

Mechanical Requirements of ASHRAE 90.1 for DEED School Designs

Adam Wilson, PE, CEA, LEED AP



Learning Objectives

- Understand the statutory foundation for applying ASHRAE Standard 90.1 to state-funded school construction projects in Alaska and know where these provisions are found within the Alaska Statutes.
- Learn about the history, purpose, and application of ASHRAE Standard 90.1 in commercial building design and construction.
- Understand how to use ASHRAE Standard 90.1 and related DEED tools in the design of state-funded school facilities.
- Recognize the ways in which the use of ASHRAE Standard 90.1 influences mechanical system designs.

Understanding the Statutory Foundation



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Part I – Purpose & Application

Authority

AS 14.11.013. Department review of grant applications.

- (a) With regard to projects for which grants are requested under AS 14.11.011, the department shall ...
(5) consider the regionally based model school construction standards developed under AS 14.11.017(d).

AS 14.11.014. Bond reimbursement and grant review committee.

- (b) The committee shall ...
(3) develop criteria for construction of schools in the state; criteria developed under this paragraph must include requirements intended to achieve cost-effective school construction;

AS 14.11.017. Grant conditions.

- (a) The department shall require in the grant agreement that a municipality that is a school district or a regional educational attendance area
(1) agree to construction of a facility of appropriate size and use that meets criteria adopted by the department if the grant is for school construction; ...
(d) The department shall develop and periodically update regionally based model school construction standards that describe acceptable building systems and anticipated costs and establish school design ratios to achieve efficient and cost-effective school construction. In developing the standards, the department shall consider the standards and criteria developed under AS 14.11.014(b).

Understanding the Statutory Foundation



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Authority

AS 14.11.013. Department review of grant applications.

(a) With regard to projects for which grants are requested under AS 14.11.011, the department shall ...

(5) consider the regionally based model school construction standards developed under AS 14.11.017(d).

AS 14.11.014. Bond reimbursement and grant review committee.

(b) The committee shall ...

(3) develop criteria for construction of schools in the state; criteria developed under this paragraph must include requirements intended to achieve cost-effective school construction;

AS 14.11.017. Grant conditions.

(a) The department shall require in the grant agreement that a municipality that is a school district or a regional educational attendance area

(1) agree to construction of a facility of appropriate size and use that meets criteria adopted by the department if the grant is for school construction; ...

(d) The department shall develop and periodically update regionally based model school construction standards that describe acceptable building systems and anticipated costs and establish school design ratios to achieve efficient and cost-effective school construction. In developing the standards, the department shall consider the standards and criteria developed under AS 14.11.014(b).

Understanding the Statutory Foundation



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Authority

AS 14.11.013. Department review of grant applications.

(a) With regard to projects for which grants are requested under AS 14.11.011, the department shall ...

(5) consider the regionally based model school construction standards developed under AS 14.11.017(d).

AS 14.11.014. Bond reimbursement and grant review committee.

(b) The committee shall ...

(3) develop criteria for construction of schools in the state; criteria developed under this paragraph must include requirements intended to achieve cost-effective school construction;

(8) **set standards for energy efficiency for school construction and major maintenance to provide energy efficiency benefits for all school locations in the state and that address energy efficiency in design and energy systems that minimize long-term energy and operating costs.**

Understanding the Statutory Foundation



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Part 2 – Design Principles

emphasis on looking at the building as a whole over time to minimize energy use, maximize cost savings, and increase resiliency—all while creating comfortable and healthy spaces for the occupants.

As part of an integrated design process, energy modeling and commissioning will confirm that all systems and components are integrated to achieve optimum results and are installed and operated as designed. One strategy may offset another. For instance, daylight sensors may cost more up front as an individual strategy, but once energy savings and associated reduced mechanical loads are considered, the team may realize that they can save money by selecting a smaller mechanical system.

Practices to optimize systems integration and increase efficiency include energy modeling and building commissioning. Design-phase energy modeling is a tool to use early and throughout the design process to test a variety of energy efficiency measures to determine the best way to align systems and components. Commissioning also offers an opportunity to make adjustments in the field and to train occupants on how to use the systems, improving efficiency even further.

B. Human Health & Comfort

Learning environments have a huge impact on student performance, health, and overall well-being. High performance schools can provide high quality indoor air along with thermal, visual, and acoustical comfort. Emphasis is placed on daylight in classrooms and views to the outdoors, HVAC and lighting controls, non-toxic materials, enhanced filtration, carbon dioxide sensors, cross-contamination prevention, natural ventilation, and increased outdoor airflow rates in mechanically ventilated spaces.

Benefits of high-performance schools can include improved student performance, increased occupant health, reduced student absentee rates, and greater staff satisfaction. When implemented well, ancillary benefits such as visual and physical connection to exterior spaces and shared community spaces within the building often occur. In addition, community benefits that reach beyond the school facility are common including highlighting the benefits of reusing and recycling materials, and creating an environment that serves as a community teaching tool for sustainable living.

C. Demand Reduction

High-performance schools are designed to reduce demand on energy and natural resources, to optimize the performance of building systems, and to reduce the overall operating costs of the school. Emphasis is placed on energy efficient mechanical systems, high-performance envelope design, low-flow water fixtures, lighting and daylight controls, and energy efficient equipment and appliances. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1 sets out performance criteria in these areas and is enforced by DEED through customized checklists.

Employing high-performance principles such as demand reduction, energy efficiency, and system optimization results in climate appropriate solutions, buildings that have low-to-no impact on local infrastructure, and an overall reduction in the school facility's carbon footprint.

Baseline

1. Utilize night-setback control systems for unoccupied times.

Understanding the Statutory Foundation



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Part 2 – Design Principles

emphasis on looking at the building as a whole over time to minimize energy use, maximize cost savings, and increase resiliency—all while creating comfortable and healthy spaces for the occupants.

As part of an integrated design process, energy modeling and commissioning will confirm that all systems and components are integrated to achieve optimum results and are installed and operated as designed. One strategy may offset another. For instance, daylight sensors may cost more up front as an individual strategy, but once energy savings and associated reduced mechanical loads are considered, the team may realize that they can save money by selecting a smaller mechanical system.

Practices to optimize systems integration and increase efficiency include energy modeling and building commissioning. Design-phase energy modeling is a tool to use early and throughout the design process to test a variety of energy efficiency measures to determine the best way to align systems and components. Commissioning also offers an opportunity to make adjustments in the field and to train occupants on how to use the systems, improving efficiency even further.

C. Demand Reduction

High-performance schools are designed to reduce demand on energy and natural resources, to optimize the performance of building systems, and to reduce the overall operating costs of the school. Emphasis is placed on energy efficient mechanical systems, high-performance envelope design, low-flow water fixtures, lighting and daylight controls, and energy efficient equipment and appliances. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1 sets out performance criteria in these areas and is enforced by DEED through customized checklists.


Employing high-performance principles such as demand reduction, energy efficiency, and system optimization results in climate appropriate solutions, buildings that have low-to-no impact on local infrastructure, and an overall reduction in the school facility's carbon footprint.

Baseline

1. Utilize night-setback control systems for unoccupied times.

Understanding the Statutory Foundation

Alaska Department of Education & Early Development



Instructions for completing the Application for Funding for a Capital Improvement Project **FY2027**

These instructions support DEED Form #05-25-035 Application for Funding Capital Improvement Project by Grant or State Aid for Debt Retirement.

PREPARING & SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION

Answer all questions: Each question on the application form must be answered in order for the application to be considered complete. **Only complete applications will be accepted. Incomplete applications will be considered ineligible and returned unranked.** If a question is not applicable, please note as NA. The department has the authority to reject applications due to incomplete information or documentation provided by the district. The grant application deadline is September 1st.

Project name to be accurate and consistent: The project name on the first page of the application should be consistent with project titles approved by the district school board and submitted with the six-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The project name should begin with the name of the school and type of school (ex: K-12 School, High School). Multi-school projects should list the schools that are part of the scope unless the work is districtwide at most or all school sites in the district.

Limited to ten applications: The department will only score up to ten individual project applications from each district during a single rating period. In addition, a district can submit a letter to request reuse of an application's score for one year after the application was filed; or, if the project was substantially complete at the time of the application, the district can request reuse of the application's score for up to five years after the application was filed.

The department may adjust parts of the application: Project scope and budget may be altered based on the department's review and evaluation of the application. The department will correct errors noted in the application and make necessary increases or decreases to the project budget. The department may decrease the project scope, but will not increase the project scope beyond that requested in the original application submitted by the September 1st deadline.

Authorizing signature: The application must be signed by the appropriate official with an original or certified electronic signature. Unsigned applications cannot be accepted for ranking.

Application packages should be submitted to:
Alaska Department of Education & Early Development
Division of Finance & Support Services, Facilities via the online portal.
To request access to the online portal, please complete the request form here:
<https://education.alaska.gov/cip-folder-request>

For further information contact:
eed.facilities@alaska.gov

Rev. 4/2025
Alaska Department of Education & Early Development

Instructions to accompany Form #05-25-035
Page 1 of 1

3d. Project description.

The project description should include: (1) a detailed description of the project, (2) documentation of the conditions justifying the project, and (3) a description of the project and what the project will accomplish. It should also contain sufficient quantifiable analysis to show how the project is in the best interest of both the district and the state.

The description of project scope should include information that will allow the department to evaluate the criteria specified in AS 14.11.013, including conformance with the currently adopted ASHRAE 90.1 energy efficiency standard and the *Alaska School Design and Construction Standards* published by DEED and incorporated as Appendix B of these instructions; ensure project aligns with selected category.

6c. Use of prior building system design (10 points possible)

Statutes require that the department shall encourage school districts to use previously approved building systems if the use will result in a cost savings for the project. Five building system categories are available for evaluation of prior design use: 1) Building Envelope, 2) Plumbing, 3) HVAC, 4) Lighting, and 5) Power. A project application can receive points for capital renewal of: a complete system, a subsystem, or a component of system, once in each of these categories when evaluated against whether it is part of a published district or municipal facility standard that meets ASHRAE 90.1-2016 requirements; prior use of a system specification in a bid solicitation is not sufficient to meet the criteria.

The ASHRAE-compliant district or municipal standard must be provided with the application in order for the department to evaluate this criteria.

Understanding the Statutory Foundation

Alaska Administrative Code

4 AAC 31.014. Codes and regulations for school facilities

(a) The chief school administrator shall assure that a new school facility, addition, or major renovation complies with applicable facility codes and regulations of the state and with those of the municipality in which the facility is located... For purposes of this subsection, **the applicable codes and regulations of the state** with which facilities, additions, or renovations must comply are the

(1) building code, adopted by [13 AAC 50.020](#);

(2) electrical code, adopted by [8 AAC 70.025](#);

(3) plumbing code, adopted by [AS 18.60.705\(a\)](#);

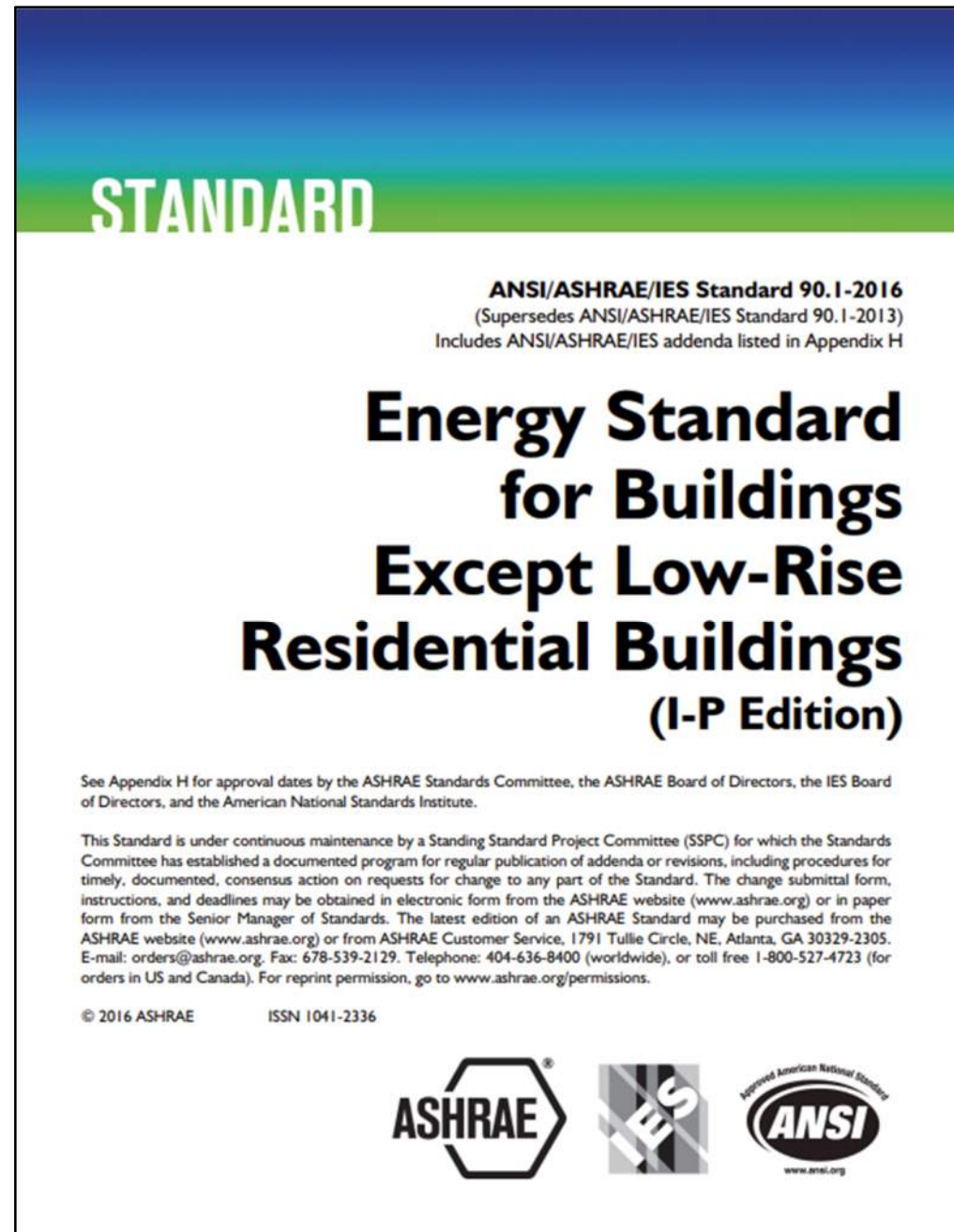
(4) mechanical code, adopted by [13 AAC 50.023](#);

(5) ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, adopted by [8 AAC 80.010](#);

(6) fire code, adopted by [13 AAC 50.025](#); and

(7) energy efficiency code, consisting of the American Association of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1, Energy Standard for Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings, (2016 Edition), and adopted by reference.

ASHRAE 90.1 – Energy Standard

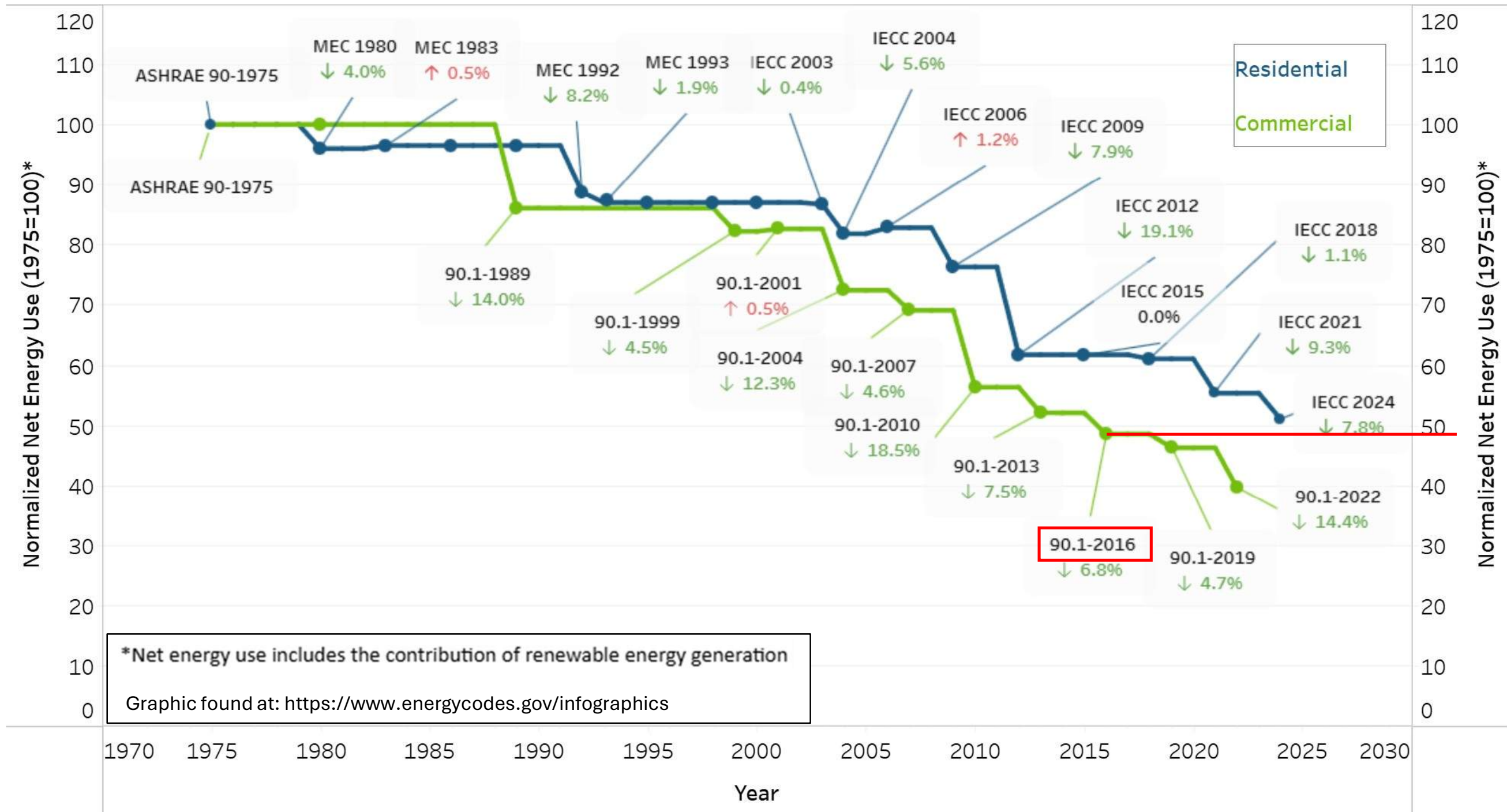


Purpose: “To establish the **minimum energy efficiency requirements** of buildings other than low-rise residential buildings for

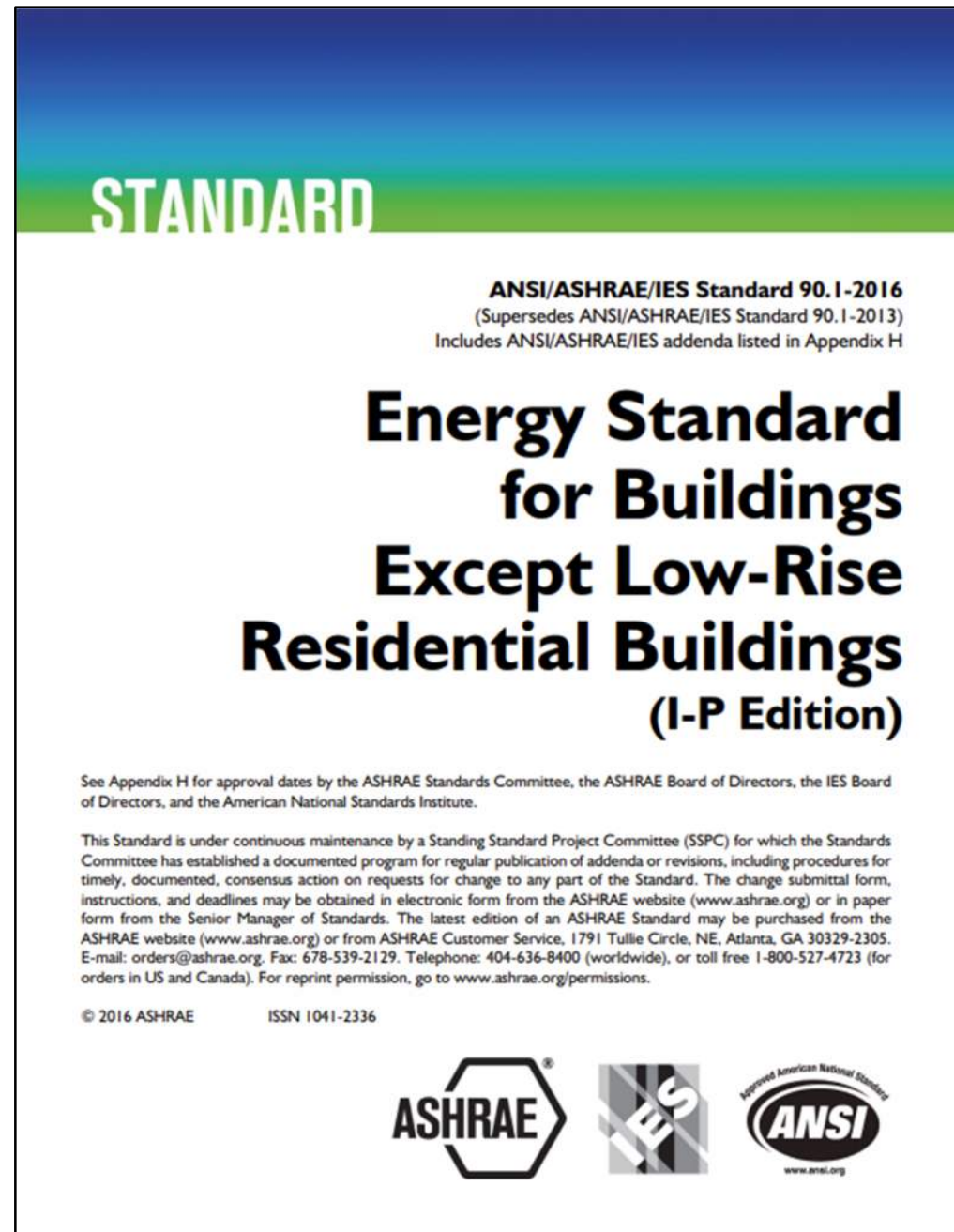
- a. design, construction, and a plan for operation and maintenance; and**
- b. utilization of on-site, renewable energy resources.”**

- Establishes a baseline of building energy performance to achieve and/or measure against.
- A building designed to 90.1 requirements is generally accepted as the standard for minimum energy efficiency performance.
- Used by the US, state and local governments, corporations, code development, third party energy rating systems (ex. LEED).
- First developed in 1975 in response to the 70’s petroleum energy crisis.
- “Standard 90.1 has also committed to reaching net zero carbon and net zero energy by 2031.”

Estimated Improvement in Residential & Commercial Energy Codes (1975 - 2024)



ASHRAE 90.1 – Energy Standard



Contents:

- Prescriptive vs. Performance
- Building Envelope
- HVAC
- Domestic Hot Water
- Power
- Lighting
- Miscellaneous Equipment
- Performance Modeling Requirements
- Information Appendices

ASHRAE 90.1 – Energy Standard

STANDARD




ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard **90.1-2016**
(Supersedes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2013)
Includes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES addenda listed in Appendix H

**Energy Standard
for Buildings
Except Low-Rise
Residential Buildings
(I-P Edition)**

See Appendix H for approval dates by the ASHRAE Standards Committee, the ASHRAE Board of Directors, the IES Board of Directors, and the American National Standards Institute.

This Standard is under continuous maintenance by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the Standard. The change submittal form, instructions, and deadlines may be obtained in electronic form from the ASHRAE website (www.ashrae.org) or in paper form from the Senior Manager of Standards. The latest edition of an ASHRAE Standard may be purchased from the ASHRAE website (www.ashrae.org) or from ASHRAE Customer Service, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305. E-mail: orders@ashrae.org. Fax: 404-636-8400 (worldwide), or toll free 1-800-527-4723 (for orders in US and Canada). For reprint permission, go to www.ashrae.org/permissions.

© 2016 ASHRAE ISSN 1041-2336



Use the right
Standard...
It's the one
on the left

They are
different!

STANDARD

ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard **90.1-2010**
(Supersedes ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2007)
Includes ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Addenda listed in Appendix F





**Energy Standard
for Buildings
Except Low-Rise
Residential Buildings**

I-P Edition

See Appendix F for approval dates by the ASHRAE Standards Committee, the ASHRAE Board of Directors, the IES Board of Directors, and the American National Standards Institute.

This standard is under continuous maintenance by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. The change submittal form, instructions, and deadlines may be obtained in electronic form from the ASHRAE Web site (www.ashrae.org) or in paper form from the Manager of Standards. The latest edition of an ASHRAE Standard may be purchased from the ASHRAE Web site (www.ashrae.org) or from ASHRAE Customer Service, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305. E-mail: orders@ashrae.org. Fax: 404-321-5478. Telephone: 404-636-8400 (worldwide), or toll free 1-800-527-4723 (for orders in US and Canada). For reprint permission, go to www.ashrae.org/permissions.

© 2010 ASHRAE ISSN 1041-2336



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED



Alaska School Design & Construction Standards

Found on the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) website:

<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>

Part 2 – Design Principles

emphasis on looking at the building as a whole over time to minimize energy use, maximize cost savings, and increase resiliency—all while creating comfortable and healthy spaces for the occupants.

As part of an integrated design process, energy modeling and commissioning will confirm that all systems and components are integrated to achieve optimum results and are installed and operated as designed. One strategy may offset another. For instance, daylight sensors may cost more up front as an individual strategy, but once energy savings and associated reduced mechanical loads are considered, the team may realize that they can save money by selecting a smaller mechanical system.

Practices to optimize systems integration and increase efficiency include energy modeling and building commissioning. Design-phase energy modeling is a tool to use early and throughout the design process to test a variety of energy efficiency measures to determine the best way to align systems and components. Commissioning also offers an opportunity to make adjustments in the field and to train occupants on how to use the systems, improving efficiency even further.

C. Demand Reduction

High-performance schools are designed to reduce demand on energy and natural resources, to optimize the performance of building systems, and to reduce the overall operating costs of the school. Emphasis is placed on energy efficient mechanical systems, high-performance envelope design, low-flow water fixtures, lighting and daylight controls, and energy efficient equipment and appliances. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Standard 90.1 sets out performance criteria in these areas and is enforced by DEED through customized checklists.

Employing high-performance principles such as demand reduction, energy efficiency, and system optimization results in climate appropriate solutions, buildings that have low-to-no impact on local infrastructure, and an overall reduction in the school facility's carbon footprint.

Baseline

1. Utilize night-setback control systems for unoccupied times.

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED

DEED ASHRAE Standard 90.1-2016 Compliance Checklist

- Instructions
- Cover
- Design Plan Review – Interaction between DEED and Designers to confirm compliance.
 - Provided with each design deliverable to DEED.
 - DEED to provide review comments on specific items.
- Inspection Sheets – DEED backcheck of design and construction to confirm compliance.
 - Not sure how this is used in practice.

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Mechanical Design Elements Included

- Boilers
- Furnaces
- Pumps
- Roof Top Units
- Air Handlers
- Water Heaters
- Heat Pumps
- Fans
- Air Conditioning Units
- Insulation
- Controls
- Misc...



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Variable speed pumping
- Air handler energy recovery
- Controls

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

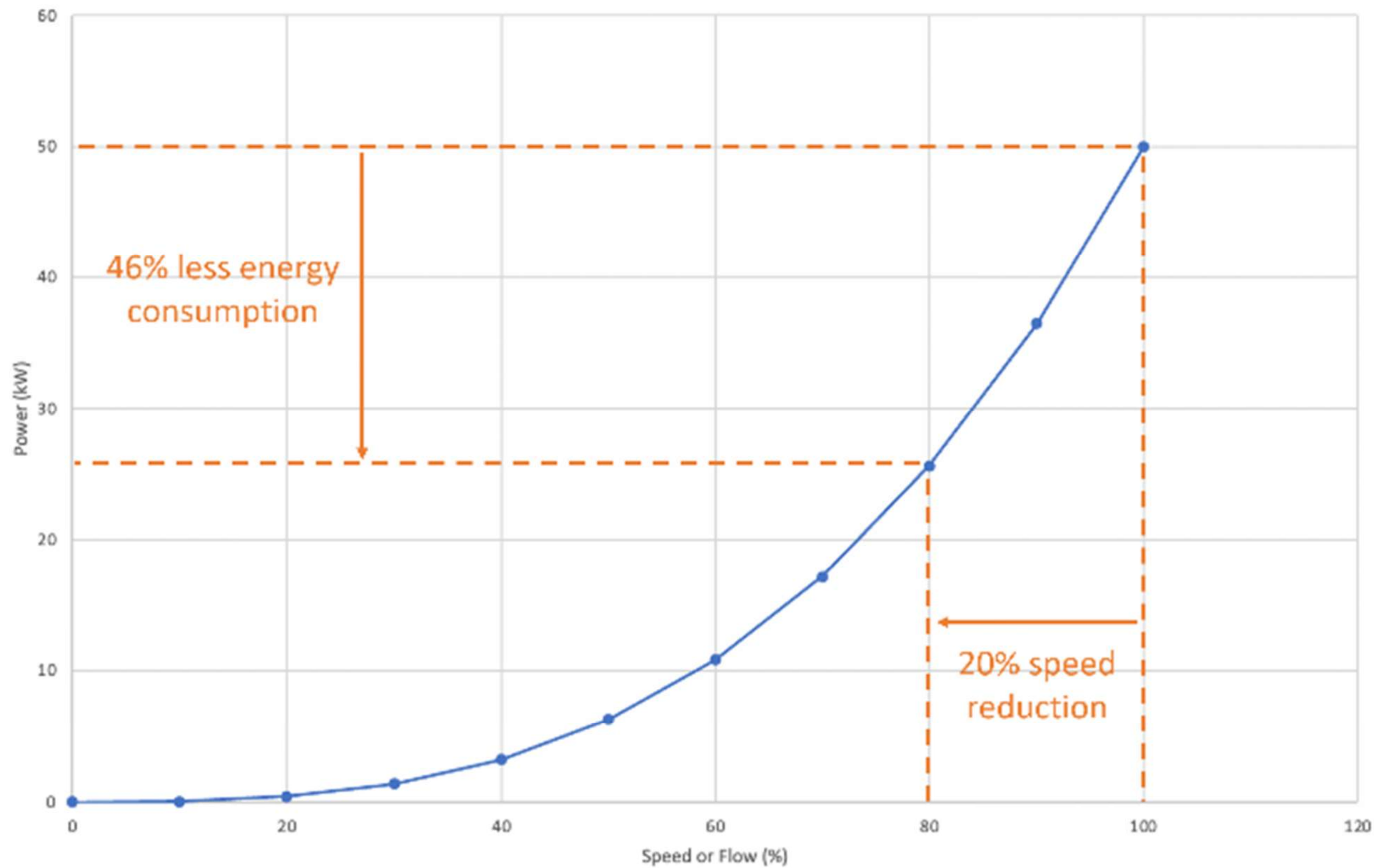
- Variable speed pumping
- HVAC pumping systems with three or more control valves shall be designed for variable fluid flow. (DEED Checklist)

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Variable speed pumping
- HVAC pumping systems with three or more control valves shall be designed for variable fluid flow. (DEED Checklist)
 - **Power \propto Speed³**

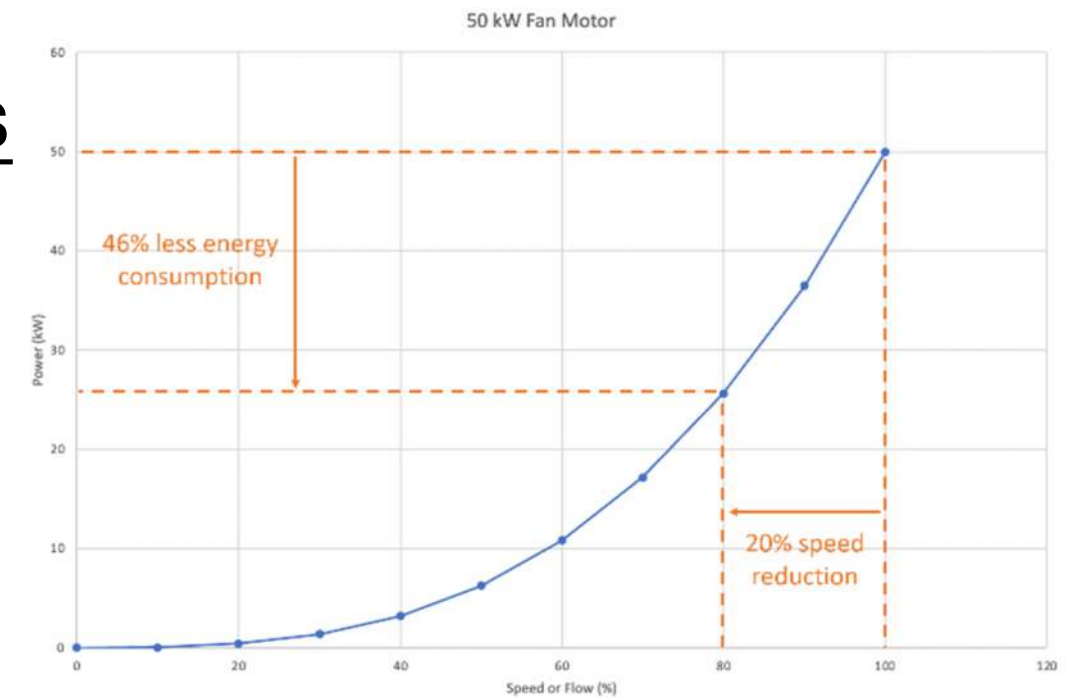
50 kW Fan Motor

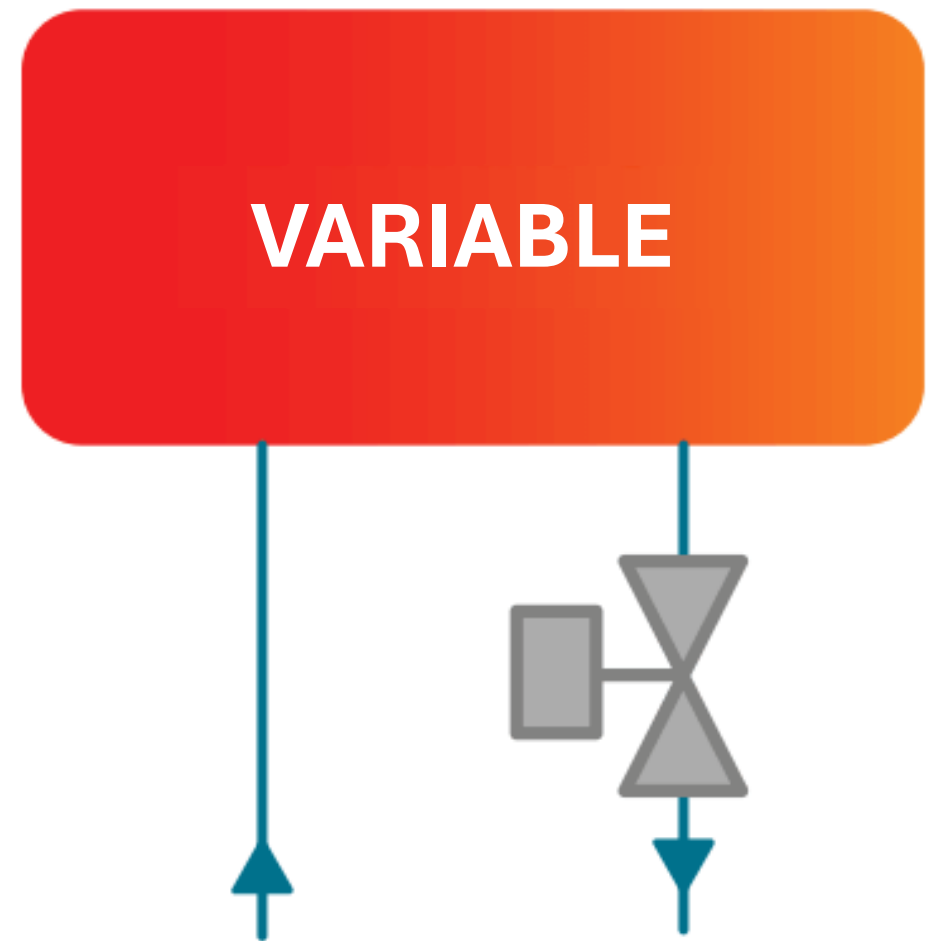
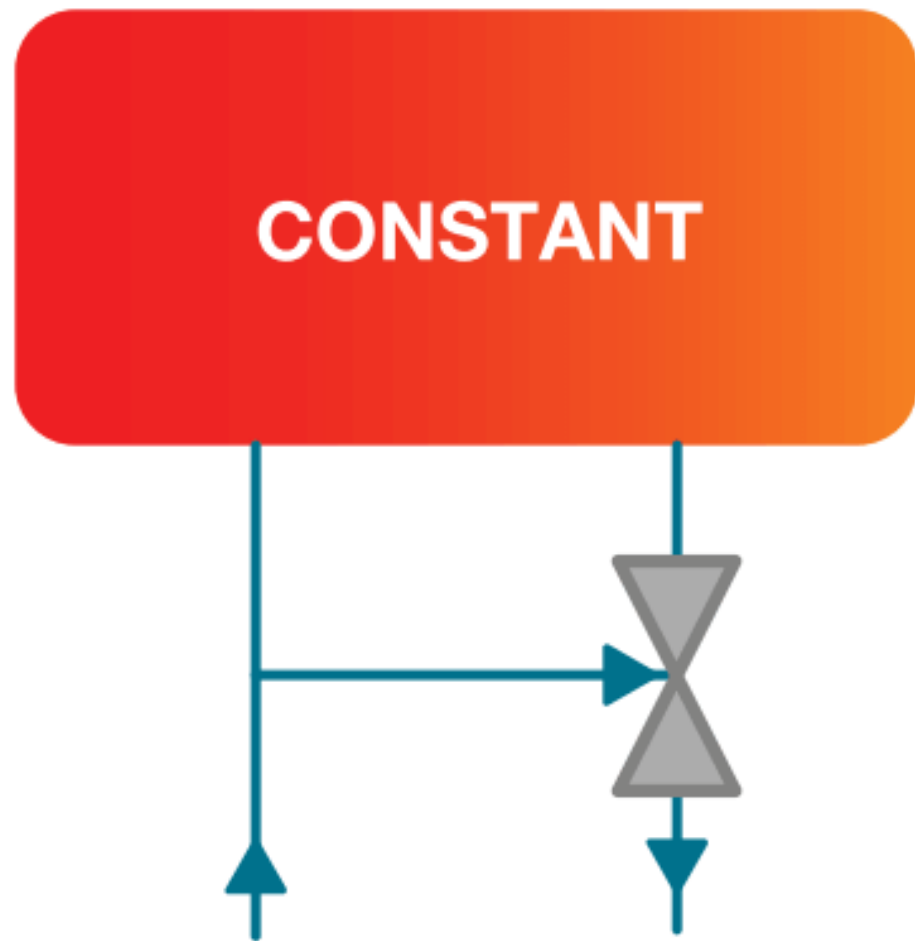


ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Variable speed pumping
- HVAC pumping systems with three or more control valves shall be designed for variable fluid flow. (DEED Checklist)
 - Power \propto Speed³
 - **Constant vs. Variable Flow**

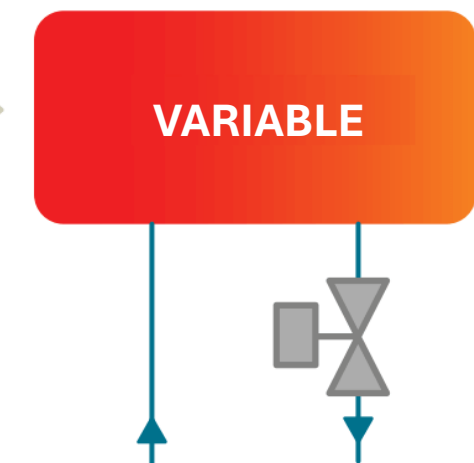
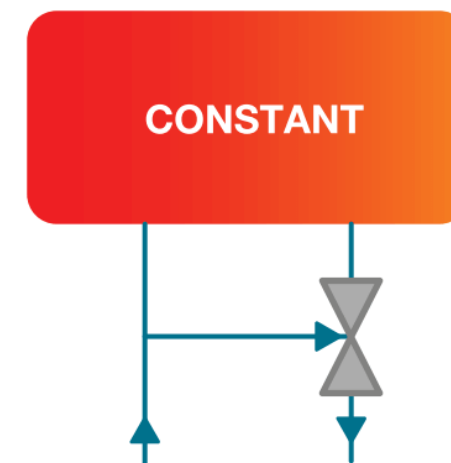
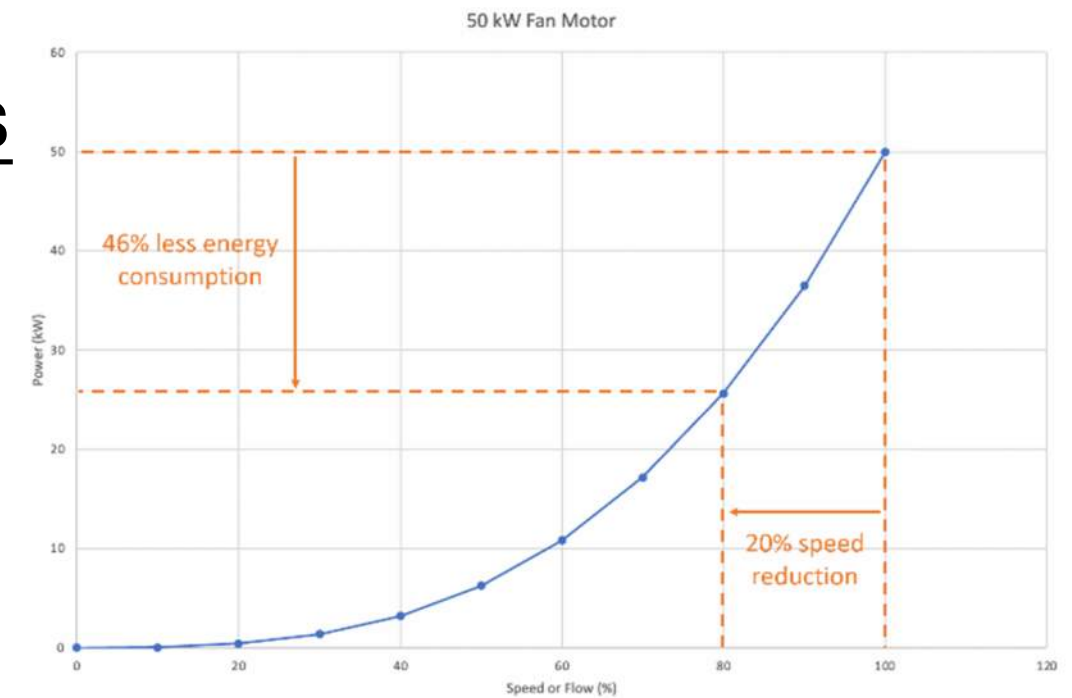




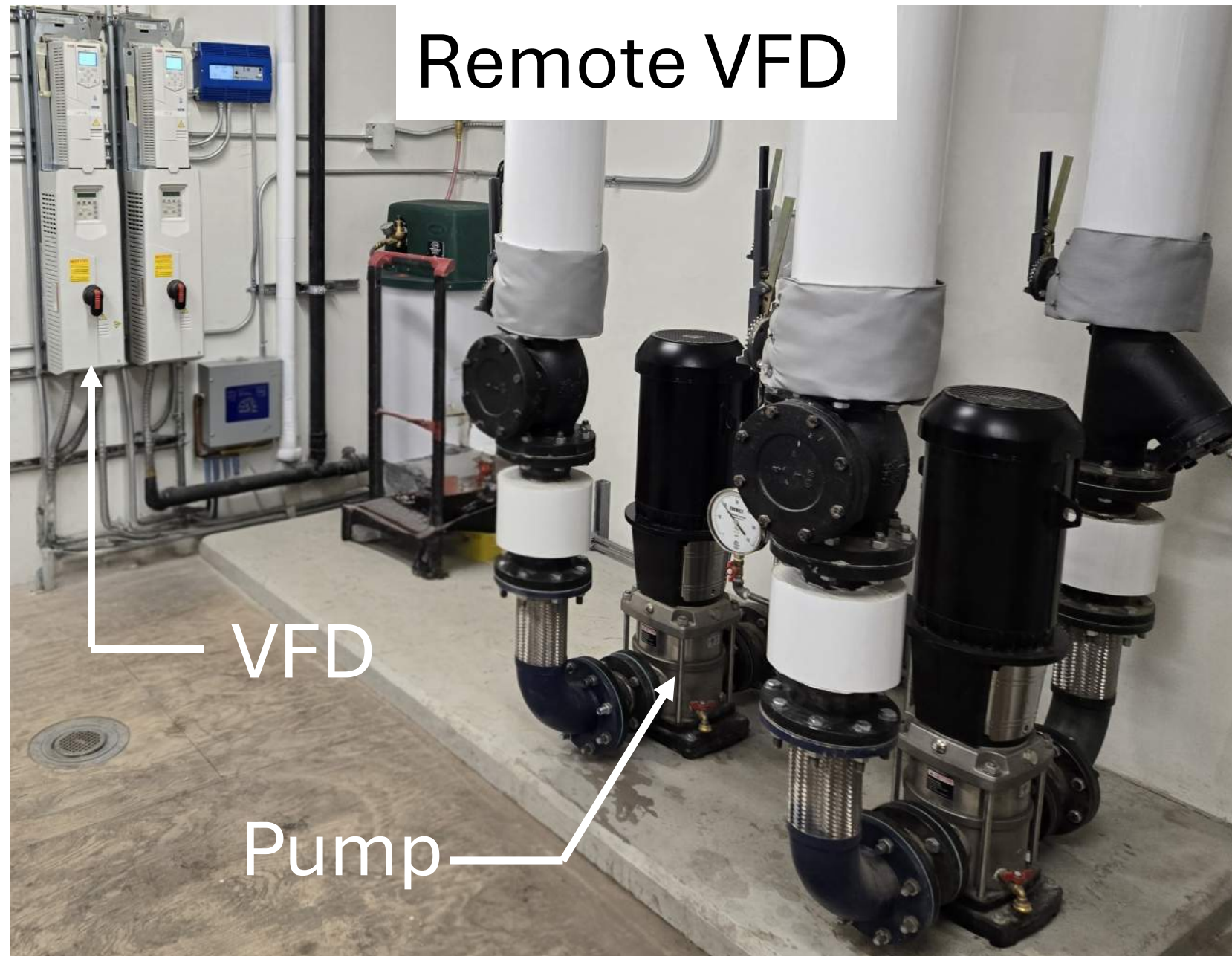
ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Variable speed pumping
- HVAC pumping systems with three or more control valves shall be designed for variable fluid flow. (DEED Checklist)
 - Power \propto Speed³
 - Constant vs. Variable Flow
 - **Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Pumps**



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design



Integral VFD

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Air handler energy recovery
- Exhaust air energy recovery on systems required by Table 6.5.6.1-1 or 6.5.6.1-2. (DEED Checklist)

2016

Table 6.5.6.1-1 Exhaust Air Energy Recovery Requirements for Ventilation Systems Operating Less than 8000 Hours per Year

Climate Zone	% Outdoor Air at Full Design Airflow Rate							
	≥10% and <20%	≥20% and <30%	≥30% and <40%	≥40% and <50%	≥50% and <60%	≥60% and <70%	≥70% and <80%	≥80%
Climate Zone	Design Supply Fan Airflow Rate, cfm							
3B, 3C, 4B, 4C, 5B	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
0B, 1B, 2B, 5C	NR	NR	NR	NR	≥26000	≥12000	≥5000	≥4000
6B	≥28,000	≥26,500	≥11000	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2500	≥1500
0A, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A	≥26,000	≥16,000	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2000	≥1000	≥120
7,8	≥4500	≥4000	≥2500	≥1000	≥140	≥120	≥100	≥80

NR—Not required

Table 6.5.6.1-2 Exhaust Air Energy Recovery Requirements for Ventilation Systems Operating Greater than or Equal to 8000 Hours per Year

Climate Zone	% Outdoor Air at Full Design Airflow Rate							
	≥10% and <20%	≥20% and <30%	≥30% and <40%	≥40% and <50%	≥50% and <60%	≥60% and <70%	≥70% and <80%	≥80%
Climate Zone	Design Supply Fan Airflow Rate, cfm							
3C	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
0B, 1B, 2B, 3B, 4C, 5C	NR	≥19,500	≥9000	≥5000	≥4000	≥3000	≥1500	≥120
0A, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4B, 5B	≥2500	≥2000	≥1000	≥500	≥140	≥120	≥100	≥80
4A, 5A, 6A, 6B, 7, 8	≥200	≥130	≥100	≥80	≥70	≥60	≥50	≥40

NR—Not required

2016

Table 6.5.6.1-1 Exhaust Air Energy Recovery Requirements for Ventilation Systems Operating Less than 8000 Hours per Year

Climate Zone	% Outdoor Air at Full Design Airflow Rate							
	≥10% and <20%	≥20% and <30%	≥30% and <40%	≥40% and <50%	≥50% and <60%	≥60% and <70%	≥70% and <80%	≥80%
	Design Supply Fan Airflow Rate, cfm							
3B, 3C, 4B, 4C, 5B	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
0B, 1B, 2B,5C	NR	NR	NR	NR	≥26000	≥12000	≥5000	≥4000
6B	≥28,000	≥26,500	≥11000	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2500	≥1500
0A, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A	≥26,000	≥16,000	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2000	≥1000	≥120
7,8	≥4500	≥4000	≥2500	≥1000	≥140	≥120	≥100	≥80

NR—Not required

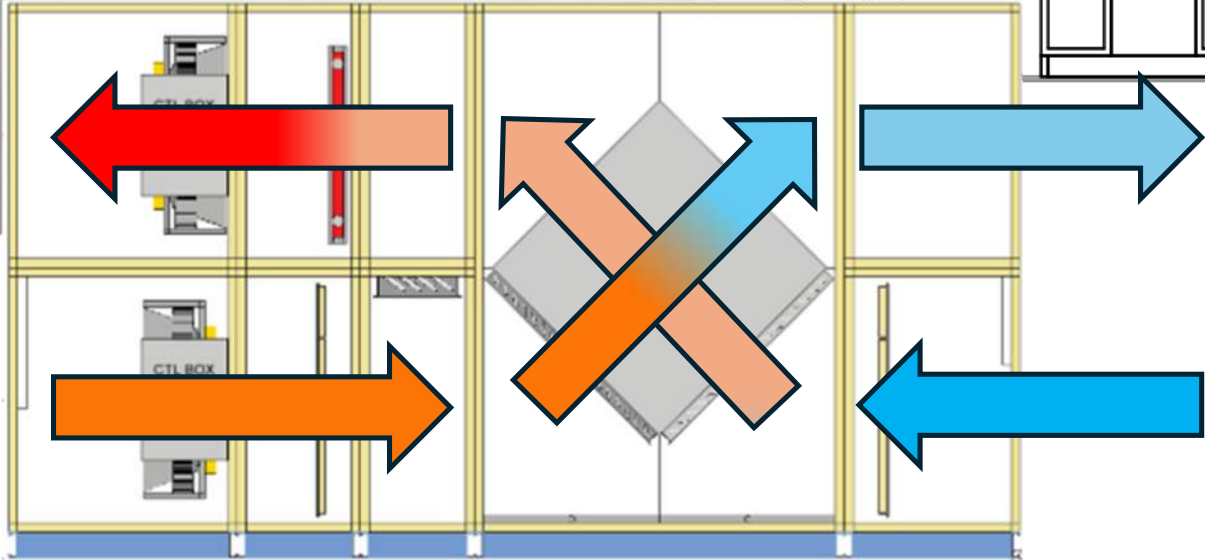
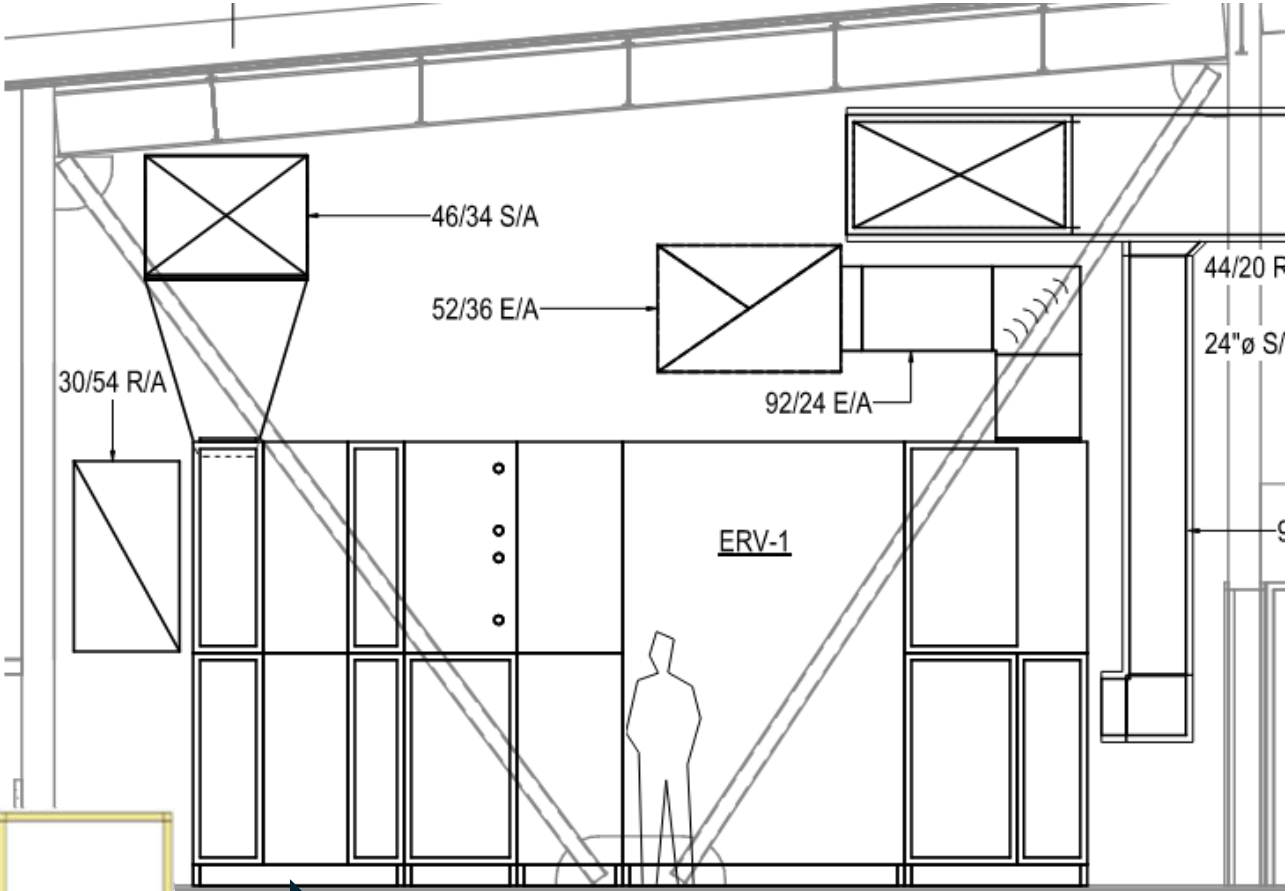
TABLE 6.5.6.1 Exhaust Air Energy Recovery Requirements

2010

Zone	% Outdoor Air at Full Design Airflow Rate					
	≥30% and <40%	≥40% and <50%	≥50% and <60%	≥60% and <70%	≥70% and <80%	≥80%
	Design Supply Fan Airflow Rate (cfm)					
3B, 3C, 4B, 4C, 5B	NR	NR	NR	NR	≥5000	≥5000
1B, 2B,5C	NR	NR	≥26000	≥12000	≥5000	≥4000
6B	≥11000	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2500	≥1500
1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A	≥5500	≥4500	≥3500	≥2000	≥1000	>0
7,8	≥2500	≥1000	>0	>0	>0	>0

NR—Not required

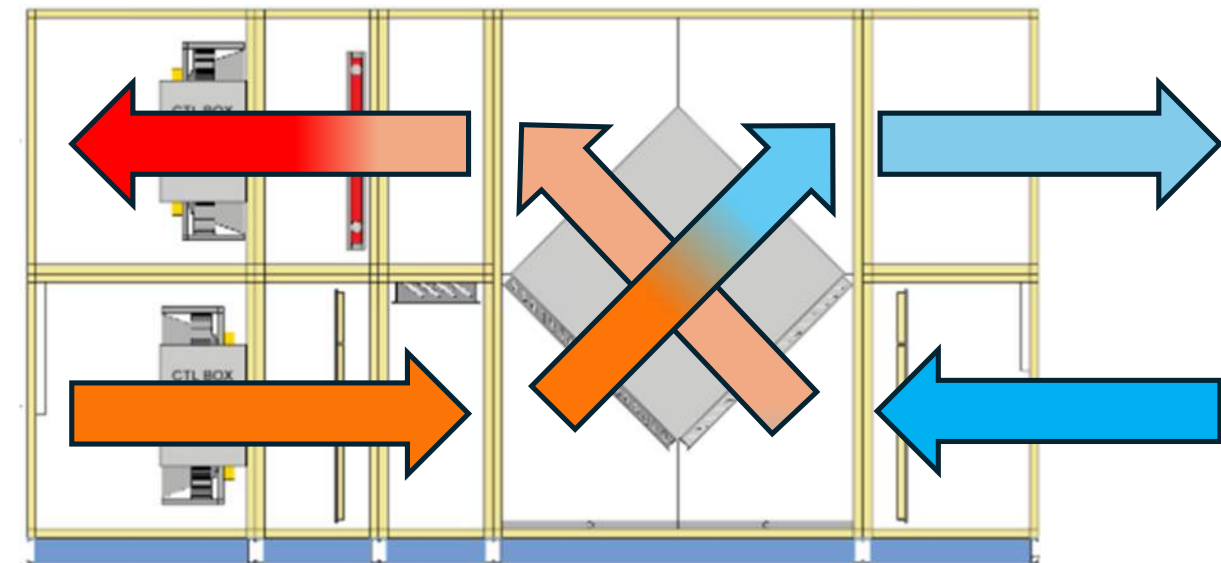
ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

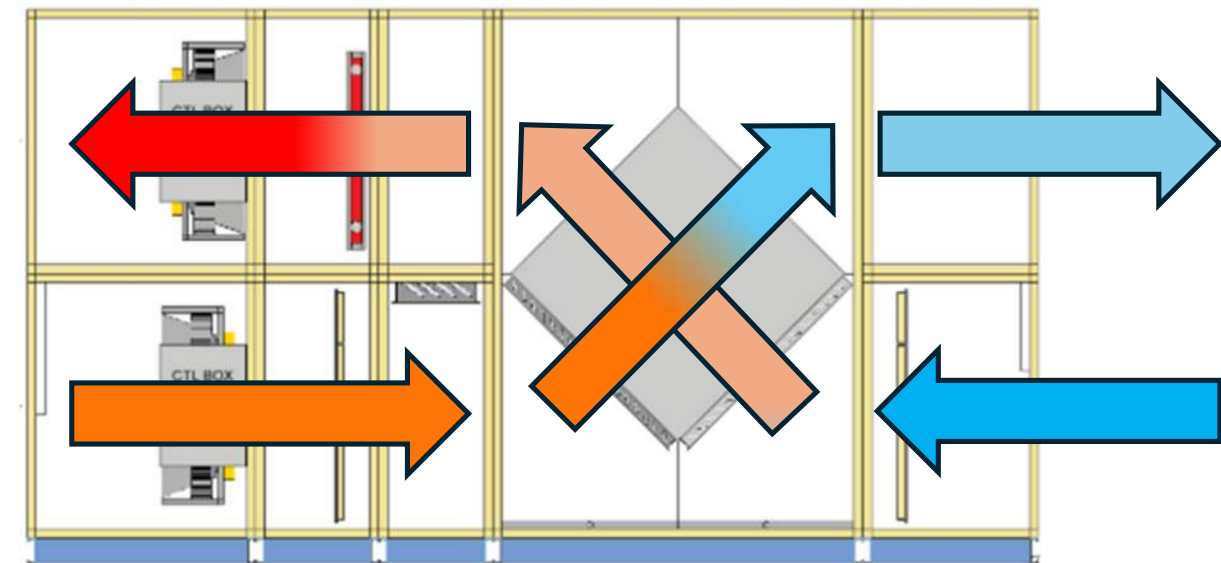
- Air handler energy recovery
- Exhaust air energy recovery on systems required by Table 6.5.6.1-1 or 6.5.6.1-2. (DEED Checklist)
- **Plan for size, weight, ductwork**



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Air handler energy recovery
- Exhaust air energy recovery on systems required by Table 6.5.6.1-1 or 6.5.6.1-2. (DEED Checklist)
- Plan for size, weight, ductwork
- **Classrooms vs. Gym & MPR heat recovery**
Life Cycle Cost Analysis with Demand Control Ventilation



LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS
KIVALINA K-12 SCHOOL
 (ASHRAE 62.1 Analysis)

ECM: Energy Recovery Ventilators
 (Compare with standard air handlers of same airflow)

ECM Cost: **\$241,920**

ECM Life: **25** years

Saved as: LCCA of ERV vs AHU.xls

Annual Fuel Savings: **8,222** Gallons

Yr 1 \$ Savings: **\$24,503**

Energy Escalation Rate: **3%** /year

Initial \$/GALLON: **\$2.98**

Recurring Maintenance Cost:* **\$9,930** first year

Date: 1/31/2020

Maintenance Escalation Rate: **0%** /year

By: AWW

Discount Rate: **0%**

	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Year 15	Year 16	Year 17	Year 18	Year 19	Year 20	Year 21	Year 22	Year 23	Year 24	Year 25	
ECM Cost:	(\$241,920)																									
Fuel Cost Savings:		\$24,503	\$25,238	\$25,995	\$26,775	\$27,578	\$28,405	\$29,257	\$30,135	\$31,039	\$31,970	\$33,917	\$34,935	\$35,983	\$37,062	\$38,174	\$39,319	\$40,499	\$41,714	\$42,965	\$44,254	\$45,582	\$46,949	\$48,357	\$49,808	
Recurring Maint. Costs:		(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)	(\$9,930)
Misc. Benefits/Costs:																										
Net Cash Flow:	(\$241,920)	\$14,573	\$15,308	\$16,065	\$16,845	\$17,648	\$18,475	\$19,327	\$20,205	\$21,109	\$22,040	\$23,987	25,005	26,053	27,132	28,244	29,389	30,569	31,784	33,035	34,324	35,652	37,019	38,427	39,878	
Cum. Cash Flow:	(\$241,920)	(\$227,347)	(\$212,039)	(\$195,974)	(\$179,129)	(\$161,481)	(\$143,006)	(\$123,679)	(\$103,474)	(\$82,365)	(\$60,325)	(\$13,339)	\$11,666	\$37,719	\$64,851	\$93,095	\$122,484	\$153,053	\$184,837	\$217,872	\$252,196	\$287,848	\$324,867	\$363,294	\$403,172	

Simple Payback: 16.6 years

LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS
KIVALINA K-12 SCHOOL
(ASHRAE 62.1 Analysis)

ECM: Energy Recovery Ventilators

(Compare with standard air handlers of same airflow)

ECM Life: 25 years
Annual Fuel Savings: 8,222 Gallons
Energy Escalation Rate: 3% /year
Recurring Maintenance Cost:* \$9,930 first year
Simple Payback: 16.6 years

ECM Cost: \$241,920

Saved as: LCCA of ERV vs AHU.xls
Yr 1 \$ Savings: \$24,503
Initial \$/GALLON: \$2.98
Date: 1/31/2020

LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS
KIVALINA K-12 SCHOOL
(Demand Control Ventilation Analysis)

ECM: Energy Recovery Ventilators

(Compare with standard air handlers of same airflow)

ECM Life: 25 years
Annual Fuel Savings: 8,222 Gallons
Energy Escalation Rate: 3% /year
Recurring Maintenance Cost:* \$9,930 first year
Simple Payback: 25.0 years

ECM Cost: \$241,920

Saved as: LCCA of ERV vs AHU.xls
Yr 1 \$ Savings: \$19,602
Initial \$/GALLON: \$2.98
Date: 1/31/2020

ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Controls



Old vs. New
Familiar vs.
Intimidating
Simple vs.
Complex



What are we to use?!



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Controls
- Individual heating and cooling systems **with setback controls and DDC** shall have optimum start controls. (DEED Checklist)
- DEED and ASHRAE do not mandate DDC controls.
 - DEED Construction Standards, Section 0831 Control Standards
 - 15. **When direct digital control (DDC) systems are provided...**
 - ChatGPT: **Although ASHRAE 90.1-2016 does not explicitly mandate digital controls** in every case, **its functional requirements** for programmability, optimization, and fault detection **effectively make digital control systems necessary for compliance in most modern HVAC applications.**



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- Controls Advantages
 - Remote monitoring and control.
 - Trend logs and energy monitoring.
 - Adjustable, adaptable, expandable.
 - Efficient HVAC operation & energy savings opportunity.
- Controls Challenges
 - High first cost.
 - Personnel training.
 - Expensive servicing.
 - Short life – will not last as long as other equipment.



ASHRAE 90.1 and DEED – Mechanical Design

Specific Mechanical Design Considerations

- **My Recommendations For DDC**

- **Develop a district policy/standard for use of digital controls.**
- **Determine the minimum DDC functionality needed and desired.**
 - Remote monitoring and alarms.
 - Energy recording and reporting.
 - Only complicated equipment on DDC.
- **Host all schools on a server in a central location – district offices.**
- **Consider a service contract to keep systems functional and current.**
 - Include (at least) annual site visits.
 - Negotiate for ongoing training for district staff.
 - Expect software upgrades – contractor should make you aware they're coming.
 - Have a third party review the contract.
- **Consider other control options.**
 - VFDs as stand alone controllers – have functionality beyond just speed control.
 - Boiler control panels vs. DDC boiler control.



REFERENCES

- Alaska School Design and Construction Standards:
<https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/publications/ConstructionStandards2022.pdf>
- Instructions for Capitol Improvements Project Funding Application:
https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/cipforms/2025-04-23_Guidance_CIP-Application-Instructions.pdf
- American Standard of Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning Engineers Standard 90.1-2016:
https://store accuristech.com/standards/ashrae-90-1-2016-i-p?product_id=1931793
- ASHRAE 90.1/IECC Estimated Improvement in Residential and Commercial Energy Codes Graph:
<https://www.energycodes.gov/infographics>
- DEED Checklist for ASHRAE 90.1-2016 Compliance:
https://education.alaska.gov/facilities/docs/ASHRAE90-1-2016_DEED-Checklist.xlsx
- Pump VFD Energy Savings Graph:
<https://op-tec.co.uk/knowledge/using-variable-speed-drives-to-increase-quality-and-reduce-energy-costs>
- Variable flow diagram: <https://www.cranefs.com/dynamic-balancing/what-is-variable-flow/>

Mechanical Requirements of ASHRAE 90.1 for DEED School Designs

Adam Wilson, PE, CEA, LEED AP

