# Energy and Emissions Reduction at Washington University

Hank Webber

## Washington University's Commitment to Sustainability

Universities play a crucial role in addressing the issues of climate change through teaching, research, and sustainable operations

Washington University is committed to responsibly investing in projects that are financially viable, improve our operations, and advance our sustainability goals

We strive to serve as a model to other large Midwestern institutions

## Sustainability Successes





## **Sustainability Successes**



**Emissions Per Square Foot** 

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## **Sustainability Successes**



## Strategic Plan for Sustainable Operations

- In 2010, the University's first Strategic Plan for Sustainable Operations was published with a focus on energy and emissions reduction
- Recently completed 2015 2020 Strategic Plan for Sustainable Operations
  - Reports progress since 2010
  - Establishes goals and targets for next five years
  - Outlines in-depth action plans, including specific strategies, metrics, and due dates

### **Updated Strategic Plan**



Overarching goal:

Reduce the university's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 without purchasing carbon offsets

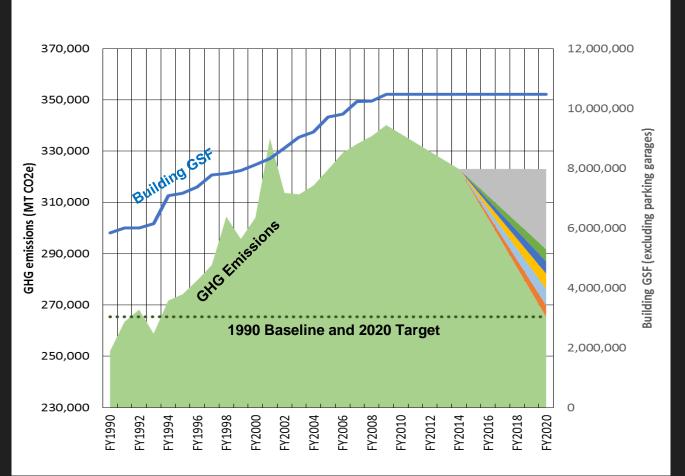
Progress since 2010:

Decreased carbon emissions by 17,199\* metric tons of carbon dioxide, despite adding more than 585,000 square feet of new space.

\* 17,199 MT is a 5% reduction and is equivalent to taking more than 3,600 cars off the road.

## 2010 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal

Reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, including campus growth 1990 – 2010, without purchasing carbon offsets or RECs.

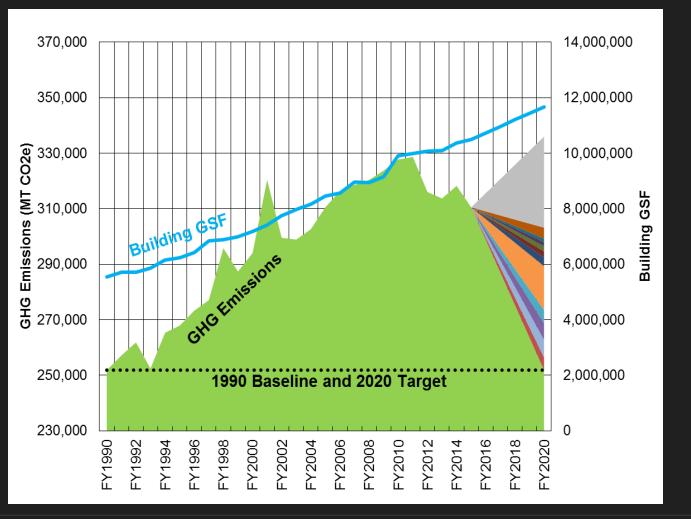


Reduction needed 2015 – 2020:

32,000 from grid <u>26,000 from WU</u> 58,000 metric tons

## 2015 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goal

Reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2020, including campus growth 1990 – 2020, without purchasing carbon offsets or RECs.



Reduction needed 2015 – 2020:

32,800 from grid 51,300 from WU 84,100 metric tons

<u>Financials</u> \$28M investment 7.4-year payback

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## Strategies to Achieve Energy and Emissions Goal

- Improve efficiency of existing infrastructure
  - Utility systems
  - Existing buildings
- Build highly efficient new buildings
- Invest in renewable energy where financially responsible
- Explore next generation low-carbon energy systems

## Improve Efficiency of Existing Infrastructure



## Energy Efficiency in Existing Infrastructure

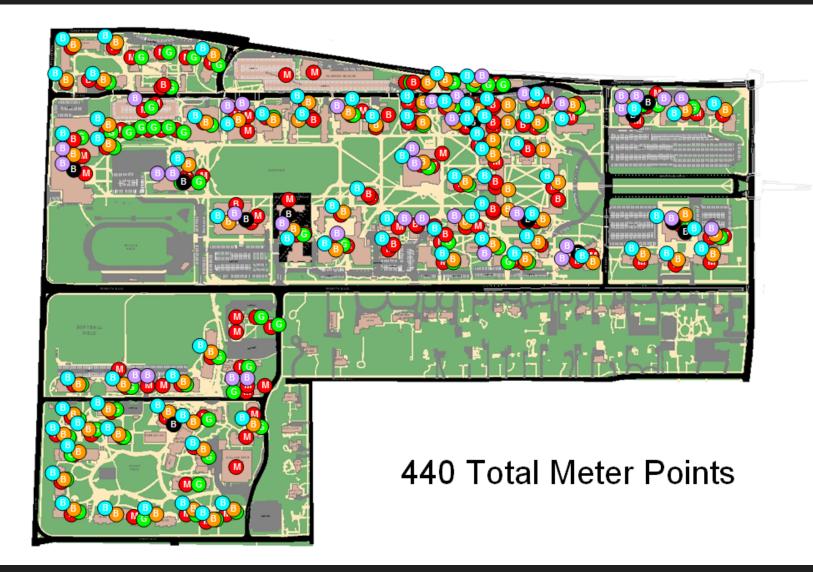
- Utility systems
  - Replace boilers
  - Transition to heat recovery chillers
  - Shift to water distribution system for newest section of campus
- Existing buildings
  - Building metering
  - Lighting retrofits
  - Retrocommissioning

## **Building Metering**

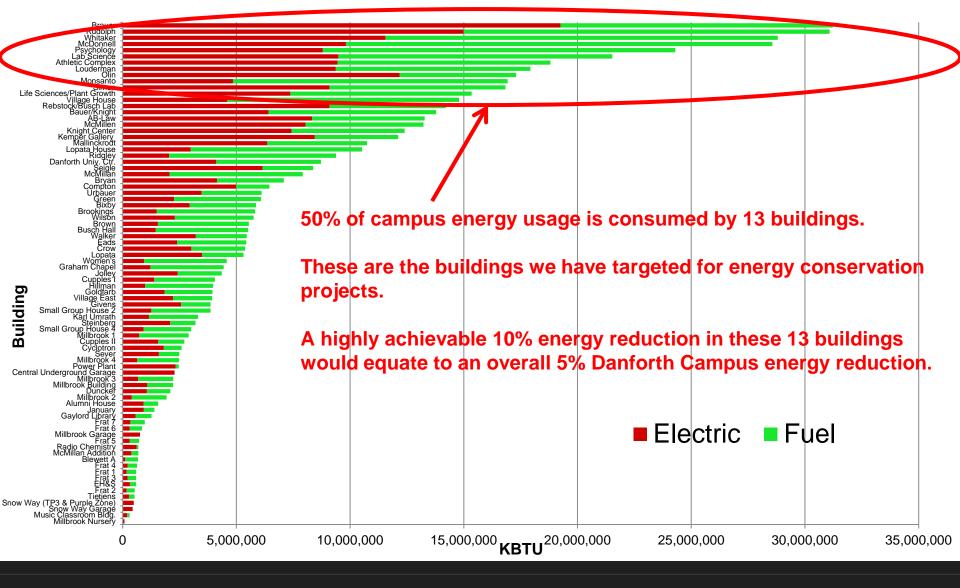
Danforth and Medical campuses recently completed the installation of energy meters in all buildings – over 700 meters Allows us to:

- Quickly flag and correct inefficiencies
- Identify unusually inefficient buildings to target for energy conservation projects
- Support incentive programs to encourage users to conserve energy
- Verify that new construction and energy efficiency projects are operating as designed

### **Total Meter Points**

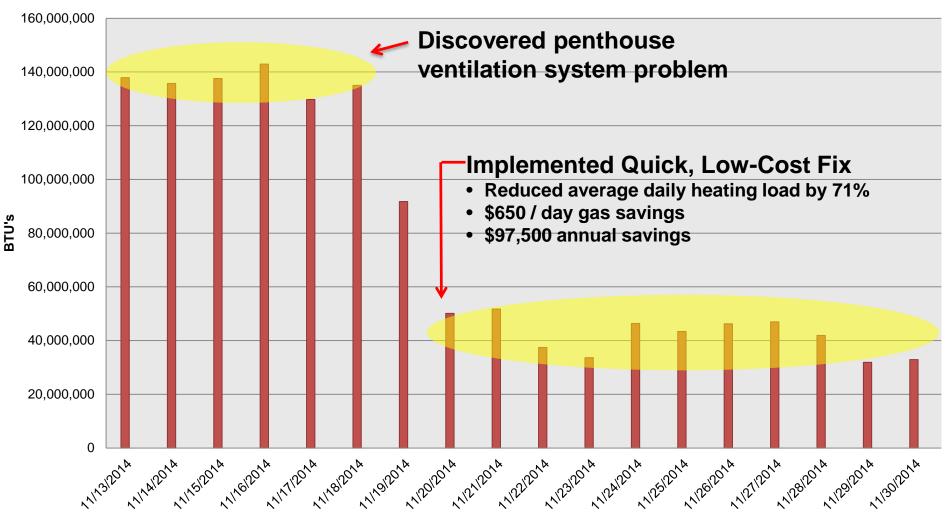


## Identifying High-Use Buildings



## Meters – Flag and Correct Anomalies

#### **Psychology Building Heating BTU's**



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## Retro-Commissioning – Laboratory Sciences

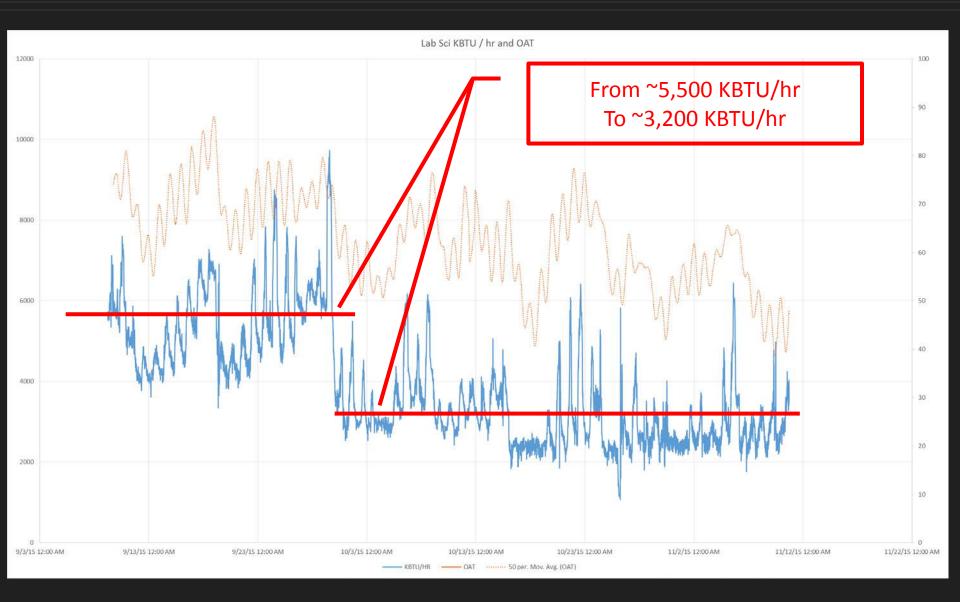
RCx Implementation Included:

- Occupancy controlled lighting, Temperature, and Airflow
- Modify sequence of operation for auditorium air handling unit
- Reduce unoccupied exhaust from teaching labs

<u>Cost</u>	
RCx Study	\$71,600
Implementation	<u>\$193,700</u>
Total	\$265,300
<u>Savings</u>	<b>\$</b> 00,000
Yearly	\$83,800
Simple Payback	3.2 years
NPV <sub>20</sub>	\$977,556
Carbon (MT)	1,289



## Retro-Commissioning Results – Laboratory Sciences



## **Highly Efficient New Buildings**

## **Build Highly Efficient New Buildings**

Two standards adopted in 2010:

- LEED Silver minimum
- 30% ASHRAE 90.1-2007 energy efficiency minimum

### Progress since 2010:

- 1.4 million square feet of new buildings and major renovations
- 95% of this space has exceeded LEED Silver minimum
  - 22% LEED Platinum
  - 73% LEED Gold



## New Buildings – Enhanced Energy Standard

Updated goals:

- 30% ASHRAE 90.1-2010 energy efficiency minimum for new construction
- 20% ASHRAE 90.1-2010 energy efficiency minimum for major renovations
- Project design should include life-cycle cost analysis, utilizing new standards in Financial Modeling Guidelines

## **Recent New Construction Projects**



#### Lofts of Washington University

- Student housing and commercial space
- LEED Platinum
- 46% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2007
- 75kw of solar PV
- Solar thermal provides 25% of domestic hot water

#### Hillman Hall

- Office, classroom, and event space
- LEED Platinum
- 41% better than ASHRAE 90.1-2007
- 50kw of solar PV
- Solar thermal for domestic hot water

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## **Renewable Energy**

## Solar PV Projects

- Total of 580 kw of solar PV installed, including roof ballast-mounted, fixed ground-mounted, dual-axis ground-mounted trackers, and solar carport
- All polycrystalline PV with string inverters. First microinverter project planned for summer 2016
- No battery storage
- Regulatory environment presents challenges for large-scale customer solar



## Planning for Renewables

- Our buildings are built to last over 100 years
- As solar costs drop and traditional energy costs rise, we will likely be able to add on-site solar to both save costs and reduce carbon emissions
- New buildings and major renovations are being planned to streamline future addition of solar, including:
  - Maximizing open roof space
  - Minimizing shading from equipment or architectural features
  - Minimizing roof protrusions that will impact layouts
  - Including chases to electrical and equipment rooms for easier installation

## Exploring Next Generation Low-Carbon Energy Systems



## Enhancements to the East End of the Danforth Campus

A ALCON MARKED





View of Central Green and Brookings Allée

#### Scale

The multi-building scale of the enhancements to the east end of the Danforth Campus presents an opportunity to develop a district-scale heating and cooling solution.

#### Water Distribution

The east end section of campus is the only section of the campus on a hot water distribution system; the other areas are steam. Hot water distribution systems can more easily be integrated with highefficiency equipment, geoexchange, and solar thermal energy.

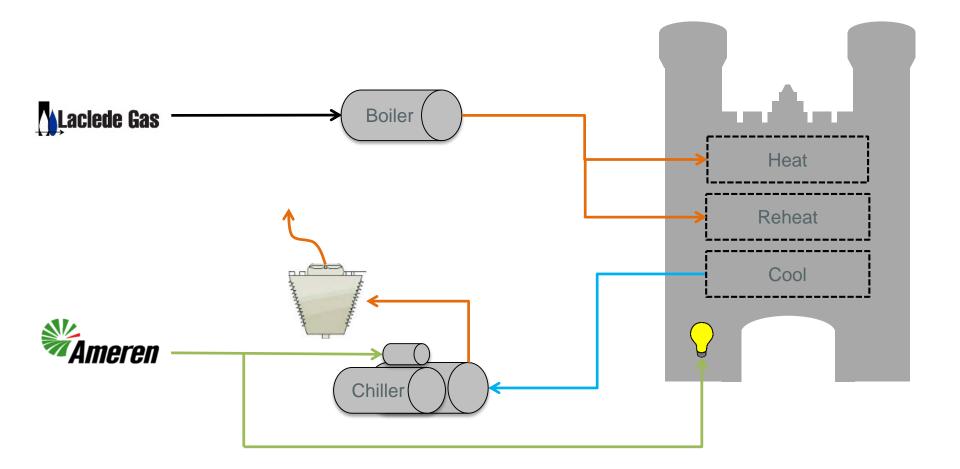
#### Waste Heat

Waste heat that is normally rejected through cooling towers can be an asset with thermal storage and thermally-driven cooling.

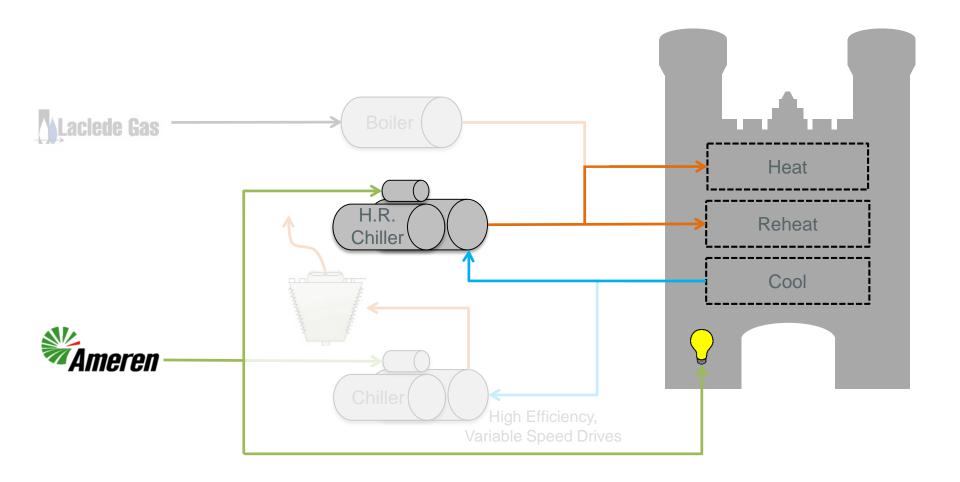
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East End of the Danforth Campus

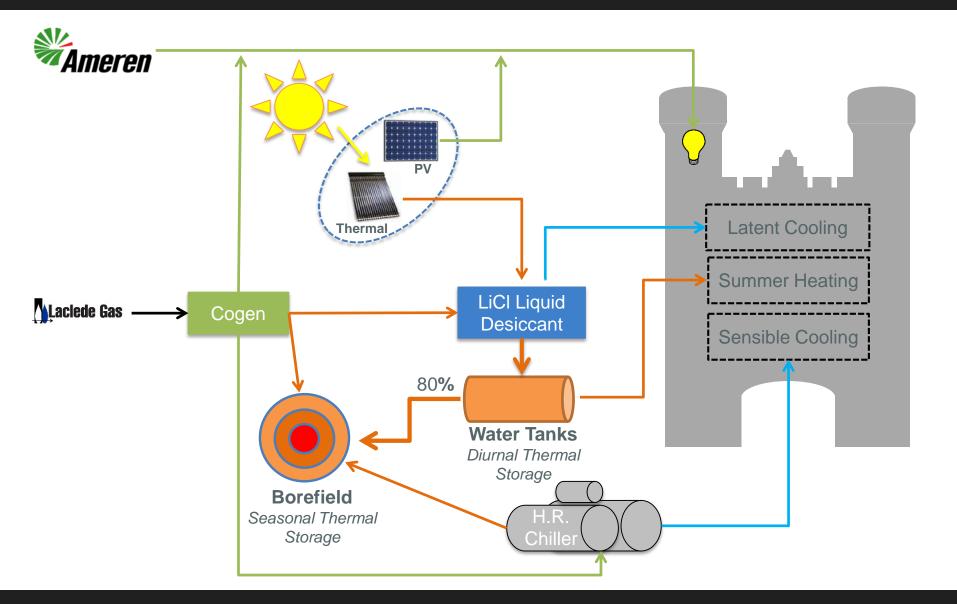
### Energy & Emissions – Industry Standard



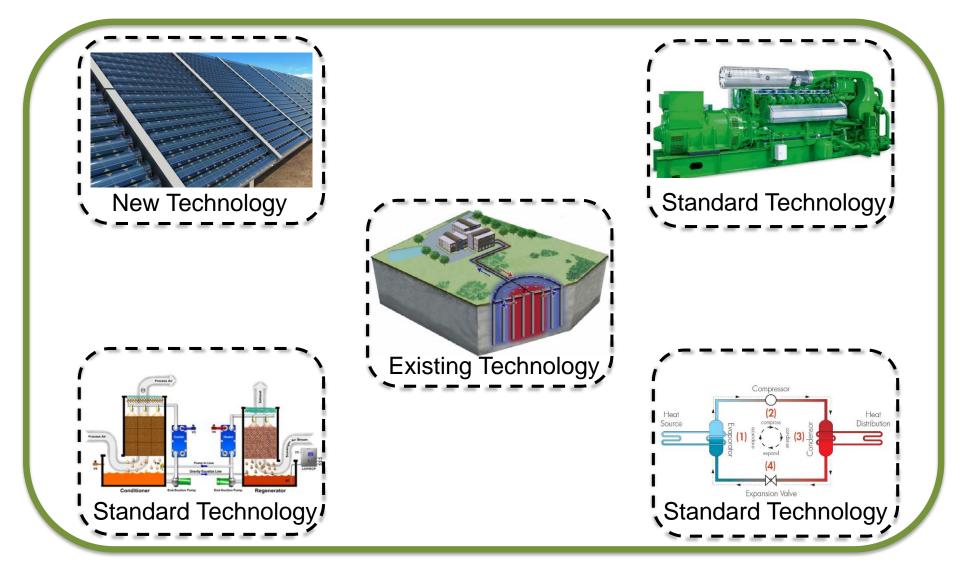
## Energy & Emissions – WUSTL Standard



## **Potential System - Summer**



## Integration = Innovation

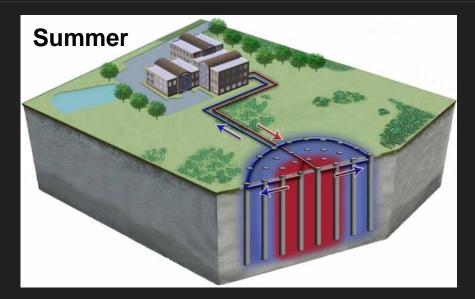


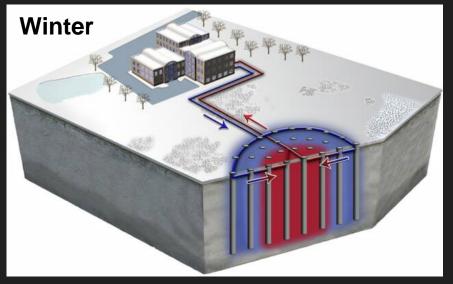
## Borehole Thermal Energy Storage (BTES)

BTES is a form of seasonal thermal energy storage that involves sending heat into bedrock through closed-loop wells in the summer to create an underground hot rock that retains heat until it is needed for space heating in the winter.

The heat is extracted in winter and can be distributed to heat buildings through a district hot water loop.

Heat is actively generated and stored in BTES systems, whereas ground source heat pump systems use the earth's steady temperature as a heat source and heat sink.

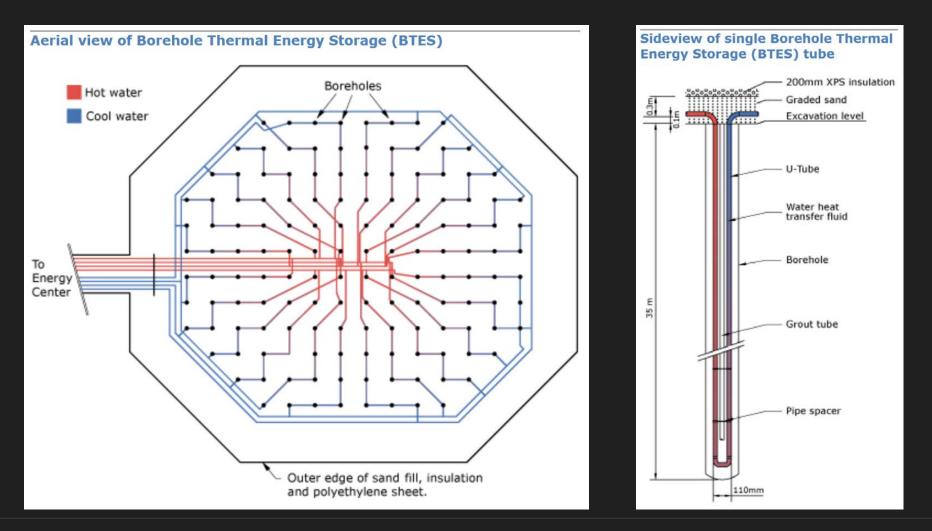




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## **Borehole Thermal Energy Storage**

Heat is exchanged with the earth as water moves through closed loop pipes located in a network of vertical wells.



#### **Peak Power Reduction**

The district energy system is projected to reduce the peak power demand by at least 3 megawatts over the baseline energy system. System optimization may lead to greater reductions.

#### **Carbon Reduction**

Carbon emissions are projected to be 4,000 metric tons lower each year.

#### Resilience

With multiple modes of generation and storage, the system will provide buffers against component failure, grid outages, or loss of natural gas delivery.

#### **Opportunity for Demand Response**

The system and the buildings served could be designed to include demand response controls.

#### Adaptability

The system provides flexibility to evolve as energy technologies evolves.

## WU Approach to Energy and Emissions Reduction

Energy efficiency first.

Plan for renewable energy.

Design flexible systems that can evolve as new technologies are introduced, the grid is modernized, and the financial landscape shifts.



Pursue next generation resilient systems with multiple modes of generation and multiple modes of storage.