

## Underwriting Energy: Are Commercial Mortgages Ignoring Energy Related Risks and Benefits?

Better Buildings Summit May 10, 2016



#### Agenda

09:45 Welcome & Introductions

09:50 Speaker Presentations

10:30 Discussion

**11:00** Adjourn





#### Today's Presenters

**Jason Hartke** 



Program Manager, U.S. Department of Energy **Nancy Wallace** 

Berkeley Haas

**Professor of Finance & Real Estate, UC Berkeley** 

**Kelly Krhounek** 



Multifamily Credit Risk Manager, Fannie Mae

**Bruce Schlein** 



Director of Alternative Energy Finance, Citi Bank





Nancy Wallace, UC Berkeley



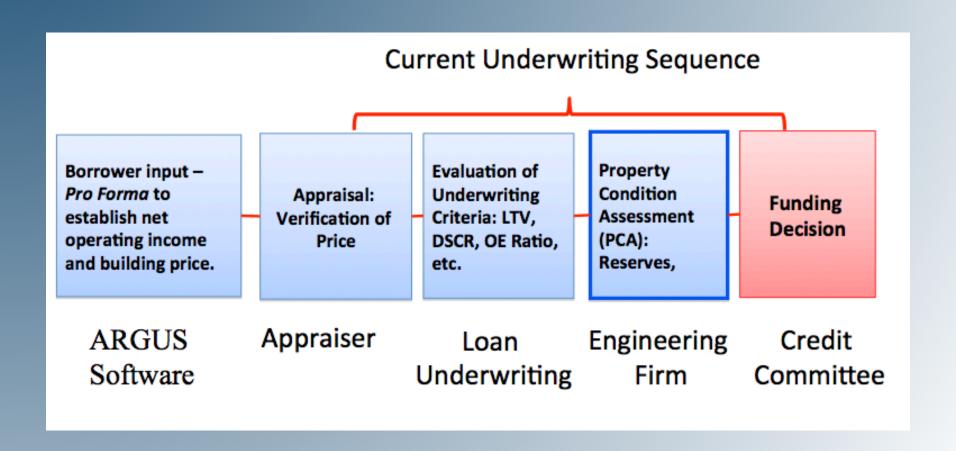
#### Underwriting Energy Efficiency in Commercial Mortgages: Challenges and Possible Interventions

Nancy Wallace
University of California, Berkeley
Fisher Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics
Real Estate and Financial Markets Laboratory

DOE Better Buildings Summit May 10, 2016

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

#### Challenges in Current Underwriting Processes



#### **Potential Interventions**

Energy / "Green"
Impacts on Mortgage Valuation

Rental income

Vacancy rates

Utility costs

Utility cost volatility

Potential Intervention Points

**Appraisals** 

Underwriting methods & requirements

Property Condition
Assessments

Potential Outcomes

Property Valuation

Interest rates

Loan-to-Value limit

Debt Service Coverage limit

### Potential Interventions from Survey (> 30 organizations)

- 1. Demonstrate to lenders how and where energy factors "move the needle."
- 2. Provide a simple, seamless energy efficiency metric (score) for underwriting applications.
- 3. Include an energy efficiency evaluation in the PCA and move PCA earlier in process.
- 4. Owners need to demand consideration of energy efficiency by appraisers/lenders and provide the data.
- 5. Include energy metrics into the pro forma reports (ARGUS).
- 6. Have appraiser properly value energy factors.

#### Ranked Interventions

1. Energy Efficiency "moves the needle"

2. Energy Efficiency requirements for PCAs

3. Energy metrics in RE pro forma (ARGUS)

T ask 1: Define demonstration requirements with lenders.

Task 2: Develop analysis approach – statistical/case study

Task 3: Conduct analysis.

Task 4: Present results to lenders and identify next steps.

Task 1: Confirm viability and approach -- Engage with PCA firms.

Task 2: EE module scope.

Task 3: Confirm pilots.

Task 4: Develop EE module.

Task 5: Pilot.

Task 1: Confirm viability and approach – engage ARGUS.

Task 2: Develop specification and user guidelines for energy metrics – engage ARGUS.

Task 3: Develop implementation plan and schedule – engage ARGUS.

#### Conclusions

- Energy efficiency metrics are missing from all stages of commercial real estate underwriting.
- Energy efficiency metrics should be simple and numeric.
- Energy efficiency metrics could be introduced at each stage of the underwriting process, but highest impact interventions:
  - 1. Establish that EE metrics "move the needle" for key underwriting measures (loan-to-value ratio, debt service coverage ratio, building value.)
  - 2. Develop EE module in Property Condition Assessments (PCAs).
  - 3. Introduce explicit EE metrics into pro forma reports ARGUS Software.

Kelly Krhounek, Fannie Mae







# Fannie Mae Multifamily Green Initiative: Green Financing for Investments in Multifamily Sustainability

May 10, 2016





#### **Fannie Mae Mission and Portfolio**

- Fannie Mae provides liquidity, stability, and affordability to the secondary mortgage market
- Fannie Mae's Multifamily provides financing for:
  - Market Rate, Affordable, Seniors, Student, Military, Manufactured, and Cooperative properties
  - Approximately 19% of all U.S. Multifamily Mortgage Debt outstanding as of Q3 2015
- Fannie Mae accesses capital by securitizing the loans







#### **Our Multifamily Green Financing Framework**

Fannie Mae Multifamily Green Financing must result in a positive, measureable impact to each pillar of the Triple Bottom Line.

- Lower credit risk
- Higher cash flows
- Higher property value

**Financial** 



- Greater affordability for tenants
- Higher quality, more durable housing
- Healthier housing

Social



- Lower use of energy, water, and natural resources
- Greater resiliency to natural disasters

Environmental







#### **Green Building Certification Pricing Break**

- Available for any Fannie Mae Loan on a property with a current, eligible Green Building Certification
  - Conventional or Affordable, First lien or Supplemental
  - No restriction on interest rate type, loan term, or loan size
- Preferential pricing reduces the interest rate of most loans
- Eligible Green Building Certifications:
  - EarthCraft Multifamily
  - ENERGY STAR®
  - Enterprise Green Communities
  - National Green Building Standard

- Green Globes
- GreenPoint Rated
- LEED





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## Lower all-in interest rate for Green Building Certified Property: The Station House

- The Station House in Maplewood NJ: First loan to close using the Green Building Certification Pricing Break
- LEED certified 50-unit multifamily rental property
- \$10.2M loan
- Green Building Certification Pricing Break reduced the interest rate by 10 basis points (0.10 percent)
- Borrower will save more than \$101,000 in interest payments over the life of the loan







#### **Green Rewards**

- Available nationwide, feature can be used with almost any loan:
  - Conventional or Affordable
  - First lien, Supplemental, or 2<sup>nd</sup> Supplemental
  - Multifamily, Cooperative, Seniors, Military, and Student
  - No restriction on interest rate type, loan term, or loan size
- Preferential pricing reduces the interest rate of most loans
- Provides additional loan proceeds by: allowing underwriting of up to 50% of the projected operating savings resulting from the planned energy and water efficiency retrofits
- Eligibility: properties must be able to project a minimum of 20% annual savings in energy or water use





#### **Green Rewards Requirements**

- Physical Condition Assessment with the High Performance Building Module
  - ASHRAE Level II energy audit and identification of cost effective opportunities for increasing energy and water efficiency
- All additional retrofit proceeds will be escrowed until completion
- Retrofits must be completed within 12 months of loan closing
- Borrowers must report annual energy and water metrics using ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager

Bruce Schlein, Citi Bank



#### **Energy Efficiency Financing Solutions**

#### PROPERTY TYPE / SECTOR

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PRODUCT / SOLUTION	MUSH	Federal/DOD	Single Family	Multifamily	Commercial	Corporate
Large Single Project	Yes Detroit SL	Yes	N/A	Xes	Xes	Yes
Pooled Asset Deal	Yes Green Campus	Yes	Yes WHEEL; Kilowatt	Difficult HPET	Difficult	Yes
ESCO/ESA Two Factor	Yes	Yes	N/A	Difficult	Difficult	Yes Citi London
PACE	Yes	N/A	Yes Subordinated?	Yes	Yes	Yes
On-Bill (OBR)	Yes	N/A	Yes NYSERDA	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stranded Cost Tariff	<del>-Hawaii GEMS</del> Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Green Bond	Yes Massachusetts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes Unilever
Sustainable Energy Utility	Yes Delaware	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Microfinance	N/A	N/A	Yes Mongolia	N/A	Yes	N/A

#### **Takeaways from Citi Underwriting Team**

- Fannie Mae and other housing agencies' experiences with green financing is valuable for future direction
- Standards for underwriting energy savings and technologies are needed for the lending community
- Mitigating risks and demonstrating certainty to performance and cost savings is key



Discussion



#### Thank you!

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