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RFP 11-08

# Community Geothermal Energy Study, Charles County, Maryland

**Submitted to:**  
Charles County Government  
Department of Planning & Growth Management  
200 Baltimore Street, P.O. Box 2160,  
La Plata, MD  
20646



**Report Number:** 10-1151-0408

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FINAL REPORT





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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Golder Associates Inc. has conducted a Geothermal Community Energy Study for Charles County Maryland, beginning in February 2011 and extending to January 2012. This Study provides Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management with guidance and direction, to determine the feasibility of geothermal heat pump system design and distribution and how both centralized and decentralized delivery systems can be applied to land uses and developments county wide.

The goals of the Community Geothermal Energy Study are:

1. Reduce owner and operating utility expenses for various types of land developments
2. Document energy and economic impacts and savings
3. Stimulate County wide, economic and energy conservation practices
4. Provide specific guidance that will enable the selection of the most appropriate and effective geothermal heat pump technologies, including equipment, delivery system and ground heat exchange configuration for a potential system installation on the Homefield site in the St. Charles community.

The study area is the entire County of St. Charles and considers both urban and rural sites. Located in Southern Maryland, specific climate, geology, groundwater and water resource information and data has been applied.

This study is designed to also meet the goals of the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program through the Department of Energy. The goals of this program are:

- Reduction of fossil fuel emissions
- Reduction of energy consumption
- Improvement of energy efficiency in three sectors including the building sector

Charles County selected the St. Charles "Homefield" project as a prototype to demonstrate the implementation of geothermal heat pump system into a new construction, mixed density, residential neighbourhood. In the process of its investigation, Golder suggested that specific attention also be applied to the Waldorf Urban area, where infrastructure upgrades are planned.

Golder began this study with a review of geothermal technology as it applies to the built environment of Charles County Maryland. We then conducted a review of the geology and hydrogeology of the county and applied our findings to derive the geothermal technologies that were most suited. Golder assessed the current building structures in the county to describe and estimate the current and future, building heating and cooling requirements. We then applied the estimated geothermal resources to the estimated thermal demands of various building types and future building developments. Finally we built business cases for these applications, to illustrate the potential energy savings, cost savings and emissions reductions.



This Final Report is a compilation of three reports submitted during the course of the Study period.

### REPORT LIMITATIONS

This report (the “Report”) was prepared for the exclusive use of Charles County Government, Maryland to support its internal discussions and evaluation of the potential feasibility of geothermal systems.

The Report is intended to provide applications of geothermal energy to buildings typical to Charles County, Maryland. The Report is based on publicly available information, on information provided by Charles County government, and on the experience of Golder, and must be considered in its entirety. It is also based on discussions with representatives of Charles County, as reported herein. No rock, soil, water, liquid, gas, product or chemical sampling and analytical testing were conducted as part of this Work.

In preparing the Report, Golder has relied in good faith on information provided by other individuals, companies or government agencies noted in the Report. Golder has assumed that the information provided is factual and accurate and Golder has not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of such information. Golder accepts no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this Report as a result of omissions, misinterpretations or fraudulent acts of others. Golder makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the financial significance of its opinions, or as to legal matters touched on in this Report. With respect to our discussion of regulations and incentives, these are subject to periodic amendment and interpretation and these interpretations may change over time.

The scope of Golder’s review is described in this Report, and is subject to restrictions, assumptions and limitations. Except as noted herein, the work was conducted in accordance with the scope, terms and conditions of Golder’s Proposal P0-1151-0408 dated October 26, 2010, RFP No. 11-08 Community Geothermal Study as accepted by Contract signed by Mr. Brent Waters, Managing Associate, Golder Associates Inc. Richmond, Virginia and Ms. Candice Quinn Kelly, President for Charles County Commissioners, Charles County Maryland on January 21, 2011. Golder’s opinions are based upon information that existed at the time of the writing of the Report. It is understood that the services provided for in the scope of work allowed Golder to form no more than an opinion of the potential feasibility of geothermal energy systems. Any use which a third party makes of this Report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the sole responsibility of the third parties. Should additional parties require reliance on this Report, written authorization from Golder will be required. Golder disclaims responsibility of consequential financial effects on transactions or property values, or requirements for follow-up actions and costs.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, or the limitations set herein, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



## **1.0 REPORT I – REVIEW OF GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Submitted in April, 2011, a Preliminary Report “*Review of Geothermal Systems for Charles County Maryland*” (“Report I”) provides a broad overview of geothermal technology and presents a review of fundamental geothermal system designs and configurations, discusses practical project implementation and provides an overview of government regulations and incentives.

## **2.0 REPORT II - ANALYSIS OF BUILDING THERMAL LOADS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES FOR CHARLES COUNTY MARYLAND**

A Second Report “*Analysis of Building Thermal Loads and Geothermal Resources for Charles County Maryland*” (“Report II”) was prepared by Golder and submitted in October 2011. The second report assesses Charles County, specifically evaluating first the current existing and planned building developments and building structure types to determine the need or demand for thermal energy, and second, evaluates the extent and nature and capacity of the geothermal resources available in Charles County. Specific sites of interest were selected and are evaluated in greater detail to highlight opportunities that could possibly deliver highly favorable technical and financial outcomes with the greatest amount of positive economic and environmental impact.

## **3.0 REPORT III – GEOTHERMAL APPLICATIONS TO BUILDINGS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

A Third Report “*Geothermal Applications to Buildings and Developments in Charles County, Maryland*”, applies information developed in Reports I & II to provide the business case for geothermal energy for scenarios including individual buildings, Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Area, and Homefield residential subdivision, including recommendations for each specific scenario. It includes a module on how to economically and financially assess geothermal projects (working Excel model). In summary, this report attempts to develop a high level strategy for geothermal project planning and implementation. It provides an overview of how Charles County Government can move forward to incentive geothermal energy, from strategy, policy and marketing standpoint.



# ATTACHMENT

## Report I - Technology



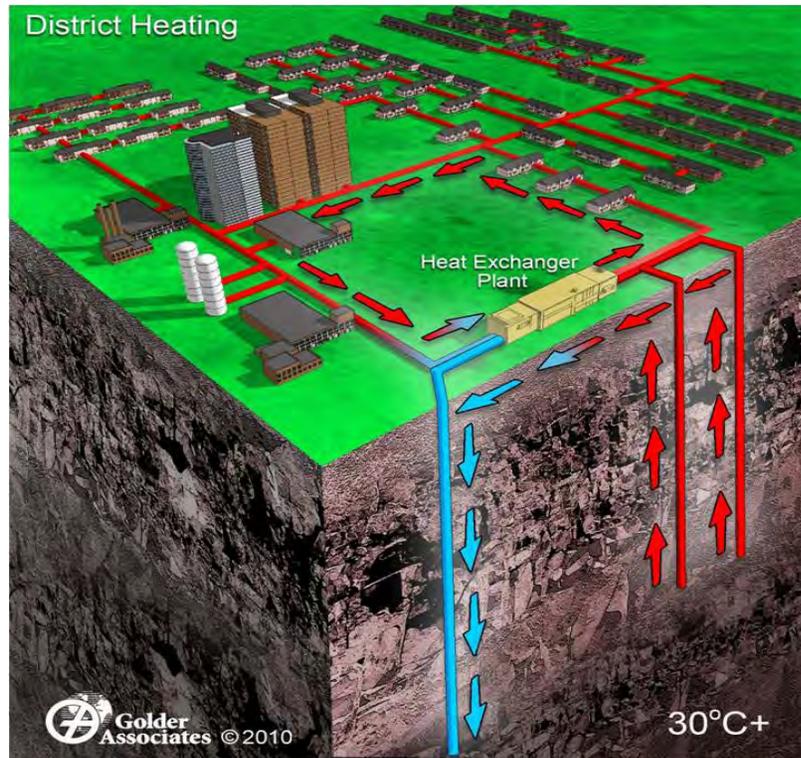
April 2011



PRELIMINARY REPORT

## TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

# Review of Geothermal Energy Systems for Charles County Maryland



**Submitted to:**  
 Charles County Government  
 Department of Planning & Growth Management  
 200 Baltimore Street, P.O. Box 2150,  
 La Plata, MD  
 20646

**Report Number: 10-1151-0408-1**

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### Executive Summary

This report provides a broad overview of geothermal technology as it exists today. It presents a review of fundamental designs and configurations and discusses the more practical factors of installation and project implementation. It also provides a brief overview of government regulations and incentives.

The report attempts to develop the concept of geothermal technology as it may apply to various size developments up to a large scale District Energy System. Geothermal systems can be designed to deliver many different criteria. They are highly flexible in both below ground infrastructure design and in above ground mechanical and building system designs. This creates both a challenge and an opportunity.

The challenge is to integrate the highest level of professional geothermal design engineering and installation experience and the best possible site specific information with knowledge of geology, hydrogeology, thermal conductivity, fluid thermal dynamics, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, building energy modeling and others.

The opportunity is that geothermal energy is everywhere and it is well understood. The application of principals of collaboration and design integration can produce highly effective and efficient sources of renewable and sustainable thermal energy. Scale is another opportunity. Geothermal technologies, while not new, have been continuously improved and are only now beginning to be broadly implemented with economies of scale not yet fully exploited.

It is only now that the economics of energy, the realization that reduced Green House Gas emissions creates better health and a cleaner living environment, the understanding that our urban cities can achieve sustainability affordably, and the concept that renewable means free, are all converging to create demand and higher value for infrastructure that may cost more now but will return benefits for a very long time, in some cases forever.



### Report Limitations

This report (the “Report”) was prepared for the exclusive use of Charles County Government, Maryland, to support its internal discussions and evaluation of the potential feasibility of geothermal systems.

The Report is intended to provide a high level overview of geothermal energy technologies, as it might apply to the development of a decentralised or centralised district energy system in Charles County, Maryland. The Report is based on publicly available information, and on the experience of Golder, and must be considered in its entirety. It is also based on discussions with representatives of Charles County, as reported herein. No rock, soil, water, liquid, gas, product or chemical sampling and analytical testing was conducted as part of this Work.

In preparing the Report, Golder has relied in good faith on information provided by other individuals, companies or government agencies noted in the Report. Golder has assumed that the information provided is factual and accurate and Golder has not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of such information. Golder accepts no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this Report as a result of omissions, misinterpretations or fraudulent acts of others. Golder makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the financial significance of its opinions, or as to legal matters touched on in this Report. With respect to our discussion of regulations and incentives, these are subject to periodic amendment and interpretation and these interpretations may change over time.

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Context

Charles County Maryland, with a 2011 population of approximately 146,000 people covers over 294,000 acres of land bordered by the Potomac River to the west, the Wicomico River to the south-east, Saint Mary's County Maryland to the north-east and Prince Georges County Maryland to the north. According to Countywide population projections developed by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) in 2008, Charles County is expected to grow by an average of 1.7 percent per year, or 45 percent overall from 140,764 people in 2008 to a population of approximately 204,200 people by 2030<sup>1</sup>. This represents an increase of approximately 64,436 people requiring an addition of approximately 24,173 residential dwellings. When this growth is added to the 2008 housing stock of 53,327 units, a projected total of 77,500 residential units, is expected to exist by 2030.<sup>2</sup> In 2002 approximately 17% of the land area in the County was "developed". Population growth projections and development scenarios, described in the Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resources Element July 2010 (Draft) have been adopted for the purposes of this study in order to create consistency and form a basis for comparison.

In this context, geothermal energy is available, geothermal system designs are scalable to demand requirements and the rate of development, with varying economic implications.

Geothermal systems (also known as low-temperature geexchange systems or earth energy systems) are considered to be renewable energy systems and are an alternative to traditional electricity, oil or natural gas fed heating and cooling systems. For the purposes of this study, a geothermal system is defined as a heating and cooling system for buildings that uses liquid to exchange heat with the ground or groundwater.

Charles County is currently engaged in developing heating and cooling solutions for specific sites within the County that have been designated for immediate development, including the Homefield Residential Subdivision. Across the United States, stand alone residential geothermal systems have been increasingly used for heating and cooling single family homes. On a larger scale, as evidenced by an increasing number of projects, geothermal technology is increasingly recognized, as a viable and cost effective source of renewable energy, capable of supplying large scale commercial and multi-residential developments with all the heating and cooling they require.

In addition to consideration of privately owned geothermal systems, Charles County Maryland has expressed an interest in developing its capability to heat and cool buildings in the region, by potentially providing a geothermal energy supply utility service, which could be a source of revenue while supporting a best practice and sustainability business model. Charles County must satisfy its various stakeholders, rate payers as well as tax payers, with services, returns on investment, technical and business risks that are within prescribed parameters.

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<sup>1</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 4 (Source: MDP, 2008 Estimates for Maryland's Jurisdictions)

<sup>2</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 5 (Source: Maryland Property View, 2008)



### 1.2 Objectives of this Report

The main objective of this report is to provide context and background to assist Charles County MD in considering geothermal technology as a viable, cost effective and market attractive source of energy. This is a preliminary report, intended to provide a summary discussion of possible geothermal technologies and configurations. This report is not intended to be a comprehensive manual or review of geothermal technologies.

As part of the Charles County Community Geothermal Study 11-08 this is only a preliminary report, with further information and reports to follow. It is intended to initiate discussion, and provide basic information about geothermal technologies that will be referenced in future work which will be focused specifically on the local conditions and circumstances of Charles County MD.

Report objectives are:

- Describe various geothermal technologies
- Describe various scale geothermal systems and applications
- Outline the project development cycle of a large scale centralised geothermal system
- Indicate the order of magnitude capital and operating costs of a geothermal system, using a project development cycle financial model
- Identify resources and capabilities required to install geothermal systems
- Outline government regulations and incentives
- Analyse the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of a geothermal business strategy
- Anticipate and identify challenges of implementation
- List case examples, identifying costs and benefits

### 1.3 Scope of Work

The technology that is considered in this report is limited to technology that has been installed in North America and is applicable to residential, commercial and multi-residential building development. This report does not provide an exhaustive survey of technologies and equipment available or innovations being developed.

The portion of the geothermal system that is considered in this report is limited to the exterior loop component, including the immediate connection to the building that may be housed in a lower interior level of a building. This can be considered the “exterior” or “primary” geothermal system. The interior “HVAC” geothermal system may include water pipe connectors, heat exchangers, water-to-water and/or water-to-air heat pumps, air ducting, electrical connections, sensors and controls, desuperheaters, radiant in-floor or in-wall piping, make up air units, fan coils and many other pieces of equipment that may be connected to the primary geothermal system. Typically, the HVAC system of a building, while specified to be compatible with



the primary geothermal system, is designed by a mechanical electrical consultant retained by each building developer. This report contains a description of a geothermal system design integration process.

First, a review of the geothermal technologies in use today was conducted.

Second, the metrics of known geothermal projects were analysed to derive observations and indicators of project development processes and costs.

Third, relevant government regulations and incentives were surveyed and identified.

Finally, a SWOT analysis was performed and an assessment of operational and financial implementation was done.

The information produced in this report is for the internal consideration of Charles County MD to determine whether to further pursue, geothermal energy promotion or supply, as a policy or business direction. Further study and development is required for feasibility of any one site or situation, to be determined.



### 1.4 Glossary and Definition Acronyms

All glossary explanations and definitions are solely for the purposes of this document.

**Antifreeze:** a modifying agent added to water in closed-loop systems to lower its freezing temperature.

**Aquifer:** a layer of permeable rock or soil that has the potential to yield groundwater in usable quantities, to springs or wells.

**Aquifer thermal energy storage (ATES):** underground thermal energy storage in which the beneficial thermal energy potential is carried by the groundwater into the aquifer and later retrieved via groundwater flow back to the surface through water wells, piping, heat exchangers and pumps.

**Borehole thermal energy storage (BTES):** underground thermal energy storage in which rock or soil is the thermal store and the heat transfer medium is a heat-transfer fluid in a borehole heat exchanger.

**Building Code:** Charles County Building Code, effective 06-04-2010, adopting the International Building Code 2009 (IBC), the International Residential Code 2009 (IRC), the International Energy Conservation Code, the 2009 International Fuel Gas Code, the 2009 International Existing Building Code, the 2009 International Mechanical Code, published by The International Codes Council, Inc. as amended by periodic supplements and Charles County Bill No. 2010-08

**Building Code Act:** Charles County Bill 2010-08, Chapter 224, effective 06-04-2010, as amended by periodic supplements

**Central pumping station:** for purposes of this report, the room inside a building where the geexchange loop headers accumulate, manifold and terminate, connecting to circulation pumps and possibly other mechanical equipment and delivering tempered water to interior building circulation pipes.

**Energy pile:** a building pile or structural cement footing into which closed-loop geexchange pipe work is incorporated, allowing it to be used as a heat exchanger.

**GeoExchange:** Thermal energy, heating and cooling, collected and processed from low temperature ground source heat, created by the sun's radiation and stored in the upper levels of the earth's crust. (also called Earth Energy, Ground Source Energy, Low-temperature geothermal energy, Shallow geothermal energy)

**GeoPower:** Electricity generated from high temperature water and steam, heated by the earth's core.

**Geothermal Energy:** any mechanical system, which taps into the earth's reservoir of heat, to produce energy, electricity or thermal. (also used to describe GeoPower vs. GeoExchange)

**Ground Energy Balance:** ground energy balanced geexchange systems are those where the amount of energy extracted and the amount of heat dispersed during an annual cycle are approximately equal, therefore, such systems, do not induce a gradual increase or decrease of ground temperature over years of use.



**Ground-heat exchanger:** a continuous, sealed, underground pipe or loop through which a heat-transfer fluid flows to and returns from a heat pump or other heating and cooling extraction equipment.

**Grout:** in the context of geexchange systems, grout is a low permeability material used to create a thermally conductive medium and hydraulic seal throughout a vertical borehole heat exchanger.

**Header:** a pipe assembly used in a closed-loop geexchange system that connects multiple parallel pipe loops to supply or return piping.

**Heat pump:** in the context of geexchange systems, a mechanical device used to transfer heat from a geexchange loop system, to a building by means of a heat exchanger system (including a condenser, an evaporator, an expansion valve and a compressor), requiring electrical energy in the process. The device allows the cycle to be reversed so that the heat pump can function as a heater or as a cooling device.

**Heat transfer fluid:** a solution of water and antifreeze agents in closed-loop systems to lower the freezing temperature. Where applicable and permitted by the authority having jurisdiction, chemical inhibitors to protect the solution's biological and chemical integrity and to prevent corrosion of system pipes, may be added to the solution.

**Horizontal geexchange system:** for the purposes of this report, a geexchange system constructed using excavated open trenches for closed-loop installation.

**Horizontal tie-ins:** for the purposes of report, a series of headers connecting parallel loop connectors, laid in trenches, culminating at and connection to the central building pumping station.

**Safe Drinking Water Act 1974 (SDWA):** amended 1986 and 1996, to protect human health from contaminants in drinking water and to prevent contamination of existing groundwater supplies.

**Standing column well (SCW):** an open-loop system where groundwater is extracted from the ground, by being pumped from an open vertical pipe that extends to the bottom of a water well; it is then passed through a heat exchanger and finally is returned to the ground by way of a discharge annulus placed between the vertical pipe and the wall of the well.

**Underground thermal energy storage (UTES):** a subsurface application of thermal energy storage using groundwater and/or the ground for storage of supplied energy.

**Vertical geexchange system:** for the purposes of this report, a geexchange system constructed using vertical bore holes for either closed-loop or open-loop configurations.

**Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010** – part of the Charles County Comprehensive Plan, a policy framework for sustaining public drinking water supplies and protecting the County's waterways and riparian ecosystems by effectively managing point and nonpoint source water pollution, complies with the requirements of Article 66B of the Annotated Code of Maryland – as modified by Maryland House Bill 1141, passed in 2006.



**Water Taking Regulation:** Code of Maryland Regulations 26.04.02 - On-Site Water Supply and Sewage Disposal

**Acronyms used in this report:**

ASHRAE: American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, Air-Conditioning Engineers

COP: Coefficient of performance: the ratio of heating (or cooling) energy delivered by a heat pump to the electrical energy (or other primary energy) required to power it (also refers to energy in /energy out of a complete system)

DX: Direct Exchange

EWT: Entering Water Temperature

EU: European Union

GHX: Geothermal Heat Exchange or GeoExchange

HDPE: high density polyethylene

HVAC: heating, ventilation and air conditioning

ICI: Industrial, commercial and institutional

IGSHPA: International Ground-Source Heat Pump Association

LWT: Leaving Water Temperature

MEA: Maryland Energy Administration

MCEC: Maryland Clean energy Centre

NA: North America

RESA: Renewable Energy Supply Agreement

SCW: Standing column well

SMECO: Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative

TRT: Thermal Response Test



## 2.0 OVERVIEW OF GEOTHERMAL TECHNOLOGIES

The terms geothermal energy and geothermal are often interchanged. More and more, “geothermal” is being used to describe any mechanical system that taps into the earth’s reservoir of heat, to produce energy. The mechanical systems require electricity to operate, for pumping and circulating, water, air and heat. None-the-less, geothermal systems are considered sources of 100% renewable energy, since no other energy source, neither electricity nor fossil fuels, is converted to the energy output. It is simply used as a means to collect and move the energy.

There are two fundamental types of geothermal energy:

**GeoPower:** Electricity generated from high temperature water and steam, heated by the earth’s core. If hot springs or volcanic heat is not available near the surface, then drilling to a depth of several thousand feet is usually required to access the high temperatures required.

**GeoExchange:** Thermal energy, heating and cooling, collected and processed from low temperature ground source heat, found in the upper layers of the earth’s crust. Radiation from the sun is absorbed by the earth and stored to depths of approximately 20 feet, where the earth’s temperature tends to normalize, supported by core heat, increasing very gradually to depths ranging from several hundred feet to several thousand feet, where high temperature core heat is found.

For the purposes of considering the delivery of heating and cooling to buildings, it is GeoExchange technology that we are relying on. According to common use, for the purposes of this report and since GeoPower is not being considered here, the term Geothermal is used when describing GeoExchange.

Geothermal system design is based on creating an infrastructure for exchanging heat with the earth, using water, overburden or bedrock, or a combination of all three as a ground source of energy or energy storage. High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe is inserted into the ground in one of several configurations, to conduct a flow of water or refrigerant or a mix of both, in order to conduct thermal energy transfer

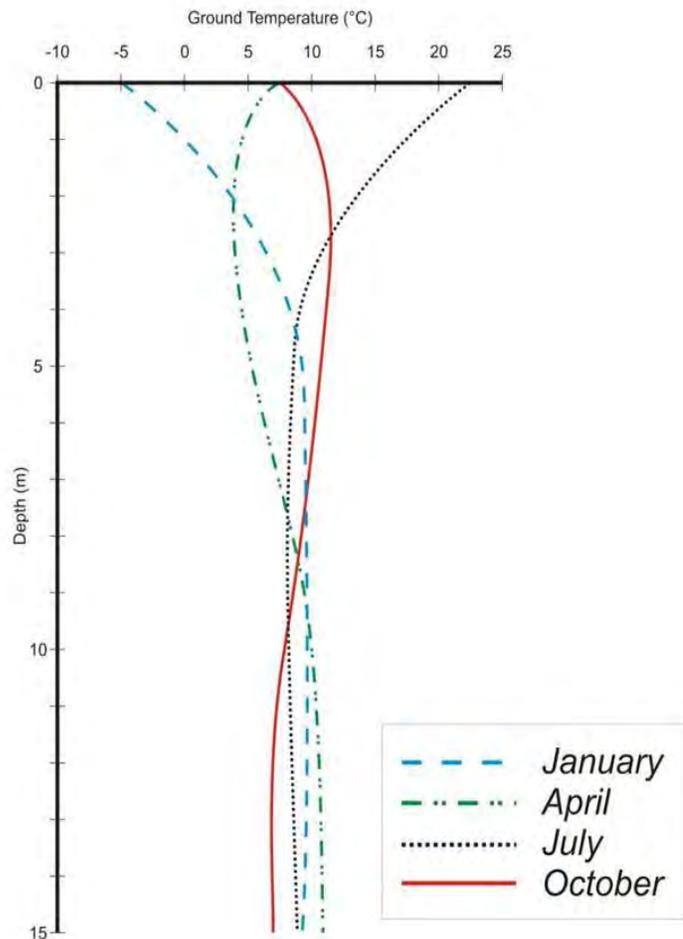


Figure 1: Ground Temperatures



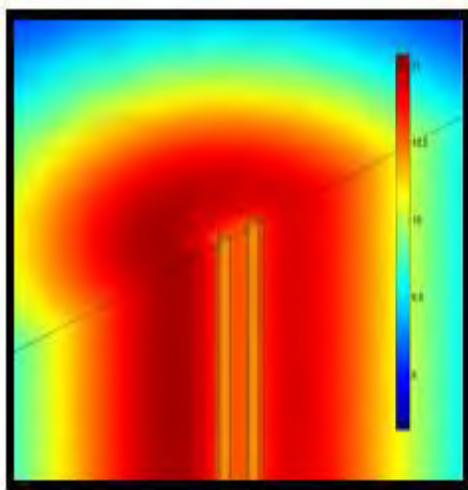
from the ground to the mechanical systems above ground and back again. In other words, thermal energy is collected below ground and delivered above ground, or it can be reversed, to collect energy above ground and deliver it to the ground below.

Ground temperatures in Maryland are approximately 55°F and are constant from levels of approximately 20 feet below ground surface to depths of 600 feet and well beyond. By exposing warmer water or cooler water to this ground temperature, for long enough, the temperature will normalize back to 55°F.

Geothermal heat exchange pipes can be laid horizontally in open trenches, as long as they are deep enough to be below the frost line. Alternatively, geothermal heat exchange pipes can be installed into boreholes drilled hundreds of feet into the ground.

**Underground Thermal Energy Storage (UTES):** If additional heat is carried into the ground in a concentrated time frame, then the surrounding earth will absorb more heat than its ambient temperature, with the amount controlled by the thermal absorption properties of the type of ground present, and will store this heat for some time. We have all felt the heat of a warm rock, well into a cool evening. With borefield design engineering, the ground can be used for thermal storage, known as Underground Thermal Energy Storage (UTES).

UTES is used in two different ways, depending on how much groundwater movement exists at the site. Water is an excellent conductor of heat and enhances thermal conductivity in borefields. Groundwater exists in most sites. However, it can be relatively stable or it can be moving, sometimes under high pressure. Moving groundwater, present in aquifers, carries significant heat away from the borefield, which is an advantage if cooling is required, but is a disadvantage if heat retention is required. Aquifer Thermal Energy Storage (ATES) systems are designed to use moving groundwater to carry heat away from the boreholes. Borehole Thermal Energy Storage (BTES) systems are designed where little groundwater movement exists and operate by storing energy in the ground and retrieving it up to several months later.



*Figure 2: Thermal Borehole Model*

Thus, understanding ground conditions is imperative for efficient design of geothermal systems. This is accomplished, using multiple sources of information, hydrogeological investigation, groundwater modeling, site investigations, and by conducting a computer monitored, thermal response test (TRT) in test wells.

In some cases, computer thermal energy modelling can further define and refine heat transfer process into well engineered and reliable borefield designs. Borefield production sustainability is a prime objective of any borefield design, so that the borefield continues to produce the heating and cooling required for the life of the system, which can easily be 50 years and more. Computer technology and programs designed specifically for borefield design, used by specialists who have accumulated knowledge and experience produce optimized and efficient borefields that operate over long periods of time, with a high degree of reliability.



### 3.0 GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM COMPONENTS

In this section of the report, reference is made to commercial and multi-residential buildings to reduce complexity. This is not intended to eliminate other buildings from discussion, but is rather used as a point of reference to explain principals that apply to all geothermal systems.

A Geothermal system has three distinct circuits: the energy supply or ground loop circuit, the energy processing and delivery or mechanical circuit and the energy use or building HVAC circuit. Each of these three system components has numerous constraints, options and variables. A variety of technical disciplines are routinely integrated to produce complex, optimised solutions. Geothermal system technology and design draws from the following expertise:

- Ground loop circuit: geology, hydrogeology, thermal and dynamic flow measurement and modeling, environmental science;
- Mechanical circuit: mechanical engineering, civil engineering and for large scale systems, industrial engineering; and
- Building HVAC circuit: architecture, mechanical engineering, building science.

### 3.1 Geothermal Ground Loop Circuit

Geothermal systems rely on thermal conductivity. Thermal conductivity is the rate at which media transfers heat. The earth is made of many types of rock and soil that may contain significant quantities of water. Each of these earth media has different properties of thermal conductivity. Geothermal systems are designed to produce a project specific quantity of heat energy and cooling capacity that is dependent on the specific heat of the ground mass, the thermal conductivity of the ground and the properties of the exchange system fluids and piping.

Geothermal ground circuits have two fundamental design types, open-loop and closed-loop. There is also one variation of an open-loop system, called a Standing Column Well system that is worth discussing separately.

#### 3.1.1 Open-loop Systems

Two HDPE pipes are inserted into a reservoir of water either surface water such as a lake, or groundwater such as an aquifer. One pipe extracts water from the water reservoir, delivering it to the mechanical equipment above ground, which extracts heat from, or rejects heat to, the flowing water. A second pipe injects the thermally altered water, back into the reservoir.

While open-loop systems do not consume water, they do alter the temperature and potentially change the chemical content of the water they use. Therefore, in most jurisdictions, open-loop systems require Environmental Impact Assessments, Water Extraction Permits and continuous monitoring and verification by government regulation agencies. Open-loop systems are exposed to variations in the water supply they rely on, such as changing temperatures, flow rates, water quality and volume of supply. Thus, reliability of such systems is sometimes influenced by factors beyond the full control of the system design and operation.

Open-loop systems can be significantly cheaper to install than closed-loop systems because they either require no drilling at all or they require much less drilling. Where there are proven resources of good quality water, with



adequate flow and reliable supply, they can be a very effective and efficient source of geothermal energy. For reasons of supply and environmental uncertainty, open-loop system designs are often rejected.

However, with significant aquifers present under the region and with a larger demand for cooling than for heating, Charles County may want to consider open-loop geothermal systems.

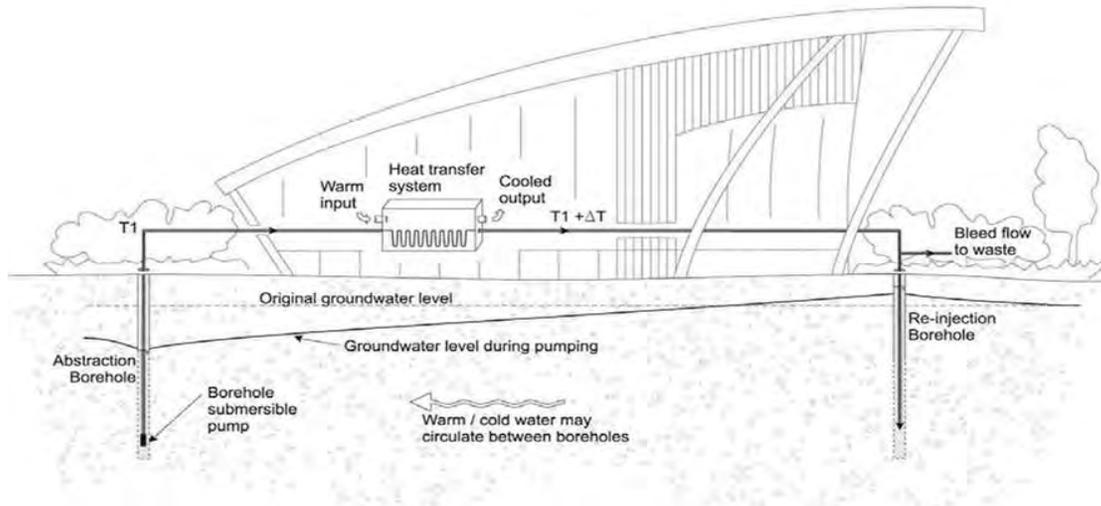


Figure 3: Open-Loop System with reinjection well

### 3.1.1.1 Open-Loop Standing Column Wells

There is an engineered variation of the open-loop Geothermal system that is used for some installations, where ground water flow is not high enough to support a true open-loop system and land area available is not enough to support a closed loop borefield of the size required.

Called a Standing Column Well (SCW) system, a large diameter bore hole is drilled to a depth well below the level of the ground water at that site. The bore hole fills with ground water, which is extracted through an open ended pipe from the bottom of the well and re-injected in the upper part of the same well.

SCW systems do not depend on groundwater flow and aquifer yield in the same way a true open-loop systems do. However they do rely on ground water presence to provide thermal exchange. They can be useful where available land area is not large enough to accommodate a closed-loop system.

Like other open-loop systems, SCW systems require less drilling and can be cheaper to install. However they are still exposed to ground water condition changes, beyond the control of the system design and

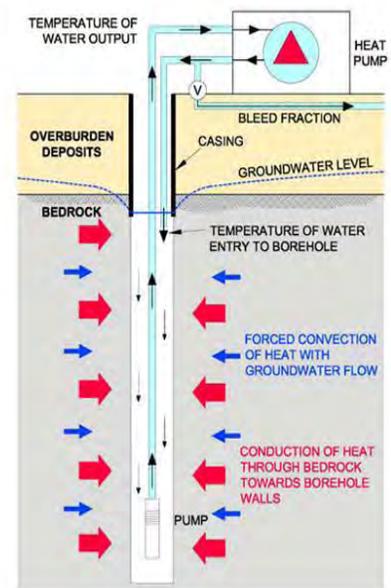


Figure 4: Standing Column Well



operations. In most jurisdictions they are subject to Water Well regulations and permitting.

### 3.1.2 Closed-loop Systems

In a closed-loop system, a single HDPE pipe is manufactured in a continuous loop configuration, designed to carry water or a water/refrigerant solution, into the ground and bring it back out again, all the while exchanging heat with the earth through the walls of the pipe, without depositing or collecting any water from or into the ground. (Note: a different type of closed-loop system is sometimes used for small installations, called Direct Exchange or DX, whereby the pipe is made of copper through which a refrigerant flows. The life of these systems is limited to the life of the copper pipe, which is extended by the application of a moisture control coating, but is nonetheless significantly shorter than that of HDPE loop systems. Refrigerants today are much less toxic than five or more years ago, however they are still refrigerants and more toxic than the water solutions used in HDPE pipe closed-loop systems. For the purposes of this report, DX systems are not considered further.)

Closed-loop systems do not exchange any water with the ground, they only exchange heat energy. They are installed in relatively stable ground and bedrock. To the extent that the ground moves, closed-loop systems can be damaged, though they are built to withstand minor earth tremors and settlement. In most jurisdictions, closed-loop systems do not require Environmental Assessments or special permitting. Most municipalities do require geothermal system design drawings to be submitted to Building Departments, along with architectural drawings for application for building permits.

There are many design configurations of closed-loop systems and new configurations are progressively being developed, in response to new and strengthening drivers such as:

- new mechanical equipment with broader input parameters and higher operating efficiency
- increasing urban density and the high cost of land
- electricity and fossil fuel prices change
- increasing cost of finding and harvesting energy, to replace depleting supply sources
- higher capability computer modeling and analysis software is available
- increasing demand for energy
- awareness and desire for renewable energy supplies
- better understanding of financial returns of long life renewable energy assets
- evolving technology of hybrid and integrated complex systems

Closed-loop geothermal systems are extremely flexible. They can be installed in virtually any configuration that allows measured and efficient heat transfer. This includes horizontally in trenches or horizontal bore holes and vertically in drilled boreholes, which can be spread along a perimeter or roadway or clustered in a grid pattern. Ground circuit installations do not need to be on the same site as the building(s) being supplied. Underground water piping can be installed, similar to water and sewer mains, to create a distribution and return conduit with a central plant or building. Some communities are referring to these pipe distribution networks as “the thermal grid” acting like the “electricity grid”.



Closed-loop Geothermal systems are very scalable. Thermal conductivity can be tested and measured and systems can be designed as large or as small as required although available land area is often a constraint.

### 3.1.2.1 Closed-Loop Horizontal Configuration

Where land area allows, HDPE loops can be installed horizontally, coiled in trenches dug to a depth of as little as 4 ft. interacting in earth that heats and cools with the seasons. Alternatively larger diameter straight pipe can be installed on the bed of a depleted quarry, before backfill is applied to re-contour the site for redevelopment. These ‘Horizontal Systems’ require no drilling and are therefore less expensive to install than vertical systems. Depending on the depth of the loops and the amount of seasonal temperature change of the ground, a horizontal system can recharge itself seasonally, with no design requirement to “balance” the geothermal field.

Horizontal systems require large tracts of land, relative to the amount of energy produced. They are particularly suitable for schools which require only heating and have large playgrounds. Retail and commercial buildings with large parking lots, or agricultural buildings such as greenhouses surrounded by fields or even golf courses can be ideal for horizontal geothermal system installation. Horizontal loop installations can also play a role in balancing complex vertical borehole Geothermal systems; however land for large horizontal systems is often not available or not affordable.

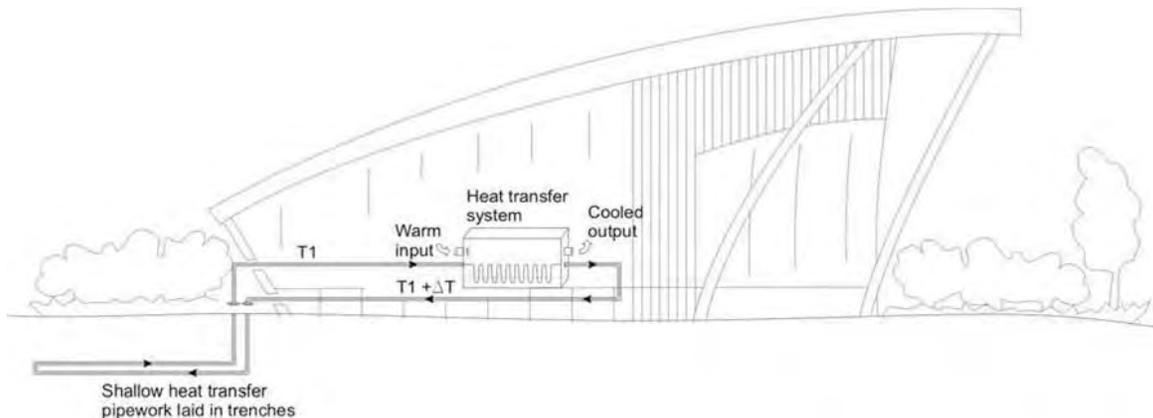


Figure 5: Closed-Loop Horizontal System

### 3.1.2.2 Closed-Loop Vertical Borehole Configuration

A closed-loop vertical borehole Geothermal system is created by boring holes into the ground and inserting U-shaped HDPE loops, which are then grouted in place, enhancing the heat transfer between the ground and the water flowing through the HDPE loop. Grouting protects the groundwater from contamination by water seeping from the surface and also protects against aquifer cross-contamination. Where there is significant aquifer flow or loose soil or rock conditions, steel casing is often inserted at the same time as the borehole is being drilled to maintain the integrity of the borehole until the grout can be installed. The steel casing is usually extracted to be reused, but is sometimes left in place if extraction is not practical.

Vertical boreholes can be installed beneath a new construction building footprint, in roadways and laneways, in sports fields, parks and school yards, in railway track beds and hydro access rights of way, beneath elevated



roadways and in transportation tunnels as they are built. They are routinely drilled up to 600 feet deep, and with suitable equipment, can be drilled to 1000 ft. deep and much more. The constraint with depth is not the drilling, but rather the proper and efficient installation of the HDPE pipe into the borehole and the larger pipe diameters required to produce the additional strength needed to withstand the higher pressures at depth.

Vertical borehole systems can be designed to perform differently according to the thermal conductivity of the ground available and the thermal requirements or loads of the buildings to be supplied. A vertical bore field will usually be designed in one of two ways:

- 1) each borehole interacts independently with the ground, relying on the ground along with any water flow within it, to completely disperse 100% of the energy injected into it in the summer and supply 100% of the energy required in winter. This design relies on either enough ground water movement to move energy away from the borehole or enough space between the boreholes, so that they do not interact with each other.
- 2) each borehole interacts with the ground and with surrounding boreholes, creating underground thermal energy storage (UTES). In summer, heat is rejected and stored in the ground rather than completely dispersed, and in winter that same heat is collected and reused. This design relies on little groundwater movement so that energy is retained within the bore field and it requires that the boreholes be positioned in a calculated grid pattern so that they interact with each other as designed. This design also relies on the bore field operations being balanced, that is that the consumption of energy for heating is approximately equal to the rejection of energy from cooling. This ensures that over time, the bore field will not heat up or cool down, impacting its performance. Imbalanced building loads can be altered to create more balance by building mechanical design and by choosing to connect some building thermal equipment to the geothermal system while rejecting other thermal equipment to be supplied by other sources of energy. This process of “mechanical design integration” with the borefield design can be very important to overall system efficiency, cost and performance.

Underground thermal energy storage works extremely well for large commercial or multi-residential buildings, where the borefield can be installed in a tight grid underneath the building before it is built. In Maryland, the heating and cooling energy consumption volumes of these buildings may not be balanced and the presence of aquifers may carry energy away from the borefield. Except in areas where borehole depth is designed to not intersect with aquifers, UTES is probably not a good option in Charles County. However, used properly in geothermal system design, the aquifers under Charles County can be a great source of cooling.

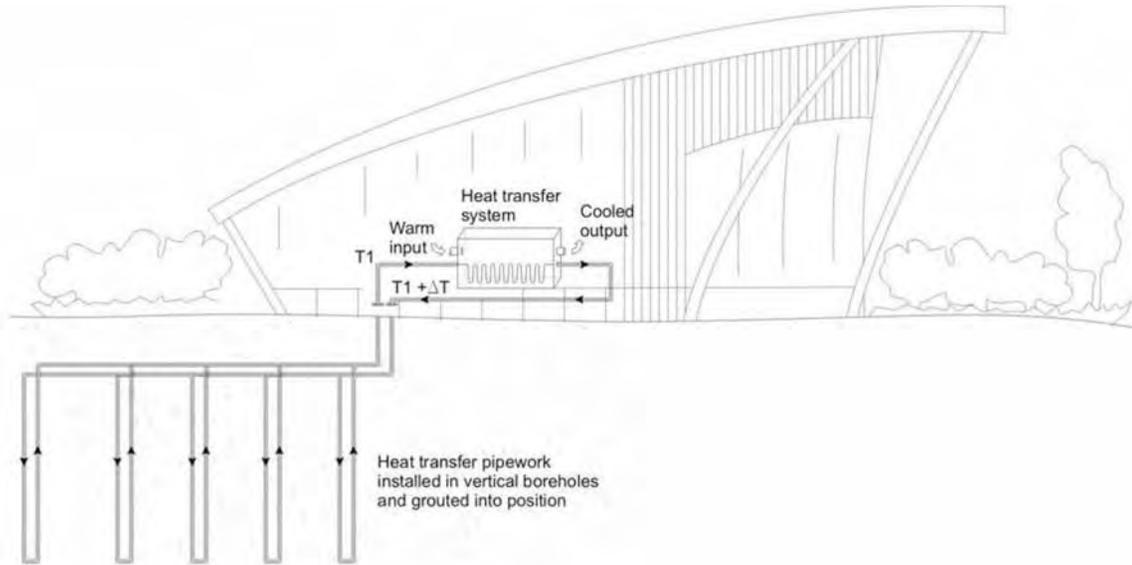


Figure 6: Closed-Loop Vertical Borehole System

### 3.2 GeoExchange Mechanical Circuit

Geothermal systems rely on heat pump technology. A geothermal heat pump exchanges heat from the ground loop circuit, through a mechanical or energy augmentation circuit, to the building HVAC circuit. A heat pump can operate in either a heating mode or in a cooling mode; in winter collecting heat from the ground, adding additional heat from compression to it and delivering it through either water or air, to heat a building or in summer collecting heat from a building, expanding it and delivering it to the ground. Each of the three circuits, the ground, the mechanical and the building are separate and do not exchange fluids between them. Only energy is transferred.

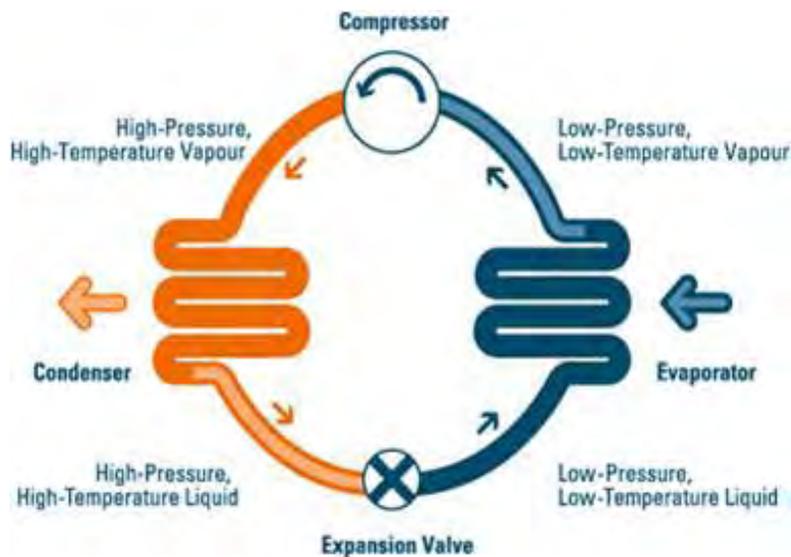


Figure 7: Heat Pump Operation



Geothermal systems are very efficient, because one borefield and one set of mechanical equipment can supply both heating and cooling. A heat pump does require electricity to operate, but does not consume any natural gas or other fossil fuels. With today’s energy efficient technologies, heat pump systems can consume less electricity to operate annually than conventional boiler and chiller systems, which tend to use more electricity over a year particularly for cooling and they tend to use it in peak times and during hot summer days, when the electrical grid is more likely to be operating near capacity.

Heat pumps and heat pump technology is extremely scalable. Single, off the shelf pieces of equipment tend to range in size from ¾ ton units to 250 ton units (nominal). Larger capacity systems can be designed using multiple heat pumps working together or by custom designing systems that include large industrial size components that accomplish the same work. Heat pump equipment and industrial components are standard and are available from dozens of competitive North American manufacturers.

3.2.1 Coefficient of Performance

Heat pump and ground energy system efficiency is defined by its coefficient of performance (COP). Converting electricity to heat requires 1 kW of electricity to produce 1 kW of heat, or a COP of 1. Burning natural gas is never 100% efficient, no matter how well the equipment is designed, with residential furnaces reaching up to 96% efficiency but large boilers averaging about 68%, so the COP is always less than 1.

A geothermal system can reach a COP as high as 7, that is, it can produce seven times the energy output compared to the electricity consumed in the process of heat collection and distribution.

COP = Power produced (kW) / Power used (kW)

Geothermal system COP ≈ COP of heat pump + COP of circulation system + COP of distribution system

Table with 2 columns: Description and COP. Rows include Conventional electric heating (1), Ground energy heating mode (3 to 4), Ground energy cooling mode (4 to 5), Ground energy heating/cooling simultaneous (5 to 7), and Ground energy storage ( > 5).

With a COP of 3, a \$60,000 conventional heating bill is reduced to \$20,000 annually

This is because energy is actually being harvested from the ground, or it is moved around, cooling one space while delivering energy to heat another space. Geothermal heating alone, routinely reaches COPs of 3 to 4 and often 5, that is for every 1 kW of electricity required to operate the geoexchange system, 3 to 5 kW of heat are delivered to the building. Geoexchange cooling is even more efficient with COPs often reaching 5. When these cycles are combined, for example first cooling a space, extracting heat, then moving it to heat another space before returning the geoexchange fluid to the ground, then the COP of cooling is incremental to the COP of heating, compounding the efficiency of the system.



Understanding the building loads required, analysing energy use, annually and in cyclical stages of daily use, is critical to optimizing a geothermal system. A building uses energy for many different functions including space heating, space cooling, ventilation, domestic hot water, snow melt, swimming pools, ice rinks, ice storage and others. Larger buildings and multi-building systems tend to have more diversified energy use loads, creating greater opportunity for higher efficiency geothermal systems.

### 3.2.2 Green House Gas Emission Reduction

Green House Gasses (GHG) are a by-product of fossil fuel combustion. Geothermal systems do not consume or combust any fossil fuels, therefore, compared to oil, coal or natural gas fed boilers or furnaces, the associated GHG emissions are reduced to zero. Geothermal systems do require electricity to circulate water and air and to operate compressors and are therefore attributed with the GHG emissions associated with their use of electricity.

Electricity in Maryland (2008) is generated mainly from coal (57.5%) and nuclear (31%) and the GHG emissions associated with electricity generation are 620 kg/MWh.<sup>3</sup> This GHG emission level is relatively high among US states, as Maryland ranks 29<sup>th</sup>. Independent Power Producers and Combined Heat and Power producers supply 99.4% of the electricity generation in the state. Maryland consumes approximately 32% more electricity than it generates, relying on interstate supply for about one third of its consumption. *Please see **Appendix A, Maryland Electricity Profile.***

Geothermal systems do consume some electricity to operate water and heat pumps however, with a system COP of 3 to 5, the GHG emissions associated with geothermal systems are reduced by 60% to 80%, over conventional systems using electricity or natural gas for heating and electricity for cooling. In Maryland, this reduction in GHG emissions is quantitatively significant.

Geothermal systems are considered to be a renewable source of energy, since no fossil fuel is consumed and the electricity used is not converted to thermal energy, but rather is used to collect and distribute the renewable geothermal energy.

### 3.2.3 Temperature

Temperature is another major factor to be considered in geothermal system design and operations. The whole point of geothermal energy is to use the temperatures present in the ground to create the temperatures required for comfort in a building or end use. Geothermal system design should be governed by the temperatures required and volume and use of the space to be tempered.

In a closed-loop system, heat pumps accept a flow of geothermal loop fluid, usually a weak solution of water and environmentally approved ethanol or glycol, at the temperature at which it returns from the borefield, which in southern Maryland is approximately 55°F. This heat is transferred, through a heat exchanger inside the heat pump, to a separate closed loop containing a flow of refrigerant, which vaporizes at a lower temperature than water. The refrigerant vapour is then compressed to liberate more heat. Dictated by the type of refrigerant used and its vaporization properties, heat pumps operate very efficiently, to output heat in the form of either heated water or heated air at temperatures up to 120°F. Some heat pump equipment can achieve higher temperatures; however the efficiency of the system quickly deteriorates as the temperature outputs are increased above 120°F.

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<sup>3</sup> US Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, 2008, released 2010, Maryland Electricity Profile (DOE/EIA-0348(01)/2)



For new buildings, built with equipment designed to accept geothermal heating and cooling, 120°F is ideal. However, older buildings originally built with conventional boilers and chillers, have piping systems and in-suite heating and cooling distribution systems designed for 180°F and warmer. Therefore retrofitting older buildings by removing boilers and chillers and installing geothermal systems requires either the equipment and pipe systems inside the building to be replaced with geothermal compatible equipment or the temperature of the geothermal heat supply to be increased. To maintain high efficiency in the geothermal system, a natural gas boiler can be used to “top up” the geothermal system from the low grade 120°F heat level to the high grade 180°F heat required by older buildings. While residential homes are routinely retrofitted with geothermal systems, retrofitting large multi-residential or commercial buildings is considered expensive and is much less common.

### 3.3 Geothermal Building HVAC Circuit

Geothermal building heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) circuits (inside one single building) can be designed as central building systems or dispersed apartment or suite systems.

In a central system, geothermal fluid is delivered to large central water-to-water (W/W) heat pumps located in the basement or lower levels of the building. These central heat pumps are connected to a return water pipe system that runs through the walls of the building to each suite. The water-to-water heat pumps operate in heating mode in winter and cooling mode in summer. In heating mode, warm water, typically 120°F, is delivered to fan coils, hydronic baseboard heaters or in-floor radiant heating systems located throughout the building. This heat distribution equipment is designed to be “geothermal system compatible”, accepting water at 120°F and efficiently and effectively heating the space. In cooling mode, cool water, typically 40°F is delivered to the fan coils or other cooling equipment, also designed to geothermal system standards. If the building has a two-pipe system of thermal water distribution, then the whole building is switched from heating mode to cooling mode and back again in the spring and fall. Individual suite occupants can control their temperatures within a range of heating or a range of cooling but cannot induce heating in the cooling season or vice versa. If the building has a four pipe system, then the suite occupants can have complete control of heating or cooling temperatures at any time during the year.

A dispersed geothermal building circuit system consists of a return water pipe system (two pipe system) installed in the walls of the building, which delivers water to water-to-air (W/A) heat pumps located in each suite throughout the building. Geothermal fluid from the geothermal ground circuit is either directly circulated through the building pipes or a central heat exchanger is installed to isolate the geothermal ground loop circuit from the building geothermal water circuit. In either case the temperature of the water circulating throughout the building is the ambient temperature that the geothermal system delivers directly from the ground. The heat pumps in each suite are controlled independently to deliver the amount of heating or cooling desired by each occupant. Heating can be delivered to one suite, and cooling to another, simultaneously.

Geothermal building circuit systems are designed specifically to operate at low temperature system standards. This means that pipe diameters, pipe insulation, fan coil and heat pump equipment are all specified to work effectively with geothermal system low grade temperatures, typically 120°F.

#### 3.3.1 Conventional Heating and Cooling

Conventional HVAC systems, installed in commercial and multi-residential buildings, consist of heating equipment, often a natural gas fed boiler and cooling equipment, often electrically driven chillers, or in some cases cooling towers. Make up air and ventilation systems require heat to warm the fresh air being drawn into



the building. This central building HVAC equipment is bulky and requires space in the basement of the building and on the roof top, where noise can be a major issue. Domestic hot water requires a second boiler.

Water pipes often run through the walls of large buildings, delivering hot or cold water to fan coils or other types of thermal distribution equipment, strategically located throughout the building. Two pipe HVAC systems are switched seasonally from heating to cooling with limited in-suite temperature controls. Four pipe HVAC systems deliver hot water and cold water simultaneously to each suite, all year round, offering complete in-suite temperature control.

Conventional heating systems are typically designed to operate with input temperatures of 180°F. They cannot be operated effectively with lower input temperatures. Therefore to retrofit a building that has a conventional heating and cooling system to convert it to using geothermal heat includes the added expense of replacing interior building pipes and distribution equipment, central and dispersed, in addition to the expense of installing a bore field and converting central equipment. Alternatively, the geothermal system heat level needs to be increased from the efficient heat production level of 120°F to the building compatible level of 180°F. This can be achieved by “topping up” the geothermal system, using an electric, oil or natural gas fed boiler, to deliver the high grade heat required.

Many buildings built in the 1970's when electricity was plentiful and inexpensive, were equipped with electric base board heaters and have no central HVAC system. In older buildings, air conditioning is often not present, or it is supplied by portable sleeve or window units, which plug into an electrical wall socket and are set in an open window or slid into a fitted opening through a wall. These units are usually very inefficient, noisy, create hot or cold drafts where sealing is not tight and are often not very effective.

### 3.4 Building System Design Integration

The cost of a geothermal system is dependent on three main factors: the site, the geology and the building loads. The site and the geology cannot be controlled, however, investigating and analyzing their characteristics completely and accurately contribute to a geothermal design that maximizes the use of the resources available in the most efficient and effective way. Knowledge of the presence of groundwater and groundwater movement are critical to geothermal design.

Building energy load reductions, particularly peak load reductions, through energy efficient architectural design, are usually more cost effective than installing a larger geothermal system. Building envelope design and material choices which may or may not add capital cost, are now offset by additional geothermal system capital cost rather than the traditional higher operating costs that builders in the past, paid little attention to. Geothermal system designers may influence the approach of traditional architects and mechanical engineers, until they understand in detail the various options and costs and the cost implication to the geothermal system. Building site orientation, percentage of glazing, reduced wall penetrations; roof top space commercialization and vertical building conduits are only some of the building features that can greatly influence the heating and cooling loads of a building. Building energy computer simulation modeling<sup>4</sup> can help determine energy consumption and cost comparisons, between a reference building built to current standards, with a traditional energy supply and the

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<sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Energy provides free building energy modeling software called EE4 that can be downloaded and used by knowledgeable practitioners. EQuest is another commonly used building energy modeling tool. These modeling software analyses are accepted by the US Green Building Council supporting applications from building owners for LEED® Certification.



same building built to the same standards, with geothermal energy supply. By running multiple iterations of the model we can determine the magnitude of energy saving and cost implications of various options, seeking cost and energy efficiency optimization.

Mechanical design must accommodate a low grade temperature water energy source. Boilers, chillers and cooling towers are not required but can be used to provide “peak heating and cooling” rather than installing additional geothermal infrastructure that will only be used a small fraction of the time. To balance the annual heating and cooling loads, it may sometimes be advantageous to add the domestic water and/or makeup air heating load to the Geothermal system, or add snow melt to sidewalks or the underground garage entry ramp or walls, rather than adding a cooling tower to the system.

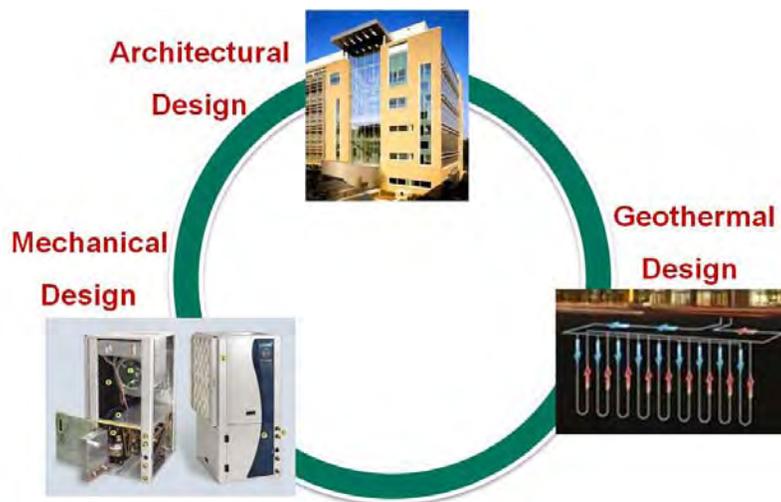


Figure 8: Building System Design Integration

### 3.5 Geothermal System Building Compatibility

Geothermal systems should be designed from the building (or buildings), out for reasons of performance and also for reasons of cost. The fact that a large in ground infrastructure is required, governs the economics of the system, therefore “right sizing” becomes very important to project economics. The cost of piping to connect the borefield to the building needs to be minimized, thus the borefield is usually installed as close to the end use structure as possible, perhaps directly beneath it.

Geothermal energy provides both heating and cooling in one system, unlike traditional HVAC systems that are designed as two separate, mutually independent systems. This requires mechanical engineers to take a different approach to assessing building loads, concurrent energy use, energy zoning and choice of ventilation and auxiliary energy loads, such as domestic hot water, refrigeration, swimming pools, garage ramp snow melt and many other equipment options. As energy prices rise, as the mechanics and economics of energy conservation become main-stream and as society realizes that a cleaner environment is enjoyable, healthier, practical and affordable, building designers are taking a holistic approach to energy use and energy efficiency. Buildings that are conceived with energy as a key design principal embrace passive energy conservation in their architectural design and orientation to the sun and prevailing winds, materials are chosen with consideration for their thermal properties and comfort becomes dominant over trendy design. Geothermal energy becomes not only feasible but very economically attractive in such buildings, where the ground system infrastructure required, is minimized.



### 3.5.1 New Development

Geothermal systems are ideal for new development. Land is not yet covered, surfaces are not landscaped or used and the best opportunity to access the ground exists. Original HVAC equipment can be specified without consideration for residual life, compatibility or vested financial interests that may not accept disproportionate capital vs. operating costs. In the early stages of architectural design, a discussion of geothermal energy can lead to accommodation for borefield installation, a room in the basement for the geothermal headers to be brought into the building and central pumping and heat exchange equipment to be housed, space for over-sized ductwork can be allowed in ceilings and floors and rooftops, no longer needed to hold heavy and noisy HVAC equipment can be redesigned as premium amenity or penthouse space. Permitting and construction schedules can be planned to include geothermal system design and installation and the developer/owner and project architects can select and direct design team members to accept, cooperate and accommodate the inclusion of geothermal energy as an integral part of the design and build process.

### 3.5.2 Existing Building Retrofit

Retrofitting existing buildings to accept geothermal energy is often more difficult and more expensive, compared to installations in new development. Building Codes as they are amended have increased the required levels of energy efficiency over the past 15 years, which means that buildings built 20, 30 or more years ago, require much more energy to be comfortable. Older buildings usually require larger geothermal systems, increasing the capital cost per square foot of occupied space, by as much as 50% more than buildings built today.

On existing building sites, land is often not available in which to install a geothermal borefield. In many cases, subterranean garages lie beneath what small landscaped green space there is. Real estate is increasingly expensive and surface land that does exist is often being held for future development. Intensive drilling is intrusive and will destroy landscaping. Trees are valued and not to be damaged or disturbed. In some urban neighbourhoods, school playgrounds, parks, laneways and other designated open spaces are being used as surrogates for geothermal borefields that serve adjacent existing buildings, while providing a new source of income from rental of the property.

If a building does not have a set of return hydronic pipes running through its walls or if the pipe system that does exist is corroded and unserviceable, it is very difficult to install new pipes in an old building. Either walls have to be opened up for pipe installation or in some cases, “skinning the building” or installing an energy efficient outer shell over the existing building, provides a weather tempered cavity in which pipes can be installed outside the original building envelope. Both options are expensive, however if the building requires this remediation in any case, then the incremental cost cannot be attributed to the cost of a geothermal system.

Conventional building boiler systems run at high grade temperatures, circulating hot water to fan coils designed to run on water at 180°F. If the boiler is replaced by geothermal water to water heat pumps, water can only be produced efficiently to about 120°F, which means that the boiler is still required to boost the temperature or the fan coils in each suite must be replaced with new low-grade heat compatible units.

Electrically heated and cooled buildings can be impossible to retrofit with geothermal energy. These buildings have no hydronic pipe system, no ductwork and the wall and ceiling cavity space is not large enough to retrofit.

Each building must be considered individually for its architectural, mechanical, site and condition. Where buildings are to be remediated anyway, geothermal energy may be a good option.



### 4.0 SCALABILITY OF GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS

Geothermal systems are highly scalable. The ground everywhere on the earth contains heat below the frost line that can be retrieved and used to heat and cool buildings built on the surface. Limitations are thermal conductivity of the ground, surface land area available, system design and equipment and economical feasibility.

Geothermal systems can be designed to extract small amounts of energy from the ground or can be configured in large and sometimes complex pipe networks. They can be designed to provide all the heating and cooling a building needs or they can be designed to provide only a portion, with other sources of energy, renewable or fossil fuel, providing the balance.

In its smallest and perhaps simplest form a stand-alone geothermal system can supply a single residential home. It will be comprised of only one or two boreholes or a horizontal piping system laid in a trench approximately 4 to 8 ft. deep, in a back yard connected to a residential “geothermal furnace” or water to air heat pump located in the basement or utility room which blows warm or cool air through ductwork into the house as required.

Several houses may be connected to a network of several boreholes placed near each other in a common plot of land, such as a park or green space. Or a larger central plant, fed by a commercial sized borefield, can supply warm and cool water through a “thermal grid” installed under the streets and connected to several hundreds of houses in a neighbourhood.

Commercial, institutional and multi-residential buildings, whether low, medium or high rise, can be served by geothermal systems, with tempered water circulating directly from the borefield to heat pumps located in each individual townhouse or suite or alternatively, there may be a central pumping and heat exchange mechanical station to each unit at the desired temperatures.



Figure 9: Community Geothermal District Energy, Gibsons, BC

Whole campuses or downtown corridors of commercial and multi-residential buildings can be connected to one central energy plant, usually located in a separate building for better access and control. Multi-building energy systems are often referred to as a District Energy Systems (DES). DES can use any fuel as their source of energy, including natural gas, oil, propane, biomass, wind and solar energy as well as geothermal and can be configured as hybrid systems, to achieve the desired energy production at the least cost.

The basic physical principals of geothermal energy and ground thermal conductivity apply to all geothermal systems, to be adapted to the ground conditions and the needs of the buildings to be served. The more complex a system, the more engineering and detail design that is required. The following cases are examples of geothermal system designs of various sizes, which produce both heating and cooling.

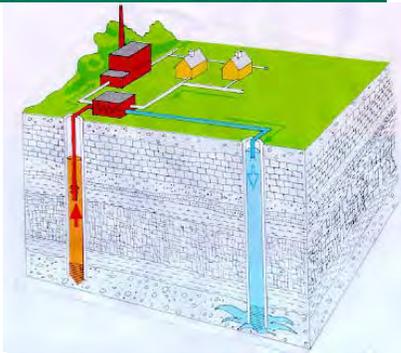


## GEOTHERMAL COMMUNITY ENERGY STUDY

**Table 1: Examples of Scalability of Geothermal Systems**

Capacity	Use & Location	Occupied Space	Geothermal System Design	
3 tons	Single family home, Guelph, ON (2004)	1,990 ft <sup>2</sup>	2 boreholes – 320 ft. deep, connected to a single water-to-air geothermal heat pump which circulates heated and cooled air through an air ductwork system.	
65 tons	Walden Public School, Lively, ON (2009)	46,286 ft <sup>2</sup>	40 boreholes – 320 ft. deep, connected to 5 - 15 ton water-to-water geothermal heat pumps which circulate heated water to a hydronic in-floor heating system. Heat from solar thermal panels installed on the exterior gymnasium wall is deposited into the geexchange borefield to balance it, ensuring sustainable borefield heat production.	
235 tons	Strata Condominium, Burlington, ON (2010)	194,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	78 boreholes - 580 ft. deep, connected to central water to water heat pumps which extract (deposit) heat from (to) the geothermal ground loop circuit and exchange it to the building mechanical circuit connected to in-suite water to air heat pumps, which in turn temper the in-suite air according to individual temperature controls.	
2000 tons	University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON (2004)	1,000,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	384 boreholes drilled 700 ft. deep, connected to a central energy plant with hybrid natural gas fed boilers. District energy supplies 8 university buildings, including library, residences, lecture buildings and administration.	



Capacity	Use & Location	Occupied Space	Geothermal System Design	
4780 tons	Waterfront, Louisville, Kentucky (1976, 1986)	1,614,640 ft <sup>2</sup>	City Core commercial and multi-residential buildings, 4 open-loop bore holes drilled 132 ft. deep, tap into the Louisville aquifer extracting 10.4 cu. meters of water per minute which, after extracting heat, is released into the adjacent Ohio River.	
13368 tons (geo only)	Municipal District Energy System, Lund, Sweden (1986)	5,005,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	1 borehole, 2625 ft. deep, extracts natural hot 70°F underground water which supplies 40% of the city's heat demand from 2 central geothermal plants. Heat pumps increase the water temperature to 180°F before distribution. District cooling is supplied from a separate geothermal borehole, heat pumps and distribution pipes, delivering cold water at 40°F, with waste heat fed into the geothermal heating system. The additional 60% of the city's heat demand is met by a combination of biomass and gas turbine co-generation, gas, oil and electrical boilers and hot and cold water storage tanks.	

For more information, refer to **Appendix B: Case Studies**.

## 5.0 GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM DESIGN

### 5.1 Thermal Conductivity of the Ground

Geothermal boreholes interact with the surrounding earth and bedrock, exchanging heat according to the thermal conductivity of the ground into which they are installed. Boreholes penetrate several layers of different types of rock and encounter ground water and sometimes aquifers that can have a very low or a very high flow rate. The overall thermal conductivity of a borehole can be tested and measured by drilling and installing a test borehole to the expected depth and at the expected borefield site, and by injecting pre-heated water to flow through the constructed borehole for a period of 48 to 72 hours. Instrumentation and computer software is used to precisely measure and record the entering and exiting water temperatures, to determine the amount of heat dispersed by the borehole into the ground and to calculate the thermal properties of the ground. Ground



conditions can be consistent over large areas or can differ only a few feet apart. Test boreholes and thermal conductivity tests are necessary to measure the specific ground condition.

A borefield must be designed to either allow each bore hole to interact with the ground independently or to force each borehole to interact with the thermal conductivity of the surrounding boreholes. In either case the space allowed between the boreholes is critical. Boreholes interacting with each other can be placed in a grid formation, as close as 12 feet apart and boreholes acting independently can be placed as much as 30 feet apart either in a grid or in a line. The surface land area available for installation of a borefield can only sustain as many boreholes as can be installed without exhausting the thermal resources at the site.

## 5.2 Borefield Balance and Sustainability

If heat is held in the ground and not dispersed by flowing ground water, then on an annual basis, the same amount of heat can be extracted from the ground, as is rejected back into the ground, without “cooling down the ground” over time. The ground acts like a rechargeable battery. This is also true, for cooling. A geothermal system can inject heat into the ground, to the extent that it is extracted again, on an annual basis, without “heating up the ground” over time. This is called Balancing the Borefield. Systems that are not balanced over years of operation will gradually lose their capacity to heat or cool.

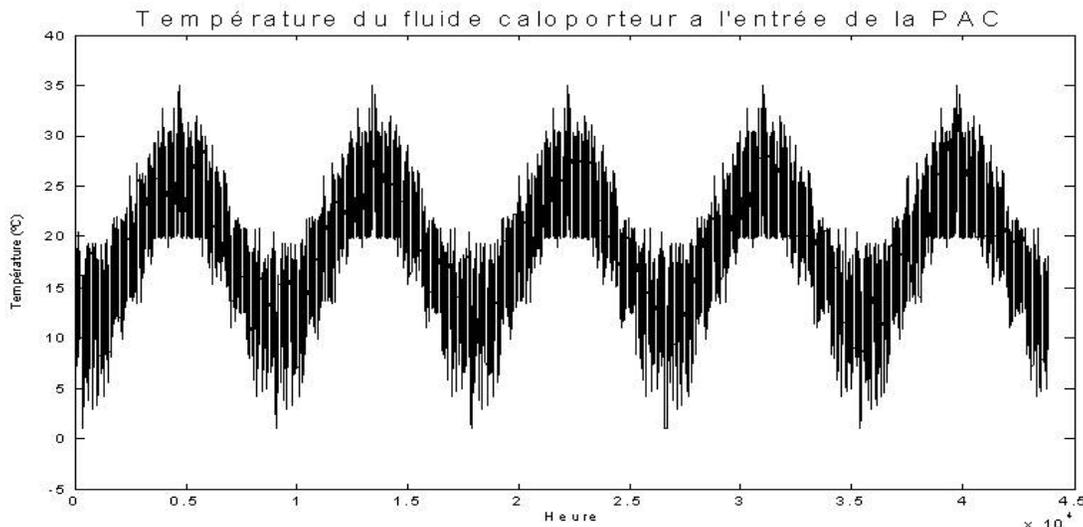


Figure 10: Balanced annual cycle of heating and cooling in a borehole

## 5.3 Land Area

Modern equipment can drill to depths of thousands of feet. Inserting geothermal loops to great depths is more limited both physically and mechanically.

To a depth of 600 feet, 1 ¼ inch diameter (OD) HDPE pipe with a diameter to side thickness ratio of 11:1 (SDR11) has enough strength to resist the fluid pressure. Loops certified to geothermal standards are pressure tested to levels that are 5 times higher than the system is designed to run at. Beyond depths of 600 feet, thicker



walled and larger diameter pipe and larger diameter boreholes which take larger volumes of grout, are required. So there is an incremental cost increase per vertical foot, for boreholes installed to depths greater than 600 feet. If greater volumes of thermal energy are required, than the optimal spacing of 600 foot deep boreholes will allow, this added incremental cost of drilling deeper needs to be evaluated against the cost of additional land.

As the depth of the borehole and the diameter of HDPE pipe increases, the pipes become more rigid. Boreholes are usually drilled relatively straight, though the cut rock walls can be rough and jagged. Boreholes can be drilled on an angle to purposely disperse the borehole bottoms. New drilling equipment can drill multi-directionally, turning corners and prescribing arcs. In these cases, inserting the 'u-bend' loop and grouting, becomes mechanically very difficult if not impossible.

Common practice for geothermal system installations is to drill up to 600 feet deep with average borehole spacing of 15 to 25 feet depending on bedrock geology, hydrogeology and thermal design of the borefield.

### 5.4 Geothermal System Design Decisions

Building heating and cooling loads are rarely balanced. Commercial buildings tend to be cooling dominant, even in northern US climates, requiring more cooling consumption on an annual basis than heating consumption. Multi-residential buildings designed to updated building codes, are often more balanced though in the Charles County area they are also cooling dominant.

The peak loads, that is, the amount of heat required in the coldest hour of the coldest day of the year compared to the amount of air conditioning required in the hottest hour of the hottest day of the year, are also not often similar. In geothermal system design, energy consumption capacity is controlled by balancing the loads of the buildings and by balancing the bore field thermal volume capacity through bore field design. Peak capacity is usually controlled with mechanical equipment design and configuration.

District energy systems, serving a variety of building types are often easier to balance because of the variety of heating and cooling needs. For example, when a cooling load, such as an ice rink is near a heating load, such as a swimming pool the heat can be used twice before returning to the ground significantly increasing the coefficient of performance of the aggregate system.

Geothermal systems can be integrated with other sources of thermal energy, such as natural gas or oil boilers, electrical chillers, cooling towers, biomass digesters and others to form hybrid geothermal systems. The capital cost of the infrastructure of a geothermal system is much larger than the variable operating cost. Conversely, the capital cost of equipment for other thermal energy sources is much smaller than the variable operating cost, which includes the cost of fuel and feedstock that is consumed. However, if peak capacity is only used a fraction of the time, it often does not make economic sense to install costly geothermal system infrastructure, which will not be used to full capacity. In this case, a relatively cheap natural gas boiler can be installed to be operated only on extreme heating days. Or a chiller can be installed, similarly operated only on extreme cooling days. Geothermal energy satisfies the base loads, in order to keep the aggregate operating costs of a hybrid geothermal system as low as possible.

Analysis of typical commercial and multi-residential buildings, indicate that a geothermal heating and cooling system, designed to supply only 40% of the peak capacities required, delivers approximately 67% of the total thermal energy consumption required. This ratio of capacity to consumption can be analyzed in detail for each



specific system being designed to determine the optimal energy source mix that will produce the best economic life cycle cost (LCC) outcome.

The following cases are examples of geothermal system designs of various sizes, which produce both heating and cooling.

### 6.0 GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CYCLE

A Geothermal project development cycle is similar for new construction buildings and for retrofitting existing buildings.

#### Stage 1: Early Concept

- Project identification – property ownership, developer, architect, consultants – environmental, geotechnical, mechanical, structural, landscaping, etc.
- Project concept and objectives – architectural renderings, defined uses (occupied floor space and use designation: commercial/institutional/residential/recreational/industrial), site layouts, hierarchy of energy objectives, level of redundancy required, hierarchy environmental objectives, LEED® certification
- Site survey review – Scaled site plan: location, access, site parameters, boundaries, uses, services, etc.

#### Stage 2: Geothermal System Feasibility Study

- Pre-feasibility to detail feasibility, depending on project scale and owners preference
- Site assessment – geotechnical report, geology maps and reports, hydrogeology and surface water investigation, existing and planned infrastructure (mines, quarries, transportation tunnels, pipes, other). Georexchange system strategy formed (open-loop, closed-loop, etc.)
- Test borehole(s) drilled and installed, Thermal Response Test (TRT) and report (can be delayed to confirm before final design, if reliable and complete information exists)
- Building design assessment – for new construction, computer building energy simulation model performed, energy efficiency analysed – for existing buildings, design drawings, utility bills, and equipment specifications are used, energy efficiency improvement opportunities analysed.
- Order of magnitude sketch of potential georexchange strategy and system design parameters
- High level budget cost, cash flow, energy and cost savings, building space savings and enhanced use, life-cycle cost analysis, government incentives, payback, noise reduction, comfort control flexibility, construction schedule impact, GHG emission reduction
- Go/No Go decision

#### Stage 3: Project Design Integration & Engineering

- Architectural design, Mechanical system design, Geothermal system design



- Cost benefit analysis of building energy efficiency and design options (% glazing, space between floors, vertical risers, economic and environmental use of roof top space, basement geo pumping station placement and space allocation vs. mechanical boiler room)
- Cost benefit analysis of HVAC/geo system options (100% geo vs. hybrid, elimination of boilers, chillers, cooling towers, ventilation alternatives i.e. HRV, MUA, ERU, minimizing ductwork, etc.)
- For existing buildings, existing design drawings are used and design integration involves deciding which building HVAC equipment to keep and which to replace.
- Detail mechanical and geo engineering and design drawings, permitting
- Detail project costing and detail geothermal system cost/benefit report

### Stage 4: Construction

- Drilling prior to excavation or after, least public disruption considered
- Horizontal tie-in to building
- Installation of central pumping station, control system (connected to building automation, central remote control, etc.)
- Start-up testing, adjustments, commissioning

### Stage 5: Operations

- Monitor and verify operations
- Regular maintenance schedule
- Repair and replace mechanical equipment as required



## 7.0 GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM PROJECT FINANCIAL CYCLE

Geothermal systems are similar to other construction projects in that they require concept and project development, feasibility analysis, and a Go/NoGo decision. However design integration is an extra critical step that takes coordination and the willing collaboration of the design team. Geothermal system efficiency and effectiveness is dependent on the ground conditions and on the energy consumption of the buildings it supplies, and must be designed with consideration for not only the large capital cost, but also for capacity and consumption that will balance and sustain the system’s performance for its useful life.

The borefield infrastructure which accounts for approximately 80% of the capital cost of the system is considered to have a life of 50 years and beyond. Artificial and computer aging tests of HDPE pipe suggests that it will last hundreds of years before it eventually breaks down. The loops are grouted into the boreholes and carry a continuous flow of a weak ethanol and water solution, so there is no abrasion, no corrosion, no mechanical movement or exposure to weather or extreme temperatures to cause pipe damage or deterioration. The grout remains viscose and will absorb weak earth tremors.

**Table 2: GeoExchange System Project Financial Cycle**

Project Development		Pre-Construction			Construction		Operations
Early Concept	Feasibility Study	Go/No Go	Design Integration	Engineering	Sub-contracting	Construction	Own & Operate
Project identification	Site Assessment Test borehole (s) TRT	Information & recommendation preparation and presentation	Architectural, mechanical, geo design integration	Architectural detail drawings, permitting	Construction scheduling, geo process integration	Project management, construction site integration	M&V - monitor and verify
Project concept and objectives	Building Design Assessment - computer building energy simulation	Board, committee, owner approval	Cost benefit analysis building energy efficiency, system options	Mechanical detail drawings for building permitting	Drilling, Horizontal tie-ins, Pumping station installation	Drilling, horizontal tie-in	O&M - operations (electricity) and maintenance (minimal for geo-circuit)
Site Survey Review	Geoexchange strategy development - borefiled sized		Final borefield sizing, balancing and design	Geothermal system design, drawings for building permit submission	Geo equipment contracting	Central pumping equipment installation	Capital Reserve (95% CC - 50 year life, 5% CC - 20 year life, 3% inflation)
	High level budget & cost benefit analysis			Architectural, mechanical, geothermal equipment specified		Pressure testing Startup, testing Commissioning	P&I (t,%) RESA Fee - Renewable Energy Supply Agreement
<b>Personnel</b>							
Staff	Staff & Geo Consultant	Management (staff, geo consultant)	Architect, mechanical & geo design consultants	Project manager, architect, mechanical & geo design consultants	Project & Construction manager, mechanical & geo design consultants	Project & Construction manager, mechanical & geo project managers	Staff
<b>Typical 200T Geo Project Cost:</b>							
Internal	\$50K	\$10K \$60K	\$20K \$80K	\$100K \$180K	\$15K \$195K	\$800K \$995K	\$105K/yr (electricity, COP 3.5) \$20K/yr (maintenance) \$50K (capital reserve)
<b>Project Capital Cost Allocation:</b>							
0%	5%	6%	8%	18%	20%	100%	10%/yr 2%/yr 5%/yr



Energy savings and energy cost savings are considered offsets, to the capital cost. Financial value should also be given to real estate space that becomes commercially available with the installation of a geothermal system, such as roof tops and additional parking spaces, where conventional HVAC equipment is no longer required. The following is a list of values created by installation of a geothermal system:

- Significantly lower operating costs; no fossil fuels, less electricity, lower maintenance, free or cheap hot water;
- Reduced environmental impact, no combustion;
- Quicker sales and higher rental rates;
- Lower vacancy rates;
- Higher real estate value;
- More saleable real estate space with the same building cost and structure;
- Durable; 80% of the capital cost is infrastructure that has a useful life of 50+ years;
- Mechanical equipment is non-combustive and not exposed to weather, has a useful life of 20+ years;
- Non-depleting resource - ground energy is never depleted; even if a building is demolished, the ground energy still exists and continues to supply the next generation structure;
- Design flexibility and scalability – installation configurations available are widely variable and can be built out as required; and
- Increased comfort and control.

## 8.0 DESIGN BUILD GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES REQUIRED

Geothermal system installations have evolved into standard technology. Geo engineering, both below ground and above, is a growing area of specialization. A large number of highly competitive manufacturers offer a wide variety of equipment that carries standard manufacturer warranties. The challenge is keeping up with the demand, which is moving to ever broader applications.

### 8.1 Geothermal Design and Engineering

There are few geothermal theory or design courses taught in most university engineering programs today though there are a few notable exceptions. Several principals of geothermal system design are contrary to conventional engineering principals taught in standard mechanical engineering classes. Understanding building zoning, various types of energy load factors, concurrent heating and cooling processes, heat pump and desuperheater equipment types and operations, static and dynamic thermal conductivity and numerous other topics, are not



standard engineering subjects. Geothermal energy is a growing field in which universities are showing a growing interest. In Canada, two professors, Dr. Marc Rosen<sup>5</sup>, University of Ontario Technology Institute, Oshawa and Dr. Philippe Pasquier<sup>6</sup>, École Polytechnique, Montreal are pre-eminent, studying thermal conductivity of geothermal boreholes of different designs. Working independently, their published research books and papers are furthering the science of ground thermal conductivity and borehole design.

In the United States, Oklahoma State University is among the leaders in researching and developing the geothermal industry and has been at it since 1974. International Ground Source Heat Pump Association, IGSHPA, is a non-profit organization established in 1987 to help advance ground source heat pump technology. IGSHPA is headquartered at Oklahoma State University where they can take advantage of the incredible state-of-the-art facilities the campus has created for research and installation training. *Please see **Appendix C** for a list of IGSHPA members located in Charles County and also in the State of Maryland.*

Some engineering firms, or in some cases individual practitioners, specialize in geothermal design. These firms and individuals are often known by reputation and by equipment suppliers and manufacturers, who are in touch with them regularly. Many mechanical engineering firms that have not designed in ground systems previously take the approach that engineering a geo system is basic and does not require previous experience. ASHRAE standards prescribe system installation however; no system is standard and as with any highly technical area of expertise, only experience can provide the knowledge required to adapt designs with reliability. Software used, industry best practices and the principals of geothermal system design integration are usually learned from others with geothermal project experience. Geo system design components are highly dependent, so that one less than optimal ground design specification can add significantly to overall capital cost and impairment of system performance. Seeking out reputable, proven and experienced geothermal system designers will reduce design and installation risk significantly.

There are a large number of applicable geothermal system and installation standards and published case studies highlighting best practices. (Refer to Section 9.1, *Standards and Permits*)

## 8.2 Drilling

Geothermal drilling is highly specialized. New geothermal drill rigs of the type commonly used to drill 600 feet deep and more, cost approximately \$500,000 each and there is up to a six month lead time for delivery. They are highly automated and are operated by one trained operator, controlling several functions at one time from wireless remote controllers mounted on a tripod or on a waist belt.

Drill rigs are operated all year around. Extreme cold can hinder mechanical and human operations, but frozen ground is usually not an issue. Drill rigs, well maintained and operated competently, can drill one 600 foot borehole per day. Crews should be able to immediately insert a loop and grout it the same day.

Boreholes to depths beyond 600 feet are possible, with more sophisticated drilling equipment, which is available in the US. These machines cost approximately \$750K to \$1 mill. each. Depths up to 1200 feet are feasible but would require larger diameter and stronger (higher pressure rating) HDPE piping, which by nature is more rigid.

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<sup>5</sup> Marc A. Rosen, Ph.D., P.Eng. Professor, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science University of Ontario Institute of Technology

<sup>6</sup> Philippe Pasquier, Ph.D., ing., Professeur adjoint, Département des génies civil, géologique et des mines, École Polytechnique de Montréal



*Figure 11: Geothermal Drill Rig in Operation*

Borehole diameters need to increase to accommodate the larger loop diameters. Loop installation techniques and equipment required to install this different pipe, is also different. However the energy production of the longer, larger boreholes may offset the added costs, making a scaled up system more cost effective. Large diameter boreholes exist in many installations around the world, and engineering knowledge of these systems is a specialty, but it does exist.

Older drill rigs are like any older machinery; they are temperamental and require maintenance. They require a crew of 3 to 4 people to operate continuously. Equipment breakdowns can be costly to drilling firms and to project construction schedules. It is critical to have drilling equipment on each project which is designed to drill the existing overburden and rock formation. A rig designed to drill granite is not easily converted to drill shale and vice versa. If casing is required, some machines install and extract casing as a continuous part of the borehole installation.



Drillers tend to work within a local region, unless the job is large enough and pays additional mobilization and accommodation fees. In some markets, drillers are plentiful and highly competitive. In others, they are scarce or booked solidly for months to come. When work demand is high some drillers will lease rigs from out of state or will subcontract to smaller drilling firms, however, leasing a drill rig is one thing but finding experienced skilled drillers or managing less experienced drillers is very difficult and can become a constraint to expanding operations. Each drill rig requires significant support equipment and skilled personnel to install the loops and mix and install grout. This is further constraint for expanding operations.

Drillers, particularly in northern climates, work in harsh conditions. Health and Safety Plans are essential for drilling operations. Loud noise, water and mud are constant daily working conditions. Drillers need integrity and a sense of responsibility for the performance of the systems they install.. It takes experience to develop a high degree of sensitivity to widely varied ground conditions and anomalies. Managing ground water and site surface conditions can be difficult, particularly in cold or wet weather. Working as a trade on a complex construction site, requires safety training and vigilance, supervision by the construction manager and integration with the other trades on the site which can create tight deadlines for work that is sometimes unpredictable. Water well drillers will often take on geothermal drilling jobs assuming that there are few differences. However, successful installation of a commercial geothermal system requires specialized equipment, training and supervision.

### 8.3 Building Science & Mechanical Geothermal System Engineering

Knowledge and understanding building energy efficiency has grown significantly over the past 10 years. LEED and Energy Star building standards have been developed and the science of “green buildings” has become main stream for new building design. The Charles County Building Code is continually improving, with incremental steps occurring from time to time. Government and utility incentive programs are often designed to accomplish very specific objectives over very specific time periods, often related to political terms of office and budget periods. Engineers learn techniques to achieve these goals while making the project economically feasible within the specific government rebate program.

All of these activities have influenced change and engineers must constantly engage in learning to stay current. Traditional mechanical engineering still comprises the majority of the work and not every engineering firm or individual is willing to invest in change. However, those that do tend to build practices around these new sciences, gaining experience and leveraging industry contacts.

Increasingly mechanical firms are accepting these changes. However that is only the first step. Understanding new concepts of building energy management requires new assumptions and calculations, learning and acceptance of new mechanical equipment and systems, new software programs and new approaches to design.

Mechanical engineering firms with geothermal heat pump system design experience exist but they are currently a minority and should be qualified by third party references and referrals.

### 8.4 Geothermal Heat Pumps and Mechanical Equipment

Geothermal heat pumps are manufactured by numerous competitive firms based in Canada, the US, China and Europe. Some of the more common manufacturers are:

- WFI – Water Furnace Inc.
- Climatemaster



- Whelan;
- Trane;
- McQuay; and
- Comfort Solution Systems Inc. (CGC patented, hybrid, low electricity heat pumps).

As larger and more dedicated use geothermal systems are designed, configurations incorporating multiple equipment technologies are becoming increasingly common. Industry experience is still growing rapidly in North America and integration of other renewable energy sources, such as solar thermal, solar PV and micro wind makes more sense as energy prices increase.

Tapping into heat sources other than ground source heat is also becoming more attractive economically and technically. “Slim Jim” heat exchange fins can be installed in lake beds or rivers. Waste heat can be recovered from sewer pipe systems or industrial processes. Geothermal loops can be embedded in concrete slabs or installed below asphalt to melt snow, or dump heat into underground parking garages, or conversely to extract heat from the ground, through concrete pillars installed for structural support.

Tunnels make excellent conduits for geothermal piping and the environmentally friendly trend to densification of urban development is creating numerous new underground transportation tunnel opportunities. We are learning to use any heat resource available to us in creative and economical ways, often in combinations designed to augment or better balance borefields, or to cut costs.

HDPE geothermal loops and piping are manufactured by several suppliers which usually drop ship directly to the job site. Loops, as they are referred to are usually prefabricated to the length desired, u-bends are factory fused, and the loops are factory pressure tested to 200 psi before shipping. Finished loops are coiled onto wooden spools, ready for installation at the site. ISCO Industries, LLC<sup>7</sup> in Louisville KY is one geothermal loop manufacturer and they have two sales representatives located in Maryland. Blue Diamond Industries, LLC<sup>8</sup> in Lexington, KY is another geothermal pipe manufacturer.

### 8.5 Controls and Building Automation Systems

Sophisticated information technology (IT) is available off-the-shelf or custom designed, to sense, monitor and report the complete operations of any geothermal system through web based data transmission. No personnel is required other than, from a remote location, to respond to signals of system irregularity or fault. Local technical service companies can provide quick response service on site, 24 hours a day, if required.

Geothermal systems operate continuously, night and day to create the desired thermal condition in the building. When connected to a building automation system, they can work in sync with other building systems. Ancillary equipment, such as domestic hot water heating and swimming pools can also be controlled automatically. As time-of-use electricity billing becomes more common, automated controls can cycle heating and cooling to take advantage of off peak pricing. In turn this also helps reduce the peak load demand on the provincial and local hydro grid.

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<sup>7</sup> ISCO Industries LLC, <http://www.isco-pipe.com/home.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> Blue Diamond Industries LLC, <http://www.bdiky.com/index.php>



## 9.0 GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS, CERTIFICATION AND INCENTIVES

### 9.1 Standards and Permits

Extensive, very specific engineering standards exist to prescribe best practices for installation of heat pump equipment and systems in various configurations. The Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI), the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, Air-conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) all publish standards and best practices guidelines, handbooks, articles and training, which are used by professional engineers and cited in various Building Codes.

Two of the most widely used sources of detail design standards are published by ASHRAE and most other standards refer to these:

- (ASHRAE, 1997) Ground-Source Heat Pumps – Design of Geothermal Systems for Commercial and Institutional Buildings – Chapter 5. *In ASHRAE Handbook-Fundamentals, Atlanta: American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc, 1997.*
- (ASHRAE, 2003), Geothermal Energy- Chapter 32. *In 2003 ASHRAE HVAC Applications Handbook, SI Edition, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., 2003.*

The Charles County Building Code Act (BCA) and the Charles County Building Code (CCBC) which govern the construction of new buildings and the renovation and maintenance of existing buildings is administered by the Codes, Permits and Inspection Services Division of the Planning and Growth Management Department. Charles County has adopted the International Building Code/2009, International Mechanical Code/2009 and the International Energy Conservation Code/2009 as amended by periodic supplements and Charles County Bill No. 2010-08 and the International Residential Code/2009 as amended by periodic supplements and Charles County Bill No. 2010-08.

Two municipalities exist within Charles County, La Plata and Indian Head and each have their own separate Building Code and building permitting procedure.

It is through Building Codes and Municipal Building Permits and Inspections that geothermal system installation standards and practices can be regulated. In many Municipalities, geothermal system engineering drawings (G-0 series) are required to be submitted with applications for building permits whether for new construction or for retrofitting an existing building.

### 9.2 Training and Certification

The International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA)<sup>9</sup> is one of the primary training and certification organizations in the US. IGSHPA is a non-profit, member-driven organization established in 1987 to advance ground source heat pump (GSHP) technology on local, state, national and international levels. Headquartered on the campus of Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma, IGSHPA utilizes state-of-the-art facilities for conducting GSHP system installation training and geothermal research.

Several Geothermal Installation Standards Manuals are available for purchase online. IGSHPA offers certification, however it is voluntary. IGSHPA members are listed in a searchable online directory. *Please see **Appendix C** for a list of IGSHPA members in based in Charles County MD and also for Maryland State.*

<sup>9</sup> International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA), <http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/index.htm>



### 9.3 Incentives for Geothermal System Installation

The State of Maryland has several financial incentives available for the installation of geothermal heat pump systems. In general they include a tax exemption for equipment, a grant rebate program, a property tax exemption on increased property values and a loan program. The electrical utility (SMECO) offers a rebate program for heating and cooling energy efficiency upgrades. Specific terms and conditions, dates for application and maximum program budgets are subject to change and should be reviewed regularly. Following are brief descriptions of the programs as stated on the Maryland State and SMECO websites.

#### 9.3.1 Maryland State Incentives

##### **Maryland: Sales and Use Tax Exemption for Renewable Energy Equipment**

Geothermal, wind and solar energy systems used to heat/cool a structure or provide hot water or electricity are exempt from Maryland state sales and use tax. Sales tax exemption for solar space/water heaters, solar thermal electric, solar panels, wind systems, and geothermal heat pumps.

##### **Maryland: Clean Energy Grant Program - Geothermal Heat Pumps**

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) offers rebates of up to \$2,000 for residential geothermal heat pump systems and \$7,000 for non-residential geothermal heat pump systems. Grants for both are provided at a rate of \$500 per ton of refrigeration capacity, equivalent to 12,000 BTUs. Funding for the program is provided annually from the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF), which receives income from greenhouse gas emission auctions under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). The total FY 2011 budget for all renewable energy programs (geothermal heat pumps, wind, and solar) is expected to be roughly \$3.2 million. A substantial component of total FY 2011 funding is expected to come from federal economic stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). As of February 2011, ARRA funds are no longer used for geothermal projects.

The definition of geothermal heat pump property does not include swimming pools, hot tubs, or any other energy storage device that has a primary function other than storage. In addition, systems should have a minimum Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) of 14.0 and a minimum Coefficient of Performance (COP) of 3.0 according to the testing standards of the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute (ARI) or other nationally recognized agency.

As of February 22, 2011, MEA is using new applications. Rebate applications must include information on the type of system being installed, the installer, and contain copies of any necessary permits. Not all systems are guaranteed rebates and the MEA may elect to award an amount different than the one requested in the application. If a project is approved the applicant then has 270 days to install the system, assemble the necessary supporting documentation, and submit a completion certificate to the MEA claiming their rebate, or they risk losing their rebate. If a system has already been installed prior to submitting an application to MEA, the project is still eligible for a grant, as long as the system meets the program requirements and was placed in service during the same fiscal year (e.g., July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011) that the application was submitted. Persons with previously installed systems should contact the MEA for further information.

*Maryland Energy Administration: Geothermal*



Geothermal heat pumps are used for space heating and cooling, as well as water heating. Their greatest advantage is that this technology works by concentrating naturally existing heat, rather than by producing heat through combustion of fossil fuels.

### *Benefits of Installing a Geothermal Heat Pump:*

Use 25%–50% less electricity than conventional heating or cooling systems: up to 44% compared to air-source heat pumps and up to 72% compared to electric resistance heating with standard air-conditioning equipment. This translates to saving you money on energy bills each month.

Improve humidity control by maintaining about 50% relative indoor humidity, making GHPs very effective in humid areas

### *To Apply for a Clean Energy Grant:*

Residential Clean Energy Grant Program – <http://energy.maryland.gov/residential/cleanenergygrants/index.html>

Commercial Clean Energy Grant Program - <http://energy.maryland.gov/business/cleanenergygrants/index.html>

Contact: Maryland Energy Administration, 60 West Street, Suite 300, Annapolis, MD 21401 | (410) 260-7655 | (800) 72-ENERG, <http://energy.maryland.gov/renewable/geothermal.html>

### **Maryland: Special Property Assessment for Renewable Heating and Cooling Systems**

If a solar or geothermal heating and cooling system is installed on your property, the additional value added to your property from the system will not be included in your property taxes, according to title 8 of Maryland's property tax code.

### **Maryland: Maryland Clean Energy Center - Home Energy Loan Program**

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) joins the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) in offering low interest loans for projects which increase the energy efficiency of participating residences. Loans are available for up to \$20,000, at a 6.99% interest rate. Measures typically include insulation and HVAC equipment upgrades but are not necessarily limited to these improvements. Property must be a primary residence and located in the state of Maryland in order to be eligible. Single-family detached homes and townhouses are eligible for loans while condominiums and coops are unable to participate. Homeowners must have a complete home energy audit to determine the scope and cost of potential projects. Auditors must be MCEC approved and certified. Based upon the audit findings, homeowners may determine the most effective energy efficient measures to pursue. Participants must then enter a contract with an approved contractor indicating the measures and costs included. After the completion of a contract, participants may register and apply for loans through MCEC. Interested homeowners may register and apply at MCEC web site listed above. Contact MCEC for any other information on this program.

## **9.3.2 Local Utility Incentives**

### **SMECO: Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program**

Southern Maryland electricity Cooperative (SMECO) provides rebates up to \$1412 for home efficiency upgrades like insulation and air sealing and upgrading heating and cooling systems. SMECO's Residential Energy Efficiency Program helps residential customers save energy by providing rebates for home weatherization and



## GEOTHERMAL COMMUNITY ENERGY STUDY

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the installation of energy efficient equipment. Eligible measures include insulation, system tune-ups, lighting, water heating, proper installation and central heating and cooling. Some rebates vary by size and type of measure employed. Equipment must meet program guidelines listed on the web site above. Customers should check the website to ensure eligibility and to fill out the application form.

To learn more about the state Home Performance program, visit: [www.mdhomeperformance.org/index.html](http://www.mdhomeperformance.org/index.html)

For more information visit the SEMCO website: <https://www.semco.coop/save/>



### 10.0 GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT ENERGY BUSINESS STRATEGY

District Energy Systems (DES) are simply thermal energy networks or “thermal grids” that create and process thermal energy in a central energy plant and distribute it to multiple buildings, which may or may not have secondary thermal processing equipment in each building. A District Energy System can be fuelled by a variety of energy sources, alone or in combination some of which are natural gas, oil, coal, waste heat, biomass, solar and geothermal. Once a central energy plant is built and the distribution pipes installed connecting the end use buildings, the system becomes very flexible as new energy sources and technologies emerge; only the central supply system is upgraded, while each individual building enjoys the environmental and economic benefits without having to invest or alter individual building systems.

Geothermal systems, very similar in physical system structure, are very easy to configure as standalone DES or to provide a source of energy to a hybrid DES. The ground infrastructure requires additional capital investment, however the operating costs are very low, since no fuel is consumed, and the electricity required to operate the system, is much less than the energy output. (Please refer to the previous section “Coefficient of Performance”.)

The economic and operating efficiencies of DES are becoming more attractive for high density developments, where the ratio of infrastructure capital cost to end use consumption and revenue is lowest. As the buildings connected to the system are located further apart and are smaller in size or are used less intensely, then the economics of the system tend to become less attractive. Countering this effect, are new mechanical technologies that allow higher operating efficiencies over an ever broadening range of scale and lower equipment and service costs derived from increasing industry efficiencies of scale, the economics of critical mass and increased choice and competition. Each scenario is unique and needs to be evaluated considering a number of distinct and local variables.

The environmental benefits of DES are increasing sought by municipalities facing growth and urban densification. The benefits of clean air are no longer considered non-essential, as the costs of healthcare and the value of real estate now include an assessment of air quality, sometimes expressed in terms of real dollars or sometimes expressed as desirability and increased consumer demand. DES in general, reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions, however combustion free geothermal systems, reduce GHG emissions to zero.

Commercially DES operators, seeking convention, continue to sell energy in “commoditized” units, usually measured in British Thermal Units (BTU’s). Fees charged usually have two components, a fixed fee that contributes to the initial capital cost of the infrastructure and a variable fee that reflects the operating and fuel consumption costs. However, this convention is not necessary and particularly so when the variable costs of operating the system becomes extremely low compared to the initial fixed cost such as when geothermal energy is the source. Consider that a service is being delivered to consumers, rather than a commodity. That is, “interior comfort” is the service delivered rather than a tangible fuel, measured by physical dimensions. If this is the premise, then an annual fixed fee with a small fixed annual increase over a long term can create a valuable financial benefit to customers; that is certainty of future costs. For businesses and consumers alike, financial certainty for an essential service that in the past has experienced extreme price volatility and rising costs that have outpaced incomes, may be worth a premium. In any case, DES and geothermal systems offer a variety of financial structures that can be configured to deliver appropriate risk, rates of return and cash flows to suit different DES owner/operators and consumers alike.

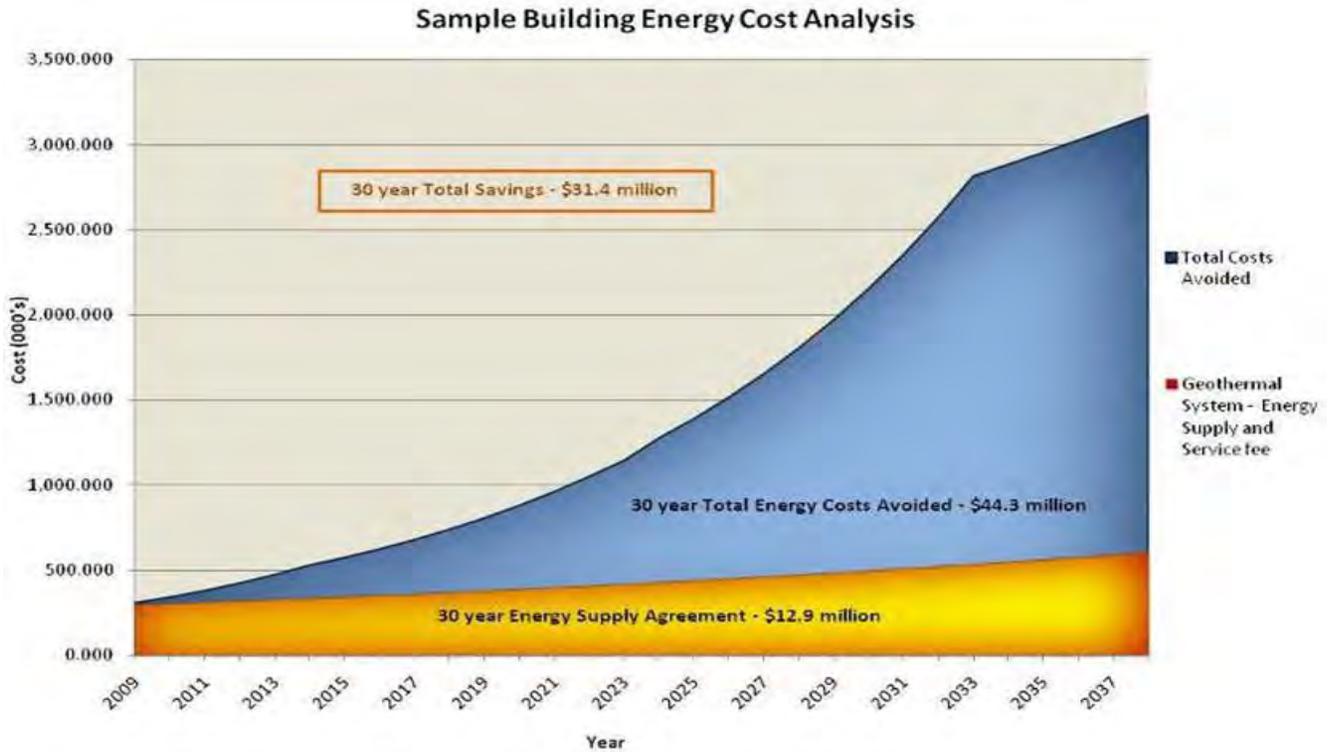


Figure 12: Geothermal Energy Supply Agreement Comparative Costs

For a geothermal DES, many configurations of piping can be used depending on the scale and layout of the buildings to be connected. Geothermal borefields, water pumps and heat pumps (HP) can be physically dispersed or centrally located, while being owned and operated by one entity.

Temperatures of the water to be supplied to end users are critical to a DES system design and performance. If the buildings being supplied are new construction, then they can be specified and built to use low grade temperature heat pump or fan coil HVAC systems. If the buildings already exist, then they probably use electric heating and cooling or they have traditional boilers that heat water to a high grade temperature (180°F) connected to HVAC equipment that is designed to accept only that temperature. Retrofitting the interior HVAC systems of building that may not have ductwork or a hydronic pipe system built into the walls or to change them from high grade temperature systems to low grade temperature systems, is not usually feasible, even if the existing HVAC equipment is at life. Electric buildings are particularly costly and invasive to retrofit, unless significant building envelope improvements are being undertaken at the same time. For high grade heat buildings, it is likely simpler, less expensive and certainly more convenient for customer buildings, to centrally upgrade the low grade geothermal temperatures to high grade temperatures, by installing a central hybrid geothermal natural gas DES which delivers high grade heat which is compatible with existing customer systems.

Each District Energy System requires a detail Feasibility Study, to determine the best strategy and options. The following is a sample selection of geexchange utility system configurations.



## GEOTHERMAL COMMUNITY ENERGY STUDY

**Table 3: Geothermal District Energy System Configurations**

<b>Buildings Connected</b>	<b>Borefield Location</b>	<b>Pumping Station / Central Plant Supply Temperatures (H/C)</b>	<b>District Energy Supplier Assets and Revenue</b>
New construction: 1 commercial podium with 2 multi-residential towers	Under the footprint of the building prior to construction (strata, condo unit or easement)	Lower level of the building - secure room, exclusive access, direct connection to building HVAC system (55°F/55°F)	Owns and operates borefield, pumping station – 30 year Renewable Energy Supply Agreement (RESA), fixed fee + 2.5%/yr.
New construction: campus of buildings, i.e. university, athletes village, retail centre	Under the central parking or green space, under 1 or more buildings if required (easement)	Central subterranean room, underground parking area or building space, central W/W HPs, 4 pipe distribution network to each building sub-station (120°F/40°F)	Owns and operates borefield, central plant, distribution pipes – one 30 year RESA per building or owner, fixed fee + 2.5%/yr. or consumption metering and billing.
New Construction: residential subdivision, single family homes and townhouses (housing association or condominium)	Community green space (park, school yard) – easement or leased land.	Central subterranean room or above ground utility building. Distribution pipes in roadways/driveways connect to customer owned (or utility supplied or leased) HP in each basement. (55°F/55°F)	Housing Association structure offers, simplicity of one bill per month, which becomes part of unit owner association fees. Fixed fee + 2.5%/yr. With no association structure, can be “utility fee” however requires individual household consumption metering and billing.
Retrofit: commercial or multi-residential tower – must have existing central HVAC cooling (2 pipe or 4 pipe)	Building property (easement), if available, or local third party site such as municipal park or school ground (leased)	Lower level of the building - secure room, exclusive access. Geo headers/mains connect to central W/W HPs and NG boiler owned either by building or utility. NG is required to raise HP temperatures to allow connection to existing building HVAC system (180°F/40°F)	30 year RESA, fixed fee + 2.5%/yr. or consumption metering and billing.
Retrofit: multiple commercial and multi-residential towers	Municipal roadways, and or local municipal parks, schools (easements) Privately owned property (leased)	Geo headers/mains collect into Central Energy Plant. Hybrid Geo HP/NG boiler thermal generation. 4 pipe distribution network laid under roads, connect to basement sub-station of each building (180°F/40°F)	Consumption metering and billing



**Table 4: Geothermal District Energy System SWOT Analysis**

Analysis of geothermal energy alone vs. natural gas generated heating

<p><b>Strengths:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Free energy, supplies both heating and cooling</li> <li>b) Produces abundant heat energy, low grade</li> <li>c) New construction buildings save HVAC capital cost if designed and built for geothermal energy</li> <li>d) Replaces NG combustion: reduces GHG emissions</li> <li>e) Sustainable resource, if designed correctly</li>   <li>f) Long life infrastructure assets</li> <li>g) Requires little surface land area, once built</li> <li>h) Reliable, durable, low maintenance</li> <li>i) Installation area is flexible and can be dispersed</li> <li>j) Uses known technology</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cost of installing geoexchange infrastructure</li> <li>b) Most existing buildings require high grade heat</li> <li>c) Existing buildings have high HVAC retrofit costs, often require extensive system replacement</li> <li>d) Uses electricity: creates some associated GHG emissions</li> <li>e) Design and operation of borefield must balance heat extraction with heat injection</li> <li>f) Initial capital cost</li> <li>g) Construction is disruptive to a large area of land</li> <li>h) Not all contractors are qualified</li> <li>i) Installation area required is significant</li> <li>j) Large closed-loop systems are not common</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Collect and sell free energy</li> <li>b) Accumulate Renewable Energy Credits (REC)</li> <li>c) Grow business revenue base, competitively</li> <li>d) Long term secure revenue stream</li> <li>e) Monopoly once a building is connected</li> <li>f) Cost structure is relatively fixed</li> <li>g) Revenues can be increased over time</li> <li>h) Create example that can be replicated</li> <li>i) Compatible with other renewable technologies</li> <li>j) Compatible with other conventional technologies</li> <li>k) Technical design on large scale, could create additional efficiencies and benefits</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Long term business commitment</li> <li>b) Renewable Energy Credits may not be valuable</li> <li>c) Competitive energy prices may decline</li> <li>d) Building may become vacant</li> <li>e) Utility regulatory control, future uncertainty</li> <li>f) Cost of electricity consumed could rise</li> <li>g) Economy may not support price increases</li> <li>h) Competitors replicate and bid for future projects</li> <li>i) Cost of technology integration may be high</li> <li>j) Conventional HVAC are cheaper to install</li> <li>k) Technical design on large scale could be complex</li> </ul>



### 11.0 DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS, CONCEPT TO IMPLEMENTATION

Any Energy Plan, whether for one building, a subdivision, a commercial core redevelopment project or a community, begins with an assessment of the energy need. To be economical, supply should be designed to serve demand, both now and as planned for the future. Does existing demand support the threshold required to economically justify a DES? Geothermal systems are more scalable and can be added to as new consumers arrive, as long as preplanning has allowed for infrastructure installation and operating equipment expansion. Therefore a detailed demand assessment is an essential first step.

To aid early planning, building types and community densities can be generalized. However the more detailed and accurate the representation, the more relevant the assessment study.

Patterns, trends and clusters of buildings should be considered for logical interconnection. Are there large individual or special purpose users? Are there any significant sources of waste heat? Should more than one system be created for developments that are dispersed?

Assumptions are critical to any analysis and should be identified, defined and agreed to by all stakeholders early in the planning process.

A desktop assessment of ground conditions, including surface, quaternary, bedrock geology and hydrogeology, should be carried out. A high level estimate of thermal conductivity can be derived from this information and a theoretical geothermal system concept can be developed based on expected ground energy supply.

Stakeholder objectives should be considered and measured against physical demand and supply conditions, to assess opportunities and limitations. Financial and economic parameters and constraints should be identified and time lines for demand should be scheduled against a time line for implementation. Stakeholder interests should be identified along with various options for investment and ownership. Go/NoGo decision criteria should be described, along with any flexibility or potential options that may exist.

Central plant mechanical system schematics should be developed, and critical equipment identified.

A network of distribution piping should be laid out and mapped, with alternatives evaluated. Working from the borefield back to the central plant, pipe sizes and flow rates can be determined.

Individual user mechanical systems should be evaluated, whether being specified or whether existing systems are being connected.

From these and many more points of information, a concept should emerge and be developed enough to be described in functional terms. This Concept Plan will provide a basis for discussion and further investigation.

At this point a Concept Feasibility Study could be performed to test actual ground conditions and to evaluate the concept against actual economic market conditions and design and financial parameters. A national or local Business As Usual (BAU) case is sometimes used as a reference. Computer modelling can be useful to incorporate large amounts of data and explore options that can optimize and further refine the concept. The Feasibility Study could be broken down into components, and could consider systems of different scale and scope. Scale would refer to identified scenarios of demand and different physical and geographic locations. Scope would refer to the proportions of energy supplied by each energy source, which needs to be qualified by associated constraints, capabilities and efficiencies.



A favourable Feasibility Study is often followed by an Implementation Plan that flushes out most of the details and identifies key resources including the expertise required on the detail design team as well as a potential schedule for construction and operations.

If the Implementation Plan is favourable, an Investment Analysis may be performed to assist with funding and stakeholder confidence.

- Technology risk is low. Geothermal technology is not new or different and existing examples of operational systems range from single building systems to huge complex DES, found all across the United States, in Canada and in Europe.
- Financial risk can be well managed. Time and a detailed investigation can provide known information about stable ground conditions that will provide supply with more certainty than most projects.
- A geothermal DE system is scalable. A small system can be installed even in one building that would replicate the hybrid system design being considered. The central energy plant can be housed in the basement of the building without constructing stand alone energy plant.
- There is huge opportunity. A Geothermal District Energy System can be configured to fit many sites and development opportunities. Pre-planned subdivisions, large scale commercial and institutional developments, municipal and community energy plans, urban redevelopment plans, municipal transportation artery and tunnel projects all present huge opportunities for Geothermal DE.

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## Report Signature Page

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# **APPENDIX A**

## **Maryland Electricity Profile**

**Table 1. 2008 Summary Statistics**

Item	Value	U.S. Rank
<b>Maryland</b>		
NERC Region(s).....		<b>RFC</b>
Primary Energy Source.....		<b>Coal</b>
Net Summer Capacity (megawatts) .....	<b>12,585</b>	<b>31</b>
Electric Utilities.....	80	47
Independent Power Producers & Combined Heat and Power.....	12,505	9
Net Generation (megawatthours).....	<b>47,360,953</b>	<b>31</b>
Electric Utilities.....	5,856	48
Independent Power Producers & Combined Heat and Power.....	47,355,097	9
Emissions (thousand metric tons) .....		
Sulfur Dioxide .....	226	14
Nitrogen Oxide.....	41	32
Carbon Dioxide.....	29,121	32
Sulfur Dioxide (lbs/MWh) .....	10.5	1
Nitrogen Oxide (lbs/MWh) .....	1.9	27
Carbon Dioxide (lbs/MWh).....	1,356	26
Total Retail Sales (megawatthours) .....	<b>63,325,777</b>	<b>24</b>
Full Service Provider Sales (megawatthours) .....	36,765,861	31
Deregulated Sales (megawatthours) .....	26,559,916	3
Direct Use (megawatthours) .....	<b>1,204,206</b>	<b>27</b>
Average Retail Price (cents/kWh).....	<b>13.00</b>	<b>11</b>

MWh = Megawatthours.

kWh = Kilowatthours.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report." U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report." U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report" and predecessor forms.

**Table 2. Ten Largest Plants by Generating Capacity, 2008**

Plant	Primary Energy Source or Technology	Operating Company	Net Summer Capacity (MW)
<b>Maryland</b>			
1. Chalk Point LLC.....	Coal	Mirant Chalk Point LLC	2,413
2. Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant.....	Nuclear	Calvert Cliffs Nuclear PP Inc	1,735
3. Morgantown Generating Plant .....	Coal	Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC	1,486
4. Brandon Shores.....	Coal	Constellation Power Source Gen	1,286
5. Herbert A Wagner .....	Coal	Constellation Power Source Gen	996
6. Dickerson.....	Coal	Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC	849
7. NAEA Rock Springs LLC.....	Gas	NAEA Rock Springs LLC	632
8. Conowingo.....	Hydroelectric	Exelon Power	572
9. C P Crane.....	Coal	Constellation Power Source Gen	399
10. Perryman.....	Gas	Constellation Power Source Gen	355

MW = Megawatt.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report."

**Table 3. Top Five Retailers of Electricity, with End Use Sectors, 2008**  
(Megawatthours)

Entity	Type of Provider	All Sectors	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Transportation
<b>Maryland</b>						
1. Baltimore Gas & Electric Co.....	Investor-Owned	16,868,824	12,669,823	3,957,182	241,819	-
2. Potomac Electric Power Co.....	Investor-Owned	7,595,917	5,428,727	2,167,190	-	-
3. PEPCO Energy Services.....	Other Provider	7,453,960	17,313	7,316,131	-	120,516
4. The Potomac Edison Co.....	Investor-Owned	4,481,014	3,202,917	925,459	352,638	-
5. Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.....	Other Provider	4,427,517	-	3,377,512	651,447	398,558
Total Sales, Top Five Providers .....		40,827,232	21,318,780	17,743,474	1,245,904	519,074
Percent of Total State Sales .....		64	79	59	22	98

- (dash) = Data not available.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

**Table 4. Electric Power Net Summer Capacity by Primary Energy Source and Industry Sector, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**  
(Megawatts)

Energy Source	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percentage Share	
									1998	2008
<b>Maryland</b>										
<b>Electric Utilities.....</b>	<b>10,970</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Coal.....	4,647	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.1	-
Petroleum.....	2,516	69	70	79	79	79	80	80	21.7	0.6
Natural Gas.....	1,602	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.8	-
Nuclear.....	1,675	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14.5	-
Hydroelectric.....	530	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.6	-
<b>Independent Power Producers and Combined Heat and Power .....</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>11,790</b>	<b>12,401</b>	<b>12,419</b>	<b>12,423</b>	<b>12,421</b>	<b>12,406</b>	<b>12,505</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>99.4</b>
Coal.....	60	4,897	4,957	4,958	4,958	4,958	4,958	4,944	0.5	39.3
Petroleum.....	2	2,853	2,752	3,343	3,343	3,061	2,885	2,911	*	23.1
Natural Gas.....	421	1,490	2,144	1,538	1,542	1,821	1,953	2,038	3.6	16.2
Other Gases.....	-	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	-	1.2
Nuclear.....	-	1,685	1,703	1,735	1,735	1,735	1,735	1,735	-	13.8
Hydroelectric.....	-	530	566	566	566	566	590	590	-	4.7
Other Renewables.....	128	183	127	127	127	127	133	135	1.1	1.1
<b>Total Electric Industry.....</b>	<b>11,582</b>	<b>11,859</b>	<b>12,472</b>	<b>12,499</b>	<b>12,503</b>	<b>12,500</b>	<b>12,486</b>	<b>12,585</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Coal.....	4,707	4,897	4,957	4,958	4,958	4,958	4,958	4,944	40.6	39.3
Petroleum.....	2,518	2,922	2,822	3,422	3,422	3,140	2,965	2,991	21.7	23.8
Natural Gas.....	2,024	1,490	2,144	1,538	1,542	1,821	1,953	2,038	17.5	16.2
Other Gases.....	-	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	-	1.2
Nuclear.....	1,675	1,685	1,703	1,735	1,735	1,735	1,735	1,735	14.5	13.8
Hydroelectric.....	530	530	566	566	566	566	590	590	4.6	4.7
Other Renewables.....	128	183	127	127	127	127	133	135	1.1	1.1

\* = Value is less than half of the smallest unit of measure (e.g., for values with no decimals, the smallest unit is 1 and values under 0.5 are shown as \*).

- (dash) = Data not available.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report."

**Table 5. Electric Power Net Generation by Primary Energy Source and Industry Sector, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**  
(Megawatthours)

Energy Source	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percentage Share	
									1998	2008
<b>Maryland</b>										
<b>Electric Utilities.....</b>	<b>48,513,503</b>	<b>30,734</b>	<b>51,722</b>	<b>30,023</b>	<b>44,235</b>	<b>11,941</b>	<b>23,712</b>	<b>5,856</b>	<b>95.8</b>	<b>*</b>
Coal.....	29,077,013	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57.4	-
Petroleum.....	3,311,978	30,734	51,722	30,023	44,235	11,941	23,712	5,856	6.5	*
Natural Gas.....	1,054,177	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.1	-
Nuclear.....	13,330,598	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.3	-
Hydroelectric.....	1,739,737	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.4	-
<b>Independent Power Producers and Combined Heat and Power.....</b>	<b>2,139,514</b>	<b>48,248,354</b>	<b>52,192,515</b>	<b>52,022,747</b>	<b>52,617,365</b>	<b>48,944,939</b>	<b>50,174,211</b>	<b>47,355,097</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Coal.....	217,714	28,712,053	29,939,086	29,195,458	29,302,792	29,408,022	29,699,186	27,218,239	0.4	57.5
Petroleum.....	142,372	2,251,698	3,520,461	3,266,819	3,761,334	568,785	961,118	399,984	0.3	0.8
Natural Gas.....	936,419	2,214,431	1,195,643	1,183,301	1,886,986	1,770,206	2,240,927	1,848,147	1.8	3.9
Other Gases.....	82,316	504,513	325,355	411,565	342,466	332,444	377,560	337,823	0.2	0.7
Nuclear.....	-	12,128,005	13,690,713	14,580,260	14,703,221	13,830,411	14,353,192	14,678,695	-	31.0
Hydroelectric.....	-	1,660,989	2,646,984	2,507,521	1,703,639	2,104,275	1,652,216	1,974,078	-	4.2
Other Renewables.....	760,693	521,631	596,050	589,208	623,365	626,161	603,462	612,485	1.5	1.3
Other.....	-	255,034	278,224	288,616	293,561	304,635	286,550	285,645	-	0.6
<b>Total Electric Industry.....</b>	<b>50,653,017</b>	<b>48,279,088</b>	<b>52,244,237</b>	<b>52,052,770</b>	<b>52,661,600</b>	<b>48,956,880</b>	<b>50,197,924</b>	<b>47,360,953</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Coal.....	29,294,727	28,712,053	29,939,086	29,195,458	29,302,792	29,408,022	29,699,186	27,218,239	57.8	57.5
Petroleum.....	3,454,350	2,282,432	3,572,183	3,296,842	3,805,569	580,726	984,831	405,840	6.8	0.9
Natural Gas.....	1,990,596	2,214,431	1,195,643	1,183,301	1,886,986	1,770,206	2,240,927	1,848,147	3.9	3.9
Other Gases.....	82,316	504,513	325,355	411,565	342,466	332,444	377,560	337,823	0.2	0.7
Nuclear.....	13,330,598	12,128,005	13,690,713	14,580,260	14,703,221	13,830,411	14,353,192	14,678,695	26.3	31.0
Hydroelectric.....	1,739,737	1,660,989	2,646,984	2,507,521	1,703,639	2,104,275	1,652,216	1,974,078	3.4	4.2
Other Renewables.....	760,693	521,631	596,050	589,208	623,365	626,161	603,462	612,485	1.5	1.3
Other.....	-	255,034	278,224	288,616	293,561	304,635	286,550	285,645	-	0.6

\* = Value is less than half of the smallest unit of measure (e.g., for values with no decimals, the smallest unit is 1 and values under 0.5 are shown as \*).

- (dash) = Data not available.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report" and predecessor forms.

**Table 6. Electric Power Delivered Fuel Prices and Quality for Coal, Petroleum, and Natural Gas, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**

Fuel, Quality	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Maryland</b>								
Coal (cents per million Btu) .....	146	163	163	174	192	227	212	366
Average heat value (Btu per pound).....	12,914	12,799	12,708	12,653	12,638	12,504	12,501	12,361
Average sulfur Content (percent).....	1.17	1.13	1.07	1.25	1.32	1.28	1.26	1.20
Petroleum (cents per million Btu) <sup>1</sup> .....	211	375	534	552	788	1,013	1,060	1,721
Average heat value (Btu per gallon).....	150,776	150,717	148,564	149,417	148,498	146,088	145,614	142,967
Average sulfur Content (percent).....	0.96	0.65	0.61	0.54	0.64	0.48	0.53	0.38
Natural Gas (cents per million Btu).....	263	416	537	553	991	748	757	1,051
Average heat value (Btu per cubic foot).....	1,047	1,035	1,047	1,048	1,046	1,043	1,042	1,050

<sup>1</sup> Petroleum includes petroleum liquids and petroleum coke.  
Btu = British thermal unit.

Note: Due to different reporting requirements between the Form EIA-923 and historical FERC Form 423, the receipts data from 2008 and on are not directly comparable to prior years. There may be a notable increase in fuel receipts beginning with 2008. For more information, please see the Technical Notes in the Electric Power Annual.

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-423, "Monthly Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Plants Report." Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, FERC Form 423, "Monthly Cost and Quality of Fuels for Electric Plants." U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report."

**Table 7. Electric Power Industry Emissions Estimates, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**  
(Thousand Metric Tons)

Emission Type	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Maryland</b>								
<b>Sulfur Dioxide</b> .....								
Coal.....	247	241	248	261	258	256	252	222
Petroleum.....	24	8	14	13	16	12	12	1
Natural Gas.....	*	* <sup>R</sup>	*	* <sup>R</sup>	* <sup>R</sup>	* <sup>R</sup>	* <sup>R</sup>	*
Other Gases.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Renewables.....	3 <sup>R</sup>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Other.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total.....	274	251	264	277	276	271	267	226
<b>Nitrogen Oxide</b> .....								
Coal.....	99	62	57	51	50	47	43	33
Petroleum.....	11	5	8	7	8	5	5	2
Natural Gas.....	3	3	1	3	2	7	2	2
Other Gases.....	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Renewables.....	4 <sup>R</sup>	2	2	3	2	2	2	3
Other.....	*	1	1	1	1	1	1	*
Total.....	116	73	70	65	64	62	55	41
<b>Carbon Dioxide</b> .....								
Coal.....	27,292 <sup>R</sup>	27,513 <sup>R</sup>	28,653 <sup>R</sup>	28,149 <sup>R</sup>	28,509 <sup>R</sup>	28,325 <sup>R</sup>	28,628 <sup>R</sup>	26,928
Petroleum.....	3,204 <sup>R</sup>	2,004 <sup>R</sup>	2,998 <sup>R</sup>	2,839 <sup>R</sup>	3,315 <sup>R</sup>	553 <sup>R</sup>	893 <sup>R</sup>	380
Natural Gas.....	1,269 <sup>R</sup>	1,367 <sup>R</sup>	677 <sup>R</sup>	743 <sup>R</sup>	1,245 <sup>R</sup>	1,308 <sup>R</sup>	1,373 <sup>R</sup>	1,226
Other Renewables.....	541 <sup>R</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other.....	11 <sup>R</sup>	593 <sup>R</sup>	601 <sup>R</sup>	599 <sup>R</sup>	587 <sup>R</sup>	612 <sup>R</sup>	580 <sup>R</sup>	587
Total.....	32,317 <sup>R</sup>	31,477 <sup>R</sup>	32,930 <sup>R</sup>	32,330 <sup>R</sup>	33,656 <sup>R</sup>	30,798 <sup>R</sup>	31,473 <sup>R</sup>	29,121

R = Revised.

\* = Value is less than half of the smallest unit of measure (e.g., for values with no decimals, the smallest unit is 1 and values under 0.5 are shown as \*).

- (dash) = Data not available.

Source: Calculations made by the Electric Power Division, U. S. Energy Information Administration.

**Table 8. Retail Sales, Revenue, and Average Retail Prices by Sector, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**

Sector	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percentage Share	
									1998	2008
<b>Maryland</b>										
<b>Retail Sales (thousand megawatthours) .....</b>										
Residential .....	22,407	25,489	26,671	27,952	28,440	26,905	28,195	27,144	38.7	42.9
Commercial .....	24,284	21,044	16,950	17,264	17,932	29,729	30,691	30,003	42.0	47.4
Industrial .....	10,344	20,875	27,176	21,195	21,517	6,057	5,980	5,650	17.9	8.9
Other .....	799	972	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.4	--
Transportation.....	NA	NA	461	481	477	482	524	529	--	0.8
All Sectors .....	57,834	68,380	71,259	66,892	68,365	63,173	65,391	63,326	100.0	100.0
<b>Retail Revenue (million dollars).....</b>										
Residential .....	1,890	1,973	2,060	2,181	2,405	2,614	3,353	3,757	46.7	45.6
Commercial .....	1,656	1,328	1,178	1,304	1,608	3,141	3,553	3,828	40.9	46.5
Industrial .....	429	836	1,329	1,269	1,509	493	563	586	10.6	7.1
Other .....	70	92	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.7	--
Transportation.....	NA	NA	27	31	37	41	53	61	--	0.7
All Sectors .....	4,045	4,229	4,594	4,785	5,559	6,288	7,523	8,232	100.0	100.0
<b>Average Retail Prices (cents/kWh) .....</b>										
Residential .....	8.44	7.74	7.73	7.80	8.46	9.71	11.89	13.84	--	--
Commercial .....	6.82	6.31	6.95	7.56	8.97	10.56	11.58	12.76	--	--
Industrial .....	4.14	4.01	4.89	5.99	7.01	8.14	9.41	10.37	--	--
Other .....	8.82	9.42	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	--	--
Transportation.....	NA	NA	5.78	6.46	7.73	8.43	10.15	11.52	--	--
All Sectors .....	6.99	6.18	6.45	7.15	8.13	9.95	11.50	13.00	--	--

kWh = Kilowatthours.

NA = Not available.

-- = Not applicable.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

**Table 9. Retail Electricity Sales Statistics, 2008**

Item	Full Service Providers					Other Providers		Total
	Investor-Owned	Public	Federal	Cooperative	Facility	Energy	Delivery	
<b>Maryland</b>								
Number of Entities.....	4	5	NA	3	NA	21	4	37
Number of Retail Customers .....	2,082,815	34,113	NA	198,220	NA	113,541	NA	2,428,689
Retail Sales (thousand megawatthours).....	31,720	756	NA	4,290	NA	26,560	NA	63,326
Percentage of Retail Sales .....	50.09	1.19	--	6.77	--	41.94	--	100.00
Revenue from Retail Sales (million dollars) .....	4,415	86	NA	579	NA	2,638	514	8,232
Percentage of Revenue .....	53.63	1.05	--	7.03	--	32.05	6.24	100.00
Average Retail Price (cents/kWh).....	13.92	11.38	NA	13.49	NA	9.93	1.93	13.00

kWh = Kilowatthours.

NA = Not available.

-- = Not applicable.

Notes: Totals may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding. Data are shown for All Sectors. Full Service Providers sell bundled electricity services (e.g., both energy and delivery) to end users. Full Service Providers may purchase electricity from others (such as independent Power Producers or other full service providers) prior to delivery. Other Providers sell either the energy or the delivery services, but not both. Sales volumes and customer counts shown for Other Providers refer to delivered electricity, which is a joint activity of both energy and delivery providers; for clarity, they are reported only in the Energy column in this table. The revenue shown under Other Providers represents the revenue realized from the sale of the energy and the delivery services distinctly. "Public" entities include municipalities, State power agencies, and municipal marketing authorities. Federal entities are either owned or financed by the Federal Government. "Cooperatives" are electric utilities legally established to be owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services. The cooperative will generate, transmit and/or distribute supplies of electric energy to a specified area not being serviced by another utility. "Facility" sales represent direct electricity transactions from independent generators to end use consumers.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report."

**Table 10. Supply and Disposition of Electricity, 1998 and 2002 Through 2008**  
(Million Kilowatthours)

Category	1998	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Maryland</b>								
<b>Supply</b> .....								
<b>Generation</b> .....								
Electric Utilities .....	48,514	31	52	30	44	12	24	6
Independent Power Producers .....	305	44,828	48,824	48,457	48,780	45,406	46,274	43,748
Combined Heat and Power, Electric .....	1,405	2,835	2,813	2,926	3,196	2,902	3,275	3,086
<b>Electric Power Sector Generation Subtotal</b> .....	<b>50,223</b>	<b>47,695</b>	<b>51,689</b>	<b>51,413</b>	<b>52,020</b>	<b>48,320</b>	<b>49,573</b>	<b>46,840</b>
Combined Heat and Power, Commercial .....	30	10	31	49	54	32	28	40
Combined Heat and Power, Industrial.....	400	575	524	591	588	605	597	481
<b>Industrial and Commercial Generation Subtotal</b> .....	<b>430</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>521</b>
<b>Total Net Generation</b> .....	<b>50,653</b>	<b>48,279</b>	<b>52,244</b>	<b>52,053</b>	<b>52,662</b>	<b>48,957</b>	<b>50,198</b>	<b>47,361</b>
<b>Total Supply</b> .....	<b>50,653</b>	<b>48,279</b>	<b>52,244</b>	<b>52,053</b>	<b>52,662</b>	<b>48,957</b>	<b>50,198</b>	<b>47,361</b>
<b>Disposition</b> .....								
<b>Retail Sales</b> .....								
Full Service Providers .....	57,834	59,271	59,675	53,240	49,145	41,666	38,442	36,766
Energy-Only Providers .....	-	9,108	11,566	13,652	19,202	21,507	26,924	26,560
Facility Direct Retail Sales <sup>1</sup> .....	-	-	18	-	18	-	25	-
<b>Total Electric Industry Retail Sales</b> .....	<b>57,834</b>	<b>68,380</b>	<b>71,259</b>	<b>66,892</b>	<b>68,365</b>	<b>63,173</b>	<b>65,391</b>	<b>63,326</b>
<b>Direct Use</b> .....	<b>1,066</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<b>1,197</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>1,204</b>
<b>Estimated Losses</b> .....	<b>3,917</b>	<b>3,948</b>	<b>3,610<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>4,689<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>5,308<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>4,734</b>	<b>5,392</b>	<b>4,985</b>
<b>Total Disposition</b> .....	<b>62,816</b>	<b>73,510</b>	<b>76,065<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>72,779<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>74,768<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>69,230</b>	<b>72,128</b>	<b>69,515</b>
<b>Net Interstate Trade</b> <sup>2</sup> .....	<b>-12,163</b>	<b>-25,231</b>	<b>-23,821<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>-20,727<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>-22,107<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>-20,274</b>	<b>-21,930</b>	<b>-22,154</b>
<b>Net Trade Index (ratio)</b> <sup>3</sup> .....	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>0.68</b>

<sup>1</sup> Facility Direct Retail Sales are electricity sales from non utility power producers which reported electricity sales to a retail customer.

<sup>2</sup> Net Interstate Trade is the difference between Total Supply and Total Disposition.

<sup>3</sup> Net Trade Index is the ratio of Total Supply to Total Disposition.

R = Revised.

- (dash) = Data not available.

Notes: Totals may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding. Estimated Losses are reported at the utility level, and then allocated to States based on the utility's retail sales by State. Reported losses may include electricity unaccounted for by the utility. Direct use is commercial or industrial use of electricity that (1) is self-generated (2) is produced by either the same entity that consumes the power or an affiliate, and (3) is used in direct support of a service or industrial process located within the same facility or group of facilities that houses the generating equipment. Direct use is exclusive of station use.

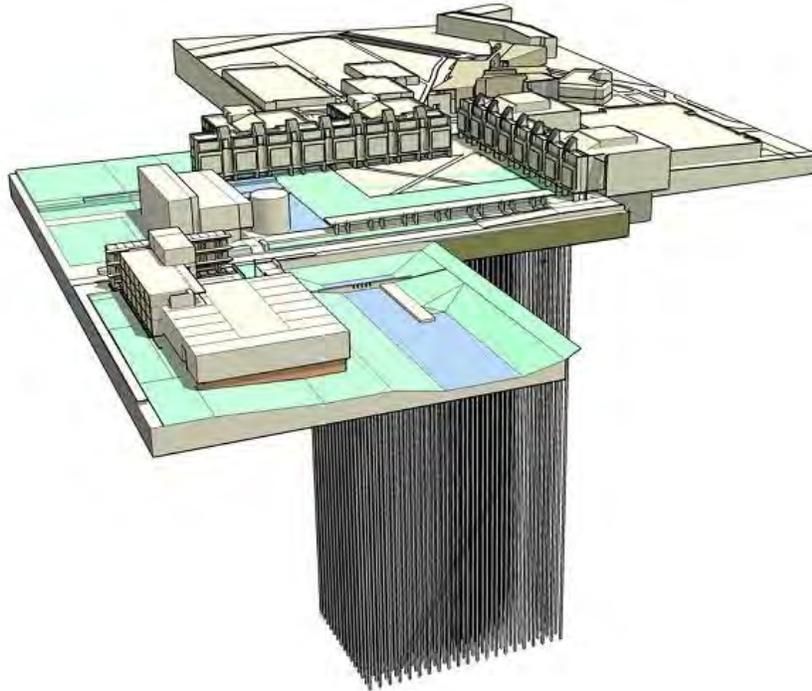
Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-923, "Power Plant Operations Report" and predecessor forms. U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-860, "Annual Electric Generator Report." U.S. Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-861, "Annual Electric Power Industry Report." DOE, Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Form OE-781R, "Annual Report of International Electric Export/Import Data," predecessor forms, and National Energy Board of Canada.



# **APPENDIX B**

## **Case Studies – Geothermal Systems of Varying Scale**

## University of Ontario Institute of Technology Borehole Thermal Energy Storage System



A virtual view of the borehole thermal energy storage (BTES) system at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) showing the grid of boreholes and the buildings that will be around them including the new OPG Engineering Building and Automotive Centre of Excellence.

UOIT is quickly on the road to becoming an innovator in engineering, driven by the strength of its programming and research. A major thrust has been established at UOIT in the area of energy engineering, and is aimed at addressing many of the present and future energy challenges facing society.

One particular area of energy research is on thermal energy storage and this work is being greatly facilitated by the availability of a leading edge, on-site thermal energy storage facility.

"The thermal storage system is a critical component of the university's heating and cooling system, and will help keep costs down and efficiency up," says Dr. Marc Rosen, Dean of UOIT's Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science. "In addition, the thermal storage system will be used for research and to educate students in thermal energy storage."

Dr. Rosen has carried out extensive research for over two decades on thermal energy storage, and is expanding his research in this area at UOIT.

Located in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada's newest university is currently undergoing one of the largest expansion projects in the province. Amidst the hub of all the construction activities lies the infrastructure for one of the largest geothermal well fields in North America. The geothermal well field is the central component in the borehole thermal energy storage system. Drilling was completed in November 2003 and involved three rigs, each drilling one hole per day over a span of over 100 days.

Three hundred and eighty-four holes, each 213 metres (700 feet) deep, will provide the basis for a highly efficient and environmentally friendly heating and cooling system, capable of regulating eight of the university's new buildings.



A glycol solution, encased in polyethylene tubing, circulates through an interconnected, underground network. During the winter, fluid circulating through tubing extended into the wells collects heat from the earth and carries it into the buildings. In summer, the system will reverse to pull heat from the building and place it in the ground.

Although there are some underground thermal energy storage applications in Canada, such as those at Scarborough Centre in Toronto, Carleton University in Ottawa, the Sussex Hospital in New Brunswick, and Pacific Agricultural Centre in Agassiz, BC, the UOIT borehole thermal energy storage project is unique in Canada in terms of the number of holes, capacity, surface area, technology, etc. Borehole thermal energy storage, which is similar to the borehole geothermal system, involves storage and provides for both heating and cooling on a seasonal basis. Large-scale storage systems, comparable to the UOIT one, have been implemented at Stockton College in New Jersey and in Sweden.

The UOIT borehole thermal energy storage system was completed in 2004.

The geothermal site provides the distinct opportunity for use by the university's engineering faculty as an invaluable research and teaching lab. The facility will not only help to significantly reduce energy consumption, but will also provide extensive research opportunities and enhance the educational experience for students in energy-related programs.

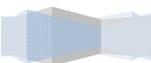
Students will have the rich opportunity of on-site education in one of North America's biggest geothermal fields, exclusive to UOIT Engineering programs, and will also benefit from the expert knowledge of UOIT faculty. Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science professor Ibrahim Dincer has collaborated with Dr. Rosen on thermal storage research for several years, and the team recently co-authored a book entitled, *Thermal Energy Storage: Systems and Applications*, which focuses on new and leading edge uses of thermal storage.

According to Dr. Rosen, who is a past president of the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering, "UOIT's borehole thermal storage system demonstrates the benefits of the technology better than the over 25 case studies presented in our book, and constitutes one of the most important geothermal storage sites in the world."

The geothermal project is only one area of UOIT's innovative learning ensemble.

One of the main thrusts of the university is to provide energy education. The emphasis on energy issues in many industries has necessitated the creation of several unique energy-related engineering programs, including Mechanical Engineering with an Energy Engineering option, Energy Systems Engineering and Nuclear Engineering. Together, these programs make UOIT's energy engineering programming one of the largest in Canada.

<http://www.engineering.uoit.ca/facilities/borehole>





# Waterfront Office Building Louisville, Kentucky



The Waterfront Office Building in Louisville, Kentucky, completed in 1994, is probably the largest GeoExchange system in the world, but it builds on over a decade of success with GeoExchange systems in the adjoining 750,000 square foot Galt House East Hotel complex, with 600 hotel rooms, 100 apartments, and 120,000 square feet of public areas all served by small distributed heat pumps.

The entire complex has over 4,700 tons of GeoExchange (geothermal) capacity for heating and air conditioning. The Galt House East hotel was completed in 1984 with a 1,700-ton GeoExchange system; the success of this project led owner and designer Al Schneider to use GeoExchange systems in the new Waterfront Office Building. The million square foot Waterfront Office Building is sized for 2,700 tons of GeoExchange equipment when fully fitted out. The project developers point to the system's economy of installation and operation, ease of

maintenance, and environmental benefits as keys to the appeal of this technology for large, multi-use building complexes.

## System Description

Four 130-foot deep wells each provide up to 700 gallons per minute from the Louisville aquifer. Ground water at 58° F. is pumped into a 150,000-gallon reservoir under the mechanical room, and water from the reservoir flows into the adjacent Ohio River. Water from the reservoir is circulated through plate-and-frame heat exchangers that separate the ground water from closed loop circulation systems in the buildings. A total of 65,000 gallons of water flows through the entire loop system, with 40,000 gallons circulating in the office building loops. The closed interior loops are connected to water source heat pumps which can extract heat from the loop water or inject heat into it, depending on zone requirements. Each room or suite can have heating or cooling at any time.

During a typical summer, the system stores water at about 80° F.; in winter, an average temperature of about 55° is maintained. In spring and fall energy can be removed from the buildings during the day and put into the reservoir; the heat can be removed from the reservoir to be used at night. The use of thermal storage allows the controls to shut down the well pumps, sometimes for as long as a week, when there is little net call for heat or heat rejection for the complex as a whole.

While boiler standby heat can be injected into the system from a boiler recirculation loop connected to the four main loops, it is seldom required. The cost of

operating backup boilers for the hotel in December 1989, the coldest December on record in Louisville, was only \$500.

### **Major Capital Cost Savings**

The cost of the GeoExchange system was \$1,500 per ton. By comparison, a conventional system with centrifugal chillers, cooling towers, and insulated pipes for a comparable building complex could cost from \$2,000 to \$3,000 a ton. For the office complex, there is an additional advantage: The heat pumps do not have to be bought or installed until space is leased. This both conserves capital until needed and gives ultimate flexibility for tenant fit-out.

### **Dramatic Energy Cost Savings**

A systematic study of the savings in the office complex has not yet been attempted, as approximately one third is not yet occupied. However, there are good records for the adjacent hotel complex, for more than a decade: In the hotel, operating costs for the well pump and heat exchanger pump are estimated at \$1.50 to provide the same energy service as \$15 to \$20 with a conventional system. Over the long run, energy cost savings in the hotel complex have been dramatic --- about \$25,000 a month. Energy costs for the Galt House East Hotel are about 53 percent of those of the adjacent original Galt House, which has GeoExchange systems only on the first three floors. Hotel utility costs have been reduced by \$272,700 a year, with total energy savings approximately 5.6 million KWh a year. Though the energy management system and better insulation in the Galt House East contribute to the energy savings, the all-GeoExchange system is responsible for most of the savings. Use of GeoExchange technology has freed up approximately 25,000 square feet of additional commercial space that would otherwise have been used for equipment rooms for a conventional system. For the much larger office complex, these benefits will be even greater.

### **Operations and Maintenance Benefits**

The entire high efficiency system is built up from large numbers of a few types (approximately 15 models of various sizes) of distributed heat pumps. This has real advantages for maintenance: Fewer spares are required, it is possible to move units needing repairs to the shop, and service technicians can be effectively utilized. Maintenance costs for the Waterfront Office Complex are less than five cents per square foot per year. This is low even by the high standards of GeoExchange systems, where work by Caneta Research finds median maintenance costs with in-house service to be 7.5 cents/square foot per year.

### **Comfort and Convenience**

The GeoExchange system has shown distinct advantages over conventional HVAC systems in providing a comfortable and productive environment. According to Tom O'Hearn of the Galt House, complaints about the heating and cooling system "have virtually been nonexistent, whereas before we had frequent comments about lack of adequate comfort."

### **Obtaining More Information**

The Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium, Inc. (GHPC) is a non-profit organization with participation and support from the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Nation's utilities. GHPC can provide a wide variety of information to help you get started in applying GeoExchange. GHPC may also be able to provide design assistance for large or multi-site projects. Call us toll free at 1-888-ALL-4-GEO (1-888-255-4436). And visit our web site at <http://www.geoexchange.org>.

# GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

# LUND (Sweden)

*Geothermal energy rather takes a subordinate position among renewable energy sources. There are two possible sources for it: the radioactive decay of natural radio nuclides which causes the spreading of heat onto the earth surface, and the storage of solar energy in the top earth layers. For this reason, geothermal energy is available in many places and independent from the different seasons of the year, even if some regions do have a higher potential than others. In the city of Lund in Southern Sweden the potential is present and is exploited by the Municipality-owned utility.*

## GENERAL ASPECTS

Lund is a city with 75,000 inhabitants. It is situated in the Southwest of Sweden in the region of Skåne. Its history goes back more than 1,000 years and the city has an impressive cathedral built in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The major neighbouring city, Malmö, is quite close and due to the building of a new bridge crossing Øresund, the Danish capital Copenhagen will be only 20 kilometres away by the summer 2000. This makes the city quite attractive for future businesses. The ancient city centre and the presence of a big university makes the city quite charming.

### **Climatic data:**

Degree Days (Basis 17 °C): 3154  
Annual Mean Temperature: 7.5 °C



## CONTEXT

Already in 1963, the Municipality-owned utility, Lunds Energi AB, started implementing district heating (DH) in the Municipality and today the entire city centre's heat demand is covered in this way. The aim in the future is to further expand the district heating network to the housing areas around central Lund. The heat demand in these areas is currently covered either by electric heating, by oil furnaces or by natural gas furnaces. Due to the presence of hot water in the soil under Lund, two geothermal power plants were commissioned in 1985 and 1986. The hot water (21 °C) is pumped from 800 metres underground. At present, the geothermal system supplies 40% of the heat demand in the district heating network. The remaining part of the heat demand is covered by a combination of oil, biomass and natural gas combustion.

Apart from the geothermal application, the utility is also active in biomass, using wood chips in a combined heat and power implementation (CHP). The erection of three wind turbines (with a total installed capacity of 950 kW) and utilisation of district cooling as well, completes the picture of Lunds Energi and the Municipality as green minded and forward-looking actors in the energy market. The variety of different energy technologies makes it easy for Lunds Energi to fit the heat and power production to the current price level of the future liberalised energy market.

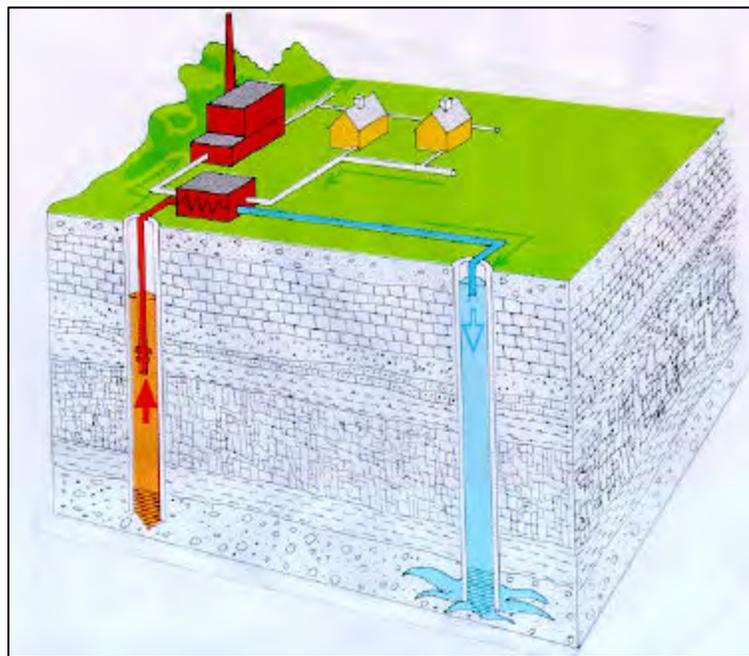
# EXPERIENCE OF LUND

The basis for the supply of heat in Lund is the pipes used for distributing energy. – One network is used for distributing hot water (district heating) and one for cold water (district cooling) The production facilities within Lunds Energi include:

- Base load capacity: geothermal heat pumps,
- Biomass co-generation plant,
- Modern gas and oil boilers,
- Electrical boilers,
- Extensively extended district heating network,
- Gas turbine co-generation,
- Hot and cold water accumulator tanks.

## The geothermal plants

Due to the presence of the hot water in the ground below Lund, two geothermal plants with a maximum heat output of respectively 20 and 27 MW were commissioned in 1985 and 1986. The project involved close co-operation between Lunds Energi and the University of Lund. The principle is to pump the 21 °C hot underground water from a 800 metre deep well. This amount of energy (flow of water) is then enriched by a heat pump using electricity. This means that the temperature of the underground water increases to about 80 °C<sup>1</sup>. The water then passes a heat exchanger that cools the water to 4 °C. After cooling, the



underground water is re-injected into the ground. The water for district heating, heated by the heat exchanging system, is now at 77 °C and is used for the heat demand in the city. In ideal working conditions, the heat pump has an overall coefficient of performance (COP) of approximately 3.3, meaning that an input of one kWh electricity gives an output of 3.3 kWh heat. This is quite high and is due to the use of the hot water from the underground. Normal heat pumps installed for example in dwellings work with a COP of around 2.7

Maximum heat capacity	47 (20 + 27)	MW
Coefficient Of Performance	3.3	-
Flow of source water	120	L/s
Temperature of source water (in – out)	21 – 4	°C
Coolant	R134a	-
Heat produced in 1998	313	GWh
Electricity consumed in 1998	102	GWh

### *Technical specifications for the geothermal plants*

<sup>1</sup> It is possible to increase the temperature to 84 °C, but for technical reasons only 80 °C is used.

The temperature gradient in the underground is approximately 3 °C per 100 metres. This means that with a deeper well it would be possible to achieve higher temperatures. This is not done because of technical problems. Already at 800 metres the water contains large amounts of salt (6 % volume) and gasses (2.5 litres of gas per 100 litres of water, the gas consists of 92 % NO<sub>x</sub>, 3 % methane and 3 % helium). To keep these elements in the underground water, it is pressurised to 3 Bar. With a deeper well, a higher amount of gasses and salt would be present and therefore higher pressure would be necessary. The method consisting in only pumping water from 800 metre deep is cheaper and more secure than drilling deeper, even though the water would then be at a higher temperature with a higher COP-figure as a natural result.

The implementation of the geothermal plants has led to a remarkable decrease in the use of fossil fuels and associated emissions. It has been calculated that in the first 5 years of running the environmental figures can be shortened to:

Amount of fossil oil fuel saved	200,000	m <sup>3</sup>
CO <sub>2</sub> -emission saved	580,000	tons
SO <sub>2</sub> -emission saved	4,000	tons
NO <sub>x</sub> -emission saved	1,400	tons

The coolant has until recently been Freon – which, if emitted into the atmosphere, contributes to depleting the ozone layer. In 1995 this was changed to the less aggressive R134a. This technique, supplying Lund with inexpensive and independently produced heat is now called "the Lund Model" and is viewed as a good example by experts both in Sweden and on an international level.

### **Finance**

The total investment in the geothermal installations amounts to € 11,7 million<sup>2</sup> (nominal value). The investment was spread over three years with € 5,480,000 in 1984, € 4,850,000 in 1985 and € 1,050,000 in 1986. Later on, an additional € 320,000 was invested. Part of the money was cheap loans from the government – at that time investments with the objective of minimising the dependency on oil received support.

### **District cooling**

A district cooling network has been built over the last few years. The network has its own pipes where cold water is distributed. Water at a temperature of 4 °C is delivered to consumers and when the water returns, the temperature has risen to 12-15 °C. The district cooling production plants have their own heat pumps. - The geothermal heat pumps are not used to produce district cooling due to the long distance from the heat pumps to the cooling demand. On the warmest summer days, the surplus heat from the district cooling heat pumps – fed into the district heating network - is almost as high as the total heat load in the entire district heating network. This means that in the summer, the geothermal heat pumps produce less heat than before the installation of district cooling. However on a yearly basis, the geothermal heat pumps produce much more heat than the district cooling heat pumps.

### **Biomass plant**

Lunds Energi has recently invested in the neighbouring utility giving them access to a new biomass combined heat and power plant. This is situated 7 kilometres from the city of Lund, but with a new connection pipe, the citizens of Lund are now also supplied with biomass-based heat. The investment in the neighbouring utility is another step in the effort to prepare

<sup>2</sup> One € equals here 9.49 Swedish Kroner

Lunds Energi for the liberalised energy market and to make the utility more independent of price fluctuations and other factors that Lunds Energi does not have the possibility of influencing.

### **The future liberalisation and Lunds Energi**

Lunds Energi has recently invested in a huge accumulator tank for storing surplus heat production. A new accumulator for cold water for district cooling was also installed just before Christmas 1999. This is a very good example of flexibility strategy that they are aiming at in Lund. The combination of heat pumps and electrical boilers that consume electricity, co-generation capacity – partly based on biomass - that produces electricity, and large scale possibilities for accumulating cold and warm water, makes Lunds Energi's business profitable for the company and the consumers regardless of the fluctuations in the electricity-, oil,- and gas markets. The new accumulator option gives an additional short-term flexibility, and the co-operation with the neighbouring utility, Eastern Group, as well as investments in Norwegian Hydro Power, complete the picture of an independent energy supplier ready for the full liberalisation of the energy market.

## **EVALUATION AND PERSPECTIVES**

Lunds Energi AB and its partners have been forward-looking in their energy planning. The use of a wide range of different energy technologies makes the utility very flexible and prepared for the free energy market. The advantages in using the local source – the underground hot water – are remarkable. Independence in foreign markets, use of local knowledge and thereby local employment, improved environment due to less use of fossil fuel and the fact that Lunds Energi is now able to sell the know-how to other countries are all factors that stress the profitable investment – for the region as a whole. Further progress in changing from electricity based heat pumps to natural gas based heat pumps has so far been postponed due to low electricity prices and possible plans for a future CHP plant. If such a plant is implemented, the geothermal heat pumps will produce far less energy than today. In this case, there will probably be no new investments in the geothermal systems. If and when the CHP plant is implemented depends on electricity prices which at present are quite low in Sweden.

### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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This case study was prepared by Energie-Cités in co-operation with the utility Lunds Energi AB and the City of Lund. It received funding from the ALTENER Programme of DG Energy and Transport of the European Commission.





# **APPENDIX C**

**International Ground Source Heat Pump Association Members,  
in Charles County, Maryland and in Maryland State**



# International Ground Source Heat Pump Association

Members List as of April 15, 2011

[http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/directory/location\\_result.asp](http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/directory/location_result.asp)

Name	Company	Address	City	State/ Province	Zip	Phone	Email	Web
<b>Charles County Maryland Members</b>								
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## International Ground Source Heat Pump Association

Members List as of April 15, 2011

[http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/directory/location\\_result.asp](http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/directory/location_result.asp)

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George Gardes	Allen & Shariff Corp.	7061 Deepage Dr.	Columbia	MD	21045	410-381-7100	<a href="mailto:bgardes@allenshariff.com">bgardes@allenshariff.com</a>	<a href="http://www.allenshariff.com">www.allenshariff.com</a>



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Name	Company	Address	City	State/ Province	Zip	Phone	Email	Web
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Tatyana N. Shine	Shine, Allen & Shariff LLC	7061 Deepage Dr., Ste, 103A	Columbia	MD	21045	443-545-1501	<a href="mailto:tatyana@shineallenshariff.com">tatyana@shineallenshariff.com</a>	
George Fritz	Horizon Builders	2131 Espey Ct.	Crofton	MD	21114	410-721-4877	<a href="mailto:george@horizonbuildersinc.net">george@horizonbuildersinc.net</a>	<a href="http://www.horizonbuilders.net">www.horizonbuilders.net</a>
Mike Hirschbock	Matrix Mechanical, Inc.	2406 Crofton Blvd.	Crofton	MD	21114	410-451-2665	<a href="mailto:mikeh@matrixmechanical.org">mikeh@matrixmechanical.org</a>	
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Stephen C. Watson	Matrix Mechanical, Inc.	2406 Crofton Blvd.	Crofton	MD	21114	410-451-2665	<a href="mailto:swatson@matrixmechanical.org">swatson@matrixmechanical.org</a>	<a href="http://www.matrixmechanical.org">www.matrixmechanical.org</a>
James D. Johnson	J. D. Johnson Well Drilling & Pumps	13425 Bedford Rd., NE	Cumberland	MD	21502-6918	301-77-9355	<a href="mailto:jimdjohns@atlanticbb.net">jimdjohns@atlanticbb.net</a>	
Kim Keller	Aircon Engineering, Inc.	7 Williams St.	Cumberland	MD	21502	301-722-7269	<a href="mailto:kim.keller@airconeng.com">kim.keller@airconeng.com</a>	<a href="http://www.airconeng.com">www.airconeng.com</a>
Robert D. Webber	Webbers Heating & A/C Co.	PO Box 37	Damascus	MD	20872	301-253-3557	<a href="http://www.webbersheating.com">rob@webbersheating.com</a>	<a href="http://www.webbershvac.com">www.webbershvac.com</a>
Gary W. Baldwin	Ground Loop Heating & A/C	1701 A Whiteford Rd.	Darlington	MD	21034	410-836-1706		
Stephen Barbieri	Ground Loop Inc., Heating & Air	1701-A Whiteford Rd.	Darlington	MD	21034	410-836-1706		<a href="http://www.groundloop.com">www.groundloop.com</a>
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Name	Company	Address	City	State/ Province	Zip	Phone	Email	Web
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Bryan S Vaughan	Watervale Heating & A/C	2116 Watervale Rd.	Fallston	MD	21047	410-879-0292		
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Name	Company	Address	City	State/ Province	Zip	Phone	Email	Web
Rick C. Barber	Rick Barber Well Service	2928 Grier Nursery Rd.	Forest Hill	MD	21050	443-807-9032		
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Michael T. Dietrich		6739A S. Clifton Rd.	Frederick	MD	21703	301-471-0573	<a href="mailto:miket.dietrich@gmail.com">miket.dietrich@gmail.com</a>	
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Gerald G. Lease	Lease Brothers Sheetmetal, Inc.	4580B Mack Ave.	Frederick	MD	21703	301-695-1254		
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# ATTACHMENT

## Report II - Assessment



October 2011

## LOAD AND CAPACITY ANALYSIS

# Analysis of Building Thermal Loads and Geothermal Resources for Charles County Maryland

**Submitted to:**

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Department of Planning & Growth Management  
200 Baltimore Street, P.O. Box 2160,  
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REPORT II

**Report Number:** 10-1151-0408 - 2

**Distribution:**

2 copies: Charles County Government

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a review of the built environment of Charles County as it exists today and as it is visioned to grow and change over the period 2012 to 2035. This built environment is the basis of the demand for thermal energy in the County and is essential to understanding the physical size and scale for consideration of geothermal energy supply and also in being able to assess the resources required to meet the demand.

The report attempts to assess Charles County as a whole, Waldorf as a potential site of the majority of growth forecast for the near future and Homefield subdivision, as a new planned community ready for immediate development. By assessing the potential thermal loads of these areas of study focus, we set the stage for development of an effective and efficient source of renewable energy, geothermal.

The report then presents a detailed analysis of the geology and hydrogeology of Charles County, which develops insight into the energy that can potentially be found and extracted from the ground. With a ground structure laced with several layers of aquifers, special attention is paid to consideration of Open Loop Geothermal Systems, including the regulatory environment surrounding this technology application.

The report considers the feasibility of Closed Loop Geothermal Systems, as they apply to the County. This includes an assessment of the thermal conductivity of the area, and specifically the Homefield site. Closed loop systems are technically feasible in almost every continental US location, however, the metrics and therefore economics can vary widely from one location to another and for various applications. The regulatory environment surrounding this technology application is also presented.

Energy prices in the US and in Charles County MD will impact the development of the business case. A review of Energy supply, demand and prices is presented with an outlook into the future, at potential prices to 2035.

This report presents the underlying information and data assessment that will be used in the third and final segment of this study, Community Geothermal Energy Review for Charles County MD - Economic and Environmental Business Case.



### REPORT LIMITATIONS

This report (the “Report”) was prepared for the exclusive use of Charles County Government, Maryland, to support its internal discussions and evaluation of the potential feasibility of geothermal systems.

The Report is intended to provide an overview and analysis of geothermal energy resources and building load requirements, as it might apply to the development of decentralized and centralized district energy systems in Charles County, Maryland. The Report is based on publicly available information, on information provided by Charles County government, and on the experience of Golder, and must be considered in its entirety. It is also based on discussions with representatives of Charles County, as reported herein. No rock, soil, water, liquid, gas, product or chemical sampling and analytical testing was conducted as part of this Work.

In preparing the Report, Golder has relied in good faith on information provided by other individuals, companies or government agencies noted in the Report. Golder has assumed that the information provided is factual and accurate and Golder has not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of such information. Golder accepts no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this Report as a result of omissions, misinterpretations or fraudulent acts of others. Golder makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the financial significance of its opinions, or as to legal matters touched on in this Report. With respect to our discussion of regulations and incentives, these are subject to periodic amendment and interpretation and these interpretations may change over time.

The scope of Golder’s review is described in this Report, and is subject to restrictions, assumptions and limitations. Except as noted herein, the work was conducted in accordance with the scope, terms and conditions of Golder’s Proposal P0-1151-0408 dated October 26, 2010, RFP No. 11-08 Community Geothermal Study as accepted by Contract signed by Mr. Brent Waters, Managing Associate, Golder Associates Inc. Richmond, Virginia and Ms. Candice Quinn Kelly, President for Charles County Commissioners, Charles County Maryland on January 21, 2011. Golder’s opinions are based upon information that existed at the time of the writing of the Report. It is understood that the services provided for in the scope of work allowed Golder to form no more than an opinion of the potential feasibility of geothermal energy systems. Any use which a third party makes of this Report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the sole responsibility of the third parties. Should additional parties require reliance on this Report, written authorization from Golder will be required. Golder disclaims responsibility of consequential financial effects on transactions or property values, or requirements for follow-up actions and costs.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, or the limitations set herein, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Context

Charles County Maryland, with a 2011 population of approximately 146,000 people covers over 294,000 acres of land bordered by the Potomac River to the west, the Wicomico River and Saint Mary's County Maryland to the south-east and Prince George's County Maryland to the north. According to countywide population projections developed by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) in 2008, Charles County is expected to grow by an average of 1.7 percent per year, or 45 percent overall from 140,764 people in 2008 to a population of approximately 204,200 people by 2030<sup>1</sup>. This represents an increase of approximately 64,436 people requiring an addition of approximately 24,173 residential dwellings. When this growth is added to the 2008 housing stock of 53,327 units, a projected total of 77,500 residential units are expected to exist by 2030.<sup>2</sup> In 2002 approximately 17% of the land area in the County was "developed". Population growth projections and development scenarios, described in the Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resources Element July 2010 (Draft) have been adopted for the purposes of this study in order to create consistency and form a basis for comparison.



Figure 1: Charles County, Maryland borders.

In the course of conducting the ongoing Charles County Community Geothermal Study 11-08, a Preliminary Report "Review of Geothermal Systems for Charles County Maryland" ("RGS Report") was prepared by Golder and submitted, in April 2011. That report provided a broad overview of geothermal technology and presented a review of fundamental geothermal system designs and configurations, discussed practical project implementation and provided an overview of government regulations and incentives.

This Second Report "Analysis of Building Thermal Loads and Geothermal Resources for Charles County Maryland", assesses Charles County MD specifically, evaluating first the current existing and planned building developments and building structure types to determine the need or demand for thermal energy, and second, evaluating the structure of the ground on which Charles County is situated to determine the extent and nature of the geothermal resource or geothermal capacity available. Specific sites of interest will be selected and will be evaluated in greater detail to highlight opportunities that could possibly deliver highly favorable technical and financial outcomes, with the greatest amount of positive economic and environmental impact.

<sup>1</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 4 (Original Source: MDP, 2008 Estimates for Maryland's Jurisdictions)

<sup>2</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 5 (Original Source: Maryland Property View, 2008)



A Final Report will incorporate these two preliminary reports, and will attempt to draw conclusions, make recommendations, and develop a high level strategy for geothermal project planning and implementation.

### 1.2 Objectives of this Report

The main objective of this report is to provide site specific information and data to assist Charles County MD in applying geothermal energy technology to strategic development and growth planning, thereby introducing an environmentally and economically beneficial alternative source of energy to the people of Charles County MD.

Report objectives are:

- Describe various building structure types, as applicable to Charles County MD
- Describe various building uses and applications, as applicable to Charles County MD
- Assess and quantify various building thermal loads, typical to Charles County MD
- Assess various development densities and building location distribution, as they apply to geothermal energy technology
- Identify, qualify, and select special sites of interest for geothermal energy technology application
- Analyze and quantify thermal loads for special sites of interest
- Assess and develop hydrogeologic framework of Charles County MD
- Develop prognosis of probable ground temperatures and thermal conductivity, applicable to Charles County MD
- Assess the current regulatory framework for geothermal systems in Charles County MD
- Comment on the feasibility of various geothermal system technologies, as they apply to Charles County MD
- Assess geothermal resource as estimated, against building thermal loads, to develop high level scenarios for geothermal energy project development
- Develop geothermal project cost benefit analysis based on life cycle cost methodology
- Evaluate other local energy sources and other local thermal energy capacities, their availability, proximity and magnitude, and their accessibility considering distance from the load, additional equipment and infrastructure required to connect, legal title to the energy source and the land required for connection, useful life of the energy source, life cycle cost and other cost/benefit factors.

### 1.3 Scope of Work

The geothermal technology applications that are considered in this report are limited to those that have been installed in North America and are applicable to residential, commercial and multi-residential building development, typically found in Charles County MD. This report does not provide an exhaustive survey of hybrid technology configurations that may be possible or innovations being developed.



The portion of the geothermal system that is considered in this report is limited to the exterior loop component, including the immediate connection to the building that may be housed in a lower interior level of a building. This can be considered the “exterior” or “primary” geothermal system. The interior “HVAC” geothermal system may include water pipe connectors, heat exchangers, water-to-water and/or water-to-air heat pumps, air ducting, electrical connections, sensors and controls, desuperheaters, radiant in-floor or in-wall piping, make up air units, fan coils and many other pieces of equipment that may be connected to the primary geothermal system. Typically, the HVAC system of a building, while specified to be compatible with the primary geothermal system, is custom designed for each building by a mechanical electrical consultant as directed by each building developer. This report contains a description of some of the geothermal system compatible HVAC equipment available with comments about the geothermal system design integration process.

First, a review of the typical building structures in use in Charles County MD today was conducted.

Second, the metrics of these building types were analyzed to derive high level assessment of building thermal loads and overall thermal energy demand.

Third, a review of the ground geology and hydrogeology was conducted.

Fourth, a building load/geothermal capacity analysis was performed

Finally, a cost benefit analysis was performed

The information produced in this report is for the internal consideration of Charles County MD to determine whether to further pursue, geothermal energy promotion or supply, as a policy or business direction. Further study and development is required for feasibility of any one site or situation, to be determined.



## 2.0 ASSESSMENT OF BUILDING STRUCTURES TYPICAL TO CHARLES COUNTY, MD

In order to assess the amount of thermal energy required by buildings found in Charles County, we first assess the various building structure types, describe various building uses and applications, and assess and quantify various building thermal loads, typical to Charles County MD. This gives us a representative estimate of thermal energy needs and also provides a basis for assumptions that assist us to predict future thermal energy needs according to planned development.

According to the 2006 “2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan”<sup>3</sup>, the majority of the land (~ 61%) in the County is forest. About 19% is agricultural land. The other two major sectors of County land use are: Residential (13.6%) and Industrial, Commercial & Institutional (2.8%) sectors.

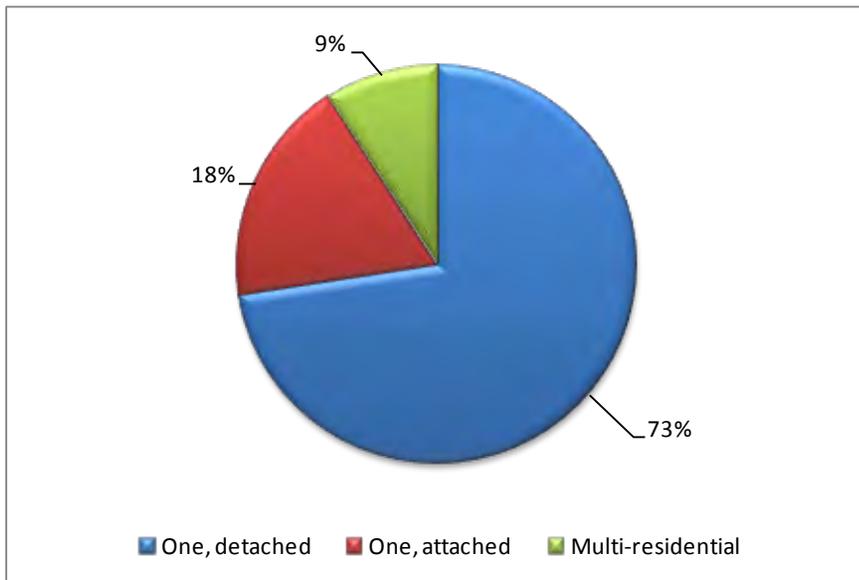


Figure 2: Housing Unit Structure Type Distribution in Charles County

A more detailed breakdown of the County land use may be found below in Figure 3 and Figure 4.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.charlescounty.org/pgm/planning/plans/complanning/compplan/compplan.htm>



# THERMAL LOAD AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

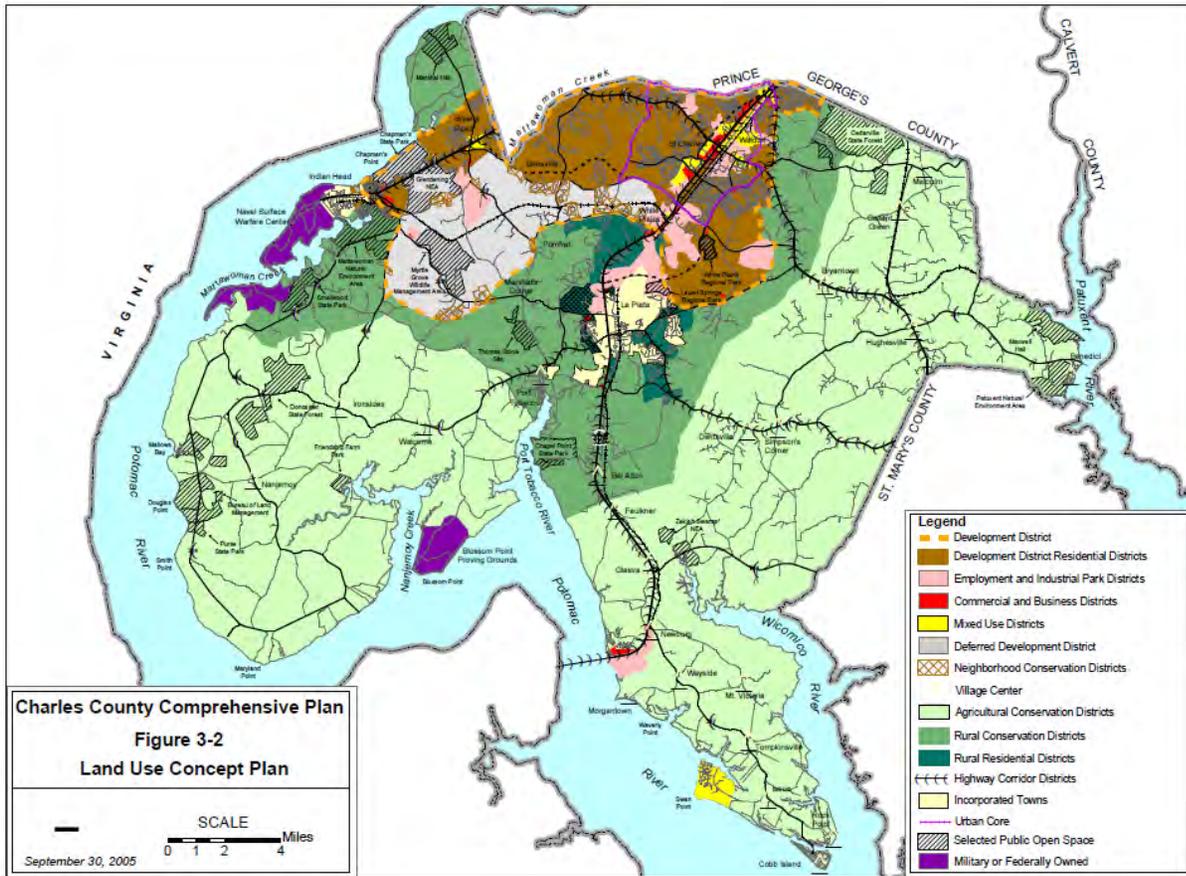


Figure 3: Charles County Land Use Map

Source: Charles County 2006 Comprehensive Plan. Figure 3-2.

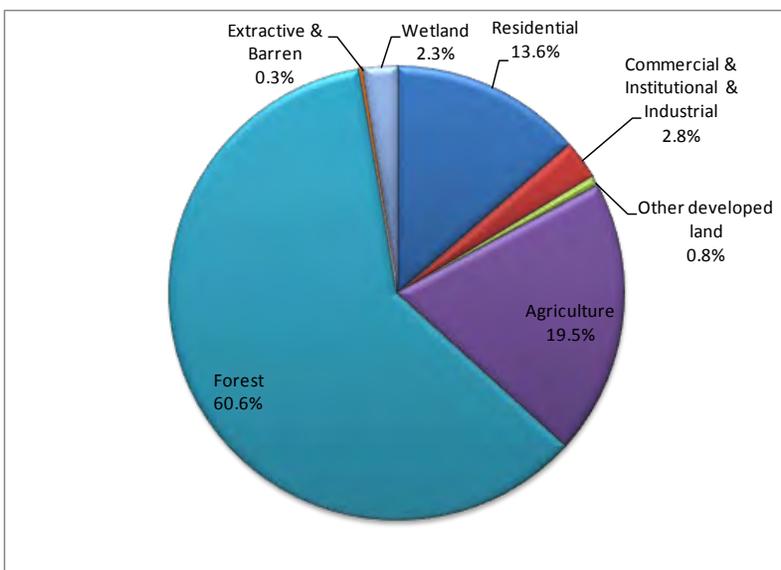


Figure 4: Charles County Proportional Land Use

Source: Charles County 2006 Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 3, Growth Management and Land Use, Table 301.



Residential properties in Charles County occupy approximately 40,089 acres (13.6%) of land. Residential is the third largest land use in the County and it consists of multiple structure types including single-family homes, as well as multi-residential units.

According to the latest U.S. Census Bureau<sup>4</sup> statistics (released in September 2010), the estimated number of households in Charles County as of July 2009 was 53,971 with multi-residential units comprising ~9.7% of the units. The *2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan* projected the total number of households in the county in 2010 to be 53,532. The Comprehensive Plan was accepted as the most relevant information for this study and was used for thermal load estimates, presented later in this report. However, neither the Census Bureau data nor the Comprehensive Plan gives a detailed breakdown of residential housing structural types. Therefore, the relative distribution of housing types found on a population data website, Citydata.com<sup>5</sup> was applied to arrive at the following table of estimated housing units by structure type in Charles County.

**Table 1: Housing units in structures in Charles County, Maryland.**

Housing Unit Type	Number of Housing Units
Single-family Detached	38,853
Single-family Attached	9,872
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	1,278
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	3,620
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,532</b>

\* Mobile homes, boats, RVs, vans, etc. were excluded from the analysis as non-applicable structure types for geo-exchange installations.

## 2.1.1 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS)

In order to estimate thermal loads (refer to Section 3.0) occurring in housing units, the *Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS)*<sup>6</sup>, a public survey provided by the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) was used.

<sup>4</sup> US Census Bureau, <http://www.census.gov/popest/housing/HU-EST2009-4.html>

<sup>5</sup> City Data.com, Advameg Inc., [http://www.city-data.com/county/Charles\\_County-MD.html](http://www.city-data.com/county/Charles_County-MD.html)

<sup>6</sup> US Energy Information Administration, Consumption and Efficiency Data, Residential Energy Consumption Survey, <http://www.eia.gov/consumption/data.cfm#rec>



**Table 2: Residential Buildings Categories, as per RECS<sup>7</sup>**

<b>Building Type</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Includes These Sub-Categories from 2003 CBECS Questionnaire</b>
Residential Single-Family Units	Free-standing residential building that is occupied by one household (family)	Detached
	Residential buildings that share common walls and that are occupied by more than one household, including semi-detached units.	Attached
Residential Apartment Buildings	Multi-family residential buildings, including townhouses, duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes.	2 to 4 units
	Multi-residential apartment buildings, including condominiums.	5 or more units

## 2.2 Commercial and Institutional Sector

Out of all land use, Industrial, Commercial & Institutional (ICI) buildings occupy only 2.8% of all County land. These 2.8% percent are represented by the following building uses in Table 3:

**Table 3: Number of Establishments that represent ICI sector in Charles County.**

<b>Establishment Type</b>	<b>Number of Establishments</b>	<b>Percentage ICI buildings, %</b>
Retail trade	518	27%
Health care & social assistance	266	14%
Professional, scientific & technical services	238	13%
Other services (except public administration)	224	12%
Accommodation & food services	203	11%
Administrative & support & waste management & remediation service	114	6%
Real estate & rental & leasing	101	5%
Wholesale trade	75	4%
Manufacturing	63	3%
Information	31	2%
Educational services	42	2%
Arts, entertainment & recreation	25	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,900</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>7</sup> The information presented in the survey is based on 2005 collected data from 4,381 households in housing units statistically selected to represent the 111.1 million housing units in the United States. Data were obtained from residential energy suppliers for each unit in the sample.

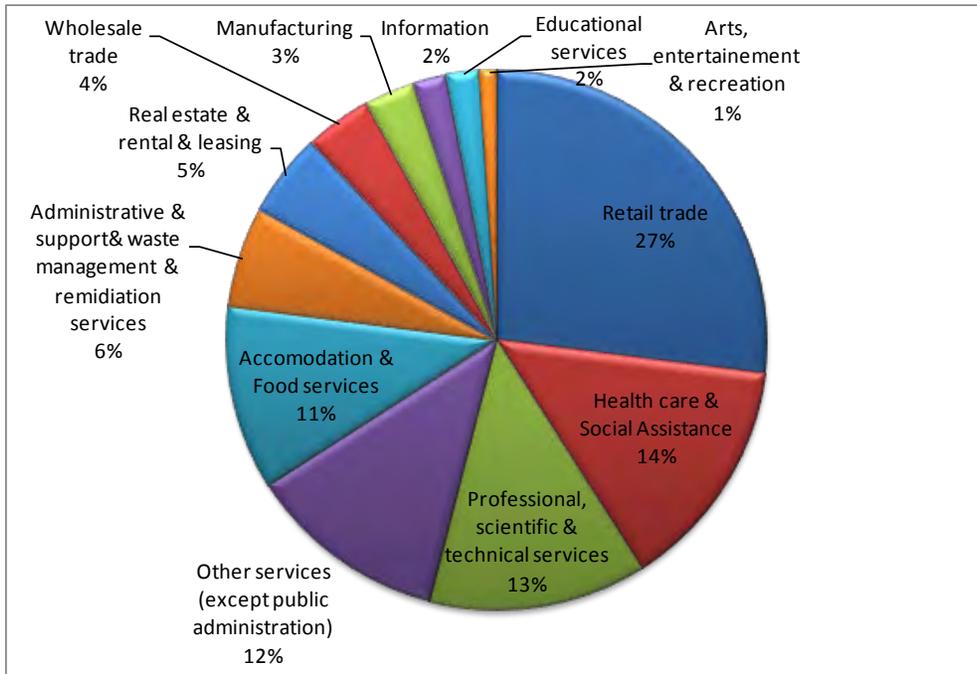


Figure 6: Number of Establishments in Charles County.

Source: Citydata.com - [http://www.city-data.com/business2/econ-Charles\\_County-MD.html](http://www.city-data.com/business2/econ-Charles_County-MD.html)

## 2.2.1 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS)

Estimation of building thermal loads (refer to Section 3.0) for the ICI sector was done based on 2003 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS)<sup>8</sup>. The overview of Charles County building types was done in the context of this survey.

The Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS) is a national-level sample survey of commercial buildings and their energy suppliers conducted by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). The most recent survey available to the public is dated back to 2003. The survey holds information on the stock of U.S. commercial buildings, their energy-related building characteristics, and their energy consumption and expenditures. The commercial sector encompasses a vast range of building types and it includes buildings in which at least half of the floorspace is used for a purpose that is not residential, industrial, or agricultural. In the Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey (CBECS), buildings are classified according to principal activity, which is the primary business, commerce, or function carried on within each building. Buildings used for more than one of the activities described below are assigned to the activity occupying the most floorspace at the time of the interview.

The survey provides estimates<sup>9</sup> of commercial sector energy consumption and energy intensities, which were adjusted for the effect of weather on heating, cooling, and ventilation energy use. These values were further used for identifying thermal loads of commercial sector in Charles County.

<sup>8</sup> [http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\\_tables\\_2003/detailed\\_tables\\_2003.html#consumexpen03](http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed_tables_2003/detailed_tables_2003.html#consumexpen03)

<sup>9</sup> CBECS is a sample survey, therefore there is error associated with every point estimate. 95% confidence interval.



## THERMAL LOAD AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

The following categories of commercial buildings, as defined by the US Energy Information Administration<sup>10</sup>, were used in this study:

**Table 4: Commercial Buildings Categories, as per CBECS**

Building Type	Definition
Education	Buildings used for academic or technical classroom instruction, such as elementary, middle, or high schools, and classroom buildings on college or university campuses. Buildings on education campuses for which the main use is not classroom are included in the category relating to their use. For example, administration buildings are part of "Office," dormitories are "Lodging," and libraries are "Public Assembly."
Food Sales	Buildings used for retail or wholesale of food.
Food Service	Buildings used for preparation and sale of food and beverages for consumption.
Health Care (Inpatient)	Buildings used as diagnostic and treatment facilities for inpatient care.
Health Care (Outpatient)	Buildings used as diagnostic and treatment facilities for outpatient care. Medical offices are included here if they use any type of diagnostic medical equipment (if they do not, they are categorized as an office building).
Lodging	Buildings used to offer multiple accommodations for short-term or long-term residents, including skilled nursing and other residential care buildings.
Mercantile (Retail Other Than Mall)	Buildings used for the sale and display of goods other than food.
Mercantile (Enclosed and Strip Malls)	Shopping malls comprised of multiple connected establishments.
Office	Buildings used for general office space, professional office, or administrative offices. Medical offices are included here if they do not use any type of diagnostic medical equipment (if they do, they are categorized as an outpatient health care building).
Public Assembly	Buildings in which people gather for social or recreational activities, whether in private or non-private meeting halls.
Public Order and Safety	Buildings used for the preservation of law and order or public safety.
Religious Worship	Buildings in which people gather for religious activities, (such as chapels, churches, mosques, synagogues, and temples).

<sup>10</sup>UA Energy Information Administration, Consumption and Efficiency, Description of CBECS Building Types, [http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbeecs/building\\_types.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cbeecs/building_types.html)



## THERMAL LOAD AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

Building Type	Definition
Service	Buildings in which some type of service is provided, other than food service or retail sales of goods
Warehouse and Storage	Buildings used to store goods, manufactured products, merchandise, raw materials, or personal belongings (such as self-storage).
Other	Buildings that are industrial or agricultural with some retail space; buildings having several different commercial activities that, together, comprise 50 percent or more of the floorspace, but whose largest single activity is agricultural, industrial/ manufacturing, or residential; and all other miscellaneous buildings that do not fit into any other category.
Vacant	Buildings in which more floorspace was vacant than was used for any single commercial activity at the time of interview. Therefore, a vacant building may have some occupied floorspace.



### 3.0 THERMAL LOAD ASSESSMENT

#### 3.1 Thermal Load Assessment of the Residential Sector in Charles County, MD

##### 3.1.1 Methodology for Estimating Thermal Loads

For the purpose of this study energy consumption used for space heating, space cooling, and water heating in residential buildings was estimated based on energy intensity values (BTU/household). Energy intensities, expressed in million of BTU/household, were obtained from RECS database, specifically Table US14<sup>11</sup>:

Energy uses were estimated based on the following formula:

$$\text{Estimated Energy Use, BTU} = \text{Energy Intensity, } \frac{\text{BTU}}{\text{household}} \times \text{Number of Households}$$

The RECS table provides energy intensities ( $\frac{\text{BTU}}{\text{household}}$ ) for different building energy end-uses, including space heating, space cooling, and water heating. Such information is further divided into groups that represent various categories, some of the examples are: rural/urban location, geographic region, household size, annual heating and cooling degree days, etc.

In order to take into account regional specifics that affect buildings energy consumption related to space heating and cooling, energy intensities, found in Table US14, were adjusted by the following ratio:

$$\text{Ratio} = \frac{\text{Energy Intensity across the US}}{\text{Energy Intensity for Specific Climate Zone}}$$

According to the definitions used by EIA, *climate zone* is defined as: "One of five climatically distinct areas, defined by long-term weather conditions which affect the heating and cooling loads in buildings. The zones were determined according to the 45-year average (1931-1975) of the annual heating and cooling degree-days (base 65 degrees Fahrenheit). An individual building was assigned to a climate zone according to the 45-year average annual degree-days for its National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Division." The climate zones are defined as follows:

**Table 5: Climate Zone Average Annual Cooling and Heating Degree Days**

Climate Zone	Average Annual Cooling Degree-Days	Average Annual Heating Degree-Days
1	Fewer than 2,000	More than 7,000
2	Fewer than 2,000	5,500 to 7,000
3	Fewer than 2,000	4,000 to 5,499
4	Fewer than 2,000	Fewer than 4,000
5	2,000 or more	Fewer than 4,000

<sup>11</sup> US Energy Information Administration, 2005 Residential Energy Consumption Survey: Household Energy Consumption and Expenditures Tables, Table US 14, <http://www.eia.gov/emeu/recs/recs2005/c&e/summary/pdf/tables14.pdf>





For the purpose of identifying specific climate zone, heating degree days (HDD) and cooling degree days (CDD) were determined for La Plata, Maryland. Average CDD and HDD are presented below.

**Table 6: Climate Averages**

<b>La Plata, Maryland<sup>12</sup></b>	
Heating Degree Days (HDD) per year	4,339
Cooling Degree Days (CDD) per year	1,040

Climate Zone 3 was selected as the most appropriate for Charles County MD, however, the energy intensity for the climate zone, was adjusted to reflect the actual degree days per year for heating. Ratios were calculated for each specific energy end-use category and applied to each housing unit type.

$$\text{Adjusted Energy Intensity, } \frac{BTU}{\text{household}} = \text{Energy Intensity, } \frac{BTU}{\text{household}} \times \text{Ratio}$$

Adjusted energy intensity values were later multiplied by the number of households of each type of the residential property.

Using adjusted energy intensity values, energy consumption of housing units by end use, were estimated by using the following formula:

$$\text{Estimated Energy Use, BTU} = \text{Adjusted Energy Intensity, } \frac{BTU}{\text{household}} \times \text{Number of Households}$$

### 3.1.2 Estimated Thermal Loads for the Residential Sector in Charles County, MD

Based on the methodology described above and the data in Table 1, the resulting estimated thermal loads are presented in the following table:

**Table 7: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads by End-Use in Residential Sector in Charles County, MD**

<b>Housing Unit Type</b>	<b>Energy End Use</b> (Million BTU/year consumption per building type)		
	<b>Space Heating</b>	<b>Air-Conditioning</b>	<b>Water Heating</b>
Single-family Detached	1,276,320	405,125	891,416
Single-family Attached	303,155	62,124	196,501
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	46,049	7,629	21,071

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.weatherreports.com/United\\_States/MD/La\\_Plata](http://www.weatherreports.com/United_States/MD/La_Plata)



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Housing Unit Type	Energy End Use (Million BTU/year consumption per building type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	67,253	22,645	46,689
<b>Total Energy Consumption per End-Use, million BTU/year</b>	<b>1,692,777</b>	<b>497,523</b>	<b>1,155,678</b>
<b>Total Heating Load, million BTU/year</b>	<b>2,848,455</b>		
<b>Total Cooling Load, million BTU/year</b>	<b>497,523</b>		
<b>Grand Total, Million BTU/year</b>	<b>3,345,978</b>		

### 3.1.3 Projected Thermal Loads in 2010 – 2035 for Residential Sector in Charles County MD

Thermal load projections were made based on the growth projections established for the number of housing units in Charles County in the *2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Table 2-4, Projected Number of Housing Units by Election District*. The following table presents the projected thermal loads for the Residential sector to 2035:

**Table 8: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2010-2035 for Residential Sector in Charles County, MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Projected Growth, %	0%	11%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Number of Households	53,532	59,338	65,245	72,754	80,590	89,269
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	3,345,978	3,708,878	4,078,091	4,547,435	5,037,188	5,579,687

## 3.2 Thermal Load Assessment of Commercial and Institutional Sectors in Charles County, MD

### 3.2.1 Methodology for Estimating the Thermal Loads

Estimated energy end-uses for the purpose of space heating, space cooling, and water heating in commercial and institutional buildings were assessed based on energy intensity values (BTU/ft<sup>2</sup>) following the same methodology as for residential properties:



$$\text{Estimated Energy Use, BTU} = \text{Adjusted Energy Intensity, } \frac{\text{BTU}}{\text{ft}^2} \times \text{Gross Floor Area, ft}^2$$

Energy intensities for each type of commercial buildings were obtained from 2003 “Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey” (CBECS): Energy End-Use Consumption Tables, specifically “Table E2A. Major Fuel Consumption (BTU) Intensities by End Use for All Buildings, 2003” (last adjusted in 2008)<sup>13</sup>.

The Table E2A provides energy intensities ( $\frac{\text{BTU}}{\text{ft}^2}$ ) for different buildings energy end uses, including space heating, space cooling, and water heating. Such information is further divided into groups that represent various categories, some of the examples are: principal building activity, geographic region, building floor space, year of building construction, etc.

Energy intensities will be adjusted for the proper climate zone, following the same methodology as in case with residential buildings.

### 3.2.2 Estimated Thermal Loads for Commercial & Institutional Sectors in Charles County MD

According to the information provided by the staff of the Charles County government, the following buildings were included in the analysis:

- Retail space (8,759,744 ft<sup>2</sup>);
- Industrial space (2,963,021 ft<sup>2</sup>);
- Office space (2,094,530 ft<sup>2</sup>);
- Flexspace (702,245 ft<sup>2</sup>)

**Table 9: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads, Commercial & Institutional Buildings in Charles County MD**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (thousand BTU/year of consumption per building type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Mercantile (Food and non-food retail)	235,716,748	75,881,282	48,503,954
Office	77,027,928	16,311,152	4,548,122
Industrial (Warehouse and Storage)*	64,117,979	3,370,436	1,930,197
Flex Space (Other)	62,516,829	6,451,876	1,601,119

<sup>13</sup>US Energy Information Administration, Consumption and Efficiency, Major Fuel Consumption (BTU) Intensities by end Use for all Buildings, 2003, Table E2A, [http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed\\_tables\\_2003/2003set19/2003html/e02a.html](http://www.eia.gov/emeu/cbecs/cbecs2003/detailed_tables_2003/2003set19/2003html/e02a.html)



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Building Type	Energy End Uses (thousand BTU/year of consumption per building type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
<b>Total Energy Consumption per End-Use, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>439,379,483</b>	<b>102,014,747</b>	<b>56,583,391</b>
<b>Total Heating Load, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>495,962,874</b>		
<b>Total Cooling Load, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>102,014,747</b>		
<b>Grand Total, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>597,977,621</b>		

*\*It was assumed that space cooling, space heating and DHW heating requirements for Industrial buildings are the same as for Warehouse and Storage facilities.*

### 3.2.3 Projected Thermal Loads in 2010 – 2035 for Commercial & Institutional Sectors in Charles County, MD

Thermal load projections were made based on the projected population growth for the whole of Charles County between years 2010 and 2025. Projected growth percentages were obtained from *Table 2-3, Projected Population Distribution by Election District, 2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, page 2-7*. The results are presented in the Table below:

**Table 10: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2010-2035 for ICI Sector in Charles County, MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Projected Growth, %	0%	10%	9%	7%	7%	7%
C&I Sector Total Area, ft <sup>2</sup>	14,519,540	15,954,971	17,390,211	18,586,021	19,864,059	21,229,979
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	597,978	657,095	716,204	765,453	818,088	874,343

### 3.2.4 Total Estimated and Projected Thermal Loads for Charles County, MD

Thermal loads for the Residential, Commercial and Institutional Sectors of Charles County MD were combined to produce total thermal loads for the County, as follows:



**Table 11: Total Estimated Annual Thermal Loads for all Sectors in Charles County MD**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (million BTU/year of consumption per household type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Total Residential Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	1,692,777	497,523	1,155,678
Total Commercial Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	439,379	102,015	56,583
Heating Load, million BTU/year	3,344,418		
Cooling Load, million BTU/year	599,538		
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>3,943,956</b>		

Projected growth rates for all sectors, as described in the description for each above, have been applied to estimated energy consumptions to produce the following projected energy consumption to 2035:

**Table 12: Total Projected Annual Energy Loads in 2010–2035 for all Sectors in Charles County MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Portion to be Built, %	9.5%	8.8%	10.2%	9.7%	9.7%	9.7%
Residential Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	3,943,538	3,708,878	4,078,091	4,547,435	5,037,188	5,579,687
Commercial Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	597,978	608,263	618,725	629,367	640,192	651,203
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>3,943,956</b>	<b>4,317,141</b>	<b>4,696,815</b>	<b>5,176,802</b>	<b>5,677,380</b>	<b>6,230,890</b>

### 3.3 Thermal Load Assessment Applied to Waldorf, MD

The assessment of building types can now be applied to various development densities and building location distribution, as they apply to geothermal energy technology.

As discussed previously, geothermal systems can be scaled and installed to serve one building. In order to make a central geothermal system more economical than a disbursed system of individual bore fields, the cost of installation of transmission and distribution pipeworks must be offset by economies of scale of a central geothermal ground system. In addition, factors of legal ownership of both the land in which the geothermal connecting pipes and geothermal bore fields, or horizontal loops are installed, operational responsibility and



cash flows including expenses and revenues need to be considered. These and other factors of consideration will be discussed in more detail later.

Two specific sites of interest, Waldorf and Homefield Residential subdivision, have been identified and selected as special sites of interest for geothermal energy technology application. Waldorf is an existing urban area identified for redevelopment where by many buildings would remain among new buildings built to specific density standards. Homefield is a Greenfield of residential new construction.

### 3.3.1 Waldorf

Waldorf is the most intensely developed urban area, with one of the most concentrated population densities, in Charles County. It has several locations with mixed use lands, including commercial and business, industrial and high density residential land uses. According to the *2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan* (page 3-11), Waldorf “has been indicated as one of the core locations for future commercial developments”. The Vision Plan<sup>14</sup> indicated that “by its geographic location, rail access and existing transit systems, downtown Waldorf has a promising future as a regional, transit-oriented development node that will sustain the economic viability and growth of Charles County”.

In 2008 the *Waldorf Urban Design Study* was initiated. The primary project goals were to create a plan for designing “an attractive and functional urban centre in Waldorf, where a well balanced mix of uses, including commercial residential, institutional, and recreational areas, will be established” and to “incorporate a transit-oriented development approach with higher density mixed-use development”.

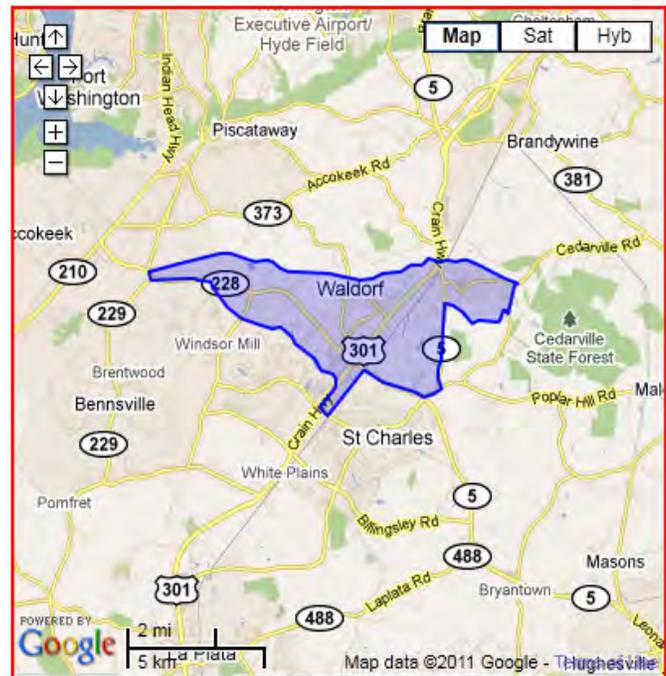


Figure 7: Map of Waldorf urban area

The area that is designated as Downtown Waldorf encompasses areas north of Action Lane to south Leonardtown Road, and between Route 301 and the railroad tracks.

<sup>14</sup> Downtown Waldorf. Vision Plan and Design Guidelines. Department of Planning and Growth Management, Charles County, MD. Adopted April 13, 2010, by County Commissioners' Resolution No. 2010-09.



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Figure 8: Downtown Waldorf Study Area

The Vision Plan recommends creation of two zoning districts within the study area: the Action Urban Center Zone and the Waldorf Central Zone (see Figure 9, below) The northern activity center, the Action Urban Center, is planned as a higher density development node, transitioning to the southern activity center, the Waldorf Central, which will be a medium-density, commercial and civic district.

**Waldorf Central Zone (WC):** expected to be high-quality, medium-density (2 to 5 storey buildings), district mix of uses, including townhouse, apartment, loft and condominium residences, retail stores and services, offices and civic or institutional uses, including areas for a library, youth center, arts center, senior center.

**Action Urban Center Zone (AUC):** 3 to 10 story buildings (2 stories permitted for townhouses), mixed-use commercial, offices (including larger employment uses), with smaller residential emphasis: apartments, lofts, and condominiums.

Required domestic unit (DU) density for WC and AUC Zones:

- Townhouses: Minimum 12 DUs/acre - Maximum 36 DU/acre
- Apartment/Multifamily: Minimum 15 DUs/acre - No maximum
- Mixed-use buildings: No minimum or maximum density for apartments

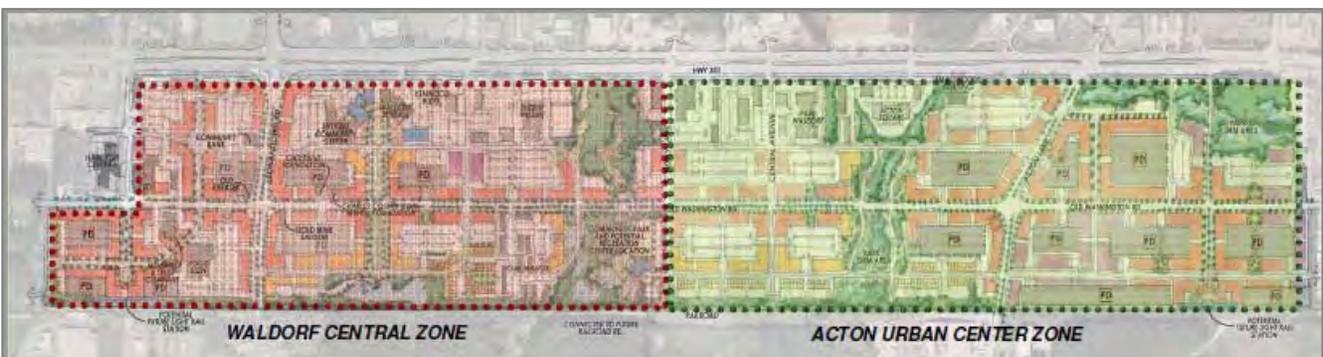


Figure 9: Waldorf Central Zone (WC) and Action Urban Center (AUC)



**3.3.2 Estimated Thermal Loads for the Residential Sector in Waldorf, MD**

According to the 2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Table 2-4, the total number of households in Waldorf in 2010 was 27,573. As the detailed breakdown by housing unit type was not available, the same distribution was applied to Waldorf residential sector as to the Charles County. Below are the summarized values used for thermal loads estimation.

**Table 13: Residential Housing Units, Types<sup>15</sup> and Area in Waldorf, MD**

Housing Unit Type	Average Area by Type ft <sup>2</sup>	Number of Housing Units	Total Occupied Area by Type ft <sup>2</sup>
Single-family Detached	1900	20,128	38,243,751
Single-family Attached	1800	4,963	8,933,652
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	2100	551	1,158,066
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	1000	1,930	1,930,110
<b>Total</b>		<b>27,573</b>	<b>50,265,579</b>

**Table 14: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads for Residential Sector in Waldorf, MD**

Housing Unit Type	Energy End Uses (million BTU/year of consumption per housing unit type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Single-family Detached	661,212	209,879	461,808
Single-family Attached	153,857	31,521	99,702
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	19,878	3,293	9,096
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	35,862	12,075	24,896
<b>Total Energy Consumption per End-Use, million BTU/year</b>	<b>870,768</b>	<b>256,769</b>	<b>595,502</b>
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>1,723,040</b>		

**3.3.3 Projected Thermal Loads, 2010 – 2035 for Residential Sector in Waldorf, MD**

Thermal load projections were done based on the projections established for the number of housing units in Waldorf in 2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Table 2-4, Projected Number of Housing Units by Election District. The growth percentages presented in the Table 2-4 are only available for the period of 2005 – 2025. For the purpose of this study it was assumed that the growth in number of households will be maintained on the same levels as in 2025.

<sup>15</sup> Source: Charles County Comprehensive Plan 2006, Table 2-4. Projected Number of Housing Units by Election District.



**Table 15: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2010-2035 for Residential Sector in Waldorf, MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Projected Growth, %	0%	11%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Number of Households	27,573	30,505	33,480	36,834	40,567	44,678
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	1,723,040	1,906,261	2,092,969	2,301,761	2,535,036	2,791,954

**3.3.4 Estimated Thermal Loads for the Commercial & Institutional Sectors in Waldorf, MD**

Based on the information provided by the Charles County Department of Planning & Growth management<sup>16</sup>, the following Table 14 provides the actual<sup>17</sup> area sizes for commercial and institutional buildings in Waldorf.

**Table 16: Commercial and Institutional Buildings in Waldorf, MD**

Building Principal Activity	Area, ft <sup>2</sup>
Education	2,443
Food Sales	53,809
Food Services	118,485
Health Care	305,700
Mercantile	536,542
Office	759,130
Other	167,204
Public Assembly	40,027
Public Order & Safety	21,107
Religious Worship	15,812
Service	235,626
Vacant	6,647
Warehouse and Storage	305,595
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,568,126</b>

Based on the building areas, the annual thermal loads for commercial & institutional building were estimated following the methodology described in Section 3.0 of this Report.

<sup>16</sup> As of September 2011.

<sup>17</sup> Source: Charles County Government. Department of Planning & Growth Management.



**Table 17: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads for Commercial & Institutional Buildings in Waldorf, MD**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (thousand BTU/year per building type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Education	107,906	17,099	15,382
Food Sales	1,743,576	461,4129	169,422
Food Services	5,725,704	1,803,9369	5,197,096
Health Care (In- and Outpatient)	24,129,942	3,771,5779	10,023,475
Mercantile	14,437,866	4,647,798	2,970,912
Office	27,917,568	5,911,722	1,648,396
Public Assembly	2,230,443	336,222	43,457
Public Order and Safety	1,180,878	164,367	320,819
Religious Worship	464,484	40,123	13,734
Service	9,484,313	783,457	255,823
Warehouse and Storage	6,612,882	347,614	199,073
Other	14,885,243	1,536,190	381,226
Vacant	107,326	3,490	722
Heating Load, thousand BTU/year	130,267,669		
Cooling Load, thousand BTU/year	19,825,007		
<b>Grand Total, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>150,092,676</b>		

**3.3.5 Projected Thermal Loads in 2010 – 2035 for Commercial & Institutional Sectors in Waldorf, MD**

Thermal loads projections were done based on the projected population growth Waldorf between years 2010 and 2025. Projected growth percentages were obtained from *Table 2-3, Projected Population Distribution by Election District (2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, page 2-7)*. Results are presented in the Table below.

**Table 18: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2010-2035 for ICI Sectors in Waldorf, MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Projected Growth, %	0%	10%	9%	7%	7%	7%
ICI Sector Total Area, ft <sup>2</sup>	2,568,127	2,822,017	3,075,873	3,287,381	3,513,432	3,755,028
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	150,093	164,931	179,768	192,129	205,341	219,460



**3.3.6 Total Estimated and Projected Thermal Loads for Waldorf, MD**

Waldorf, including residential, commercial and institutional thermal energy loads, is estimated to consume the following amounts of energy:

**Table 19: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads for all Sectors in Waldorf, MD**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (million BTU/year of consumption per household type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Total Residential Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	870,768	256,769	595,502
Total Commercial Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	109,028	19,825	21,240
Heating Load, million BTU/year	1,596,538		
Cooling Load, million BTU/year	276,594		
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>1,873,132</b>		

By applying the growth rates as discussed above, Waldorf is projected to require thermal loads, for all sectors combined, as follows:

**Table 20: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2010-2035 for all Sectors in Waldorf, MD**

Sector/Projection Growth	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Projected Growth, %		10.6%	9.7%	9.8%	9.9%	9.9%
Residential Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	1,723,040	1,906,261	2,092,969	2,301,761	2,535,036	2,791,954
Commercial Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	150,093	164,931	179,768	192,129	205,341	219,460
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>1,873,132</b>	<b>2,071,192</b>	<b>2,271,936</b>	<b>2,493,890</b>	<b>2,740,377</b>	<b>3,011,414</b>



### 3.4 Thermal Load Assessment Applied to Homefield Residential Subdivision

#### 3.4.1 Homefield Subdivision

Homefield subdivision, a mixed density residential neighborhood, is to be completed under St. Charles new Green City plan and is expected to incorporate sustainable building practices in energy savings, water conservation, and transportation into its design.

It has been identified that the future community will house single-family attached and detached housing units, as well as multi-residential buildings. The Homefield neighborhood will share one community center.



Figure 10: Homefield Subdivision Map

Table 21: Housing Units by Type in Homefield Subdivision

Housing Unit Type	Area Per Household ft <sup>2</sup>	Number of Households	Total Area ft <sup>2</sup>
Single-family Detached	2500	201	502,500
Single-family Attached	2000	232	464,000
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	-	-	-
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	1200	192	230,400
<b>Total</b>		<b>625</b>	<b>1,196,900</b>

Table 22: Commercial and Institutional Buildings in Homefield Subdivision

Building Type	Gross Floor Area, ft <sup>2</sup>
Community Center (Public Assembly)	3,000



Homefield is to be built to the latest energy efficiency and water conservation standards. For discussion purposes only, the following assumptions of energy efficiency improvement were applied to national energy efficiency ratings for existing homes of the same types, to derive energy end use consumption estimates.

- Average space heating and cooling consumption per household of 22,000 BTU/sf/year was reduced to 20,000 BTU/sf/yr.
- Water savings for purposes of calculating Domestic Hot Water energy loads, was reduced by 20%.
- Household sizes were adjusted from the average to the sizes specified for Homefield construction according to type

### 3.4.2 Estimated Thermal Loads for the Residential Sector in Homefield Subdivision

The Table below indicates the estimated energy consumption, with improved energy efficiency, for buildings to be built at Homefield.

**Table 23: Estimated Annual Thermal Load for Residential Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (million BTU/year of consumption per household type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Single-family Detached	4,890	1,509	3,387
Single-family Attached	4,515	1,393	3,127
Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	-	-	-
Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	2,242	692	1,553
<b>Total Energy Consumption per End-Use, million BTU/year</b>	<b>11,647</b>	<b>3,593</b>	<b>8,067</b>
Heating Load, million BTU/year	19,713		
Cooling Load, million BTU/year	3,593		
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>23,307</b>		

### 3.4.3 Projected Thermal Loads for 2010 – 2035 for the Residential Sector in Homefield Subdivision

For the purpose of estimating future thermal loads in Homefield subdivision, it was assumed that the construction of residential units will be occurring in phases. The resulting annual thermal loads are presented in the Table below.



**Table 24: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2012-2035 for Residential Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

Sector/Projection Growth	2012	2013	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Portion to be Built, %	48%	16%	16%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%
Number of Households	300	400	500	500	625	625	625	625
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	11,187	14,916	18,645	18,645	23,307	23,307	23,307	23,307

**3.4.4 Estimated Thermal Loads for the ICI Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

The Table below presents the estimated annual thermal load for one commercial building (community center).

**Table 25: Estimated Annual Thermal Load for ICI Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (thousand BTU/year of consumption per building type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Community Center (Public Assembly)	108,662	25,200	3,257
Heating Load, thousand BTU/year	111,919		
Cooling Load, thousand BTU/year	25,200		
<b>Grand Total, thousand BTU/year</b>	<b>137,119</b>		

**3.4.5 Projected Thermal Loads for 2012 – 2035 for the ICI Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

With only one community center, there are no additional commercial buildings projected to be built in the Homefield Subdivision before 2035.

**Table 26: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2012-2035 for ICI Sector in Homefield Subdivision**

Sector/Projection Growth	2012	2013	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Portion to be Built, %	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
C&I Sector Total Area, ft <sup>2</sup>	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137



**3.4.6 Total Estimated and Projected Thermal Loads in Homefield Subdivision**

The Homefield planned residential and commercial construction together, when completed is projected to consume energy as follows:

**Table 27: Estimated Annual Thermal Loads for all Sectors in Homefield Subdivision**

Building Type	Energy End Uses (million BTU/year of consumption per household type)		
	Space Heating	Air-Conditioning	Water Heating
Total Residential Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	11,647	3,593	8,067
Total Commercial Energy Consumption, million BTU/year	108.7	25.2	3.3
Heating Load, million BTU/year	19,825		
Cooling Load, million BTU/year	3,619		
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>23,444</b>		

Homefield, if built out over five years, could be expected to require thermal energy for residential and commercial space as follows:

**Table 28: Projected Annual Thermal Loads in 2012-2035 for all Sectors in Homefield Subdivision**

Sector/Projection Growth	2012	2013	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035
Portion to be Built, %	48%	16%	16%	0%	20%	0%	0%	0%
Residential Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	11,187	14,916	18,645	18,645	23,307	23,307	23,307	23,307
Commercial Estimated Thermal Loads, million BTU/year	137	137	137	137	137	137	137	137
<b>Grand Total, million BTU/year</b>	<b>11,324</b>	<b>15,053</b>	<b>18,782</b>	<b>18,782</b>	<b>23,444</b>	<b>23,444</b>	<b>23,444</b>	<b>23,444</b>



### 4.0 REVIEW OF GEOLOGY, HYDROGEOLOGY AND THERMAL GROUND PROPERTIES OF CHARLES COUNTY, MD

In this section of the report, we review the geology, hydrogeology and thermal ground properties of Charles County MD in order to develop a prognosis of probable ground temperatures and thermal conductivity, applicable to Charles County MD and further, to consider the various geothermal technologies that may apply and to identify which are most likely to be technically and economically feasible.

Closed loop geothermal systems can be installed almost everywhere, with very high degrees of success, low levels of risk and predictable returns on investment. They require extensive drilling which is costly however they are governed by the local Building Code in most jurisdictions and do not require Federal or State permits. Water well drilling in Maryland requires a State Permit (MDE-local Health Department), and State authorities should be consulted before drilling closed loop geothermal boreholes. The information and data presented below, along with the data provided in the recent Thermal Response Tests conducted near the Homefield site, will be used to develop the technical and business case for closed loop system.

Open loop geothermal systems, on the other hand require access to large flows of water, and must comply with State regulations which govern the extraction and reinjection of groundwater and water in lakes and rivers. They require much less drilling and so are often more economical from a construction point of view, however they involve higher levels of risk, since the water flows they depend on cannot be controlled and may vary according to future geological movement, levels of use by others and climate factors which can influence levels of groundwater and lakes as well as river flows.

Charles County is situated on land permeated by extensive aquifer activity. Therefore we have reviewed these aquifer resources in order to qualify or disqualify their use, as a feasible option for open loop geothermal systems, worthy of further investigation.

#### 4.1 Geological Overview

Charles County is located within the Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic province of Maryland. The Coastal Plain is comprised of a seaward-thickening, wedge-shaped accumulation of unconsolidated sedimentary deposits that overlie crystalline basement rocks. The depth to basement ranges from approximately 600 feet below sea level in northwestern Charles County to over 1,700 ft below sea level in southeastern Charles County. The Coastal Plain sediments were deposited during a series of marine transgressions and regressions separated by intervals of non-deposition and erosion. The resulting geology has formed a layered series of aquifers, composed primarily of sand and gravel, and confining units composed primarily of silt and clay. There are five principle aquifers in Charles County including from youngest to oldest: the Surficial (water table) aquifer, Aquia aquifer, Magothy aquifer, Patapsco aquifer, and Patuxent aquifer. The remaining formations, including the Chesapeake, Nanjemoy, Brightseat, Upper Patapsco, Middle Patapsco and Arundel Clay, serve as confining units or secondary aquifers. The inset below and Figure 1 present a west to east hydrogeologic cross section from Charles County to Calvert County illustrating the eastward dipping and thickening trend of the Coastal Plain wedge.

#### 4.2 Hydrogeologic Framework

The individual aquifers are described in more detail below based on review of numerous hydrogeologic reports published by the *U.S. Geological Survey* (USGS) and the *Maryland Geologic Survey* (MGS) including Mack



(1976, 1988), Vroblesky and others (1991), and Drummond (2007). The distribution of aquifers and confining units (i.e., the hydrogeologic framework) of Charles County and the surrounding Coastal Plain counties in southern Maryland are graphically illustrated in the hydrogeologic cross section presented in Figure 12 and 13. Groundwater flow directions and hydraulic gradients are shown as contour maps of the potentiometric surfaces (i.e., groundwater levels or pressure within the aquifers) in Figure 14. The hydraulic conductivity of the aquifers, which along with the hydraulic gradient can be used to estimate groundwater flow velocities are shown in Figure 15.

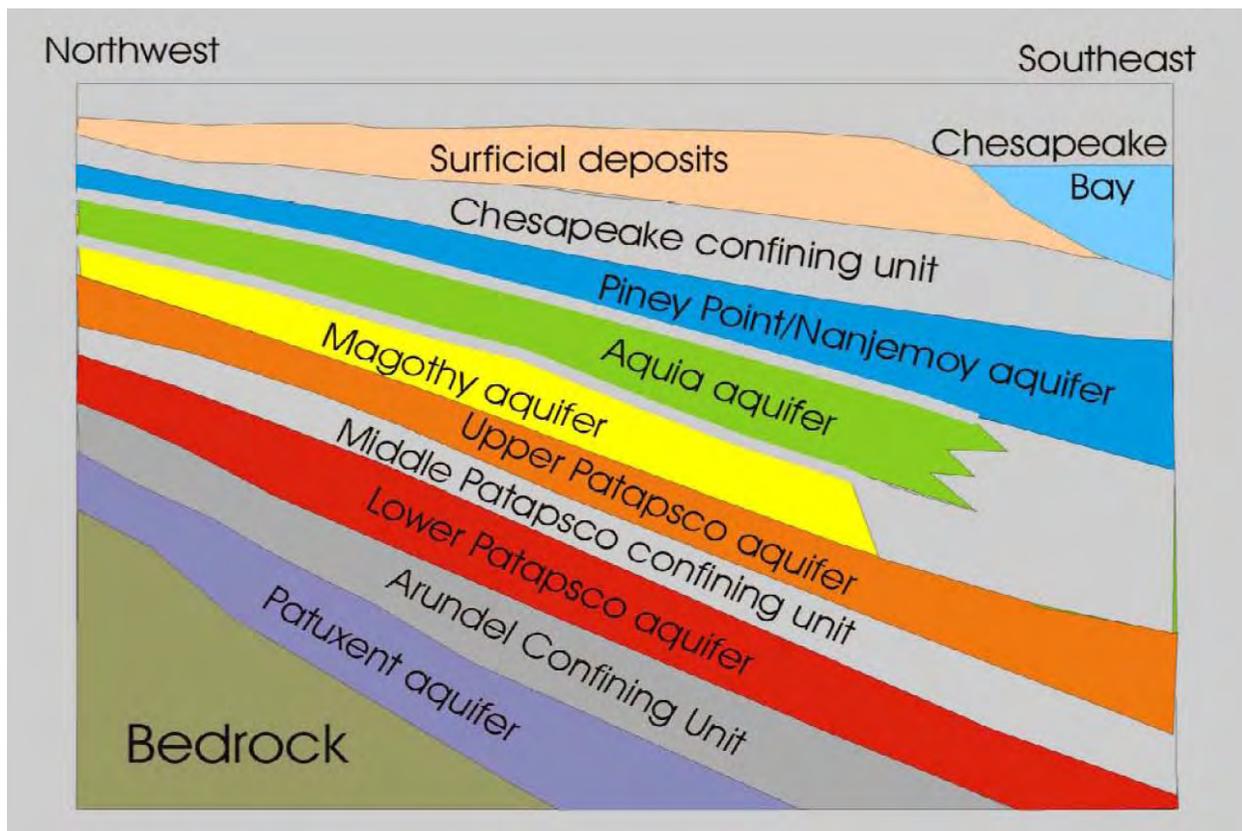


Figure 11: Coastal Plain Sediment Wedge, Southern Maryland

### 4.2.1 Surficial Aquifer

The Surficial aquifer is exposed at the land surface and is recharged directly from precipitation, providing base flow to nearby streams. It also provides recharge to deeper aquifers, either as leakage through intervening confining units or as direct infiltration where it directly contacts an underlying aquifer. The Surficial aquifer consists of Holocene and Pleistocene sand, gravel, sandy clay and clay up to 150 feet thick overlying Pliocene cobbles, gravel, sand and clay lenses up to 85 feet thick. The Surficial aquifer is generally unconfined and the water table potentiometric surface is controlled by surface drainage features and topography. Water levels fluctuate seasonally in response to evapotranspiration. The Surficial aquifer is tapped by some irrigation wells and domestic wells, but is not widely used for potable water supply because of its vulnerability to contamination and reduced dependability during droughts.



### 4.2.2 Aquia Aquifer

The Aquia aquifer is present throughout Charles County and outcrops along the western margin of the County, but is confined in the eastern portions of the County. The Aquia Formation is separated from the Surficial aquifer by the Chesapeake Group, lower, clayey parts of the Nanjemoy Formation, referred to as the Nanjemoy confining unit and the Marlboro Clay. These confining units thicken eastward and are approximately 380 feet thick in eastern Charles County (MGS Well # CH Cg 24). The Aquia aquifer is separated from the underlying Magothy aquifer (where it exists) by clayey and silty sediments of the Brightseat Confining unit and clayey units of the upper part of the Magothy Formation. The Aquia aquifer consists of glauconitic sand and sandy clay with beds of fine- to medium-grained sands separated by thin discontinuous layers of silt and clay. The Aquia aquifer is approximately 100 ft thick east of the outcrop area and thickens to approximately 140 feet near Hughesville to the east. The Aquia aquifer is laterally extensive throughout southern Maryland and is used extensively for self-supplied domestic and commercial groundwater users in southern Maryland, as well as in Virginia and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. It is not generally used as a water supply aquifer west of U.S. Route 301 in Charles County. Pumping from the Aquia aquifer has locally depressed groundwater levels and increased hydraulic gradients around the pumping centers near Lexington Park in St Mary's County to the east (Figure 14). Groundwater elevations in the Aquia aquifer decrease eastwards from above sea level in the outcrop area to approximately 70 feet below sea level (-70 ft msl) in eastern Charles County. The average hydraulic gradient (i.e., slope of the potentiometric surface) across the county in 2009 is approximately 5 ft/mile to the southeast.

The transmissivity of the Aquia aquifer across southern Maryland ranges from 400 to 2,000 square feet per day ( $\text{ft}^2/\text{d}$ ) (Drummond, 2007). The aquifer hydraulic conductivity in Charles County ranges from 1 to 10 feet per day ( $\text{ft}/\text{d}$ ) based on the aquifer transmissivity and modeled aquifer parameters developed by Drummond (2007) presented in Figure 3. Water quality in the Aquia aquifer is generally good and suitable for potable water supply.

### 4.2.3 Magothy Aquifer

The Magothy aquifer is relatively thin and is only present across the northern and eastern portions of Charles County. The Magothy aquifer is absent south of La Plata. The aquifer consists of cross-bedded, fine-grained sands grading downward into coarser-grained sand deposits. Locally, the fine-grained sand unit is separated from the coarse-grained sand unit by clay. In the vicinity of Waldorf, the Magothy aquifer occurs at approximately -300 ft msl and is approximately 50 ft thick. The Magothy aquifer is confined by the overlying Brightseat confining unit which is up to 100 feet thick. The Magothy aquifer is used extensively in the Waldorf area such that a cone of depression has formed around Waldorf and groundwater levels in the aquifer have declined to over -70 ft msl (Curtin, 2010). The hydraulic gradient in the aquifer within this cone of depression are therefore quite steep, approaching 7 ft/mile near Waldorf (Figure 14; Curtin, 2010).

The transmissivity of the Magothy aquifer is variable, decreasing to the south where the aquifer thins and pinches out and increasing towards the east where the aquifer thickens. The aquifer reaches a maximum transmissivity of 7,000  $\text{ft}^2/\text{d}$  in northern Calvert County (Mack, 1986). The hydraulic conductivity of the Magothy aquifer in the Waldorf area is estimated to be approximately 30  $\text{ft}/\text{d}$  based on a calibrated groundwater flow model (Drummond, 2007) and increases to the east to 50  $\text{ft}/\text{d}$  (Figure 15). Water quality in the Magothy aquifer is generally good and suitable for potable water supply.



### 4.2.4 Patapsco Aquifer

The Patapsco formation is divided into four hydrogeologic units: the Upper Patapsco confining unit, the Upper Patapsco aquifer, the Middle Patapsco confining unit, and the Lower Patapsco aquifer. The Upper Patapsco aquifer subcrops beneath the Aquia aquifer in the western portion of Charles County and is overlain by the Brightseat confining unit and the Upper Patapsco confining unit in the central and eastern portions of the County. The Upper and Lower Patapsco aquifers are hydraulically separated by clayey units of the Middle Patapsco confining unit. The aquifers consist predominantly of locally discontinuous coarse-grained sand beds of fluvial-deltaic origin which act regionally as aquifer units. The Patapsco aquifer is an important water source in southern Maryland with yields of more than 600 gpm in Charles County.

#### 4.2.4.1 Upper Patapsco Aquifer

The thickness of the Upper Patapsco aquifer ranges from approximately 120 feet east in the outcrop area to 300 feet near La Plata, and from 80 to 150 feet elsewhere in the County as is illustrated in cross section A-A' shown in Figure 1 and cross section B-B' provided in Drummond (2007). The top of the Upper Patapsco aquifer ranges from 50 feet above sea level in the outcrop area to approximately 700 below sea level in the eastern portion of the County. Pumping centers in the Upper Patapsco aquifer are mostly centered on La Plata and Waldorf (Figure 14). The hydraulic gradients in these areas are approximately 7 feet/mile (Curtin, 2010).

The transmissivity of the upper Patapsco aquifer in the County ranges from less than 500 ft<sup>2</sup>/d in western Charles County to more than 4,000 ft<sup>2</sup>/d near La Plata (Drummond, 2007). The modeled aquifer hydraulic conductivity of the Upper Patapsco aquifer ranges from 1 to 5 ft/d in the west, increasing to 10 ft/d in the eastern portion of the County as shown in Figure 15. Water quality in the upper Patapsco aquifer is generally good and suitable for potable water supply.

#### 4.2.4.2 Lower Patapsco Aquifer

The Lower Patapsco aquifer is confined by the overlying Middle Patapsco confining unit which is up to 330 feet thick in eastern Charles County. The total thickness of the Lower Patapsco aquifer in the County ranges from approximately 250 feet in the western part of the County to 320 to 350 feet elsewhere in the County (Cross Sections A-A' and B-B' in Drummond, 2007). The top of the Lower Patapsco aquifer ranges from 200 feet below sea level in the western area to approximately 1,000 below sea level in the northeast of the County. Pumping centers in the Lower Patapsco aquifer are mostly centered on La Plata, Waldorf and Morgantown (Figure 14). The development of the Lower Patapsco aquifer in the Indian Head, Waldorf and Morgantown areas has resulted in cones of depression surrounding these areas (Figure 14). Water levels have declined to about 130 ft below sea level in the Indian Head region and more than 200 feet below sea level in the Waldorf area (Curtin, 2010). The hydraulic gradients in this cone of depression exceed 10 feet/mile towards Waldorf in the northwest of the County, and decrease to approximately 6 ft/d in the south and east of the County (Figure 15).

The transmissivity of the Lower Patapsco aquifer in the County ranges from less than 500 ft<sup>2</sup>/d in western Charles County to more than 3,000 ft<sup>2</sup>/d near La Plata and Waldorf (Drummond, 2007). The modeled aquifer hydraulic conductivity of the Lower Patapsco aquifer ranges from 1 ft/d in the southeast portion of the County to 10 ft/d in the south and near La Plata. To the west and north of the county, modeled hydraulic conductivity decrease to 4 ft/d (Drummond, 2007) as shown in Figure 15. Water quality in the lower Patapsco aquifer is generally good. Regionally the TDS ranges from 122 to 768 mg/L (Drummond 1988).



### 4.2.5 Patuxent Aquifer

The Patuxent aquifer underlies the Lower Patapsco aquifer and separated by the Arundel Formation confining unit which is over 100 ft thick. The Patuxent aquifer consists of variably colored sands interbedded with clays. The Patuxent aquifer is over 450 feet thick near La Plata (Drummond, 2007). The top of the Patuxent aquifer is approximately 400 feet below sea level in northwestern Charles County and approximately 1,800 feet below sea level in the eastern portion of the County. The aquifer is an important groundwater source in Charles County, particularly in the northwest, and will be further developed to reduce overpumping in the Patapsco and Aquia aquifers. A cone of depression has formed in the Patuxent aquifer due to pumping in the Indian Head area and Bryans Road area due to development of the as a water supply source. Here, water levels have declined to approximately 50 feet below sea level (Curtin, 2010). The hydraulic gradients in this cone of depression exceed 6 feet/mile near Indian Head. East of this cone of depression, the groundwater gradients appear to be 1-2 ft/d in the south and east of the County (Figure 15).

Regionally the transmissivity of the Patuxent aquifer ranges from 80 to 4,400 ft<sup>2</sup>/d (Andreasen, 1999). In the Waldorf area, the average aquifer transmissivity measured from two wells was 1,070 ft<sup>2</sup>/d (Andreasen, 2004). The estimated aquifer hydraulic conductivity in this area, assuming an aquifer thickness of 400 feet, is 2.7 ft/d. Well yields measured in the Bryans Road area range from 620 to 750 gpm. The water quality is generally good. Total dissolved solid (TDS) concentrations increase with depth in the coastal plain aquifers. TDS concentrations in the Patuxent aquifer in Charles County range from 214 to 602 mg/L and iron and manganese concentrations may exceed secondary drinking water standards (Drummond, 2007).

### 4.3 Area Water Use and Well Yields

Groundwater is the primary source of potable water for Charles County's public water systems. There are 54 public water systems which supply drinking water service to approximately two-thirds of the County housing units (Charles County Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan, 2006). Of these systems, 20 are operated by the County. The Towns of Indian Head and La Plata each operate their own water system and non-community water systems are operated by the Naval Surface Warfare Center and Mirant Morgantown power station.

The Waldorf water system is the County's largest water system. The Waldorf system is supplied by 16 production wells, 9 of which are completed in the Magothy aquifer and 7 are completed in the Patapsco aquifers (*Charles County Comprehensive Plan – Water Resource Element, 2011*). Cumulatively, there are 47 production wells supplying groundwater to the 11 largest water systems that are operated in the County. These production wells are completed in the following aquifers: Aquia (2 wells), Magothy (9 wells), Patapsco (31 wells), and Patuxent (5 wells).

Data on well yields, specific capacity, and groundwater temperature has been compiled and is summarized in Table 1 on 108 water supply wells in Charles County from published reports (Drummond, 1997; Andreasen, 2004; and Charles County Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan, 2006). The full listing of permitted water supply wells in Charles County is presented as Table 2 and provided as an attachment to this memo. As indicated, well yield in the Aquia aquifer ranges up to 150 gpm with a median yield of approximately 50 gpm. The yield of wells in the Magothy aquifer ranges up to 650 gpm with a median yield of approximately 190 gpm. Well yields in the Upper Patapsco aquifer ranges up to 340 gpm with a median yield of approximately 150 gpm. Well yields in the Lower Patapsco aquifer ranges up to 610 gpm with a median yield of 134 gpm. The yield of wells in the Patuxent aquifer ranges up to 750 gpm with a median yield of approximately 200 gpm. The average

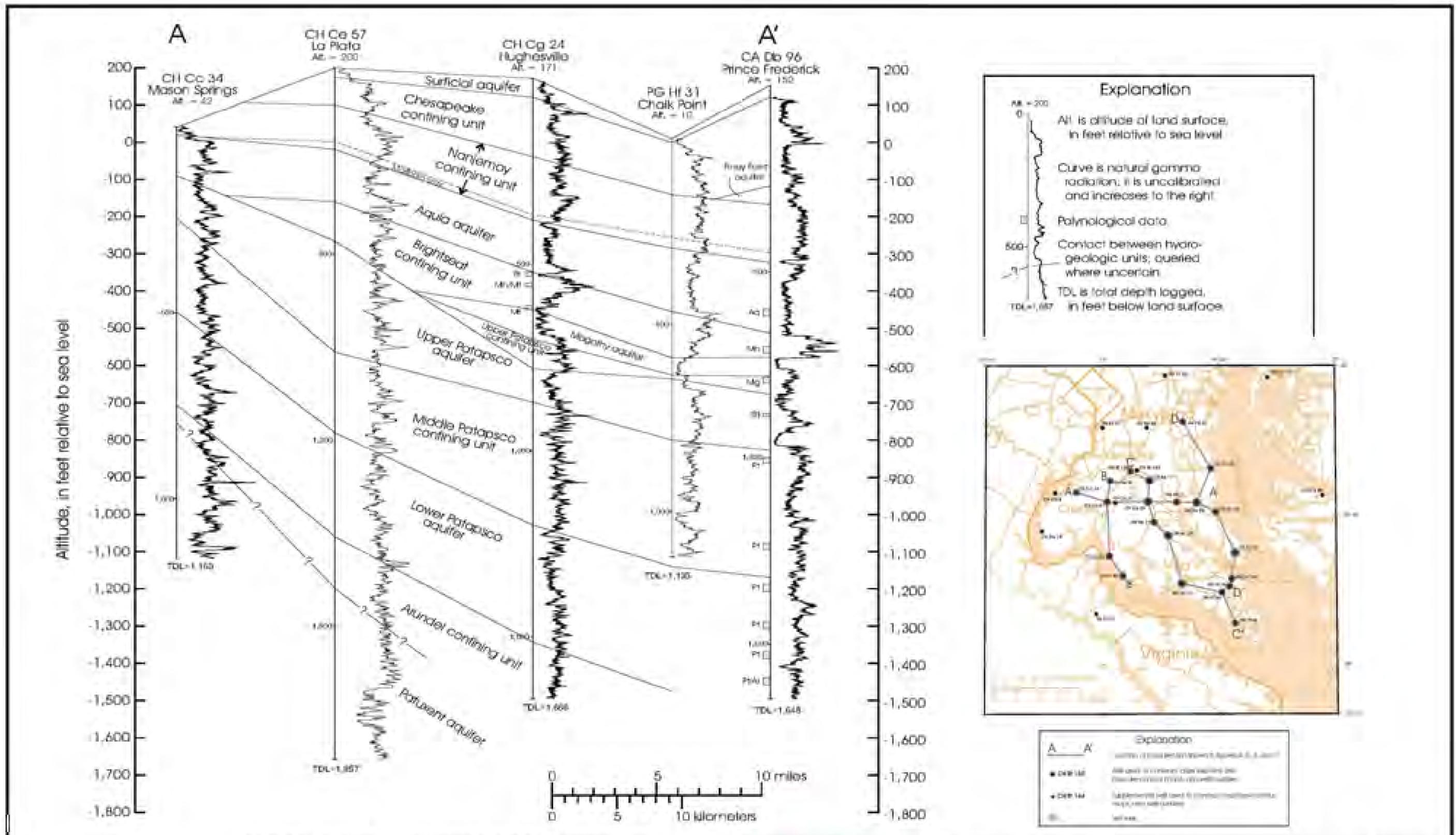


specific capacity of the well, which is a reflection of the well's productivity, ranges from 2 to 3.5 for the Patapsco and Patuxent aquifers. The groundwater temperature measurements collected from 65 wells averages between 68 and 69 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Table 29: Statistics Analysis on Area Well Yield and Specific Capacity, Charles County, MD**

<b>Aquifer</b>	<b>Well Yield (gpm)</b>	<b>Specific Capacity (gpm/ft)</b>	<b>Temperature (°C / °F)</b>
<b>Aquia Aquifer</b>			
Minimum	5	-	-
Maximum	147	-	-
Average	47	-	-
Median	60	-	-
# of Wells	8	-	-
<b>Magothy Aquifer</b>			
Minimum	17	-	-
Maximum	650	-	-
Average	189	-	-
Median	59	-	-
# of Wells	27	-	-
<b>Upper Patapsco Aquifer</b>			
Minimum	8	0.2	16.5 / 61.7
Maximum	340	1.9	21 / 69.8
Average	56	0.7	17.5 / 63.5
Median	150	1.95	-
# of Wells	14	14	14
<b>Lower Patapsco Aquifer</b>			
Minimum	17	0.4	14.5 / 58.1
Maximum	610	19.2	26 / 78.8
Average	257	3.55	20.1 / 68.2
Median	134	2.1	-
# of Wells	47	47	46
<b>Patuxent Aquifer</b>			
Minimum	36	0.3	19.1 / 66.4
Maximum	750	5.9	23 / 73.4
Average	283	2.0	20.7 / 69.3
Median	200	2.2	-
# of Wells	12	12	5

Notes: Statistical analysis of well yield and specific capacity is based on review and analysis of well yield tests from 108 area wells (Drummond, 1997; Andreasen, 2004; and Charles County Comprehensive Water and Sewer Plan, 2006). Estimated well yield is based on the reported pump capacity.



SOURCE: FROM THE MARYLAND GEOLOGIC SURVEY. DRUMMOND (2007): WATER-SUPPLY POTENTIAL OF THE COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE UPPER PATAPSCO AND LOWER PATAPSCO AQUIFERS. MGS REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS NO. 76.

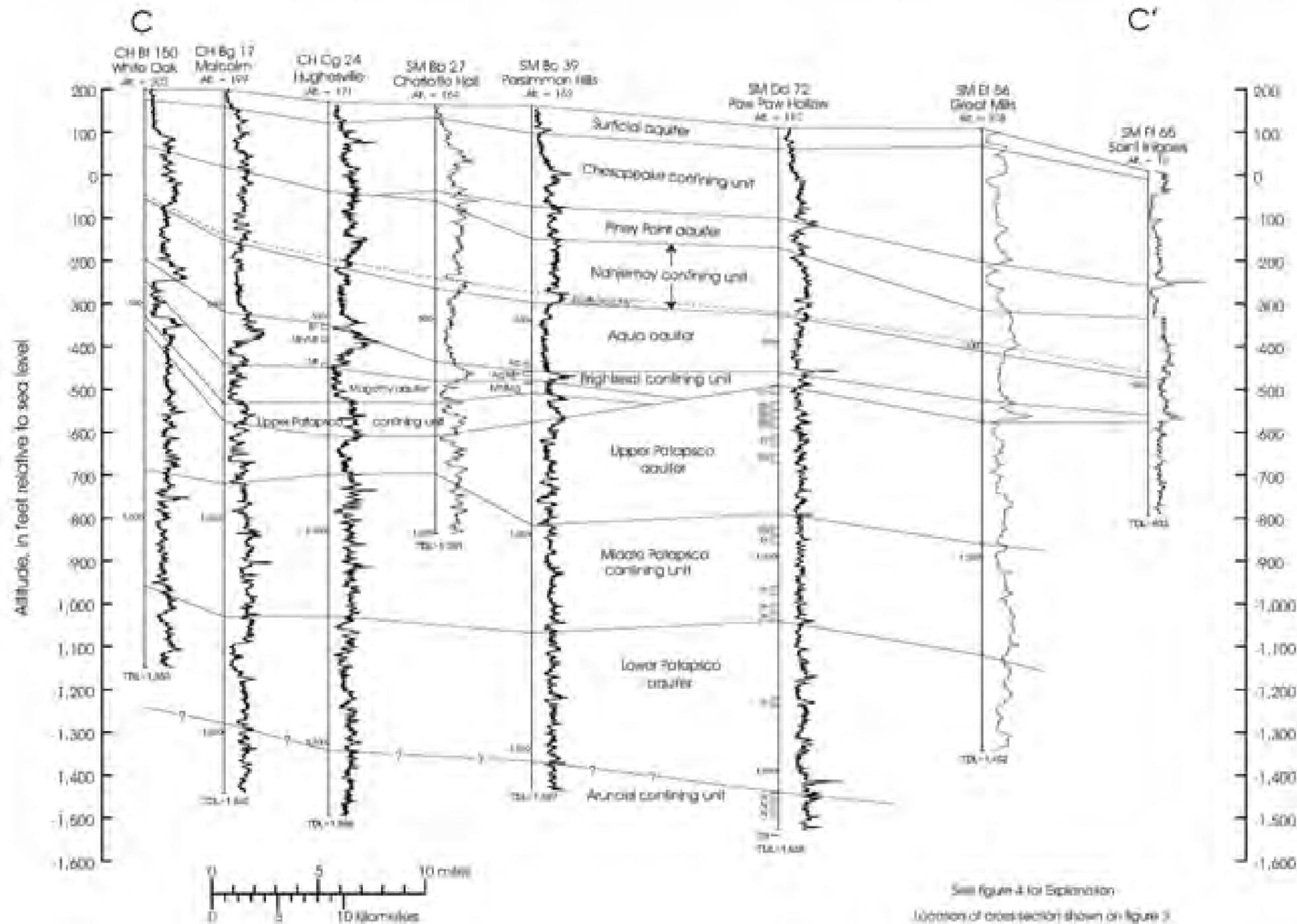


Date: 07-28-2011  
 Project #: 113-96031  
 Prepared By: FWN  
 Reviewed By: BBW

Title: **HYDROGEOLOGIC SECTION ACROSS SOUTHERN MARYLAND HYDROGEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Figure No. **12**

Figure 12: Hydrogeologic Cross-section of Southern Maryland (A)



**Explanation**

- Altitude is altitude of land surface, in feet relative to sea level
- Curve is natural gamma radiation; if uncalibrated and increases to the right
- Polynological data
- Contact between hydrogeologic units, queried where uncertain
- TDL is total depth logged, in feet below land surface



Legend	
—	road
—	water body
—	well location
—	cross-section line

SOURCE: FROM THE MARYLAND GEOLOGIC SURVEY. DRUMMOND (2007): WATER-SUPPLY POTENTIAL OF THE COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE UPPER PATAPSCO AND LOWER PATAPSCO AQUIFERS. MGS REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS NO. 76.

	2102 W. Laburnum St. Richmond, VA 23227	Date: 07-25-2011	<b>Title:</b> HYDROGEOLOGIC SECTION ACROSS SOUTHERN MARYLAND HYDROGEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND	<b>Figure No.</b> 13
		Project #: 113-0001		
		Prepared By: PWN Reviewed By: BZW		

Figure 13: Hydrogeologic Cross-section of Southern Maryland (B)



Potentiometric Surface in the Aquia Aquifer



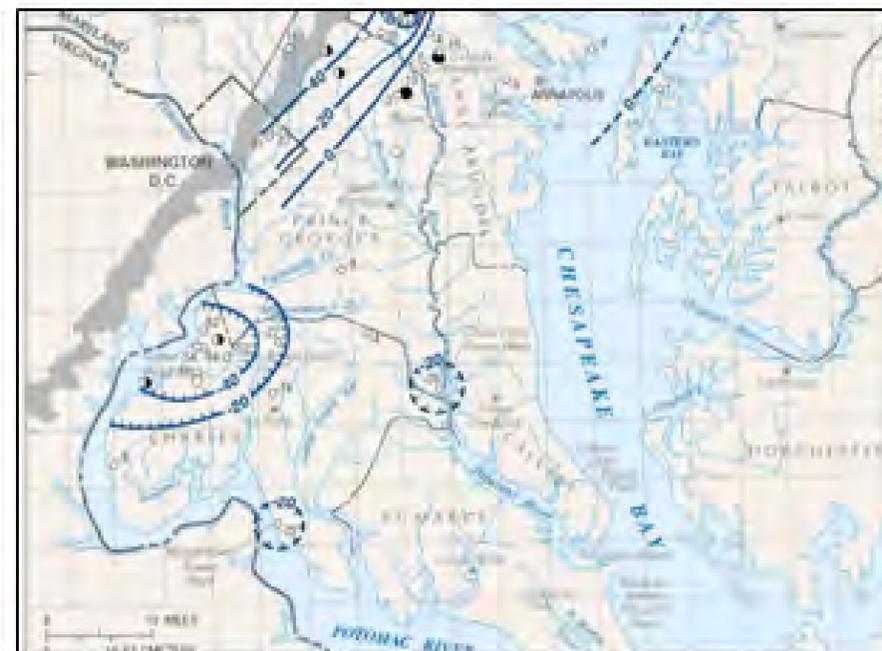
Potentiometric Surface in the Magothy Aquifer



Potentiometric Surface in the Upper Patapasco Aquifer



Potentiometric Surface in the Lower Patapasco Aquifer



Potentiometric Surface in the Patuxent Aquifer

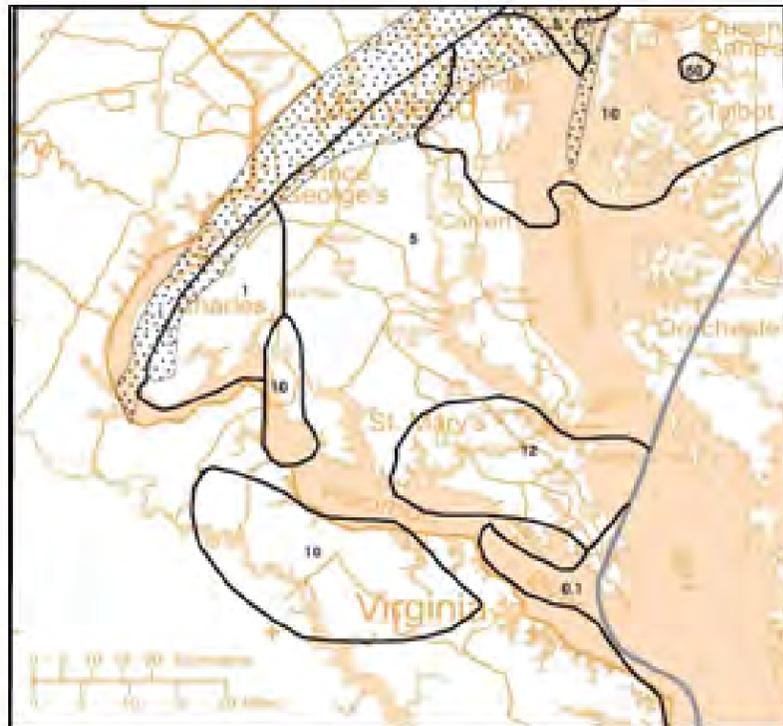
**EXPLANATION**

- OUTCROP AREA OF THE AQUA AQUIFER - Aquifer is in the Aquia Formation of Paleocene age.
- SUBCROP AREA OF THE AQUA AQUIFER
- APPROXIMATE DOWNDIP BOUNDARY OF THE AQUA AQUIFER
- POTENTIOMETRIC CONTOUR - Shows altitude at which water level would have stood in tightly cased wells. Dashed where approximately located. Tick marks indicate depression. Contour interval 20 feet. National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (sea level).
- WELL - Number is altitude of water level, in feet above or below (-) sea level, where water level measurements are available. Symbol indicates average yield from well or well field, in gallons per day, using 2008 withdrawal data.
  - Less than 10,000 gallons per day
  - 10,000 to 100,000
  - 100,000 to 1,000,000
  - Greater than 1,000,000

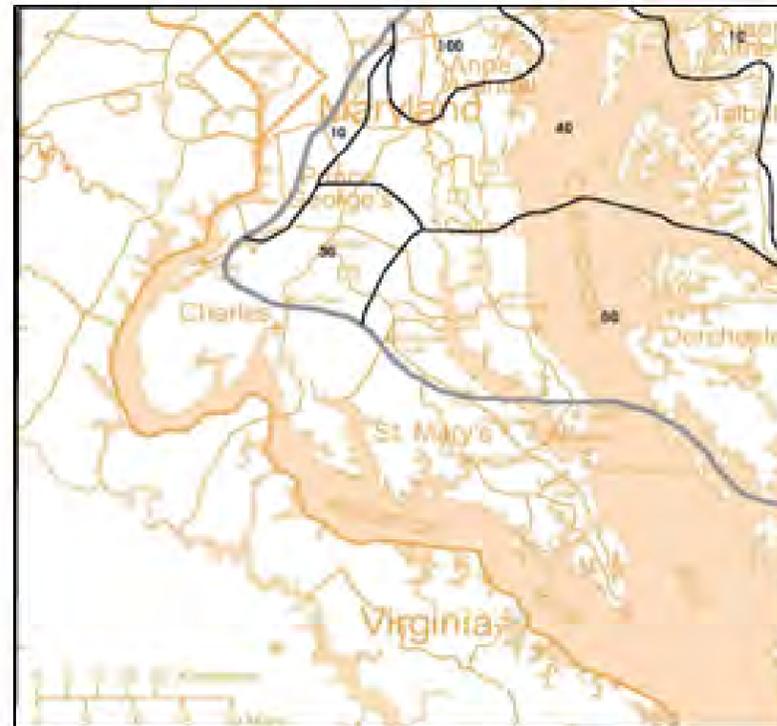
SOURCE: FROM THE MARYLAND GEOLOGIC SURVEY, Stephen E. Curtin (USGS), David C. Anderson (MGS), and Andrew W. Staley (MGS) OFR 2010-1209, OFR 2010-1207, OFR 2010-1205, OFR 2010-1203, and OFR 2010-1201

	Date: 7-28-2011	<b>POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACES IN COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS ACROSS SOUTHERN MARYLAND HYDROGEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND</b>	<b>Figure No. 14</b>
	Project #: 113-96031		
	Prepared By: RWN		
	Reviewed By: BBW		

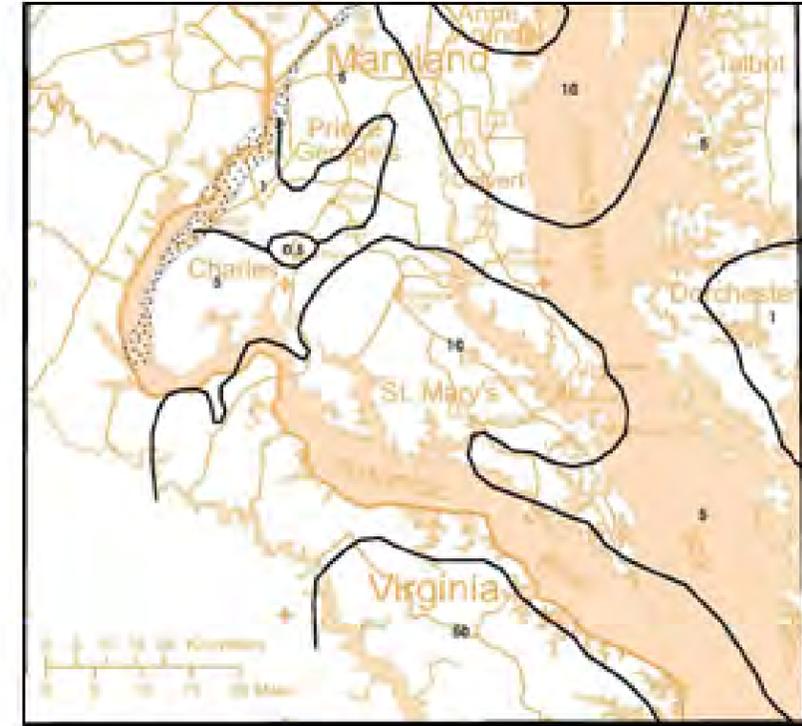
Figure 14: Potentiometric Surface Maps



Modeled Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity in the Aquia Aquifer



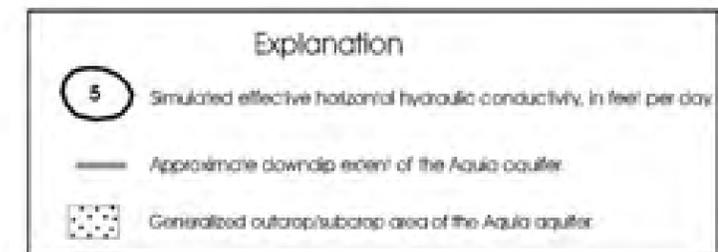
Modeled Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity in the Magothy Aquifer



Modeled Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity in the Upper Patapsco Aquifer



Modeled Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity in the Lower Patapsco Aquifer



SOURCE: FROM THE MARYLAND GEOLOGIC SURVEY. DRUMMOND (2007): WATER-SUPPLY POTENTIAL OF THE COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS IN CALVERT, CHARLES, AND ST. MARY'S COUNTIES, MARYLAND, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE UPPER PATAPSCO AND LOWER PATAPSCO AQUIFERS. MGS REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS NO. 75.



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 Project #: 113-96031  
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 Reviewed By: BBW

Title:  
**MODELED AQUIFER HYDRAULIC CONDUCTIVITY  
 IN COASTAL PLAIN AQUIFERS  
 HYDROGEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
 OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**Figure  
 No.  
 15**

Figure 15: Modeled Aquifer Hydraulic Conductivity



### 5.0 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL USE OF GEOTHERMAL OPEN LOOP SYSTEMS IN CHARLES COUNTY, MD

#### 5.1 Groundwater Permitting Requirements

Groundwater withdrawal and use are regulated by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Water Management Administration. A permit is required for any activity that withdraws water from the State's surface and/or underground waters of more than 10,000 gpd. The water appropriation permit approval requirements include:

- Obtain local land use zoning approvals and check for consistency with county water and sewer plan.
- A Well Construction Permit is required before installing any well pursuant to COMAR 26.04.04 (MD Well Const. Regulations). The final selection of a production well site will also require a Water and Sewerage Construction Permit.
- Submit Water Appropriation permit application for technical review and include:
  - Explanation of water use;
  - Average daily use calculated on an annual basis;
  - Average daily use during the month of highest use;
- Submit plans and specifications for any facility or structure or conduct and submit special evaluations as requested. Appropriation requests for an annual average withdrawal of more than 10,000 gpd may require aquifer testing, geophysical well logging, or other technical analysis as determined by MDE. Certified notification of contiguous property owners and certification of compliance with Business Occupations and Professions, Article 12, §205, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- Requests for an annual average withdrawal of more than 10,000 gpd are advertised for a public information hearing.

The MDE regulates groundwater appropriation permits and may deny issuance of appropriation permits if the predicted drawdown of the proposed withdrawal lowers the potentiometric surface in the aquifer below 80 percent management level. The MDE defines this level at a given location as 80 percent of total available drawdown measured from the prepumping water level to the top of the aquifer (Code of Maryland Regulations [COMAR] 26.17.06.D(4)). MDE regulates groundwater withdrawals to prevent the regional potentiometric surface from declining below this level. The 80-percent management level is not applied in the outcrop area of an aquifer. Also, the cumulative effect of several production wells on groundwater levels in the shallow portions of confined aquifers is not considered in application of the 80-percent management level.

#### 5.2 Specific Permits for Geothermal Systems

An open-loop geothermal well system would require a well construction permit and a groundwater appropriation permit if the annual average withdrawal is greater than 10,000 gpd, regardless of the fact that the water may be re-injected back into the same aquifer. The following additional permits may be required as part of developing an open-loop geothermal system:



- Geothermal exploratory and appropriation permits subject to Maryland's Geothermal Resources Act 5-601 to 605
- The application shall include a description of what is planned to be constructed, its purpose, use, location, estimated cost, and size
- The methods of construction, construction schedule, and operation procedure
- A list of licenses, permits, or other approvals required by any government unit
- Detailed information as to the need for the use and facts concerning alternate site locations as may be requested by MDE
- Information providing proof of the discovery of a geothermal resource and an evaluation of the resource
- A public notice and hearing
- An Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit may be required to return the water to aquifer. Maryland has primacy for the UIC Program and MDE has the authority to require a permit for any Class V well that has the potential to endanger underground sources of drinking water
- A National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit may be required to discharge the to a nearby surface water body

Following public notice and opportunity for public hearing, MDE may issue a permit for the appropriation or use of geothermal resources if the Department finds that the applicant has demonstrated that the use:

- Conforms with and meets all applicable air, water, and noise laws of the State;
- Conforms with all applicable State and local plans;
- Would have no material adverse effect upon the natural environment of the area, its scenic or natural beauty, rare or irreplaceable resources, or unique historic site;
- Would not be so located, constructed, or operated as to have a material adverse effect upon the public health, safety, or welfare;
- Would not be a potential or immediate undue burden on the water supply of the site or region; and
- Would not cause an unreasonable rate of resource exhaustion

### 5.3 Feasibility of Geothermal Open Loop Systems in Charles County, MD

Using the Building Load assessment data presented in Sections 2 and 3 of this Report, Golder has completed a preliminary analysis on the amount of water required for an open-loop geothermal system installation for the Homefield development and a portion of Waldorf consisting of mixed commercial and multi-family residential units. Open-loop geothermal systems use water from a surface water source such as a lake, river or bay, or more typically, a groundwater source. Open-loop systems can be less expensive than closed-loop systems provided that there is a sufficient supply of clean water that can be extracted and discharged back into the original source or into a return well.



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The water demand calculations for an open-loop system are provided as Attachment 1 to this memo. For the Homefield development, it is assumed that each residential unit requires 3 tons of capacity per town home. For the 625 units, a total capacity of 1,875 tons would be required. The estimated water flow rate to support an open-loop geothermal system for the Homefield development is estimated at 4,085 gallons per minute (gpm). This is equivalent to approximately 6.5 gpm per residential unit. A typical detached residential home requires up to 10 to 15 gpm.

For Waldorf, it is assumed that the redevelopment area will be 300 acres, or approximately 12 city blocks (6 blocks long by 2 blocks wide) with new commercial and high density residential. It is assumed that a centralized direct exchange system would be installed and would require an exchange capacity of 3,000 tons. The calculated water demand for this system would be 6,600 gpm.

The hydrogeological review presented above, indicates the presence of productive coastal plain aquifers beneath Charles County. It is possible that a series of groundwater wells could be developed to support an open-loop geothermal system; however, the costs and environmental issues associated with such a scheme would be prohibitive. A minimum of 6 to 8 high capacity production wells would have to be drilled to depths of more than 1,200 feet deep into the Lower Patapsco aquifer or preferably the underlying Patuxent aquifer, which is not used for drinking water supplies in down dip portions of the County. Permitting such large withdrawals even if the water is recharged back into the aquifer would be difficult if not impossible because such large withdrawals may impact the 80 percent groundwater management level and because these aquifers support regional public drinking water needs. As a rule of thumb, it will take up to twice as many wells to re-inject the amount of water that is withdrawn from a confined aquifer, so it could take 12 to 16 recharge wells in addition to the production wells. Lastly, possible elevated corrosivity and total dissolved solids in the groundwater may cause maintenance problems with the geothermal heat exchange system, possibly to the point of requiring expensive water treatment. Also, the recharge water from the heat exchanger will have altered temperature and may have altered pH and metal concentrations from contact with the pipe and addition of corrosion inhibitors. No further consideration of an open-loop geothermal exchange system is recommended at this time.



### 6.0 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL USE OF GEOTHERMAL CLOSED LOOP SYSTEMS IN CHARLES COUNTY, MD

Closed loop Geothermal systems are described in the Charles County Community Geothermal Study (Golder, 2011), *Report I: Geothermal Technology Review, 3.1.2 Closed Loop Systems*.

As discussed there, horizontal closed loop geothermal systems require access to a large amount of unused land, approximately 1000 square feet per ton of geothermal energy required. Vertical closed loop systems on the other hand, require only 75 to 110 square feet per ton of geothermal energy, depending on the depth drilled. Horizontal loop fields can be under parking lots or sports fields, but cannot be covered by buildings or other insulating structures. Vertical bore fields, on the other hand can be installed under buildings before they are built or can be placed in tight areas such as laneways or perimeters, where surface exposure is minimal, perhaps only enough for drilling, with the thermal exposure taking place below ground, reaching under existing buildings and roads. Therefore for the purposes of assessing large projects, closed loop vertical bore fields are only considered. Closed loop horizontal systems will be discussed briefly, as they apply to circumstances such as schools and sports fields, shopping mall parking lots and other open land situations.

This Section 6.0 deals only with the influences of the ground on the feasibility and economics of considering geothermal energy. This “energy supply” component is only one of three components of a geothermal system, the other two being the central energy processing plant (whether a single heat-pump or a central district energy plant) and the building HVAC system. The latter two components of a geothermal system will be discussed further in Report III of this study, yet to be written.

#### 6.1 Assessment of Ground Thermal Conductivity and Diffusivity in Charles County, MD

Can the ground available provide the energy required to satisfy the building loads proposed for geothermal energy supply? This is the first question that needs to be answered when considering the installation of closed loop geothermal energy systems.

In the Charles County Community Geothermal Study (Golder, 2011), *Report I: Geothermal Technology Review, 5.1 Thermal Conductivity of the Ground*, the principles of ground thermal conductivity are discussed. This section addresses the application of the science of thermal conductivity specifically to the sites of interest, to derive a high level assessment of the ability of the ground to produce energy to supply building loads under consideration.

##### **Horizontal Closed Loop Systems**

The feasibility of the ground to supply energy to closed loop horizontal geothermal systems is very much a function of space that is to land that can be excavated and backfilled, with minimal surface obstruction to radiation from the sun. The loops need to be installed below the frost line, with a typical single family house requiring up to 3000 sq. ft. of land in which to install enough loop to supply it with heating and cooling. While feasible for large residential properties where landscaping can be destroyed and remediated, or for schools where sports fields can easily be accessed, for areas of dense occupancy, they are not practical and in many cases, not cheaper than vertical bore fields, when excavation and site remediation costs are factored in. Thermal conductivity is not tested for horizontal closed loop systems, since they are installed in soil or sand or other loose material or in some cases water, such as a pond or lake bottom, and the thermal conductivity of



these materials is well known. The ground temperature into which horizontal loops are installed varies seasonally, tempered by the covering soil so that freezing does not occur, but often changing by 30°F or more from summer to winter. Horizontal closed loop geothermal systems will not be dealt with further in this section.

**Vertical Closed Loop Systems**

The feasibility of the ground to supply energy to closed loop vertical geothermal systems is primarily dependant on two factors: a) the ability of drill rigs to penetrate the ground to depths of up to 600 feet without encountering obstructions such as caverns or tunnels, high pressure aquifers, thick wet clay-like sediment pockets, pockets of oil, methane or natural gas, or any of several other hindering geological or man-made formations, and b) the economics of installing a geo-exchange groundworks to collect and dissipate energy. One factor influencing the economics of the ground component of a vertical geothermal project is the amount of thermal energy contained in the ground and the rate at which it can be captured and transferred to and from the connected buildings, a function of the thermal conductivity of the ground and the thermal properties of an installed bore hole.

Other factors influencing the economics of the ground component of a geothermal system include the cost of drilling as influenced by geological materials and conditions encountered, the local competitive market for experienced geothermal system drillers and installers, and the size, balance and concentration of the building thermal loads to be supplied. These factors are discussed in general in the Charles County Community Geothermal Study (Golder, 2011), *Report I: Geothermal Technology Review, Section 5.2 to 5.4* and will be discussed further in the third Report of this study, yet to be written, which will deal in more detail with the costs and business case of installing geothermal systems.

To assess the thermal properties of the ground that will impact geothermal system design and energy supply, two methods are used, usually in conjunction with each other: a) the geology and hydrogeology of the subject property is profiled, as in Section 4.0 above and b) test boreholes are drilled and thermal conductivity tests performed, to obtain real time data which is analyzed and reported.

**6.1.1 Local Test Drilling and Testing of Thermal Conductivity**

In September 2009, a local geothermal services company, Chesapeake GeoSystems Inc. of Baltimore MD, conducted three thermal conductivity (TC) tests on boreholes drilled at the new Charles County High School, within one mile of the Homefield residential subdivision. The data collected from the tests was analyzed by Geothermal Resource Technologies Inc., Bowie, Texas.

The applicable national recommended procedures for thermal conductivity testing of geothermal bore holes is published by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, ASHRAE 2007 HVAC Applications Handbook, pages 32.12-32.13. The minimum standard was adhered to for these tests.

The data collected in the three tests is summarized in the following Table:

Table 30: Summary of Three Local Thermal Conductivity Tests, 2009

	<b>NGEO1</b>	<b>NGEO2</b>	<b>NGEO3</b>
Test Dates	September 2 - 4	August 31 – September 2	October 7 - 9
Diameter / Depth	6 in / 310 ft	6 in / 308 ft	6 in / 400 ft
Grout Mixture	0.75 BTU/hr - ft - °F	0.75 BTU/hr - ft - °F	0.75 BTU/hr - ft - °F
Drill Log Geology	0"-1" topsoil	0"-1" topsoil	0'-20' brown sand





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	NGEO1	NGEO2	NGEO3
	1' – 18' sand / gravel 18' – 200' gray clay 200' – 310' layered silt	1' – 30' sand / gravel 30' – 210' gray clay 210' – 308' layered silt	20' – 80' sand / gravel 80' – 305' green silty clay 305' – 320' layered sandstone 320' – 400' silty clay
Undisturbed formation temperature	57°F - 59°F	57.7°F – 59.3°F	56.5°F – 59.7°F
Formation Thermal Conductivity	0.96 BTU/hr - ft - °F	1.0 BTU/hr - ft - °F	0.93 BTU/hr - ft - °F
Formation Thermal Diffusivity	0.63 ft <sup>2</sup> / day	0.65 ft <sup>2</sup> / day	0.62 ft <sup>2</sup> / day

Based on the results of these three tests, it could be inferred that a closed loop vertical bore hole geothermal system would require approximately 720 ft. vertical length of geothermal loop, to meet a peak building energy load of 36,000 BTU/hr (3 tons of cooling or 3.6 tons of heating) or 240 ft. vertical length of geothermal loop per peak ton of geothermal energy required.

The thermal conductivity of solid rock formations is usually higher than for more porous sand, gravel and silt formations. Water has a thermal conductivity of 0.032 BTU/hr - ft - °F, and porous formations often contain groundwater and so take on its properties of thermal conductivity. Dry porous material usually has lower properties of thermal conductivity.

As indicated by these tests, no solid rock formations were encountered to the depth of 400 feet at this site. According to the Geological Study above it is not likely that other areas of Charles County will have solid rock formations close to the surface, therefore it can be assumed that the mean thermal conductivity indicated by these tests, 0.98 BTU/hr - ft - °F, can be applied to all of Charles County for the purposes of high level assessment. In areas where solid rock is encountered within 50 feet of the surface, and where bore holes reach depths of 600 feet, a bore hole thermal conductivity of 1.8 – 3.0 BTU/hr - ft - °F can be expected, depending on the material composition of the rock. Table 12 below illustrates the implications of higher thermal conductivity.

### 6.1.2 Thermal Conductivity Applied to Design

A higher thermal conductivity level indicates that more energy will be transferred to and from the ground per linear or vertical foot (VT ft) of standard geothermal loop. (HDPE 1.25" OD, SDR11, certified to 125 psi) therefore a higher thermal conductivity rate, indicates a smaller geothermal bore field and lower cost.

The grout can also influence thermal conductivity, since it may act as an insulator if no high thermal conductivity solids (usually silicone sand) are mixed into the relatively low thermal conductivity (0.75 BTU/hr - ft - °F) Bentonite compound. Silicon sand is more expensive than the Bentonite grout compound, however it has been demonstrated that the increase in cost for high conductivity grout, is much less than the savings achieved by the reduced size of the bore field.

The following Table 12 illustrates some representative thermal conductivity values for various ground materials, along with the associated vertical length of geothermal bore field infrastructure required, per ton of heating and



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cooling produced<sup>18</sup>. With a thermal conductivity rating of 0.98 BTU/hr - ft - °F, using grout with a thermal conductivity rating of 0.75 BTU/hr - ft - °F, The Charles County High School could expect to need, approximately 240 vertical feet<sup>19</sup> of geothermal loop for each ton of peak capacity required to meet the peak heating/cooling load of the building. Perhaps, if the grout was mixed to yield a thermal conductivity of 1.0 BTU/hr - ft - °F to match that of the ground as indicated by the TC tests, slightly higher thermal conductivity might be achieved for production bore holes at the High School site.

Ground Material	Thermal Conductivity Btu/hr-ft-°F																		Geothermal Loops VT ft/ton	
	0.01	0.03	0.14	0.17	0.40	0.46	0.52	0.55	0.64	0.70	0.84	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.35	1.50	1.70	2.00		3.20
Air	■																			
Water		■																		
Peat Soil, dry			■																	
Clay Soil, dry				■																
Sandy Soil, dry					■															
Crushed stone						■														
Concrete							■													
Loam								■												
Gravel									■											318
Sand, dry										■										296
Limestone											■									282
Sand, wet												■								262
Silt clay, wet													■							242
Sandstone														■						232
Shale															■					226
Granite																■				216
Dolomite																	■			200

Figure 16: Sample of Ground Material Thermal Conductivity Ratings and Estimated Geothermal Loop Length

In the design of the geothermal bore field there are some incremental factors that can take advantage of known geological conditions to increase the thermal conductivity of a particular bore hole. For example, drilling to a depth that will reach higher thermal conductivity producing ground materials or where material is dry drilling to a depth that will reach groundwater. Flowing groundwater can carry heat away from a borehole, much faster than waiting for heat to be absorbed into still ground. Grout mixed to the same thermal conductivity level as the ground it is installed into, will reduce the insulating effect, though to reach TC levels higher than 1.1 BTU/hr - ft - °F requires too much silicon sand, thereby thickening the grout so that it will not flow and cannot be effectively installed. Smaller diameter boreholes can also reduce the effect of insulation, if the grout has a lower TC than the ground and smaller diameters have the added benefit of reducing the volume of grout required, therefore reducing cost.

<sup>18</sup> US Dept of Energy, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, <http://www.geo4va.vt.edu/A1/A1.htm#A1sec3b>

<sup>19</sup> Various software is available for calculating bore field sizes. GLD 2010, Gaia Geothermal, LLC is a leading software suite for designing geothermal heat pump and ground heat exchanger systems, used in 55 countries, <http://www.gaiageo.com/?qclid=CJ-Z9orD7asCFY4UKgodEhaQKQ>



### 6.2 Permitting Requirements for Closed Loop Geothermal Systems

As the number of systems increases, environmental concerns are also coming to the forefront. Responsibility for groundwater quality can come under the purview of Federal, state, and local or regional governmental entities<sup>20</sup>. The Federal UIC and NPDES regulations were designed to prevent contamination of groundwater, aquifer, and surface water. However, the UIC portion of the Safe Water Drinking Act (40 CFR, Parts 144-147) precludes a closed-loop geothermal system from being defined as an injection well as it is not used for the emplacement of fluids underground. Similarly, the NPDES portion of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR, Parts 122-124) which covers surface discharge of fluids, does not include geothermal (ground-coupled heat pump) systems under the definition it uses for “waters of the United States”, which specifically limits its influence to such water bodies as wetlands, ponds, streams, sloughs, and navigable waterways. However, nothing in either the UIC or NPDES regulations precludes any state, county, parish, water district, municipality, etc. from adopting more stringent regulations. The majority of regulatory activity concerning closed loop geothermal (ground-coupled heat pump) systems has occurred at the state level.

The primary concern of the states is protection of groundwater quality, and all are at least concerned about the potential for groundwater contamination due to these systems. However, the reaction of the various states to this concern has varied greatly. The resulting action ranges from benign neglect to proscriptive policies which dictate materials and methods of design and installation very precisely. The recent increase in the number of installed systems has improved awareness, but has not necessarily increased understanding and knowledge among those who are responsible for promulgating and enforcing environmental regulations and has not promoted consensus.

In some cases, regulators have consulted with the practitioners in a particular state or region, and have worked out acceptable statutes which the industry accepts as sensible. In other cases, regulators have been hostile to concerns from industry practitioners, and have enacted debilitating legislation despite technical and scientific arguments to the contrary. Yet again, others have acted out of a sense of protective duty, but with ignorance of the technology and a lack of understanding of various options and their environmental impact.

Apart from groundwater protection concerns, there are construction standards embedded in most national, state and municipal Building Codes, that refer to the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, ASHRAE 2007 HVAC Applications Handbook, Geothermal Energy<sup>21</sup>. In this document, engineering formulas, calculations, material requirements, performance standards and installation methods are described in detail. Existing regulations for closed-loop systems tend to fall into the following categories:

- horizontal loop construction,
- vertical borehole and loop construction,
- grouting or backfill methods and materials,
- antifreeze specifications, and

<sup>20</sup> SURVEY OF GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP REGULATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, Karen Den Braven, University of Idaho, Mechanical Engineering Department, Moscow, ID 83844-0902

<sup>21</sup> (ASHRAE, 2007), Geothermal Energy - Chapter 32. In 2003 ASHRAE HVAC Applications Handbook, SI Edition, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc., 2007.



- direct expansion specifications.

(A very few will mention such lesser used systems as mains-connected systems, and standing columns wells.)

### 6.3 Geothermal Energy Building Load / Capacity Analysis

The analysis presented in this report, indicates that installation of closed loop geothermal systems in Charles County MD, is technically feasible. However geothermal systems need to be scaled to the thermal demand for heating and cooling. Further, that thermal demand needs to be carefully assessed for its balance between the annual heating energy volumes required and the annual cooling energy volumes required. This balancing, discussed in *Report I, Geothermal Technology Review, 5.2 Borefield Balance and Sustainability, page 24*, can affect the overall size of a borefield, which is first assessed for peak capacity, then adjusted if necessary for balancing of the loads. This applies to designing a geothermal system for one house or for a subdivision such as Homefield or for an urban development such as Waldorf.

It is important to clarify two concepts that are very often confused. One is energy consumption, which is the overall amount of energy required by a building usually over the period of a year. The other is the peak loads of the building, which is the maximum amount of heat energy the building will require to maintain its winter operating design temperature, on the coldest day of the winter and it is also the maximum amount of cooling energy the building will require to maintain its summer operating design temperature, on the hottest day of the summer. These concepts seem clear enough when discussing projects, however they are very different in design calculation since they are dependent on different factors, and so cannot be converted one to the other without the input of independent weather and building use data. One reason this can be difficult is that energy intensity data that is available from Department of Energy data bases, refers to annual consumption, not peak loads. For the purposes of estimating the sizes and scales of various geothermal systems, Golder has applied data and reasonable assumptions, to derive system scenarios to the best of their ability. However, the data presented here should only be used for purposes of concept discussion, and are to be considered 'order of magnitude' estimations. Specialized software and specific data analysis is required in order to estimate any individual project, with a higher level of accuracy.

Presented in the Figure below, are the order of magnitude calculations, for geothermal systems, if they were installed in Charles County MD, to serve the loads estimated in;

- 1) The whole of Charles County, 2010<sup>22</sup>
- 2) Waldorf Urban Development area, 2006, projections for 2010<sup>23</sup>
- 3) Homefield Subdivision, when entirely built, 2011 plans

While no one would consider supplying all of Charles County with geothermal energy, this analysis is used to establish assumptions, consider the scale of the thermal loads in Charles County and provide a quantitative base line for measurement of improvements, if projects proceed in the future. Comparative information may include percentage reduction in thermal loads and energy consumed, percentage reduction in Green House Gas (GHG) emissions produced from thermal energy, and others.

<sup>22</sup> 2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan

<sup>23</sup> 2006 Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Table 2-4, Projected Number of Housing Units by Election District.

**Project:** Charles County MD - Estimate of Building Heating and Cooling Loads for Geothermal Energy Supply

**Sites:** Charles County  
Waldorf  
Homefield

43563 ft2/acre

Building Occupied Space						Energy Peak Loads			Geothermal Heating and Cooling Loads			Borefield Area Required (600 ft. depth)				Borefield Area Required (1000 ft. depth)			
Charles County	GFA		GFA		Total	SpC Heating	Cooling	DHW	SpC Heating total	Cooling total	DHW total	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres
	number	unit size	commercial	residential															
	units	sq.ft.	sq.ft.	sq.ft.		sq.ft.	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	600' deep	600' deep	15' centres	15' centres	1000' deep	1000' deep	15' centres
Res	Single-family Detached	38,853	1900	73,820,700	73,820,700	3.2	1.9	2.1	123,035	73,821	82,925	65,799	54,832	340	283	39,479	32,899	203.9	169.9
	Single-family Attached	9,872	1800	17,769,600	17,769,600	3.0	1.8	2.0	29,616	17,770	19,961	15,839	13,199	82	68	9,503	7,919	49.1	40.9
	Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	1,278	2100	2,683,800	2,683,800	3.5	2.1	2.4	4,473	2,684	3,015	2,392	1,993	12	10	1,435	1,196	7.4	6.2
	Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	3,620	1000	3,620,000	3,620,000	1.7	1.0	1.1	6,033	3,620	4,066	3,227	2,689	17	14	1,936	1,613	10.0	8.3
Comm	Mercantile (Food and non-food retail)			8,759,744	8,759,744	0.00100	0.00032	0.00021	8730	2810	1796	3,851	3,209	20	17	2,311	1,926	11.9	9.9
	Office			2,963,021	2,963,021	0.00096	0.00020	0.00006	2853	604	168	1,175	979	6	5	705	587	3.6	3.0
	Industrial (Warehouse and Storage)*			2,094,530	2,094,530	0.00113	0.00006	0.00003	2375	125	71	964	803	5	4	579	482	3.0	2.5
	Flex Space (Other)			702,245	702,245	0.00330	0.00034	0.00008	2315	239	59	938	782	5	4	563	469	2.9	2.4
<b>Total Charles County Building</b>		<b>53,623</b>	<b>14,519,540</b>	<b>97,894,100</b>	<b>112,413,640</b>				<b>179,430</b>	<b>101,672</b>	<b>112,063</b>								
<b>Total Heating Load</b> (includes space heating peak load + 50% of DHW peak load, 50% free bi-product from geo system)									<b>235,462</b>	<b>tons</b>		<b>94,185</b>	<b>78,487</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>56,511</b>	<b>47,092</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>243</b>
<b>Total Cooling Load</b> (no additional capacity required)									<b>101,672</b>	<b>tons</b>									

Building Occupied Space						Energy Peak Loads			Geothermal Heating and Cooling Loads			Borefield Area Required (600 ft. depth)				Borefield Area Required (1000 ft. depth)			
Waldorf	GFA		GFA		Total	SpC Heating	Cooling	DHW	SpC Heating total	Cooling total	DHW total	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres
	number	unit size	commercial	residential															
	units	sq.ft.	sq.ft.	sq.ft.		sq.ft.	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	600' deep	600' deep	15' centres	15' centres	1000' deep	1000' deep	15' centres
Res	Single-family Detached	20,128	1900	38,243,200	38,243,200	3.2	1.9	2.1	63,739	38,243	42,960	34,087	28,406	176.1	146.7	20,452	17,044	105.6	88.0
	Single-family Attached	4,963	1800	8,933,400	8,933,400	3.0	1.8	2.0	14,889	8,933	10,035	7,963	6,636	41.1	34.3	4,778	3,981	24.7	20.6
	Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	551	2100	1,157,100	1,157,100	3.5	2.1	2.4	1,929	1,157	1,300	1,031	859	5.3	4.4	619	516	3.2	2.7
	Apartments in 5 or More Unit Building	1930	1000	1,930,000	1,930,000	1.7	1.0	1.1	3,217	1,930	2,168	1,720	1,434	8.9	7.4	1,032	860	5.3	4.4
Comm	Education			2,443	2,443	0.00164	0.00026	0.00023	4	1	1	2	1	0.0	0.0	1	1	0.0	0.0
	Food Sales			53,809	53,809	0.00120	0.00032	0.00012	65	17	6	27	23	0.1	0.1	16	14	0.1	0.1
	Food Services			118,485	118,485	0.00179	0.00056	0.00162	212	67	192	123	103	0.6	0.5	74	62	0.4	0.3
	Health Care (In- and Outpatient)			305,700	305,700	0.00292	0.00046	0.00121	894	140	371	432	360	2.2	1.9	259	216	1.3	1.1
	Mercantile			536,542	536,542	0.00100	0.00032	0.00021	535	172	110	236	197	1.2	1.0	142	118	0.7	0.6
	Office			759,130	759,130	0.00136	0.00029	0.00008	1034	219	61	426	355	2.2	1.8	255	213	1.3	1.1
	Public Assembly			167,204	167,204	0.00206	0.00031	0.00004	345	52	7	139	116	0.7	0.6	84	70	0.4	0.4
	Public Order and Safety			40,026	40,026	0.00207	0.00029	0.00056	83	12	23	38	31	0.2	0.2	23	19	0.1	0.1
	Religious Worship			21,107	21,107	0.00109	0.00009	0.00003	23	2	1	9	8	0.0	0.0	6	5	0.0	0.0
	Service			15,812	15,812	0.00149	0.00012	0.00004	24	2	1	10	8	0.0	0.0	6	5	0.0	0.0
	Warehouse and Storage			235,626	235,626	0.00080	0.00004	0.00002	189	10	6	77	64	0.4	0.3	46	38	0.2	0.2
	Other			6,647	6,647	0.00330	0.00034	0.00008	22	2	1	9	7	0.0	0.0	5	4	0.0	0.0
	Vacant			305,595	305,595	0.00060	0.00002	0.00000	183	6	1	73	61	0.4	0.3	44	37	0.2	0.2
<b>Total Waldorf Building</b>		<b>2,568,127</b>	<b>50,263,700</b>	<b>52,831,827</b>					<b>87,384</b>	<b>50,965</b>	<b>57,243</b>								
<b>Total Heating Load</b> (includes space heating peak load + 50% of DHW peak load, 50% free bi-product from geo system)									<b>116,005</b>	<b>tons</b>		<b>46,402</b>	<b>38,668</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>27,841</b>	<b>23,201</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Total Cooling Load</b> (no additional capacity required)									<b>50,965</b>	<b>tons</b>									

Building Occupied Space						Energy Peak Loads			Geothermal Heating and Cooling Loads			Borefield Area Required (600 ft. depth)				Borefield Area Required (1000 ft. depth)			
Homefield	GFA		GFA		Total	SpC Heating	Cooling	DHW	SpC Heating total	Cooling total	DHW total	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres	Bore Holes (A) number	Bore Holes (B) number	Borefield (A) acres	Borefield (B) acres
	number	unit size	commercial	residential															
	units	sq.ft.	sq.ft.	sq.ft.		sq.ft.	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	Res t/unit	tonnes	tonnes	tonnes	600' deep	600' deep	15' centres	15' centres	1000' deep	1000' deep	15' centres
Res	Single-family Detached	201	2500	502,500	502,500	2.9	1.8	2.0	586	352	395	314	261	1.6	1.3	188	157	1.0	0.8
	Single-family Attached	232	2000	464,000	464,000	2.3	1.4	1.6	541	325	365	290	241	1.5	1.2	174	145	0.9	0.7
	Apartments in 2-4 Unit Buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Apartments in 5 or More Unit Buildings	192	1200	230,400	230,400	1.4	0.8	0.9	269	161	181	144	120	0.7	0.6	86	72	0.4	0.4
Comm	Community Center (Public Assembly)			3,000	3,000	0.00206	0.00031	0.00004	6.2	0.9	0.1	3	2	0.0	0.0	2	1	0.0	0.0
<b>Total Homefield Building</b>		<b>3,000</b>	<b>1,196,900</b>	<b>1,199,900</b>					<b>1,403</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>941</b>								
<b>Total Heating Load</b> (includes space heating peak load + 50% of DHW peak load, 50% free bi-product from geo system)									<b>1,873</b>	<b>tons</b>		<b>749</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Total Cooling Load</b> (no additional capacity required)									<b>839</b>	<b>tons</b>									

Figure 17: Geothermal Energy Load Capacity analysis for Charles County MD, Waldorf and Homefield





## 7.0 ENERGY OVERVIEW 2011 WITH PROJECTIONS TO 2035

In this section we consider the outlook for energy supply and demand in the US over the next 25 years. This brief overview, allows us to establish reasonable estimations for future energy prices. This is particularly important when considering alternative energy sources.

Energy considered from a national point of view, forms the foundation for energy to be considered from a state specific point of view.

Natural gas is often the business as usual (BAU) source of thermal energy for heating and electricity for cooling. In some areas including Maryland, electricity is often the BAU energy for heating as well. Electricity is used to drive the water circulation pumps, heat pump compressors and air circulation fans, all HVAC components of a geothermal system. So while natural gas and electricity used in conventional cooling systems are eliminated by geothermal energy systems, electricity in smaller measure is required for different, but essential, operations.

The following sections, establish baseline energy price estimations, with future projections to 2035, for natural gas and electricity, in the US and in Maryland specifically. These estimates will be applied during the third phase of the Geothermal Community Energy Study for Charles County MD.

### 7.1 US Energy Use and Projected Growth

According to the 2011 Annual Energy Outlook, issued by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) in April 2011, growth in energy use is linked to population growth through increases in housing, commercial floorspace, transportation, goods and services, as well as rising disposable income. It has been projected that total primary energy consumption, including fuels used for electricity generation, grows by 0.7 percent per year from 2009 to 2035, to 114.2 quadrillion BTU in 2035 in the AEO2011 Reference<sup>24</sup> case (Figure 18). Electricity use increases 1.4 percent per year, from 53 percent of total commercial delivered energy consumption in 2009 to 58 percent in 2035, in the AEO2011 Reference case.

However, while growth in commercial floorspace (1.2 percent per year) is faster than growth in population (0.9 percent per year), energy use per capita remains relatively steady. It has been estimated that after 2013, due to significant improvements in efficiency standards in equipment and building shells, the energy end use per capita would start declining by 0.3% per year on average.



Figure 18: Primary energy use by end use sector, 2009 - 2035 (quadrillion BTU).

Source: US EIA. 2011 Annual Energy Outlook.

<sup>24</sup> The Reference case assumes a continuation of current trends in terms of economic access to resources outside the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the OPEC market share of world production, and global economic growth.



## THERMAL LOAD AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

Based on the EIA's projections, after industrial sector the second-largest increase in total primary energy consumption from 2009 to 2035 (5.8 quadrillion BTU) is in the commercial sector. Even as standards for building shells and energy efficiency are being tightened in the commercial sector, the growth rate for commercial energy use, at 1.1 percent per year, is the fastest rate among the end-use sectors.

In *residential* sector, according to the 2011 Annual Energy Outlook, electricity use grows 0.7 percent per year, from 42 percent of total residential delivered energy consumption in 2009 to 47 percent in 2035 in the *AEO2011* Reference case. Growing service demand is only partially offset by technological improvements that lead to increased efficiency of electric devices and appliances.

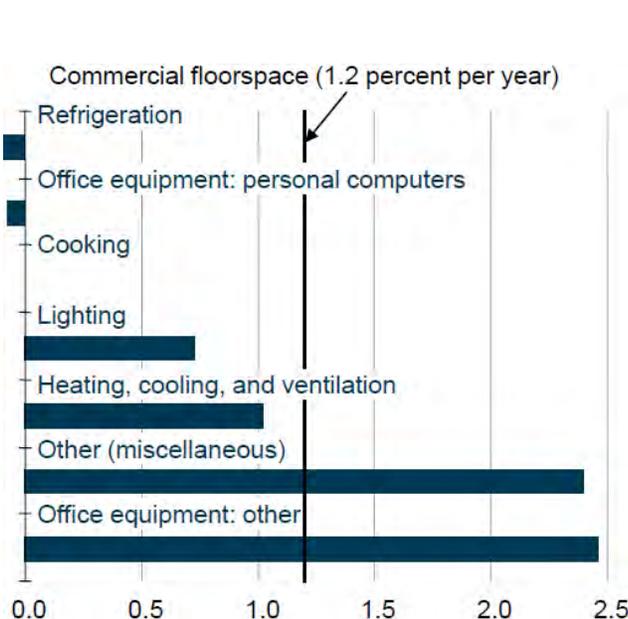


Figure 19: Average Annual Growth Rates for selected electricity end uses in the commercial sector, 2009-2035 (percent per year)

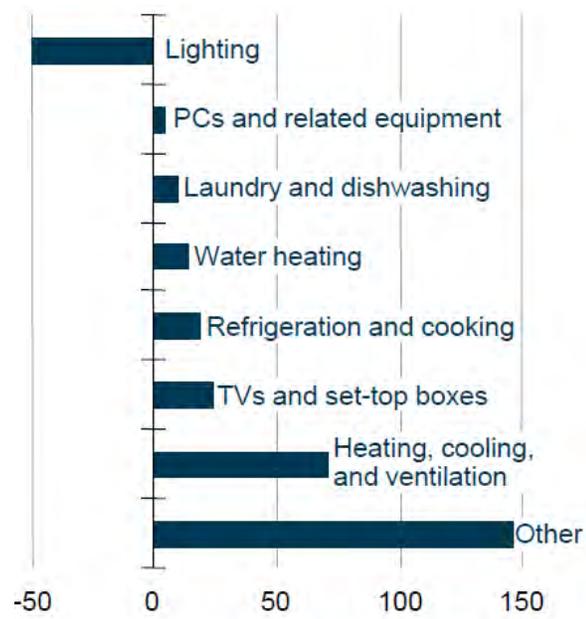


Figure 20: Change in residential electricity consumption for selected end uses in the Reference case, 2009 - 2035 (billion kWh).

Source: US 2011 Annual Energy Outlook

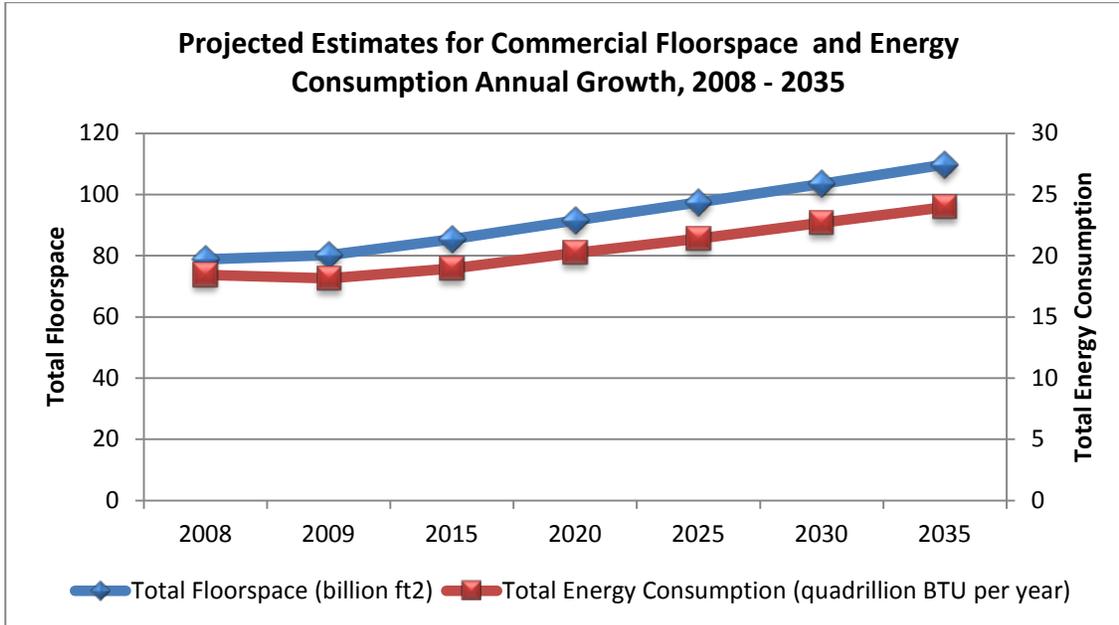


Figure 21: Projected Estimates for Commercial Floorspace and Energy Consumption Annual Growth in US, 2008-2035.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration | Annual Energy Outlook 2011. Table A5.

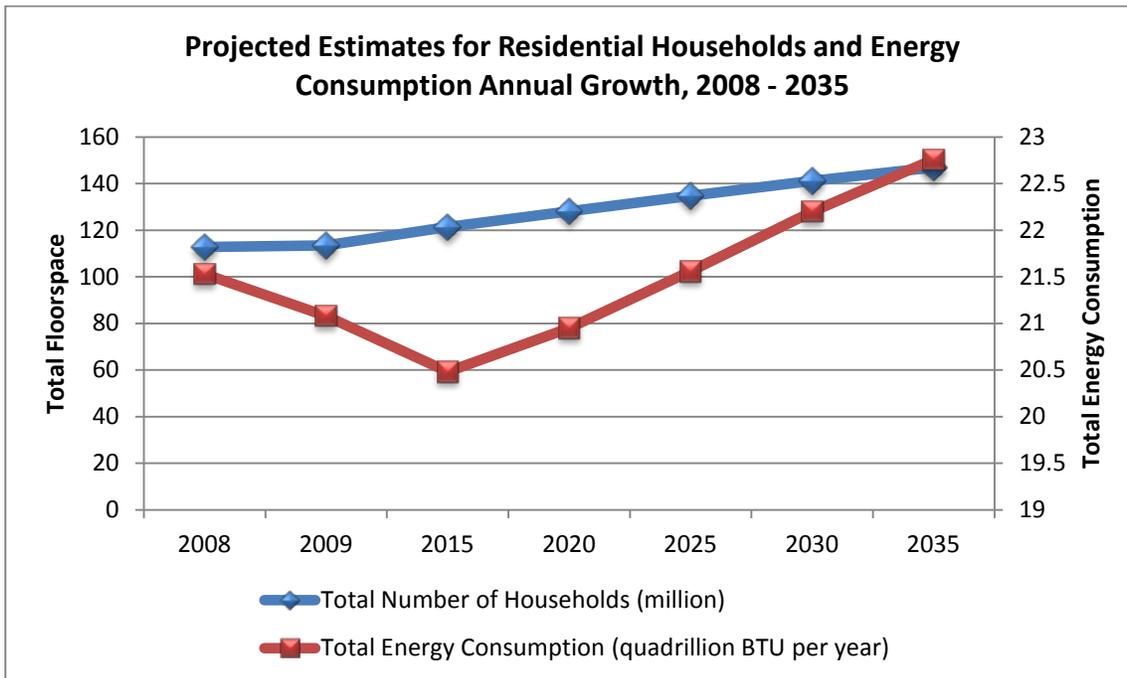


Figure 22: Projected Estimates for Residential Households and Energy Consumption Annual Growth in US, 2008-2035.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration | Annual Energy Outlook 2011. Table A4.



## 7.2 US Energy Prices Projected to 2035

### US Electricity Price Growth

Based on the 2011 Annual Energy Outlook, the average annual electricity prices (2009 dollars) fell 6 percent from 2009 to 2011. Through 2021 prices remain low in response to lower coal and natural gas prices, and the phase-out of competitive transition and system upgrade charges included in transmission and distribution costs. After 2021, rising fuel costs more than offset the lower transmission and distribution costs. Economic growth leads to more demand for electricity and the fuels used for generation, raising the prices of both. Overall US average electricity prices rise from 2010 to 2035 at a rate of 2% per year.

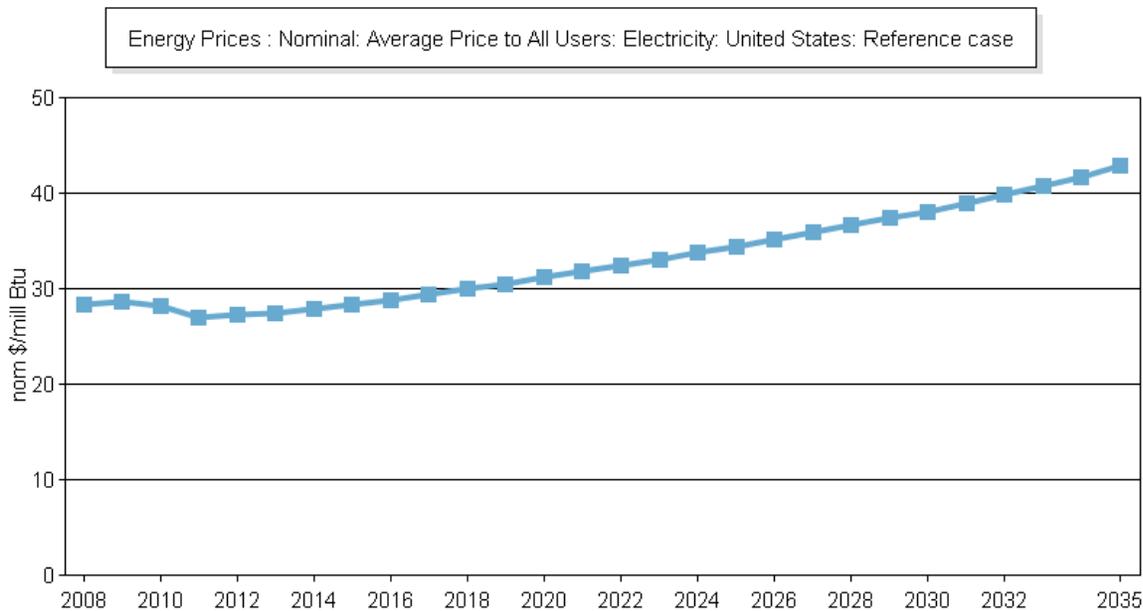


Figure 23: Nominal Average Electricity Price Projections for US, 2008-2035.

Source: US Energy Information Administration. September 2011.

### US Natural Gas Price Growth

Unlike crude oil prices, natural gas prices do not return to the higher levels recorded before the 2007-2009 recession. To satisfy consumption levels in the Reference case, the number of lower 48 natural gas wells completed increases by 2.3 percent per year from 2009 to 2035. As a result, the average wellhead price for natural gas increases by an average of 2.1 percent per year, to \$6.26 per million Btu in 2035 (2009 dollars). Henry Hub prices increase by 2.3 percent per year, to \$7.07 per million Btu in 2035. Nonetheless, the Henry Hub price and average wellhead prices do not pass \$5.00 per million Btu until 2020 and 2024, respectively.



# THERMAL LOAD AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

Energy Prices : Nominal: Average Price to All Users: Natural Gas: United States: Reference case

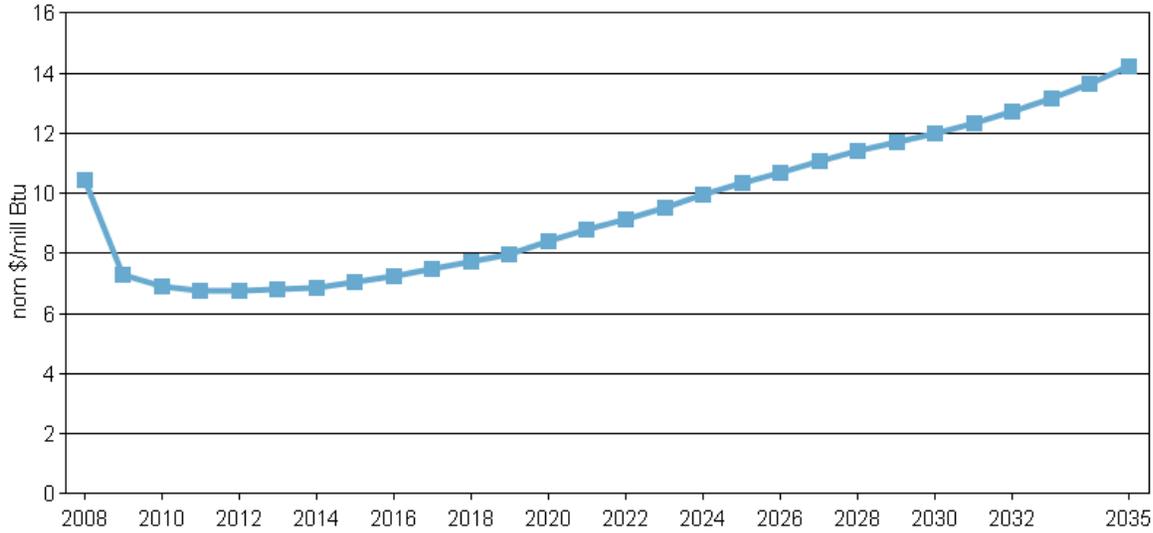


Figure 24: Nominal Average Natural Gas Prices Projections for US, 2008-2035.

Source: US Energy Information Administration. September 2011.

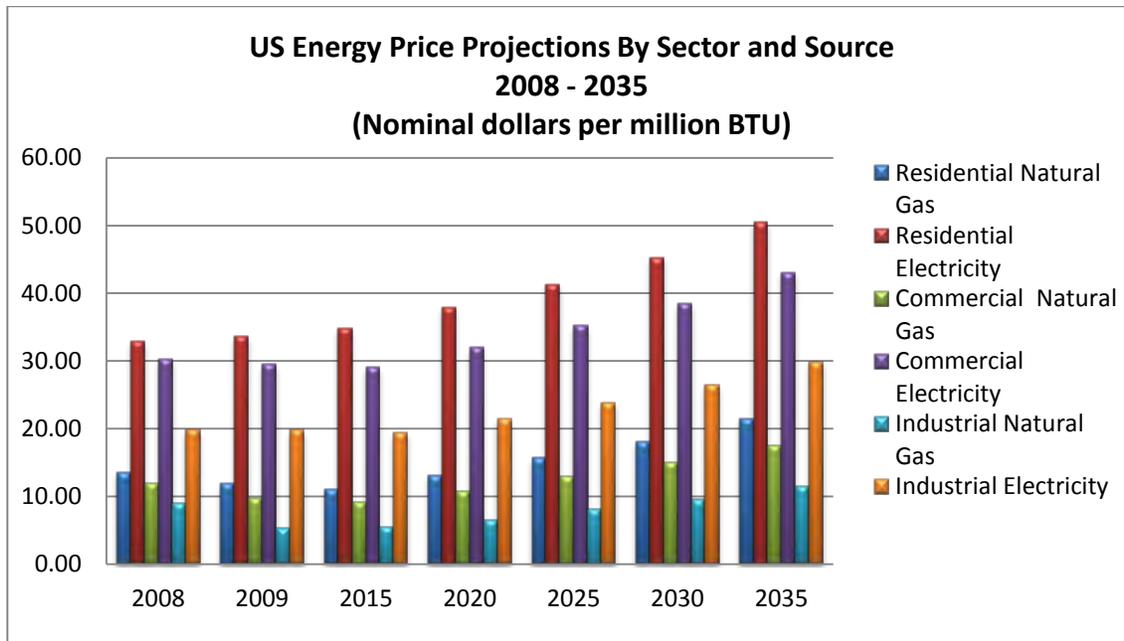


Figure 25: US Energy Price Projections By Sector and Source, 2008-2035.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration | Annual Energy Outlook 2011. Table 3A.



### 7.3 Maryland Energy Prices Projected to 2035

EIA projects regional electricity and natural gas prices through 2035. The current 25-year forecast predicts that the cost of conventional electricity will be relatively flat over the next 25 years (-0.1% annual growth rate). Predictions of natural gas prices indicate a minor increase over the next 25 years, with the average annual growth of 0.4%. This estimate assumes increased use of renewable energy and moderate growth in consumption.

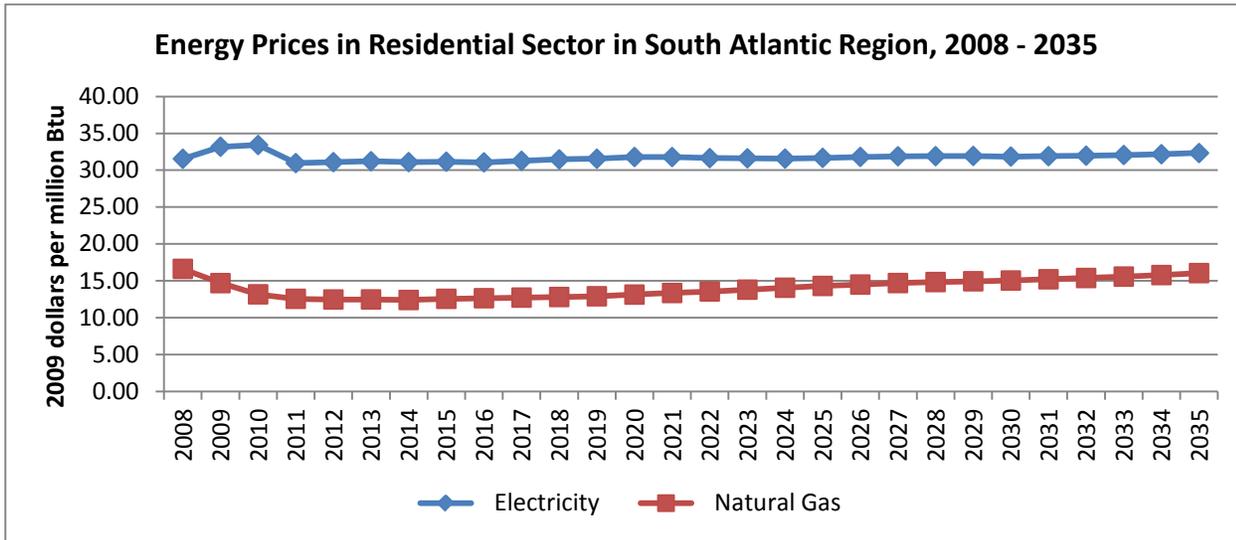


Figure 26: Annual Retail Price for Electricity in Residential Sector in South Atlantic region.

Source: 2011 Annual Energy Outlook Supplemental tables.

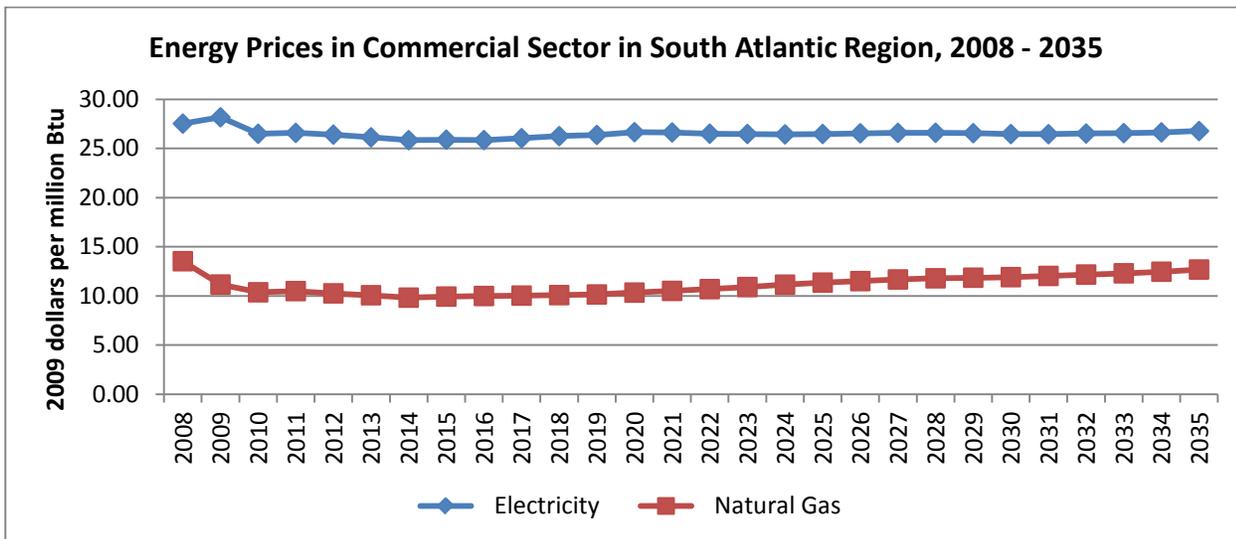


Figure 27: Annual Retail Price of Electricity in Commercial Sector in South Atlantic region.

Source: 2011 Annual Energy Outlook Supplemental tables.



### 7.4 Geothermal Energy Use Projected to 2035

In accordance with the 2011 Annual Energy Outlook<sup>25</sup>, the number of homes heated by ground-source heat pumps (GSHPs) increases by more than 19 percent per year from 2009 to 2016 in the Reference case, then slows to 3 percent per year after the Federal investment tax credit (ITC) expires. In 2035, GSHPs account for 2.3 percent of all heating systems installed in single-family homes (Figure 28). In the Extended Policies case, however, sustained tax credits lead to a continued 8.8-percent average annual increase in total installations, from 389,000 units in 2009 to 3,504,000 units in 2035, when GSHPs make up 3.4 percent of all residential heating systems.

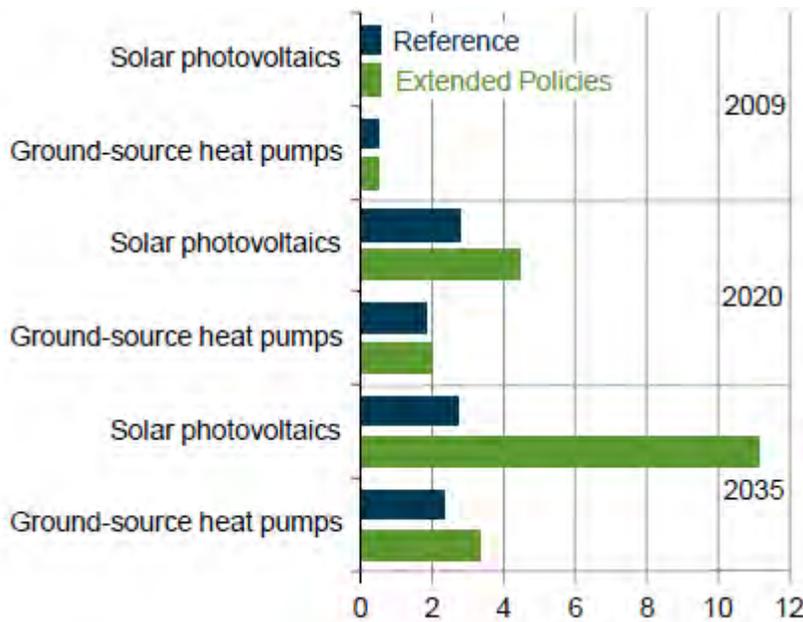


Figure 28: Residential market saturation by renewable technologies in two cases, 2009, 2020, and 2035 (percent share of single-family homes).

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration | Annual Energy Outlook 2011

<sup>25</sup> U.S. Energy Information Administration | Annual Energy Outlook 2011



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## Report Signature Page

### GOLDER ASSOCIATES LTD.

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Senior consultant, Geothermal

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brent B. Waters".

Brent Waters, C.P.G.  
Associate and Senior Consultant

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# ATTACHMENT

## Report III - Applications



January 2012

## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

# Application of Geothermal Energy to Buildings and Developments in Charles County Maryland

**Submitted to:**

Charles County Government  
Department of Planning & Growth Management  
200 Baltimore Street, P.O. Box 2160,  
La Plata, MD  
20646



REPORT III



**Report Number:** 10-1151-0408 - 3

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### APPENDICES

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Institutional Building Geothermal Case Studies

#### APPENDIX C

Geothermal District Energy System Case Study - Ball State University

#### APPENDIX D

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Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Tax Incentives Federal and State Energy Tax Programs



### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To date two reports have been presented to the government of Charles County, Maryland: “*Review of Geothermal Systems for Charles County Maryland*” (April 2011) and “*Analysis of Building Thermal Loads and Geothermal Resources for Charles County, Maryland*” (November 2011). This third and final report “*Applications of Geothermal Energy to Buildings and Developments in Charles County, Maryland*” (January 2012) applies the information gathered in the first two reports to develop concepts and scenarios of community geothermal energy systems for Charles County to consider implementing in the types of buildings typical to the area. The report also develops high level design concepts for installation of Geothermal District Energy Systems in Waldorf Urban Area and in Homefield planned subdivision.

This report contains a section on estimating geothermal system costs and savings and starts to build a framework for assessing building suitability and compatibility for conversion to geothermal energy or for original design as a geothermal building. The report explains the significance of adopting the principal of integrated design and the importance of design team collaboration in order to fully capture opportunities for increased energy efficiency and optimize geothermal system and overall building performance. The economics of a geothermal system are discussed and a working model is developed for use in assessing the energy and cost savings of a geothermal project. A CD containing the Excel file for this model is included with this report.

RETScreen Clean Energy Analysis software is used to develop seven (7) scenarios for installation of geothermal systems. Individual buildings are considered and modeled for both vertical and horizontal closed-loop geothermal systems, and under financial conditions of no debt and moderate debt leverage. Analysis for Homefield Geothermal District Energy System Phase I and Phase II is also presented. The business cases are presented in this report. Printouts of the RETScreen analysis reports for all scenarios are included in Appendix I and live RETScreen files are included on the CD included with this report.

Several case studies are included both in the body of the report and in the Appendix to illustrate examples of various applications of geothermal energy.

Finally, observations and conclusions are presented for each of the segments of this report.



### REPORT LIMITATIONS

This report (the “Report”) was prepared for the exclusive use of Charles County Government, Maryland to support its internal discussions and evaluation of the potential feasibility of geothermal systems.

The Report is intended to provide applications of geothermal energy to buildings typical to Charles County, Maryland. The Report is based on publicly available information, on information provided by Charles County government, and on the experience of Golder, and must be considered in its entirety. It is also based on discussions with representatives of Charles County, as reported herein. No rock, soil, water, liquid, gas, product or chemical sampling and analytical testing were conducted as part of this Work.

In preparing the Report, Golder has relied in good faith on information provided by other individuals, companies or government agencies noted in the Report. Golder has assumed that the information provided is factual and accurate and Golder has not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of such information. Golder accepts no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this Report as a result of omissions, misinterpretations or fraudulent acts of others. Golder makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the financial significance of its opinions, or as to legal matters touched on in this Report. With respect to our discussion of regulations and incentives, these are subject to periodic amendment and interpretation and these interpretations may change over time.

The scope of Golder’s review is described in this Report, and is subject to restrictions, assumptions and limitations. Except as noted herein, the work was conducted in accordance with the scope, terms and conditions of Golder’s Proposal P0-1151-0408 dated October 26, 2010, RFP No. 11-08 Community Geothermal Study as accepted by Contract signed by Mr. Brent Waters, Managing Associate, Golder Associates Inc. Richmond, Virginia and Ms. Candice Quinn Kelly, President for Charles County Commissioners, Charles County Maryland on January 21, 2011. Golder’s opinions are based upon information that existed at the time of the writing of the Report. It is understood that the services provided for in the scope of work allowed Golder to form no more than an opinion of the potential feasibility of geothermal energy systems. Any use which a third party makes of this Report, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the sole responsibility of the third parties. Should additional parties require reliance on this Report, written authorization from Golder will be required. Golder disclaims responsibility of consequential financial effects on transactions or property values, or requirements for follow-up actions and costs.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, or the limitations set herein, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Context

Charles County, Maryland has a 2011 population of approximately 146,000 people and covers over 294,000 acres of land bordered by the Potomac River to the west, the Wicomico River and Saint Mary's County Maryland to the southeast, and Prince George's County Maryland to the north. According to Countywide population projections developed by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) in 2008, St. Charles County is expected to grow by an average of 1.7 percent per year, or 45 percent overall from 140,764 people in 2008 to a population of approximately 204,200 people by 2030<sup>1</sup>. This represents an increase of approximately 64,436 people requiring an addition of approximately 24,173 residential dwellings. When this growth is added to the 2008 housing stock of 53,327 units, a projected total of 77,500 residential units will be needed by 2030.<sup>2</sup> In 2002, approximately 17% of the land area in the County was "developed". Population growth projections and development scenarios, described in the Charles County Comprehensive Plan Water Resources Element dated July 2010 (Draft WRE), have been adopted for the purposes of this study in order to create consistency and form a basis for comparison.

Golder has conducted a Charles County Community Geothermal Study (11-08) beginning in February 2011. A Preliminary Report "*Review of Geothermal Systems for Charles County Maryland*" ("Report I") was prepared by Golder and submitted, in April 2011. That report provided a broad overview of geothermal technology and presented a review of fundamental geothermal system designs and configurations, discussed practical project implementation and provided an overview of government regulations and incentives.

A Second Report "*Analysis of Building Thermal Loads and Geothermal Resources for Charles County Maryland*" ("Report II") was prepared by Golder and submitted in October 2011. The second report assessed Charles County, specifically evaluating first the current existing and planned building developments and building structure types to determine the need or demand for thermal energy, and second, evaluated the extent and nature and capacity of the geothermal resources available in Charles County. Specific sites of interest were selected and were evaluated in greater detail to highlight opportunities that could possibly deliver highly favorable technical and financial outcomes with the greatest amount of positive economic and environmental impact.

This Third Report applies information developed in Reports I & II to provide the business case for geothermal energy for scenarios including individual buildings, Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Area, and Homefield residential subdivision, including recommendations for each specific scenario. It includes a module on how to economically and financially assess geothermal projects (working Excel model). In summary, this report attempts to develop a high level strategy for geothermal project planning and implementation. It provides an overview of how Charles County Government can move forward to incentive geothermal energy, from strategy, policy and marketing standpoint. A Final Report will incorporate the three reports to form a Comprehensive Study Report.

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<sup>1</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 4 (Source: MDP, 2008 Estimates for Maryland's Jurisdictions)

<sup>2</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 5 (Source: Maryland Property View, 2008)



### 1.2 Objectives of this Report

The main objective of this report is to build the business case for geothermal energy in Charles County, Maryland. Specific building types will be addressed first, with technical, implementation, economic and policy recommendations. The planned new construction of Homefield subdivision is addressed with the development of concept plans for both distributed and central geothermal systems using internationally accepted energy simulation software. These concepts are then further developed into business cases with implementation, economic and policy recommendations. The redevelopment of the Waldorf Urban area is also addressed with the development of a concept plan for a central geothermal system, installed as a retrofit to existing buildings and extended to new construction planned within the area. Together these segments are summarized to provide Charles County with a working template that will assist the implementation of a county wide strategy for geothermal energy installation. Benefits to the County from geothermal energy implementation include: reduced energy cost, reduced dependence on coal fired electricity, increased energy security, cleaner air, reduced green house gas emissions, higher property values, more attractive (while controlled) development opportunities, new local sources of revenue, increased local skilled job opportunities, and national leadership in community sustainability development.

Report objectives are:

- Prescribe geothermal system technologies for various building structure types, as applicable to Charles County
- Develop and support implementation, economic and policy recommendations for each structure type
- Develop geothermal system concept plans, distributed and central for Homefield subdivision
- Develop business cases for each Homefield concept plan
- Recommend implementation strategies, economic and ownership options, and incentive policies
- Develop geothermal concept plan and central plant configuration for Waldorf Urban area
- Discuss implementation for redevelopment and retrofit circumstances
- Develop the business case for Waldorf Urban area concept plan
- Summarize recommendations for a County-wide strategy for implementation of geothermal energy systems
- Develop the supporting case for the benefits of geothermal energy implementation in Charles County

### 1.3 Scope of Work

Golder has performed this study on a high level in order to provide a broad overview that can assist the government of Charles County with strategic planning of population growth and urban development as it relates to energy supply. Examples of building types were drawn from national and local information data bases and no site work was performed in the course of this study. Homefield subdivision and Waldorf Urban area were identified and used as examples of district energy system opportunities: Homefield as a



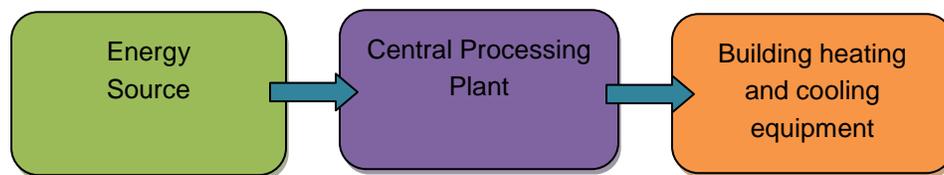
new construction with low density residential use and Waldorf Urban area as a redevelopment with mid density commercial and residential mixed use.

None of the design concepts are intended to be used for detailed development planning. They are representative and should be used as strategic indicators to identify areas that are attractive to the government of Charles County; areas which can become the subjects of further investigation and more detailed study.

The geothermal technology applications that are considered in this report are limited to those that have been installed in North America and are applicable to residential, commercial and multi-residential building development, typically found in Charles County. This report does not provide an exhaustive survey of hybrid technology configurations that may be possible or innovations being developed.

## 2.0 ESTIMATING GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM COSTS AND SAVINGS

In all building heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, there are always three components: one or more sources of energy, a central thermal energy processing plant, and in-building heating and cooling distribution equipment. This generalization is true for traditional systems which use electricity and/or natural gas and also for renewable energy systems, whether solar, geothermal or any other source of energy. The relative size of each of the three components can be very different for different types of systems, but the same three processes are required to heat and cool an interior space. While there are many variations of both old and new systems, in all cases, the three components must be compatible. This means that temperature ranges produced by the central processing plant must be suitable for the building heating and cooling equipment to operate effectively. It also means that parts and fittings are standard and that the three components are configured to be as efficient as possible. Energy efficiency has increased significantly over the past ten years, so that equipment older than ten years is costlier to operate than new equipment.



*Figure 1: Three Components of a Building HVAC System*

### 2.1 Traditional Building HVAC Systems

Traditional building HVAC systems need to be considered for three reasons:

1. Provide a business-as-usual reference scenario
2. Existing traditional HVAC buildings are being considered for retrofit
3. Default scenario, if geothermal system is not available or feasible

Traditional building HVAC systems consist of two separate systems, one for heating and one for cooling. Each has separate energy sources, separate processing plants and separate distribution equipment,



except for ductwork which they use in common. Heating distribution equipment accepts only high-grade heat, about 160°F, which is typically produced by an electric or natural gas fed boiler. When mechanical engineers design these systems, since the heating and cooling are completely independent of each other, each is sized separately, with no correlation. In fact, many buildings have only heating and no cooling at all. The sizes of the processing plants are often much larger than the loads of the building require, because engineers want to be “on the safe side” and larger equipment cost very little more. With most of the life cycle cost of a traditional HVAC system spent on variable cost energy input, the added fixed cost of larger equipment makes little difference to the total lifecycle cost.

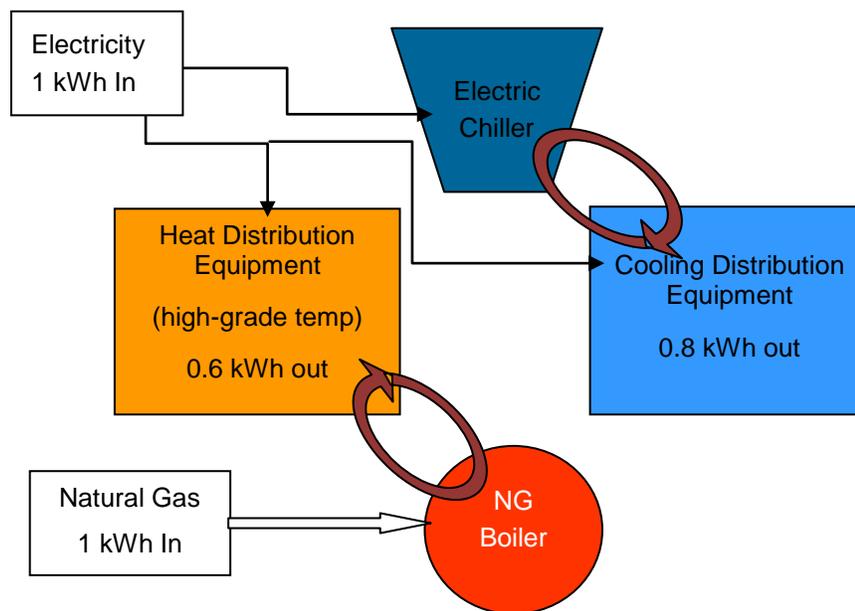


Figure 2: Components of a Traditional Commercial Building Natural Gas HVAC System

In a traditional building HVAC system, on a lifecycle analysis basis, the capital cost of the Energy Source is zero, the capital cost of the Central Processing Plant is perhaps 5%, the building HVAC equipment is perhaps 15% and the variable cost of fuel and maintenance is perhaps 80% of the total lifecycle costs.

## 2.2 Geothermal HVAC Systems

Every geothermal system consists of the same three components called the ground loop heat exchanger or geothermal ground system (energy source), a central pumping plant usually housed in the basement of the building and the in-building heating and cooling distribution equipment, usually heat pumps that produce both heating and cooling on demand. Alternatively, the building heating and cooling distribution equipment can be fan coils that produce heat when the central plant is set to heating (winter) and cooling when the central plant is set to cooling (summer). In this case, individual suites have control of temperature within either the heating range or the cooling range, but not both at the same time. In all cases, the heat distribution equipment accepts only low-grade heat, usually about 120°F.

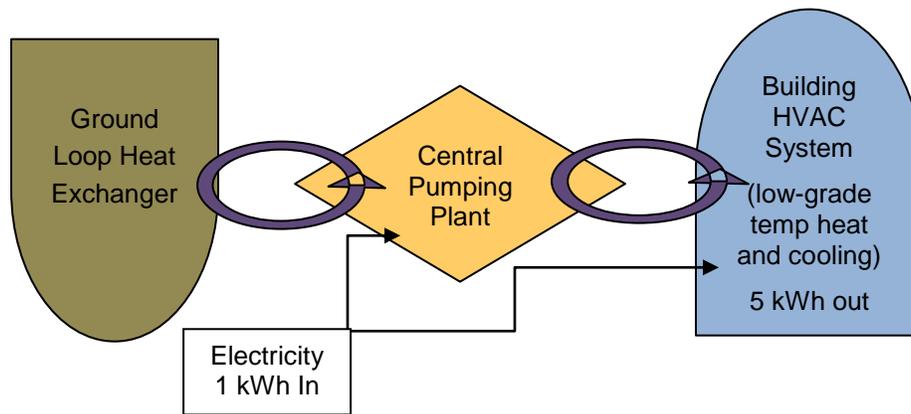


Figure 3: Components of a Commercial Building Geothermal HVAC System

If a geothermal system is designed and constructed from scratch, then all three components are integrated and should be optimized to the right sizes, without excess in any part of the system. Heating and cooling loads of the building are balanced by adding or subtracting discretionary loads in the building's mechanical system design. This balance of annual heating consumption with annual cooling consumption is important from two points of view, first to ensure the ground geothermal system charges and discharges completely so that heat is not either built up or depleted, year over year resulting in a gradual change the performance of the system over time and secondly, so that the total amount of energy produced by the geothermal system is used to economic benefit, and not wasted thereby offsetting the cost of the system sooner.

With the fixed cost of a geothermal system being the largest portion of the lifecycle cost, it is very important to not oversize the system. It therefore follows that building envelope improvements to increase energy efficiency should be measured against the cost of an increased size geothermal system. Buildings built to the current U.S. national building code standard (refer to *Section 2.4.4, Building Code Standards*) usually require geothermal systems of a size that will payback in energy savings within 7 to 9 years. Older buildings that may or may not even meet the 1989 national building code standard are likely to require much larger geothermal systems and will have paybacks that are much longer, perhaps 10 to 15 years.

In a geothermal system building, on a lifecycle analysis basis, the capital cost of the energy source or in this case ground infrastructure, is perhaps 45%, the capital cost of the central processing plant is perhaps 5%, the building HVAC equipment is perhaps 18%, and the variable cost of fuel and maintenance is perhaps 32% of the total lifecycle costs. Over 20 years, the total lifecycle cost of a geothermal system could be approximately 15% to 20% less than a traditional HVAC system. Over longer terms, such as 30 years, the total lifecycle cost of a geothermal system will be approximately 35% less than a traditional system and continue to save more every year thereafter, as the geothermal ground infrastructure is expected to have a useful life equal to that of the building.

### 2.3 Decision Factors – Traditional vs. Geothermal HVAC Systems

In order to estimate the cost of any HVAC system, each of the three components of the system must be considered separately because the costs of each component are determined by different factors. The



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

table below identifies some of the most critical considerations, whether considering a new construction project or the retrofit of an existing facility. The shaded areas are factors that must exist for geothermal to be considered.

**Table 1: Decision Factors for the Three Components of an HVAC System – Traditional Electric or Natural Gas System vs. Geothermal System**

	Traditional HVAC System	Geothermal System
<b>Energy Source</b>	No land required – electricity or natural gas delivered to building.	Land required to construct ground loop heat exchanger ~ 90 sq. ft. / ton, vertical (600') ~1000 sq. ft. / ton, horizontal
	No capital cost > no cash required, cost of capital is not a factor	High capital cost for ground loop heat exchanger > cash availability & cost of capital are important, system useful life = building useful life, government incentives and preferential tax treatments may be significant,
	High volumes of fossil fuels and electricity > variable price, variable volume, dependant on weather	Low volume of electricity > variable price, constant volume, not dependant on weather
	High peak loads can add demand charges and high cost	No peak loads, lower demand charges and lower cost
	Price of propane, oil, natural gas can be volatile	No fossil fuel price volatility
	All additional loads require additional fossil fuel / electricity consumption	Additional loads may be satisfied free i.e. excess heat can provide snow melt, heated parking, swimming pool heat, etc. Excess cooling can cool corridors, common areas, skating rinks
	Domestic Hot Water produced separately, additional cost	25% to 50% of Domestic Hot Water is free, a by-product of cooling and super heating in normal cycle, full load can be satisfied with additional ground loop heat exchange
<b>Central thermal energy processing plant</b>	Produces high grade heat - 160°F	Requires low-grade heat - 120°F



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	Traditional HVAC System	Geothermal System
	What is the residual value of existing HVAC equipment? 20 years? 10 years? Some parts old, some new? No value?	25 year useful life
	What is the existing equipment maintenance condition	New
	Physical space required is large, basement & rooftop	Physical space required is small, basement (penthouse if necessary)
	Efficiency ~ 50% - 65%?	Efficiency ~ 500% (COP 5)?
	Imbalanced heating and cooling annual loads	Balanced heating and cooling annual loads
	Sized for highest peak equipment loads – usually total of installed equipment capacities (often much larger than building loads)	Sized for approx. 70% - 85% of peak building loads – total of building concurrent block loads
	Cost is competitive, useful life is approx. 20 years	Cost is competitive but approx. 15% higher, useful life is 25+ years
	Maintenance is high, exposed to weather on the roof, staff required to operate and maintain	Maintenance is very low (up to 60% lower), no exposure to weather, reduced staff to operate and maintain
<b>In-building heating and cooling distribution equipment</b>	Typically requires high-grade (160°F) heat input	Requires low-grade (120°F) heat input
	Hydronic piping exists?	Hydronic piping required to connect. If an existing building, piping must be in good condition or needs to be remediated.
	Is there existing residual value? 20 years? 10 years? Some units old, some new? No value?	New – 25 year life
	Existing equipment operating & maintenance condition? Cost of remediation?	New - none
	Replacement cost low (\$500 - \$1000/ unit)	New heat pump cost high (\$1000 - \$2000 / unit), New fan coils a little more than traditional (20% larger size)



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

	Traditional HVAC System	Geothermal System
	Ongoing maintenance high	Ongoing maintenance minimal, heat pumps require very little
	Independent air conditioning system may or may not exist	Air conditioning is provided by same equipment as heating
	Window air conditioners are noisy, inefficient, ineffective, create air leaks often in summer and winter if not removed and building penetration sealed and insulated	No window air conditioners allowed
	Is the space occupied or vacant?	Short term disruption to install

Can a geothermal system be retrofitted to a traditional HVAC system? In most cases it is very difficult. In the simplest of circumstances, where a traditional fossil fuel fed boiler is connected to in-suite fan coils, and it is switched from winter heating mode to summer cooling mode, then a ground loop heat exchanger can be connected to the boiler to provide it with 55°F water all year around, which relative to the outside air temperature, is warm in the winter and cool in the summer. This relative temperature can be increased to 85°F and decreased to 34°F seasonally by installing additional central processing equipment in the form of water-to-water heat pumps. But the fan coils throughout the building require 160°F in winter to effectively heat the building and so fossil fuel is still required to boost the highest efficient temperature of the water-to-water heat pumps, to the set design temperature of the building equipment. The cost of installing a ground loop heat exchanger and adding central water-to-water heat pumps is offset by the savings from only a portion of the total energy the building requires. The geothermal system is only as large as required by the load it is satisfying, so the cost is relative to its size.

In other buildings that have only electric heat, and no HVAC connected hydronic pipe system built into the building structure, retrofitting a geothermal system is usually not feasible. There are cases where piping has been installed on the exterior of the building or run through elevator shafts and through false ceilings, but generally the cost of installing such systems is prohibitive. There simply is no space available into which heat pumps or fan coils can be installed, not to mention the disruption to occupants during construction. If the building is being vacated and completely gutted, then geothermal systems do make sense, and are considered as though they were being installed into new construction.

### 2.4 Economic Logic and Assumptions

The economics of evaluating a geothermal system are dependent on many complex variables that keep mechanical engineers well employed. The task involves translation of measurements into common denominators that can then be used mathematically to produce logical metrics for sizing systems and equipment and for decision making. This is where many hours of discussion often ensue, because there is no standard of logic, each consultant and each engineering design team may argue a different logic. To complicate the discussion further, widely varying assumptions are applied making comparison of one



project analysis to another often meaningless. Below are some of the logic and assumptions that influence the economic analysis of the business case for (and against) geothermal systems.

### 2.4.1 Measurement of Energy Input and Output

Electricity is expressed as a kilowatt hour (kWh).

In order to express the total energy input and output of an energy system, propane, oil and other fossil fuels are converted to watts and kilowatt hour equivalent, expressed as kWhe, using the following factors:

$$1 \text{ kWh} = 3412.142 \text{ BTU (British Thermal Units)}$$

$$3.412 \text{ kWh} = 1 \text{ MBTU (thousand BTU, per hour is implied)}$$

### 2.4.2 Measurement of Natural Gas Volume

Natural gas (NG) is purchased in cubic feet which is a fixed volume metric. However the amount of energy measured in British Thermal Units (BTUs) contained in a cubic foot of natural gas changes with barometric pressure, as the gas expands and contracts. Natural gas is purchased at the well head in Gigajoules (GJs) and converted to cubic feet by applying the barometric pressure as a heat factor, literally every 15 minutes, causing the price of natural gas to be in constant flux (apart from price fluctuation from supply and demand) with significant changes between summer and winter.

$$\text{NG } 1000 \text{ ft}^3 = 1.055 \text{ GJs (at } 59^\circ\text{F)} = 1.000 \text{ MBTU}$$

$$\text{NG } 1 \text{ kWhe} = 3.412 \text{ MBTU} \times 1000 \text{ ft}^3/\text{MBTU} = 3412 \text{ ft}^3$$

Similarly, oil and propane are also sold by volume and must be converted to energy (BTUs).

### 2.4.3 Measurement of Building Energy Use Intensity

Buildings, depending on materials used and the properties of energy efficient construction (or lack thereof), can require widely different volumes of energy to maintain a the same level of interior thermal comfort, arguably at approximately 72°F in the winter and 75°F in the summer. Building Codes and construction materials and techniques have drastically improved in the past twenty years. Therefore older buildings tend to have higher rates of energy use intensity (EUI) or energy use per floor area, expressed as kWh/ft<sup>2</sup>, if all electricity or kWhe/ft<sup>2</sup>, if other fossil fuels. Note that the term “equivalent” indicates that a mathematical conversion calculation has occurred, signaling users to investigate the assumptions and calculations applied.

EUI is a measured absolute value. It is the average amount of energy the building consumes per square foot of occupied space. It reflects all the energy attributes of a building collectively, the building envelope, its HVAC system, lighting, etc. Improvement or deterioration of any one building factor will affect the overall building energy use intensity measurement sometimes calculated by the sum of all energy consumed (all utility bills, natural gas and electricity, common and sub-metered).

EUI is very important when evaluating building energy systems and sources. If buildings are built to older standards, then they will require more energy and larger energy systems. If buildings are yet to be built to future standards, then less energy and smaller energy systems should be considered.

Building EUI is regulated by state Building Codes, which are enforced by local municipal building



departments. Some states and some municipalities set local Building Code requirements to exceed the federal and state Building Code standard requirements.

### 2.4.4 Building Code Standards

Since the late 1980's, national Building Code Standards have increasingly required better building insulation and reduced energy consumption resulting in declining building EUI factors. In the US, building code standards for commercial buildings are recommended by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) / American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) / Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) Standard 90.1. In its role established by the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA, 42 USC 6833), the Department of Energy (DOE) determines whether revisions to the ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1 would improve energy efficiency in commercial buildings.

The determination is based on analysis by the Building Energy Codes Program and is required by Section 304 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (EPCA, Public Law 94-163), as modified by the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct 1992). DOE has one year to publish the determination after the newest edition of the code is approved. Determination results are published in the Federal Register. If DOE finds that the newest version of Standard 90.1 is more energy efficient than the previous version, states are required by the Energy Policy Act to certify that their building energy codes meet the requirements of the new Standard within two years. (EPCA requirements for State building codes do not explicitly require adoption of Standard 90.1 or specific addenda, rather the overall updated building code efficiency must be equivalent to that of the latest edition of Standard 90.1 for which DOE issued a positive determination). State building codes will be required to be at least equivalent to the Standard 90.1-2010, beginning in October 2013.

On September 3, 2010, DOE issued a final positive determination of energy savings for Standard 90.1-2007, which concluded that Standard 90.1-2007 “would achieve greater energy efficiency in buildings subject to the code, than the 2004 edition (Standard 90.1-2004 or the 2004 edition)” (75 FR 54117). Consequently, DOE has determined that Standard 90.1-2007 represents the baseline to which Standard 90.1-2010 requirements are compared for the purpose of a determination of energy savings for Standard 90.1-2010. Citing research performed by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory<sup>3</sup>, DOE has determined that buildings built to Standard 90.1-2010 will be on average, 18.2% more energy efficient than if built to Standard 90.1-2007. This is a construction volume weighted average of 16 building types in 15 climate zones. The following table<sup>4</sup> illustrates the U.S. national estimated percent energy savings with 2010 standard edition, vs. the 2007 edition, by building type:

<sup>3</sup> ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2010 Final Determination Quantitative Analysis, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy, PNNL-20882, October 2011

<sup>4</sup> ANSI/ASHRAE/IES Standard 90.1-2010 Final Determination Quantitative Analysis, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory for the U.S. Department of Energy, PNNL-20882, October 2011, Section 11 Results, page 29, Table 7.



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Building Type	Building Prototype	Building Type Floor Area Weight %	Percent Savings in Whole Building Energy Use Intensity (%)		
			Site EUI	Source EUI	ECI
Office	Small Office	5.61	16.1	16.4	16.4
	Medium Office	6.05	22.1	24.4	24.4
	Large Office	3.33	22.3	21.5	21.5
Retail	Stand-Alone Retail	15.25	26.1	24.7	24.7
	Strip Mall	5.67	16.8	18.9	18.9
Education	Primary School	4.99	24.2	20.8	20.8
	Secondary School	10.36	26.7	23.3	23.2
Healthcare	Outpatient Health Care	4.37	22.6	22.2	22.2
	Hospital	3.45	24.5	20.1	20.1
Lodging	Small Hotel	1.72	5.9	7.7	7.7
	Large Hotel	4.95	11.0	10.5	10.5
Warehouse	Non-Refrigerated Warehouse	16.72	20.7	23.1	23.1
Food Service	Fast Food Restaurant	0.59	5.1	8.6	8.6
	Sit-Down Restaurant	0.66	13.5	19.3	19.4
Apartment	Mid-Rise Apartment	7.32	6.8	4.4	4.4
	High-Rise Apartment	8.97	7.2	4.5	4.5
National		100	18.5	18.2	18.2

Figure 4: Estimated Percent Energy Savings with Standard 90.1-2010 vs. Standard 90.1-2007, by building type

For residential buildings, the applicable standard, the International Energy Conservation Code® (IECC)<sup>5</sup> is analyzed by the DOE against the previous version. Results are published in the Federal Register. If the analysis shows that the revised code is more energy efficient than the earlier code, each state is required to certify that it has reviewed its residential building energy code regarding energy efficiency and made a decision as to whether it is appropriate for that state to revise its residential building code to meet or exceed the revised code.

The US Green Building Council uses this same reference for measuring the energy efficiency of buildings under consideration for LEED® certification. Energy building modeling software EE4 (US DOE) and the internationally recognized RETScreen, both use the Standard 90.1 and IECC as U.S. references for business-as-usual (BAU) cases. Therefore it is critical in comparing building energy efficiencies that the Reference Building be established decisively for meaningful results to be produced.

### 2.4.5 Energy Intensity Applied to Building Energy System Estimates

By looking at the amount of energy consumed for various purposes, we can estimate that energy consumed by heating and cooling in a high energy intensity building accounts for approximately 66% of the total energy consumed. Buildings with lower energy intensities are often improved by reducing energy consumption for lighting, somewhat increasing the overall percentage of the energy consumed for this purpose to approximately 68% mid energy intensity buildings and approximately 70% for low energy

<sup>5</sup> Early residential energy code was referred to as the Model Energy Code (MEC)



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intensity buildings. The following graph illustrates this concept. It also demonstrates the concept of comparing a study or *Proposed* building to a *Reference* building (ASHRAE Standard 90.1), deemed to be the same size and use, with different energy consumption and efficiency characteristics.

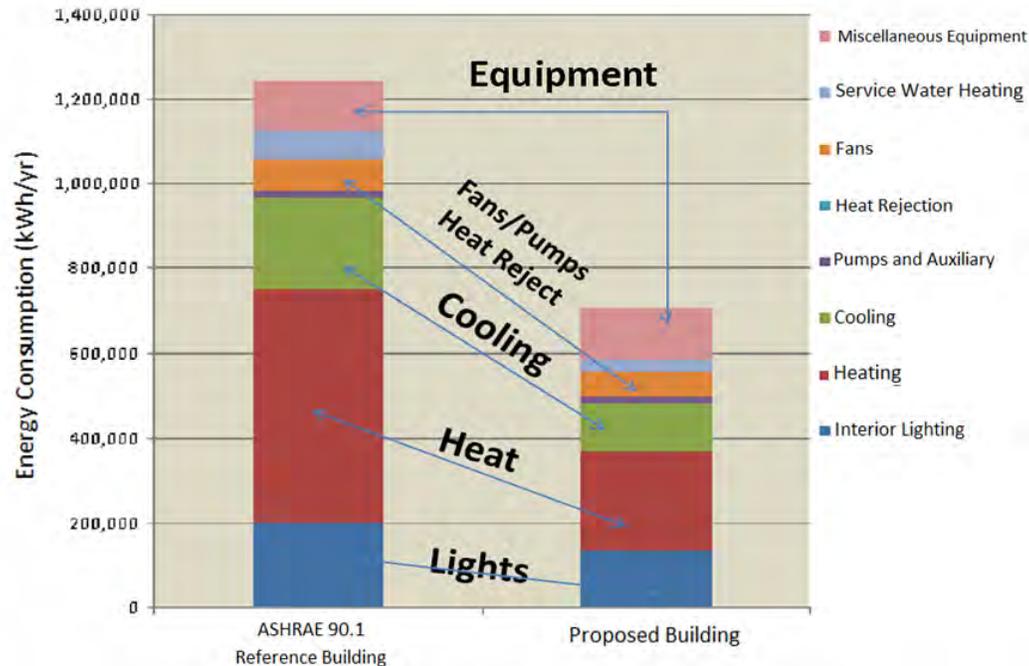


Figure 5: Energy Profile of a Reference Building vs. a Proposed Energy Efficiency Improved Building

Studies of energy intensities of buildings in certain areas are sometimes done by municipal building departments or by engineering firms for clients. The intensities used below are by example only.

Small Building	Description			Reference or Existing Building Performance		
	Energy Intensity	Structure	Total Energy	HVAC	HVAC Energy	
Type	kWhe/sf	sf	kWhe	% total energy	kWhe	
Old Bldg/no upgrades	Highest	58.5	50,000	2,925,000	66%	1,930,500
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		1,690,000	68%	1,149,200
New Bldg/full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		1,070,000	70%	749,000

Large Building	Description			Reference or Existing Building Performance		
	Energy Intensity	Structure	Total Energy	HVAC	HVAC Energy	
Type	kWhe/sf	sf	kWhe	% total energy	kWhe	
Old Bldg/no upgrades	Highest	58.5	100,000	5,850,000	66%	3,861,000
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		3,380,000	68%	2,298,400
New Bldg/full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		2,140,000	70%	1,498,000

Figure 6: Energy Profiles of Typical Commercial Office Buildings



2.4.6 Real Cost of Energy Relative to Equipment Efficiency

Price of Energy Input Assumptions:

Electricity = \$0.1434 /kWh (SMECO, 2011)

Natural Gas = \$1.91 / 100 ft.<sup>3</sup> = \$0.0191 / ft.<sup>3</sup>

Large building central energy conversion plants, commonly natural gas boilers, differ widely in energy efficiency, meaning that the volume of natural gas required to deliver the same amount of energy to the building varies greatly. Therefore, at a price for natural gas of \$0.0191/ft<sup>3</sup>, the cost to produce 1 kWhe of energy from a hypothetically 100% efficient natural gas boiler, is \$0.065 however to produce 1 kWhe of energy from an inefficient natural gas boiler operating at 50%, the real cost is \$0.1305.

Real cost of NG at \$0.0191 / ft.<sup>3</sup>, at 80% efficiency = \$0.0815 / kWhe

Real cost of NG at \$0.0191 / ft.<sup>3</sup>, at 65% efficiency = \$0.10 / kWhe

Real cost of NG at \$0.0191 / ft.<sup>3</sup>, at 50% efficiency = \$0.1305 / kWhe

Electricity is also used for both heating and cooling. Some electricity in an HVAC system is used purely to drive fans and pumps; however most of it is used for cooling. Chillers and air conditioning equipment including heat pumps improved in efficiency expressed as the SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficient Ratio) by law in 2006 from a minimum SEER 10 to SEER 13. High efficiency equipment, though more expensive, can be as high as SEER 26. However, a lot of old cooling equipment still exists in older buildings, with SEER as low as 6. Office buildings use a lot more cooling than residential buildings with high occupancy during the hottest part of the day creating additional heat and comfort for productivity requiring more cooling. Where time-of-use hydro rates apply, these occupancy characteristics make the cost of cooling in office buildings higher than for other types of buildings. In the past, cooling has sometimes been considered optional and was not installed in some buildings, so the ductwork required for cooling may not exist. Where it does exist, it is important to know the SEER of the existing equipment, to determine the potential savings of installing a geothermal system.

Capacity tons	BTU/ton	BTU/hr	SEER	kWh	\$/kWh	Cost \$/ton/hr	cooling hours	Annual cost
1	12000	12000	6	2.00	0.1434	\$ 0.287	2000	\$ 573.60
1	12000	12000	10	1.20	0.1434	\$ 0.172	2000	\$ 344.16
1	12000	12000	13	0.92	0.1434	\$ 0.132	2000	\$ 264.74
1	12000	12000	20	0.60	0.1434	\$ 0.086	2000	\$ 172.08

Figure 7: Energy Efficiency and Annual Operating Cost Comparison for Air Conditioning Equipment including Heat Pumps in Cooling Mode

2.4.7 Estimation of Operating Costs associated with HVAC Operations

Following is an estimation of HVAC system operating costs for BAU buildings either built or proposed, with electric cooling and natural gas heating. An Excel Workbook containing the model is provided on a CD, with this report, so that assumptions can be changed to produce various results.



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Small Building	Description			Reference or Existing Building Performance			Reference or Existing Building Cost for HVAC			
Type	Energy Intensity		Structure	Total Energy	HVAC	HVAC Energy	EL (30%)*	NG	NG (70%)	HVAC
	kWhe/sf	sf	kWhe	% total energy	kWhe	\$/kWh	efficiency	\$/kWhe**	\$ per year	
Old Bldg/ no upgrades	Highest	58.5	50,000	2,925,000	66%	1,930,500	\$ 0.143	50%	\$ 0.131	\$259,401
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		1,690,000	68%	1,149,200	\$ 0.143	65%	\$ 0.100	\$129,883
New Bldg/ full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		1,070,000	70%	749,000	\$ 0.143	80%	\$ 0.082	\$ 74,952

\*30% x kWhe (SEER 10)= 670 sf/t

\*\* NG price = \$0.0191/ft3

Large Building	Description			Reference or Existing Building Performance			Reference or Existing Building Cost for HVAC			
Type	Energy Intensity		Structure	Total Energy	HVAC	HVAC Energy	EL (30%)*	NG	NG (70%)	HVAC
	kWhe/sf	sf	kWhe	% total energy	kWhe	\$/kWh	efficiency	\$/kWhe**	\$ per year	
Old Bldg/ no upgrades	Highest	58.5	100,000	5,850,000	66%	3,861,000	\$ 0.143	50%	\$ 0.098	\$430,965
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		3,380,000	68%	2,298,400	\$ 0.143	65%	\$ 0.075	\$219,543
New Bldg/ full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		2,140,000	70%	1,498,000	\$ 0.143	80%	\$ 0.061	\$128,409

\*30% x kWhe (SEER 10)= 670 sf/t

\*\* NG price = \$0.0191/ft3

Figure 8: Business-as-Usual Reference Office Buildings, Energy Profiles and Operating Costs

## 2.5 Economic Model – Geothermal Systems

As discussed in *Section 2.0* above, HVAC Systems consist of three components: the energy source, the central processing plant and the building heating and cooling equipment. To replace a traditional HVAC system with a Geothermal system, all three components must be considered and substitution made.

Using the Reference Building HVAC model developed above in *Section 2.4*, a geothermal ground infrastructure becomes the energy source. The capital investment in the ground source heat exchanger or in this case, the closed-loop vertical bore field, includes all engineering, drilling, installation, horizontal ties-ins to headers inside the building and basic water circulation pumps. It does not include the central processing plant (water pumps, mechanical heat exchangers or water to water heat pumps, electrical connections and controls, manifolds, etc.) and nor does it include any site remediation or re-landscaping. The ground infrastructure is always an incremental cost however other mechanical equipment is often offset by the need to purchase new mechanical equipment, regardless of the energy source. The cost of the ground infrastructure is relatively constant and competitive, while the cost of mechanical equipment can vary widely with energy efficiency and design configuration options available.

In new construction, or in cases where the HVAC equipment of an existing building are being totally replaced, this economic model can often be accepted, without additional costs to be figured in, as the cost of central processing plant equipment and in-building mechanical heating and cooling equipment are comparable (5% to 15% more or less), even though the equipment and installation specified is entirely different. It will always cost more to retrofit equipment into an existing building than to install it into new



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construction, unless the building is being entirely gutted or rebuilt, in which case it can be considered new construction, and as discussed above, in many cases a geothermal system simply cannot be installed physically.

Following is a table of comparative costs for the energy source, or the ground infrastructure of a geothermal system designed to meet the load requirements of buildings illustrated in the BAU case above. An Excel Workbook file titled “Energy Savings from Geothermal (NG41)” containing this file has been provided on a CD accompanying this report.

Small Building		Description		Proposed Geo-exchange Performance				Savings				Geo-exchange Ground System				
Type	Energy Intensity	Structure	COP <sup>5</sup>	EL (Geo)	EL	EL	Energy		Cost		peak load <sup>†</sup>	geo	cost <sup>†</sup>	total Cost	payback	
	kWhe/sf	sf		kWhe	\$/kWh	\$ per year	kWhe	%	\$ per year	%	sf/ton	tons	\$/ton	\$	years	
Old Bldg/ no upgrades	Highest	58.5	50,000	4.5	429,000	\$ 0.143	\$ 61,519	1,501,500	78%	\$ 197,883	76%	400	125	\$ 5,600	\$ 700,000	3.5
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		4.5	255,378	\$ 0.143	\$ 36,621	893,822	78%	\$ 93,261	72%	670	75	\$ 5,700	\$ 425,373	4.6
New Bldg/ full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		4.5	166,444	\$ 0.143	\$ 23,868	582,556	78%	\$ 51,084	68%	1026	49	\$ 5,800	\$ 282,651	5.5

<sup>5</sup> ASHRAE requires HPs to have min. full capacity EER 13, heating COP 3.5. Many VSD HPs today exceed this level, up to COP 4.5

<sup>†</sup> example only, avg. Golder commercial projects, 2011 mechanical equipment replacement is required, so not incremental

Large Building		Description		Proposed Geo-exchange Performance				Savings				Geo-exchange Ground System				
Type	Energy Intensity	Structure	COP <sup>5</sup>	EL (Geo)	EL	EL	Energy		Cost		peak load <sup>†</sup>	geo	cost <sup>†</sup>	total Cost	payback	
	kWhe/sf	sf		kWhe	\$/kWh	\$ per year	kWhe	%	\$ per year	%	sf/ton	tons	\$/ton	\$	years	
Old Bldg/ no upgrades	Highest	58.5	100,000	5.0	772,200	\$ 0.143	\$ 110,733	3,088,800	80%	\$ 320,231	74%	400	250	\$ 5,400	\$ 1,350,000	4.2
20 yr Bldg / upgrades	Mean	33.8		5.0	459,680	\$ 0.143	\$ 65,918	1,838,720	80%	\$ 153,625	70%	670	149	\$ 5,600	\$ 835,821	5.4
New Bldg/ full upgrades	Lowest	21.4		5.0	299,600	\$ 0.143	\$ 42,963	1,198,400	80%	\$ 85,446	67%	1026	97	\$ 5,800	\$ 565,302	6.6

<sup>5</sup> ASHRAE requires HPs to have min. full capacity EER 13, heating COP 3.5. Many VSD HPs today exceed this level, up to COP 4.5

<sup>†</sup> example only, avg. Golder commercial projects, 2011 mechanical equipment replacement is required, so not incremental

Figure 9: Model of Estimated Performance and Costs - Geothermal In-Ground Vertical Closed Loop Installation

Please Refer to Figure 8: Business-as-Usual Reference Office Buildings, Energy Profiles and Operating Costs for the input data used for this model.

### 3.0 RETSCREEN® CLEAN ENERGY ANALYSIS SOFTWARE

The *RETScreen® Clean Energy Project Analysis Software*<sup>6</sup> is the world's leading clean energy decision-making software. It is provided free-of-charge by the Government of Canada as part of Canada's recognition of the need to take an integrated approach in addressing climate change and reducing pollution. RETScreen contains databases from around the world, creating a tool that can compare projects regardless of location.

RETScreen allows decision-makers and professionals to determine whether or not a proposed renewable energy, energy efficiency, or cogeneration project makes financial sense. If a project is viable—or if it is

<sup>6</sup> RETScreen® International, www.retscreen.net



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not—RETScreen will help the decision-maker understand this: quickly, unequivocally, and at relatively minimal cost.

RETScreen is:

- Used by more than 315,000 people in 222 countries and territories
- Available in 35+ languages covering more than 2/3rds of the world’s population
- Part of the curriculum in more than 400 universities and colleges worldwide

RETScreen has been directly responsible for over \$7 billion in user savings globally, a number expected to grow to well over \$8 billion by 2013. By virtue of enabling clean energy, RETScreen indirectly contributes to a substantial reduction in greenhouse gas emissions—a reduction conservatively estimated at 20 million tonnes per annum by 2013. And by 2013, it is estimated that RETScreen will have helped spur the installation of at least 24 GW of installed clean energy capacity worldwide with a value of approximately \$41 billion.

Golder employs personnel trained in the use of RETScreen, to develop energy project models and to interpret the information. For the Charles County MD study, RETScreen models were developed for the following scenarios:

**Table 2: RETScreen Geothermal System Scenarios Developed**

	Central District Energy System	Distributed System
Scenario 1		Single Family Home - Vertical
Scenario 1B		Single Family Home - Horizontal
Scenario 2		Single Family Attached Townhouses - Vertical
Scenario 2B		Single Family Attached Townhouses - Horizontal
Scenario 3		Multi-residential Building - Vertical
Scenario 4		Homefield – Community Center - Vertical
Scenario 4B		Homefield Community Center - Horizontal
Scenario 5	Homefield – Single Family Homes and Attached Townhouses	
Scenario 6	Homefield – Multi-residential Buildings	

The results of these scenarios are presented in the following sections of this report, as they apply. Printouts of the RETScreen Scenarios are included in **Appendix A**. The live RETScreen active database file (\*.ret) and Excel files (\*.xlsm) for each Scenario are included on a CD accompanying this Report. The full RETScreen program, along with instructions and support tools, can be downloaded from the website, <http://www.retscreen.net/ang/home.php>.



## 4.0 ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION SERVICE IN CHARLES COUNTY

Southern Maryland Electricity Cooperative (SMECO)<sup>7</sup> provides electricity to Charles County, MD. SMECO is a customer-owned electric cooperative providing electricity to over 150,000 services in southern Prince George’s County, and in Charles County, St. Mary’s County, and all but the northeast portion of Calvert County. SMECO headquarters are located at 15035 Burnt Store Road P.O. Box 1937, Hughesville, MD 20637-1937.

### 4.1 Electricity Rates in Charles County, MD

According to SMECO’s *Retail Electric Service Tariff for the Supply and Use of Electric Distribution Service*, effective November 1, 2011<sup>8</sup>, the following rates apply:

SMECO <u>Residential Rates</u>	Effective: January 5, 2011 Source: <a href="https://www.smeco.coop/pdfs/tariff.pdf">https://www.smeco.coop/pdfs/tariff.pdf</a>	Blended Rate (weighted average by monthly consumption)
<b>Standard Offer Service</b>	\$0.0975 per kWh (Summer) \$0.0911 per kWh (Winter)	\$0.0933 per kWh
<b>Power Cost Adjustment</b>	Adjustment for actual cost of power each month (unknown)	\$0.00 per kWh
<b>Distribution Charge</b>	All kilowatt-hours	\$ 0.03606 per kWh
<b>Facilities Charge</b>	\$ 8.60 per month (avg. 1000 kWh/m)	\$0.0086 per kWh
<b>Other Adjustments &amp; Credits</b>	All kilowatt-hours	\$0.0031 per kWh
<b>Regulatory, State &amp; Local Taxes</b>	All kilowatt-hours	\$0.0022185 per kWh
<b>Public Service Company Franchise Tax*</b>	All kilowatt-hours	0.00062 cents per kWh
<b>Maryland Public Service Commission – Environmental Surcharge</b>	Not in effect yet	\$0.00 per kWh
<b>Total Average Annual Rate</b>		<b>\$0.1434 per kWh</b>

*\*The SMECO Retail Electric Service Tariff for Supply and Use of Electric Distribution Service, November 2011, page 62, states, “A charge each month of 0.062 cents per kWh shall be applied to all kWh sales”. However the sample customer bill provided on the SMECO website, applies the lower rate used here.*

Figure 10: Southern Maryland Electricity Cooperative (SMECO) Electricity Rates

<sup>7</sup> Southern Maryland Electricity Cooperative, [www.smeco.coop](http://www.smeco.coop)

<sup>8</sup> Southern Maryland Electricity Cooperative, Retail Electric Service Tariff for the Supply and Use of Electric Distribution Service, November 1, 2011 P.S.C. Md. No.3, <https://www.smeco.coop/pdfs/tariff.pdf>



While national energy data indicates an expected rise for electricity rates over the next 25 years of approximately 1.8% per year, Maryland State information is indicating an expected rise of only 0.4% per year for the same period of time. Please refer to *Report II, Section 7.3* for energy rate projections for the South Atlantic Region of the US.

## 4.2 SMECO New Building has Geothermal

As a point of interest, SMECO's new 165,000 sq. ft. building located in Hughesville, Charles County, MD has a significant geothermal energy system installation. According to an article in the SMECO 2010 Annual Report<sup>9</sup>, 285 vertical closed-loop boreholes, 300 ft. deep are planned, with a total installation of 171,000 feet of geothermal piping. Using the thermal conductivity of 0.98 BTU/h/ft.°F, (Report II, Section 6.1.1) this indicates approximately 356 tons of energy, or an average of 463 sq. ft. of building space per ton of installed geothermal energy capacity.



### Construction of New Building Underway

With a staging area for outages and other emergency situations, SMECO's new facility in Hughesville will become the linchpin of the Co-op's operations. As the nerve center, it will be technically efficient and provide us with the ability to work more effectively.

We received our building permit from Charles County on March 11. We also received the development services permit, which allowed us to work on additional tasks within the construction area, such as the culvert for the main entrance.

On March 17, we began the process for cutting out a new road, implementing sediment and erosion controls, tree removal, and clearing. By the end of 2010, the new facility was about 30 percent complete. Concrete footers

and pads for the building were poured, structural steel had been set, pre-cast walls were set, roofing was in place, interior work for plumbing, HVAC, and electrical was roughed in, and tanks storing 120,000 gallons of water for fire suppression were buried.

The facility is designed to meet the Gold standard of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. The warehouse heating and cooling system features radiant heat tubing under the slab floor. Environmentally friendly and energy efficient features include an energy recovery system, pervious concrete, skylights, LED parking lot lights, daylight harvesting, storm water management, rain gardens, and protection for nearby wetlands.

With 88,000 square feet of office space, 77,000 square feet of warehouse and truck storage, 17 acres of yard storage to house materials, and constructed to withstand 130-mile-per-hour hurricane-force winds, this facility was designed to preserve a secure environment and play a major role in SMECO's ability to maintain reliable service for its customers.

### Geothermal System in New Co-Op Building

In its new facility, SMECO will have a geothermal heating and cooling system that is probably the largest in the state.

SMECO's system has 285 loops that are 300 feet deep: a total of 171,000 feet of pipe. The well loops are tied together with 12 pipes, which

go into a vault housing a large manifold which supplies two eight-inch supply and return lines to the building. Two circulating pumps that handle 1,620 gallons per minute will be located on the mezzanine over the top of the warehouse area. The loop piping will circulate through the five main water source heat pumps in the main mechanical room, to create chilled water and heating water for the five air handler units that provide heating and cooling for the common areas like the auditorium and wellness center. Additional piping will traverse the building through 47 smaller water source heat pumps that are in the office and raised floor areas to allow for more control of individual areas.

Figure 11: SMECO New Building, Hughesville, Charles County MD, has Geothermal Energy

<sup>9</sup> Southern Maryland Electricity Cooperative 2010 Annual Report, Volume 61, Issue 5, May 2011, "Construction of New Building Under Way", page 7. [https://www.smeco.coop/coopreview/201105/linked\\_images/May%202011%20coop%20review%20annual%20report\\_web.pdf](https://www.smeco.coop/coopreview/201105/linked_images/May%202011%20coop%20review%20annual%20report_web.pdf)



### 4.3 Local Green House Gas Emissions from Electricity Generation

SMECO reports<sup>10</sup> that the electricity generation mix for this region has values represented by 2010 averages: 49.8% coal, 35.0% nuclear, 11.41% natural gas, and 0.49% oil. Renewable energy: 0.28% methane gas, 0% geothermal, 0.97% hydroelectric, less than 0.01% solar, 0.57% solid waste, 1.28% wind, and 0.19% wood/other biomass.

The amount of air pollution associated with the generation of electricity production for this region, given in pounds emitted per megawatt hour of electricity generated, as follows: Nitrogen Oxides (NOX): 1.32, Sulfur Dioxide (SO2): 5.24, and Carbon Dioxide (CO2): 1,167.56 (0.58378 tCO2/MWh).

Note: These emission values, specific to Charles county MD, have been used all in the RETScreen analysis models associated with this study, despite the definition of "United States of America, all fuel types" which cannot be changed, appearing beside the correct value in the model worksheets.

CO<sub>2</sub> is a greenhouse gas, which may contribute to global climate change. SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> released into the atmosphere react to form acid rain. NO<sub>x</sub> also react to form ground level ozone, an unhealthful component of smog.

### 5.0 GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL BUILDING TYPES

In *Report II* of this study, *Building Loads and Geothermal Resources Analysis*, we established the ground conditions, expected thermal conductivity and sizing parameters of closed-loop geothermal systems that might be installed in the area<sup>11</sup>. Open-loop systems were discussed, but are not considered further in this report, due to the high probability that permit applications would not be successful under current State regulations governing ground water protection. All geothermal systems discussed in this section are to be considered closed-loop systems.

Generally, considering the climate of Charles County MD, a horizontal geothermal system would require approximately 1000 sq. ft. of land area to install enough piping in trenches dug to a depth of 4 ft. to 8 ft., to produce 1 ton of geothermal heating and cooling. Comparatively, a vertical geothermal system would require approximately 225 sq. ft. of land area to install one vertical geothermal loop to a depth of approximately 240 ft. to produce 1 ton of geothermal heating and cooling. The following table outlines some of the general parameters that can be applied for the purposed of estimating, on a high level, the land area and cost of installing geothermal ground heat exchange systems in Charles County, MD:

**Table 3: Estimated Land Area and Cost of Geothermal Ground Heat Exchange Systems, Charles County, MD**

	Surface Area	Depth	\$/ton*	Site Capacity
Vertical - 1 ton	225 sq. ft.	240 ft.	\$5500.	484 tons / acre
Horizontal - 1 ton	1000 sq. ft.	4 – 8 ft.	\$3960.	40 tons / acre

\*Cost includes installation of ground heat exchange pipe system only, including horizontal connections to

<sup>10</sup> SMECO website: <https://www.smeco.coop/energy/environ.html>

<sup>11</sup> Report II, Building Loads and Geothermal Resources Analysis Section 6.0, page 40.



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headers inside a building. Costs do not include any mechanical equipment, such as circulation pumps or heat pumps, connecting hydronic pipes or ductwork.

Prices for installation of geothermal systems can vary widely from one area to another. Only trained (ASHRAE or IGSHPA certified) teams of dedicated geothermal system installers using geothermal drill rigs and installation equipment, should be used for geothermal system installations, particularly for commercial systems, sized for any building over 35,000 sq. ft. in floor area. In some areas, water well drillers have acquired geothermal loop installation equipment and expertise, though it should be noted that some water well drillers represent that they are capable geothermal loop installers, when in fact they lack experience and training. Bid prices should be considered only after firms have been pre-qualified for equipment, training and experience.

Economies of scale can be captured in larger commercial building installations. Depending on the size and complexity of the installation, the price per ton, for the ground heat exchange pipe system can be 5% to 15% less than the prices indicated in the table above.

Distributed geothermal systems can technically be installed almost anywhere. The question is usually not whether it can be done, but rather, at what cost. Costs tend to be cheapest for new construction vs. building retrofit, for the following reasons:

**Table 4: Geothermal System Cost Factors, New Construction vs. Retrofit**

	New Construction	Building Retrofit
Land area	Can use area under the building	Restricted to land surrounding building
Land use	Site will be landscaped regardless	Cost to re-landscape is incremental
Mechanical system design	Original design for geothermal	May require significant remediation or complete replacement
Mechanical equipment	Original equipment is geothermal	Equipment may have residual value
Size of geothermal system	New Building Codes require buildings to be more energy efficient, therefore require less energy. (Approximately 30% reduction in energy use, since 1980)	Building may not be energy efficient, therefore may require more energy. Alternatively, the cost of building energy efficient improvements need to be weighed against the savings realized by the associated reduction in size of a geothermal system.
Inconvenience	No disruption to use	Some inconvenience and possible disruption to occupant use during installation
Heating	Original design comfort & control	May increase comfort and control
Cooling	Original design comfort & control	May add cooling where not previously provided
Operating Cost/sq. ft.	Original budget; low electricity, low maintenance	Potential 60% reduction in electricity, 60% reduction in maintenance
Future Energy Prices	60% protected vs. all electric	Added 60% protection vs. previous



In cases where existing buildings need energy system replacement regardless, then geothermal energy may be a good option, despite the additional capital costs. Financial payback is related to the savings in operating costs, however, increased comfort, particularly if air conditioning is added, should also be considered a value to the project. With reduced dependence on electricity, increased protection from future energy price increases is particularly of value to those on fixed incomes.

Central geothermal systems may be considered where there is building and occupancy density. The cost of a central system is highly influenced by the length of the pipe required to connect the individual buildings to the central plant and central bore field. This cost is mitigated by the reduced capacity required to service the diversified energy demand loads.

The following subsections of *Section 5.0* refer only to distributed closed-loop geothermal systems. Central geothermal district energy systems are discussed in *Section 7.1, Waldorf Geothermal District Energy System* and *7.2 Homefield Geothermal District Energy System*.

### 5.1 Residential Buildings

In *Report II* of this study, *Building Loads and Geothermal Resources Analysis, Section 2.0*, the various residential building types found in Charles County, MD are discussed. In summary, 13.6% of the land area in Charles County MD is used for residential homes. Single family homes represent 73% (by number of units) of the County's residential structures, 18% are attached units and 9% are units contained in multi-residential buildings. Greater density is proposed for future development, in keeping with national sustainability and energy policies. Accordingly, planned communities, such as Homefield can be assumed to be part of this trend. Growth plans in Charles County MD call for residential units to increase by about 2% per year for the next 25 years, with proportionately more attached and multi-residential units being built. Approximately 35,500 additional residential units are expected to be built by 2035.

Installing geothermal systems into single family residences is generally the easiest application of the technology. A single family home has some property dedicated to it, usually owned by a single owner. Therefore geothermal systems can be installed by drilling vertically or trenching horizontally, depending on the amount of land available and whether or not the surface is available to be disrupted or is paved or landscaped for other uses.

#### 5.1.1 Single Family Homes

Golder used the RETScreen Analysis Software, to analyse the energy used by a typical single family home in Charles County, MD. For Scenario 1, a base case was created assuming that 100% electricity was the energy source for both heating and cooling. A proposed case was then created assuming that a geothermal vertical, closed-loop ground heat exchanger and ground source heat pumps could provide 100% of the heating and cooling including heating for the domestic hot water. Climate data used was specific to Maryland, at Andrews Air Force Base. The value for CO<sup>2</sup> emissions produced from electricity generation was taken from the SMECO website (refer to *Section 4.3*, above) as was the rate for electricity distribution service (refer to *Section 4.1*, above).

The scenario considered a 2500 sq. ft. single family home, as new construction. The results indicated that 942 sq. ft. of land area would be required for installation of a vertical ground heat exchanger, however, this area includes the thermal plume or area of land from which the vertical wells exchange heat. 1114 feet of vertical loop are required, so if two 600 ft. depth bore holes were drilled, with 15 foot separation,



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then only 250 sq. ft. of surface land would be required. If four, 300 ft. deep bore holes were drilled, then approximately 300 sq. ft. of surface land would be required. It is possible to place vertical bore holes under buildings, if they can be drilled prior to building construction.

The only government incentives used in the model were the Maryland State Clean Energy Grant Program of \$500 per Refrigeration Ton ( $2.7 \times \$500 = \$1350.$ ) of renewable energy, and the Green Energy Loan rate of 6.9%. (refer to *Report I, Section 9.3, Incentives for Geothermal System Installations*, which has been revised since first reported in April 2011).

The model produced the following results, for a vertical geothermal system:

**Table 5: Vertical Geothermal System - Single Family House, 2500 sq. ft. area**

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal Vertical System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
81 MBTU	6,063 RTh	\$23,326	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$1347	2.9 yrs	7.4 yrs	11.4% 39.2% ROE
81 MBTU	6,063 RTh	\$23,326	N/A	\$2986	6.5 yrs	7.4 yrs	17.2%

*\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes*

For comparison, the proposed case was changed to the assumption that a geothermal horizontal, closed-loop ground heat exchanger and ground source heat pumps could provide 100% of the heating and cooling including heating for the domestic hot water. All other assumptions were unchanged. The results indicated that 5,854 sq. ft. of land area would be required for a “standard” installation of the ground heat exchanger, which would require a residential property to have an area with no trees, service installations or buildings and available for excavation, of approximately 60 feet by 100 feet. Horizontal loops cannot be placed under building structures, since they require the seasonal ground temperature changes produced by surface exposure to the sun. The cost for the horizontal system was \$13,225. or 43% less than for a vertical system. This cost did not include any surface remediation or re-landscaping costs.

The model produced the following results, for a horizontal geothermal system:

**Table 6: Horizontal Geothermal System - Single Family House, 2500 sq. ft. area**

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal Horizontal System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
81 MBTU	6,063 RTh	\$13,225	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$2057	0.9 yrs	4.0 yrs	22.9% 115% ROE
81 MBTU	6,063 RTh	\$13,225	N/A	\$2986	3.7 yrs	4.0 yrs	29.5%

*\*Before rebates, grants not specified above, tax incentives and taxes*



5.1.2 Attached Townhouses

Golder used the RETScreen Analysis Software, to analyse the energy used by a typical attached townhouse in Charles County, MD. All assumptions described above for single family homes were also used for the townhouse models. The only government incentives used in the model were the Maryland State Clean Energy Grant Program of \$500 per Refrigeration Ton (1.4 x \$500 = \$700.) For each attached townhouse, a single borehole would be required, installed to a depth of 275 ft.

The model produced the following results for a vertical geothermal system:

Table 7: Vertical Geothermal System - Attached Townhouse, 1700 sq. ft. area

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal Vertical System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
39 MBTU	3,171 RTh	\$9,293	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$1339	1.1 yrs	4.3 yrs	21.1% 98.8% ROE
39 MBTU	3,171 RTh	\$9,293	N/A	\$1991	4.0 yrs	4.3 yrs	27.4%

\*Before rebates, grants not specified above, tax incentives and taxes

For comparison, the townhouse scenario was changed to the assumption that a geothermal horizontal, closed-loop ground heat exchanger would be installed. All other assumptions were unchanged. The results indicated that 1,491 sq. ft. of land area would be required for a “standard” installation of the ground heat exchanger, which would require a residential property to have an area with no trees, service installations or buildings and available for excavation, of approximately 30 feet by 50 feet. A compact installation design would only require 950 sq. ft. of land are. The cost for the horizontal system was \$6,918. or 26% less than for a vertical system. This cost did not include any surface remediation or re-landscaping costs.

The model produced the following results for a horizontal geothermal system:

Table 8: Horizontal Geothermal System - Attached Townhouse, 1700 sq. ft. area

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal Vertical System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
39 MBTU	3,171 RTh	\$6,918	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$1505	0.7 yrs	3.1 yrs	29.7% 157.5% ROE
39 MBTU	3,171 RTh	\$6,918	N/A	\$1991	2.9 yrs	3.1 yrs	36.6%

\*Before rebates, grants not specified above, tax incentives and taxes



## 5.1.3 Multi-Residential Buildings

Golder used the RETScreen Analysis Software, to analyse the energy used by a typical midrise multi-residential building in Charles County, MD. A base case was created assuming that 100% electricity was the energy source for both heating and cooling. A proposed case was then created assuming that a geothermal vertical, closed-loop ground heat exchanger and ground source heat pumps could provide 100% of the heating and cooling including heating for the domestic hot water. Climate data used was specific to Maryland, at Andrews Air Force Base. The value for CO<sup>2</sup> emissions produced from electricity generation was taken from the SMECO website (refer to Section 4.3, above) as was the rate for electricity distribution service (refer to Section 4.1, above).

The scenario considered a 60,000 sq. ft., 54 suite building, as new construction. The results indicated that 18,850 sq. ft. of land area would be required for “standard” installation of a vertical ground heat exchanger, however, this area includes the thermal plume or area of land from which the vertical wells exchange heat. 19,850 feet of vertical loop are required, indicating that if a more compact design were used whereby thirty-three, 600 ft. deep bore holes were drilled, with 15 foot separation, then only 7,500 sq. ft. of surface land would be required. If sixty, 300 ft. deep bore holes were drilled then approximately 15,000 sq. ft. of surface land would be required. It is possible to place vertical bore holes under buildings, if they can be drilled prior to building construction and this works particularly well for multi-residential buildings, where land outside the building footprint may be too small an area, and where the cost of horizontal headers and tie-ins can be minimized.

No government or utility rebates or incentives were considered for this scenario.

The model produced the following results, for a vertical geothermal system:

**Table 9: Vertical Geothermal System - Multi-residential Building, 60,000 sq. ft. area, 54 suites**

Annual Heating MBTU	Annual Cooling RTh	Geothermal Vertical System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
1,956	136,177	\$445,582	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$46,364	2.9 yrs	5.7 yrs	15.7% 49.6% ROE
1,956	136,177	\$445,582	N/A	\$77,664	5.2 yrs	5.7 yrs	21.4%

*\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes*

## 5.1.4 Observations and Conclusions for Residential Buildings

From the detailed information provided by the models for these residential scenarios, the following observations and conclusions can be drawn:

- Maryland State Tax incentives appear to be substantial, and may reimburse 100% or more of the initial capital cash required to install geothermal systems, in the state. Expert tax advice should be obtained to determine the real effects of these tax incentives that can be expected. (refer to Report I, Section 9.3, Incentives for Geothermal System Installations, which has been revised since first reported in April 2011)



- Single family homes in Charles County MD appear to be significantly heating dominant, on an annual basis. When the heating load of domestic hot water is added to this load, the size of the geothermal system required is larger. Using the RETScreen model, we see that the additional capital cost is approximately \$1000. If a household uses 300 kWh per month to heat hot water, at \$0.1434/kWh, costing \$43.02 per month, then the payback on spending the extra \$1000 to heat hot water is just under 2 years.
- Rural residential properties and large urban residential lots (over 8,000 sq. ft.) may be able to take advantage of the lower cost of installing a horizontal geothermal system.
- Retrofitting geothermal systems to existing buildings requires enough land in which to install either vertical or horizontal ground heat exchangers. Often trees, landscaping, buildings, installed services and other ground obstructions make geothermal system installation costly or impractical.
- Retrofitting geothermal systems to existing residential buildings is technically easy if the building structure includes heating and cooling air ductwork. In this case, an existing furnace can be replaced by a water-to-air ground source heat pump, and a ground heat exchanger installed adjacent to the building, often in a driveway. If the building has no ductwork, then it most likely does not have the structural space between floors and walls to install ductwork and therefore is either very costly or simply not possible to convert to geothermal energy. Alternatively, if hydronic water pipes are installed through the building structure, then possibly a water-to-water ground source heat pump can be installed and connected, replacing an existing boiler.
- RETScreen Analysis software, while useful, is very simplistic and can only be used for high level study purposes. It is not a design tool. It operates on databases that are updated regularly but they are never complete. For example, the choice of heat pumps was appropriate for this study, however for design, different heat pumps would likely be selected.
- The process of detail design offers many opportunities to optimize energy use and energy efficiency through a process of building/mechanical/energy integration. Project managers should seek to find and incorporate these advantages into projects.

## 5.2 Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Buildings

In *Report II* of this study, *Building Loads and Geothermal Resources Analysis*, Section 2.2, the various industrial, commercial and institutional (ICI) building types found in Charles County, MD are discussed. In summary, 2.8% of the land area in Charles County MD is used for ICI buildings. Of the 1900 existing buildings, 27% are used for retailing, 14% for health care and social assistance (presumably some are assisted living residential units), 25% are professional and other services. Only 3% are used for manufacturing, and 2% are educational, representing 42 buildings, most of which are assumed to be schools.

ASHRAE provides two sets of guidelines for designing geothermal systems, for only two categories of buildings, Residential and Commercial. ASHRAE guidelines define a geothermal system as “Commercial”, if it is to provide energy to a building larger than 38,000 sq. ft. ASHRAE recommends using “Residential” guidelines for designing geothermal systems for buildings smaller than this size. However, regardless of size, the different use characteristics of a commercial building must underlie the design parameters.



5.2.1 Industrial Buildings

Industrial buildings must each be considered individually. If the space is used for manufacturing or processing, then the costs for heating and cooling may be significant inputs to the costs of operations. If the space is used for warehousing, where office space usually occupies approximately 5% of the total space, then heating and cooling costs may be insignificant. Industrial companies are often looking for cost cutting measures with very short 1 to 2 year paybacks and geothermal will not likely fit this economic profile unless refrigeration or other significant process heating or cooling loads are present.

Geothermal systems can be very effective for process loads, particularly refrigeration. Geothermal has been used for food processing, wine making, climate controlled storage, vehicle maintenance shops and other industrial activities.

5.2.2 Commercial Buildings

Commercial buildings are usually densely occupied during the day and relatively vacant at night. This causes them to be significantly cooling dominant. Geothermal systems are designed to peak cooling loads rather than peak heating loads generally used for residential buildings. This means that commercial building geothermal systems have excess heating capacity. Commercial buildings tend to have significant auxiliary HVAC equipment such as Make-Up- Air units and parking garage ramp heating. These auxiliary heating loads can be served by the geothermal system, providing better balance in the bore field and improving the economics of the project significantly by offsetting other sources of heat that would otherwise be required.

Commercial buildings are often located near each other or in more dense areas of development. Therefore close proximity to buildings that may require additional heat can sometimes provide an economical solution for both, if excess geothermal energy can be distributed and sold.

5.2.2.1 Homefield Community Center

The Homefield Community Center planned for Homefield Subdivision is an example of a small Commercial building, though at 3,000 sq. ft. it is very small. A RETScreen model, again using local climate data and the same assumptions as used for previous models, for a vertical closed-loop geothermal system for the proposed community center, indicates that using a compact borefield design, 5 boreholes drilled 600 ft. deep would be required, using an area of land of approximately 339 sq. ft.

The model produced the following results for a vertical geothermal system:

Table 10: Vertical Geothermal System - Homefield Community Center, 3,000 sq. ft. area

Table with 8 columns: Annual Heating MBTU, Annual Cooling RTh, Geothermal Vertical System Cost\*, Loan, Monthly Cash Flow, Equity Payback, Simple Payback, Pretax IRR (assets). It contains two rows of data comparing different loan scenarios.

\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes



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For comparison, the Homefield Community Center model was changed to the assumption that a geothermal horizontal, closed-loop ground heat exchanger and ground source heat pumps could provide 100% of the heating and cooling including heating for the domestic hot water. All other assumptions were unchanged. The results indicated that 5,725 sq. ft. of land area would be required for a “standard” installation of the ground heat exchanger, which would require a residential property to have an area with no trees, service installations or buildings and available for excavation, of approximately 60 feet by 100 feet. A more “compact” design would only require approximately 3,800 sq. ft. of land area. The cost for the horizontal system was \$17,073. or 58% less than for a vertical system. This cost did not include any surface remediation or re-landscaping costs.

The model produced the following results, for a horizontal geothermal system:

**Table 11: Horizontal Geothermal System - Homefield Community Center, 3,000 sq. ft. area**

Annual Heating MBTU	Annual Cooling RTh	Geothermal Vertical System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
82	5	\$17,073	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$46,364	1.7 yrs	4.9 yrs	18.8% 61.5% ROE
82	5	\$17,073	N/A	\$3,486	4.5 yrs	4.9 yrs	24.6%

\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes

### 5.2.2.2 Springdale Professional Center

Springdale Professional Center, located in Brampton, Ontario, is presented here as a reference case study only. A RETScreen model was not prepared for this building.

Springdale Professional Center is an example of a larger Commercial building with 100% of its heating and cooling produced by a vertical closed-loop geothermal system. Springdale is a professional medical building located across the street from a major hospital. It is built on top of a massive two level, underground parking garage that provides parking for not only this building, but also for the hospital. Since the building is cooling dominant, a 356 ton geothermal system is sized to provide peak cooling to the 120,000 sq. ft. building. The heat by-produced by the geothermal system not only heats the building, but produces enough excess heat to keep the surrounding sidewalks and parking garage ramp free of snow and ice, and to heat the entire parking garage, with geothermal loops embedded in the walls and floors of the underground structure. The borefield is entirely below the garage underground structure, which extends from lot line to lot line of the 1.5 acre site.



Figure 12: Springdale - Geothermal Loop Installation in the Walls of the Underground Parking Garage.



Figure 13: Springdale Professional Center, Geothermal Installation on the P1 Slab.



### 5.2.3 Institutional Buildings

Institutional buildings can be either used intensely twenty-four hours a day, all year around, such as nursing homes, or they can be used only ten hours a day for ten months of the year, such as schools. The heat loads used by design engineers for these buildings varies widely, by use, with the size of the building offering little indication of the actual energy required. For these reasons, RETScreen models were not run for institutional buildings in Charles County MD. Alternatively, case examples are presented.

Examples of geothermal systems, installed in institutional buildings include the following:

**Diversicare Residences** (5 locations in Southern Ontario): Diversicare owns and operates a chain of nursing homes. Since 2008, seven new homes have been built, all using geothermal energy. The owners indicate that the advantages of geothermal energy are increased comfort and control, with intense energy use significantly lower operating costs, protection from future energy price increases and lower GHG emissions, which differentiates them from competition and enhances their brand. For at least one building, local municipal authorities approved a larger building design with geothermal energy than it would otherwise approve, with a natural gas system.

**Brantford Collegiate Institute** (Brantford, Ontario): The century old high school needed complete renovation and in fact the oldest part of the building was demolished and rebuilt on the same site, while preserving the historic facade. This building was not designed for geothermal energy, but shortly after, the renovation of a large wing of the school, built in 1963, was retrofitted with a geothermal system. Because the building was undergoing complete architectural and HVAC renovation, there was no residual value placed on old equipment and systems. The cost of the geothermal system was only \$1,350,000, after considering an Energy Recovery Ventilation (ERV) system, which reduced the building energy requirement by over 45%. The simple payback on the project was 3.9 years. *Please refer to **Appendix B** for a complete case study.*

**Walden Public School** (Sudbury, Ontario): Walden Public School was built to be the first “carbon neutral” public school in North America. However the school required only heating and no cooling, since students do not attend classes in the summer months. The school was first designed to require the least possible amount of electricity, the heating was provided by a vertical closed-loop geothermal system which was tied to thermal solar panels mounted on the south-west facing wall of the gymnasium, to replenish the ground with heat. Electricity was generated by solar PV collectors on the roof and by a micro wind turbine in the school yard. *Please refer to **Appendix B** for a more detailed case study.*

### 5.2.4 Observations and Conclusions for Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Buildings

From the detailed information provided by the models and example cases for ICI building scenarios, the following observations and conclusions can be drawn:

- Maryland State Tax incentives appear to be substantial, and may reimburse 100% or more of the initial capital cash required to install geothermal systems, in the state. Expert tax advice should be obtained to determine the real effects of these tax incentives that can be expected. (refer to *Report I, Section 9.3, Incentives for Geothermal System Installations*, which has been revised since first reported in April 2011)



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- ICI buildings in Charles County MD may be heating dominant or cooling dominant, on an annual basis, depending on use. If the building is used for hospital or nursing care, the building will require much higher energy loads and will also use very high amounts of domestic hot water. If the buildings are industrial and to a lesser extent commercial, then the amounts of domestic hot water used will likely be quite low. Building loads should be assessed carefully using building hourly energy load analysis software such as Carrier HAP or Trane Trace 2000. This detail analysis is not usually performed for traditional energy systems, but is essential for the proper design of a “Commercial” geothermal system.
- ICI building properties may be able to take advantage of the lower cost of installing a horizontal geothermal system. Many retail plazas, warehouses and industrial buildings are low density use buildings located on large lots, often with large parking lots, that may serve additionally as horizontal geothermal ground heat exchangers. School yards can be ideal locations for horizontal ground heat exchangers.
- Retrofitting geothermal systems to existing buildings requires enough land in which to install either vertical or horizontal ground heat exchangers. Often trees, landscaping, buildings, installed services and other ground obstructions make geothermal system installation costly or impractical.
- Retrofitting geothermal systems which produce low grade heat, to existing ICI buildings may be technically difficult and/or expensive if the building HVAC infrastructure is designed for high grade heat. Architectural building interior space may be an issue as is the design and state of repair of existing hydronic piping.
- Process loads and auxiliary heating and cool loads can be incorporated into a geothermal system and can often significantly improve the economics of a project. Project managers should take a holistic approach to energy management to capture “free” excess heating and cooling produced as a result of single load dominance.
- ICI buildings are large enough that they usually benefit significantly from the installation of central Energy Return Ventilation (ERV) units that can save 30% to 60% of the energy otherwise expelled to the atmosphere, thereby significantly reducing the size (capacity) and cost of a geothermal system. Paybacks on ERVs are often under 2 years and therefore improve the overall economics of a project.
- RETScreen Analysis software, while useful, is very simplistic and can only be used for high level study purposes. It is not a design tool. It operates on databases that are updated regularly but they are never complete. For example, the choice of heat pumps was appropriate for this study, however for design, different heat pumps would likely be selected.
- The process of detail design offers many opportunities to optimize energy use and energy efficiency through a process of building/mechanical/energy integration. Project managers should seek to find and incorporate these advantages into projects.



### 6.0 GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS

#### 6.1 District Energy Systems in General

District energy systems (usually coal or natural gas boilers for heating and electricity for cooling) may be installed at large, multi-building sites such as universities, hospitals, and government complexes. District energy systems can also serve as merchant thermal systems providing heating (and often cooling) to multiple buildings in urban areas.

District energy in general, has a major added benefit of reducing the requirement for size and capital investment in ground infrastructure and in production equipment due to the "diversity" of consumer loads. In addition, they tend to use larger and more efficient equipment and can take advantage of such things as thermal energy storage that aren't economically effective on a small scale. Moreover, district energy systems aggregate thermal loads, enabling more cost-effective installations.

According to the International District Energy Association (IDEA)<sup>12</sup>, primary district energy markets are:

- colleges and universities,
- downtowns, and
- airports.

Colleges and universities are the most attractive market. They are installing district energy systems in response to campus load growth, asset replacement of aging boiler capacity, and favorable economics. Major urban centers are also a growing market for creating or adding to existing district energy systems. Many district energy steam plants were originally Combined Heat and Power (CHP) facilities that generated both power and steam when owned by the local electric utility. With a growing need for local grid support and in light of utility divestiture of generating capacity coupled with solid market growth in downtown urban areas, district energy systems are now more attractive than ever. IDEA reports 839 district energy systems currently operating in the US (2009) 13 of which are in Maryland: Baltimore (5), Chestertown, College Park, Fort Howard, Green Belt, Indian Head, Joppa, Laplata and Towson.

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<sup>12</sup> International District Energy Association website, <http://www.districtenergy.org>



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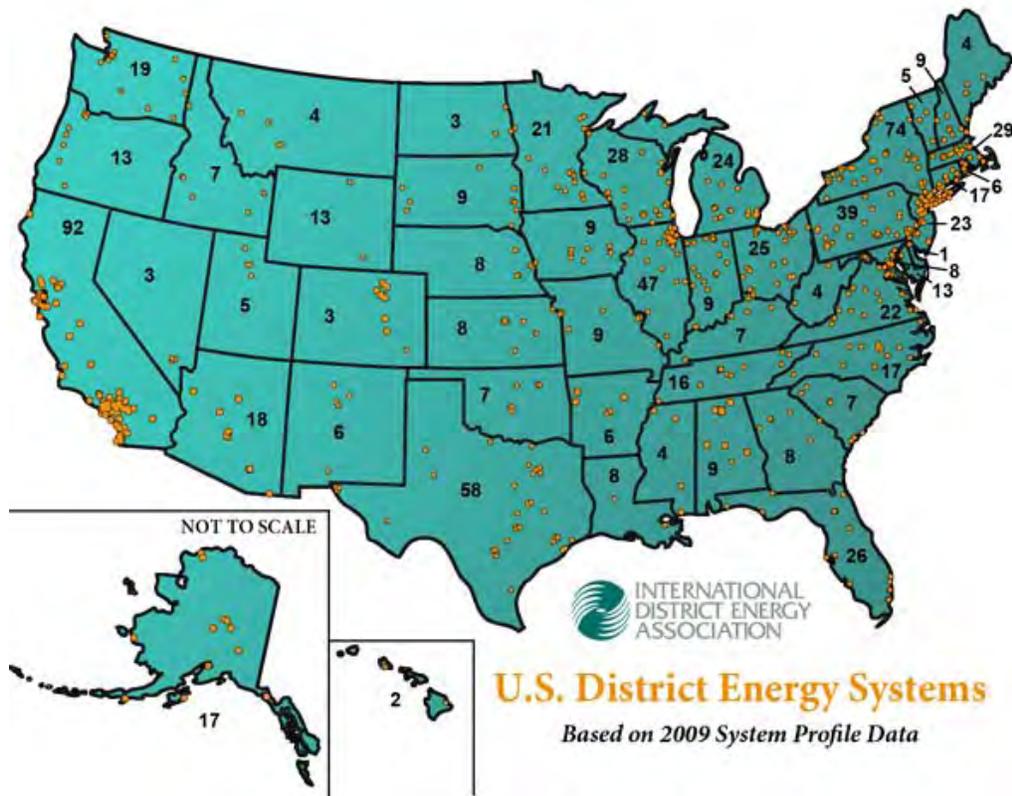


Figure 14: US District Energy Systems, 2009

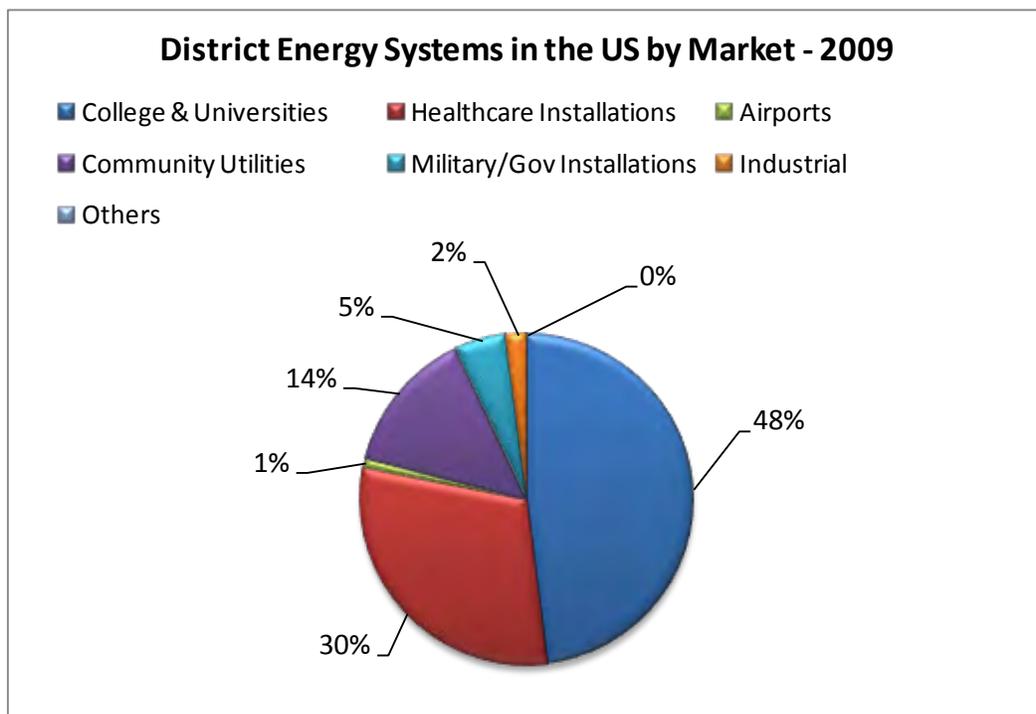


Figure 15: US District Energy Systems by Market, 2009



### 6.2 Geothermal District Energy Systems

Geothermal technology can be applied to district energy systems in two basic design configurations, a central bore field and pumping station connected to individual buildings by an in-ground thermal pipe network or thermal grid, installed along with other municipal services, or alternatively, individual boreholes installed on each property. In both cases, the geothermal piping is connected to individual heat pumps located in each connected building or in the case of residential subdivisions, each individual house. Both configurations function equally well though with different economics. Commercial size buildings may have central geothermal water-to-water heat pumps which connect to smaller heat pumps or fan coils distributed throughout the building or for residential subdivisions, individual homeowners have stand alone water-to-air heat pumps.

Issues to be considered when assessing which configuration best suits a particular development may include:

- Comparative cost (property development design specific)
- Land availability and proximity to use, for ground heat exchange installation
- Land ownership (free hold, apartment or coop, municipal, etc)
- Proposed service business model (equipment rental, energy supply agreement, others)
- Operations and maintenance
- Scope, liability and cost of services to be provided
- Municipal zoning and bylaws, building permits
- Customer choice, legal and practical consumer considerations
- Comparative price, consumer price elasticity

#### 6.2.1 Distributed Geothermal System Configuration

A distributed geothermal system is suitable for residential subdivisions. In this configuration individual boreholes are each dedicated to one residential unit, installed on individual sites either beneath or near each building structure. Each residence has a standalone geothermal system. The systems can therefore be sold to property buyers as part of the real estate purchase, or ownership can be retained by a third party owner in return for an energy supply fee.

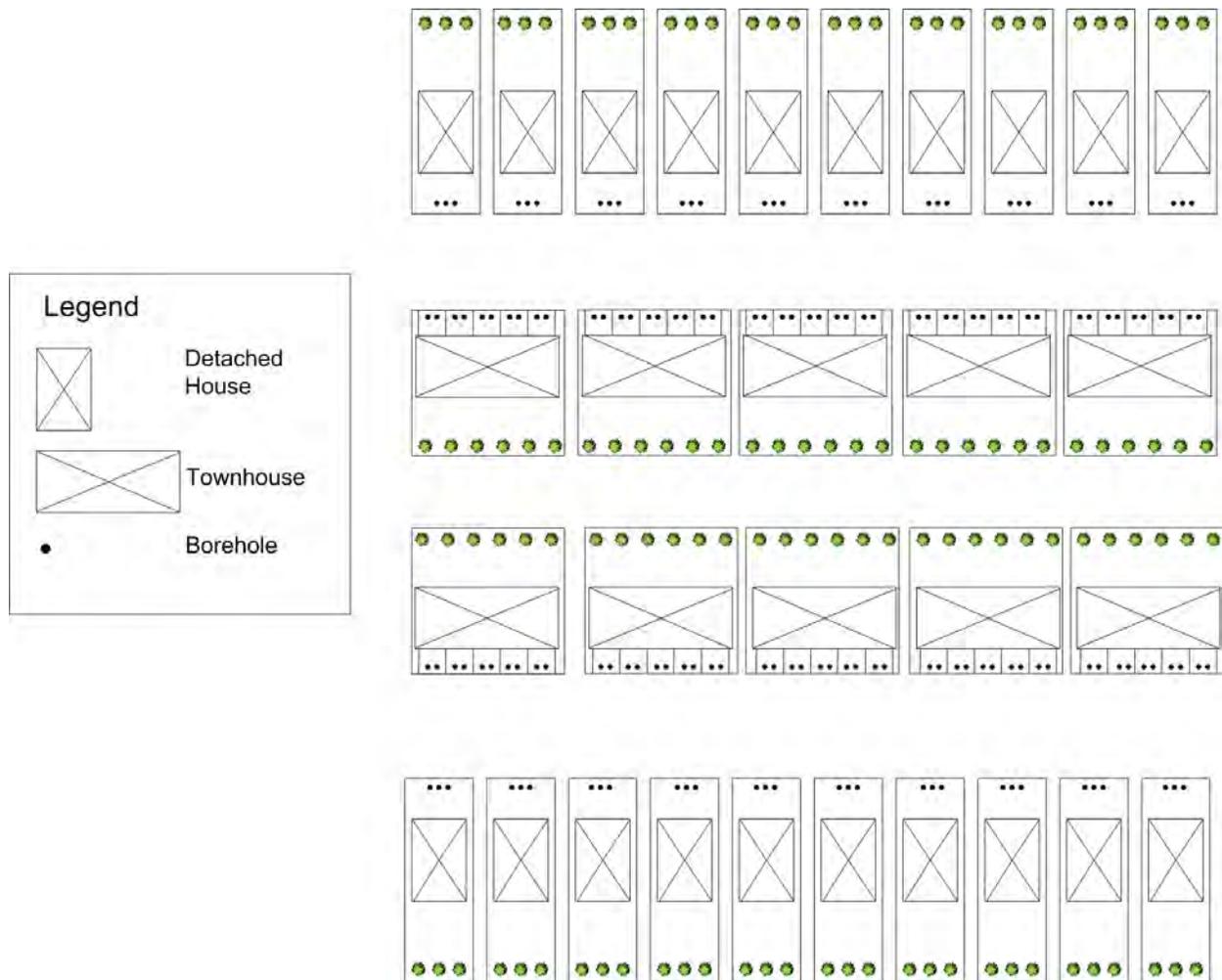


Figure 16: Distributed Geothermal System - Residential Subdivision

### 6.2.2 Central Geothermal System Configuration

A central geothermal system configuration is one where a central borefield, operated from a central pumping station, is connected to a distribution pipe network or thermal grid, as it is sometimes called, which delivers geothermal fluid to each connected building. The central geothermal system is owned and operated by an energy supply enterprise, such as a municipality, a university or a third party service provider which will charge each connected building for its energy supply services.

In a central geothermal system, the boreholes are drilled in a central location, usually in a grid formation, with the boreholes all drilled to the same depth. The boreholes are grouped into zones with each zone connected by a sub-header. Sub-headers are then connected to primary headers that terminate in a central geothermal pumping station, which can be in the form of a small building above ground or a subterranean vault, built specially for the purpose.

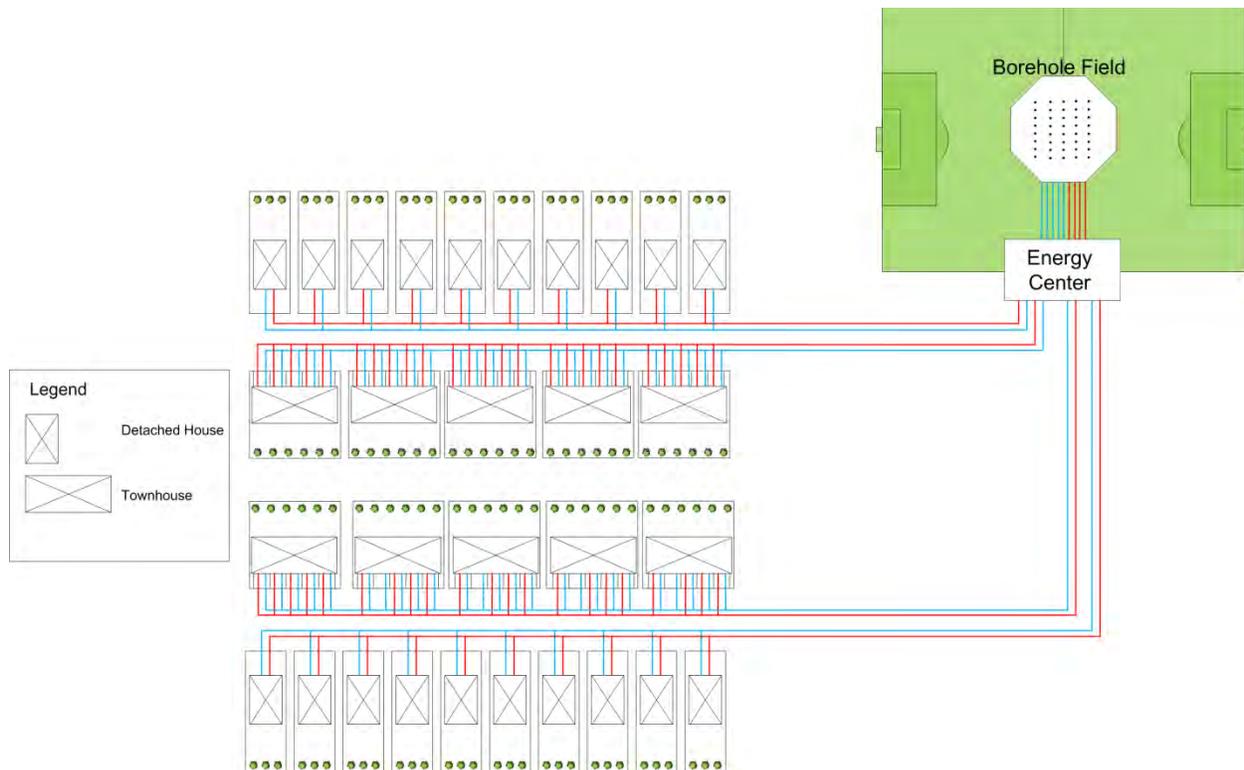
Central borefields can be installed into any open area of land. School yards, parks, parking lots and sports fields are ideal for borefield installations. Efficiencies can be gained by making use of thermal interference, creating a battery effect of stored energy in the borefield. Further efficiencies are gained by



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the diversity of the building loads and the aggregate peak load which is less than the sum of the individual peak building unit loads. However, efficiencies in the central borefield are offset by the need for the installation of a thermal grid, which in the case of a residential subdivision or urban core redevelopment can be installed along with water and sewer services in the roadways.

Detailed consideration of a central geothermal system would require a scaled site plan indicating the street configurations and distances, size of the properties, and other spatial metrics. These distances determine the length and cost of the insulated thermal distribution piping that would be required to connect the central pumping station to headers and sub-headers and eventually to each building.



*Figure 17: Centralized Geothermal System - Residential Subdivision*

A central pumping station could be designed in two basic ways. One method of design supplies water at the peak temperatures required, that is approximately 140°F for heating and 45°F for cooling. This design requires large industrial sized central heat pump equipment and incurs some thermal losses in the distribution pipe network. In this case, HVAC distribution equipment in each building may be reduced in size and cost.

A second method of design supplies water to the distribution pipe network and ultimately to each residence at the ambient ground temperature of approximately 55°F all year around. Each building has its own geothermal heat pump equipment, and full control of temperature settings at any time of year. This is similar to the Distributed Geothermal System configuration, except that the borefield is centralized. Because the fluid temperature is similar to the surrounding ground, there are no significant thermal losses in the distribution pipes and if installed below the frost line, the pipes would not need to be insulated.



Computer modelling could be used to prescribe concept design configurations along with associated order of magnitude costs. The following diagram illustrates how RETScreen organizes information for analysis of central geothermal district energy systems.

RETScreen

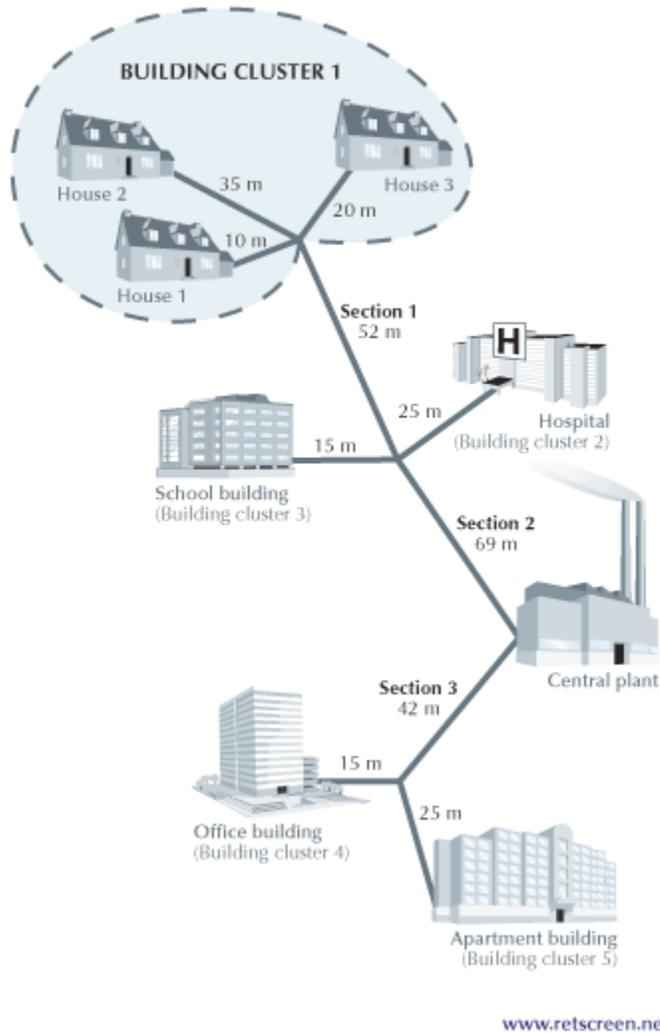


Figure 18: RETScreen Community System Building Cluster Layout

### 6.2.2.1 Central Geothermal District Energy – Ball State University

On May 11, 2009, Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana broke ground on the largest vertical closed-loop geothermal system to be installed in the United States<sup>13</sup>. Phase one is now complete and is undergoing final testing for full operations expected early in 2012. Construction of Phase II has begun.

Some of the notable characteristics of the system include:

<sup>13</sup> Ball State University website, Geothermal Energy, <http://cms.bsu.edu/About/Geothermal/FAQ.aspx>

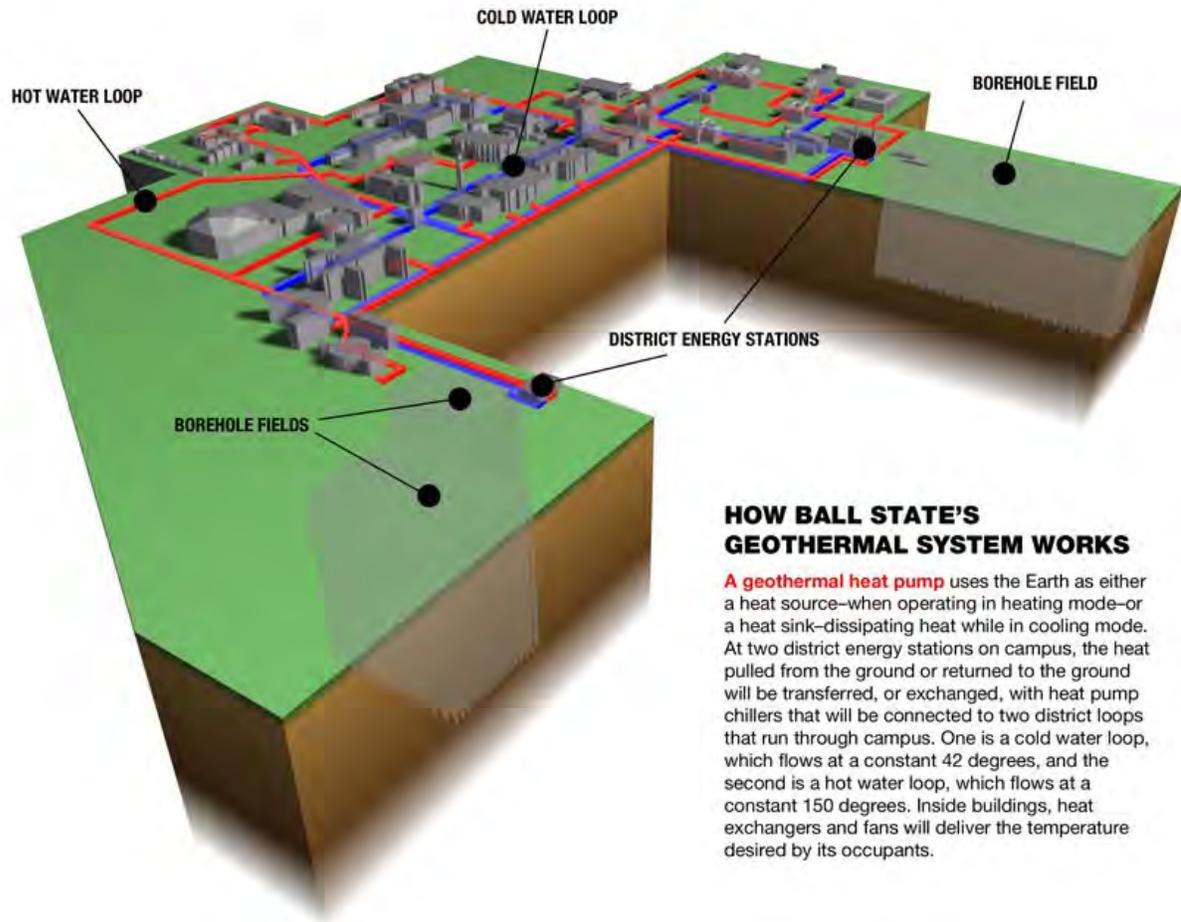


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- Elimination of 85,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually (50% of all emissions for the campus), by shutting down a coal fired heating system
- Three borefields, under sports fields, parking lots and green spaces
- 4100 boreholes (originally 3600 were planned), 450 feet deep, 5 inches in diameter
- Two Central Energy Stations will supply 45 campus buildings spread across 731 acres
- Over 10 miles of distribution pipes are being installed 5 feet below the surface
- Building clusters are connected to disbursed subterranean vaults, where pipe networks connect to central energy stations. This provides redundancy in the system and allows buildings to share loads.
- Heating provided by water at constant 140°F and chilling provided by water at constant 45°F
- Total cost is \$65 - \$70 million, annual savings are \$2 million, useful life of the system is 50 years



*Figure 19: Ball State University Geothermal System - North Borefield Installation*



### HOW BALL STATE'S GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM WORKS

A geothermal heat pump uses the Earth as either a heat source—when operating in heating mode—or a heat sink—dissipating heat while in cooling mode. At two district energy stations on campus, the heat pulled from the ground or returned to the ground will be transferred, or exchanged, with heat pump chillers that will be connected to two district loops that run through campus. One is a cold water loop, which flows at a constant 42 degrees, and the second is a hot water loop, which flows at a constant 150 degrees. Inside buildings, heat exchangers and fans will deliver the temperature desired by its occupants.

Figure 20: Ball State University Geothermal System Model



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

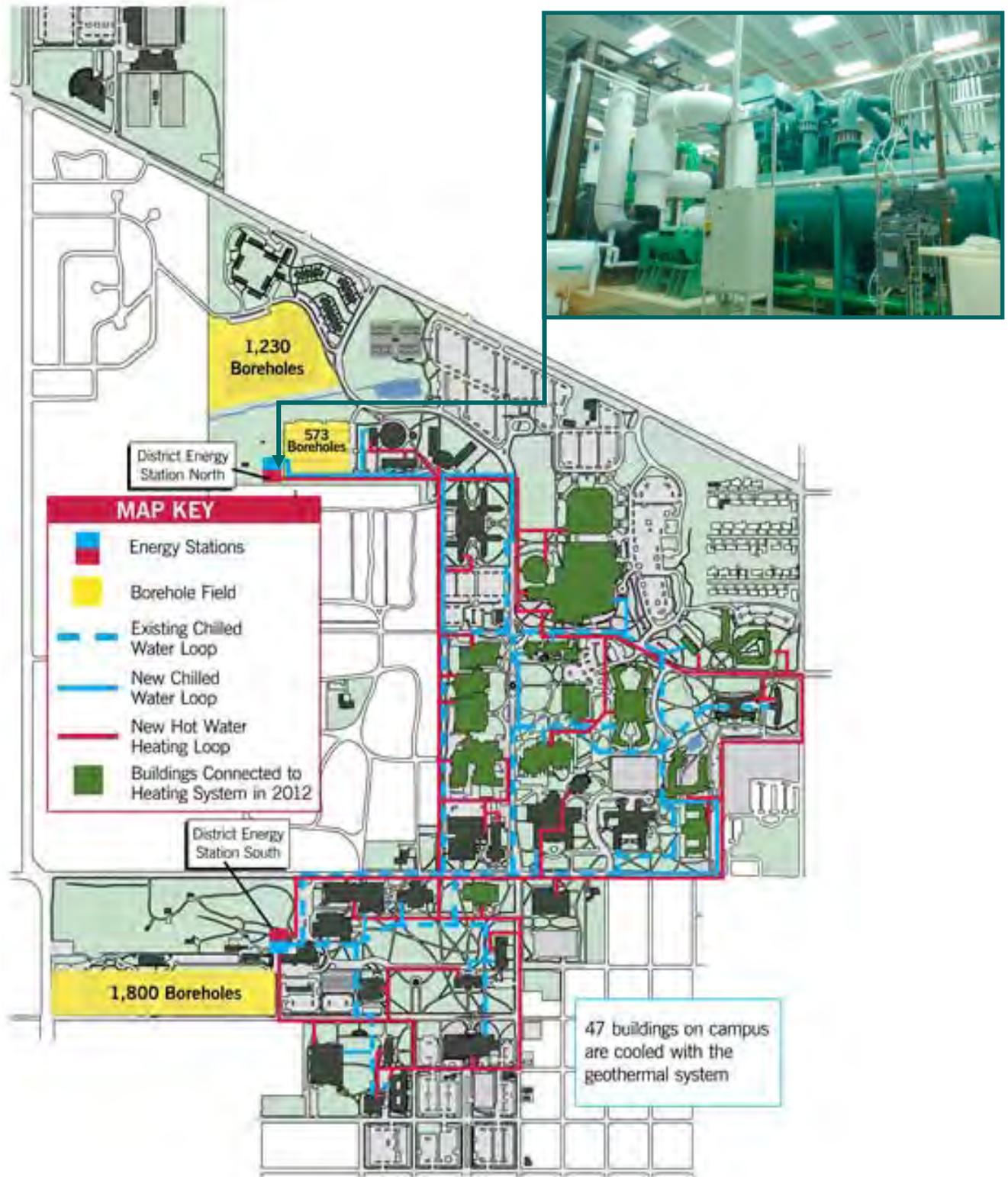


Figure 21: Ball State University Geothermal System Map with Photo of North District Energy Station Equipment



### 6.2.2.2 Central Geothermal District Energy - Enwave Energy Corporation

A second example of geothermal district energy is Enwave Energy Corp.<sup>14</sup> Enwave, a District Energy System operator, owns 522 MWs of installed steam generation capacity providing heat to more than 140 commercial, government, institutional (hospitals and universities) and multi-residential buildings representing approximately 40 million square feet of building space in downtown Toronto. Enwave also owns the world's largest Deep Lake Water Cooling (DLWC) system, which provides over 59,000 tons of chilled water to more than 100 high rise buildings. In many ways, the DLWC system can be considered a large open-loop geothermal system, though water drawn from the lake is first used for cooling and then processed for use as potable water and is not reinjected into the lake.

In a search for the most economical and renewable sources of energy that can provide large scale energy capacity to expand its system, Enwave has turned to geothermal energy, and is studying several geothermal ground heat exchange installations of 12,000 tons and more.

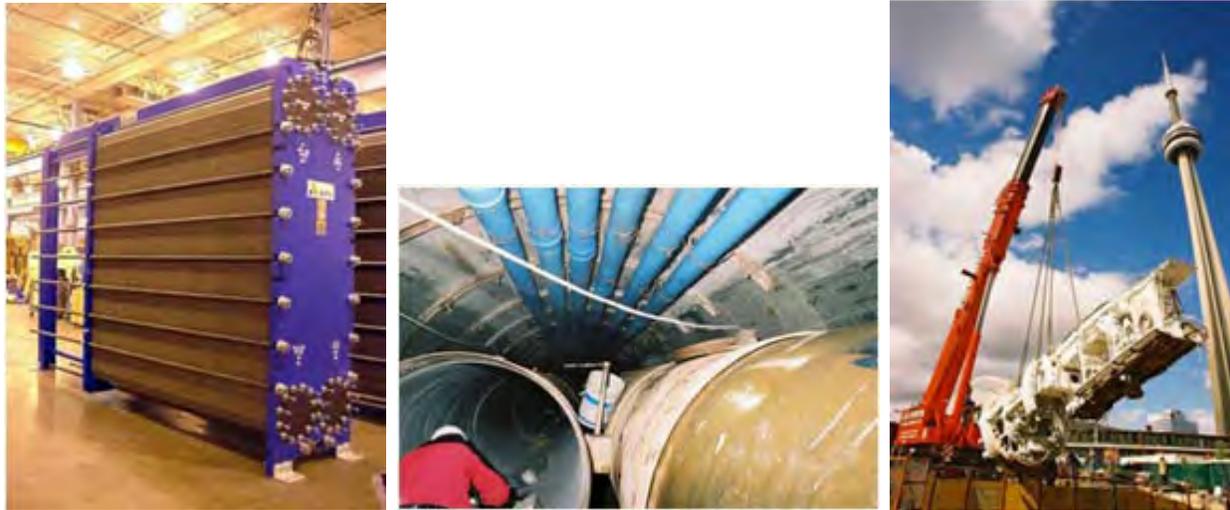


Figure 22: Enwave Deep Lake Water Cooling System Plate Heat Exchanger, Distribution Pipe Tunnel and Tunnel Borer being lowered into the ground

<sup>14</sup> Enwave Energy Corporation website, [www.enwave.com](http://www.enwave.com)



## 7.0 GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MD

The population of Charles County MD is projected to grow by an average of 1.7 percent per year, or 45 percent overall from 140,764 people in 2008 to a population of approximately 204,200 people by 2030<sup>15</sup>. This population increase of approximately 64,436 will require an additional 24,173 residential dwellings.

Greater residential (and commercial) density is proposed by the County for future development, in keeping with state and national sustainability and energy policies. Accordingly, planned communities, such as Homefield can be assumed to be part of this trend. Density and new construction offer the greatest opportunity for the development and installation of highly energy efficient, district energy systems and particularly geothermal district energy systems where the installation of borefields, is essential.

Growth plans call for commercial and institutional space in Charles County MD to increase by about 2% per year for the next 25 years, from over 14.5 million sq. ft. in 2010 to over 21.2 million sq. ft. in 2035. Accordingly the thermal energy required by this space is estimated to increase by approximately 46%, an increase of an additional 276,000 MBTU/year. This energy increase represents approximately 49,500 tons of geothermal energy. To put this in perspective, it would take 19,800 boreholes drilled 600 feet deep, to produce this amount of heating and cooling, in Charles County, MD. A borefield installation of that size would require approximately 100 acres of land. Obviously not every new building in Charles County is going to be connected to a central geothermal district energy system. However, where growth is concentrated and where infrastructure is being replaced regardless, such as Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Area, a central geothermal district energy system may be very feasible.

### 7.1 Waldorf Geothermal District Energy System

The Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Area includes an area of land approximately 9100 feet by 1500 feet, or 13.65 million square feet (313 acres).<sup>16</sup> If buildings eventually were built to cover 10% of the land area, with a height of 2 stories, the building floor area would contain approximately 2.7 million sq. ft. of occupied space. At an energy intensity of 500 sq. ft. of occupied space per ton of geothermal energy, the capacity of a geothermal district energy system to serve Waldorf would be approximately 5400 tons.



Figure 23: Waldorf Urban Redevelopment Area

<sup>15</sup> Charles County Comprehensive Plan, Water Resource Element (Draft), July 2010, page 4 (Original Source: MDP, 2008 Estimates for Maryland's Jurisdictions)

<sup>16</sup> Waldorf Urban Design Study, Project summary, April 2010, Page 1.



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

Applying the assumptions developed earlier for Charles County MD, 5400 tons of geothermal energy would require approximately 2160 boreholes, drilled 600 feet deep, requiring 486,000 sq. ft. of surface area for borefield installation or 3.56% of the land area to be redeveloped. Borefields could be drilled into parking lots, roadways, green spaces and drainage ponds, under buildings before construction, or alternatively in brownfield sites in close proximity to the area.

The following figure illustrates a central district energy system concept that may be considered for Waldorf. Three potential borefield locations are suggested. Three central energy station locations are also suggested. Several secondary connection spurs are included. This concept suggests:

- Main Distribution pipe length 7965 ft.
- Secondary connection pipe spurs, total length 11,667 ft.
- Distance to connect Borefield A - 287 ft., Borefield B - 2351 ft. and Borefield C - 3100 ft.

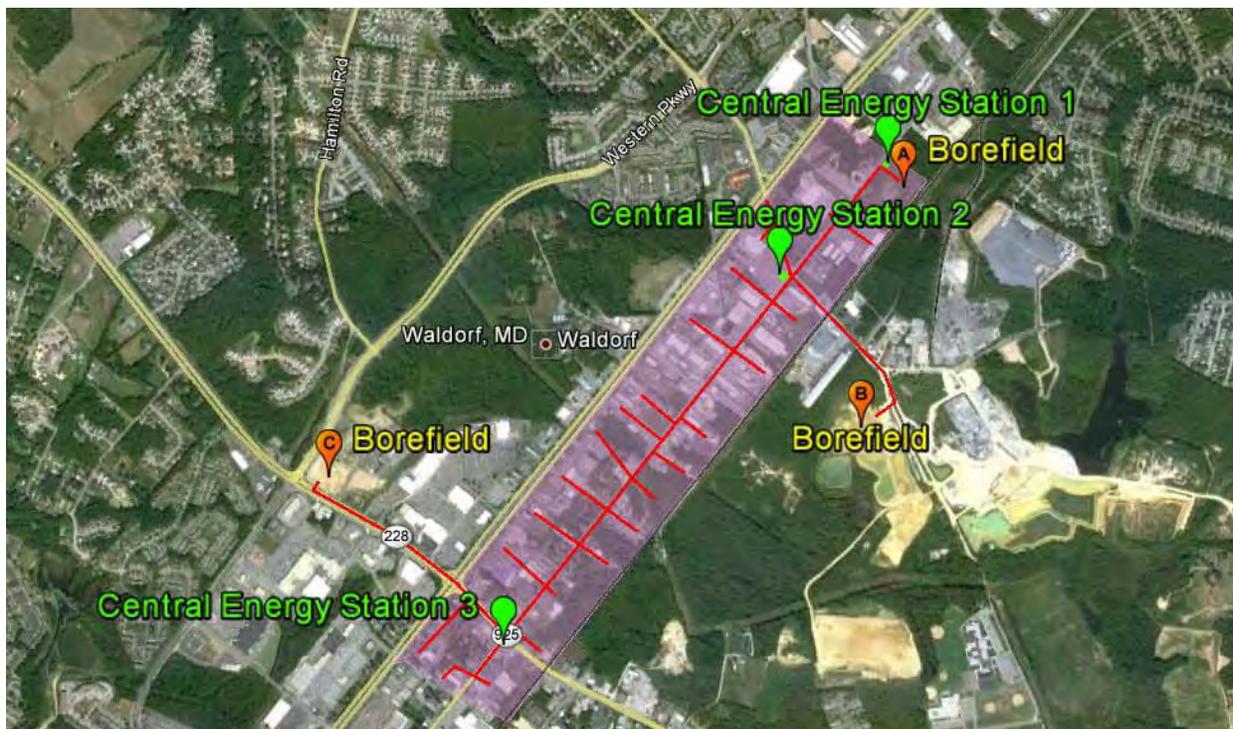


Figure 24: Waldorf Geothermal District Energy System Design Concept

From this simple concept it is impossible to create a reasonable RETScreen model or to estimate costs. For an order of magnitude level of assessment, by applying a simple assumed cost of \$4800. per ton to install a geothermal borefield, 5400 tons indicates a cost of approximately \$25 million. Add to this the cost of the pipe network, and building connections and equipment; it seems that it would not be unreasonable to estimate the cost of this system to be between \$40 and \$50 million. This seems reasonable, when compared to the cost given for the Ball State University Geothermal District Energy System (approximately \$8500 per ton, total project cost) (Section 6.2.2.1).

Geothermal borefields and mechanical systems are very scalable and can be designed to closely match



capacities required. However the length of the distribution piping is fixed, depending on building locations. Therefore building density is key to the economic feasibility of a district energy system. Sophisticated computer modeling tools exist, to help developers map energy intensity of proposed district energy systems. For simple estimations, RETScreen can be used. For more detailed and accurate estimations “Community and Emission Mapping and Planning Tool” (CEEMAP)<sup>17</sup> can be used. For detail design and definitive costing, software called TERMIS<sup>18</sup> is appropriate.

### 7.1.1 Observations and Conclusions for Waldorf Geothermal District Energy System

- Maryland State Tax incentives appear to be substantial, and may reimburse 100% or more of the initial capital cash required to install geothermal systems, in the state. Expert tax advice should be obtained to determine the real effects of these tax incentives that can be expected. (refer to *Report I, Section 9.3, Incentives for Geothermal System Installations*, which has been revised since first reported in April 2011)
- For a complex system such as this, more detailed planning and feasibility analysis is required to determine estimated building loads, borefield locations and lengths of distribution and connections piping required.
- Stakeholder engagement is an important part of any infrastructure project that influences individual private property and business owners. Professional planners can assist governments and developers to plan information content and publication and presentation mediums. Budgets should reflect the cost of this essential activity. Failure to gain “social license” could result in challenges that preclude the project from proceeding at any cost.
- Installing infrastructure into built environments creates disruption to businesses and inconvenience for local residents. Redevelopment and renewal projects should be planned to take advantage of “one time” construction to minimize costs, both money and inconvenience.
- Retrofitting geothermal systems which produce low grade heat, to existing Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (ICI) buildings may be technically difficult and/or expensive if the building HVAC infrastructure is designed for high grade heat. Architectural building interior space may be an issue as is the design and state of repair of existing hydronic piping. Each building in the area and each new building to be built, needs to be assessed for low-grade heat and geothermal system compatibility, state of repair of existing HVAC equipment, building energy efficiency, size and seasonal variation of building energy loads, current cost of energy, future expansion plans, and many other factors that could affect the suitability of connecting to district energy system.
- Process loads and auxiliary heating and cool loads can be incorporated into a geothermal system and can often significantly improve the economics of a project. Buildings should be assessed for the opportunity to share loads. For example, waste heat from a local manufacturer or heat from a skating arena can be used to heat a community swimming pool, with Coefficients of Performance (COPs) as high as 7 to 10.

<sup>17</sup> CEEMAP is a proprietary software program owned by H.B. Lanarc Inc., a Golder company.

<sup>18</sup> TERMIS is a proprietary software program owned by COWI, and licensed by Golder Associates Ltd.



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## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

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- ICI buildings are large enough that they usually benefit significantly from the installation of central Energy Return Ventilation (ERV) units that can save 30% to 60% of the energy otherwise expelled to the atmosphere, thereby significantly reducing the size (capacity) and cost of a geothermal system. Paybacks on ERVs are often under 2 years and therefore improve the overall economics of a project. Installation of ERVs could be considered as a possible companion offering, to businesses interested in connecting to a geothermal system.
- Opportunistically, open excavations, such as gravel pits, roadways under construction, stormwater drainage pond excavations, and others can be used to install low cost horizontal geothermal loops, prior to backfill and landscaping. Vertical geothermal ground heat exchangers can be installed under buildings, for example, a big box store can cover 50,000 sq. ft. of land, enough to install 225 boreholes which could produce over 550 tons of energy, enough to heat almost 500,000 sq. ft. of occupied space.
- RETScreen Analysis software, while useful, is very simplistic and can only be used for high level study purposes. It is not a design tool. It operates on databases that are updated regularly but they are never complete. For example, the choice of heat pumps was appropriate for this study, however for design, different heat pumps would likely be selected.
- The process of detail design offers many opportunities to optimize energy use and energy efficiency through a process of building/mechanical/energy integration. Project managers should seek to find and incorporate these advantages into projects.



### 7.2 Homefield Geothermal District Energy System

Homefield Subdivision is a planned residential community, located just south of LaPlata, MD. According to a rough site plan of Homefield provided by the consultant, Meridian Ventures, Inc.<sup>19</sup>, the following buildings were indicated:

Table 12: Homefield Subdivision Buildings Planned

	Type of Residential Structure	Number	Avg. Area / Bldg, ft <sup>2</sup>	Frontage, ft
<b>Phase I</b>	Single Family Detached House	201	2,100	50
	Single-Family Attached (Townhouse)	200	1,700	50
<b>Phase II</b>	Multi-family Residential Buildings	8 buildings (192 units total)	1,000	N/A
	Community Building	1	3,000	N/A
<b>Homefield DE System Total</b>		<b>594</b>	<b>957,100</b>	<b>28,125</b>

Note: Data is not exact, but derived from a rough site plan for the purposes of this study only.

Golder developed Scenarios and applied RETScreen Analysis, first to each building type (results are given in previous sections of this report) and then developed a design concept for central geothermal district energy systems that might be applied to Homefield. In an attempt to reduce the fixed cost of distribution piping required, the concept divided the subdivision into two phases, Phase I connecting the single family homes and townhouses south of the Community Center and Phase II connecting the multi-residential buildings to the north of the Community Center. The results of the RETScreen Analysis for this two phase concept, indicates that it may be more economical to consider a single phase concept, however this study limits the investigation to one concept for Homefield, Phase I: Multi-buildings and Phase II: Multi- residential.

The following sketch illustrates the Homefield Geothermal District Energy System (HGDES) design concept developed by Golder. The black lines indicate distribution pipes installed under streets connecting to two Central Geothermal Plants. Building Clusters were each defined for space and energy loads and used in the development of the RETScreen analysis models. Pipes connecting each residential unit to the distribution pipe system were not included in calculations. Each residence would have its own individual heat pump with individual controls for setting indoor temperatures. The cost of this equipment was not included in the cost of the HGDES.

<sup>19</sup> Meridian Ventures Inc. 3261 Old Washington Road, Suite 1040, Waldorf, MD 20602, James Lynn, President, <http://www.mviservices.us/>





## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

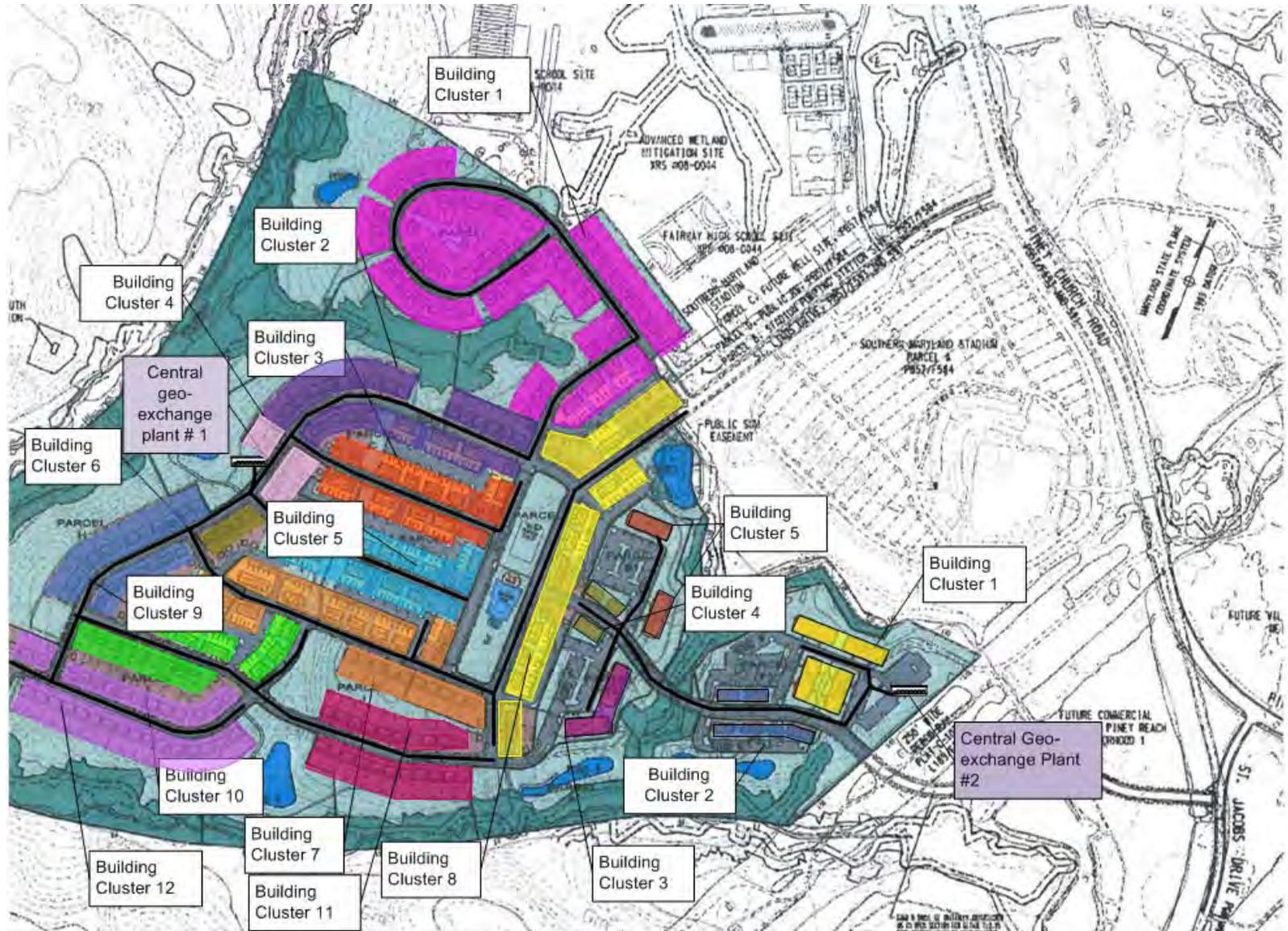


Figure 25: Homefield Geothermal District Energy System Design Concept



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

The full RETScreen Analysis reports for the Homefield Geothermal District Energy System, Phase I and Phase II are included in **Appendix A**. The following tables summarize the business case results for the design concepts developed.

**Table 13: Homefield Phase I - Central Geothermal District Energy System**

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal DE System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
22,353 MBTU	1,602,412 RTh	\$10.9 million	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$87,619	16.5 yrs	12.8 yrs	1.3% 8.9% ROE
22,353 MBTU	1,602,412 RTh	\$10.9 million	N/A	\$852,754	12.0 yrs	12.8 yrs	7.8%

*\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes*

**Table 14: Homefield Phase II - Central Geothermal District Energy System**

Annual Heating	Annual Cooling	Geothermal DE System Cost*	Loan	Monthly Cash Flow	Equity Payback	Simple Payback	Pretax IRR (assets)
5.9 MBTU	413,680 RTh	\$1.9 million	75% @ 6.9%, 20 yrs	\$2,496	20.8 yrs	14 yrs	0.4% 6.9% ROE
5.9 MBTU	413,680 RTh	\$1.9 million	N/A	\$135,270	13.1 yrs	14 yrs	6.9%

*\*Before rebates, grants, tax incentives and taxes*

The financial portion of this concept did not include any revenues from the sale of energy. Rather we relied on the energy cost savings to provide indicators for the projected paybacks and financial returns. This would be the most conservative assumption possible.

Other assumptions that could be refined with more detailed analysis would include:

- Optimization of building concurrent and diversified energy loads would likely reduce the size of the system by 10% to 30%
- Detail design engineering would likely improve the efficiency of the layout of the distribution piping
- Building energy efficiency improvements may be more cost effective than the added cost of providing geothermal energy to satisfy current building loads
- Costs of equipment and installation may be reduced by a competitive tender process



### 7.2.1 Observations and Conclusions for Homefield Geothermal District Energy System

From the detailed information provided by the models for the Homefield Geothermal District Energy Systems, the following observations and conclusions can be drawn:

- For a subdivision the size of Homefield, only one central geothermal district energy system is required. The concept of two phases produces systems that are relatively small for central systems with low economies of scale.
- For a subdivision the size of Homefield, a distributed geothermal district energy system design should be considered. The economics appear to be much better, and distributed systems can be installed as each residential unit is built, with no infrastructure required. *Please refer to Section 6.2.1 for a description and to the RETScreen models for single family homes, attached townhouses and multi-residential buildings, Section 5.1.*
- Maryland State Tax incentives appear to be substantial, and may reduce the initial capital cash required to install geothermal systems in the state. Expert tax advice should be obtained to determine the real effects of these tax incentives that can be expected. (refer to *Report I, Section 9.3, Incentives for Geothermal System Installations*, which has been revised since first reported in April 2011)
- Residential buildings in Charles County MD appear to be heating dominant, on an annual basis Building loads should be assessed carefully using building hourly energy load analysis software such as Carrier HAP or Trane Trace 2000. This detail analysis is not usually performed for traditional energy systems, but is essential for the proper design of a geothermal district energy system.
- Subdivision scale geothermal ground heat exchangers are not likely to be able to take advantage of the lower cost of installing a horizontal geothermal system, due to the space required. However, where land is available, whole communities have installed large horizontal systems, that perform extremely well to design specifications. Gibson's, BC is one such community. *For a summary description of the Gibsons BC system, please refer to **Appendix D**.*
- Auxiliary heating and cool loads can be incorporated into a geothermal system and can often significantly improve the economics of a project. For example, a community swimming pool or individual private home swimming pools could be heated by the geothermal system, in the shoulder months when the demand for space heating is low.
- Building energy efficient design and materials can significantly reduce the demand for energy, thereby reducing the size and cost of the geothermal ground heat exchanger. Municipal building codes, regulations such as building density and financial incentives can promote more energy efficient building structures and therefore the installation of geothermal systems.
- RETScreen Analysis software, while useful, is very simplistic and can only be used for high level study purposes. It is not a design tool. It operates on databases that are updated regularly but they are never complete. For example, the choice of heat pumps was appropriate for this study, however for design, more optimal heat pumps would likely be selected.



- The process of detail design offers many opportunities to optimize energy use and energy efficiency through a process of building/mechanical/energy integration. Project managers should seek to find and incorporate these advantages into projects.

## 8.0 GEOTHERMAL CONTRIBUTION TO EMISSIONS REDUCTION

As noted in *Section 4.3* above, SMECO reports<sup>20</sup> that the electricity generation mix for this region has values represented by 2010 averages: 49.8% coal, 35.0% nuclear, 11.41% natural gas, and 0.49% oil. Renewable energy: 0.28% methane gas, 0% geothermal, 0.97% hydroelectric, less than 0.01% solar, 0.57% solid waste, 1.28% wind, and 0.19% wood/other biomass.

The amount of air pollution associated with the generation of electricity production for this region, given in pounds emitted per megawatt hour of electricity generated, as follows: Nitrogen Oxides (NOx): 1.32, Sulphur Dioxide (SO2): 5.24, and Carbon Dioxide (CO2): 1,167.56 (0.58378 tCO2/MWh).

Applying this data to the RETScreen analysis scenarios, the following estimated emission reductions were calculated for each of the individual building types considered:

**Table 15: Expected Annual Emission Reductions Created by Substituting Geothermal Energy – Individual Building Types (lbs.)**

Building (s)		Reference	Proposed	Emission Reduction			Emission Reduction Equivalent	
Scenario	Area Sq. Ft.	Electricity lb. CO <sup>2</sup>	Geothermal Energy lb. CO <sup>2</sup>	CO <sup>2</sup> lb.	NOx lb.	SO <sub>2</sub> lb.	Cars	Barrels, crude oil
Single Family Home	3,200	17.9	6.6	11.3	.0128	.0507	2.1	26.4
Attached Townhouse	1,700	10.5	2.8	7.7	.0087	.0346	1.4	17.8
Multi-residential	60,000	454.8	155.1	299.8	.3389	1.346	54.9	697
Commercial Community Center (Homefield)	3,000	19.7	6.3	13.4	.0148	.0588	2.4	31.1

Applying the SMECO emissions data to the RETScreen analysis scenarios, the following estimated emission reductions were calculated for Homefield subdivision:

<sup>20</sup> SMECO website: <https://www.smeco.coop/energy/envIRON.html>



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

**Table 16: Expected Annual Emission Reductions Created by Substituting Geothermal Energy – Homefield Subdivision (tons)**

Building (s)		Reference	Proposed	Emission Reduction			Emission Reduction Equivalent	
Scenario	Area Sq. Ft.	Electricity tons CO <sup>2</sup>	Geothermal Energy tons CO <sup>2</sup>	CO <sup>2</sup> tons	NO <sub>x</sub> tons	SO <sub>2</sub> tons	Cars	Barrels, crude oil
Homefield Community Center	3,000	.00985	.00315	.00665	.0000074	.0000294	2.4	31.1
Homefield Phase I (SFH-TH)	762,000	5,289.8	1,543.0	3,746.8	4.236	16.816	686	8,714
Homefield Phase II (Multi-Res)	246,400	1385.0	422.6	962	1.088	4.317	176	2,237
<b>Total Homefield</b>	<b>1,011,400</b>	<b>6,674.8</b>	<b>1,965.6</b>	<b>4,708.8</b>	<b>5.32</b>	<b>21.13</b>	<b>864.4</b>	<b>10,982.1</b>



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Tel: 800-345-ISCO (4726) In Maryland, contact David Klecan 443-721-7691 [David.Klecan@isco-pipe.com](mailto:David.Klecan@isco-pipe.com) or Justin Grabarczyk 302-250-7211 [Justin.Grabarczyk@isco-pipe.com](mailto:Justin.Grabarczyk@isco-pipe.com)
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### GOLDER ASSOCIATES INC.

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Senior Consultant, Geothermal

Brent Waters, C.P.G.  
Associate

SW/BW/sa

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# APPENDIX A

## RETScreen Analysis Software Models

**Project information**

Project name: Statoil Fossil Mixer - Vertical  
 Project location: US, MD, Charles County  
 Prepared for: Government of Charles County MD  
 Prepared by: Goldor Associates Inc.  
 Project type: Combined heating/cooling  
 Analysis type: Method 1  
 Heating value reference: Higher heating value (HHV)  
 Show details:   
 Language - User: English - English  
 User manual: English - English  
 Currency: \$  
 Units: Imperial units

**Site reference conditions**

Climate data location: Bedroom SPD  
 Show data:

**Climate data**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Latitude	38.8												
Longitude	-76.5												
Elevation	282												
Heating design temperature	-7												
Cooling design temperature	7												
Heating/cooling capacity	35.2												

**Monthly climate data**

Month	Temperature	Radiation	Humidity	Daily solar radiation		Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Evaporation	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
				Horizontal	Track					
January	34.5	64.5	3.18	28.3	3.1	29.5	75	1	148	
February	37.4	62.5	2.79	28.3	3.8	29.1	75.4	1	125	
March	45.8	68.5	3.26	28.9	3.8	28.3	45.1	1	55	
April	54.3	64.5	4.82	28.3	3.8	28.3	16.8	1	16	
May	63.3	68.5	5.38	28.8	2.4	27.1	17	1	438	
June	72.5	78.5	5.22	28.8	6.7	26.5	1	1	875	
July	77.4	78.5	5.64	28.3	6.5	26.3	1	1	148	
August	75.2	72.2	5.15	28.8	6.3	26.8	1	1	784	
September	68.2	78.5	4.29	28.8	6.5	28.3	1	1	545	
October	57.8	72.5	3.19	28.3	6.2	28.5	1	1	218	
November	48.8	67.5	2.19	28.3	2.8	27.2	1	1	484	
December	38.7	65.5	1.81	28.3	3.3	27.2	1	1	288	
Annual	56.2	67.5	3.98	28.8	2.2	27.1	4,161	1,643		



### RETScreen Analysis Software Modeling

Assumptions Used:

- The following scenarios were considered:

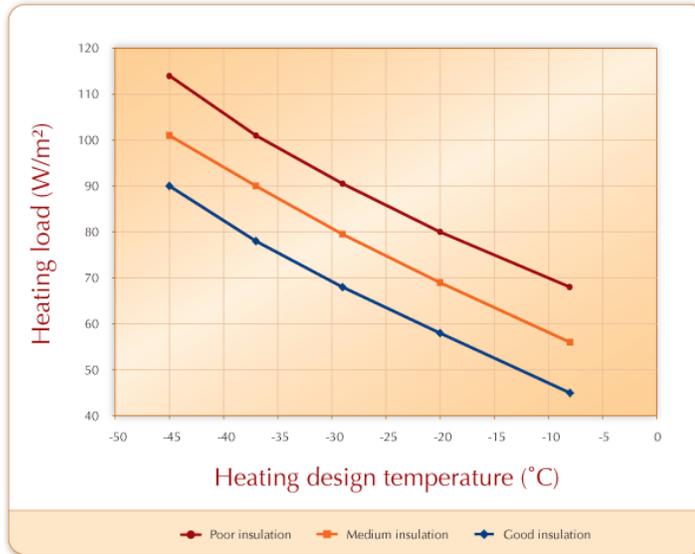
Scenario	Buildings	District Energy System	Stand-alone System
Scenario 1	Single house – Vertical		x
Scenario 1B	Single house - Horizontal		x
Scenario 2	Attached Townhouse - Vertical		x
Scenario 2B	Attached Townhouse - Horizontal		x
Scenario 3	Multi-res building - Vertical		x
Scenario 4	Homefield Community Center - Vertical		x
Scenario 4	Homefield Community Center - Horizontal		x
Scenario 5	Homefield Geothermal District Energy System – Phase I - Single Family Homes and Townhouses	x	
Scenario 6	Homefield Geothermal District Energy System – Phase II - Multi-residential Buildings	x	

- All models were created with 2 cases: Base Case (heat and cold are supplied by conventional systems, electric boilers and conventional chiller, respectively); Proposed Case (heat and cold are supplied by the geothermal system).
- Electricity cost: an average cost of electricity of \$0.1434/kWh was used (\$0.0975/kWh (June to October) and \$0.0911/kWh (November to May)) to estimate annual utility costs.
- In case of district energy system, all residential structures are serviced by direct buried pre-insulated piping. Heat transfer medium is water, which circulates between central heat pumps, located within the community’s central plant, and individual heat pumps, located in every housing unit
- Climate data location: Andrews Air Force Base (Andrews AFB), Maryland, US.
- Design supply temperature for district heating network: 100 °F  
Design return temperature for district heating network: 90 °F
- Design supply temperature for district cooling network: 45 °F  
Design return temperature for district heating network: 55 °F



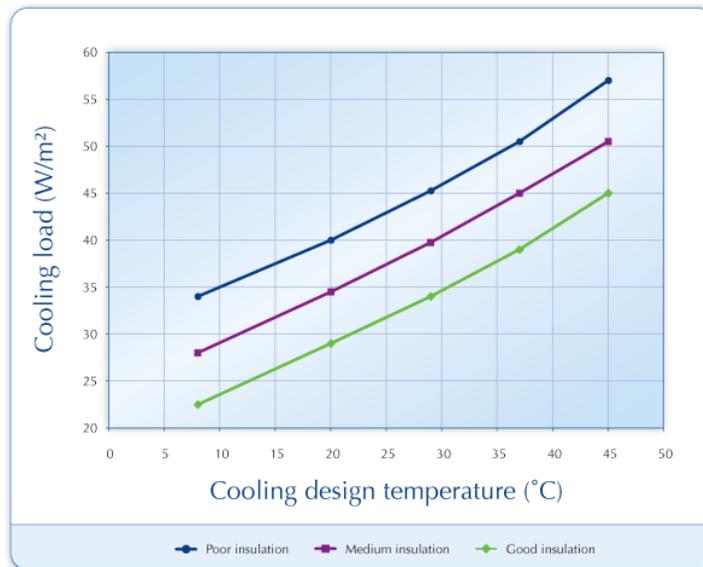
## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

7. Heating load was estimated to be 17 BTUH/ft<sup>2</sup> (or 55 W/m<sup>2</sup>) based on heating design temperature for Andrews AFB, which is 18.3 °F (or -7.6 °C). Medium insulation level for all type of construction was assumed.



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8. Domestic hot water heating base demand is assumed to be 10-15% of total heating load.
9. Cooling load was estimated to be 13 BTUH/ft<sup>2</sup> (or 42 W/m<sup>2</sup>) based on cooling design temperatures for Andrews AFB, which is 91.0 °F (or 32.8 °C). Medium insulation level for all type of construction was assumed.



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10. For townhouses and multi-residential buildings heating and cooling loads were assumed to be 70% of the loads of the detached houses.
11. Community center assumed to have 85% heating load of a single-family detached house, and 110% cooling load of a single-family detached house.



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

12. The following seasonal efficiencies were used in the model:

System Type	Base Case (conventional boilers and chillers)	Proposed Case (ground-source heat-pumps)
Seasonal Efficiency for Heating System	85%	5.2
Seasonal Efficiency for Cooling System (COP)	3.5	4.7

13. HDPE Geothermal loop installation (PE3810, 1 1/4" OD, SDR11), including drilling a 4 5/8" diameter BH, pressure testing, and grouting; cost is approximately \$14 per vertical foot. Horizontal tie-ins including horizontal headers, manifolds and joints, fusing, excavation (no backfill) to headers inside the building (commercial systems), including purging and flushing of the system on startup; cost is approximately \$2000/BH. (Cost is approx. \$500 per single family home) Therefore a 300 ft. BH complete to tie-in will cost approximately \$6200, while a 600 ft. deep BH, complete to tie-in, will cost approximately \$10,400.

14. Inflation rate was assumed to be 3.5% based on US' October 2011 inflation rate. Source: <http://www.usinflationcalculator.com/inflation/current-inflation-rates/>

15. Transmission and distribution losses in US were assumed to be 7%, according to US EIA. <http://205.254.135.7/tools/faqs/faq.cfm?id=105&t=3>

16. Electricity escalation rate: 1% as per Projected fuel price indices, Census Region 3. Source: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/pdfs/ashb11.pdf>

**Table Ca-3. Projected fuel price indices (excluding general inflation), by end-use sector and fuel type.**

Census Region 3 (Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia)

Sector and Fuel	Projected April 1 Fuel Price Indices (April 1, 2011 = 1.00)														
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Residential															
Electricity	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.01	1.01
Distillate Oil	0.94	0.93	0.95	0.97	1.00	1.04	1.07	1.10	1.12	1.13	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.19	1.20
LPG	1.05	1.08	1.09	1.10	1.12	1.14	1.15	1.17	1.19	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.24	1.25	1.26
Natural Gas	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.99	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.03	1.05	1.07	1.09	1.11	1.13	1.15



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Clean Energy Project Analysis Software

## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name: Single Family House - Vertical  
 Project location: US, MD, Charles County  
 Prepared for: government of Charles County MD  
 Prepared by: Golder Associates Inc.  
 Project type: Combined heating & cooling  
 Analysis type: Method 1  
 Heating value reference: Higher heating value (HHV)  
 Show settings:   
 Language - Langue: English - Anglais  
 User manual: English - Anglais  
 Currency: \$  
 Units: Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location: Andrews AFB  
 Show data:



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m²/d	Inch Hg	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	29.9	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	29.9	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	29.8	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	29.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	29.8	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	29.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	29.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	29.8	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	29.9	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	29.9	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	29.9	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	29.9	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	29.8	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

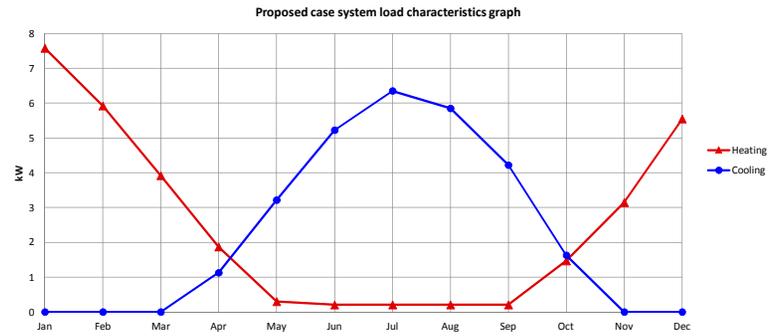
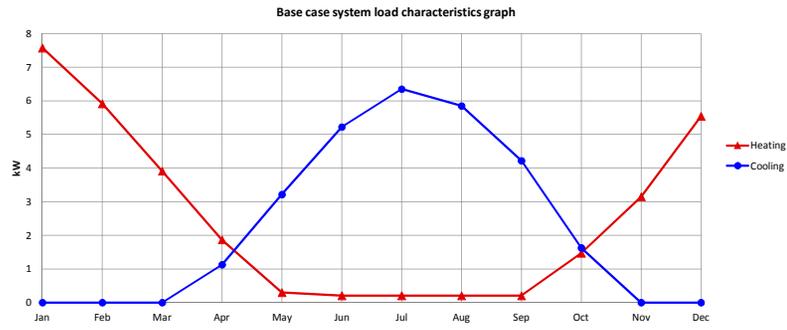
RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Heating project	Unit	
<b>Base case heating system</b>	Single building - space heating	
Heated floor area for building	ft²	2,500
Fuel type		Electricity
Seasonal efficiency	%	100%
<b>Heating load calculation</b>		
Heating load for building	(Btu/h)/ft²	17.0
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	10%
Total heating	million Btu	81
Total peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	24
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	3,384
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	
Net peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Net heating	million Btu	81

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project	Unit	
<b>Base case cooling system</b>	Single building - space cooling	
Cooled floor area for building	ft²	2,500
Fuel type		Electricity
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		3.00
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>		
Cooling load for building	(Btu/h)/ft²	13.0
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%
Total cooling	RTh	6,063
Total peak cooling load	RT	2.7
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	7
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	1,019
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%
Net peak cooling load	RT	2.7
Net cooling	RTh	6,063

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



Proposed case load and energy

System peak load  
System energy

Heating  
million Btu/h  
million Btu

0  
81

RT  
RTh

Cooling  
3  
6,063

Proposed case cooling system				Incremental initial costs
<b>Base load cooling system</b>				
Technology	Heat pump			<a href="#">Show figure</a>  <a href="#">See product database</a>
Fuel type	Electricity			
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400		
Capacity	kW	18.3	192.1%	
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		4.70		
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-060-E			
Cooling delivered	RTh	6,063	100.0%	
1 unit(s)				
<b>Peak load cooling system</b>				
Technology	Not required			

Proposed case heating system				Incremental initial costs
<b>System selection</b>				
Base load system				
<b>Base load heating system</b>				
Technology				
Heat pump				
<b>Fuel selection method</b>				
Single fuel				
Electricity				
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400		
<b>Heat pump</b>				
Capacity	kW	14.7	118.0%	\$ - <a href="#">See product database</a>
Heating delivered	million Btu	81	100.0%	
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-060-E			
Seasonal efficiency	%	350%		
Fuel required	million Btu/h	0.0		
1 unit(s)				

Proposed case system characteristics	Unit	Estimate	%	Incremental initial costs	System design graph	
<b>Heating</b>						
<b>Base load heating system</b>						
Technology	Heat pump					
Capacity	million Btu/h	0.1	118.0%			
Heating delivered	million Btu	81	100.0%			
<b>Peak load heating system</b>						
Technology	Not required					
<b>Back-up heating system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
Capacity	kW					
<b>Cooling</b>						
<b>Base load cooling system</b>						
Technology	Heat pump					
Fuel type	Electricity					
Capacity	RT	5	192.1%			
Cooling delivered	RTh	6,063	100.0%			
<b>Back-up cooling system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
Capacity	kW					

Proposed case system summary		Fuel type	Fuel consumption - unit	Fuel consumption	Capacity (kW)	Energy delivered (MWh)
<b>Heating</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	7	15	24
				<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Cooling</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	5	18	21
				<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>

**Emission Analysis**

Base case electricity system (Baseline)		GHG emission factor (excl. T&D)	T&D losses	GHG emission factor
Country - region	Fuel type	tCO2/MWh	%	tCO2/MWh
United States of America	All types	0.584		0.584

**GHG emission**

Base case	tCO2	17.9
Proposed case	tCO2	6.6
<b>Gross annual GHG emission reduction</b>	tCO2	11.3
GHG credits transaction fee	%	
<b>Net annual GHG emission reduction</b>	tCO2	11.3
<b>GHG reduction income</b>		
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2	

is equivalent to

2.1

Cars & light trucks not used

**Financial Analysis**

**Financial parameters**

Inflation rate	%	3.5%
Project life	yr	30
Debt ratio	%	0%

**Initial costs**

Heating system	\$	0	0.0%
Cooling system	\$	6,000	25.7%
Ground Heat Exchanger	\$	17,326	74.3%
<b>Total initial costs</b>	\$	23,326	100.0%

**Incentives and grants**

	\$	1,350	0.0%
--	----	-------	------

**Annual costs and debt payments**

O&M (savings) costs	\$	-200
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	1,617
<b>Total annual costs</b>	\$	1,417

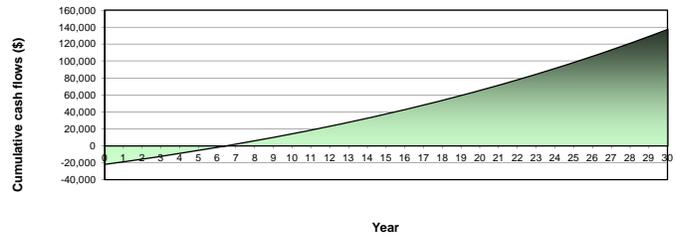
**Annual savings and income**

Fuel cost - base case	\$	4,403
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>	\$	4,403

**Financial viability**

Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	17.2%
Simple payback	yr	7.4
Equity payback	yr	6.5

Cumulative cash flows graph



**RETScreen Tools - Combined heating & cooling project**

**Settings**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> As fired fuel                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ground heat exchanger        | <input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - gas   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biogas                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Heat rate                    | <input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - solid |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building envelope properties   | <input type="checkbox"/> Heating value & fuel rate    | <input type="checkbox"/> Water & steam             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appliances & equipment         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro formula costing method | <input type="checkbox"/> Water pumping             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - monthly     | <input type="checkbox"/> Landfill gas                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Window properties         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - time of use | <input type="checkbox"/> Unit conversion              | <input type="checkbox"/> Custom 1                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GHG equivalence                | <input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel            | <input type="checkbox"/> Custom 2                  |

**Ground heat exchanger**

**Heat pump**

Unit	Heating	Cooling
Capacity	kW 14.7	18.3
Average load	kW 3.0	2.0
Manufacturer	McQuay	
Model	WCCH/WCCW-060-E	
Efficiency	High	
Coefficient of performance - design	4.0	5.5

1 unit(s)

[See product database](#)

**Site conditions**

Unit	Project location	Climate data location
Soil type	Light soil - damp	
Earth temperature	°F 57.1	57.1
Earth temperature amplitude	°F 23.1	35.2
Measured at	ft 10.0	0.0

**Ground heat exchanger**

Type	Vertical closed-loop	
Design criteria	Heating	
Land area	ft <sup>2</sup> 3,000	942
Layout	Standard	
Borehole length	ft 1,114	

	Quantity	Unit cost		Amount	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Specific project costs					
Circulating pump	kW 0.3	\$ 1,000		\$ 311	
Circulating fluid	US gal 15.85	\$ 25		\$ 396	
Drilling & grouting	ft 1,114	\$ 12		\$ 13,650	
Loop pipe	ft 2,229	\$ 1		\$ 2,786	
Fittings & valves	kW 18.3	\$ 10		\$ 183	
<b>Total</b>				\$ 17,326	



# RETScreen® International

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Clean Energy Project Analysis Software

## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name	Single-family townhouse (One unit)
Project location	US, Maryland, Charles County
Prepared for	Charles County Government
Prepared by	Golder Associates Ltd.
Project type	Combined heating & cooling
Analysis type	Method 1
Heating value reference	Higher heating value (HHV)
Show settings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language - Langue	English - Anglais
User manual	English - Anglais
Currency	\$
Units	Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location	Andrews AFB
Show data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /d	kPa	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	101.2	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	101.2	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	101.0	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	100.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	100.9	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	100.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	100.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	101.0	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	101.1	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	101.2	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	101.2	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	101.3	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	101.0	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

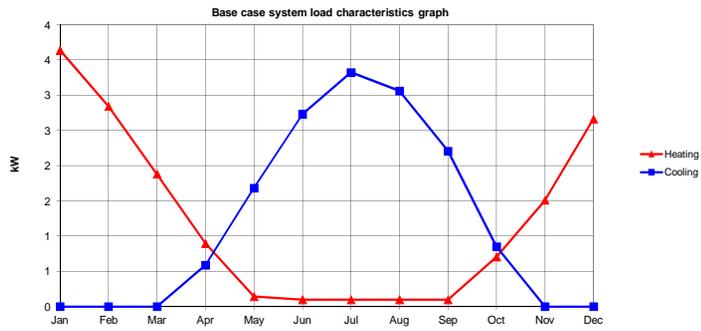
RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Heating project	Unit	
<b>Base case heating system</b>	Single building - space heating	
Heated floor area for building	ft²	1,700
Fuel type		Electricity
Seasonal efficiency	%	85%
<b>Heating load calculation</b>		
Heating load for building	(Btu/h)/ft²	12.0
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	10%
Total heating	million Btu	39
Total peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	13
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	1,911
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%
Net peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Net heating	million Btu	39

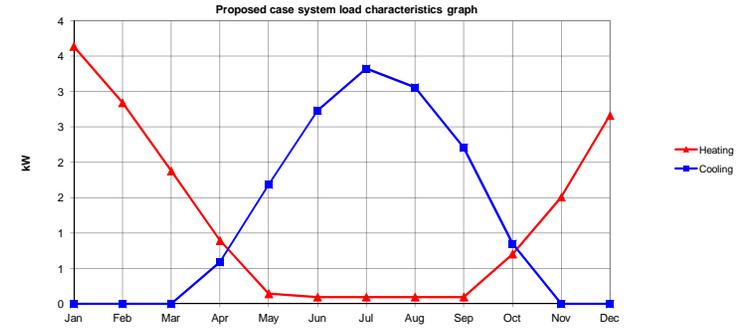
RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project	Unit	
<b>Base case cooling system</b>	Single building - space cooling	
Cooled floor area for building	ft <sup>2</sup>	1,700
Fuel type		Electricity
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		3.00
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>		
Cooling load for building	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	10.0
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%
Total cooling	RTh	3,171
Total peak cooling load	RT	1.4
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	4
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	533
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%
Net peak cooling load	RT	1.4
Net cooling	RTh	3,171

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



[Complete Energy Model sheet](#)



Proposed case load and energy

	Heating	Cooling
System peak load	0	1
System energy	million Btu/h million Btu	RT RTh 3,171

[Complete Energy Model sheet](#)

Proposed case cooling system			Incremental initial costs	
<b>Base load cooling system</b>				
Technology	Heat pump		<a href="#">Show figure</a>	
Fuel type	Electricity			
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400		
Capacity	kW	8.9		178.6%
Coefficient of performance - seasonal	4.70			
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E			1 unit(s)
Cooling delivered	RTh	3,171		100.0%
<b>Peak load cooling system</b>				
Technology	Not required			<a href="#">See product database</a>

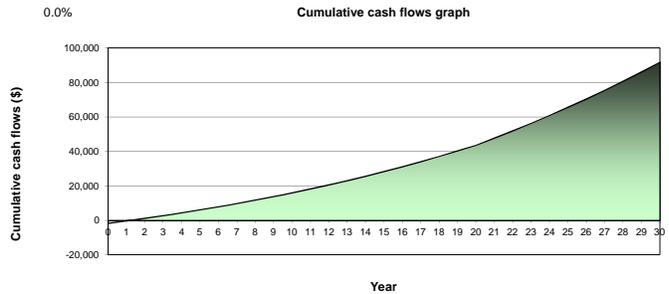
Proposed case heating system			Incremental initial costs	
<b>System selection</b>				
<b>Base load heating system</b>				
Technology	Heat pump		<a href="#">See product database</a>	
<b>Fuel selection method</b>				
<b>Single fuel</b>				
Fuel type	Electricity			
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400		
<b>Heat pump</b>				
Capacity	kW	7.0		117.1%
Heating delivered	million Btu	39		100.0%
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E			1 unit(s)
Seasonal efficiency	%	520%		
Fuel required	million Btu/h	0.0		

Proposed case system characteristics				Incremental initial costs	System design graph	
<b>Heating</b>						
<b>Base load heating system</b>						
Technology		Heat pump				
Capacity	million Btu/h	0.0	117.1%			
Heating delivered	million Btu	39	100.0%			
<b>Peak load heating system</b>						
Technology	Not required					
<b>Back-up heating system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
Capacity	kW					
<b>Cooling</b>						
<b>Base load cooling system</b>						
Technology		Heat pump				
Fuel type		Electricity				
Capacity	RT	3	178.6%			
Cooling delivered	RTh	3,171	100.0%			
<b>Back-up cooling system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
Capacity	kW					

Proposed case system summary		Fuel type	Fuel consumption - unit	Fuel consumption	Capacity (kW)	Energy delivered (MWh)
<b>Heating</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	2	7	11
					<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Cooling</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	2	9	11
					<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

Emission Analysis					
<b>Base case electricity system (Baseline)</b>					
Country - region	Fuel type	GHG emission factor (excl. T&D) tCO2/MWh	T&D losses %	GHG emission factor tCO2/MWh	
United States of America	All types	0.584	5.0%	0.614	
<b>GHG emission</b>					
Base case	tCO2	10.5			
Proposed case	tCO2	2.8			
Gross annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	7.7			
GHG credits transaction fee	%				
Net annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	7.7	is equivalent to	1.4	Cars & light trucks not used
<b>GHG reduction income</b>					
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2				

Financial Analysis			
<b>Financial parameters</b>			
Inflation rate	%	3.5%	
Project life	yr	30	
Debt ratio	%	75%	
Debt interest rate	%	6.90%	
Debt term	yr	20	
<b>Initial costs</b>			
Heating system	\$	5,000	53.8%
Cooling system	\$	0	0.0%
Ground heat exchanger	\$	4,293	46.2%
<b>Total initial costs</b>	\$	9,293	100.0%
<b>Incentives and grants</b>			
	\$	700	0.0%
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>			
O&M (savings) costs	\$	-200	
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	653	
Debt payments - 20 yrs	\$	653	
<b>Total annual costs</b>	\$	1,105	
<b>Annual savings and income</b>			
Fuel cost - base case	\$	2,444	
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>	\$	2,444	
<b>Financial viability</b>			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%	91.8%	
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	21.1%	
Simple payback	yr	4.3	
Equity payback	yr	1.1	



**RETScreen Tools - Combined heating & cooling project**

**Settings**

<input type="checkbox"/> As fired fuel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground heat exchanger	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - gas
<input type="checkbox"/> Biogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat rate	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - solid
<input type="checkbox"/> Building envelope properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating value & fuel rate	<input type="checkbox"/> Water & steam
<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances & equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydro formula costing method	<input type="checkbox"/> Water pumping
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Landfill gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Window properties
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - time of use	<input type="checkbox"/> Unit conversion	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 1
<input type="checkbox"/> GHG equivalence	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 2

**Ground heat exchanger**

**Heat pump**

Unit	Heating	Cooling
Capacity	kW 7.0	8.9
Average load	kW 1.0	1.0
Manufacturer	McQuay	
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E	
Efficiency	High	
Coefficient of performance - design	4.0	5.5

1 unit(s)

[See product database](#)

**Site conditions**

Unit	Project location	Climate data location
Soil type	Light rock	
Earth temperature	°F 9.0	57.1
Earth temperature amplitude	°F 14.0	35.2
Measured at	ft 10.0	0.0

**Ground heat exchanger**

Type	Vertical closed-loop	
Design criteria	Cooling	
Land area	ft <sup>2</sup> 2,000	314
Layout	Standard	
Borehole length	ft 275	

Specific project costs	Quantity	Unit cost		Amount	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Circulating pump	kW 0.1	\$ 1,000	\$	\$ 130	
Circulating fluid	US gal 3.91	\$ 25	\$	\$ 98	
Drilling & grouting	ft 275	\$ 12	\$	\$ 3,302	
Loop pipe	ft 550	\$ 1	\$	\$ 688	
Fittings & valves	kW 7.6	\$ 10	\$	\$ 76	
<b>Total</b>				\$ 4,293	



# RETScreen® International

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Clean Energy Project Analysis Software

## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name	Multi-Residential - Vertical
Project location	US, MD, Charles County
Prepared for	government of Charles County MD
Prepared by	Golder Associates Inc.
Project type	Combined heating & cooling
Analysis type	Method 1
Heating value reference	Higher heating value (HHV)
Show settings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language - Langue	English - Anglais
User manual	English - Anglais
Currency	\$
Units	Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location	Andrews AFB
Show data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m²/d	Inch Hg	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	29.9	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	29.9	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	29.8	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	29.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	29.8	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	29.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	29.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	29.8	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	29.9	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	29.9	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	29.9	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	29.9	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	29.8	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

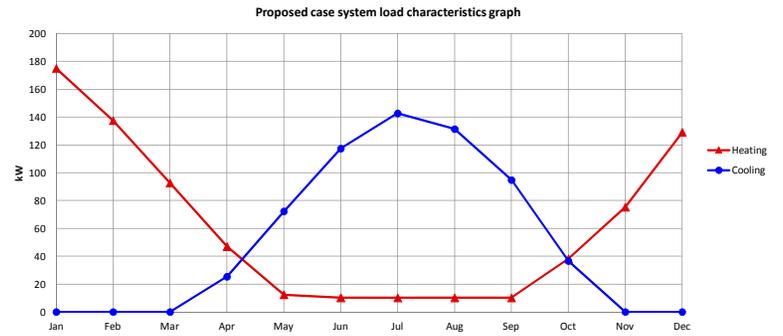
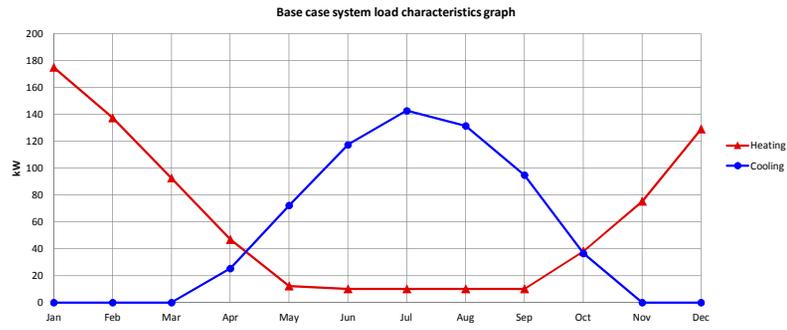
RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Heating project		Unit													
<b>Base case heating system</b>		Single building - multiple zones - space heating													
		<b>Building zones</b>													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Heated floor area per building zone	ft <sup>2</sup>	60,000	35,000	15,000	10,000										
Fuel type			Electricity	Electricity	Electricity										
Seasonal efficiency	%	-	100%	90%	80%										
<b>Heating load calculation</b>															
Heating load for building zone	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	-	14	17	19										
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	20%													
Total heating	million Btu	1,956	1,025	533	397										
Total peak heating load	million Btu/h	-	0	0	0										
Fuel consumption - unit		-	MWh	MWh	MWh										
Fuel consumption - annual		-	300	174	146										
Fuel rate - unit		-	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh										
Fuel rate		-	0.143	0.143	0.143										
Fuel cost	\$	88,871	\$ 43,080	\$ 24,910	\$ 20,881										
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>															
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%	0%	0%											
Net peak heating load	million Btu/h	1	0	0	0										
Net heating	million Btu	1,956	1,025	533	397										

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project		Unit													
<b>Base case cooling system</b>		Single building - multiple zones - space cooling													
		<b>Building zones</b>													
Cooled floor area per building zone	ft <sup>2</sup>	60,000	35,000	15,000	10,000										
Fuel type			Electricity	Electricity	Electricity										
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		-	3.00	3.00	3.00										
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>															
Cooling load for building zone	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	-	11	13	15										
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%													
Total cooling	RTh	136,177	71,819	36,376	27,982										
Total peak cooling load	RT	61	32	16	13										
Fuel consumption - unit		-	MWh	MWh	MWh										
Fuel consumption - annual		-	84	43	33										
Fuel rate - unit		-	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh										
Fuel rate		-	0.143	0.143	0.143										
Fuel cost	\$	22,892	\$ 12,073	\$ 6,115	\$ 4,704										
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>															
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0.0%	0%	0%	0%										
Net peak cooling load	RT	61	32	16	13										
Net cooling	RTh	136,177	71,819	36,376	27,982										

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



Proposed case load and energy

System peak load  
System energy

	Heating	Cooling
System peak load	1	61
System energy	1,956 million Btu	136,177 RT

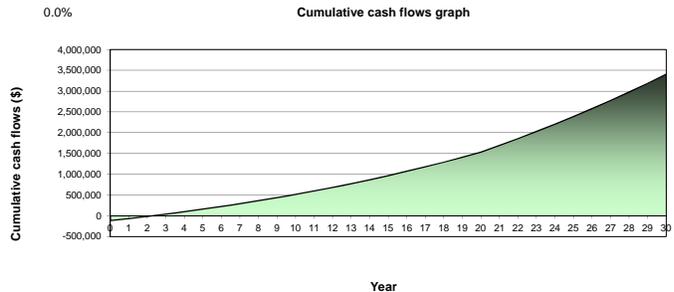
Proposed case cooling system				Incremental initial costs
<b>Base load cooling system</b>				
Technology	Heat pump			<a href="#">Show figure</a> <a href="#">See product database</a>
Fuel type	Electricity			
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400	185.5%	
Capacity	kW	396.9		
Coefficient of performance - seasonal	4.70			
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-024-E			
Cooling delivered	RTh	136,177	100.0%	
Peak load cooling system	Not required			
Technology	Not required			

Proposed case heating system				Incremental initial costs
<b>System selection</b>				
Base load heating system				
Technology				
Heat pump				
Fuel selection method				
Single fuel				
Fuel type				
Electricity				
Fuel rate				
\$/MWh				
143.400				
<b>Heat pump</b>				
Capacity	kW	289.4	105.6%	\$ - <a href="#">See product database</a>
Heating delivered	million Btu	1,956	100.0%	
Manufacturer	McQuay			
Model	WCCH/WCCW-024-E			
Seasonal efficiency	%	350%		
Fuel required	million Btu/h	0.3		

Proposed case system characteristics	Unit	Estimate	%	Incremental initial costs	System design graph		
<b>Heating</b>							
<b>Base load heating system</b>							
Technology	Heat pump						
Capacity	million Btu/h	1.0	105.6%				
Heating delivered	million Btu	1,956	100.0%				
<b>Peak load heating system</b>							
Technology							
Not required							
<b>Back-up heating system (optional)</b>							
Technology							
Capacity							
kW							
<b>Cooling</b>							
<b>Base load cooling system</b>							
Technology	Heat pump						
Fuel type	Electricity						
Capacity	RT	113	185.5%				
Cooling delivered	RTh	136,177	100.0%				
<b>Back-up cooling system (optional)</b>							
Technology							
Capacity							
kW							
<b>Proposed case system summary</b>							
		<b>Fuel type</b>		<b>Fuel consumption - unit</b>	<b>Fuel consumption</b>	<b>Capacity (kW)</b>	<b>Energy delivered (MWh)</b>
<b>Heating</b>		Electricity		MWh	164	289	573
Base load		Electricity		MWh	102	397	479
					<b>Total</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>573</b>
						<b>397</b>	<b>479</b>

Emission Analysis					
<b>Base case electricity system (Baseline)</b>					
Country - region	Fuel type	GHG emission factor (excl. T&D) tCO2/MWh	T&D losses %	GHG emission factor tCO2/MWh	
United States of America	All types	0.584		0.584	
<b>GHG emission</b>					
Base case	tCO2	454.8			
Proposed case	tCO2	155.1			
Gross annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	299.8			
GHG credits transaction fee	%				
Net annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	299.8	is equivalent to	54.9	Cars & light trucks not used
<b>GHG reduction income</b>					
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2				

Financial Analysis			
<b>Financial parameters</b>			
Inflation rate	%	3.5%	
Project life	yr	30	
Debt ratio	%	75%	
Debt interest rate	%	6.90%	
Debt term	yr	20	
<b>Initial costs</b>			
Heating system	\$	0	0.0%
Cooling system	\$	135,000	30.3%
Ground Heat Exchanger	\$	310,582	69.7%
<b>Total initial costs</b>	\$	445,582	100.0%
<b>Incentives and grants</b>			
	\$		0.0%
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>			
O&M (savings) costs	\$	4,000	
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	38,099	
Debt payments - 20 yrs	\$	31,300	
<b>Total annual costs</b>	\$	73,399	
<b>Annual savings and income</b>			
Fuel cost - base case	\$	111,763	
O&M (savings) costs	\$	8,000	
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>	\$	119,763	
<b>Financial viability</b>			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%	49.6%	
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	15.7%	
Simple payback	yr	5.7	
Equity payback	yr	2.2	



RETScreen Tools - Combined heating & cooling project

**Settings**

<input type="checkbox"/> As fired fuel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground heat exchanger	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - gas
<input type="checkbox"/> Biogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat rate	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - solid
<input type="checkbox"/> Building envelope properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating value & fuel rate	<input type="checkbox"/> Water & steam
<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances & equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydro formula costing method	<input type="checkbox"/> Water pumping
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Landfill gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Window properties
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - time of use	<input type="checkbox"/> Unit conversion	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 1
<input type="checkbox"/> GHG equivalence	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 2

**Ground heat exchanger**

**Heat pump**

	Unit	Heating	Cooling
Capacity	kW	289.4	396.9
Average load	kW	52.0	62.0
Manufacturer	McQuay		
Model	WCCH/WCCW-024-E		
Efficiency	High		
Coefficient of performance - design		4.0	5.5

54 unit(s)

[See product database](#)

**Site conditions**

	Unit	Project location	Climate data location
Soil type		Light soil - damp	
Earth temperature	°F	57.1	57.1
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	35.2
Measured at	ft	10.0	0.0

**Ground heat exchanger**

Type	Vertical closed-loop		
Design criteria		Heating	
Land area	ft²	20,000	18,850
Layout		Standard	
Borehole length	ft	19,850	

	Quantity	Unit cost		Amount	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Specific project costs					
Circulating pump	kW	6.8	\$ 1,000	\$	6,750
Circulating fluid	US gal	282.45	\$ 25	\$	7,061
Drilling & grouting	ft	19,850	\$ 12	\$	243,165
Loop pipe	ft	39,700	\$ 1	\$	49,626
Fittings & valves	kW	397.1	\$ 10	\$	3,971
<b>Total</b>				\$	<b>310,573</b>



# RETScreen® International

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## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name	Homefield Community Center - Vertical
Project location	US, Maryland, Charles County
Prepared for	Charles County Government
Prepared by	Golder Associates Inc.
Project type	Combined heating & cooling
Analysis type	Method 1
Heating value reference	Higher heating value (HHV)
Show settings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language - Langue	English - Anglais
User manual	English - Anglais
Currency	\$
Units	Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location	Andrews AFB
Show data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /d	kPa	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	101.2	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	101.2	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	101.0	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	100.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	100.9	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	100.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	100.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	101.0	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	101.1	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	101.2	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	101.2	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	101.3	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	101.0	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

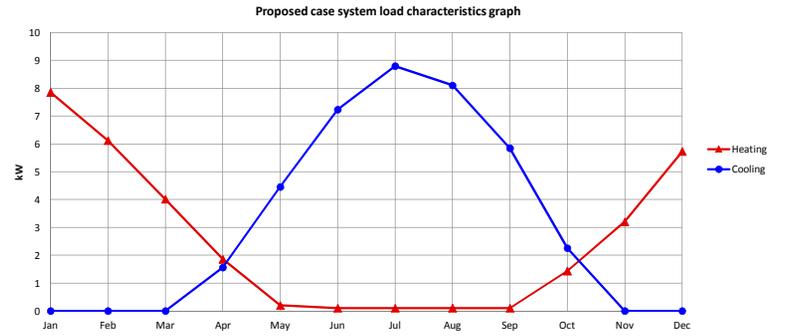
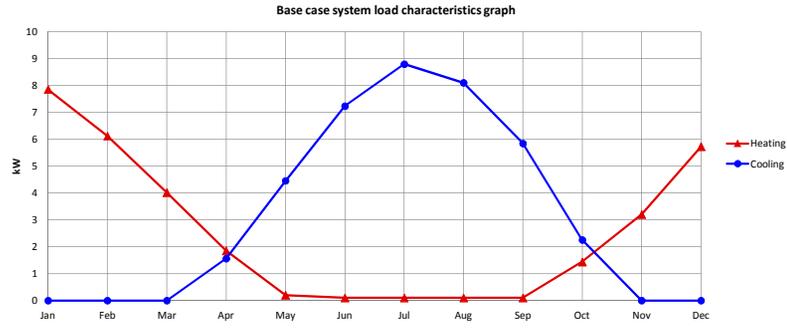
RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Heating project	Unit	
<b>Base case heating system</b>	Single building - space heating	
Heated floor area for building	ft²	3,000
Fuel type		Electricity
Seasonal efficiency	%	100%
<b>Heating load calculation</b>		
Heating load for building	(Btu/h)/ft²	15.0
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	5%
Total heating	million Btu	82
Total peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	24
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	3,425
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%
Net peak heating load	million Btu/h	0.0
Net heating	million Btu	82

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project	Unit	
<b>Base case cooling system</b>	Single building - space cooling	
Cooled floor area for building	ft²	3,000
Fuel type		Electricity
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		3.00
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>		
Cooling load for building	(Btu/h)/ft²	15.0
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%
Total cooling	RTh	8,394
Total peak cooling load	RT	3.8
Fuel consumption - annual	MWh	10
Fuel rate	\$/kWh	0.143
Fuel cost	\$	1,411
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%
Net peak cooling load	RT	3.8
Net cooling	RTh	8,394

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



Proposed case load and energy

System peak load  
System energy

Heating  
0  
million Btu/h  
82 million Btu

RT  
82  
RTh

Cooling  
4  
8,394

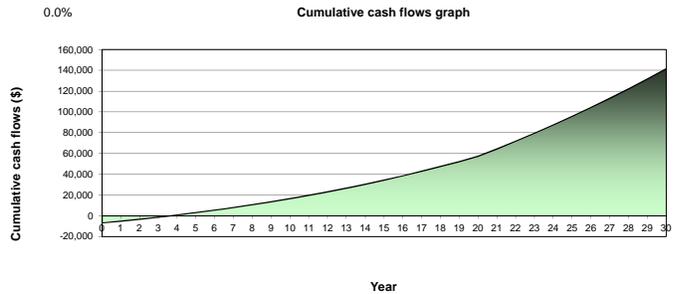
Proposed case cooling system			Incremental initial costs
<b>Base load cooling system</b>			
Technology	Heat pump		<a href="#">Show figure</a>
Fuel type	Electricity		
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400	
Capacity	kW	17.7	
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		4.75	
Manufacturer	McQuay		
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E		
Cooling delivered	RTh	8,394	
Peak load cooling system	Not required		
Technology	Not required		

Proposed case heating system			Incremental initial costs
<b>System selection</b>			
Base load heating system			
Technology			
Heat pump			
Fuel selection method			
Single fuel			
Fuel type			
Electricity			
Fuel rate			
\$/MWh			
143.400			
<b>Heat pump</b>			
Capacity	kW	14.1	106.9%
Heating delivered	million Btu	82	100.0%
Manufacturer	McQuay		\$ 10,000
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E		
Seasonal efficiency	%	520%	
Fuel required	million Btu/h	0.0	

Proposed case system characteristics	Unit	Estimate	%	Incremental initial costs	System design graph	
<b>Heating</b>						
<b>Base load heating system</b>						
Technology	Heat pump					
Capacity	million Btu/h	0.0	106.9%			
Heating delivered	million Btu	82	100.0%			
<b>Peak load heating system</b>						
Technology						
Not required						
<b>Back-up heating system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
kW						
Capacity						
<b>Cooling</b>						
<b>Base load cooling system</b>						
Technology	Heat pump					
Fuel type	Electricity					
Capacity	RT	5	134.2%			
Cooling delivered	RTh	8,394	100.0%			
<b>Back-up cooling system (optional)</b>						
Technology						
kW						
Capacity						

Emission Analysis					
<b>Base case electricity system (Baseline)</b>					
Country - region	Fuel type	GHG emission factor (excl. T&D) tCO2/MWh	T&D losses %	GHG emission factor tCO2/MWh	
United States of America	All types	0.584		0.584	
<b>GHG emission</b>					
Base case	tCO2	19.7			
Proposed case	tCO2	6.3			
Gross annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	13.4			
GHG credits transaction fee	%				
Net annual GHG emission reduction	tCO2	13.4	is equivalent to	2.4	Cars & light trucks not used
<b>GHG reduction income</b>					
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2				

Financial Analysis			
<b>Financial parameters</b>			
Inflation rate	%	3.5%	
Project life	yr	30	
Debt ratio	%	75%	
Debt interest rate	%	6.90%	
Debt term	yr	20	
<b>Initial costs</b>			
Heating system	\$	10,000	37.1%
Cooling system	\$	0	0.0%
Ground Heat Exchanger	\$	16,982	62.9%
<b>Total initial costs</b>	\$	26,982	100.0%
<b>Incentives and grants</b>			
	\$		0.0%
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>			
O&M (savings) costs	\$	-200	
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	1,550	
Debt payments - 20 yrs	\$	1,895	
<b>Total annual costs</b>	\$	3,245	
<b>Annual savings and income</b>			
Fuel cost - base case	\$	4,836	
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>	\$	4,836	
<b>Financial viability</b>			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%	32.0%	
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	11.0%	
Simple payback	yr	7.7	
Equity payback	yr	3.6	



**RETScreen Tools - Combined heating & cooling project**

Settings		
<input type="checkbox"/> As fired fuel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground heat exchanger	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - gas
<input type="checkbox"/> Biogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Heat rate	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel - solid
<input type="checkbox"/> Building envelope properties	<input type="checkbox"/> Heating value & fuel rate	<input type="checkbox"/> Water & steam
<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances & equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Hydro formula costing method	<input type="checkbox"/> Water pumping
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Landfill gas	<input type="checkbox"/> Window properties
<input type="checkbox"/> Electricity rate - time of use	<input type="checkbox"/> Unit conversion	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 1
<input type="checkbox"/> GHG equivalence	<input type="checkbox"/> User-defined fuel	<input type="checkbox"/> Custom 2

**Ground heat exchanger**

**Heat pump**

	Unit	Heating	Cooling
Capacity	RT	4.0	5.0
Average load	kW	3.0	3.0
Manufacturer	McQuay		
Model	WCCH/WCCW-030-E		
Efficiency	High		
Coefficient of performance - design		4.0	5.5

[See product database](#)

**Site conditions**

	Unit	Project location	Climate data location
Soil type		Light soil - damp	
Earth temperature	°F	57.1	57.1
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	35.2
Measured at	ft	10.0	0.0

**Ground heat exchanger**

Type	Vertical closed-loop		
Design criteria		Heating	
Land area	ft²	2,000	339
Layout		Compact	
Borehole length	ft	1,111	

	Quantity	Unit cost		Amount	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Circulating pump	kW	0.3	\$ 1,000	\$	301
Circulating fluid	US gal	15.81	\$ 25	\$	395
Drilling & grouting	ft	1,111	\$ 12	\$	13,332
Loop pipe	ft	2,222	\$ 1	\$	2,777
Fittings & valves	kW	17.7	\$ 10	\$	177
<b>Total</b>				\$	<b>16,982</b>



# RETScreen® International

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Clean Energy Project Analysis Software

## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name	Homefield Phase 1 - Multiple Buildings
Project location	Charles County, Maryland
Prepared for	Charles County Government
Prepared by	Golder Associates Inc.
Project type	Combined heating & cooling
Analysis type	Method 2
Heating value reference	Higher heating value (HHV)
Show settings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language - Langue	English - Anglais
User manual	English - Anglais
Currency	\$
Units	Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location	Andrews AFB
Show data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /d	kPa	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	101.2	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	101.2	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	101.0	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	100.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	100.9	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	100.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	100.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	101.0	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	101.1	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	101.2	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	101.2	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	101.3	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	101.0	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

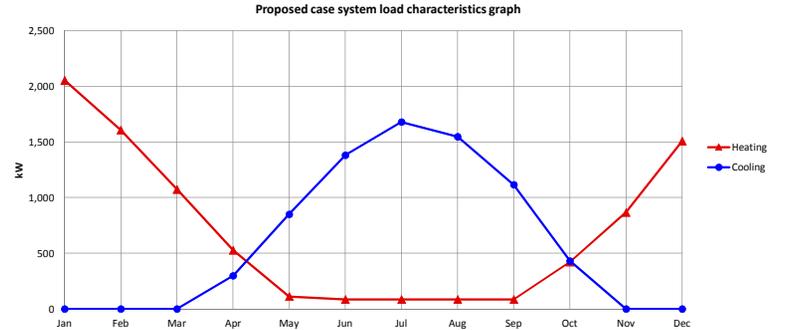
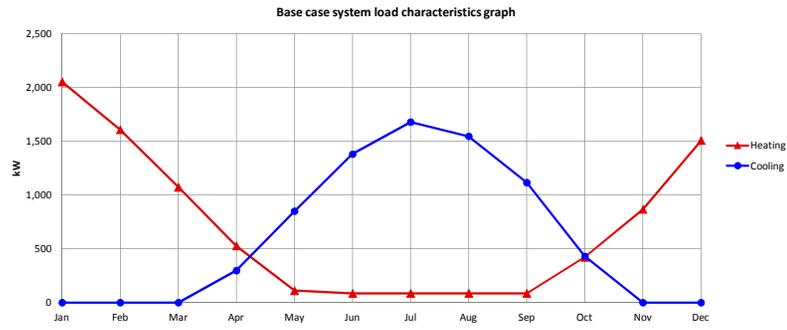


RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project		Unit														
<b>Base case cooling system</b>		Multiple buildings - space cooling														
<i>See technical note on cooling network design</i>																
<b>Building clusters</b>																
Cooled floor area per building cluster	ft <sup>2</sup>	762,000	122,000	78,000	59,400	12,600	99,200	8,400	87,700	81,700	39,900	66,000	44,100	63,000		
Number of buildings in building cluster	building	401	61	40	34	6	56	4	49	45	19	36	21	30		
Fuel type			Electricity													
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		-	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>																
Cooling load for building cluster	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	-	12	12	10	13	10	13	10	10	13	11	13	13		
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%														
Total cooling	RTh	1,602,412	273,100	174,605	110,807	30,556	185,052	20,371	163,599	152,406	96,760	135,431	106,946	152,779		
Total peak cooling load	RT	716	122	78	50	14	83	9	73	68	43	61	48	68		
Fuel consumption - unit		-	MWh													
Fuel consumption - annual		-	320	205	130	36	217	24	192	179	113	159	125	179		
Fuel rate - unit		-	\$/kWh													
Fuel rate		-	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143		
Fuel cost	\$	269,374	\$ 45,910	\$ 29,352	\$ 18,627	\$ 5,137	\$ 31,108	\$ 3,424	\$ 27,502	\$ 25,620	\$ 16,266	\$ 22,767	\$ 17,978	\$ 25,683		
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>																
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0.0%														
Net peak cooling load	RT	716	122	78	50	14	83	9	73	68	43	61	48	68		
Net cooling	RTh	1,602,412	273,100	174,605	110,807	30,556	185,052	20,371	163,599	152,406	96,760	135,431	106,946	152,779		

Proposed case district cooling network		Estimate/Total															
<b>Cooling pipe design criteria</b>																	
Design supply temperature	*F	45															
Design return temperature	*F	55															
Differential temperature	*F	10															
<b>Main cooling distribution line</b>																	
Main pipe network oversizing	%	1%															
<b>Pipe sections</b>																	
	Load	Length	Pipe size	Is the building cluster supplied by this pipe section? (yes/no)													
	RT	ft	mm	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Section 1		220		No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No		
Section 2		659		No	No	No											
Section 3		7,474															
Section 4		2,198				No											
Section 5		2,022					No	No									
Section 6		659					No										
Section 7		3,077							No	No							
Section 8		3,297								No							
Section 9		1,099									No	No	No	No			
Section 10		2,198										No	No	No			
Section 11		2,198											No	No			
Section 12		3,077												No			
Section 13		3,077													No		
Total pipe length for main distribution line	ft	28,178															
<b>Secondary cooling distribution lines</b>																	
Secondary pipe network oversizing	%	0%															
Length of pipe section	ft	0															
Pipe size	mm		DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32	DN 32
<b>District cooling network cost</b>																	
Total pipe length	ft	28,178															
Cooling method		Formula															
Energy transfer station(s) connection type		Direct															
Energy transfer station(s) cost factor																	
Main distribution line pipe cost factor		1.00															
Secondary distribution line pipe cost factor		0.90															
Exchange rate	\$/CAD	1.02															
Energy transfer station(s) cost	\$	-															
Secondary distribution line pipe cost	\$	-															
Total building cluster connection cost	\$	-															
<b>ETS and secondary distribution pipes costs per building cluster</b>																	
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$
<b>Main distribution line pipe cost by pipe size categories</b>																	
		DN 32	DN 40	DN 50	DN 65	DN 80	DN 100	DN 125	DN 150	DN 175	DN 200	DN 250	DN 300	DN 350	DN 400 +		
Summary of main distribution line pipe size	mm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Summary of main distribution line pipe length	ft	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Summary of main distribution line pipe cost	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Total district cooling network cost	\$	-															

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



Proposed case load and energy

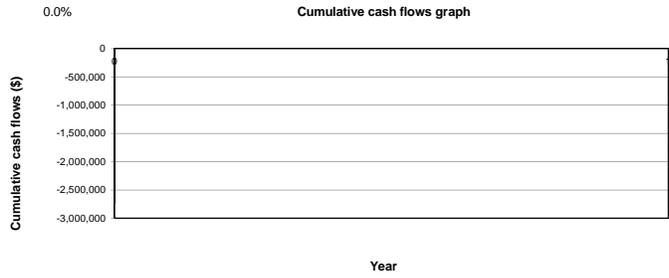
System peak load  
System energy

	Heating	Cooling
System peak load	11 million Btu/h	716 RT
System energy	22,353 million Btu	1,602,412 RTh

Proposed case system characteristics	Unit	Estimate	%	System design graph	
<b>Proposed case system summary</b>		<b>Fuel type</b>		<b>Fuel consumption - unit</b>	<b>Fuel consumption</b>
Peak load		Natural gas		<b>Capacity (kW)</b>	<b>Energy delivered (MWh)</b>
				0	0

Emission Analysis					
<b>GHG emission</b>					
Base case	tCO2	5,289.8			
Proposed case	tCO2	1,543.0			
<b>Gross annual GHG emission reduction</b>	tCO2	3,746.8			
GHG credits transaction fee	%				
<b>Net annual GHG emission reduction</b>	tCO2	3,746.8	is equivalent to	686	Cars & light trucks not used
<b>GHG reduction income</b>					
GHG reduction credit rate	\$/tCO2				

Financial Analysis					
<b>Financial parameters</b>					
Inflation rate	%	1.8%			
Project life	yr	35			
Debt ratio	%	50%			
<b>Initial costs</b>					
Other	\$				
<b>Total initial costs</b>	\$	0			
<b>Incentives and grants</b>					
	\$		0.0%		
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>					
O&M (savings) costs	\$				
Fuel cost - proposed case	\$	352,601			
<b>Total annual costs</b>	\$	1,121,186			
<b>Annual savings and income</b>					
Fuel cost - base case	\$	1,208,805			
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>	\$	1,208,805			
<b>Financial viability</b>					
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%	1.3%			
Simple payback	yr	12.8			
Equity payback	yr	16.5			



RETScreen Cost Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

Settings				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Method 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notes/Range	Notes/Range	None	
<input type="checkbox"/> Method 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Second currency			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cost allocation			

Initial costs (credits)	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount	Relative costs
<b>Feasibility study</b>					
Feasibility study	cost	1	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 60,000	0.6%
<b>Development</b>					
Development	cost	1	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 60,000	0.6%
<b>Engineering</b>					
Engineering	cost	1	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 300,000	2.8%
<b>Balance of system &amp; miscellaneous</b>					
Spare parts	%	1.0%	\$ 350,000	\$ 3,500	
Transportation	project	4	\$ 3,000	\$ 12,000	
Training & commissioning	p-d	4	\$ 500	\$ 2,000	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Contingencies	%	15.0%	\$ 9,471,580	\$ 1,420,737	
Interest during construction		6 month(s)	\$ 10,892,318	\$ -	
Sub-total:				\$ 1,438,237	13.2%
<b>Total initial costs</b>				\$ 10,892,318	100.0%

Annual costs (credits)	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount
<b>O&amp;M</b>				
O&M (savings) costs	project			\$ -
Parts & labour	project	1	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
User-defined	cost			\$ -
Contingencies	%	15.0%	\$ 3,000	\$ 450
Sub-total:				\$ 3,450

Periodic costs (credits)	Unit	Year	Unit cost	Amount
User-defined	cost			\$ -
				\$ -
End of project life	cost			\$ -

RETScreen Emission Reduction Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

Emission Analysis

Method 1  
 Method 2  
 Method 3

**Base case system GHG summary (Baseline)**

Fuel type	Fuel mix %	Fuel consumption	GHG emission factor	GHG emission
		MWh	tCO2/MWh	tCO2
Total	100.0%	8,430	0.628	5,289.8

**Proposed case system GHG summary (Combined heating & cooling project)**

Fuel type	Fuel mix %	Fuel consumption	GHG emission factor	GHG emission
		MWh	tCO2/MWh	tCO2
Total	100.0%	2,459	0.628	1,543.0

**GHG emission reduction summary**

	Base case GHG emission tCO2	Proposed case GHG emission tCO2	Gross annual GHG emission reduction tCO2	GHG credits transaction fee %	Net annual GHG emission reduction tCO2
Combined heating & cooling project	5,289.8	1,543.0	3,746.8		3,746.8
Net annual GHG emission reduction	3,747	tCO2	is equivalent to	8,714	Barrels of crude oil not consumed

RETScreen Financial Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

Financial parameters			
<b>General</b>			
Fuel cost escalation rate	%		1.0%
Inflation rate	%		3.5%
Discount rate	%		12.0%
Project life	yr		30
<b>Finance</b>			
Incentives and grants	\$		
Debt ratio	%		75.0%
Debt	\$		8,169,238
Equity	\$		2,723,079
Debt interest rate	%		6.90%
Debt term	yr		20
Debt payments	\$/yr		765,135
<b>Income tax analysis</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			

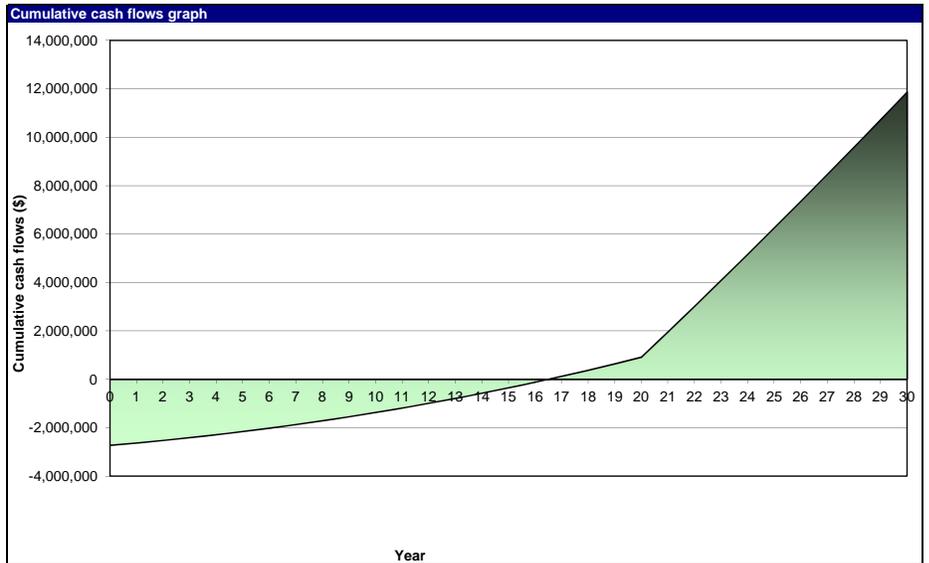
Annual income			
<b>Electricity export income</b>			
<b>GHG reduction income</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
Net GHG reduction	tCO2/yr		3,747
Net GHG reduction - 30 yrs	tCO2		112,404
<b>Customer premium income (rebate)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			

<b>Other income (cost)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Clean Energy (CE) production income</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			

Project costs and savings/income summary			
<b>Initial costs</b>			
Feasibility study	0.6%	\$	60,000
Development	0.6%	\$	60,000
Engineering	2.8%	\$	300,000
Heating system	82.9%	\$	9,034,080
Cooling system	0.0%	\$	0
Balance of system & misc.	13.2%	\$	1,438,237
<b>Total initial costs</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,892,318</b>
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>			
O&M		\$	3,450
Fuel cost - proposed case		\$	352,601
Debt payments - 20 yrs		\$	765,135
<b>Total annual costs</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>1,121,186</b>
<b>Periodic costs (credits)</b>			
<b>Annual savings and income</b>			
Fuel cost - base case		\$	1,208,805
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>1,208,805</b>

Financial viability			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%		8.9%
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%		1.3%
After-tax IRR - equity	%		8.9%
After-tax IRR - assets	%		1.3%
Simple payback	yr		12.8
Equity payback	yr		16.5
Net Present Value (NPV)	\$		-968,454
Annual life cycle savings	\$/yr		-120,227
Benefit-Cost (B-C) ratio			0.64
Debt service coverage			1.13
GHG reduction cost	\$/tCO2		32

Yearly cash flows				
Year	Pre-tax	After-tax	Cumulative	
#	\$	\$	\$	\$
0	-2,723,079	-2,723,079	-2,723,079	
1	96,060	96,060	-2,627,019	
2	104,583	104,583	-2,522,437	
3	113,188	113,188	-2,409,249	
4	121,875	121,875	-2,287,374	
5	130,646	130,646	-2,156,728	
6	139,502	139,502	-2,017,226	
7	148,442	148,442	-1,868,784	
8	157,468	157,468	-1,711,316	
9	166,580	166,580	-1,544,736	
10	175,780	175,780	-1,368,956	
11	185,068	185,068	-1,183,888	
12	194,444	194,444	-989,444	
13	203,909	203,909	-785,535	
14	213,465	213,465	-572,070	
15	223,111	223,111	-348,959	
16	232,849	232,849	-116,110	
17	242,679	242,679	126,569	
18	252,603	252,603	379,172	
19	262,620	262,620	641,792	
20	272,732	272,732	914,523	
21	1,048,074	1,048,074	1,962,597	
22	1,058,377	1,058,377	3,020,974	
23	1,068,777	1,068,777	4,089,751	
24	1,079,274	1,079,274	5,169,025	
25	1,089,870	1,089,870	6,258,896	
26	1,100,565	1,100,565	7,359,461	
27	1,111,360	1,111,360	8,470,820	
28	1,122,255	1,122,255	9,593,075	
29	1,133,252	1,133,252	10,726,327	
30	1,144,350	1,144,350	11,870,677	





# RETScreen® International

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Clean Energy Project Analysis Software

## Project information

[See project database](#)

Project name	Homefield Phase II - Multi-res Buildings
Project location	Charles County, MD
Prepared for	Charles County Dep-t of Planning
Prepared by	Golder Associates Ltd.
Project type	Combined heating & cooling
Analysis type	Method 2
Heating value reference	Higher heating value (HHV)
Show settings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Language - Langue	English - Anglais
User manual	English - Anglais
Currency	\$
Units	Imperial units

## Site reference conditions

[Select climate data location](#)

Climate data location	Andrews AFB
Show data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



### Climate data

	Unit	location	Project location
Latitude	°N	38.8	38.8
Longitude	°E	-76.9	-76.9
Elevation	ft	282	282
Heating design temperature	°F	18.3	
Cooling design temperature	°F	91.0	
Earth temperature amplitude	°F	35.2	

Month	Air temperature	Relative humidity	Daily solar radiation - horizontal	Atmospheric pressure	Wind speed	Earth temperature	Heating degree-days	Cooling degree-days
	°F	%	kWh/m <sup>2</sup> /d	kPa	mph	°F	°F-d	°F-d
January	34.5	64.9%	1.96	101.2	9.0	33.5	926	0
February	37.6	62.3%	2.79	101.2	9.0	37.1	751	0
March	45.0	60.6%	3.76	101.0	9.8	45.1	603	0
April	54.9	61.4%	4.86	100.8	9.0	56.8	286	146
May	63.9	68.4%	5.38	100.9	7.4	67.1	17	430
June	72.5	70.6%	5.72	100.8	6.7	75.6	0	675
July	77.4	70.5%	5.64	100.8	6.5	78.9	0	848
August	75.2	72.7%	5.15	101.0	6.3	76.6	0	781
September	68.2	73.4%	4.23	101.1	6.5	69.9	0	545
October	57.0	72.0%	3.19	101.2	6.7	58.5	229	218
November	48.0	67.5%	2.19	101.2	7.8	47.7	491	0
December	38.7	66.0%	1.81	101.3	8.3	37.2	798	0
<b>Annual</b>	56.2	67.6%	3.90	101.0	7.7	57.1	4,101	3,643
Measured at	ft				32.8	0.0		



[Complete Load & Network sheet](#)

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Heating project		Unit													
<b>Base case heating system</b>		Multiple buildings - space heating													
<i>See technical note on heating network design</i>															
		<b>Building clusters</b>													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Heated floor area per building cluster	ft <sup>2</sup>	96,000	34,000	48,000	20,400	48,000									
Number of buildings in building cluster	building	4	5	2	3	2									
Fuel type		Electricity	Electricity	Electricity	Electricity	Electricity									
Seasonal efficiency	%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%									
<b>Heating load calculation</b>															
Heating load for building cluster	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	12	12	12	12	12									
Domestic hot water heating base demand	%	15%													
Total heating	million Btu	2,289	811	1,145	487	1,145									
Total peak heating load	million Btu/h	1	0	1	0	1									
Fuel consumption - unit		MWh	MWh	MWh	MWh	MWh									
Fuel consumption - annual		671	238	335	143	335									
Fuel rate - unit		\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh									
Fuel rate		0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096	0.096									
Fuel cost	\$	64,581	22,872	32,291	13,723	32,291									
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>															
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0%													
Net peak heating load	million Btu/h	1	0	1	0	1									
Net heating	million Btu	2,289	811	1,145	487	1,145									

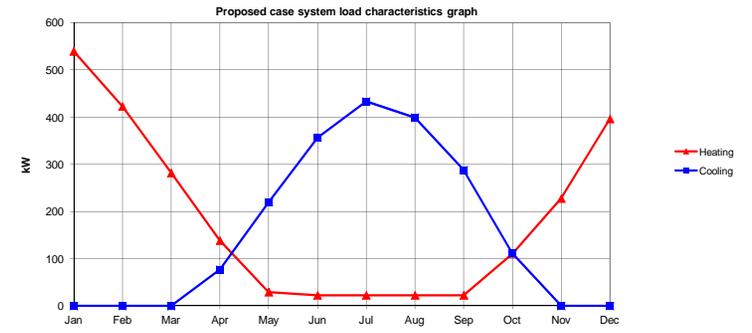
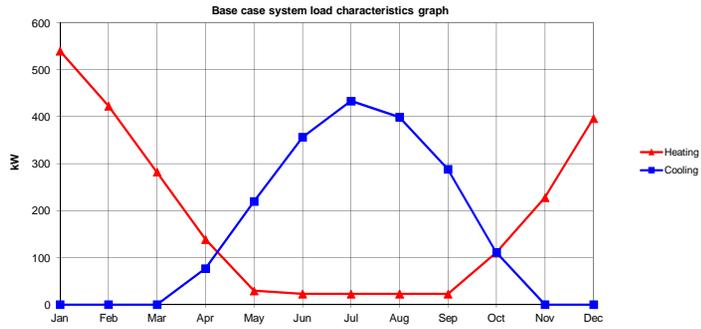
Proposed case district heating network		Estimate/Total																
<b>Heating pipe design criteria</b>																		
Design supply temperature	*F	100																
Design return temperature	*F	90																
Differential temperature	*F	10																
<b>Main heating distribution line</b>																		
Main pipe network oversizing	%																	
<b>Pipe sections</b>																		
	Load	Length	Pipe size	Is the building cluster supplied by this pipe section? (yes/no)														
	million Btu/h	ft	mm	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Section 1	3.0	110	DN 175	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes										
Section 2	1.2	440	DN 125	Yes														
Section 3	1.8	1,539	DN 150		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes										
Section 4	0.6	330	DN 100			Yes												
Section 5	0.2	220	DN 65				Yes											
Section 6	0.6	550	DN 100					Yes										
Section 7																		
Section 8																		
Section 9																		
Section 10																		
Section 11																		
Section 12																		
Section 13																		
Total pipe length for main distribution line	ft	3,189																
<b>Secondary heating distribution lines</b>																		
Secondary pipe network oversizing	%		Secondary distribution pipes length per building cluster															
Length of pipe section	ft	810	ft	240	165	120	165	120										
Pipe size	mm		mm	DN 80	DN 50	DN 80	DN 50	DN 80										
<b>District heating network cost</b>																		
Total pipe length	ft	3,999																
Costing method		Formula																
Energy transfer station(s) connection type		Direct																
Energy transfer station(s) cost factor																		
Main distribution line pipe cost factor		0.90																
Secondary distribution line pipe cost factor		0.80																
Exchange rate	\$/CAD	1.02																
Energy transfer station(s) cost	\$	-																
Secondary distribution line pipe cost	\$	93,272																
Total building cluster connection cost	\$	93,272																
<b>ETS and secondary distribution pipes costs per building cluster</b>																		
	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	\$	32,174	\$	17,244	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117
	\$	32,174	\$	17,244	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117	\$	15,619	\$	14,117
<b>Main distribution line pipe cost by pipe size categories</b>																		
		DN 32	DN 40	DN 50	DN 65	DN 80	DN 100	DN 125	DN 150	DN 175	DN 200	DN 250	DN 300	DN 350	DN 400 +			
Summary of main distribution line pipe size	mm	-	-	-	220	-	880	440	1,539	110	-	-	-	-	-			
Summary of main distribution line pipe length	ft	-	-	-	23,429	-	116,467	66,359	260,526	20,653	-	-	-	-	-			
Summary of main distribution line pipe cost	\$	-	-	-	23,429	-	116,467	66,359	260,526	20,653	-	-	-	-	-			
Total district heating network cost	\$																	
	\$																	

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project

Cooling project		Unit																
<b>Base case cooling system</b>		Multiple buildings - space cooling																
<i>See technical note on cooling network design</i>																		
<b>Building clusters</b>																		
Cooled floor area per building cluster	ft <sup>2</sup>	246,400	96,000	34,000	48,000	20,400	48,000											
Number of buildings in building cluster	building	16	4	5	2	3	2											
Fuel type			Electricity	Electricity	Electricity	Electricity	Electricity											
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		-	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00											
<b>Cooling load calculation</b>																		
Cooling load for building cluster	(Btu/h)/ft <sup>2</sup>	-	9	9	9	9	9											
Non-weather dependant cooling	%	0%																
Total cooling	RTh	413,680	161,174	57,082	80,587	34,249	80,587											
Total peak cooling load	RT	185	72	26	36	15	36											
Fuel consumption - unit		-	MWh	MWh	MWh	MWh	MWh											
Fuel consumption - annual		-	189	67	94	40	94											
Fuel rate - unit		-	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh											
Fuel rate		-	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143											
Fuel cost	\$	69,542	\$ 27,094	\$ 9,596	\$ 13,547	\$ 5,758	\$ 13,547											
<b>Proposed case energy efficiency measures</b>																		
End-use energy efficiency measures	%	0.0%																
Net peak cooling load	RT	185	72	26	36	15	36											
Net cooling	RTh	413,680	161,174	57,082	80,587	34,249	80,587											

Proposed case district cooling network		Estimate/Total																	
<b>Cooling pipe design criteria</b>																			
Design supply temperature	*F	45																	
Design return temperature	*F	55																	
Differential temperature	*F	10																	
<b>Main cooling distribution line</b>																			
Main pipe network oversizing																			
<b>Pipe sections</b>																			
	%		Length		Pipe size	Is the building cluster supplied by this pipe section? (yes/no)													
	RT		ft	mm		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Section 1			110			No	No	No	No	No									
Section 2			440			No													
Section 3			1,539				No	No	No	No									
Section 4			330					No											
Section 5			220						No										
Section 6			550							No									
Section 7																			
Section 8																			
Section 9																			
Section 10																			
Section 11																			
Section 12																			
Section 13																			
Total pipe length for main distribution line	ft	3,189																	
<b>Secondary cooling distribution lines</b>																			
Secondary pipe network oversizing																			
Length of pipe section	ft	0	Secondary distribution pipes length per building cluster																
Pipe size	mm					DN 65	DN 50	DN 65	DN 50	DN 65									
<b>District cooling network cost</b>																			
Total pipe length	ft	3,189																	
Cooling method		Formula																	
Energy transfer station(s) connection type		Indirect																	
Energy transfer station(s) cost factor																			
Main distribution line pipe cost factor																			
Secondary distribution line pipe cost factor																			
Exchange rate	\$/CAD																		
Energy transfer station(s) cost	\$	-	ETS and secondary distribution pipes costs per building cluster																
Secondary distribution line pipe cost	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
Total building cluster connection cost	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
<b>Main distribution line pipe cost by pipe size categories</b>																			
Summary of main distribution line pipe size	mm		DN 32	DN 40	DN 50	DN 65	DN 80	DN 100	DN 125	DN 150	DN 175	DN 200	DN 250	DN 300	DN 350	DN 400 +			
Summary of main distribution line pipe length	ft		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Summary of main distribution line pipe cost	\$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Total district cooling network cost	\$	-																	

RETScreen Load & Network Design - Combined heating & cooling project



Proposed case load and energy		Heating	Cooling
System peak load	million Btu/h	3	185
System energy	million Btu	5,876	413,680

Proposed case cooling system			
<b>Base load cooling system</b>			
Technology	Heat pump		
Fuel type	Electricity		
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400	
Capacity	kW	650.0	100.0%
Coefficient of performance - seasonal		4.25	
Manufacturer			
Model			
Cooling delivered	RTh	413,680	100.0%
<b>Peak load cooling system</b>			
Technology	Not required		

[Show figure](#)

[See product database](#)

Proposed case heating system			
System selection	Base load system		
<b>Base load heating system</b>			
Technology	Heat pump		
Fuel selection method			
Fuel type	Single fuel		
Fuel rate	\$/MWh	143.400	
<b>Heat pump</b>			
Capacity	kW	900.0	103.9%
Heating delivered	million Btu	5,876	100.0%
Manufacturer			
Model			
Seasonal efficiency	%	520%	
Fuel required	million Btu/h	0.6	

[See product database](#)

Proposed case system characteristics	Unit	Estimate	%	System design graph
<b>Heating</b>				
<b>Base load heating system</b>				
Technology		Heat pump		
Capacity	million Btu/h	3.1	103.9%	
Heating delivered	million Btu	5,876	100.0%	
<b>Peak load heating system</b>				
Technology	Not required			
<b>Back-up heating system (optional)</b>				
Technology				
Capacity	kW			
<b>Cooling</b>				
<b>Base load cooling system</b>				
Technology		Heat pump		
Fuel type		Electricity		
Capacity	RT	185	100.0%	
Cooling delivered	RTh	413,680	100.0%	
<b>Back-up cooling system (optional)</b>				
Technology				
Capacity	kW			

Proposed case system summary		Fuel type	Fuel consumption - unit	Fuel consumption	Capacity (kW)	Energy delivered (MWh)
<b>Heating</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	331	900	1,722
				<b>Total</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,722</b>
<b>Cooling</b>						
Base load		Electricity	MWh	342	650	1,455
				<b>Total</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>1,455</b>

RETScreen Cost Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

Settings				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Method 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notes/Range	Notes/Range	None	
<input type="checkbox"/> Method 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Second currency			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cost allocation			

Initial costs (credits)	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount	Relative costs
<b>Feasibility study</b>					
Feasibility study	cost	1	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 15,000	0.8%
<b>Development</b>					
Development	cost	1	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 45,000	2.4%
<b>Engineering</b>					
Engineering	cost	1	\$ 65,000	\$ 65,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 65,000	3.4%
<b>Heating system</b>					
Base load - Heat pump	kW	900.0	\$ 100	\$ 90,000	
Energy transfer station(s)	building	16	-	\$ -	
Main heating distribution line pipe	ft	3,189	-	\$ 487,433	
Secondary heating distribution line pipe	ft	810	-	\$ 93,272	
Energy efficiency measures	project			\$ -	
Drilling & grouting	cost	100	\$ 8,400	\$ 840,000	
Sub-total:				\$ 1,510,705	79.9%
<b>Cooling system</b>					
Base load - Heat pump	kW	650.0		\$ -	
Energy transfer station(s)	building	16	-	\$ -	
Main cooling distribution line pipe	ft	3,189	-	\$ -	
Secondary cooling distribution line pipe	ft	0	-	\$ -	
Energy efficiency measures	project			\$ -	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Sub-total:				\$ -	0.0%
<b>Balance of system &amp; miscellaneous</b>					
Spare parts	%	1.0%	\$ 90,000	\$ 900	
Transportation	project	2	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,000	
Training & commissioning	p-d	2	\$ 500	\$ 1,000	
User-defined	cost			\$ -	
Contingencies	%	15.0%	\$ 1,643,605	\$ 246,541	
Interest during construction		6 month(s)	\$ 1,890,146	\$ -	
Sub-total:				\$ 254,441	13.5%
<b>Total initial costs</b>				\$ 1,890,146	100.0%

Annual costs (credits)	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount
<b>O&amp;M</b>				
Parts & labour	project	1	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
User-defined	cost			\$ -
Contingencies	%	15.0%	\$ 3,000	\$ 450
Sub-total:				\$ 3,450
<b>Fuel cost - proposed case</b>				
Electricity	MWh	674	\$ 143.400	\$ 96,580
Sub-total:				\$ 96,580

Annual savings	Unit	Quantity	Unit cost	Amount
<b>Fuel cost - base case</b>				
Electricity	MWh	2,207	\$ 106.610	\$ 235,300
Sub-total:				\$ 235,300

Periodic costs (credits)	Unit	Year	Unit cost	Amount
User-defined	cost			\$ -
End of project life	cost			\$ -

RETScreen Emission Reduction Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

Emission Analysis

Method 1  
 Method 2  
 Method 3

**Base case electricity system (Baseline)**

Country - region	Fuel type	GHG emission factor (excl. T&D) tCO2/MWh	T&D losses %	GHG emission factor tCO2/MWh
United States of America	All types	0.584	7.0%	0.628

Baseline changes during project life

**Base case system GHG summary (Baseline)**

Fuel type	Fuel mix %	Fuel consumption	GHG emission factor	GHG emission
		MWh	tCO2/MWh	tCO2
Electricity	100.0%	2,207	0.628	1,385.0
Total	100.0%	2,207	0.628	1,385.0

**Proposed case system GHG summary (Combined heating & cooling project)**

Fuel type	Fuel mix %	Fuel consumption	GHG emission factor	GHG emission
		MWh	tCO2/MWh	tCO2
Electricity	100.0%	674	0.628	422.6
Total	100.0%	674	0.628	422.6

**GHG emission reduction summary**

	Base case GHG emission tCO2	Proposed case GHG emission tCO2	Gross annual GHG emission reduction tCO2	GHG credits transaction fee %	Net annual GHG emission reduction tCO2
Combined heating & cooling project	1,385.0	422.6	962.4		962.4
Net annual GHG emission reduction	962	tCO2	is equivalent to	176	Cars & light trucks not used

RETScreen Financial Analysis - Combined heating & cooling project

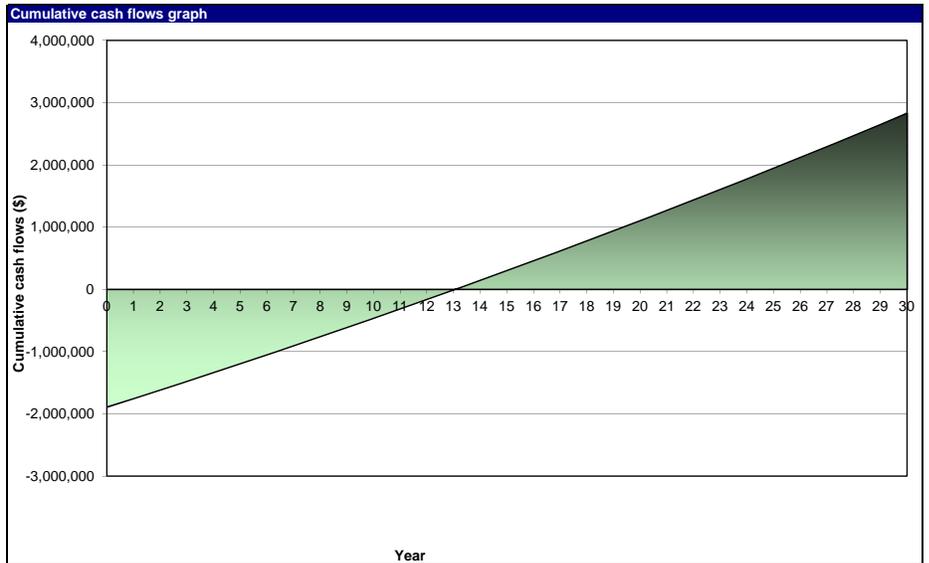
Financial parameters			
<b>General</b>			
Fuel cost escalation rate	%		1.0%
Inflation rate	%		2.0%
Discount rate	%		12.0%
Project life	yr		30
<b>Finance</b>			
Incentives and grants	\$		
Debt ratio	%		0.0%
<b>Income tax analysis</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			

Annual income			
<b>Electricity export income</b>			
<b>GHG reduction income</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
Net GHG reduction	tCO2/yr		962
Net GHG reduction - 30 yrs	tCO2		28,871
<b>Customer premium income (rebate)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Other income (cost)</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Clean Energy (CE) production income</b> <input type="checkbox"/>			

Project costs and savings/income summary			
<b>Initial costs</b>			
Feasibility study	0.8%	\$	15,000
Development	2.4%	\$	45,000
Engineering	3.4%	\$	65,000
Heating system	79.9%	\$	1,510,705
Cooling system	0.0%	\$	0
Balance of system & misc.	13.5%	\$	254,441
<b>Total initial costs</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,890,146</b>
<b>Annual costs and debt payments</b>			
O&M		\$	3,450
Fuel cost - proposed case		\$	96,580
<b>Total annual costs</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>100,030</b>
<b>Periodic costs (credits)</b>			
<b>Annual savings and income</b>			
Fuel cost - base case		\$	235,300
<b>Total annual savings and income</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>235,300</b>

Financial viability			
Pre-tax IRR - equity	%		6.9%
Pre-tax IRR - assets	%		6.9%
After-tax IRR - equity	%		6.9%
After-tax IRR - assets	%		6.9%
Simple payback	yr		14.0
Equity payback	yr		13.1
Net Present Value (NPV)	\$		-707,867
Annual life cycle savings	\$/yr		-87,877
Benefit-Cost (B-C) ratio			0.63
GHG reduction cost	\$/tCO2		91

Yearly cash flows				
Year	Pre-tax	After-tax	Cumulative	
#	\$	\$	\$	\$
0	-1,890,146	-1,890,146	-1,890,146	
1	136,574	136,574	-1,753,572	
2	137,890	137,890	-1,615,681	
3	139,219	139,219	-1,476,462	
4	140,561	140,561	-1,335,901	
5	141,914	141,914	-1,193,987	
6	143,281	143,281	-1,050,706	
7	144,660	144,660	-906,046	
8	146,052	146,052	-759,994	
9	147,457	147,457	-612,536	
10	148,876	148,876	-463,661	
11	150,307	150,307	-313,354	
12	151,752	151,752	-161,602	
13	153,210	153,210	-8,393	
14	154,681	154,681	146,289	
15	156,167	156,167	302,456	
16	157,666	157,666	460,122	
17	159,179	159,179	619,301	
18	160,706	160,706	780,007	
19	162,247	162,247	942,254	
20	163,803	163,803	1,106,057	
21	165,373	165,373	1,271,430	
22	166,957	166,957	1,438,387	
23	168,556	168,556	1,606,943	
24	170,170	170,170	1,777,113	
25	171,799	171,799	1,948,912	
26	173,442	173,442	2,122,354	
27	175,101	175,101	2,297,455	
28	176,775	176,775	2,474,230	
29	178,464	178,464	2,652,694	
30	180,169	180,169	2,832,863	





# APPENDIX B

## Institutional Building Geothermal Case Studies





### Institutional Building - Geothermal Retrofit Case Brantford Collegiate Institute, 2010-2011

In 2007, Brantford Collegiate Institute, Brantford, Ontario was demolished except for the historic front facade and structure immediately behind it and a separate wing of the school built in 1963. A completely new building was built behind the beautiful old facade. Geothermal was not used in this rebuild. However, in turn, the 1963 wing of the school was refurbished, the HVAC system was completely removed, the structure remediated and a 150 ton closed-loop vertical geothermal system was installed in the sports field behind the building and brought in to a new central energy plant in the basement of the school. New heat pumps were installed throughout the building and new ductwork was installed as was a connecting hydronic water pipe system. In September 2011, the refurbished wing of the school opened to students.



Figure 6: Brantford Collegiate Institute, 1963 wing and 1901 facade

Economic summary of the project:

- Life cycle costing of a geothermal system does not include renewal costs for the bore field, which represents over 60% of the total geothermal investment, since the life expectancy is theoretically well over 50 years, as long as the building remains. Therefore lifecycle costs of a geothermal system are substantially lower when compared to a conventional heating system.
- Combining geothermal with high efficiency energy recovery yielded a simple payback of less than 4 years.
- Environmentally, carbon dioxide emissions were reduced by at least 74%, over those of a fuel based system.

Some of the geothermal system specifications included:

- A closed loop vertical borehole geothermal system
- A geothermal bore field, tied into a water-to-water heat pump plant capable of providing low temperature heating water and chilled water



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

- Information provided by the project mechanical engineers of record: peak design load parameters, expressed in peak heating output (Btu/hr), peak cooling output (Btu/hr), supply water temperatures for heating and cooling and design flow rates
- Recommended Energy Recovery Ventilation (ERV) equipment was installed decreasing the heating capacity required by 55% and the cooling capacity required by 33%.
- Plant capacity with ERV was 1,700,000 btu/hr heating or approximately 150-ton capacity heat pump system
- Warranty was 1-year parts and labour for entire system; 10-year against ground loop leaks, equipment manufacturer parts warranty after the first year
- Ground loop installation cost did not include surface remediation
- Project Cost: \$1,523,600 before taxes
- Financial options included outright purchase and an offer from a private energy supply and service firm to own and operate the geothermal system – BCI opted to purchase outright.



Figure 7: Brantford Collegiate Institute, Drilling the School Yard



Figure 8: Headers ready for building tie-in



Figure 9: BCI Drilling Operations



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

**Table 6: Summary Economic Analysis – BCI Geothermal System**

Engineering Analysis:	Conventional	Geothermal	Geothermal w/ERV
Heating Plant Cap. (kbtu/hr)	4000	4000	1700
Heating Plant Eff.	85%	490%	490%
Cooling Plant Cap. (tons)	200	200	133
Cooling Plant Eff.	COP 4.4	COP 6.7	COP 6.7
Heating Annual Energy (MMBTU)	4800	4800	2500
Cooling Annual Energy (MMBTU)	1800	1800	1200
Heating energy	160000 m <sup>3</sup> NG	287000 kWh	150000 kWh
Cooling energy	120000 kWh	78700 kWh	52500 kWh
Annual Energy Costs \$ .45/m <sup>3</sup> , \$.10/kWh	\$84,000	\$ 36,570	\$ 20,250
Savings (comp. to conv.)		\$ 47,430	\$ 63,750
Capital Cost	\$1,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$1,350,000
Incremental Costs (comp. to conv.)		\$1,000,000	\$ 250,000
Simple Payback (yrs)		21	3.9
CO2 emissions from elec (tonnes)	304		
CO2 emissions from NG (tonnes)	28.8	87.8	48.6
Total CO2 emissions (tonnes)	332.8	87.8	48.6
CO2 Emission Reduction (tonnes)		245	284.2

**Table 7: Summary Financial Analysis – BCI Geothermal System**

Financial Analysis:	Conventional	Geothermal	Geothermal w/ERV
Assumptions			
<b>Geothermal System Inputs</b>			
Heating Capacity Required (tons) 52.1%	GwERV/G	240	125
Cooling Capacity Required (tons) 66.7%	GwERV/G	200	133
Capacity of Geo Field (tons) assume max. cooling is not required		240	125
Boreholes (3 tons/ bore (540' deep))		80	42
Drilling - vertical feet		43200	22500
Cost/vertical foot (incl. geo engineering, TCT, controls, water pumps, valves)		\$ 29.58	\$ 34.41
<b>Costs</b>			
Geo System (incl. geo engineering, TCT, controls, water pumps, valves)		\$1,277,640	\$ 774,281
W/W HPs (18% MU)		\$ 622,200	\$ 311,100
ERV (18% MU)		\$ -	\$ 362,950
Contingency 0.05		\$ 91,760	\$ 75,171
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,100,000</b>	<b>\$1,523,503</b>
Incremental Cost to Client (comp. to conv.)		<b>\$ 891,600</b>	<b>\$ 423,503</b>
<b>Cost Offsets</b>			
Energy Cost Savings		\$ 47,430	\$ 63,750
Simple Payback, years		18.8	6.6
Reduced Maintenance		\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Total Cash Offset		\$ 62,430	\$ 78,750
Payback incl. Maint., years		14.3	5.4
Avoid Equipment Replacement at life (2.5% inflation, 15 year life)		\$ 104,000	\$ 104,000
Total Cost Offsets		\$ 166,430	\$ 182,750
Payback incl. maint and equip lifecycle costs, years		5.4	2.3



## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

**Table 8: Summary of Financial Options – BCI Geothermal System**

Client Cash Comparison	Conventional	Geothermal w/ERV Purchase	Geothermal w/ERV Own & Operate	
			No equipment renewal	With equipment renewal
<b>Capital Cost</b>	\$ 1,100,000	\$ 1,523,600	\$ -	\$ -
Incremental Cost to Client (comp. to conv.)		\$ 423,600	\$ (1,100,000)	\$ (1,100,000)
Loan Payments (80%E/8%/20yr)	\$ 110,707	\$ 153,330	\$ -	\$ -
Energy (NG+EL)	\$ 84,000	\$ 20,250	\$ 20,250	\$ 20,250
Maintenance (Incremental)	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Annual Renewable Energy Fee (20 year term)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 158,536	\$ 231,671
<b>Annual Cash Cost, year one</b>	\$ 209,707	\$ 173,580	\$ 178,786 <sup>t</sup>	\$ 251,921 <sup>t</sup>
Incremental Cash cost, year one		\$ (36,127)	\$ (30,921)	\$ 42,214
Termination Value, year 20			\$ 154,875	\$ 154,875
<b>Annual Lifecycle Cost</b>	\$ 103,618 *	\$ 63,819 **	\$ 71,563 ***	\$ 7,744 ****
<b>Annual Total Lifecycle cost</b>	\$ 313,325	\$ 237,399	\$ 250,349	\$ 259,665
Incremental Annual Savings to Client (comp. to conv.)		\$ (75,926)	\$ (62,976)	\$ (53,660)

notes:

<sup>t</sup> annual ESF year one, increases by 2.5%/year

\* replacement of \$1.1M conventional equipment in 15 years, inflated at 2.5%, allocated over 15 years.

\*\* replacement of geothermal equipment in 20 years, inflated at 2.5%, allocated over 20 years.

\*\*\* replacement of geothermal equipment in 20 years, inflated at 2.5%, plus termination value, allocated over 20 years.

\*\*\*\* termination value, allocated over 20 years.



### Institutional Building – Geothermal Carbon Neutral Case Study Walden Public School, 2009

Walden Public School, in Lively, Ontario (near Sudbury) was built in 2009 by Rainbow District School Board, to be North America's first Carbon Neutral School.

#### Prior Experience

Rainbow District School Board built its first geothermal energy school, Valley View Public School in Sudbury Ontario, in 2006. The school teaches French immersion, K-8. The geothermal system is a large horizontal system installed under the extended playground, that feeds a hybrid geothermal water-to-water heat pump and natural gas fired boiler HVAC system. An automated building comfort control system, senses heating needs and controls the operation of the hybrid system, to maximize the energy efficiency. A hybrid geo/natural gas system was chosen because the school uses heating only and a hybrid system offered a way to balance the energy use in the geothermal system.

#### Learned Design Principles

To be truly carbon neutral, Walden PS needed to generate its own electricity as well as its own heat energy. Since the school is not open in the summer, cooling was not a design criterion. Geothermal energy was a natural for heating, however a geo system uses some electricity and electricity was also required for lights, computers, air handlers, etc.

So the first principle of design became, reduce the electricity load wherever possible, including in the geo system. Walden used natural light, in-floor radiant heating, instant water heaters, daylight and motion sensors on lighting controls and numerous other techniques to reduce the electricity intensity of the building from the average 30kW/sq. ft. to 5kW/sq. ft.

In order to minimize the energy consumption of the building, waste heat from one system needed to be captured and sent to another system. Architectural materials needed to be chosen for their heating or cooling properties and electricity use had to be rationed, in favour of manual or window R-value choices. So the second principal of design became design integration.

The third design principal became innovation. For Walden this meant, "It can't cost more." So a fixed stage became a retractable one, floors became polished cement but smart boards in every classroom remained.

#### Renewable Energy System





## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

The energy system at Walden consist of a 58 ton geothermal vertical borefield connected to five water-to-water heat pumps which feed warm water through an in-floor radiant heat system, throughout the school. Because the school only requires heating and the geothermal borefield must be replenished to ensure sustainability, solar thermal panels were installed on the south facing exterior wall of the gymnasium, collecting heat when the sun shines, and sending it into the geothermal borefield to replace the heat extracted, over the winter.

The school needed 235,000 kWh of electricity annually. A small wind turbine with a capacity to generate 35,000 kWh of electricity was installed in the playground. The roof structure has been reinforced to hold photovoltaic solar panels which have a capacity of 200,000 kWh. The roof was not quite large enough to hold panels need to generate the total electricity load, so the wind turbine was required.

Walden Public School opened to 435 students, in November 2009. Teachers, staff, students and parents all take pride in their accomplishments and a culture of “ownership” has taken root.

The fourth principle of design became respect – respect for themselves, respect for each other, respect for the environment and respect for the future that they will leave to others.



### 2011 Update

Rainbow District School Board received funding from the Northern Heritage Fund in 2010 and was able to install 100,000 kWh PV solar panels on the roof, half the amount required to make the school carbon neutral. They are still raising funds and intend to install the remainder of the PV solar panels required sometime in the next two years.



# APPENDIX C

## Geothermal District Energy System Case Study - Ball State University



# University To Use Earth's Temps To Heat Its Buildings

by DANIEL ROBISON



Enlarge

Georgia Perry

Machinery and pipes cover the muddy ground at Ball State University's geothermal heating/cooling construction site.

December 4, 2009 from WFIU text size **A** **A** **A**

In northeastern Indiana, environmentalists are closely watching a project on a scale that hasn't been attempted before in the United States. Ball State University is constructing the largest geothermal heating and cooling system of its kind — and promises to cut its carbon emissions in half.

Here's how it works: A few dozen feet below the Earth's surface, the temperature is between 52 and 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Depending on the time of year, geothermal systems use the Earth's temperature as a heat source — or sink

— by sending water through miles of pipes and concentrating it to meet the temperature the thermostat calls for.

Ball State is attempting to use more than 660 acres to heat and cool nearly 50 buildings.

## 'This Is A Major, Major Change'

Drills the size of tree trunks punch through dirt, clay and limestone to create a polka-dot pattern that stretches over land equal to a half-dozen football fields. One of the 400-foot-deep holes could heat and cool a house. But 4,100 of the holes will take care of the entire campus.

Project engineer Jim Lowe says there's still a gee-whiz reaction to geothermal in a state where more than 95 percent of energy needs are met through coal and natural gas.



Enlarge

Georgia Perry

Jo Ann Gora, president of Ball State University, says when the school tried to replace its four coal boilers, the \$50 million estimate led to sticker shock. So university officials started thinking creatively.

"They still think of it as technology that's strange, but it's not," he says. "This is a major, major change. Instead of thinking about building boilers and using coal and natural gas, we're shifting that paradigm to where we're relying on a renewable energy source here."

When the Muncie, Ind., school originally tried to replace its four Eisenhower-era coal boilers, Ball State President Jo Ann Gora says a \$50 million estimate led to sticker shock — and that's before factoring in the cost of coal. So the school started to think outside the smokestack.

"It really shows that America has renewable energy sources if you just have the will to use

them," she says. "We're using the renewable energy that the ground represents. Buildings rest on the ground. The ground is the source of renewable energy. Why don't we use it?"

Unlike wind and solar, which don't operate efficiently 24/7, geothermal systems are on all the time. But each one must be installed on-site, meaning it would take thousands of these projects to equal the heating and cooling power of just one coal plant.

## Financial Hurdles

Jim Huddleston manages the project he says will keep 80,000 tons of carbon emissions from the skies above Muncie. But he says the initial cost of geothermal is steep and that keeps many from digging deep into their pockets to pay for it.



"Problem is, when you and I go to buy a house



Enlarge

Georgia Perry

Mark Tucker releases steam from a coal-burning furnace in the Ball State University coal plant. In coal-fired boilers like these, steam is used to turn turbines, which produce electricity.

and I need every penny I have to get that down payment and to get the fixtures that my wife wants and put these curtains up — and we don't spend the extra 30 percent," Huddleston says.

It could cost Ball State as much as \$80 million to build the system. But officials estimate energy savings of up to \$2 million a year. And right now, even with \$40 million from the state and \$5 million in federal stimulus funds, Ball State has raised just over half the money it needs.

Despite the financial hurdles, Oregon Institute of Technology professor John Lund says Ball State will show that large-scale geothermal is a viable resource.

"There are probably over 50 schools that have heat pumps, but this would be the largest," Lund says. "It does show that it can be done on a large scale — i.e., this can be done all over the country, from North Dakota down to Florida, from Maine down to Texas.:

Across Ball State's campus, Mark Tucker dumps coal into an enormous boiler, which rages at 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit. He says they go through 130 tons of coal a day among the four boilers.

It could take five to 10 years for Ball State to complete this project as the school moves forward to tap the Earth for its heating and cooling needs.

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# APPENDIX D

## Community Horizontal Geothermal District Energy Case Study





## APPLICATIONS OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

### Case Study: Gibsons, BC, Horizontal Geothermal District Heating System

The Town of Gibsons, BC realized they had a unique opportunity to develop a green community when a local developer suggested homeowners were interested in reducing their impact on the environment. Many were familiar with geothermal systems but were hesitant to adopt the technology because of the high cost of the ground heat exchanger.

The Town was concerned that homeowners installing a GeoExchange system in their homes would be drilling boreholes into the aquifer supplying the town drinking water. Rather than restricting the use of ground heat exchangers to provide energy for homes in the community, the Town explored other options.

Working closely with the Town, engineering consultants determined that park and greenbelt areas were available, and could be used to construct a series of modular ground heat exchangers in horizontal trenches without penetrating the clay overburden protecting the aquifer. It was also determined that a common central ground heat exchange system had great benefits for the Town and future homeowner, including:

- Homeowners could be connected to the district system for a low monthly cost. Connection fees plus electricity cost to operate the system would be 10-15% lower than high-efficiency gas.
- The cost of installing a geothermal system was similar to the cost of installing a high efficiency gas furnace and air conditioner.
- The geothermal utility could produce a new revenue stream for the community.
- Heat from the refrigeration plant in the Town owned hockey arena enhanced system efficiency.
- The nearby ocean could provide temperature stability by connecting it to the ground heat exchange system.

The ground heat exchange system was designed to allow expansion as the development grows, and to allow other buildings, such as nearby schools, shopping malls and office buildings to be connected.



*Gibsons, BC*



*Horizontal Ground Heat Exchanger Installation*



*Central Pump Station Building*



# APPENDIX E

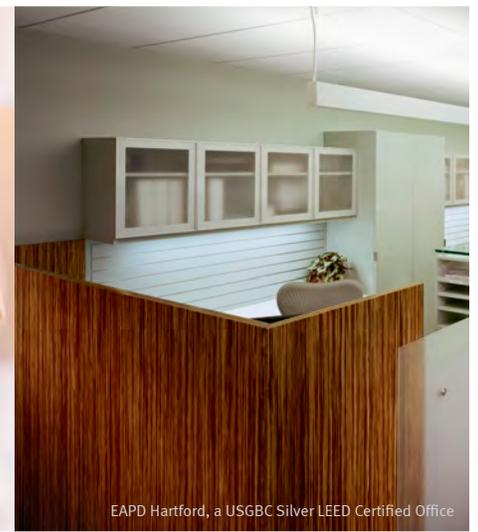
## Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Tax Incentives Federal and State Energy Tax Programs

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX INCENTIVES

## FEDERAL AND STATE ENERGY TAX PROGRAMS

Karl P. Fryzel and Jerome L. Garciano

July 2011



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## Summary Chart of Federal and State Renewable and Efficient Energy Tax Incentives - July 2011 (Geothermal)

Sec	Jurisdiction	Statute	Incentive Title	Technology	Tax	Type	Taxpayer	Period (yrs)	Amount	Maximum	Expiration
<b>00.00 Federal Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
00.01	Federal	§45	Renewable Electricity Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	10	\$0.022/Kwh	-	2013
00.03	Federal	§48C	Investment In Advanced Energy Property	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Investor	-	30%	-	2009
00.13	Federal	§168(e)(3)	Certain Energy Property	Geothermal	Income	Deduction	Owner	5	200% DB	-	2016
00.16	Federal	§54C	New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Holder	-	0 interest	-	Limit
00.19	Federal	§25D	Residential Energy Efficient Property	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	30%	\$2,000	2016
<b>01.00 Alabama State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
01.01	Alabama	§40-18-190	Alternative Energy Electricity Production Faci	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Utility	20	5%	-	2015
01.02	Alabama	§40-9B-4	Alternative Energy Production Facilities	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Utility	-	100%	-	2018
<b>04.00 Arizona State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
04.01	Arizona	§41-1511	Renewable Energy Operations	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Manufacturer	5	10%	-	2014
04.02	Arizona	§42-12006	Renewable Energy Operations	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Manufacturer	10-15	75%	-	2014
04.14	Arizona	§41-1514.2	Fuels Sold to Environmental Technology Faci	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	20	100%	-	-
04.16	Arizona	§42-5061.D	Environmental Technology Facilities	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Manufacturer	-	100%	-	-
<b>06.00 California State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
06.05	California	§6010.8	Green Manufacturing Equipment	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	2020
<b>08.00 Colorado State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
08.01	Colorado	§31-20-101.3	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Credit	Owner	-	Varies	-	-
08.02	Colorado	§39-26-403	Qualifying Clean Technology	Geothermal	Sales	Refund	Purchaser	-	100%	\$50,000	2014
08.04	Colorado	§30-11-107.3	Clean Energy Finance Districts	Geothermal	Property	Financing	Owner	-	Varies	-	-
<b>09.00 Connecticut State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
09.01	Connecticut	§12-412 (117)	Solar And Geothermal Systems	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	-
<b>10.00 Delaware State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
10.01	Delaware	§2040	Clean Energy Manufacturing Jobs	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Manufacturer	-	\$750/Job & \$100k	\$500,000	-
<b>12.00 Florida State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
12.01	Florida	§196.175	Renewable Energy Source Devices	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	10	100%	-	-
12.02	Florida	§220.193	Renewable Energy Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	-	\$0.01/kWh	-	2010
<b>13.00 Georgia State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
13.01	Georgia	§48-7-29.14	Clean Energy Property	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	35%	\$100,000 / \$2,000	2012
<b>15.00 Hawaii State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
15.01	Hawaii	§235-110.9	High Technology Business Investment	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Investor	5	100%	\$1.5 million	2010
<b>16.00 Idaho State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
16.01	Idaho	§63-3502B	Wind And Geothermal Energy Producers	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Producer	-	3%	-	-
16.02	Idaho	§63-3622QQ	Renewable Energy Equipment	Geothermal	Sales	Refund	Purchaser	-	100%	-	2011
16.05	Idaho	§63-3022C	Residential Alternative Energy Devices	Geothermal	Income	Deduction	Owner	4	100%	\$5,000	-
<b>18.00 Indiana State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
18.01	Indiana	§6-1.1-12-26	Renewable Energy Property	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
<b>20.00 Kansas State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
20.01	Kansas	§79-32,246	New Renewable Electric Cogeneration Faciliti	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Investor	10	5-10%	-	2011
20.02	Kansas	§79-201	Renewable Energy Equipment	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
<b>21.00 Kentucky State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
21.02	Kentucky	§141.435	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	30%	\$250	2015
<b>24.00 Maryland State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
24.01	Maryland	§10-720	Renewable Energy Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	5	\$0.0085/kWh	\$2.5 million	2015
24.02	Maryland	§9-203	Solar, Geothermal, And Energy Conservation	Geothermal	Property	Credit	Owner	-	100%	-	-
24.03	Maryland	§7-242	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
24.05	Maryland	§11-230	Geothermal, Solar And Wind Energy Equipm	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	-
24.06	Maryland	§8-240	Solar And Geothermal Heating And Cooling S	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
<b>25.00 Massachusetts State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
25.05	Massachusetts	64H §6(dd)	Renewable Energy Equipment In Primary Res	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	-
<b>27.00 Minnesota State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
27.04	Minnesota	H.B. 2695 (2010)	Renewable Energy and Energy-Efficiency Sys	Geothermal	Property	Financing	Owner	20	Varies	10% of assessed value	-

Sec	Jurisdiction	Statute	Incentive Title	Technology	Tax	Type	Taxpayer	Period (yrs)	Amount	Maximum	Expiration
<b>29.00 Missouri State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
29.01	Missouri	§620.1875	Technology Business Projects	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	5	5%	-	-
<b>30.00 Montana State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
30.02	Montana	§15-24-3111	Renewable Energy Production And Manufact	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Owner	19	50%	\$1 million of value	-
30.03	Montana	§15-31-124	Alternative Renewable Energy Industries	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Employer	3	1%	-	-
30.05	Montana	§15-24-1402	Alternative Renewable Energy Generating Fa	Geothermal	Property	Assessment	Owner	10	50%	-	-
30.07	Montana	§15-6-224	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	10	100%	\$100,000 / \$20,000	-
30.12	Montana	§15-32-201	Residential Non-Fossil Form Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	100%	\$500	-
30.13	Montana	§15-32-115	Residential Geothermal Heating Or Cooling S	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	100%	\$1,500	-
<b>31.00 Nebraska State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
31.01	Nebraska	§77-27,235	Renewable Energy Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	10	\$0.001/kwh	-	2017
<b>32.00 Nevada State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
32.01	Nevada	§701A.360	Renewable Energy Technologies	Geothermal	Sales	Abatement	Purchaser	3	100%	0.60%	2049
32.02	Nevada	§701A.220	Renewable Energy Production Facilities	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Owner	20	55%	-	2049
32.03	Nevada	§701A.200	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
<b>33.00 New Hampshire State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
33.01	New Hampshire	72 §73	Renewable Generation Facilities	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Owner	5	Varies	-	-
<b>34.00 New Jersey State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
34.02	New Jersey	§54:4-3.113	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
<b>35.00 New Mexico State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
35.01	New Mexico	§7-2A-25	Advanced Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	6%	-	2015
35.04	New Mexico	S.B. 647 (2009)	Renewable-Energy Technologies	Geothermal	Property	Financing	Owner	-	Varies	40%	-
35.08	New Mexico	§7-2A-24	Geothermal Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	30%	\$9,000	2020
35.13	New Mexico	§7-9-114	Clean Energy Facilities	Geothermal	Gross Receipt	Deduction	Seller	10	100%	\$60m	2015
<b>36.00 New York State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
36.01	New York	§14	Clean Energy Enterprises	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Manufacturer	10	Formula	-	2010
36.02	New York	§14	Clean Energy Enterprises	Geothermal	Property	Credit	Manufacturer	10	Formula	-	2010
<b>37.00 North Carolina State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
37.01	North Carolina	§105-129.15	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	5	35%	\$8,400	2015
<b>38.00 North Dakota State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
38.01	North Dakota	§57-38-01.8	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	5	15%	-	2014
38.02	North Dakota	§57-02-08(27)	Geothermal, Solar And Wind Property	Geothermal	Property	Abatement	Owner	5	100%	-	-
38.08	North Dakota	§57-38-01.8	Geothermal Energy Device Installation	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	5	3%	-	2014
<b>39.00 Ohio State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
39.03	Ohio	§5709.53	Solar, Wind, And Hydrothermal Energy Syste	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
39.07	Ohio	§5727.75	Qualified Energy Projects	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	2011
<b>40.00 Oklahoma State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
40.01	Oklahoma	68 §2357.32A	Zero-Emission Electricity Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	10	\$0.0050/kWh	-	-
<b>41.00 Oregon State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
41.01	Oregon	§315.354	Energy Improvements	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	5	35-50%	\$20 million	2013
41.02	Oregon	§315.354	Renewable Energy Equipment Manufacturing	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Manufacturer	5	50%	\$20 million	2013
41.03	Oregon	§307.175	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	2012
41.07	Oregon	§469.185	Residential Renewable Energy Property	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	\$300-\$900	\$900	2015
<b>42.00 Pennsylvania State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
42.01	Pennsylvania	73 §1649.70	Alternative Energy Production	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Producer	-	15%	\$1 million	2016
<b>44.00 Rhode Island State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
44.01	Rhode Island	§44-18-30(57)	Renewable Energy Systems And Equipment	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	-
44.02	Rhode Island	§44-3-21	Renewable-Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	100%	-	-
44.04	Rhode Island	§44-57-1	Residential Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	[Repealed]	[Repealed]	Repealed
<b>45.00 South Carolina State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
45.10	South Carolina	§12-6-3588	Plant And Equipment For Renewable Energy	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	10%	\$500,000	2015
<b>46.00 South Dakota State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
46.01	South Dakota	§10-6-35.8	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Property	Assessment	Owner	6	50-100%	-	-
46.05	South Dakota	S.B. 58 (2010)	Small Renewable Energy Facilities	Geothermal	Property	Exemption	Owner	-	70%	-	-
46.07	South Dakota	§49-34A	Renewable Resource Electric Production Fac	Geothermal	Excise	Refund	Builder	-	100%	-	2012
<b>47.00 Tennessee State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											

<u>Sec</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Statute</u>	<u>Incentive Title</u>	<u>Technology</u>	<u>Tax</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Period (yrs)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
47.01	Tennessee	§67-6-232	Manufacturers Of Clean Energy Technologies	Geothermal	Sales	Credit	Manufacturer	8	99.50%	-	-
<b>49.00 Utah State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
49.01	Utah	§59-7-614	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	-	10-25%	-	-
49.02	Utah	§59-7-614	Renewable Energy Systems	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Owner	4	\$0.0035/kWh	\$50,000	2012
49.03	Utah	§59-12-104(55)	Renewable Resource Electricity Generation E	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	2019
49.07	Utah	§10-1-304	Renewable Resource Electricity	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	2019
<b>50.00 Vermont State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
50.02	Vermont	H.B. 446 (2009).	Clean Energy Assessment Districts	Geothermal	Property	Financing	Owner	-	Varies	-	-
<b>51.00 Virginia State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
51.09	Virginia	§58.1-3221.4	Renewable Energy Manufacturing	Geothermal	Property	Assessment	Manufacturer	-	Varies	-	-
51.10	Virginia	§58.1-439.12:03	Green Job Creation	Geothermal	Income	Credit	Employer	5	\$500/job	\$175,000	2014
<b>53.00 Washington State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
53.02	Washington	§82.08.962	Renewable Energy Equipment	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	75-100%	-	2011
<b>56.00 Wyoming State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency</b>											
56.01	Wyoming	39-15-105(a)(viii)(	Renewable Energy Equipment	Geothermal	Sales	Exemption	Purchaser	-	100%	-	2011

**00. Federal Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

## **00.01 Federal business income tax credit for renewable electricity production**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** The Federal Internal Revenue Code provides a business income tax credit in the amount of \$0.021 (2009) per kilowatt hour of electricity produced from qualifying renewable resources during a ten-year period. *IRC §45; Notice 98-27, 1998-18 IRB 14; Notice 97-30, 1997-1 CB 416; Notice 96-25, 1996-1 CB 375; Rev. Proc. 2007-65; Announcement 2009-69; INFO 2010-0025; INFO 2010-0037; Notice 2010-37; Notice 2011-40.*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax credit is available to Taxpayers producing electricity from qualifying renewable resources and selling the electricity produced to an unrelated person.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must produce electricity from qualifying renewable resources and sell the electricity produced to an unrelated person. Qualifying energy resources are wind, closed-loop biomass, open-loop biomass, geothermal energy, solar energy, small irrigation power, municipal solid waste, hydropower, marine and hydrokinetic renewables. Qualifying closed-loop biomass is any organic material from a plant that is planted exclusively for purposes of being used at a qualifying facility to produce electricity. Qualifying closed-loop biomass facilities may include facilities modified to use closed-loop biomass to co-fire with coal, with other biomass, or with both, but only if the modification is approved under the Biomass Power for Rural Development Programs or is part of a pilot project of the Commodity Credit Corporation. Qualifying open-loop biomass is any agricultural livestock waste nutrients or any solid, nonhazardous, cellulosic waste material or any lignin material that is derived from: (1) any of the following forest-related resources: mill and harvesting residues, precommercial thinnings, slash, and brush; (2) solid wood waste materials, including waste pallets, crates, dunnage, manufacturing and construction wood wastes (other than pressure-treated, chemically-treated, or painted wood wastes), and landscape or right-of-way tree trimmings, or (3) agriculture sources, including orchard tree crops, vineyard, grain, legumes, sugar, and other crop by-products or residues. Qualifying open-loop biomass does not include municipal solid waste, gas derived from the biodegradation of solid waste, or paper that is commonly recycled. Qualifying geothermal energy is energy derived from a geothermal deposit or reservoir consisting of natural heat that is stored in rocks or in an aqueous liquid or vapor (whether or not under pressure). Qualifying small irrigation power is power generated without any dam or impoundment of water through an irrigation system canal or ditch, with the nameplate capacity of more than 150 kilowatts and less than 5 megawatts. Qualifying municipal solid waste facilities include landfill gas facilities and trash combustion facilities. Qualifying hydropower production is incremental hydropower production at any hydroelectric dam that was placed in service before Aug. 9, 2005, or the hydropower production from any nonhydroelectric dam. Incremental hydropower production for any tax year is equal to the percentage of average annual hydropower production at a facility that is attributable to efficiency improvements or additions of capacity placed in service after Aug. 8, 2005 determined by using the same water flow information used to determine an historic average annual hydropower production baseline for that facility. Incremental hydropower production does not include any operational changes at the facility not directly associated with the efficiency

improvements or additions of capacity. Qualifying hydropower production must be certified by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Qualifying marine and hydrokinetic energy is energy derived from waves, tides, and currents in oceans, estuaries and tidal areas; free flowing water in rivers, lakes and streams; free flowing water in an irrigation system, canal or other man-made channel, including projects that use non-mechanical structures to accelerate the flow of water for electric power production purposes; or differentials in ocean temperature (ocean thermal energy conversion). Qualifying marine and hydrokinetic energy does not include any energy that is derived from any source that uses a dam, diversionary structure or impoundment for electric power production purposes.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is \$0.022 (2010) per kilowatt hour (KWH) of electricity produced and sold to an unrelated person. The tax credit amount is reduced by the lesser of 50% or the ratio of government subsidies received for the tax year to the aggregate additions to the capital account attributable to the project for the tax year and all earlier tax years. Government subsidies include: (1) governmental grants received for the project; (2) proceeds from tax-exempt state or local government bonds used to finance the project; (3) directly and indirectly provided subsidized energy financing under a federal, state or local program in connection with the project; and (4) any other credit allowable with respect to any property that is part of the project.

**INCENTIVE LIMITS.** The tax credit amount is reduced by an amount determined by dividing the excess of the reference price for the calendar year of sale over \$0.08 (2010) per KWH by \$0.03. Reference price is the annual average contract price per KWH of electricity generated from the same qualifying energy resource and sold in the U.S. in the previous year. The tax credit amount is not available if the national average price of electricity from the resource is more than \$0.11 per KWH (2010).

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** The tax credit is available for a 10-year period beginning on the placed-in-service date of the qualifying facility. The tax credit for qualifying closed-loop biomass facilities expires December 31, 2013. The tax credit for qualifying open-loop biomass facilities expires December 31, 2013. The tax credit for qualifying wind facilities expires December 31, 2012. The tax credit for qualifying landfill gas facilities expires December 31, 2013. The tax credit for qualifying geothermal energy facilities expires December 31, 2013. The tax credit for qualifying solar energy facilities expired December 31, 2005. The tax credit for qualifying small irrigation facilities expired October 2, 2008. The tax credit for qualifying hydropower facilities expires December 31, 2013. The tax credit for qualifying marine and hydrokinetic energy facilities expires December 31, 2013.

### **00.03 Federal business income tax credit for investment in advanced energy property**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** The Federal Internal Revenue Code provides a business income tax credit in the amount of 30% of the qualifying investment in qualifying advanced energy manufacturing projects. *IRC §48C; Notice 2009-72, 2009-36 IRB; CCA 201052005.*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax credit is available to Taxpayers investing in qualifying advanced energy manufacturing projects.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must invest in a qualifying advanced energy manufacturing project. A qualifying advanced energy project is a project which re-equips, expands, or establishes a manufacturing facility for the production of: (1) property designed to be used to produce energy from the sun, wind, geothermal deposits or other renewable resources, (2) fuel cells, microturbines, or an energy storage system for use with electric or hybrid-electric motor vehicles, (3) electric grids to support the transmission of intermittent sources of renewable energy, including storage of that energy, (4) property designed to capture and sequester carbon dioxide emissions, (5) property designed to refine or blend renewable fuels, other than fossil fuels, to produce energy conservation technologies, (6) new qualifying plug-in electric drive motor vehicles, qualifying plug-in electric vehicles, or components which are designed specifically for use with those vehicles, including electric motors, generators, and power control units, or (7) other advanced energy property designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as may be determined by IRS. A qualifying advanced energy project must be certified by IRS, in consultation with the US Department of Energy, through a qualifying advanced energy project application process to consider and award certifications to Taxpayer. In determining which qualifying advanced energy projects to certify, IRS will take into consideration only those projects where there is a reasonable expectation of commercial viability. IRS will also take into consideration which projects: (i) will provide the greatest domestic job creation (both direct and indirect) during the tax credit period, (ii) will provide the greatest net impact in avoiding or reducing air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases, (iii) have the greatest potential for technological innovation and commercial deployment, (iv) have the lowest levelized cost of generated or stored energy, or of measured reduction in energy consumption or greenhouse gas emission (based on costs of the full supply chain), and (v) have the shortest project time from certification to completion. A qualifying advanced energy project which has been allocated a tax credit, but subsequently undergoes a “significant” change in plans, may be denied the tax credit. A “significant” change in plans is not a change that would have influenced DOE, but rather, it is any change that a reasonable person would conclude might have influenced DOE in recommending or ranking the project or the IRS in accepting the project application, had they known about the change when they were considering the application. A qualifying advanced energy project may include any portion of an investment in other projects as eligible for a credit under IRC §48C. A qualifying advanced energy project does not include any qualifying investment for which a credit is allowed under IRC §§48, 48A or 48B, or for which a payment is received under §1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009. A qualifying advanced energy project does not include any portion of a project for the

production of any property which is used in the refining or blending of any transportation fuel (other than renewable fuels).

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is 30% of the qualifying investment. The qualifying investment amount is the basis of eligible property placed in service during the taxable year. Eligible property is property (a) that is necessary for the production of specified energy property, (b) that is tangible personal property, or other tangible property, if such property is used as an integral part of the facility, and (c) with respect to which depreciation (or amortization) is allowable. Eligible property does not include a building or its structural components.

**INCENTIVE LIMITS.** The nationwide maximum cumulative tax credit amount is \$2.3 billion.

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** Taxpayer must apply for the tax credit during the initial allocation round for 2009-2010 beginning August 14, 2009 and ending on December 16, 2009. Preliminary application for US Department of Energy recommendation must be submitted by September 16, 2009. The IRS will accept or reject 2009-2010 allocation round applications by January 15, 2010. Taxpayer will have 1 year from the date IRS accepts the application during which to provide to IRS evidence that the requirements of the certification have been met. Taxpayer receiving a certification has 3 years from the date of issuance of the certification to place the project in service.

### **00.13 Federal income tax deduction for certain energy property**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** The Federal Internal Revenue Code provides an income tax accelerated cost recovery over 5 years for energy property. *IRC §168(e)(3)*.

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax deduction is available to Taxpayer owners placing in service energy property subject to cost recovery.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must place in service energy property. Energy property is any property which is (1) equipment which uses solar energy to generate electricity, to heat or cool (or provide hot water for use in) a structure, or to provide solar process heat, excepting property used to generate energy for the purposes of heating a swimming pool; (2) equipment which uses solar energy to illuminate the inside of a structure using fiber-optic distributed sunlight but only with respect to periods ending before January 1, 2017; (3) equipment used to produce, distribute, or use energy derived from a geothermal deposit, but only, in the case of electricity generated by geothermal power, up to (but not including) the electrical transmission stage; (4) qualifying fuel cell property or qualifying microturbine property; (5) combined heat and power system property, (6) qualifying small wind energy property; or (7) equipment which uses the ground or ground water as a thermal energy source to heat a structure or as a thermal energy sink to cool a structure.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax deduction amount is the amount MACRS specifically provides for IRC §48 energy property in the 5-year class. The depreciation method for property in the 5-year class is usually 200% declining balance, with a switch to straight-line to maximize the deduction (the 200% declining balance method). The 5-year class consists of property with an ADR midpoint of more than 4 years and less than 10 years.

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** The tax deduction expires December 31, 2016.

## 00.16 Federal income tax credit for clean renewable energy bonds

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** The Federal Internal Revenue Code provides an income tax credit in the amount of a portion of the clean renewable energy bonds' nonrefundable outstanding face amount which will permit issuance with a specified maturity or redemption date without discount and without interest cost. *IRC §54; IRC §54C; Notice 2007-26, 2007-14 IRB 870; Notice 2009-15, 2009-6 IRB 449; Notice 2009-33; IRS Announcement 2010-54.*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** Taxpayer holders of clean renewable energy bonds.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must hold clean renewable energy bonds. A clean renewable energy bond is a registered bond issued by a qualifying issuer under the national clean renewable energy bond limitation, 95% or more of the proceeds of the issue used for capital expenditures incurred by government body or a mutual or cooperative electric company for one or more qualifying renewable energy projects. Qualifying renewable energy projects are facilities that qualify for the IRC §45(d) renewable electricity production credit. Qualifying issuers are (1) public power providers, (2) cooperative electric companies, (3) government bodies, (4) not-for-profit electric utilities that have received a loan or loan guarantee under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 USC §901-950b), and (5) clean renewable energy bond lenders. A clean renewable energy bond lender is a cooperative that is owned by, or has outstanding loans to, 100 or more cooperative electric companies and was in existence on Feb. 1, 2002, or any affiliated entity controlled by the cooperative. Qualifying renewable energy project do not include refined coal production facilities under IRC §45(d)(8) and Indian coal production facilities under IRC §45(d)(10). Qualifying renewable energy projects must be owned by a government body, a public power provider, or a cooperative electric company. Qualifying renewable energy projects may be refinanced with proceeds of a clean renewable energy bond only if the indebtedness being refinanced (including any obligation directly or indirectly refinanced by that indebtedness) was originally incurred after Aug. 8, 2005. Qualifying issuer must reasonably expects that : (1) at least 95% of the proceeds of the issue will be spent for one or more qualifying projects within the 5-year period beginning on the date of issuance of the clean renewable energy bond; (2) a binding commitment with a third party to spend at least 10% of the proceeds of the issue will be incurred within the 6-month period beginning on the date of issuance of the clean renewable energy bond on the date of the loan of those proceeds to more than one borrower; and (3) those projects will be completed with due diligence and the proceeds of the issue will be spent with due diligence. The 5-year period may be extended if the qualifying issuer establishes that the failure is due to reasonable cause and the related projects will continue to proceed with due diligence. Qualifying issuer must redeem all of the nonqualifying bonds within 90 days after the end of the extended or unextended period.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is the product of the tax credit rate determined by IRS for the day on which that bond was sold, multiplied by the bond's outstanding face amount. The tax credit rate for any day is the tax credit rate which IRS estimates will permit the issuance of clean renewable energy bonds with a specified

maturity or redemption date without discount and without interest cost to the qualifying issuer. The applicable credit rate for a tax credit bond on its sale date is the tax credit rate published for that date by the Bureau of Public Debt on its Internet site for State and Local Government Series securities. The tax credit for new clean renewable energy bonds is 70% of the amount that would otherwise be allowable under IRC §54A(b). The tax credit rate will apply to the first day on which there is a binding, written contract for the sale or exchange of the bond.

**INCENTIVE LIMITS.** The maximum annual tax credit allowable is the excess of Taxpayer's regular tax and AMT liability, over tax credits allowed under Part IV of subchapter A tax credit provisions. The nationwide maximum aggregate tax credit amount is \$1.2 billion, with an additional \$1.6 billion authorized in 2009 for clean renewable energy bonds. The nationwide maximum aggregate tax credit amount for qualifying borrowers that are governmental bodies is \$800 million. The tax credit is nonrefundable.

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** The tax credit for clean renewable energy bonds expired December 31, 2009. An application for an allocation of the new clean renewable energy bond limitation must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the requirements set forth in Notice 2009-33, 2009-17 IRB 865 . The application for new clean renewable energy bond limitation must have been filed with the IRS by August 4, 2009.

## **00.19 Federal personal income tax credit for residential energy efficient property**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** The Federal Internal Revenue Code provides a personal income tax credit in the amount of 30% the cost of residential energy efficient property, including qualifying solar electric property, qualifying solar water heating property, qualifying fuel cell property, qualifying small wind energy property, and qualifying geothermal heat pump property. *IRC §25D; IRS Notice 2009-41; INFO 2009-0240; CONEX – 152472-09; INFO 2010-0036; PLR 201035003; INFO 2010-0085; INFO 2010-0111; INFO 2010-0133; INFO 2010-0232.*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax credit is available to Taxpayer individuals installing residential energy efficient property.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must install residential energy efficient property. Residential energy efficient property includes solar electric, solar hot water, fuel cell, small wind energy, and geothermal heat pump. Qualifying solar electric property uses solar energy to generate electricity for use in a dwelling unit. Qualifying solar water heating property heats water for use in a dwelling unit, if at least half of the energy used by the property for that purpose is derived from the sun. Qualifying fuel cell property is an integrated system comprised of a fuel cell stack assembly and associated balance of plant components that converts a fuel into electricity using electrochemical means, has an electricity-only generation efficiency of greater than 30%, and generates at least 0.5 kw of electricity. Qualifying small wind energy property is property that uses a wind turbine to generate electricity. Qualifying geothermal heat pump property is property that uses the ground or ground water as a thermal energy source to heat the dwelling unit or as a thermal energy sink to cool the dwelling unit, and meets the Energy Star program requirements in effect when the expenditure is made. Qualifying solar property includes solar panel or other property installed as a roof (or portion of a roof) even if it is a structural component of the structure on which it is installed. Qualifying solar water heating property must be certified for performance by the Solar Rating Certification Corporation or a comparable entity endorsed by the government of the state in which the property is installed. Qualifying solar water heating property does not include expenditures properly allocable to a swimming pool, hot tub, or any other energy-storage medium that has a function other than energy storage.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is 30% of the qualifying property costs. Qualifying property costs include labor costs properly allocable to the on-site preparation, assembly, or original installation of qualifying property, and expenditures for piping or wiring to interconnect qualifying property to the dwelling unit. Qualifying property costs include expenditures that are made from subsidized energy financing. Subsidized energy financing is financing provided under a federal, state, or local program, a principal purpose of which is to provide subsidized financing for projects designed to conserve or produce energy. Qualifying property costs include only the portion of the cost for nonbusiness purpose if less than 80% of the use of an item is for nonbusiness purposes. Qualifying property costs does not include an expenditures financed with an energy conservation subsidy that a public utility provides to a customer to buy or install an

energy conservation measure, which is excluded from income. Qualifying property costs include amount of any Renewable Energy Credits payments from public utilities.

**INCENTIVE LIMITS.** The maximum annual tax credit amount is: \$500 for each 0.5 kilowatt of capacity for qualifying fuel cell property; \$2,000 for solar water heating and geothermal heat pump property; and \$500 for each 0.5 kilowatt of capacity and a total maximum of \$4,000 for small wind energy property. For qualifying fuel cell property in a dwelling unit that is jointly occupied and used during any calendar year as a residence by two or more individuals, the maximum tax credit amount for all the individuals is \$1,667 for each 0.5 kw of capacity of qualifying fuel cell property.

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** The tax credit expires December 31, 2016. Qualifying property costs are made when the original installation is completed. Qualifying property costs related to the construction or reconstruction of a structure are made when Taxpayer begins using the structure.

**24. Maryland State Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

## **24.01 Maryland state income tax credit for renewable energy production**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** Maryland provides a corporate or personal income tax credit in the amount of \$0.0085/kWh of renewable energy produced and \$0.005/kWh for electricity generated by co-firing. *Md. Code Ann. §10-720; H.B. 464 (2010); S.B. 958 (2011).*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax credit is available to Taxpayer corporations or individuals producing electricity generated from renewable sources. Taxpayer must be certified by the MD Energy Administration.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must produce and sell to third party electricity generated by wind, geothermal energy, solar energy, hydropower, small irrigation power, municipal solid waste and biomass resources. Biomass resources include anaerobic digestion, landfill gas, wastewater-treatment gas, and cellulosic material derived from forest-related resources (excluding old-growth timber and mill residues consisting of sawdust or wood shavings), from waste pallets and crates, nonhazardous waste material segregated from other waste materials, or from agricultural sources.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is \$0.0085/kWh for electricity generated by eligible resources. The tax credit amount is \$0.0050/kWh for electricity generated by co-firing.

**INCENTIVE LIMITS.** The maximum tax credit amount is \$2.5 million over a 5-year period. The statewide aggregate maximum tax credit amount is \$25 million.

**INCENTIVE TIMEFRAME.** The tax credit period is 5 years. The tax credit expires December 31, 2015. The tax credit is refundable. The tax credit may be canceled if over a 3-year period, Taxpayer does not claim on average at least 10% of the maximum tax credit amount stated in the certificate.

## **24.02 Maryland state property tax credit for solar, geothermal, and energy conservation devices**

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION.** Maryland provides a property tax credit in the amount of 100% the cost of solar, geothermal, and energy conservation devices. *Md. Code Ann. §9-203.*

**ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS.** The tax credit is available to Taxpayer owners of buildings with a solar, geothermal or qualifying energy conservation device.

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITY.** Taxpayer must equip buildings with a solar, geothermal or qualifying energy conservation device. Qualifying devices may be used to heat or cool the structure, to generate electricity to be used in the structure, or to provide hot water for use in the structure.

**INCENTIVE AMOUNTS.** The tax credit amount is 100% of the cost of solar, geothermal, and energy conservation devices.

### **24.03 Maryland state property tax exemption for renewable energy systems**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION. Maryland provides a property tax exemption in the amount of 100% of the cost of renewable energy systems. *Md Code Ann. §7-242; H.B. 1171 (2009); S.B. 621 (2009)*.

ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS. The tax exemption is available to Taxpayer owners of renewable energy systems.

QUALIFYING ACTIVITY. Taxpayer must own geothermal, solar photovoltaic (PV), solar hot water system property and residential wind energy equipment.

INCENTIVE AMOUNTS. The tax exemption amount is 100% of the property tax due.

#### **24.05 Maryland state sales tax exemption for geothermal, solar and wind energy equipment.**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION. Maryland provides a sales tax exemption in the amount of 100% of the tax on geothermal, solar and wind energy equipment. *Md. Code Ann. §11-230; H.B. 1171 (2009); S.B. 621 (2009).*

ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS. Taxpayer purchasers of geothermal, solar and wind energy equipment.

QUALIFYING ACTIVITY. Taxpayer must purchase of geothermal, solar energy and residential wind energy equipment. Geothermal equipment is equipment that uses ground loop technology to heat and cool a structure. Solar energy equipment is equipment that uses solar energy to heat or cool a structure, generate electricity to be used in a structure, or provide hot water for use in a structure. Residential wind energy equipment is equipment installed on a residential property that uses wind energy to generate electricity for use in a residential structure on that property. Solar energy equipment does not include equipment that is part of a non-solar energy system or that uses any type of recreational facility or equipment as a storage medium.

INCENTIVE AMOUNTS. The tax exemption amount is 100% of sales tax due.

## **24.06 Maryland state property tax exemption for solar and geothermal heating and cooling systems**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION. Maryland provides a property tax assessment exemption in the amount of 100% of the value of solar and geothermal heating and cooling systems. *Md. Code Ann. §8-240.*

ELIGIBLE TAXPAYERS. The tax exemption is available to Taxpayer owners of solar and geothermal heating and cooling system property.

QUALIFYING ACTIVITY. Taxpayer must own solar and geothermal heating and cooling systems.

INCENTIVE AMOUNTS. The tax exemption amount is 100% of the property tax due.

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