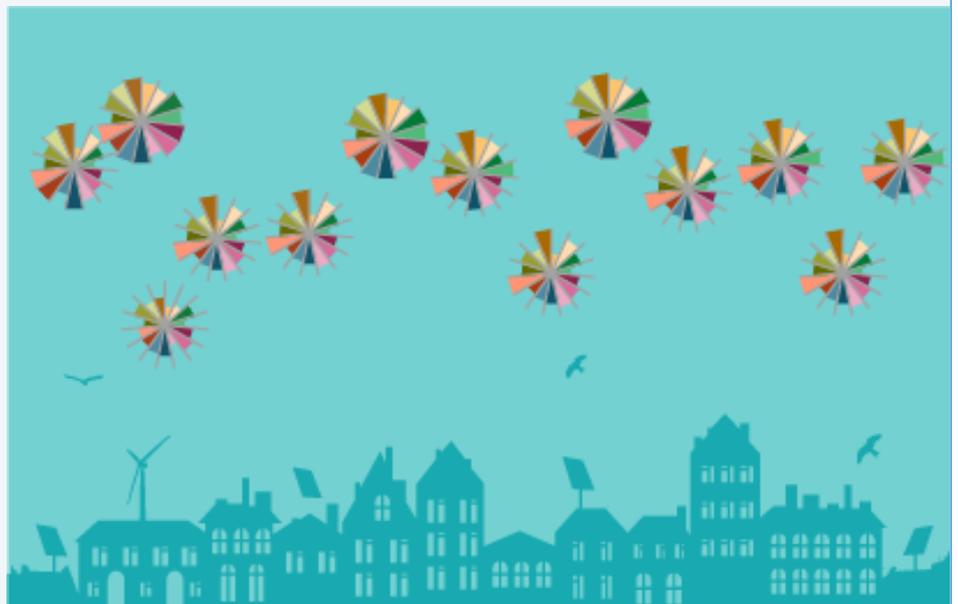


CALIFORNIA

REDUCING ENERGY DEMAND IN EXISTING BUILDINGS: LEARNING FROM BEST PRACTICE RENOVATION POLICIES

July 2014



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CALIFORNIA: BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE RENOVATION STRATEGY

California has set a state target to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 and to further reduce emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. A specific target has been set that aims to reduce household energy use by 40% by 2020. Since the mid-1970s, California has implemented energy-efficiency measures such as building codes and appliance standards with stringent efficiency requirements. New legislation (AB 758) that provides financing for building owners to undertake efficiency improvements was adopted to encourage energy retrofit efforts. The California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) organises and regulates all utility-funded energy efficiency programmes. The CPUC acts as a central hub for energy efficiency retrofits in California working with investor-owned utilities, programme administrators, and merchants to develop programmes and measures to transform technology, increase communications and advice and promote the uptake of energy retrofits.

The Policy Tool for Renovation highlights five key areas where California's Renovation Policy Package excels: overall country reduction targets, building code requirements for renovations, utility-funded energy efficiency programmes, market development for ESCO based energy efficiency programmes and training and education campaigns.

The overall residential consumption indicators have remained fairly steady in California, except from 2010 when they all increased slightly. California has seen a swell of population in the last decade. Population is 38 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 2012).

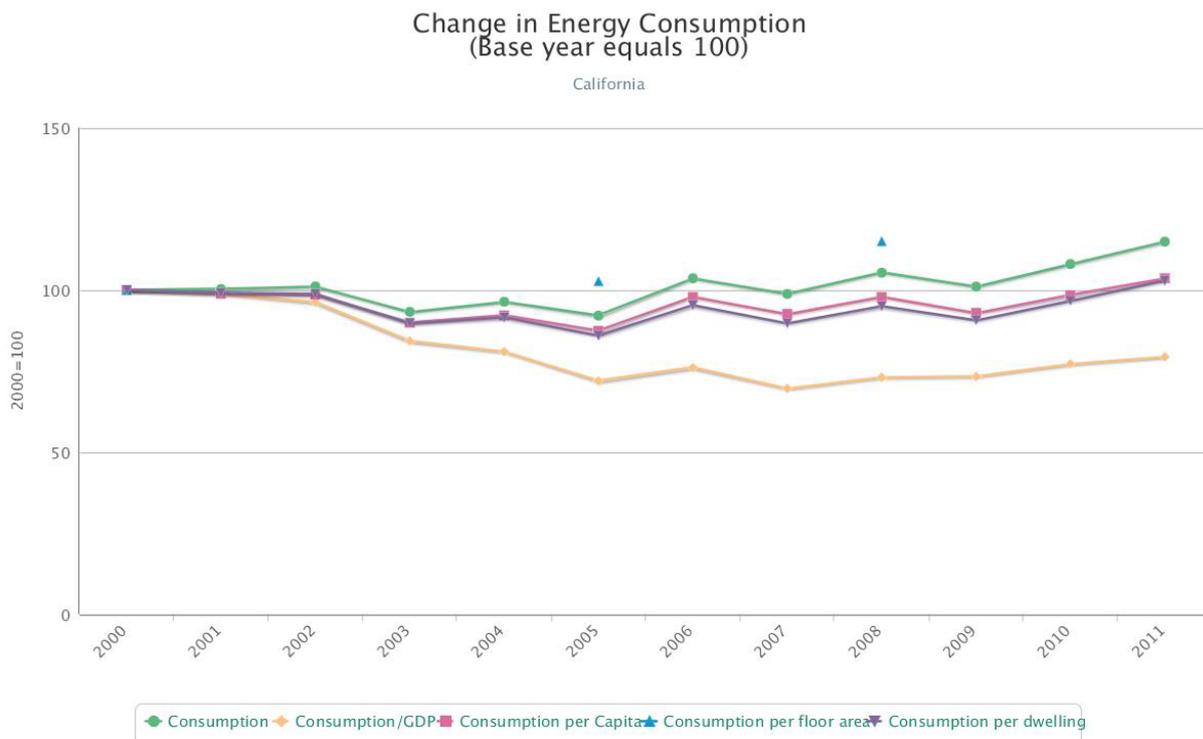


Figure 3.7. Objective Criteria in California, all consumption units are normalised in relation to 2000, GDP is normalised to year 2010.

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About GBPN The Global Buildings Performance Network (GBPN) is a globally organised and regionally focused network whose mission is to advance best practice policies that can significantly reduce energy consumption and associated CO₂ emissions from buildings.