averages are shown in Table 18.

<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>IECC</b>	<b>Utility</b> Electric	PV <b>Size</b>	ERI			<b>Annual Electricity Use and</b> <b>Production</b>		<b>NPV</b>
	CZ	<b>Price</b> (\$/kWh)	(Wdc)	<b>Base</b> Case	PV Case	<b>Total</b> (kWh)	<b>PV</b> (kWh)	$\frac{6}{6}$ PV	\$)
Miami, FL	1A	0.1145	6200	75	18	11937	8993	75.3	\$3809
Orlando. FL	2A	0.1145	5925	75	18	10779	8111	75.2	\$3435
Houston, TX	2A	0.1101	6650	77	19	12014	9032	75.2	\$3678
Phoenix, AZ	2B	0.1129	5500	74	18	13056	9857	75.5	\$4116
Charleston, SC	3A	0.1178	6750	76	19	12886	9666	75.0	\$4212
Charlotte, NC	3A	0.1092	4125	78	45	7755	5876	75.8	\$2373
Oklahoma City, OK	3A	0.0951	4500	78	49	8289	6267	75.6	\$2204
Las Vegas, NV	3B	0.1178	3950	72	34	9371	7051	75.2	\$3072
Baltimore, MD	4A	0.1284	4200	84	54	7443	5571	74.9	\$2646
Kansas City, MO	4A	0.1021	3950	84	57	7549	5669	75.1	\$2141
Chicago, IL	5A	0.1177	4050	86	60	6840	5092	74.4	\$2217
Denver, CO	5B	0.1145	3200	85	56	6608	4938	74.7	\$2091
Minneapolis, MN	6A	0.1138	3950	86	62	6802	5145	75.6	\$2166
Billings, MT	6В	0.1026	3525	85	59	6593	4931	74.8	\$1871
<b>Averages</b>		0.1122	4748	80	41	9137	6871	75.2	\$2859

Table 17. Summary results from PPA study in 13 TMY3 cities

<b>Climate</b>	<b>Utility</b> <b>Electric</b>	<b>PV Size</b>		<b>ERI</b>	<b>Annual Electricity Use</b> and Production	<b>NPV</b>		
Zone	<b>Price</b> (\$/kWh)	(Wdc)	<b>Base</b> Case	<b>PV</b> Case	<b>Total</b> (kWh)	<b>PV</b> (kWh)	$\frac{6}{6}$ <b>PV</b>	\$)
Zone $1$	0.1145	6200	75	18	11937	8993	75.3	\$3,809
Zone $2$	0.1125	6025	75	18	11950	9000	75.3	\$3,743
Zone 3	0.1100	4831	76	37	9575	7215	75.4	\$2,965
Zone 4	0.1153	4075	84	56	7496	5620	75.0	\$2,394
Zone 5	0.1161	3625	86	58	6724	5015	74.6	\$2,154
Zone 6	0.1082	3738	86	61	6698	5038	75.2	\$2,019

Table 18. Climate zone averages from PPA study results

While this PPA reaches ERIs that would easily qualify as compliant with the 2015 IECC in climate zones 1-3, the ERI for the homes in climate zones 4-6 would not qualify as compliant with the ERI requirements of the 2015 IECC. This occurs because climate zones 4-6 employ gas space and water heating systems, significantly reducing the total electric use (see Total kWh column in Table 18). Thus, offsetting 75% of their electric use with the PPA is not sufficient to move their ERI down to the 2015 IECC compliance level.

### **Conclusions**

Achieving compliance with the ERI provisions of the 2015 IECC can be cost effective in all cases studied. While cost effective compliance may be achieved in most climate zones using only on-site photovoltaic power generation, compliance using energy efficiency measures is shown to have greater economic cost effectiveness in all cases studied.

### *Energy Efficiency-Only Scenarios (Scenario 1 and Scenario 4)*

Scenario 1 (2015 IECC Prescriptive Compliance Case) and Scenario 4 (complying with the ERI path using only energy efficiency measures) have the highest savings-toinvestment ratios of the four scenarios. The present value of the savings from energy efficiency in both of these scenarios is at least double the costs: for every dollar invested in energy efficiency, a homeowner will receive \$2 or more in energy savings.

Scenario 4 has the highest NPV of any of the scenarios, and still has a SIR greater than 2 for all climate zones. Overall, this is the most cost-effective scenario over the life of the energy efficiency improvements: it is best, from a consumer economics perspective, to have a home that complies with the ERI pathway of the 2015 IECC using only energy efficiency measures.

In addition, the energy-efficiency-only Scenarios 1 and 4 have lower first costs for the consumer than Scenarios 2 or 3 (both of which involve the consumer purchasing a PV system). Complying with the ERI path of the code using only efficiency (Scenario 4) has a higher first cost than complying with the prescriptive path of the code (Scenario 1), but also has a much higher lifecycle cost savings and NPV in all climate zones. A home built under the ERI compliance method is significantly more efficient than a home built under the prescriptive compliance method, so the additional savings are expected.

#### *PV Scenarios (Scenarios 2, 3 and PPA)*

Scenarios 2 and 3 comply with the ERI path of the code, using various combinations of energy efficiency measures and purchased PV systems. Except in climate zone 8, both scenarios are cost-effective for the consumer, though they both have a lower NPV and SIR than the efficiency-only scenarios due to the upfront cost of the PV system. Lifecycle savings are larger than in the efficiency-only scenarios but so are lifecycle costs. Therefore, the cost-effectiveness of both PV scenarios is highly sensitive to the cost of the PV system, including the impact of available tax credits. As PV prices continue to decline, there may be a tipping point when homes that include PV become more costeffective for the consumer than homes that comply with the code using only efficiency. However, we are not yet at that price point. Under the assumptions made in this report, the cost of PV would need to be \$2.00-\$2.25 per peak Watt before this is the case.

The PPA cases shown in Table 18 also utilizes PV. However, the PPA cases are not always compliant with the ERI path of the code. In climate zones 1-3 the ERI scores for the PPA case would easily comply but for climate zones 4-6, they would not. Climate zones 7 and 8 were not considered for the PPA case.

Figure 4 compares the NPV for the four scenarios of this study with the PPA case from Fairey and Sonne (2016). Only six of the eight climate zones are charted because the PPA study did not evaluate PPAs for climate zones 7 and 8.

Of the two PV scenarios in this study, it is more economically beneficial from a consumer perspective to have an efficient home prior to "filling the gap"



Figure 4. Comparison of Net Present Value (NPV) for four scenarios studied along with NPV results from PPA study.

with PV. Scenario 3 (Min 2015+PV), where the home meets the 2015 IECC prescriptive requirements prior to installing a PV system, has lower first costs, lower lifecycle costs, and higher NPV and SIR than the home in Scenario 2 (Max ERI+PV) that meets only the minimum efficiency requirements. This is also true for the PPA case, where the PPA case produces a larger NPV than Scenario 3 only in climate zones 1 and 2. For climate zones 3-6, Scenario 3 produces greater consumer benefits than the PPA case. As a reminder, the PPA case is modeled using the Baseline Home configuration. Figure 4 also graphically illustrates that the largest consumer benefits (NPV) accrue from scenario 4 (HighEff), regardless of climate zone.

There are many benefits of PV, including reduced utility bills and low carbon production. On-site PV helps jurisdictions meet net-zero energy consumption goals and producing energy is very desirable for both consumers and builders. However, from a consumer economics perspective, it is still most beneficial to ensure that the home is energy efficient prior to investing in on-site power generation.

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\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF

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\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





\* Heat Pump cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and HSPF





 $*$ Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE

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 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





 $^\ast$  Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE





\* Air conditioner / gas furnace cost calculations based on capacity, SEER and AFUE

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### **Appendix B Determination of HVAC Equipment Costs**

NREL maintains a very useful online National Residential Efficiency Measure Database [\(http://www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/index.cfm\)](http://www.nrel.gov/ap/retrofits/index.cfm) containing estimated retrofit costs for HVAC equipment.

The HVAC cost data are cast in terms of only the equipment capacity as  $Cost = a*CAP$ . The database provides the value of 'a' for each listed efficiency. Although it would likely be possible to use the listed efficiencies to develop a formulation cast in terms of both efficiency and capacity (e.g.  $Cost = a*CAP + b*EFF$ ), this likely does not adequately characterize costs. Conventional pricing logic implies that fixed and variable costs are associated with HVAC installation. This can be empirically verified by regressing on collected cost data where fixed and variable cost components are clearly revealed. For example, fixed costs are associated with selling the new equipment, dispatching a vehicle and service personnel to the installation site, removing the old equipment, and hooking up the new equipment that are not tied directly to the efficiency or the size of the new equipment. Thus, the characterization of HVAC costs as stemming solely from equipment efficiency and capacity tends to underestimate costs for small capacity equipment (which will incur a larger percentage of fixed costs relative to total cost) and overstate costs for large capacity equipment (which will incur a smaller percentage of fixed costs relative to total cost).

BA-PIRC attempted to characterize the fixed costs associated with HVAC replacements using an empirical approach. Available online retail costs from available manufacturers were used to determine the, uninstalled retail cost of a variety of HVAC equipment. One clear advantage of this method is that the cost data, unlike those collected from installers are very consistent in their origin with less statistical variation. To these online values were added fixed costs that make up the total price similar to those observed in the NREL database. The resulting total cost data are then regressed in terms of equipment efficiency and capacity for four categories of commonly available HVAC equipment. The four categories are:

- Heat pumps
- Air conditioners (with strip resistance heating)
- Gas furnaces (with no air conditioning)
- Gas furnace-air conditioner combinations

For each equipment category, an 8% tax was applied to the online retail cost plus a fixed "service" cost plus 35% overhead and profit, such that

Total  $Cost = Retail*1.08 + $750 + Retail*0.35$ 

The fixed "service" cost is calculated based on 4 man-hours of sales time at \$28.00 per hour and 16 hours of installation time at \$22.50 per hour with a 10% fringe and 30% overhead added to these salary rates. In addition, a daily average truck charge of \$100 is added to this total salary charge to arrive at the fixed service charge.

The resulting total cost estimates are then regressed against the equipment capacity and efficiency from online data sources to arrive at generalized equations that can be used to calculate the HVAC costs used in economic cost effectiveness calculations. The resulting equations are as follows.

Heat Pumps:  $-5539 + 604*SEER + 699*tons$ Air Conditioners (with strip heat):  $-1409 + 292*SEER + 520*$ tons Gas Furnace/air conditioner:  $-6067 + 568*SEER + 517*tons + 4.04*kBtu + 1468*AFUE$ Gas Furnace only: –3936 + 14.95\*kBtu + 5865\*AFUE

Results from the regressions showing the sample size (n) and correlation coefficient  $(R^2)$  for each equipment category are shown in Figure B-1.



**Figure B-1. Results from regression analysis of CostOpt HVAC cost estimates**

Considering the variability of the marketplace, the correlation coefficients are reasonable for these regressions. For comparison, Tables B-1 through Table B-3 show the range of costs provided by the NREL database for replacement heat pumps, air conditioners, and gas furnaces.

<b>NREL Heat Pump Replacement Costs</b>						
<b>SEER</b>	Low \$/kBtu	<b>High</b> \$/kBtu	<b>Average</b> \$/kBtu	$\pm\frac{9}{6}$		
13	97	170	140	26%		
14	110	180	140	25%		
15	110	190	150	27%		
16	120	200	160	25%		
17	130	210	170	24%		
18	140	220	180	22%		
19	140	230	180	25%		
20	150	230	190	21%		
21	160	240	200	20%		

**Table B-1. NREL Cost Estimates for Heat Pumps**



<b>NREL Air Conditioner Replacement Costs</b>						
	Low	<b>High</b>	<b>Average</b>			
<b>SEER</b>	\$/kBtu	\$/kBtu	\$/kBtu	$\pm\frac{9}{6}$		
13	59	190	130	50%		
14	66	200	130	52%		
15	73	210	140	49%		
16	80	210	150	43%		
17	87	220	150	44%		
18	94	230	160	43%		
19	100	230	170	38%		
20	110	240	170	38%		
21	110	250	180	39%		

**Table B-3. NREL Cost Estimates for Gas Furnaces**



These estimates indicate significant variations in the marketplace with respect to HVAC costs and to a certain degree mirror the variations in costs represented in Figure B-1, with gas furnaces showing the largest variance.

BA-PIRC evaluated the economic cost effectiveness estimates against those provided by the NREL database average cost estimates for heat pumps and gas furnaces. Figure B-2 presents the results of this comparison.



**Figure B-2. Comparison of BA-PIRC HVAC cost estimates and NREL HVAC cost estimates**

In Figure B-2 the individual plot points represent different efficiencies, with SEERs of 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, and 21 represented on the heat pump chart. The right-hand panel shows data for furnaces: with representative AFUEs of 78%, 80%, 82%, 90%, 92%, 94%, and 96%. Each chart also distinguishes between different capacities, with 1.5-, 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-ton equipment on the heat pump chart and 45, 60, 75, 90, and 105 kBtu/h equipment on the gas furnace chart.

Both charts show that the BA-PIRC estimates are larger for the lower capacity and smaller for the larger capacity equipment. The charts also show that, on average, the BA-PIRC estimates are consistent with the NREL estimates. However, the fact that the BA-PIRC estimates treat fixed costs more explicitly is evident on both charts. In a practical sense, the BA-PIRC estimates generally show that monetary savings in the capacity of installed equipment coming from more efficient envelope measures are slightly less important than the original values in the NREL database.

### **Appendix C Economic Cost Effectiveness**

If analyses are conducted to evaluate energy saving improvements to the home, indicators of economic cost effectiveness shall use present value life-cycle costs and benefits, which shall be calculated as follows:

$LCC_E = P1 * (1st Year Energy Costs)$	Eq. [1]
$LCCI = P2 * (1st Cost of Improvements)$	Eq. [2]
where: $LCC_E$ = Present Value Life-Cycle Cost of Energy $LCC_I$ = Present Value Life-Cycle Cost of Improvements $P1$ = Ratio of Life-Cycle energy costs to the 1 <sup>st</sup> year energy costs $P2$ = Ratio of Life-Cycle Improvement costs to the first cost of improvements	
Present value life-cycle energy cost savings shall be calculated as follows:	
$LCC_S = LCC_{E,b} - LCC_{E,i}$ where: $LCCS$ = Present Value Life Cycle Energy Cost Savings $LCC_{E,b}$ = Present Value LCC of energy for <b>baseline</b> home configuration $LCC_{E,i}$ = Present Value LCC of energy for <b>improved</b> home configuration	Eq. [3]
Standard economic cost effectiveness indicators shall be calculated as follows:	
$SIR = LCCs / LCCI$	Eq. [4]
$NPV = LCCs - LCCI$ where: $SIR =$ Present Value Savings to Investment Ratio $NPV = Net Present Value of Improvements$	Eq. [5]
<b>Calculation of P1 and P2.</b> The ratios represented by P1 and P2 shall be calculated in accordance with the following methodology <sup>9</sup> :	
$P1 = 1 / (DR - ER) * (1 - ((1 + ER) / (1 + DR))^ nAP)$	Eq. [6a]
or if $DR = ER$ then	
$P1 = nAP / (1+DR)$ where: $P1$ = Ratio of Present Value Life Cycle Energy Costs to the 1 <sup>st</sup> year Energy Costs $DR = Discount Rate$ $ER = Energy Inflation Rate$ $nAP = number of years in Analysis Period$	Eq. [6b]
$P2 = DnPmt + P2A - P2B + P2C + P2D - P2E + P2F$ where:	Eq. [7]

<span id="page-55-0"></span> <sup>9</sup> Duffie, J.A. and W.A. Beckman, 1980. *Solar Engineering of Thermal Processes*, pp. 398-406, John Wylie & Sons, Inc., New York, NY.

 $P2$  = Ratio of Life Cycle Improvement costs to the first cost of improvements

DnPmt = Mortgage down payment rate

 $P2_A$  = Mortgage cost parameter

 $P2_B$  = Income Tax cost parameter

 $P2<sub>C</sub> =$  Operation & Maintenance cost parameter

 $P2_D$  = Property tax cost parameter

 $P2<sub>E</sub>$  = Salvage value cost parameter

 $P2_F$  = Replacement cost parameter

#### **P2**<sub>A</sub> = (1 **- DnPmt**) \* (PWFd / PWFi) **Eq.** [8a]

where:

PWFd = Present Worth Factor for the discount rate =  $1/DR*(1-(1/(1+DR)^nAP))$ 

PWFi = Present Worth Factor for the mortgage rate =  $1/MR*(1-(1/(1+MR)^n nMP))$ 

 $DR = Discount Rate$ 

MR = Mortgage interest Rate

nAP = number of years of the Analysis Period

nMP = number of years of the Mortgage Period

#### $P2_B = (1 - \text{DnPmt}) * iTR * (PWdiff * (MR - 1 / PWFi) + PWFd / PWFi)$  **Eq.** [8b] where:

iTR = effective income Tax Rate

PWdiff = ratio of the present worth discount rate to present worth mortgage rate  $= 1 / (DR - MR) * (1 - (((1 + MR) / (1 + DR))<sup>^</sup> nMP))$ 

or if  $DR = MR$  then  $= nMP/(1+MR)$ 

### $P2<sub>C</sub> = MFrac*PWinf$  **Eq.** [8c]

where:

 $MFrac =$  annual O&M costs as a fraction of first cost of improvements

PWinf = ratio of present worth discount rate to present worth general inflation rate  $= 1/(DR-GR)*(1-(((1+GR)/(1+DR))^2nAP))$ 

or if  $DR = GR$  then  $=$   $nAP/(1+DR)$ GR = General Inflation Rate

#### **P2D = pTR\*AssessRatio\*PWinf Eq. [8d]**

where:

pTR = effective property Tax Rate AssessRatio = Fraction of assessed property value against which pTR is applied (typically 0.80)

$$
P2E = RLF / ((1 + DR)^ nAP)
$$
 Eq. [8e]

where:

 $RLF =$  Remaining Life Fraction following the end of the analysis period and

RLF = (nAP/Life) – (Integer (nAP/Life))

C-2

or if  $Life > nAP$  $RLF = (Life-nAP)/nAP$ where: Life = useful service life of the improvement(s)

#### **P2F** = Sum { $1 / ((1 + (DR - GR))<sup>^</sup>(Life<sup>*</sup>i))$ } for i=1, n **Eq.** [8f] where:  $i =$  the i<sup>th</sup> replacement of the improvement Life  $=$  the expected service life of the improvement

**Determination of Economic Parameters.** Economic parameter values used in the cost effectiveness calculations shall be determined as follows:

**General Inflation Rate (GR)** shall be the greater of the 5-year and the 10-year Annual Compound Rate (ACR) of change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Dwellers (CPI-U) as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, where ACR shall be calculated in accordance with equation [9].



 $startVal = Value of parameter at start of period$ 

endYr = Year number at end of period startYr = Year number at start of period

**Discount Rate (DR)** shall be equal to the General Inflation Rate plus 2%.

**Mortgage Interest Rate (MR)** shall be the greater of the 5-year and the 10-year average of simple interest rate for fixed rate, 30-year mortgages computed from the Primary Mortgage Market Survey (PMMS) as reported by Freddie Mac.

**Down Payment Rate (DnPmt)** shall be 10% of 1<sup>st</sup> cost of improvements.

**Energy Inflation Rate (ER)** shall be the greater of the 5-year and the 10-year Annual Compound Rate (ACR) of change in the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Table 3A, Housing, Fuels and Utilities, Household Energy Index<sup>[10](#page-57-0)</sup> as calculated using Equation [9].

**Mortgage Period (nMP)** shall be defaulted to 30 years unless a mortgage finance period is specified by a program or mortgage lender, in which case the specified mortgage period shall be used. The mortgage period used in the cost effectiveness calculation shall be disclosed in reporting results.

<span id="page-57-0"></span><sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Table 3A from detailed reports listed at  $\frac{http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpi/dri}$  dr.htm