

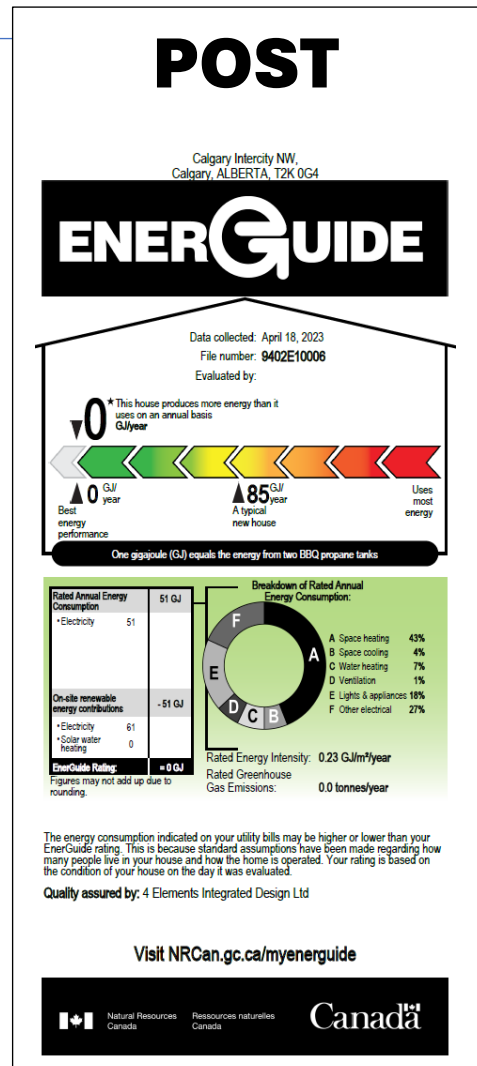
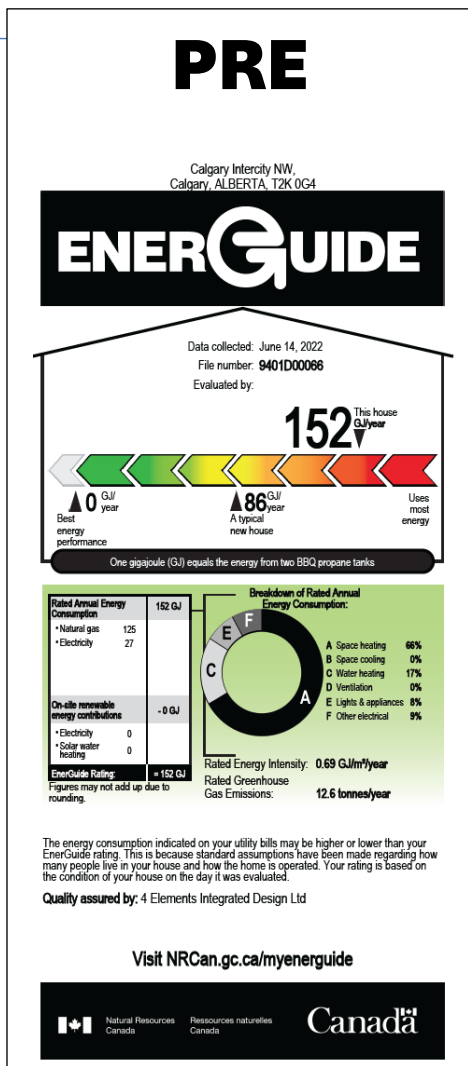
CASE STUDY

DEEP ENERGY RETROFIT



- YEAR BUILT: 1955
- STYLE: BUNGALOW

- AREA: 218.8 m²
- CONSTRUCTION: WOOD FRAME



Project Profile / Case Study Submission

Description:

A showcase project and personal home for a Deep Energy Retrofitter, SNAP Building, this project pushed to net zero energy performance with innovative low carbon wall systems, electrification and large solar array. Quiet and comfortable this "new" home leverage recently completed interior renovations and basement suite work for a minimally invasive full Deep Energy Retrofit.

Building Profile

A	Address	Cambrian Heights, Calgary AB		
	Year Built	1955	Type of building	Single Family Detached
	Floor Area (M²)	218.8	Structure Type and Foundation	Wood frame
	Climate Zone	7a		Concrete

Project Goals

Comments

B	Reduce Energy Consumption	Reduce to Net Zero
	Increase Thermal Comfort	Wall insulation, windows, air sealing and roof insulation to be improved or replaced, as well as seal chimney to reduce air leakage. Reduce chill in 400sf addition with crawlspace, add cooling in the summer.
	Improve Indoor Air Quality	Improve ventilation exhaust and fresh air supply to reduce stuffiness. Improve crawl space air tightness to improve moisture control. Control radon without dedicated fan, replace gas range & fireplace for reduced CO2
	Reduce GHG reliance (Net-Zero Readiness)	Electrify house while adding renewable energy
	Improve Home Value	Electrify house, improve thermal comfort and air quality, long term durability with increased curb appeal, and energy target resilience.
	<i>Other Typical Renovation Goals</i>	Make garage art studio more comfortable/efficient

Stakeholder Profile

C	DER Manager	Steve Norris - SNAP Building	Builder	SNAP Building
	Building Sciences Advisor	Cory MacDermott - Beacon High Performance Homes	Builder Website	snapbuilding.ca
	Energy Advisor	Cooper Le - 4 Elements	Energy Advisor Website	www.4elements.eco
	Architect	N/A	Utilities Provider	Enmax

Retrofit Checklist

Retrofit Type	Initial Assessment	Retrofit Improvement	
Envelope			
1	Airtightness - Penetration Sealing	Appliance venting, ceiling penetrations	Chimney, fans, vents removed, ceiling penetrations sealed
	Wall Insulation	Original - Effective R15 - 2x4 with R6 & 1" XPS exterior Addition - Effective R16 - 2x6 with R20	Effective R36 - 8" dense pack cellulose
	Ceiling Insulation	Effective R11 - 2" wood chips & 1.75" loose fill fibreglass	Effective R42 (low heel) - 24" blown cellulose
	Foundation Insulation	Effective R10 - 2x4 with R12 furring wall	No change due to driveway and walkout basement restrictions
	Window Replacement	11 original - double glazed	Replaced triple glazed PVC Windows Rear bay eliminated, 1 BSMT window removed
	Door Replacement	3 Exterior Doors	2 Exterior Doors (main floor) replaced
	Other	<i>Crawlspace not sealed</i>	Crawlspace 90% sealed, R8 added under heat run, 4"XPS added to exposed foundation. Perimeter skirt re-insulated with 4"XPS
Mechanical and Electrical Systems			
2	Heating	80% AFUE natural gas furnace	Air Source Heat Pump
	Cooling	N/A	Air Source Heat Pump
	Hot Water	natural gas tank with pilot	Integrated domestic hot water heat pump
	Electrical Service Amperage	100amp	200amp
	Other	Furnace/bath fan ventilation only	Panasonic 100CFM ERV

Energy Performance				
	Initial	Final	% Improvement	
3	Annual Electricity Consumption (kWh/a)	27.7 GJ / 7701 kWh	50.8 GJ / 14108 kWh	83.4% increase (switch to all electric)
	Annual Natural Gas Consumption (GJ/a)	125 GJ / 34 722 kWh	0 GJ / 0 kWh	100% decrease
	Energy Use Intensity (kWh/m ² /a)	0.69 GJ/m ² or 193.88 kWh/m ²	0.23 GJ/m ² or 64.5 kWh/m ²	70.5% decrease
	Annual Heating Demand (kWh/m ² /a)	91 kWh/m ² /a	27.7 kWh/m ² /a	78% decrease
	Annual Cooling Demand (kWh/m ² /a)	N/A	1471.11 kWh	
	Heat loss / Heat Gain	HL 16.6 kW / HG 2.9 kW	HL 6.5 kW / HG 1.6 kW	60.8% decrease / 44.8% decrease
	Air Leakage Rate (ACH50)	5.74	2.04	64.5% improvement
	Renewable Energy Generation	No renewables	Net Zero	60.7GJ Solar Generation

Carbon Emissions				
	Initial	Final	% Improvement	
3	Annual Operational Carbon Emissions from Electricity Consumption (Kg/a)	4329 Kg/a	8026 Kg/a (Before Solar) 0 Kg/a (After Solar)	89.8% increase (Before Solar)
	Annual Operational Carbon Emissions from Natural Gas Consumption (Kg/a)	6446 kg/a	0 Kg/a	100% decrease

Lessons Learned	
4	Not worth keeping existing windows. While some windows were only a few years old, quickly after insulating the home and noticing the difference between the new windows and the levels of comfort and condensation resistance, the remaining windows were replaced.
	Original ductwork was reused but was found loud after installation. Further investigation and minor rework allowed for sound dampening and less turbulence in the ductwork. Careful testing and review of ductwork is recommended when reusing existing.
	Air sealing the ceiling from the attic was time consuming and challenging work and some areas could not be accessed to seal. In hindsight, providing better access and use of a spray foam layer could have been more effective.
	Substantial changes to the comfort and quietness of the home was noticeable right after construction.