

Prescriptive Pathways

Scaling Up
Single Family
Residential
Passive House
in
New York's
Hudson Valley

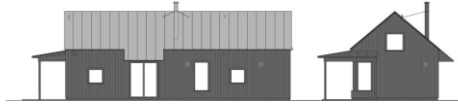




FLEXHOUSE I

1000 sf

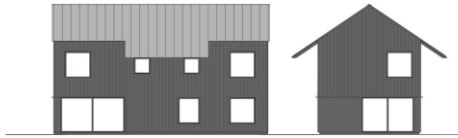
1 bedroom, 1 full bath



FLEXHOUSE II

1200 sf

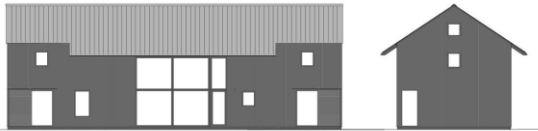
2 bedrooms with sleeping loft, 1 full bath



FLEXHOUSE III

2400 sf

3-4 bedrooms, 3 full baths



FLEXHOUSE IV

2880 sf

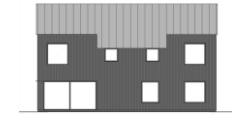
3-4 bedrooms with sleeping loft, 3 full baths



Custom Design

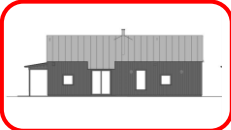
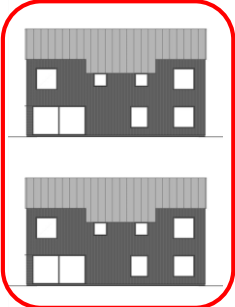


Scaling Up: FLEXHOUSES and Custom Homes 2018-2024



Phius
Prescriptive
Path Projects

Phius
Performance
Path Projects



2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

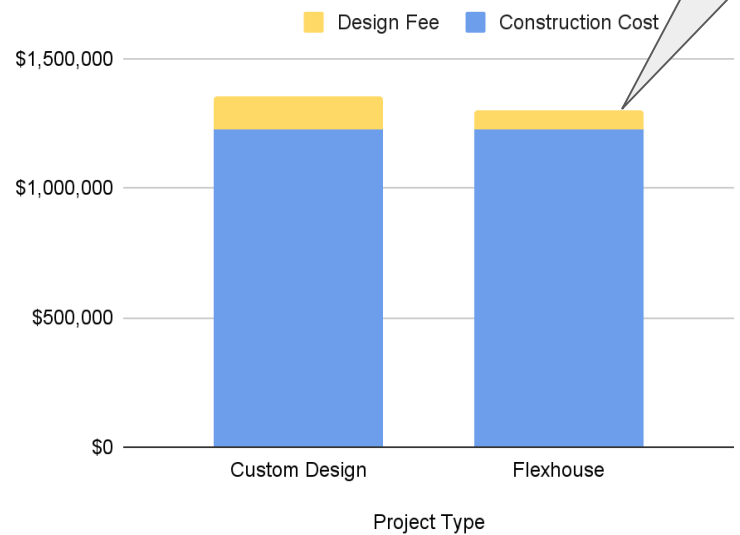
2023

2024

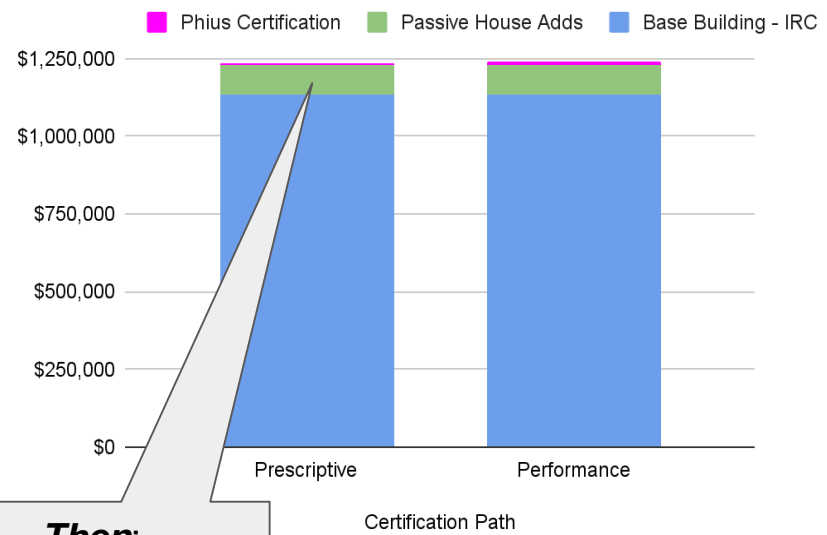
Psst.
Certification is not a primary cost driver

First.
Save +/- \$50,000 in design fees

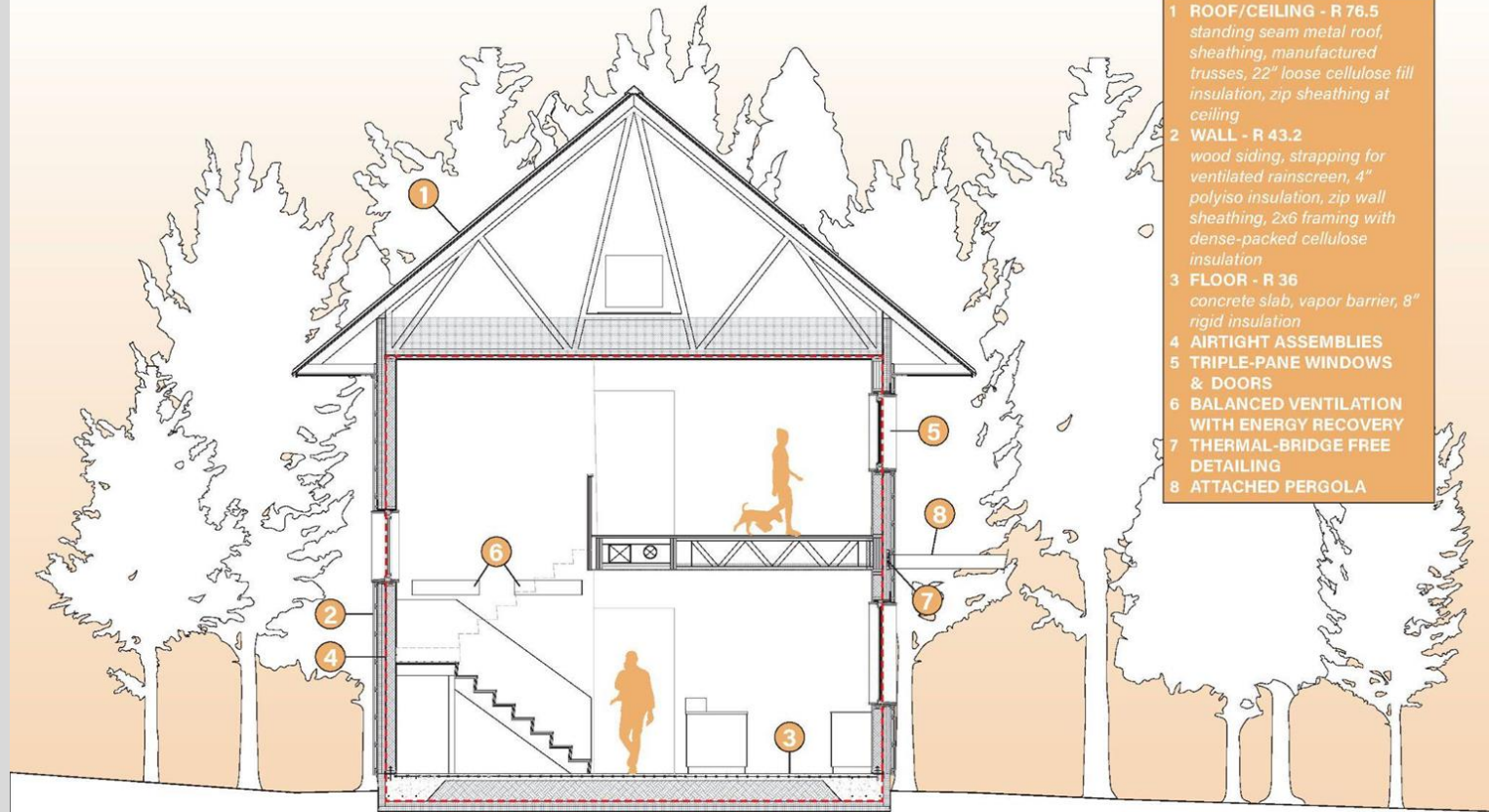
Project Costs: Flexhouse vs Custom Design



Cost of Passive House: Prescriptive vs Performance



Then:
Partial offset of +/- \$90k in Passive House Add Costs



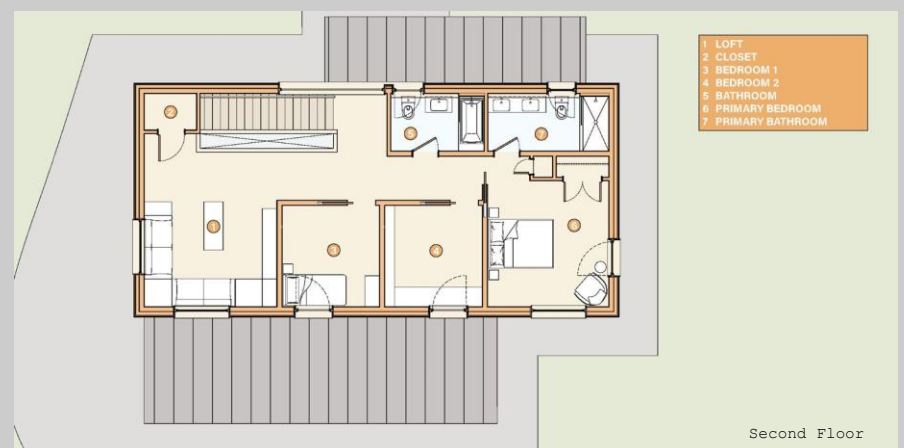
- 1 ROOF/CEILING - R 76.5**
standing seam metal roof, sheathing, manufactured trusses, 22" loose cellulose fill insulation, zip sheathing at ceiling
- 2 WALL - R 43.2**
wood siding, strapping for ventilated rainscreen, 4" polyiso insulation, zip wall sheathing, 2x6 framing with dense-packed cellulose insulation
- 3 FLOOR - R 36**
concrete slab, vapor barrier, 8" rigid insulation
- 4 AIRTIGHT ASSEMBLIES**
- 5 TRIPLE-PANE WINDOWS & DOORS**
- 6 BALANCED VENTILATION WITH ENERGY RECOVERY**
- 7 THERMAL-BRIDGE FREE DETAILING**
- 8 ATTACHED PERGOLA**

BASTEN FARM FLEXHOUSE III NORTH

- 1 ROOF/CEILING - R 76.5**
standing seam metal roof,
sheathing, manufactured
trusses, 22" loose cellulose fill
insulation, zip sheathing at
ceiling
- 2 WALL - R 43.2**
wood siding, strapping for
ventilated rainscreen, 4"
polyiso insulation, zip wall
sheathing, 2x6 framing with
dense-packed cellulose
insulation
- 3 FLOOR - R 36**
concrete slab, vapor barrier, 8"
rigid insulation
- 4 AIRTIGHT ASSEMBLIES**
- 5 TRIPLE-PANE WINDOWS
& DOORS**
- 6 BALANCED VENTILATION
WITH ENERGY RECOVERY**
- 7 THERMAL-BRIDGE FREE
DETAILING**



BASTEN FARM FLEXHOUSE III SOUTH



Basten Farm North - Flexhouse III

Stone Ridge, NY

Basten Farm South - Flexhouse III

Ridge, NY

Stone

Phius CORE Prescriptive Certification Snapshot

Phius CORE Prescriptive 2021 Snapshot

Input or select data in teal cells

State: NEW YORK
City: STEWART FIELD
ASHRAE (169-2021) Climate Zone: 5A
ICFA* (ft²): 2287
Number of Bedrooms*: 3
Number of Stories: 2
per dwelling unit

1 General

1.1.2 ICFA divided by Number of Bedrooms
(Calculated Value based on Inputs)
Maximum Limit: 900 ft²
OK, Meets Limit: 762 ft²

3 Compactness

3.1.1 Envelope Area
(Maximum Envelope to Floor Area Ratio)
Maximum: 6548 ft²
2.86

4 Solar Protection

4.1.1 Whole Window SHGC
Maximum: NR
4.1.1 Projection Factor for Fixed Overhangs
Minimum: NR

5 Thermal Enclosure

5.1.1a Fenestration / Openings
Maximum Whole U-Value: 0.17 (BTU/h.ft².F)
5.1.1b Walls & Overhang Floors - Effective R-Value
Minimum Effective R-Value: 41 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1c Roofs / Ceilings
Minimum Effective R-Value: 72 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1d Whole Slab Foundations, Below-Grade Walls, Floors of Conditioned Basements & Crawl Spaces
Minimum Effective R-Value: 21 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1e Ceilings of Unconditioned Basements or Crawl Spaces & Pier and Beam Floors
Minimum Effective R-Value: 26 (ft².F/hBTU)

6 Moisture Risk Limitation

6.2.1 Fenestration Condensation Resistance
Minimum: 65%

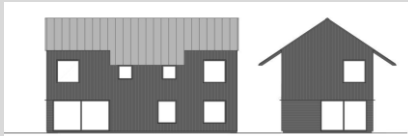
7 Mechanical Ventilation

7.2.1 Sensible Recovery Efficiency, Heating Mode
Minimum: 80%
7.2.2 Total Recovery Efficiency, Cooling Mode
Minimum: NR
7.2.5 Total Length of Fresh Air Ducts to Outside
Maximum: 27 ft

8 Mechanical Systems

Select System Type
8.2.1 Air Source Heat Pump
Minimum COP @ SF: 1.8
Minimum SEER: 15.0

Basten Farm North - Flexhouse III



Phius CORE Prescriptive 2021 Snapshot

Input or select data in teal cells

State: NEW YORK
City: STEWART FIELD
ASHRAE (169-2021) Climate Zone: 5A
ICFA* (ft²): 2094
Number of Bedrooms*: 3
Number of Stories: 2
per dwelling unit

1 General

1.1.2 ICFA divided by Number of Bedrooms
(Calculated Value based on Inputs)
Maximum Limit: 900 ft²
OK, Meets Limit: 698 ft²

3 Compactness

3.1.1 Envelope Area
(Maximum Envelope to Floor Area Ratio)
Maximum: 6180 ft²
2.95

4 Solar Protection

4.1.1 Whole Window SHGC
Maximum: NR
4.1.1 Projection Factor for Fixed Overhangs
Minimum: NR

5 Thermal Enclosure

5.1.1a Fenestration / Openings
Maximum Whole U-Value: 0.17 (BTU/h.ft².F)
5.1.1b Walls & Overhang Floors - Effective R-Value
Minimum Effective R-Value: 41 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1c Roofs / Ceilings
Minimum Effective R-Value: 72 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1d Whole Slab Foundations, Below-Grade Walls, Floors of Conditioned Basements & Crawl Spaces
Minimum Effective R-Value: 21 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1e Ceilings of Unconditioned Basements or Crawl Spaces & Pier and Beam Floors
Minimum Effective R-Value: 26 (ft².F/hBTU)

6 Moisture Risk Limitation

6.2.1 Fenestration Condensation Resistance
Minimum: 63%

7 Mechanical Ventilation

7.2.1 Sensible Recovery Efficiency, Heating Mode
Minimum: 80%
7.2.2 Total Recovery Efficiency, Cooling Mode
Minimum: NR
7.2.5 Total Length of Fresh Air Ducts to Outside
Maximum: 26 ft

8 Mechanical Systems

Select System Type
8.2.1 Air Source Heat Pump
Minimum COP @ SF: 1.8
Minimum SEER: 15.0

Basten Farm South - Flexhouse III



Phius CORE Prescriptive 2021 Snapshot

Input or select data in teal cells

State: TEXAS
City: HOUSTON BUSH INTERCONTI
ASHRAE (169-2021) Climate Zone: 2A
ICFA* (ft²): 2287
Number of Bedrooms*: 3
Number of Stories: 2
per dwelling unit

1 General

1.1.2 ICFA divided by Number of Bedrooms
(Calculated Value based on Inputs)
Maximum Limit: 900 ft²
OK, Meets Limit: 762 ft²

3 Compactness

3.1.1 Envelope Area
(Maximum Envelope to Floor Area Ratio)
Maximum: 6548 ft²
2.86

4 Solar Protection

4.1.1 Whole Window SHGC
Maximum: 0.25
4.1.1 Projection Factor for Fixed Overhangs
Minimum: 0.58

5 Thermal Enclosure

5.1.1a Fenestration / Openings
Maximum Whole U-Value: 0.29 (BTU/h.ft².F)
5.1.1b Walls & Overhang Floors - Effective R-Value
Minimum Effective R-Value: 24 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1c Roofs / Ceilings
Minimum Effective R-Value: 54 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1d Whole Slab Foundations, Below-Grade Walls, Floors of Conditioned Basements & Crawl Spaces
Minimum Effective R-Value: 8 (ft².F/hBTU)
5.1.1e Ceilings of Unconditioned Basements or Crawl Spaces & Pier and Beam Floors
Minimum Effective R-Value: 13 (ft².F/hBTU)

6 Moisture Risk Limitation

6.2.1 Fenestration Condensation Resistance
Minimum: 66%

7 Mechanical Ventilation

7.2.1 Sensible Recovery Efficiency, Heating Mode
Minimum: NR
7.2.2 Total Recovery Efficiency, Cooling Mode
Minimum: 60%
7.2.5 Total Length of Fresh Air Ducts to Outside
Maximum: 27 ft

8 Mechanical Systems

Select System Type
8.2.1 Air Source Heat Pump
Minimum HSPF: 9.6
Minimum SEER: 18.0

Flexhouse III in Houston





Basten Farm South - Flexhouse III

Climate Zone 5A
iCFA 2,094 ft²

Prescriptive Path	Target	Actual
Building Enclosure Area	6,180 ft ²	5,830 ft ²
Window-to-Wall Ratio (WWR)	≤18%	18%
Fenestration U-Value (max)	0.17	0.17
Exterior Walls R-Value (min)	44	43
Roof/ceiling R-Value (min)	74	76.5
Slab R-Value (min)	22	52
ERV Efficiency (max)	720 W/cfm	468 W/cfm
ERV total duct length	26 ft	20 ft
Heat Pump Efficiency (min)	1.75 COP @ 5F	1.69 COP
	15 SEER	18.4

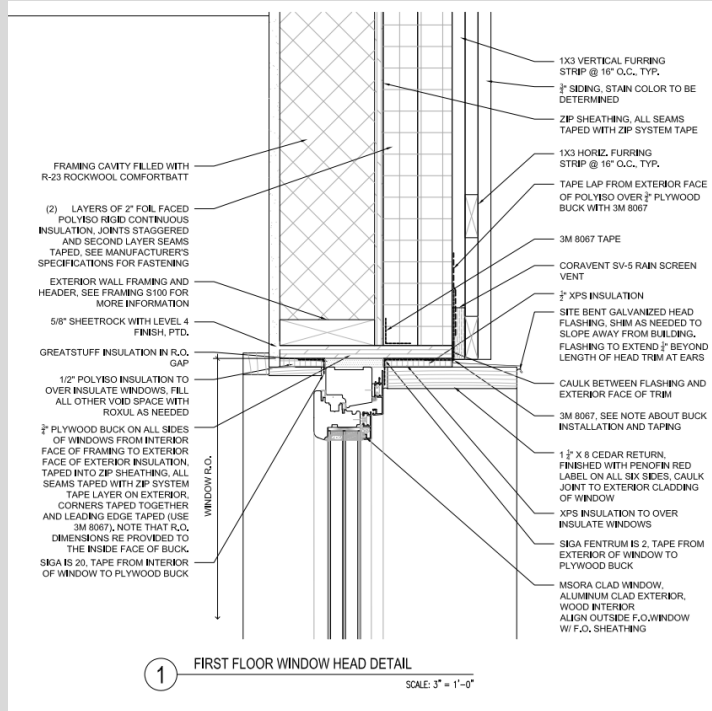
Basten Farm North - Flexhouse III

Climate Zone 5A
iCFA 2,287 ft²

Prescriptive Path	Target	Actual
Building Enclosure Area	6,550 ft ²	6,424 ft ²
Window-to-Wall Ratio (WWR)	≤18%	18%
Fenestration U-Value (max)	0.17	0.165
Exterior Walls R-Value (min)	41	43
Roof/ceiling R-Value (min)	72	73
Slab R-Value (min)	22	52
ERV Efficiency	720 W/cfm	468 W/cfm
ERV total duct length	27 ft	20 ft
Heat Pump Efficiency (min)	1.75 COP @ 5F	1.66 COP
	15 SEER	17.8



Prescriptive Certification - Design Stress Points



Air Source Heat Pump Efficiency

Minimum 1.75 COP at 5F

Problem: Hyperheat models' efficiency too low, 1.66 & 1.69 COP at 5F

Solution: Waiver from Phius was necessary

Exterior Wall R-value

Minimum R-44 for Basten Farm North, Checklist V2.1
Minimum R-41 for Basten Farm South, Checklist V2.6

Problem: Dense-pack cellulose insulation resulted in R-43 wall

Solution: Prescriptive Path offers UA Alternative

Net Zero Energy - Sizing Renewables

Problem: Prescriptive Path does not generate an estimate of annual electrical usage

Solution: Recommend full coverage on south-facing roof slopes

Glazing Area & Orientation

Problem: Designs exceed Prescriptive limit of total glazing area - 33-37% vs 15% max

Solution: Adequate Exposure Diversity (AED) alternative compliance

Limited Design Optimization

Problem: Prescriptive Path does not reward airtightness above baseline (0.04 cfm/ft2)

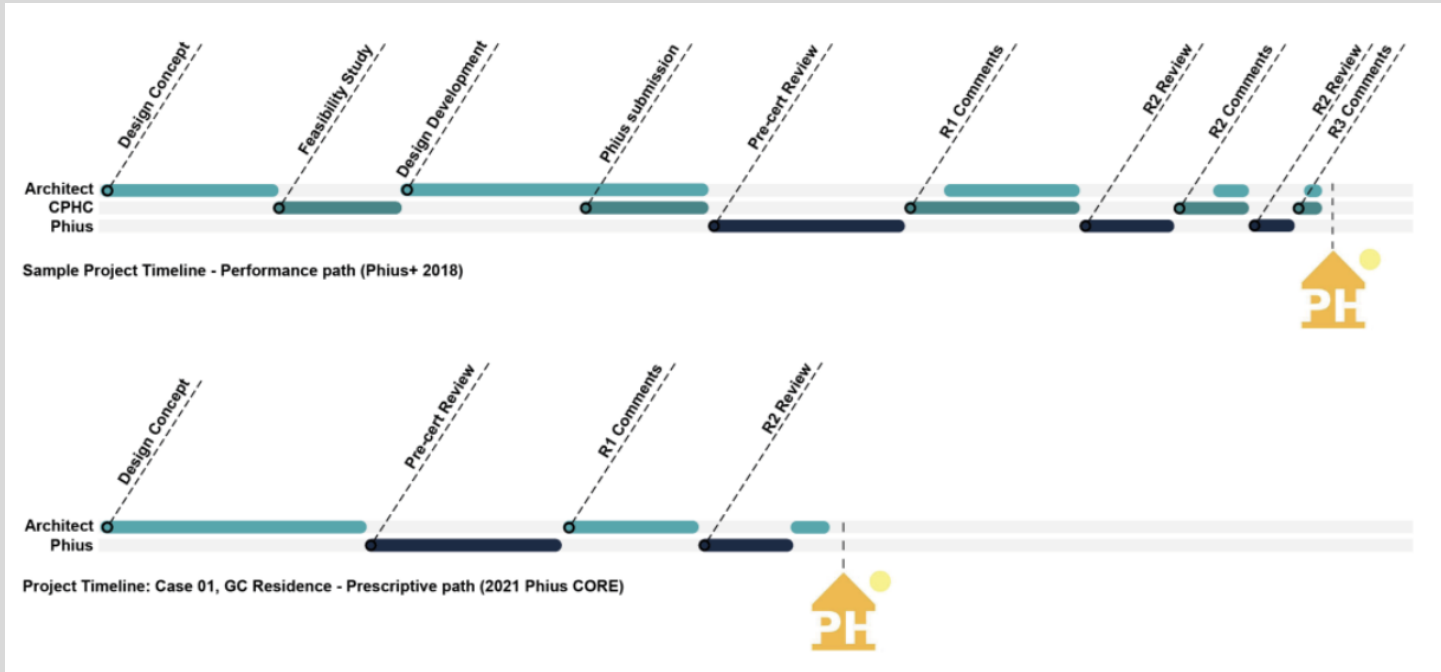
Performance Path allows envelope and/or HVAC modifications correlated with actual airtightness

Toolkit for Scaling Up Single Family Passive House

- Prescriptive Path Certification
- Patternbook design offerings
- Standard construction methods & materials
- Simplified HVAC
- Workforce training/Subcontractor buy-in

Passive House Wish List

- More Phius Raters!
- Restoration of incentive funding for single family
- Homeowner buy-in for ductless mini-splits
- Building code support for Passive House
- Green Appraisals
- Smaller mini-splits
- North American window manufacturers





Thank you.

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N O R T H
R I V E R