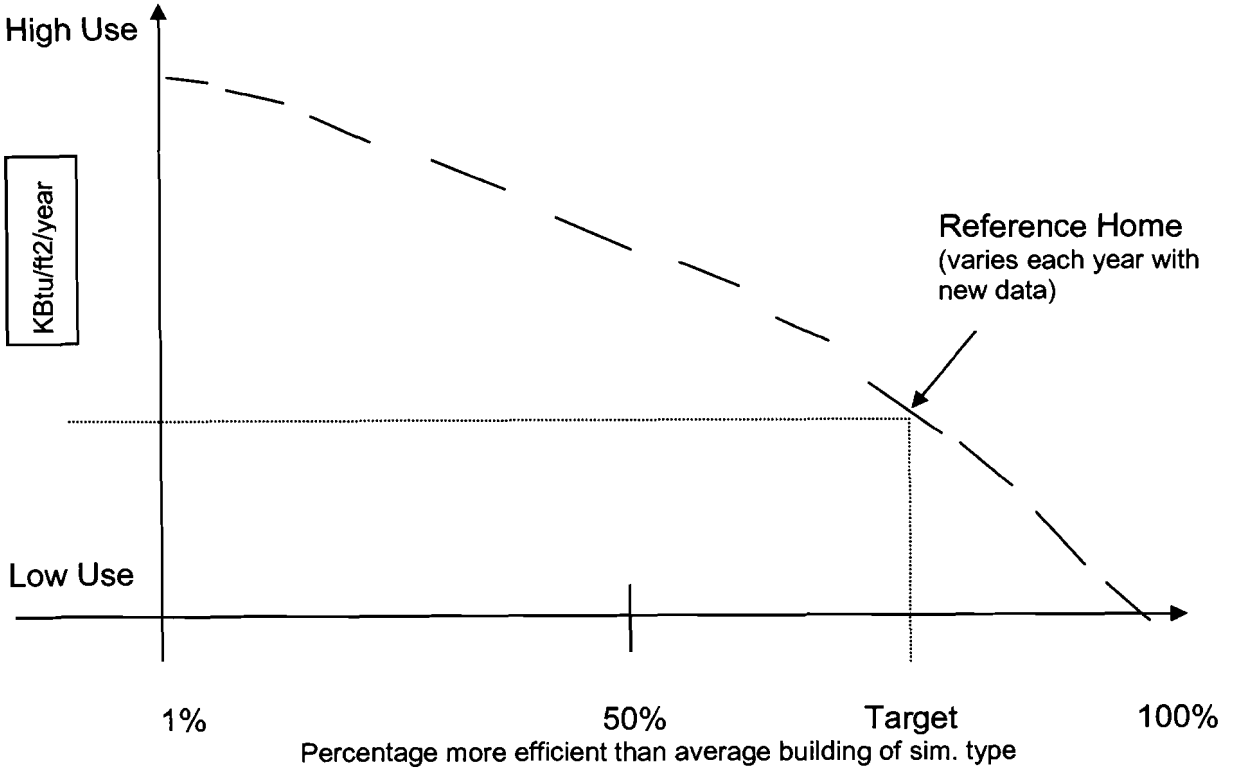
Comments on California Building Energy Efficiency
From the City of Berkeley

1. Rating idea for Energy STAR/HERS Rating Graph

Based on the Energy Star Home Benchmarking process.

Rather than use the simple linear model that has the left/right, good house/bad house confusion, it may be more helpful to go with something more 2D that takes advantage of a Cartesian graph, and has flexibility built in as buildings statewide become more and more efficient.

Use 2-D graph, showing High/Low use, Target based on building type and similar climate zone



Because data is uploaded annually, the "target" shifts as buildings improve their efficiency, thus advancing the overall energy reduction and GHG emission goals.

Steps: Data collected by HERS Raters for home performance projects could be added, by utility account number. As the buildings progress in efficiency, it becomes easy to track which combination of measures have the best effect for a particular building size or climate zone.

Utilities would need to cooperate and input the data they collect, based on utility user data (residential single family, multi family, etc. Data would become more exact as more people register their homes (more accurate square footage, # of occupants, etc.)

Criteria could be added for water consumption if considered appropriate.
Utilities would upload energy data annually.

2. Incorporating All Feasible Measures for Whole-House Performance

The list of possible measures in the report should not be limited to those that the current methodology considers cost-effective.

Cost-effectiveness is somewhat arbitrary and may not reflect individual values, or thermal comfort needs.

By including all feasible measures, clients can select which measures that want to install, even it the State methodology does not see them as cost effective. This may result in more voluntary energy savings.