



California Energy Commission
2009 Integrated Energy Policy Report Staff Workshop
August 11, 2009 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Hearing Room A
Development of an Energy Module for I-PLACE³S

The energy module was designed to improve the California Energy Commission's Internet-based land use modeling tool, Planning for Community Energy, Economic, and Environmental Sustainability (I-PLACE³S). It will be capable of estimating and analyzing the overall energy consumption and emissions of various building types, distributed generation technologies such as cogeneration and solar, energy efficiency measures, and development scenarios.

Why was this project undertaken?

Local and regional planners lacked a tool to compare energy demand and efficiency options during the land use decision making process. The initial I-PLACE³S software did address these issues.

What does this project involve?

The project required the development of a user-friendly program capable of calculating energy efficiency and distributed generation technology options, the ability to calculate energy demand and consumption at the building and community level, and the ability to determine the optimal use of distributed energy generation options.

Benefits of the Project

The energy module will provide:

- Analysis of a community's building energy demand, consumption, and emissions based on different growth and land use options.
- Assistance to local governments in evaluating the benefits and economics of applying distributed energy generation technologies
- Data that will help develop of region-wide energy strategies and energy elements in general plans.

Who can benefit from this project?

Local and regional planners can use the energy module of I-PLACE³S as a tool in the development of sustainable energy efficient communities.

Status

In progress, awaiting validation.

Contact

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