

# GETTING TO **zero**

NATIONAL FORUM 2018

**PITTSBURGH, PA**  
WYNDHAM GRAND PITTSBURGH

**APRIL 17-19, 2018**

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## **Creating Optimal Buildings for the New Electricity Grid**

**April 17, 2018 – 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Wyndham Grand, Pittsburgh, PA**

Zero energy (ZE) buildings stand at the intersection of demand response, renewables, storage and decarbonization—all important facets of the emerging clean energy economy. Already, many grid operators are struggling to integrate renewable energy production from ZE buildings and other sources into the grid. There are currently no metrics that define building-level grid citizenship, or rate building-grid interaction quality, and various players are using different language to discuss the topic. These issues have the potential to be real roadblocks for the mass-market scaling of ZE buildings.

New Buildings Institute and U.S. Green Building Council are launching the GridOptimal Initiative. The aim of the GridOptimal Initiative is to provide standards, tools, and guidance to improve building-grid interactions by empowering utilities, regulators, grid operators, building owners, architects, engineers, and others with a dedicated building rating system. Participants in this workshop will work collaboratively to determine what key data categories should be included in the GridOptimal rating system and how to design this initiative to ensure that the low and zero energy buildings of today and tomorrow are optimized for grid integration in a way that is reliable, safe, and effective.

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Attendees will learn about efforts to define and develop metrics and a rating system about building-grid interactions. These will redefine the way buildings are designed, built, and operated.
2. Attendees will understand changes to the way that building strategies can optimize the two-way flow of power, deploying design features and technologies that will allow buildings to respond more effectively.
3. Attendees will learn to recognize design strategies that effectively support integrated on-site power generation and storage and that can contribute to broader resiliency and urban sustainability goals in their community.
4. Attendees will evaluate value propositions for building-grid interaction metrics, including utility, private building owner, designer, and manufacturer perspectives.

### **Agenda:**

**7:30 – 8:30 am**            **Registration, refreshments, networking**

**8:30 – 8:40 am**            **Review agenda and learning objectives**

**8:40 – 8:55 am**            **Introductions**

**8:55 – 9:10 am**            **Exercise: barriers and opportunities**

What are problems we see with how ZE buildings interact with the grid today? What are desirable qualities of these ZE and high-performance buildings of the future?

<b>9:10 – 9:35 am</b>	<b>GridOptimal Initiative introduction</b>
<b>9:35 – 9:45 am</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>9:45 – 10:20 am</b>	<b>Stakeholder perspectives and feedback</b>
<b>10:20 – 11:15 am</b>	<b>Exercise: GridOptimal rating system inputs and outputs</b> What key data is required? How are outputs measured?
<b>11:15 – 11:25 am</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:25 am – 12:20 pm</b>	<b>Exercise: GridOptimal value propositions</b> What is the value proposition for each stakeholder?
<b>12:20 – 12:30 pm</b>	<b>Close out and next steps</b>