#### DOCKETED

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# Ventilation, Occupant Activities and Indoor Air Quality in New California Homes











### Healthy Efficient New Gas Home (HENGH) Project

New California homes built to post-2008 Title 24 standards

Target 70 homes, 47 tested so far

- Occupant Survey what do occupants think
  - Large scale more than 2500 homes (online survey)
- Diagnostic Testing
  - Measure building envelope leakage and duct leakage
  - Measure mechanical air flows: whole building + exhaust fans
- IAQ Monitoring
  - Time-resolved PM2.5 indoors & outdoors, time-resolved CO2 in several rooms, time resolved & integrated NO2, time-resolved formaldehyde and integrated formaldehyde and acetaldehyde
  - Monitor mechanical ventilation usage and related activities (e.g., cooking) for one-week

https://hengh.lbl.gov/

## **Home Characteristics**

#### • HENGH online survey

2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers

#### • HENGH field study homes

43 responses, mostly by PG&E Company Customers

	Mean	Range (Min- Max)		Mean	Range (Min- Max)
Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	242	140 – 372	Size (m <sup>2</sup> )	254	153 – 390
# of Bedrooms	3.7	2 – 6	# of Bedrooms	3.8	3 - 5
# of Full Bathrooms	2.6	2 - 9	# of Full Bathrooms	3	2 - 5
Year Built	2005	2002-2015	Year Built	2013	2011- 2015
Number of Occupants	3.13	2 - 6	Number of Occupants	3.0	1 - 8

## Do you feel you understand your mechanical ventilation system properly? ?

Results from HENGH survey (2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers)

Yes (71%) Not Sure (18%) No (7%) Yes (50%) No (18%) Not Sure (32%)

Results from HENGH homes (43 homes)

## Do you feel you understand your mechanical ventilation system properly? ?

Results from HENGH survey (2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers)



Results from 43 monitored homes



Only one home had operating mechanical ventilation system on our 1<sup>st</sup> visit

#### How would you rate the air quality at your home?

Results from HENGH survey (2771 responses, mostly by Southern California Gas Company Customers)



#### How would you rate the air quality at your home?

Results from 43 monitored homes



#### **IAQ Monitoring**

Contaminant	Instrument	Sampling Locations	Sampling Resolution
PM2.5	MetOne BT-642	Outdoor	1-minute
	MetOne BT-645	Indoor (main room <sup>*</sup> )	1-minute
CO <sub>2</sub> , T/RH	Extech SD-800	Indoor (main room, master & other bedrooms)	1-minute
NO2	Aeroqual NO <sub>2</sub> Monitor	Indoor (main room)	1-minute
	Passive Ogawa Samplers	Outdoor Indoor (main room)	1-week
Formaldehyde	Shinyei Formaldehyde Monitor	Indoor (main room, master bedroom)	30-minute
	Passive SKC UMEx- 100	Outdoor Indoor (main room, master bedroom)	1-week

\* Main living space, typically in living / dinning room.

#### Indoor/Outdoor Air Quality Measurements



 $NO_2$ , and formaldehyde













### Survey & Activity Log

#### B. Air Quality In and Around Your Home

7. To what extent are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the <u>indoor air quality</u> in your home?

Very Dissatisfied				Neutral			Very Satisfied
8. How wo	uld you i	rate the <u>c</u>	outdoor air o	quality near wh	nere you live?		
Very Poor	Neutral						Excellent
X							
Very Ineffective				Neutral			Very Effective
Comfort I	evel in	Tour H	ome				
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#### Healthy Efficient New California Homes Study Occupancy and Indoor Activities Data Log

Instructions: Please fill out this data log each day, or on the following day.

Please enter your best estimates. If you are unsure, please provide your best guess. Do not list the names of any people.

Code number for home \_

Day 1: Date \_\_\_/

Date completed

16

	Midnight to 7am	7am to 11am	11am to 1pm	1pm to 5 pm	5pm to 9pm	9pm to Midnight
Number of people in home	2	- 4	4	2	2	2
Cooktop use Number of minutes	ð	30	0	0	.45	0
Oven use Number of minutes	0	0	0	0	0	0
BBQ/outdoor grill Number of minutes	Ø	ð	6	0	6	C
Vacuuming Number of minutes	0	Ô	0	,25	0	0
Window Use Number of minutes	D	D	О	0	45min O	0
Other notable <sup>*</sup> indoor/outdoor events	3Arcle	overs 2	чh	CARPETE.	h	$\hat{O}$

\* For example, use of fireplace, candle, air freshener, air cleaner, humidifier, unusual outdoor air quality (wood smoke, wildfire), and so on.

### Whole-House Mechanical Ventilation Measured <u>Airflow</u>



- Supplies are rated airflow rate: not measured
- Two homes did not meet T24 required air flow
- The mechanical systems are oversized by about 50% on average
- 2016 62.2 would require 20% bigger unbalanced fan or 25% smaller balanced fan if infiltration credit taken for a 5 ACH50 home

### **Range Hood Exhaust Flows**



- 41/42 homes met 100 cfm on high. 20/42 homes met it on low setting.
- All of the houses used range hoods vented to outside
- Overall, Microwave range hoods have lower exhaust flows: average was 75 cfm on kigh and 45 cfm on low

### **Bathroom Ventilation**



Bathroom Fan Exhaust Flows

• 38/41 homes met the minimum requirement of 50 cfm

### **Building Envelope Airtightness**



### Duct system leakage – combined supply and return



(25%) (38%)

- Fraction Estimated using Title 24 system airflow(cfm), based on heating/cooling capacity.
- 27 of 39 homes met the duct air tightness requirement for Title 24

### **Particulate Matter Concentrations**



#### **Real-Time Formaldehyde**



Diurnal cycle – temperature changes emission rates



aldehyde Concentration (ppb)

### **Formaldehyde & Ventilation**



Air change rate based on measured mechanical system air flows and modeled natural infiltration

#### Formaldehyde & House Age





Sharp peaks – cooking events

NO<sub>2</sub> (ppm)/ Cooking

#### **1-week Integrated NO2**



tion (ppb)

# Summary

- Mechanical Ventilation installed to meet T24 requirements
- Whole house systems not operating (despite occupants perceptions)
- Homes typically 5 ACH50
- Ducts still work to be done
- Particles, Formaldehyde and NO2 better than previous study – generally OK
- Formaldehyde strong temperature dependence
- NO2 & particles even driven mainly cooking

When mechanical ventilation operates IAQ is f in new CA homes

### **Kitchen Ventilation**



How often do they use the range hood?

Out of 43 cooking events, only 30 % of them use the range hood during cooking

#### What are the reasons for not using the range hood?



## **Monitoring Locations**



#### Cooktop Usage



#### Door Usage









#### Range Hood





#### Exhaust Fan

