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Reviewer's name: Yonca Hürol

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Heating and cooling in housing affects CO2 emissions. “Zero Carbon Homes – A Road Map,” which is written by Jo Williams who is a Senior Lecturer at University College London, covers all aspects of zero carbon houses and gives a clear vision about the possible changes towards zero carbon houses in the future. It is based on an extensive research carried out in four different countries: Sweden, Germany, UK and USA.

The first part of the book gives information about various technological ways of lowering carbon emissions from housing. This part can be seen as a toolbox which explains use of smart grids, super-grid, carbon sequestration, storage facilities, district heating/cooling systems, use of waste, use of wind/sun as energy resources etc.

The second part contains four national programs in Sweden, Germany, UK and USA to lower carbon emissions, a variety of low/zero carbon energy systems and low/zero carbon neighbourhoods. Thus it demonstrates many different applications of the tools for lowering carbon emissions within various contexts. Each case is analyzed also according to the used policy instruments and made industrial transformation. This part also makes the reader see the importance of the context.

The third part discusses factors influencing demand for various options such as house building industry, energy industry and instruments for change, such as taxes, quota systems, public investment programs, codes and planning. This part also gives information about spatial impacts of design towards low/zero carbon emissions and zero carbon life style. The conclusion of the book discusses key changes needed to support zero carbon homes and life styles.

Therefore, the book achieves the objective of drawing a road map towards low/zero carbon houses successfully. The book is illustrated with more than 100 tables, charts and graphs. It also

contains more than 20 coloured photographs and drawings. The book is useful to professionals in urban planning, architecture, construction and energy sector and students in these areas.

*“This book provides detailed insight into the problems facing those trying to implement a zero carbon homes policy. Of course this could be more widely applied to zero carbon development. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the barriers and opportunities available. It investigates market potential and provides greater insight into the policy instruments that may usefully encourage the wider deployment of zero carbon development. It informs our understanding of the paradigm shift needed, both cultural and institutional, in order to deliver zero carbon development. Overall it offers a road map towards the delivery of zero carbon homes.” (p.348)*