

POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPING NET ZERO ENERGY HOUSING IN SRI LANKAN URBAN SECTOR

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University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
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Degree of Master of Engineering
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April 2015

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Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree Master of
Engineering in Energy Technology

Department of Mechanical Engineering

University of Moratuwa
Sri Lanka

August 2015

DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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ABSTRACT

Energy has become a fundamental need of humans in the world to fulfill their day today requirements. Mainly primary energy is supplied by Fossil fuel (Oil, Natural Gas, Coal), Nuclear, Hydro and other renewables. Among these energy sources, Fossil fuel contribution for the total energy supply is around 82% out of the total energy supply in 2012. But according to the current available data, all fossil fuel will run out before end of this century. And also other main concern in between environmental scientist is the global warming due to the greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions which are mainly released at the fossil fuel burning. So definitely, renewable energy sources will be the only option to get required energy as much as possible as an alternative for the fossil fuel and also to reduce the GHGs emission.

In Sri Lanka this figure is slightly different. Biomass is the major energy supply source. In connection with the electricity generation Sri Lanka, thermal electricity generation has the highest contribution to total generation. As well the generation from renewable energy sources has increased year by year. In connection with the electricity consumption, domestic sector consumes 38% out of total energy consumption while commercial sector consumes 26% and industrial sector 34%. So it can be seen that the domestic sector is the highest electricity consumer. From this thesis, the potential for net zero energy home in Sri Lankan urban sector will be discussed. If this is successful, 38% electricity consumption can offset from the renewable energy generation at the each home including rural sector also. Then the thermal generation can be minimized while using renewable energy sources as much as possible to cater the demand of industrial sector and also commercial sector. Hence massive expenses for oil and coal can be reduced, and then it will be a significant contribution for reduction of GHGs emission as well.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At first I would like to thank to Prof. Attalage, Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University of Moratuwa for giving me his maximum support and guidance during this study. As well I would be very grateful to Dr. Inoka, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mechanical, University of Moratuwa for giving her advices and guidance throughout this research. I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Punchihewa who is the coordinator of the PG/M.Eng Energy Technology, department of Mechanical, University of Moratuwa for his advises and guidance and motivation to get this done. When I collect the data, all home owners tried their best to give me as much as descriptive and correct data and I extend my gratitude to them also.

In addition to that I would like to thank my wife for giving her utmost support at the initial stage until this has been completed. Finally I express my special thanks to all of the staff members of Department of Mechanical in University of Moratuwa and to my batch-mates for their encouragements to get this successful.



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CONTENTS

DECLARATION.....	i
ABSTRACT	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	iii
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Global Primary Energy Supply and Consumption	1
1.3 Global Electricity Generation and Consumption.....	3
1.3.1 Global electricity generation by source.....	4
1.4 Primary Energy Supply and Consumption in Sri Lanka.....	5
1.5 Electricity Generation and Consumption in Sri Lanka.....	8
1.5.1 Electricity Generation.....	8
1.5.2 Electricity Consumption	9
1.6 Problem Identification	11
1.7 Aim	11
1.8 Objectives	11
1.9 Methodology.....	11
2 LITERATURE REVIEW.....	13
2.1 Background.....	13
2.2 Definitions of Net Zero Energy Concept.....	14
2.2.1 Net Zero Site Energy (NZSE)	14
2.2.2 Net Zero Source Energy (NZSE)	14
2.2.3 Net Zero Energy Costs (NZEC)	15
2.2.4 Net Zero Energy Emissions (NZEE).....	15
2.3 Net Zero Energy Home Overview	18
2.3.1 Self-Sufficient Solar House in Freiburg	19
2.3.2 Residential Building in Lakeland, Florida.....	20
2.3.3 Net Zero Energy Home in Colorado.....	21
2.4 Net Zero Energy Home Design Process	22
2.5 Case Study	24

2.5.1	Net Zero Energy Home in Maryland	24
2.5.2	The Net Zero Energy House in Auckland	25
2.5.3	The Equinox home in Urbana, Illinois	26
2.5.4	NZE Home in Seattle, Washington	28
3	METHODOLOGY	31
3.1	Data Collection	31
3.2	Summary of the Collected Data Samples	31
3.3	Data Analysis	31
3.3.1	Percentage of Consumers in each Electricity Consumption Range	31
3.3.2	Average Electricity Consumption by Several Categories	32
3.3.3	Electricity Consumption with the building footprint.....	34
3.3.4	LP Gas Consumption.....	35
3.3.5	Renewable Energy Generation	37
4	DISCUSSIONS	39
4.1	Lighting Usage Pattern	39
4.2	Heating Applications	40
4.2.2	Usage of Electric kettles and heaters.....	40
4.2.3	Usage of electric rice cookers.....	40
4.2.4	Usage of electric Iron	41
4.3	Usage of Renewable for Energy Generation	41
4.4	A Case Study on Actual Scenario.....	41
4.4.1	Concerns related to energy consumption in the home.....	42
4.4.2	Simulation of the Load	43
4.4.3	Cost and payback period analysis with renewable energy generation	45
4.5	Summary of the payback periods for each case.....	47
4.6	Sensitivity Analysis	48
5	GUIDELINES TO NZEH	50
5.1	Design Stage Guide Line	50
5.1.1	Site Analysis.....	50
5.1.2	Wind and Shading	51
5.1.3	Energy Impacts of Artificial Tree Planting	52

5.1.4	Natural Lighting	53
5.1.5	Windows Glazing	54
5.1.6	Natural Ventilation	55
5.2	Reduction the Energy Consumption	56
5.2.1	Using Energy Star Appliances.....	56
5.2.2	Eliminate the Phantom Loads.....	56
5.2.3	Replace LED for incandescent, CFL and LFL lights	56
5.2.4	Utilization of day lighting	57
5.2.5	Use LP Gas for water heating.....	57
5.2.6	Using Electric Iron	57
5.2.7	Refrigerator Usage Pattern	57
5.2.8	Mechanical Ventilation	57
5.2.9	Replace Pressure Cooker for Electric Rice Cooker.....	57
5.3	Renewable Energy Generation	57
5.3.3	Solar PV System.....	58
5.3.4	Solar Thermal for hot water requirement	62
5.4	Barriers to Net Zero Energy Homes	62
6	CONCLUSION.....	63
7	REFERENCES	66



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LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Global primary energy supply by source	2
Figure 1.2: Global energy consumption by sector	2
Figure 1.3: Rate of Fossil Fuel Consumption	3
Figure 1.4: Global Electricity Generation by Source	4
Figure 1.5: Electricity Generation by Renewables	4
Figure 1.6: Global Growth Rate of Energy Consumption by Source	5
Figure 1.7: Energy Supply by Source	6
Figure 1.8: Energy consumption by sector	8
Figure 1.9: Electricity generations from renewables	9
Figure 1.10: Electricity Consumption by Sector	10
Figure 1.11: Domestic Electricity Usage from national grid	10
Figure 2. 1: A Pathway to Net Zero Energy Home	19
Figure 2. 2: Self-Sufficient Solar House in Freiburg	20
Figure 2. 3: Residential Building in Lakeland, Florida	21
Figure 2. 4: Net Zero Energy Building Home, Colorado	22
Figure 2. 5: Three Major Steps of NZEH Design Process	22
Figure 2. 6: Net Zero Energy Home in Maryland	24
Figure 2. 7: Equinox House in Urbana, Illinois.....	27
Figure 2. 8: NZE Home in Seattle, Washington.....	29
Figure 3. 1: Percentage of consumers with the range of the units/month	32
Figure 3. 2: Average Electricity Consumption by each Category.....	33
Figure 3. 3: Average Electricity Consumption by type of Lighting.....	33
Figure 3. 4: Numbers of Houses using various Light Types.....	34
Figure 3. 5: Electricity Consumption Variation with building footprint.....	35
Figure 3. 6: LP Gas Consumption Pattern.....	36
Figure 3. 7: LP Gas Consumption Percentage with Units per month	36
Figure 3. 8: PV Usage as Renewable Energy Generation	37
Figure 3. 9: Hot water for bathing purposes.....	38
Figure 4. 1: U-Values of window glazing (SWEE, 1997).....	42
Figure 4. 2: Model of Existing Home.....	44

Figure 4. 3: Electricity and Gas Consumption Report44
Figure 4. 4: Annual variation of payback periods449
Figure 5. 1: Direct and Indirect Effects of Trees on Energy and Air Quality53
Figure 5. 2: General Dimensions of a PV module (Tan, 2016).....60



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LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1: Primary Energy Supply by Source	6
Table 1.2: Electricity Generation by Source	8
Table 2.1: Summary of common NZEBs Definitions	15
Table 4.1: Comparison of LED vs CFL and Incandescent Bulb	39
Table 4.2: Summary of Energy Consumption for lighting and Appliances	40
Table 4.3: Electricity Consumption During the year.....	45
Table 4.4: Available PV Panel Sets from Sunway Solar Brand.....	46
Table 4.5: Summary of the payback periods	Error! Bookmark not defined. 47
Table 4.6: Price Variaiton of Solar PV Modules.....	48
Table 4.7: Variation of payback period duiring next twenty years	49
Table 5.1: Electrical Specifications of PV Panel at STC	59
Table 5.2: Electrical Specifications at NOCT	59
Table 5.3: Mechanical Data of PV Module	61



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Description
NZEH	Net Zero Energy Home
GHG	Green House Gas
USA	United State of America
UK	United Kingdom
SLSEA	Sri Lanka Sustainable Energy Authority
SEA	Sustainable Energy Authority
EU	European Commission
IEA	International Energy Agency
CEC	California Energy Commission
CPUC	California Public Utility Commission
NZSE	Net Zero Site Energy
NZSE	Net Zero Source Energy
NZEC	Net Zero Energy Cost
NZEE	Net Zero Energy Emissions
NIST	National Institute of Standard and Technology
CUF	Capacity Utilization Factor



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