

# Constructing Zero Energy on Budget - design, challenges & opportunities

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## **ABSTRACT**

This presentation is focused on the construction of single family homes that produce the same amount of energy as they consume. We will discuss the basic design elements of Zero Energy Homes (ZEH) and examine several case studies with the focus on advanced building methods to achieve construction on budget with high energy performance in NY State climate. We will also address both the opportunities and challenges created by the operational environment - consumers, contractors, real estate agents, market, culture and policies; and contrast US and Worldwide systems.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Dragana Vlatkovic studied structural engineering in Europe and design in USA. She worked as a lead designer for few big national firms before opening up her own design company. Since the company funding her work has been exclusively focused on design and construction of smaller size homes on tight budget for owners wishing to grow-in-place with flexible living arrangements. Her expertise is in advanced building methods that include use of prefabrication.