



District heating and cooling

GIBC12 | Possible 2 points

Intent

To encourage the development of energy-efficient neighborhoods by employing district heating and cooling strategies that reduce energy use and adverse energy-related environmental effects.

Requirements

Incorporate a district heating and/or cooling system for space conditioning and/or water heating of new buildings (at least two buildings total) such that at least 80% of the project's annual heating and/or cooling consumption is provided by the district plant. Single-family residential buildings and existing buildings of any type may be excluded from the calculation.

Each system component that is addressed by ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1-2007 (or a USGBC approved equivalent standard for projects outside of the U.S.) must have an overall efficiency performance at least 10% better than that specified by the standard's prescriptive requirements. Additionally, annual district pumping energy consumption that exceeds 2.5% of the annual thermal energy output of the heating and cooling plant (with 1 kWh of electricity equal to 3,413 Btus) must be offset by increases in the component's efficiency beyond the specified 10% improvement. Combined heat and power (CHP) district systems can achieve this credit by demonstrating equivalent performance.