Danish national plans for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings

ENERGY SEMINAR IN ESPOO
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Agenda

• Political ambitions for new and existing buildings in Denmark
• Definition of and plans for Nearly Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB)
• Integration of renewable energy in NZEB
Political energy ambitions

Turning the back to fossil fuels:

2020 – 50% of electricity covered by wind energy
2030 – No more use of coal in power plants
2035 – All electricity and heating covered by renewable energy
2050 – All energy covered by renewable energy (electricity, heating, transports, industry)
Energy Agreement – March 2012

- Broad coalition in the parliament agrees on a new energy agreement
- Set the directions until 2020
- Concrete initiatives on energy infrastructure, taxation, conditions for energy intensive industries etc.
- AND it spells out the contents of a strategy for energy renovations of the existing building stock
Energy Agreement – main goals in 2020

62 actions in total

- More than 35% renewable energy in final energy consumption
- Approximately 50% of electricity consumption to be supplied by wind power
- 7.6% reduction in gross energy consumption in relation to 2010
- 34% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in relation to 1990
Some practical consequences

- Political ambitions support and strengthen the already developed measures in the field of Renewable Energy Sources (RES) in buildings.
- Voluntary classes included in the Building Code:
  - Low energy class 2015
  - NZEB 2020 class (also called Building class 2020)
- NZEB 2020 class regulates the building envelope, the total calculated energy consumption, indoor climate etc.
Tightenings of energy performance requirements in Denmark

• In the first version of the Danish Building Regulations 2010 only projections for 2015 were available
• As a result of requests from the building industry and local building service authorities, projections for the 2020 requirements were included in early 2011
• The building industry wanted to be able to:
  • practice to meet the requirements without risking to lose a building permit in case they do not comply with future requirements
  • start to develop components and materials that comply with future requirements, thus decreasing the cost of these improved products when they become mandatory
Energy frame

Calculated primary energy demand for heating, ventilation, domestic hot water, electricity for building operation, electricity for lighting (non-residential), system efficiency, internal energy transport, and a potential overheating (+26 ºC) penalty minus RES contribution.

- Standard conditions for building use
- One climate zone
- One national tool for calculating energy performance in new and existing (certification) buildings
- Two building types, residential and non-residential
- Possible to obtain an extension of the energy frame for special usage of non-residential buildings
## Energy frames

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Residential kWh/m² year</th>
<th>Non-residential kWh/m² year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>52.5 + 1650/A</td>
<td>71.3 + 1650/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>30 + 1000/A</td>
<td>41 + 1000/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Primary energy for: heating, ventilation, domestic hot water, electricity for building operation, electricity for lighting (non-residential), system efficiency, internal energy transport, potential overheating penalty - RES
Requirements for new buildings
Dimensioning heat loss through opaque parts of the thermal envelope

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 storey</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 5 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 4 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 3.7 W/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 storeys</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 6 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 5 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 4.7 W/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3+ storeys</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 7 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 6 W/m²</td>
<td>Q &lt;= 5.7 W/m²</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) $\Delta T$ (to outdoor) = 32 °C

1) 

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1. Dimensioning heat loss through opaque parts of the thermal envelope.

2. The values provided are based on thermal performance criteria for different types of buildings.

3. The criteria for heat loss are specified for the years 2010, 2015, and 2020, with each year having stricter limits for different numbers of storeys.

4. The values represent the maximum heat loss allowed per unit area ($Q$), with $Q$ measured in W/m².

5. The criteria are designed to ensure energy efficiency and comfort in buildings.

6. The $\Delta T$ value of 32 °C is used as a reference for calculating heat loss.

7. This table is likely part of a larger report or study on building thermal performance and energy efficiency.
Windows - and energy gain reference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facade windows</td>
<td>-33</td>
<td>-17</td>
<td>+ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roof windows</td>
<td>-10</td>
<td>+0</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ E_{\text{ref}} = I \cdot g_w - G \cdot U_w = 196.4 \cdot g_w - 90.36 \cdot U_w \]

Energy gain factor in kWh/(m\(^2\) year)
Thermal indoor climate

In buildings complying with Low Energy class 2015 or Building class 2020, thermal indoor climate must be documented via calculations.

In dwellings, institutions, offices etc. the thermal indoor climate must not exceed 26°C, except during a limited number of hours compared with the reference year.

For dwellings, a temperature of 26°C must not be exceeded for more than 100 hours per year, and a temperature of 27°C must not be exceeded for more than 25 hours per year.

Documentation for the thermal indoor climate can be done according to “DS474 - Norm for specification of the thermal indoor climate” using dynamic simulation tools.

For dwellings proof can be provided via a simplified calculation implemented in the compliance checking tool Be10 – Buildings energy demand 2010.
Airtightness

Air-change must not exceed X.X l/s per m² (heated floor area) demonstrated at a pressure difference of 50 Pascal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tested air-change:</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The municipality must require a pressure test in more than 5% of all new buildings

Fulfilment of 2015 or 2020 regulations require a pressure test
Renewable energy

Denmark operates with an energy frame, setting a limit for the allowed primary energy demand per m²

- **Renewable energy** (deducted from the primary energy demand) is locally produced heat (solar thermal) and electricity (PV and wind)
- Bio-fuels are treated in the energy frame as fossil fuels
- Heat pumps are electric heating systems with high efficiency
Local electricity production

Locally produced electricity can only be deducted in the energy frame up to the amount of electricity used for operating the building, i.e. electricity for pumps, fans, heat pumps, and lighting (non-residential buildings only). The balancing period for locally produced electricity is monthly, though up to the total monthly consumption of electricity in the building.

- The economic balancing period for locally produced electricity is hourly.
- The current feed-in tariff for private households is 0.08 €/kWh while the price for buying electricity from the grid is approx. 0.30 €/kWh.
RES must be produced "nearby"

In this context "nearby" means within the same municipality as where the building is located. For buildings close to a municipality border "nearby" can also be in the neighbour municipality, as long as the RES installation is located in the immediate vicinity of the building.
Joint RES installations

For groups of buildings that comply with Building class 2020, it is allowed to establish a joint RES installation at the time of construction and include it in the energy frame.

It is a prerequisite that the building owner contributes economically to the installation and that it is established “nearby” the group of buildings.

Joint solar thermal systems can though only be deducted in the energy frame outside district heating areas.
RES in NZEBs Energy Performance

There are no specific target for the share of locally produced RES in Danish NZEB.

In buildings with a large consumption of DHW, i.e. +2000 liters/day, a solar heating system is required (valid for both current and NZEB requirements).

In 2020, it is expected that the Danish energy mix will contain a minimum of 51% RES – and all buildings will thus by default (on average) have a +50% RES share.

- Primary energy factors (PEF) will change accordingly.

Local RES production will add to the total RES share in the building.
Integration of renewable energy in NZEB 2020 class

• Primary energy factors will be lowered over time as RES will make up a larger proportion of the energy mix

  • Electricity: \[2.5 \rightarrow 1.8\]
  • District heating: \[1.0 \rightarrow 0.6\]
  • Gas, oil, biomass: remains \[1.0\]
  • Renewable energy: remains \[0.0\]

• Energy from RES installations can be subtracted when calculating the overall energy consumption, but only limited – e.g. only electricity for building operation in dwellings
Primary energy factors in Denmark

Development in Danish primary energy factors

- Other
- District heating
- Electricity
When are the PEF’s in use?

A new building - constructed today - that comply with the 2015 or 2020 energy performance requirements use the PEF valid for the relevant EP level (2010, 2015 or 2020)

The ratio between district heating and electricity (heat pumps) are almost the same in 2015 and 2020

Future increase in COP will favour heat pumps for district heating
Future steps

• The planned tightening of EP requirements in the Danish Building Regulations 2010 are currently being analysed for compliance with the EPBD requirement about cost optimality

• Low energy class 2015 will most likely become minimum EP requirements next year

• Investigations on voluntary energy classes for existing buildings are currently being carried out

• Investigations on future (beyond 2020) energy classes are currently being carried out
Thank you for your attention