

# KNOCKING DOWN ENERGY EFFICIENCY BARRIERS

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## **Project History**

- Acquired site 2010
  - Tikahtnu-Regal
- Design/Site work
  - Fall 2013
- Foundation start
  - Spring 2014
- Occupy
  - Summer 2015



## **Building Facts**

- 114,095 square feet
- 8 floors
- Designed by RIM Architects
- Constructed by Davis Constructors and Engineers



## **Incorporating Energy Efficiency**

- Advantages
  - Operational cost savings
  - -Good for the environment
  - Captures tenants who have sustainable corporate philosophy
  - -Public perception
- Disadvantages
  - -New technologies-some unproven
  - -High upfront cost
  - -System integration with utilities-providers

## **Schematic Design Phase Ideas**

- Fuel cell technology
  - Convert fuel to electricity without combustion
- Micro turbines
  - -Turn natural gas into heat and electricity-efficient





## Schematic Design Phase Ideas

- Battery storage
  - -Shed load during expensive peak times avoiding charges





## **Schematic Design Phase Ideas**

- Geothermal
- Wind
- Solar





## To LEED or not to LEED?

#### Drawbacks

- Not aligned with Alaska well
  - Alternate transportation
  - Energy usage required-climate
  - Water reduction portion
  - Etc.
- Associated costs
  - Paperwork
  - Design fees
  - Buying points to reach level
  - Lengthy process to complete after occupancy

#### Benefits

- Government leases
- Corporate missions
- Limited competition
- Public perception



## **How Incorporated-Fireweed**

- Pushed decision to pursue till later in project design
- Identified points already met after initial schematic was complete
- Found other points that made sense and incorporated
- Ongoing efforts targeted LEED Silver
- Current status
  - Finishing up LEED paperwork
  - Project may reach Gold rating

## **End Results**

- Focused on improved performance
  - Lowered operating costs
  - High level of occupant comfort
- Technology used
  - LED lighting-control system
  - Dynamic glass
  - Daylighting panels
  - Vacuum insulated panels
  - VRF HVAC system

## Reasons for design

- CIRI believes in sustainability
- The building is our home
- Looking at 50 year plus investment
- First costs low compared to potential savings from ongoing operations

# Modeling

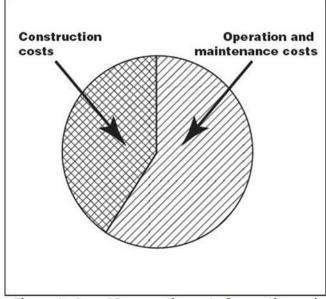


Figure 1—Over 30 years, the cost of operation and maintenance for buildings is more than the initial construction cost; how much more depends on the building type and location.