



BOLIGPRODUSENTENE



# Greenhouse gas emissions from building sites

Lars Myhre, Ph.D., Technical Director, Norwegian Home Builders' Association

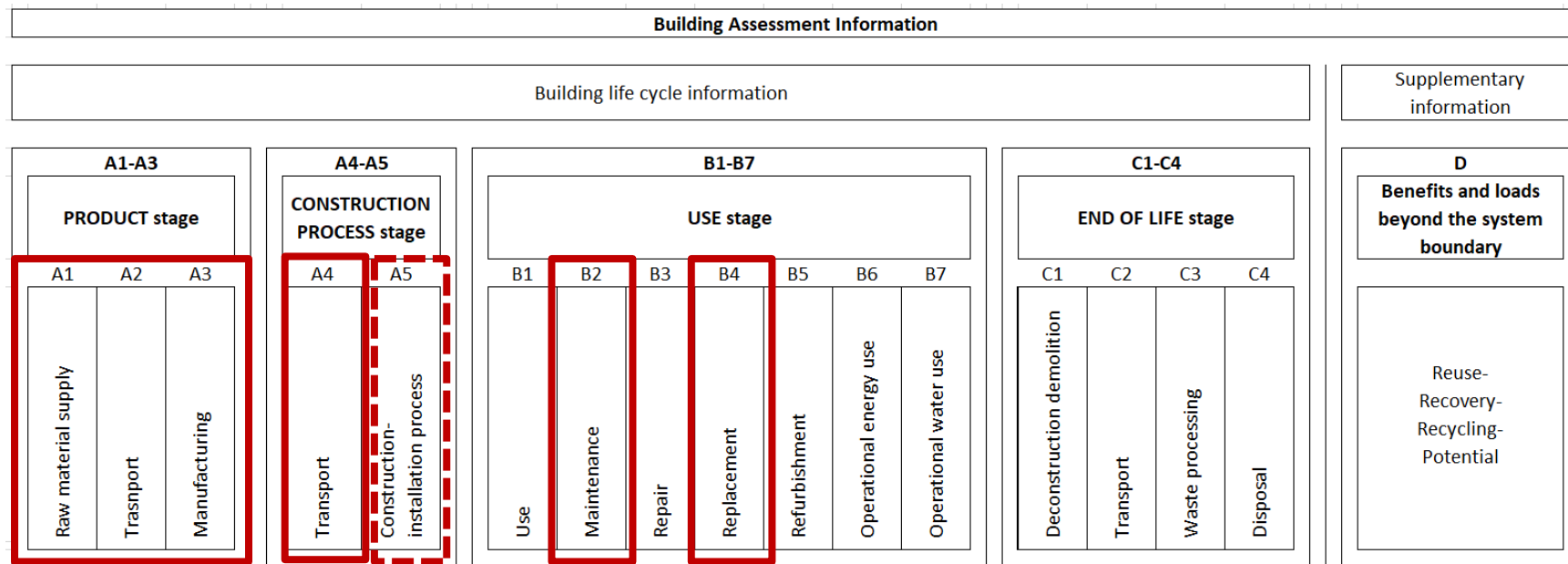
IHA Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, USA, February 26, 2025

# GHG emissions

## Current requirements in the Norwegian technical regulations

- From 2022:  
Mandatory to calculate embodied GHG emissions for block of flats and apartment buildings
- From 2026:  
(most likely) introduction of limits on GHG emissions for all residential buildings

Life cycle  
modules  
included:



Only emissions from wastage on the building site

# Emissions from building sites

The GHG requirement in the technical regulations do not include emissions from:

- heating, ventilation and drying of buildings (during construction)
- construction machinery (excavators, bulldozers, trucks, lifts etc)

But GHG emissions on building sites are addressed in:

- criteria in public procurement
- local zoning plans

The GHG requirement for the building sites may be:

- emission free (= all electric)
- fossil free (= bio energy/bio diesel)



35 tons electric excavator

# Technical requirements are given in the technical regulations

## Ministry of Local Government

- A main principle in the 'Planning and Building Act' that technical requirements are given in the national, technical regulations.
- Local municipalities do not have the authority to introduce their own technical requirements.
- Oslo is challenging this principle

## Ministry of Environment

- Proposal to give local municipalities the authority according to the 'Pollution Act', to set requirements related to emission free and fossil free construction sites.
- Proposal to ban the use of fossil fuels on construction sites from 2040.



***Oslo lacks authority, but will still require fossil free building sites***

# What about costs?

## Cost challenges:

- Battery electric excavators approx. 3 times more expensive
- Sufficient power supply for charging of batteries
- Increasing time use, especially when it is cold (winter)

## Benefits:

- Reduced energy costs
- Reduced noise level, improved air quality on building site

## Report #1

- medium size, emission free building site:
  - extra costs: USD 66 000 – USD 136 000
  - CO2 reduction: 90 metric tons

*Equals:  
USD 730 to 1500 per ton CO2*

## Report #2

- larger non-residential, urban project
  - extra costs: 3 % of the contract value
  - no information on CO2 reductions



BOLIGPRODUSENTE



# Emission free building sites

- Significantly increasing construction costs
- Not cost-efficient
- More symbolic than effective measure to reducing GHG emissions
- Should not be enforced for residential developments

