

# Power System Elements

## Generation Unit Basics

PJM State & Member Training Dept.

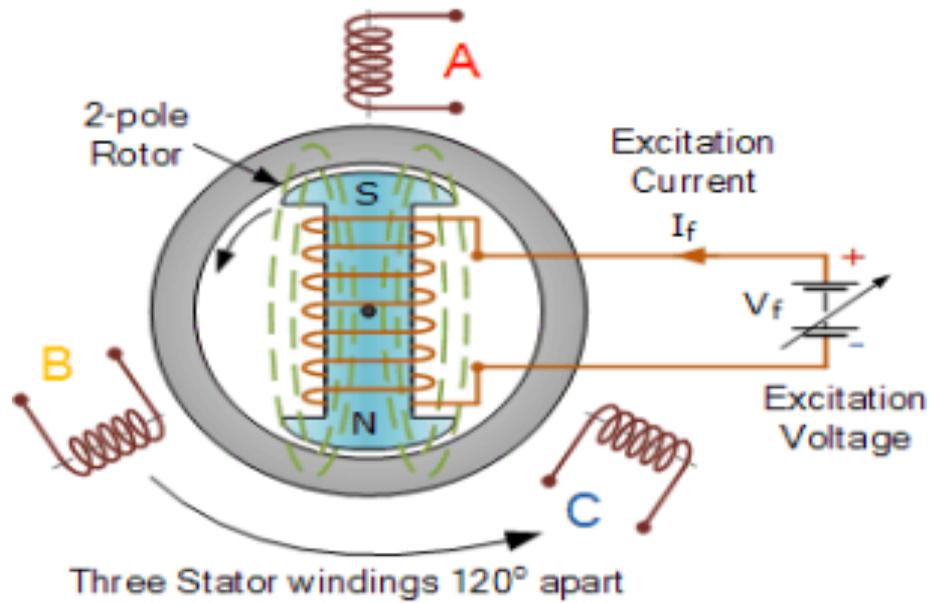
# Objectives

- Provide an overview of:
  - Major components of a Generator
  - Excitation
  - Governor Control
  - Rotational Speed
  - Generator limitations
  - VAR/voltage relationship
  - MW's and Power Angle



# Basic Operating Principles

- Electromagnetic induction is the principle used for a generator to convert mechanical energy to electrical energy
- D.C. excitation is applied to the rotor field winding producing a magnetic field
  - Output voltage and VAR flow are controlled by changing the strength of the magnetic field
- The field winding (rotor) spins, at synchronous speed, within the armature windings (stator) providing relative motion between the magnetic field and the stationary conductor windings (stator)
  - A.C. output voltage is induced in the stator armature windings
- The changing polarity of the rotor produces the alternating characteristics of the current



# A.C. Generator Components

- Rotating Magnetic Field (Rotor)
- Series of Stationary Conductors (Stator)
- Source of D.C. Voltage (Exciter)



# Rotor

- The generated voltage is proportional to the:
  - Strength of the magnetic field
  - Number of coils and number of windings on each coil
  - Speed at which the rotor turns
- Rotor winding is a multi-coil, single circuit, energized with DC power fed through the shaft from the collector rings
  - The rotor is a low voltage, low power circuit; a major factor in building a generator with a rotating field instead of a rotating armature

# Rotor

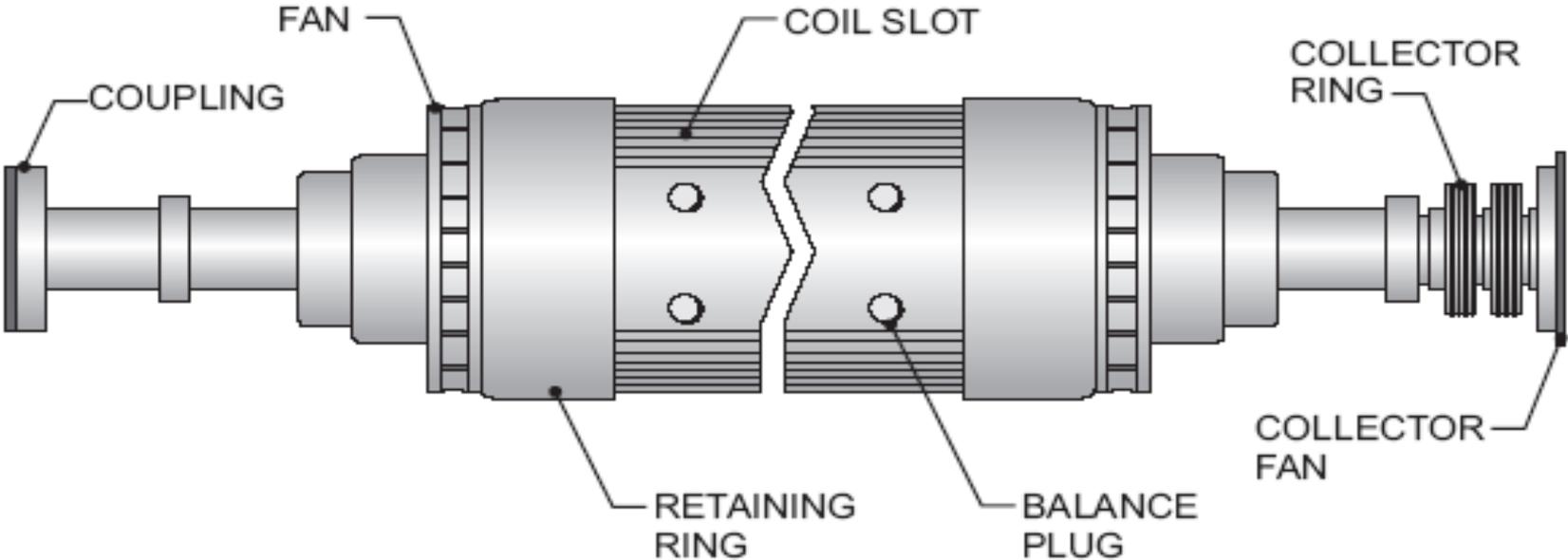
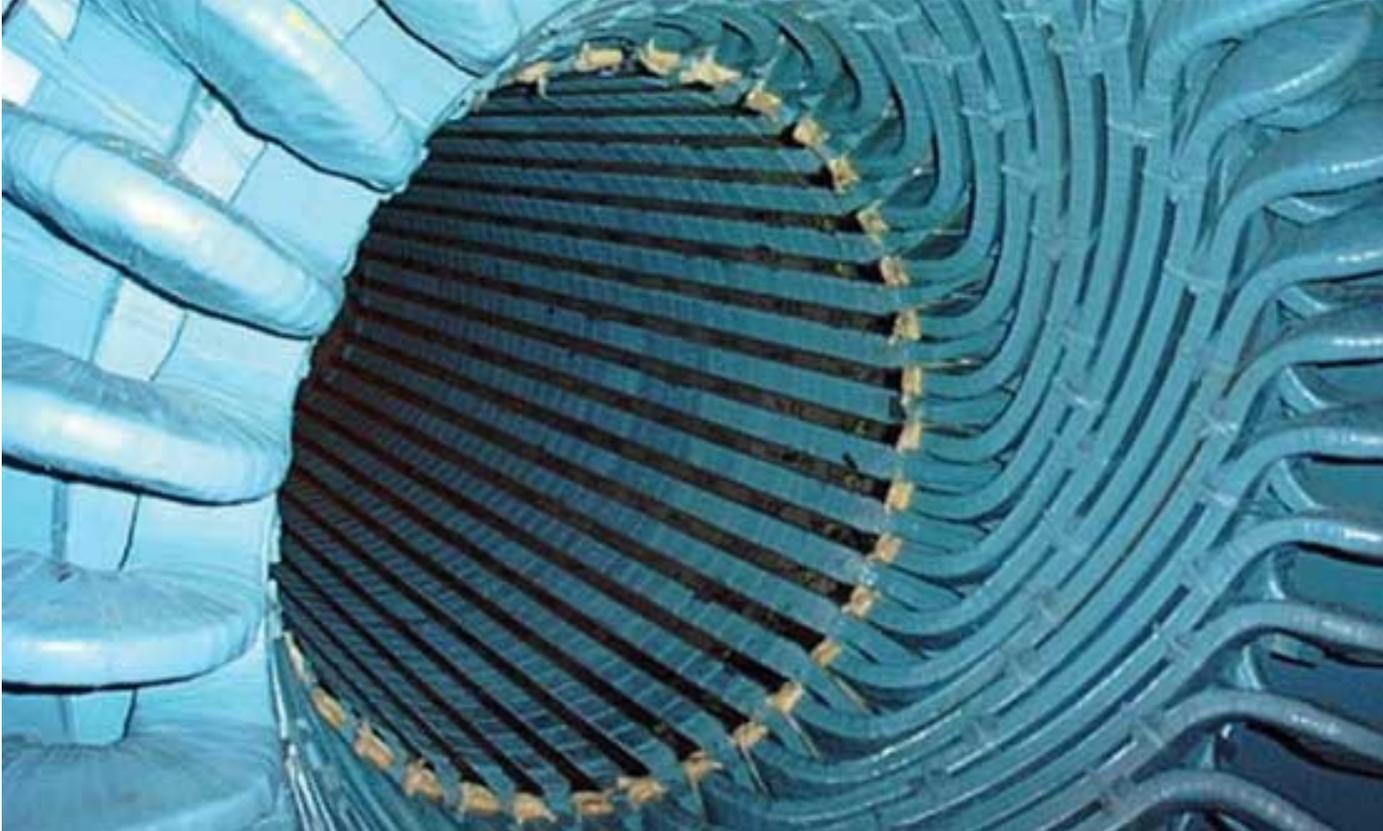


Figure 1. Generator field

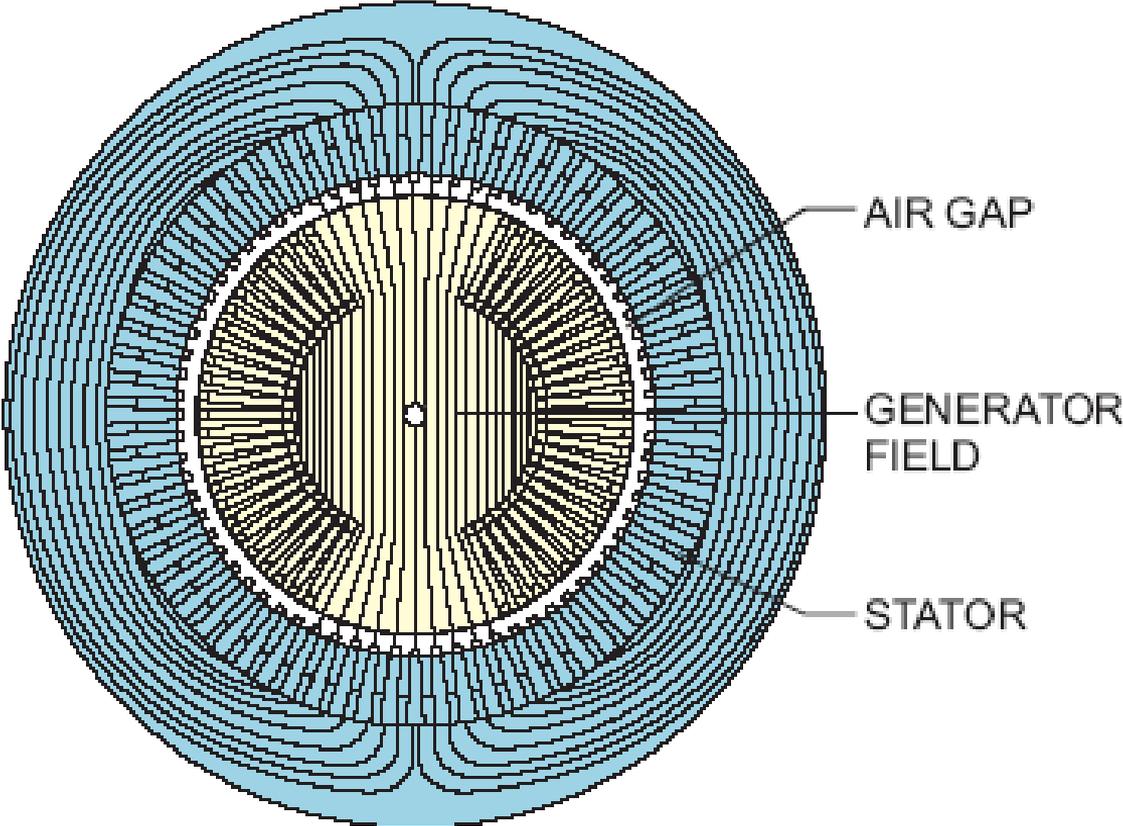
# Stator

- The frame assembly of the generator is the main component of the stator
- Insulated windings or coils are placed in slots near an air gap in the stator core
  - The function of the core is to provide a return path for the lines of magnetic flux from the field, and to support the coils of the stator winding
- Magnitude of voltage induced in the stator is a function of three factors:
  - Total lines of flux (field capability)
  - Frequency of the cutting the lines (operating speed)
  - Number of turns in the coils (stator capability)

# Stator



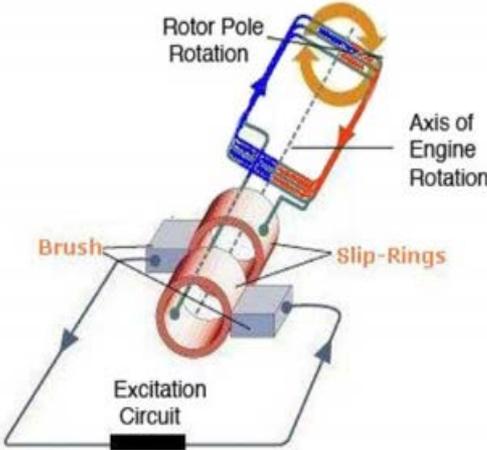
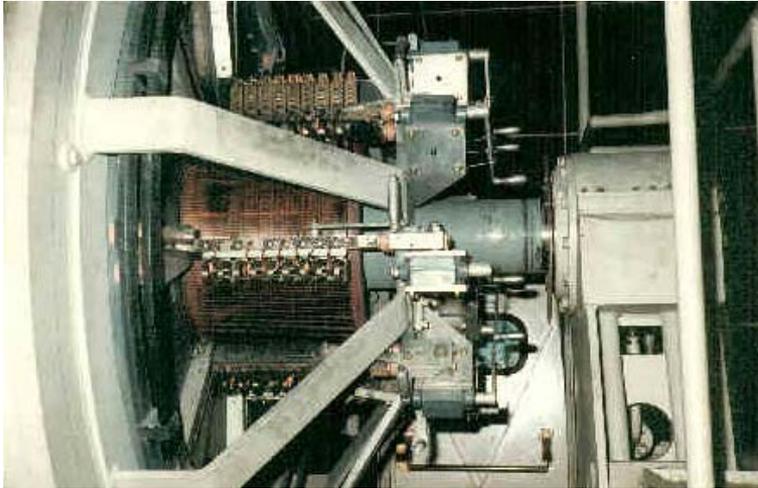
# Stator



# Exciter

- The excitation system provides direct current for the rotor field windings to produce the magnetic field
  - Maintains generator voltage, controls VAR flow, and assists in maintaining power system stability
  - During load changes, the exciter must respond to maintain the proper voltage at the generator output terminals

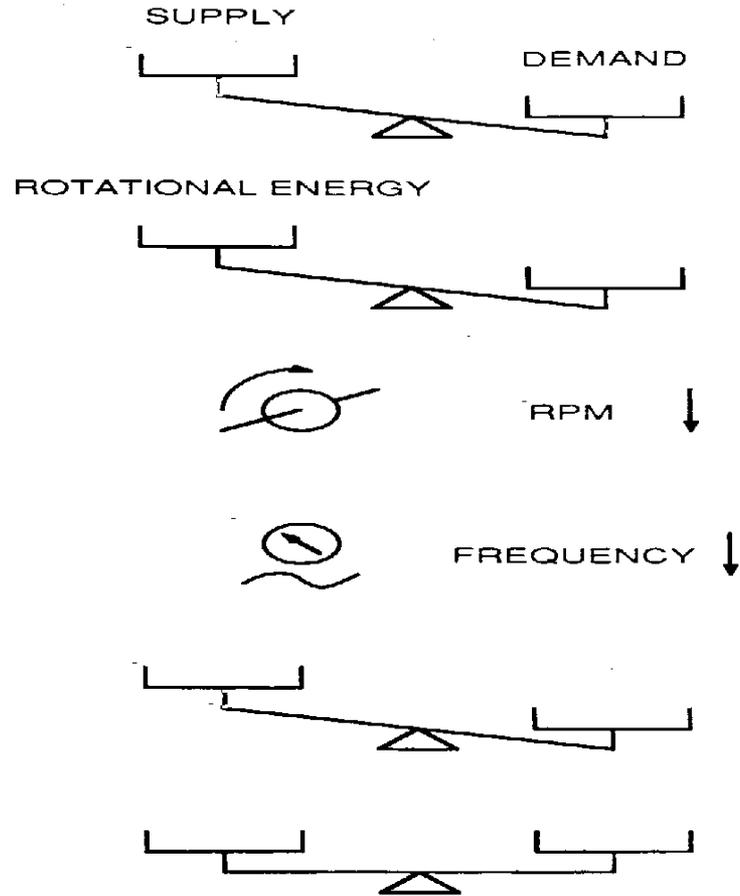
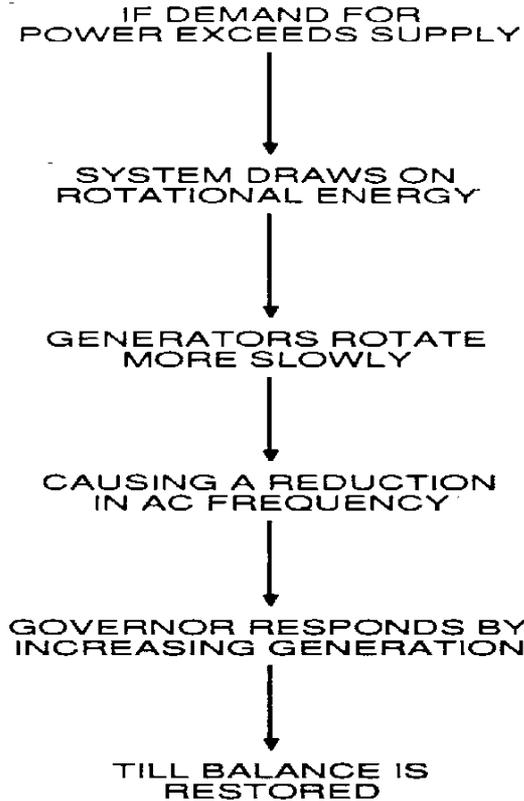
# Exciter



# Governor Control

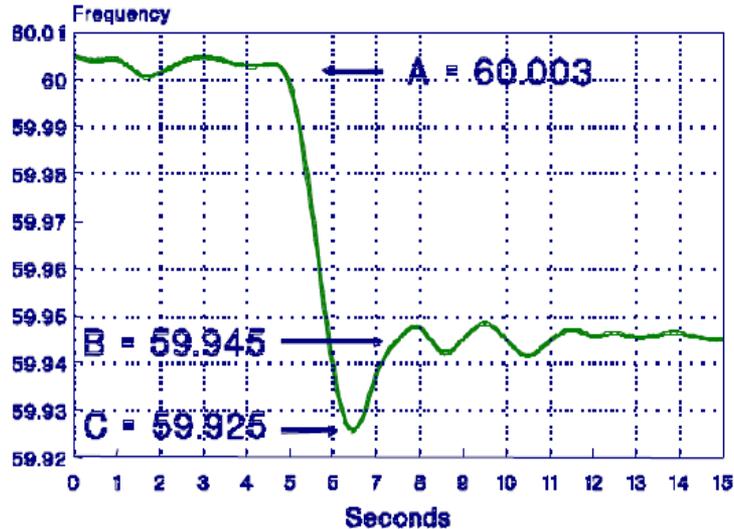
- Governors monitor/control generator shaft speed
- Adjust generation for small changes in load
- Operate by adjusting the input to the prime mover
  - Steam flow for fossil
  - Water flow for hydroelectric
  - Fuel flow for combustion turbine
- Amount of governor control varies according to plant design

# Governor Control



# Governor Control

## Frequency Response



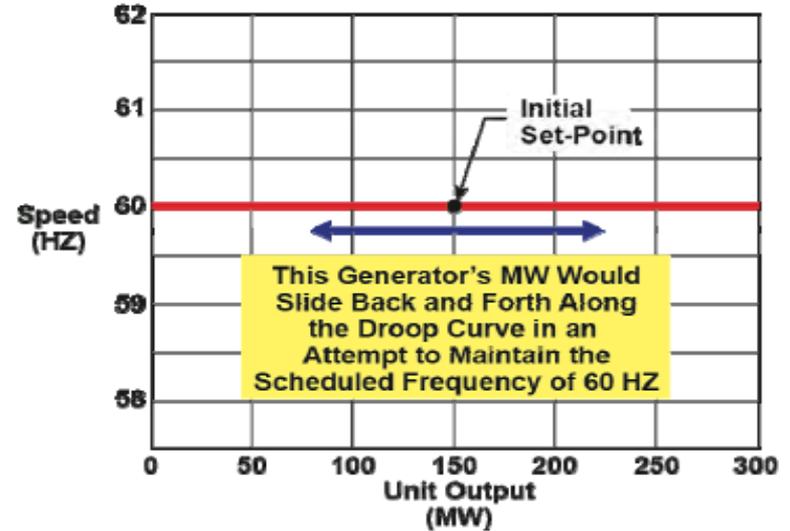
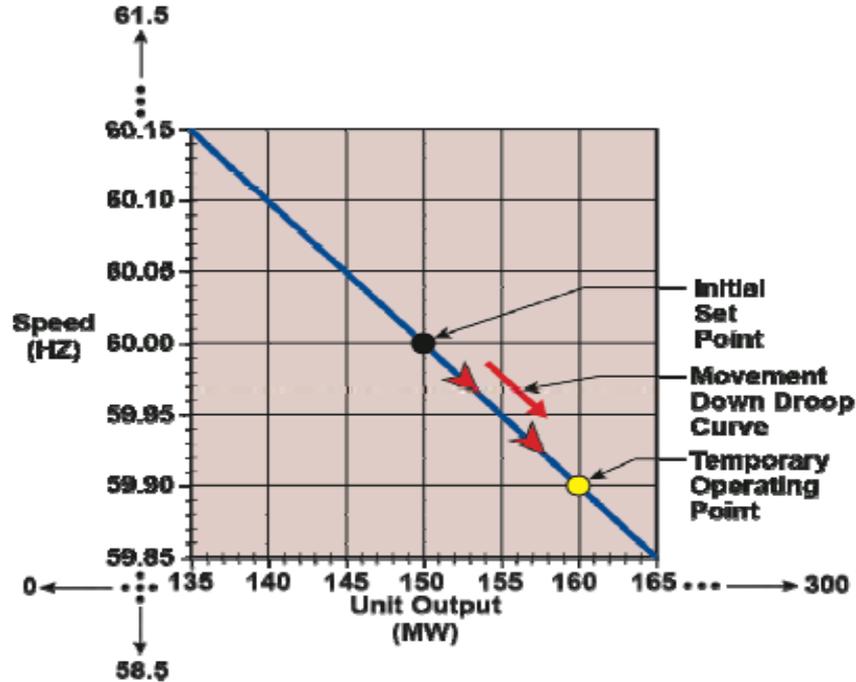
- Load
  - Rate of frequency decline from points A to C is slowed by “load rejection”
- Generators
  - Generator governor action halts the decline in frequency and causes the “knee” of the excursion, and brings the frequency back to point B from point C

***It is important to note that frequency will not recover from point B to 60 Hz until the deficient control area replaces the amount of lost generation***

# Governor Control

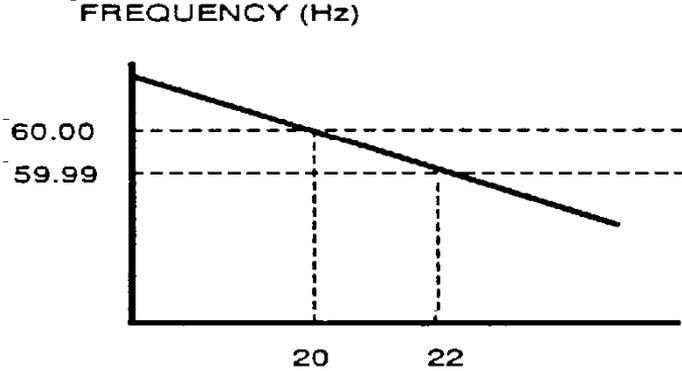
- Adding a droop characteristic to a governor forces generators to respond to frequency disturbances in proportion to their size
  - Droop settings enable many generators to operate in parallel while all are on governor control and not compete with one another for load changes
- When a generator synchronizes to the system
  - It couples itself to hundreds of other machines rotating at the same electrical speed
  - Each of generator's governor has this “droop characteristic”
    - They will all respond in proportion to their size whenever there is a disturbance, or load-resource mismatch

# Governor Control



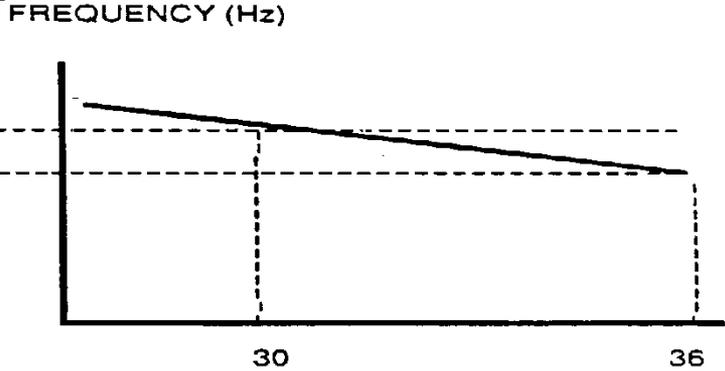
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# Governor Control



UNIT A GENERATOR  
LOAD (MW)

LOAD PICK-UP FOR A:  
2MW FOR 0.01 Hz

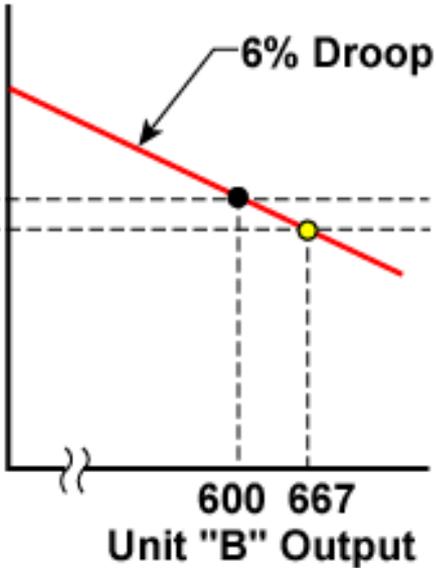
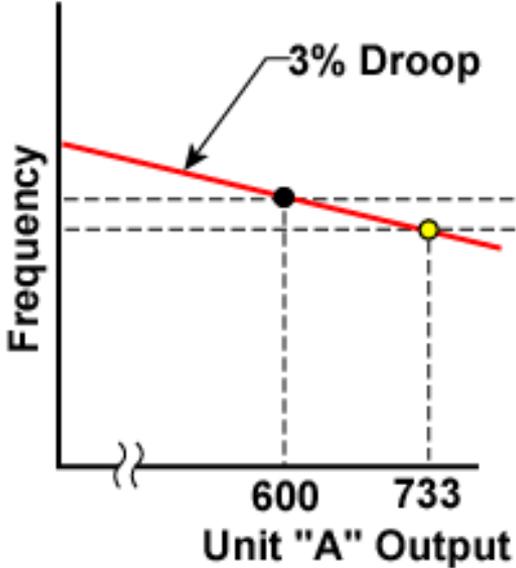
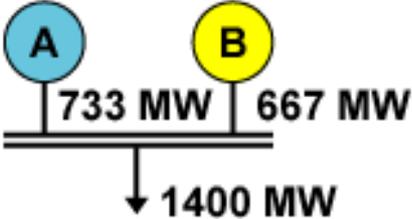
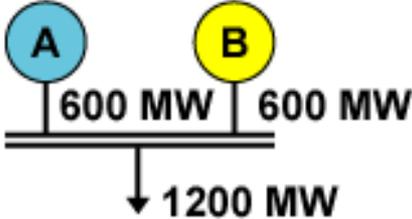


UNIT B GENERATOR  
LOAD (MW)

LOAD PICK-UP FOR B:  
6MW FOR 0.01 Hz

# Governor Control

Rating = 750 MW Each



# Governor Control

- Deadband
  - The amount of frequency change a governor must “see” before it starts to respond
  - Natural feature of the earliest governors caused by gear lash (looseness or slop in the gear mechanism)
  - Serves a useful purpose by preventing governors from continuously “hunting” as frequency varies ever so slightly

# Generator Rotational Speed

- A generator which is connected to the grid has a constant speed which is dictated by grid frequency
- Doubling the magnets or windings in the stator ensures that the magnetic field rotates at half speed
  - When doubling the poles in the stator, the magnets in the rotor must also be doubled

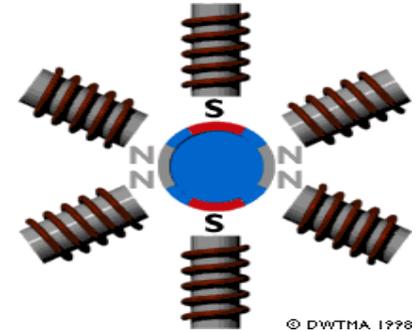
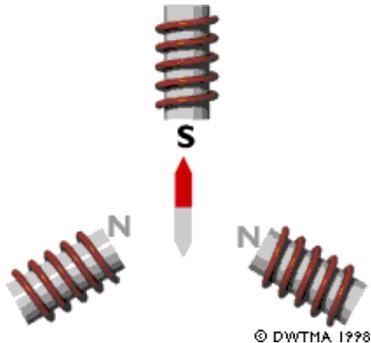
$$\text{Frequency} = (\# \text{ Pole Pairs})(\text{RPM})/60$$

Example: 2 poles

$$60 \text{ Hz} = (1 \text{ Pole Pair})(3600 \text{ RPM})/60$$

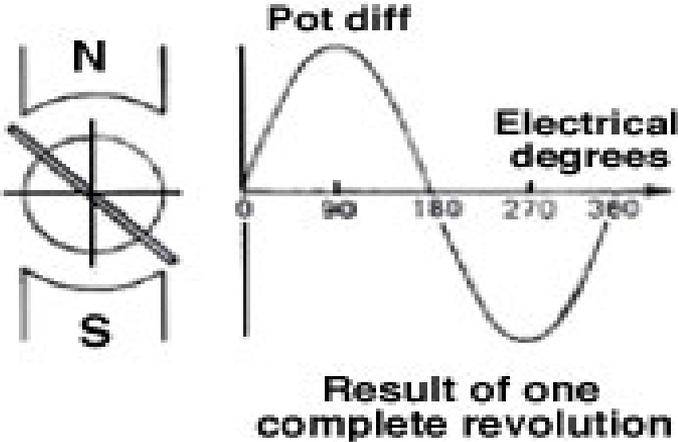
Example: 4 poles

$$60 \text{ Hz} = (2 \text{ Pole Pair})(1800 \text{ RPM})/60$$

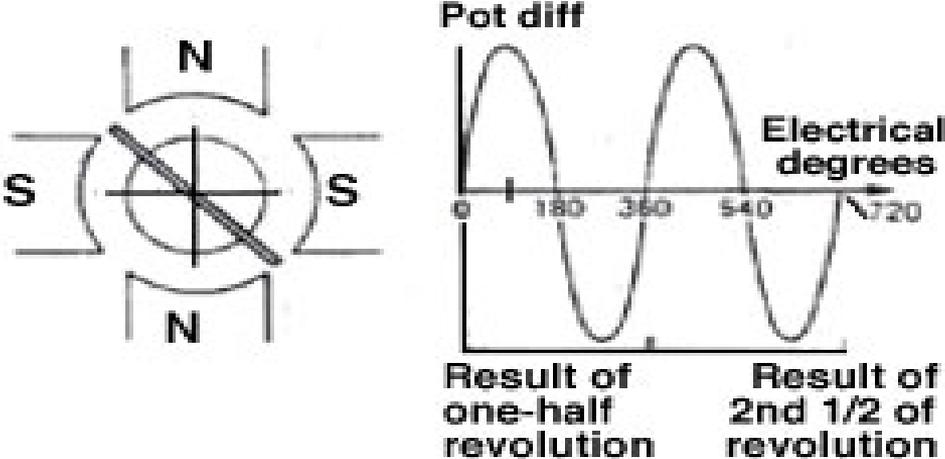


# Generator Rotational Speed

## Two-pole generator



## Four-pole generator

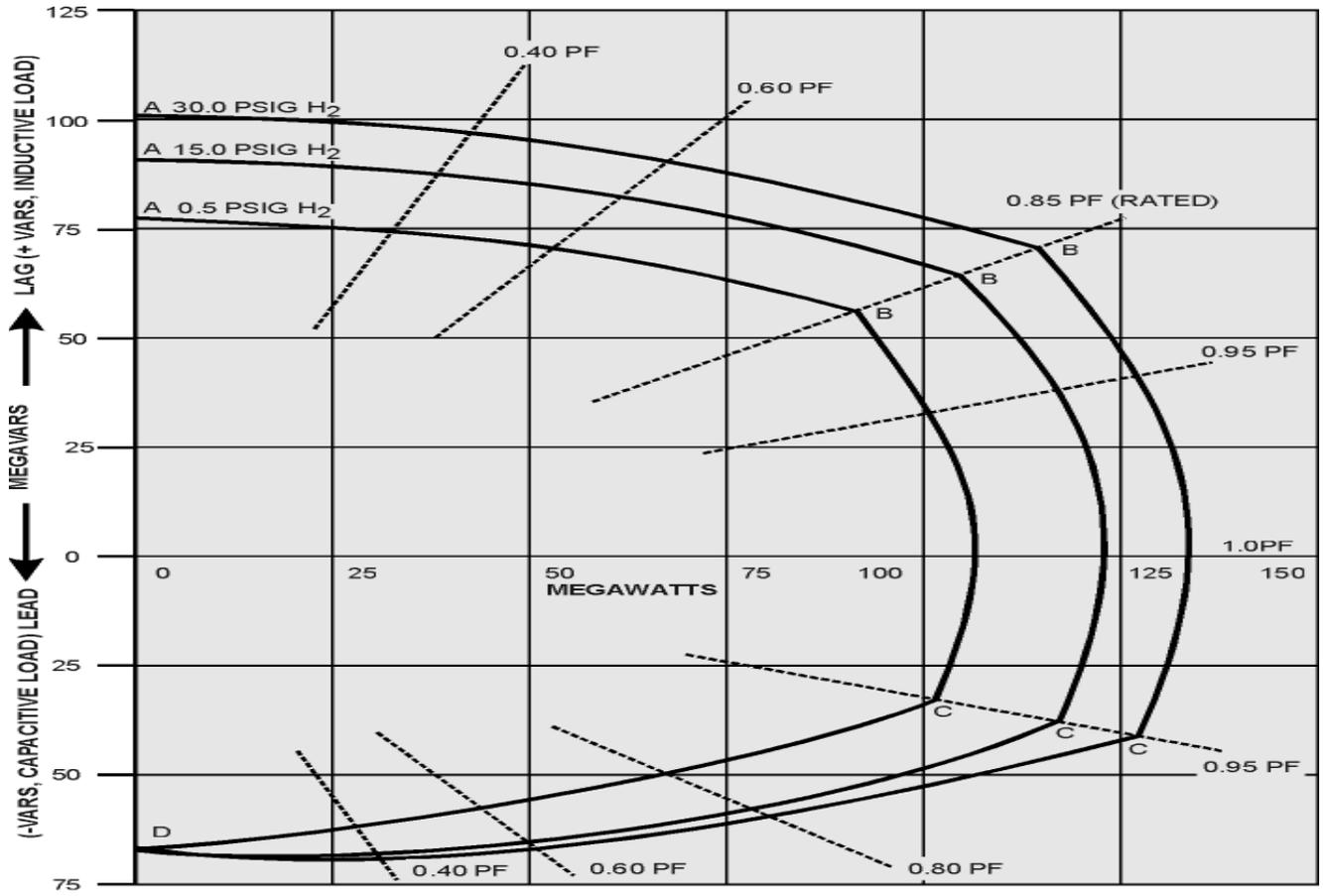


# Generator Characteristics

- Generator limitation factors
  - Power capability of the prime mover
  - Heating of generator components ( $I^2R$  losses)
  - Necessity to maintain a strong enough magnetic field to transfer power from the rotor to the generator output
- Heating of generator components
  - Heat generated within the armature windings is directly related to the magnitude of the armature current
  - Heat generated in the rotor is directly related to the magnitude of the field current
  - Heat dissipated by the generator is limited by the cooling system design

# Generator Characteristics

- Magnetic field strength
  - Controlled by excitation voltage
  - If excitation voltage is lowered:
    - Voltage induced in A.C. windings is lowered
    - More VARS absorbed by generator from system
    - Undervoltage can cause overcurrent conditions in the stator and lead to armature or stator heating
  - Capability curves provide Max/Min limits



CURVE AB LIMITED BY FIELD HEATING  
 CURVE BC LIMITED BY ARMATURE HEATING  
 CURVE CD LIMITED BY ARMATURE CORE END HEATING

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# Capability Curve

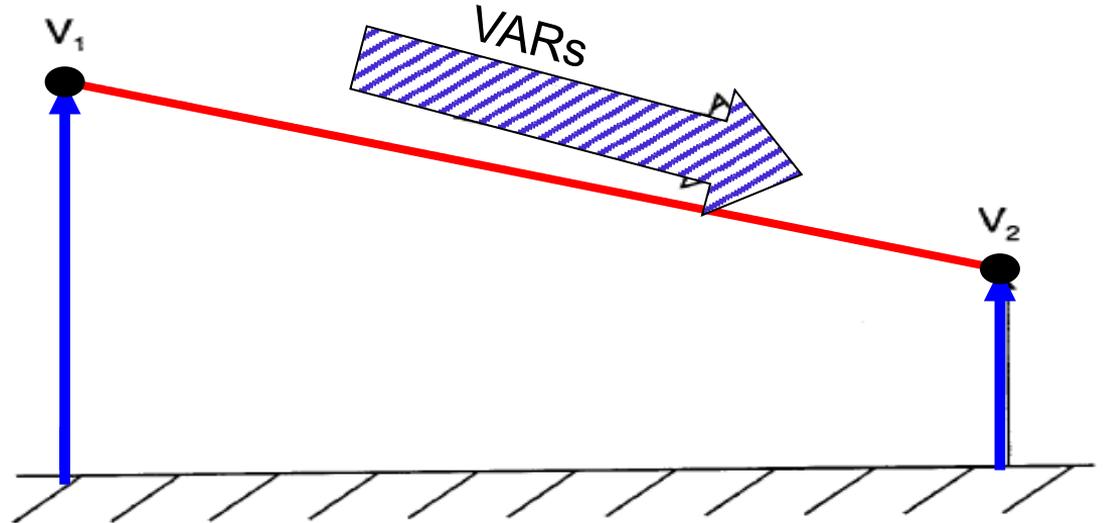
- The curve indicates the available steady-state capability of a generator as influenced by the power factor
- The curves are divided so that generator load is limited in each region as a function of the generator component most affected
- Operation on the upper portion of the curve (A-B) is from zero power factor lagging to rated power factor
  - Generator is over-excited
  - Field current is at rated value

# Capability Curve

- Operation in the portion of the curve from B to C, which is rated power factor lagging through unity to 0.95 power factor leading
  - Limit is on the stator current
  - Max nameplate stator amps should not be exceeded
- Operation in the region of the curve from C to D, which is leading power factor operation, causes the end leakage flux from the core to be at right angles to the stator laminations causing excessive heating in the stator-end iron and structural steel members
- Synchronizing torque is reduced because of reduced terminal voltage which could cause stability issues

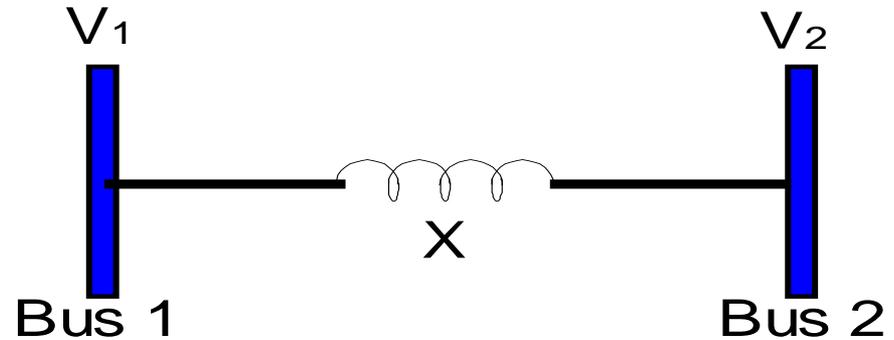
# MVAR Flow & Voltage

- MVARs flow “downhill” based on voltage
- Flow from high per unit voltage to low per unit voltage



# MVAR Flow & Voltage

- MVAR flow between buses is determined by magnitude difference between bus voltages
- Voltage magnitude difference is driving for MVAR flow
- The greater the voltage drop or rise between 2 locations – the greater the MVAR flow



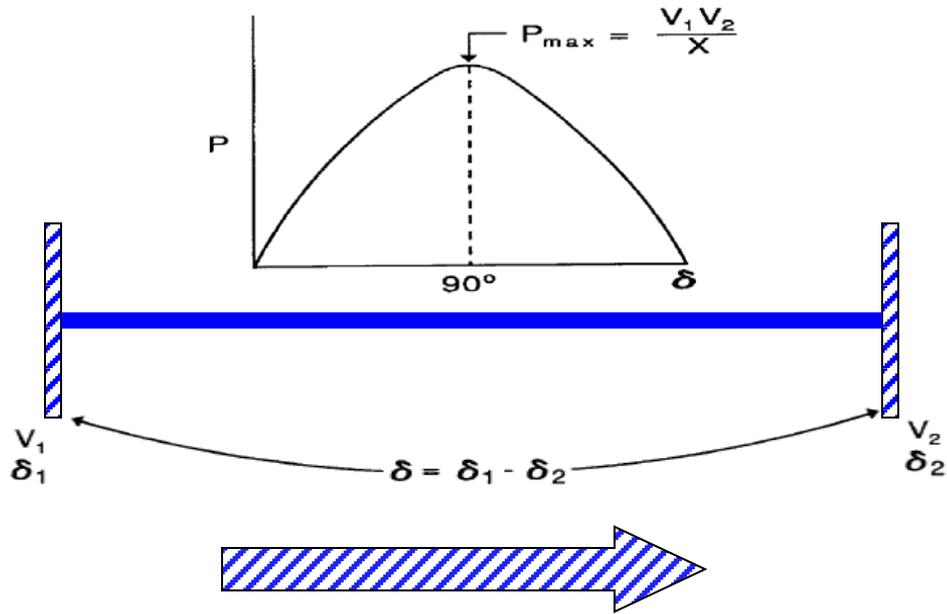
$$\text{VARs} = \frac{V_1 (V_1 - V_2)}{X}$$

# MW Flow & Power Angle

- MW flow between buses is determined by phase angle difference between voltages at the buses
- Phase angle difference between voltages is called Power Angle which is represented by the symbol  $\delta$  (Delta)

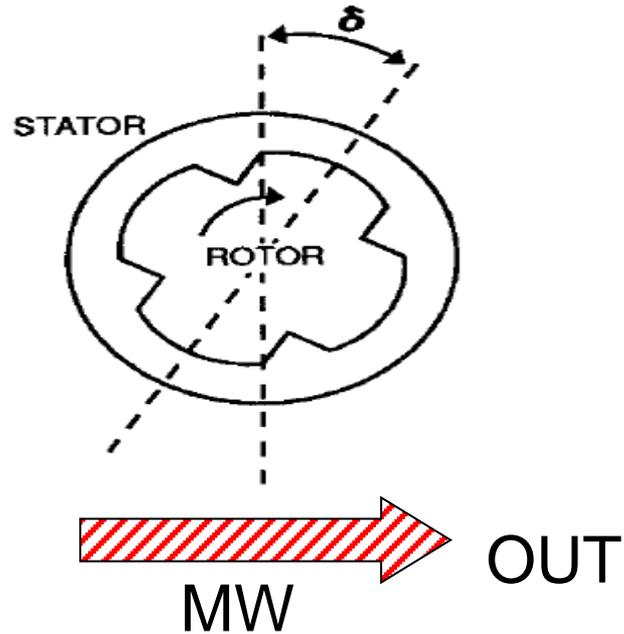
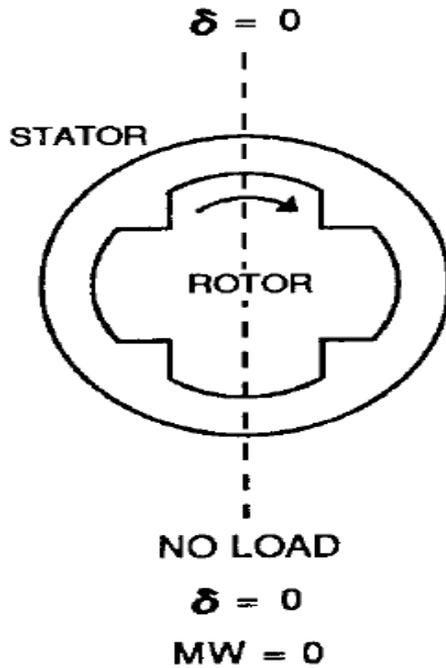
$$P = \frac{V_1 V_2}{X} \sin(\delta)$$

# MW Flow & Power Angle



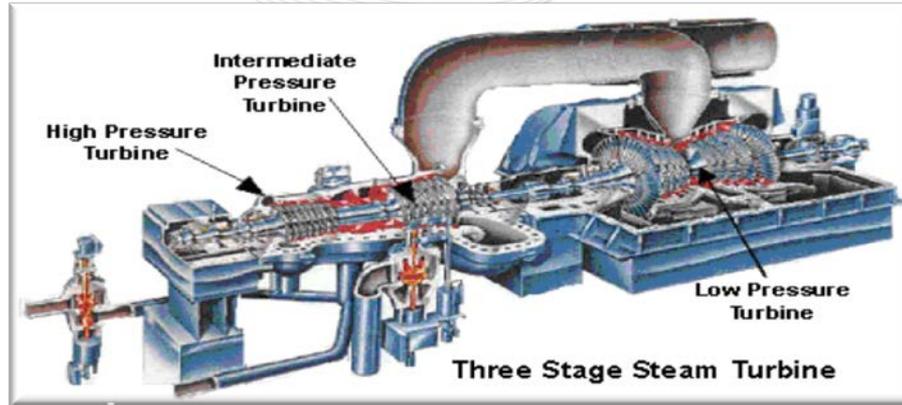
$$P = \frac{V_1 V_2}{X} \sin(\delta)$$

# MW Flow & Power Angle



# Summary

- Basic operating principle of electromagnetic induction
- Major components of a generator
- Generator excitation
- Governor control
- Rotational speed
- Relationship between VAR's and voltage
- MW flow and power angle



# Generation Unit Basics

# Agenda



- Provide an overview of:
  - Steam/Condensate/Feedwater and other Common Systems
- Describe the various types of units:
  - Fossil generating units
  - Nuclear generating units
  - Hydroelectric generating units
  - Combustion turbines
  - Combined Cycle Power Plants (CCPP)
  - Wind Units
  - Solar Units

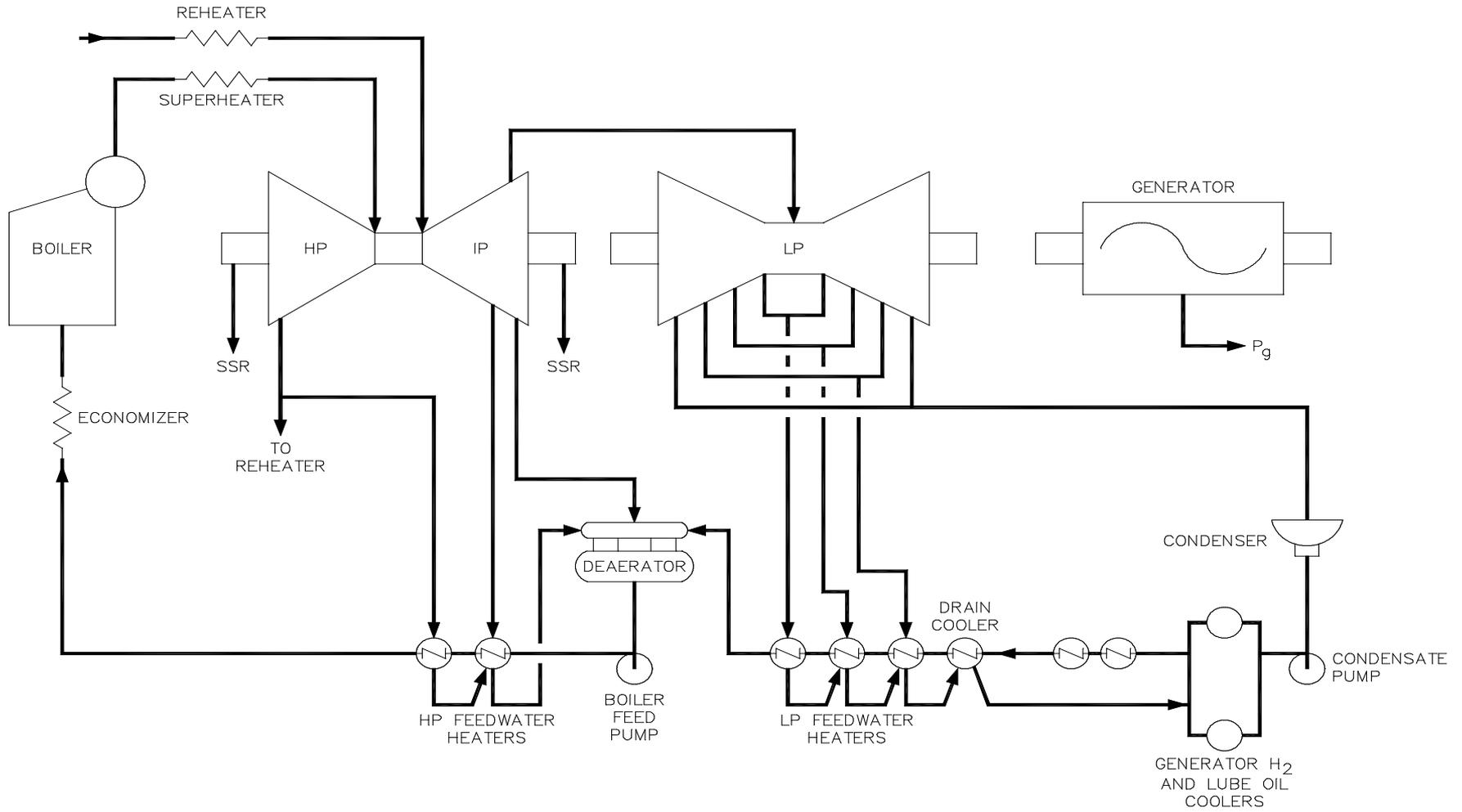
# Basic Steam Cycle

# Simple Steam Cycle

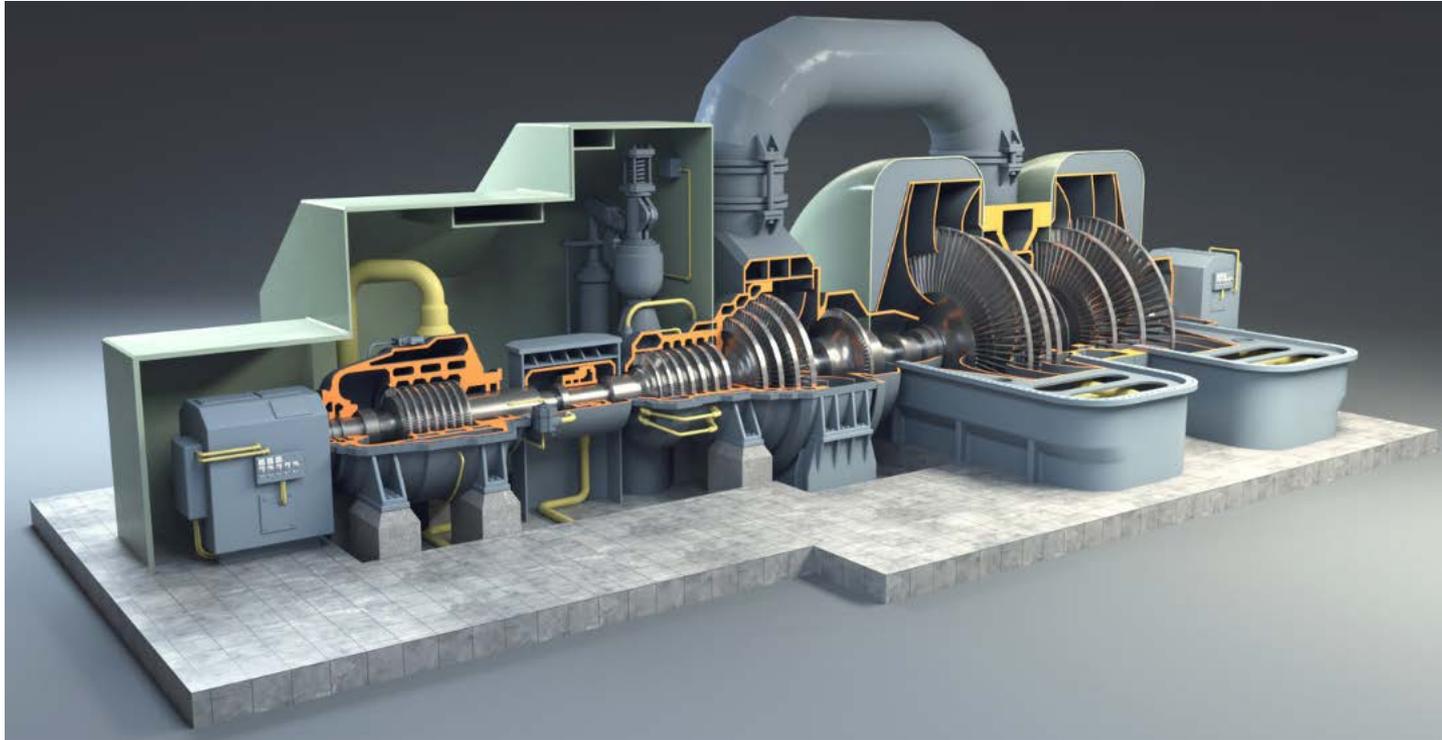
- Four Phases - Steam/Water Cycle
  - **Generation** (Boiler/Reactor/Steam Generator)
    - Heat is produced to change water to steam
    - Changes chemical or Nuclear energy of fuel to thermal energy of steam
  - **Expansion** (Turbine)
    - Nozzles direct steam flow onto blades
    - As the steam expands, the pressure changes cause rotation of the turbine
    - Changes thermal energy to mechanical energy

# Simple Steam Cycle

- Four Phases - Steam/Water Cycle (*con't.*)
  - **Condensation** (Condensate System)
    - Remaining low energy steam is condensed to water removing latent heat
    - Recover and clean up the condensate
    - Largest efficiency loss in the cycle
  - **Feedwater** (Feedwater System)
    - Increases energy, both thermal (temperature) and potential (pressure) of water returning to the system
    - Increases overall plant efficiency



# The Steam Turbine



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# The Steam Turbine

- Steam Turbine: Form of heat engine with the function of converting thermal energy into a rotating mechanical energy
- Two steps are required to convert the thermal energy of the steam into useful work:
  - Thermal energy of the steam is converted into kinetic energy by expanding the steam in stationary nozzles or in moving blades
  - Kinetic energy is converted into work when the steam passes through the moving blades

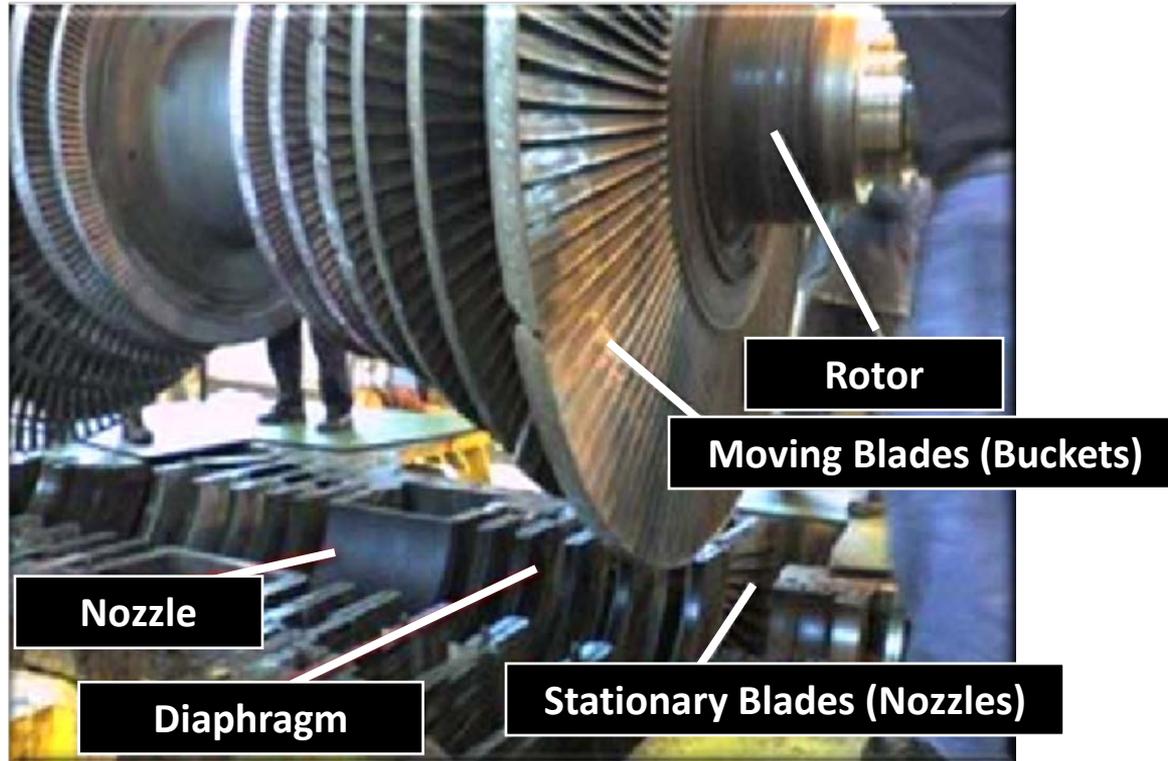
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvli3JDkADI>

# The Steam Turbine

- Turbine is made up of four fundamental components;
  - Rotor: carries the blades or buckets
  - Nozzles: Stationary blades provide flow passages for the steam
  - Buckets: Moving blades
  - Stationary parts: Diaphragms
  - Foundation: support for the rotor & stationary parts



# Steam Turbine - Blading



# The Steam Turbine

- Turbine Stages
  - High Pressure Turbine (HP)
    - Supplied by Main Steam
    - Exhausts some type of Reheater
  - Intermediate Pressure Turbine (IP)
    - Supplied by Reheated Steam
    - Exhausts to Low Pressure Turbine
  - Low Pressure Turbine (LP)
    - Supplied by IP Turbine exhaust
    - Exhausts to Condenser
- At each stage the steam gives up more energy, and expands, so the turbine stages get progressively larger

# The Steam Turbine

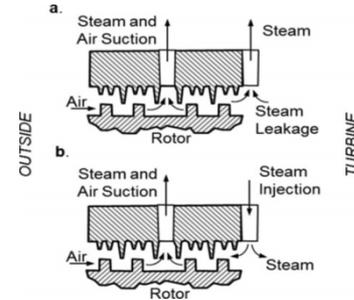
- Auxiliary Turbine Equipment

- **Bearings** - 2 types:

- Thrust - axially locate the turbine shaft in its correct position
    - Journal - support the weight of the shaft



- **Shaft Seals** - series of ridges and grooves to reduce steam leakage



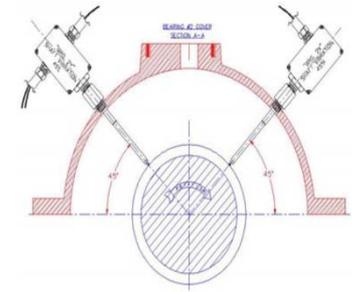
# The Steam Turbine

- Auxiliary Turbine Equipment

- **Turning Gear** - slowly rotates the turbine, after shutdown, to prevent shaft bowing, and even temperature distribution



- **Vibration Monitors** - measure the movement of the shafts in their bearings to prevent wear or unbalanced conditions before damage can occur

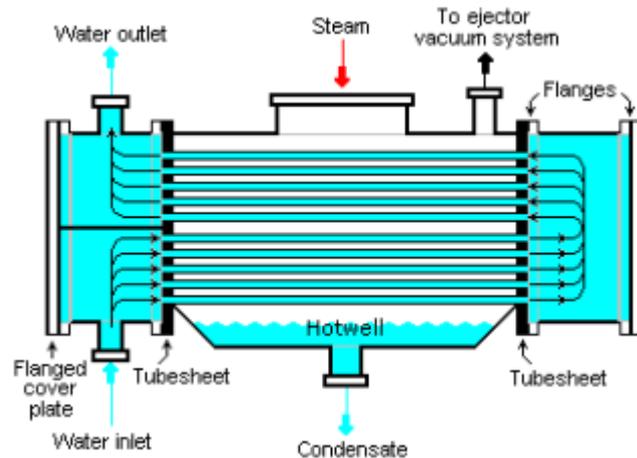


# The Steam Turbine

- Turbine Operating Limitations:
  - The Turbine Shaft
    - Eccentricity: shaft out of concentric round
    - Differential expansion: rotor and turbine casing heat up and expand at different rates
    - Bearing vibration limits
    - Critical speed: harmonics due to natural resonance
  - The Turbine Blades
    - Back pressure limitation: fatigue cracks and harmonics on low pressure blades
    - Erosion due to moisture (high moisture content in the steam)
    - Solid particle erosion (carryover from the boiler/SG)
    - Silica plating (can unbalance the blades)

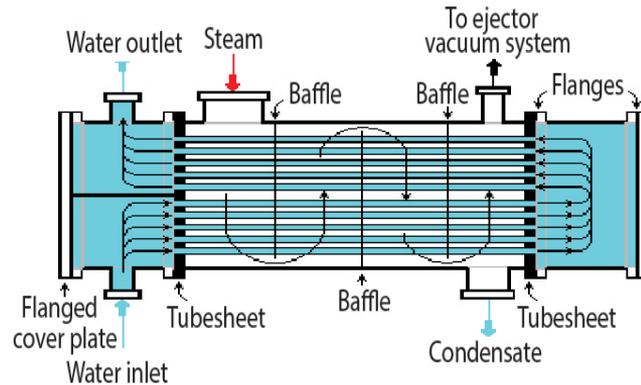
# The Condensate System

- Major Components
  - **Condenser:** Converts the exhaust steam into water after it leaves the last stage of the turbine
  - **Hotwell:** Receptacle where water is collected from the condenser
  - **Hotwell Make-up / Draw-off valves:** Compensate for losses or excesses to or from the condensate storage tank



# The Condensate System

- Major Components
  - **Demineralizers:** Clean up the condensate
  - **Condensate Pumps:** Move condensate up to the feedwater system
  - **Low Pressure Feedwater Heaters:** Preheats the condensate entering the deaerator/boiler feed pump

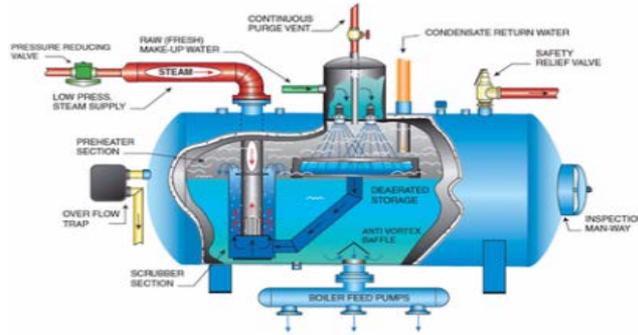


# Condensate System – Feedwater Heater



# The Feedwater System

- **Deareator:** Removes non-condensable gases (mainly oxygen) from the condensate



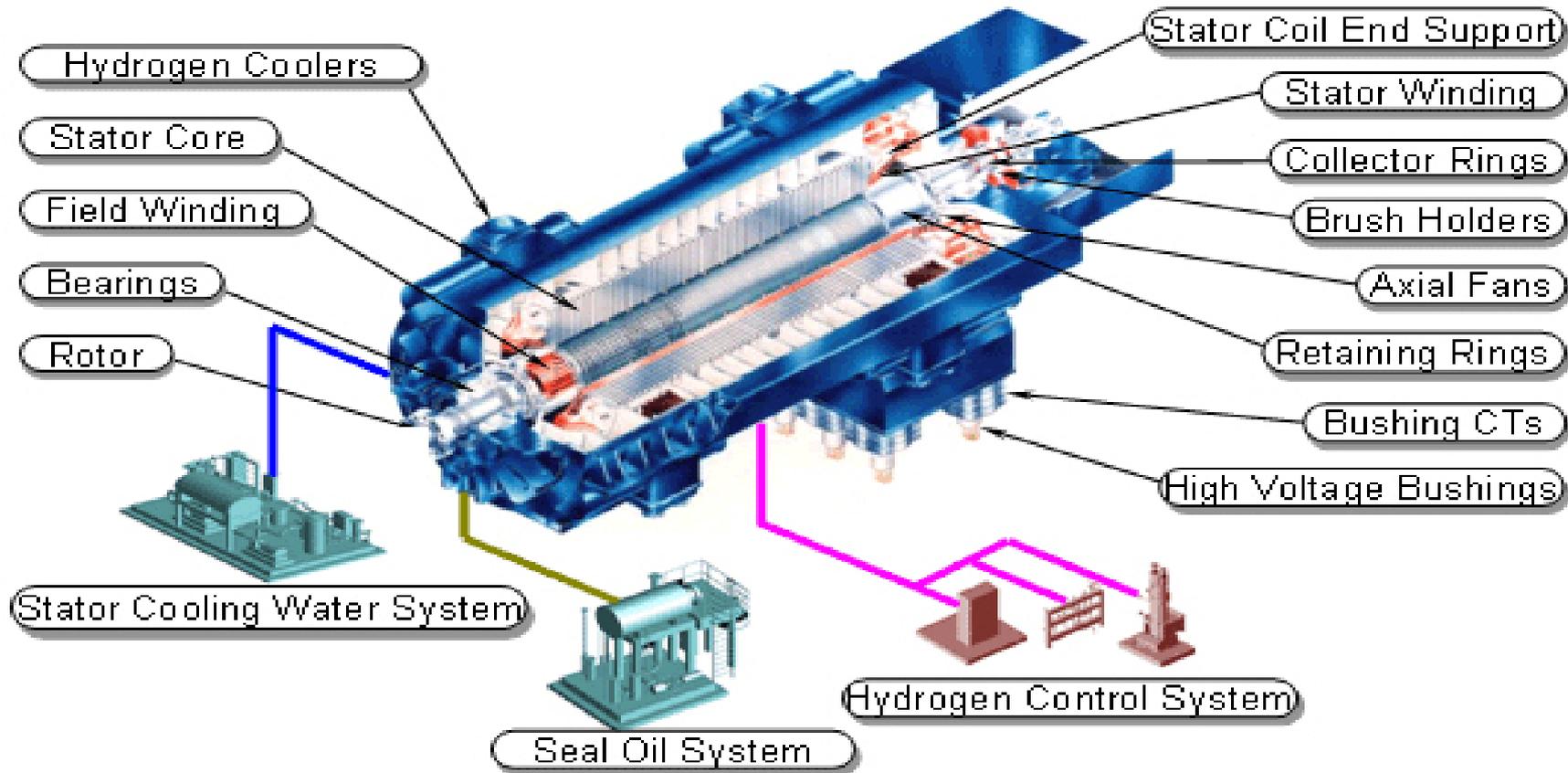
- **High Pressure Feedwater Heaters:** Preheats the feedwater before entering the boiler/ SG
- **Boiler Feed Pump:** Supplies water to the boiler/SG and has to overcome boiler pressure, friction in the heaters, piping, and economizer

# Start-Up Systems

- In order to prevent thermal stress damage, the turbine blades, housing, and other components must be slowly warmed up to normal operational temperatures before the plant can begin producing power
- Plant start-up systems provide a minimum flow path using main steam as the plant begins its start-up process
- This allows a slower, controlled warming process that is less likely to cause damage
- It also provides a steam source for de-aeration of feedwater and a means of heat recovery during plant start-up, which also increases overall efficiency

# Other Common Plant Systems

- **Gland sealing:** Enable the turbine to be sealed where the shaft exits the casing (keep air out, steam in)
- **Hydrogen Cooling System:** Cooling water coils in the generator to cool the hydrogen gas
- **Hydrogen Seal Oil System:** Seals the generator where the shaft exits the casing keeping the hydrogen in
- **Cooling Water:** Cools the various component systems
- **Circulating Water:** Primarily provides the cooling water for the condenser
- **Turbine Lube Oil:** Supply clean, pressurized oil at proper temperature
- **Fire Protection**



# Other Common Plant Systems

- **Service Air:** Various pressurized air needs within the plant
- **Control Air:** Used on pneumatic or instrumentation applications where moisture cannot be tolerated
- **Waste Water Treatment**
- **Station Batteries:** Supply critical plant loads (turning gear)

# Possible Environmental Limitations on Plant Power Output

- Maximum allowable water temperature of cooling water return to river or lake
- Maximum allowable values of substance discharged to the atmosphere
  - Nitric Oxide - NOX
  - Sulfur Dioxide - SO<sub>2</sub>
  - Carbon Monoxide – CO
  - Carbon Dioxide – CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Particulates – Opacity
- pH (solubility) of discharged cooling water
- Turbidity of discharged cooling water -suspended solids such as sediment, mud, and dirt that are in the water

# Possible Operational Limitations on Plant Power Output

- **Dissolved Solids:** Minerals picked up by the water that will form hard adherent deposits on the internal surfaces of the boiler or heat exchangers
- **Dissolved Oxygen:** Entrapped in water, could attack metal parts including feedwater, condensate, and boiler tubes
- **Iron:** Concentration must be at a certain level in order to raise temperatures in a supercritical unit, but excess iron deposits can limit the heat transfer rates in boilers, or cause “hot spots”, increasing corrosion
- **Silica:** Found in water as a dissolved solid. Can solidify on components and create scale or reduce heat transfer

# Possible Operational Limitations on Plant Power Output

- **High condenser backpressure**
  - High cooling water temperatures may not condense the steam as efficiently
  - Condenser tubes may spring leaks and allow air to enter the condenser, compromising the vacuum
  - The condenser tubes may become dirty, preventing adequate cooling of the steam
  - A reduced condenser vacuum limits the amount of steam that can be pushed through the turbine, forcing a reduction in plant power output

# Agenda



- Elements of the Energy Conversion Process
- Provide an overview of:
  - Steam/Condensate/Feedwater and other Common Systems
- Describe the various types of units:
  - Fossil generating units
  - Nuclear generating units
  - Hydroelectric generating units
  - Combustion turbines
  - Combined Cycle Power Plants (CCPP)
  - Wind Units
  - Solar Units



# Fossil Generation

# Generating Unit Principles of Operation

## Fossil Conversion Process

Chemical Energy (Fuel)

*to*

Thermal Energy (Steam)

*to*

Mechanical Energy (Turbine)

*to*

Electrical Energy (Generator)

# Fossil Generation - Types

- Fossil Plants include coal, oil, natural gas, or a combination of these fuels
  - Total power output can be as low as 15-20 MW or as high as 1,450 MW
  - **Ramp Rate**, or the rate of change of power output, ranges from a few MW/min. on older units to 10-20 MW/min. for newer units
  - Each fuel type requires a unique set of components to control the ignition and combustion of the fuel, and handle the by-products of that combustion process

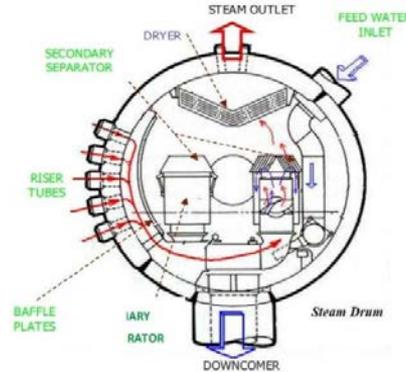
# Fossil Generation - Components

- In a fossil plant, the combustion of the fuel takes place within the **Boiler**
  - A Boiler is a closed vessel in which water is heated, steam generated, and superheated under pressure by the application of additional heat
  - Basic functions of a boiler:
    - Pressure containment
    - Heat transfer
    - Steam separation
  - Two types of boilers:
    - Subcritical (drum type)
    - Supercritical

# Fossil Generation - Components

- Drum Type Boilers - Components

- **Economizer** - Improves boiler efficiency by extracting heat from the flue gases and transferring it to the feedwater
- **Steam Drum** - Separates the water from the steam generated in the furnace walls

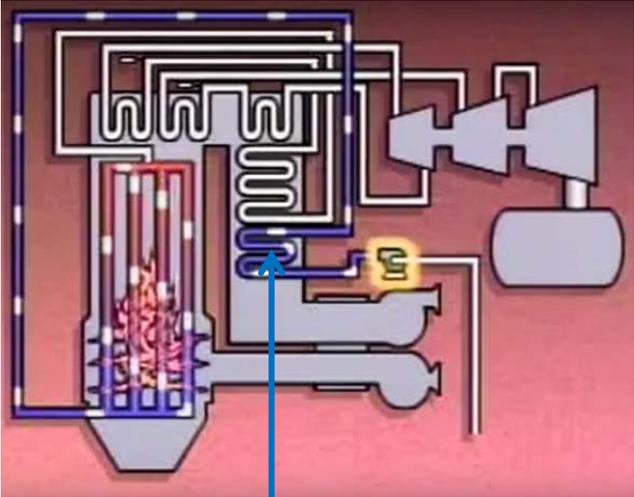


- **Downcomers** – Act as a return path for the feedwater back to the boiler; located away from main heat source
- **Mud Drum** - Fed from downcomers; collection point for sediment and impurities

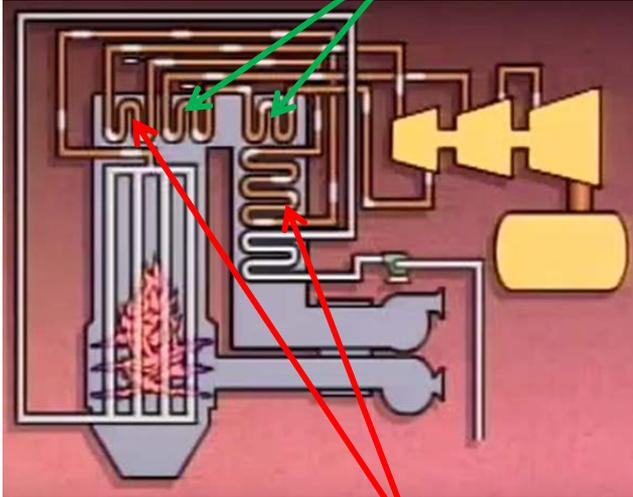
# Fossil Generation - Components

- Superheater - Increases cycle efficiency by adding heat to raise the steam temperature above its saturation point
  - Adds ~ 3% efficiency per 100°F
  - There are 2 types of Superheaters;
    - Radiant: Direct radiation from the furnace
    - Convection: Absorb heat from hot gases
- Reheater - Adds energy back to the steam that has been passed through the HP turbine
  - Adds 4-5 % efficiency per 100°F

# Fossil Generation - Components

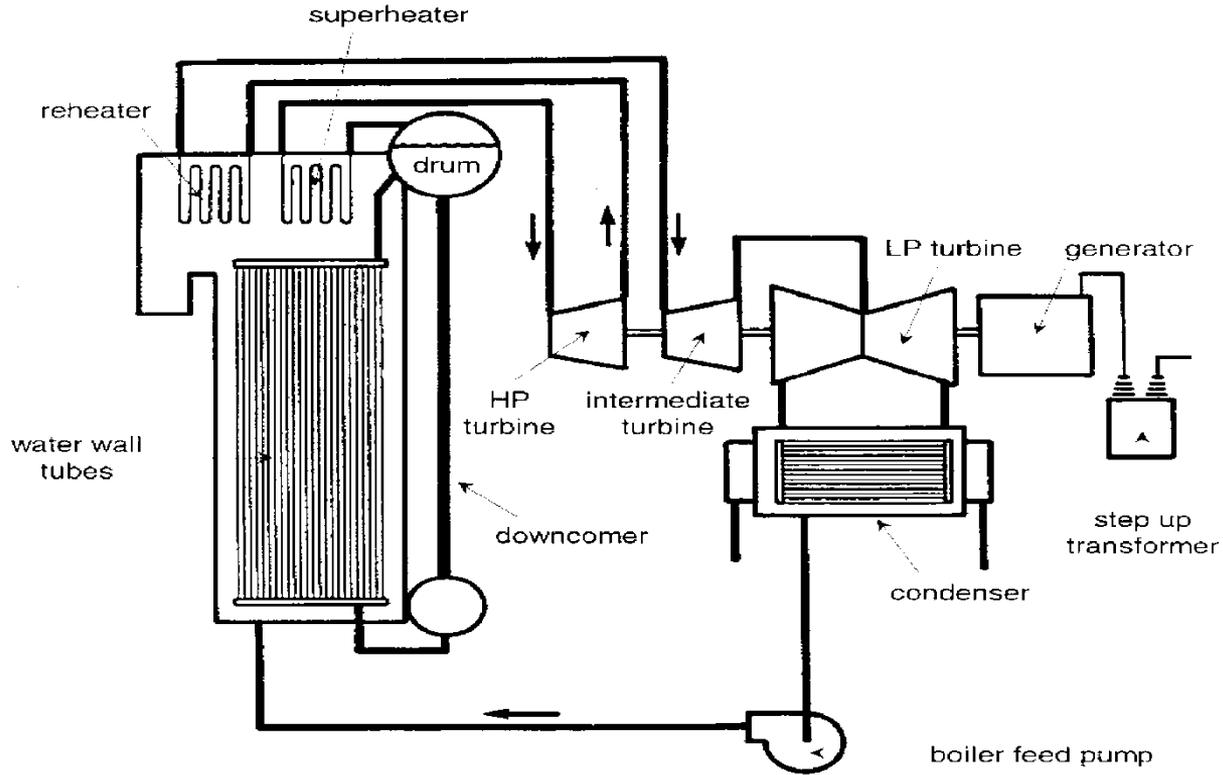


Economizer



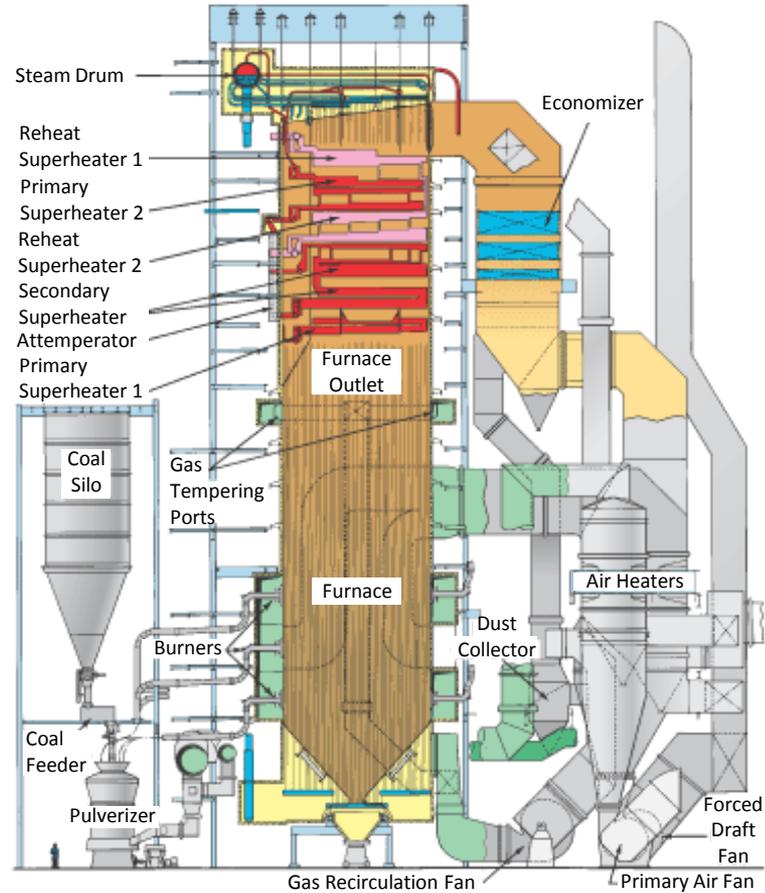
Reheater

Superheater



DRUM TYPE WITH REHEAT

# Fossil Generation



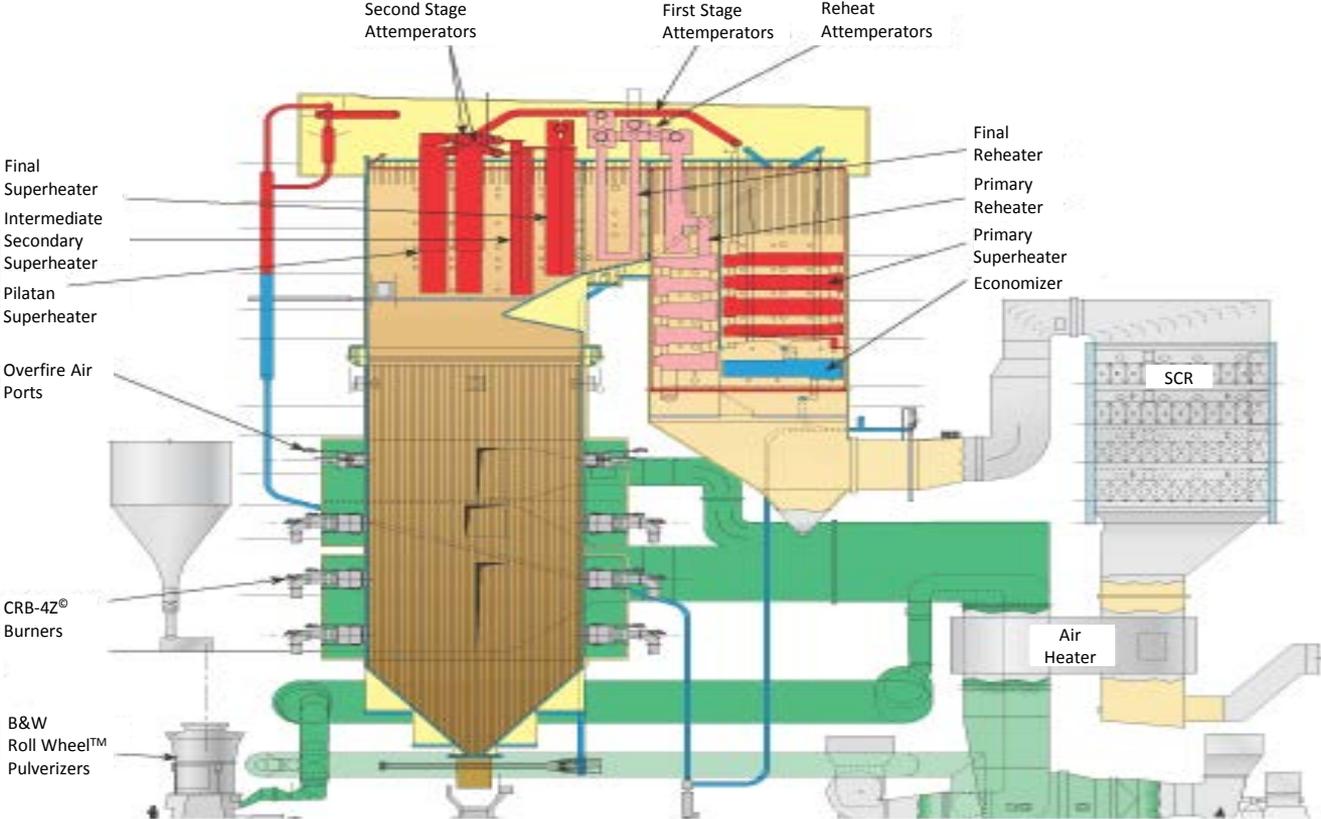
# Principles of Operation

- Super Critical Boiler (Once Thru)
  - Does not have a boiler drum
    - Water is directly converted to steam within the water wall tubes, without going through a boiling process
    - “Once-thru” design – no recirculation process
  - Consists of many circuits of superheaters in series
  - Operates in excess of 3206 PSI/ 706° F
  - Requires a Start-up system (by-pass)
  - More efficient in certain MW ranges

# Fossil Generation - Components

- Modifications are needed for the turbines used in supercritical units, due to the higher temperatures and pressures
  - Stronger materials for rotor forgings, casings, steam lines and valves
    - Iron based materials replaced by nickel based superalloys
    - Last stages of turbine blades also use special alloys

# Fossil Generation



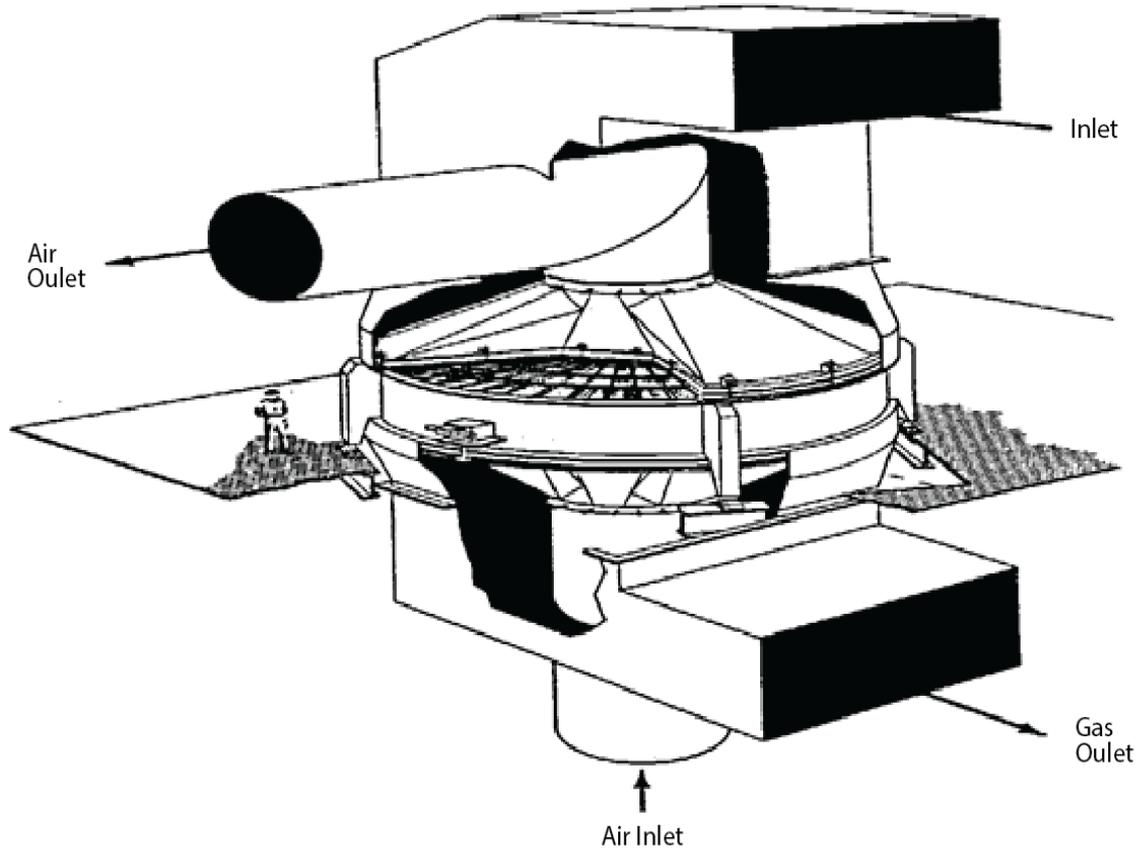
# Fossil Generation - Components

- Super Critical Boilers
  - Advantages
    - Greater efficiency (45%)
    - Faster response to changing load
    - Reduced fuel costs due to thermal efficiency
    - Lower emissions (CO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>)
  - Disadvantages
    - Long start-up time
    - Expensive to build (greater press. / temp.)
    - Loss of circulation causes serious boiler damage

# Fossil Generation - Components

- Furnace Air Systems
  - **Air Heaters** - Used to transfer heat from stack flue gases to pre-heat the combustion and primary air
  - **Forced Draft Fans** - Used to maintain windbox and secondary air pressure to accelerate combustion
  - **Induced Draft Fans** - Used to maintain a negative furnace pressure
    - Always larger than FD due to combustion gas expansion

# Air Heater



# Miscellaneous Fossil Plant Systems

- Bottom Ash (slag) Handling System: remove the coarse, granular, incombustible by-products from the bottom of the boiler
- Fly ash handling system: remove the fine-grained, powdery particulate that is found in flue gas
- Scrubber Facilities: trap pollutants and sulfur that is produced from burning coal and natural gas from escaping into the air

# Fossil Unit Limitations That May Affect Power Output

- Temperature limits:
  - Temperature limit on the furnace water wall caused by increases in pressure and final steam temperatures to prevent damage to the tubes
  - Corrosion of superheater and reheater tubes caused by the increase in steam temperatures
  - Loss of Air heater thermal efficiency
    - Increasing feedwater temperature to the boiler leads to a rise in air heater gas inlet temperature, and loss of overall efficiency

# Fossil Unit Limitations That May Affect Power Output

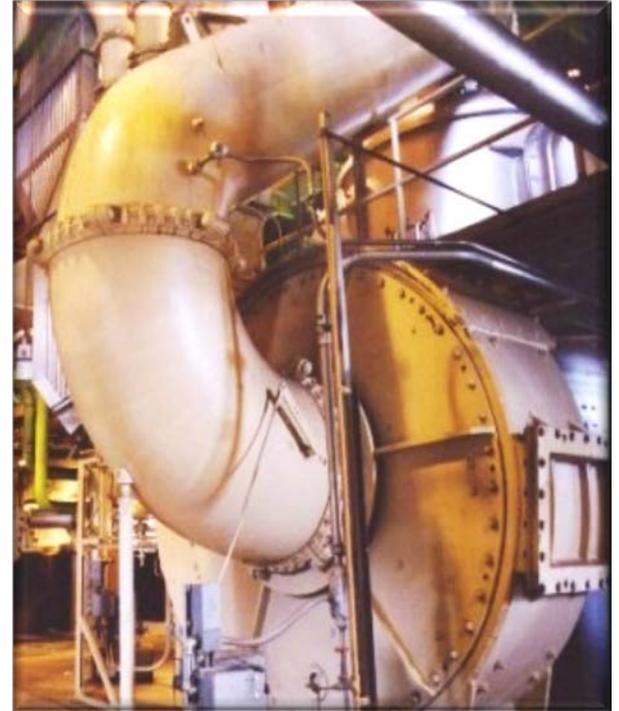
- Auxiliary equipment outages (scheduled or unscheduled)
  - Heaters, condensate or boiler feed pumps
  - Pulverizers (Mills) or oil pumps, gas
  - Fans: induced draft, forced draft, or primary air
  - Pumps: circulating water
  - Fuel
  - Ash handling

# Fossil Unit Limitations That May Affect Power Output

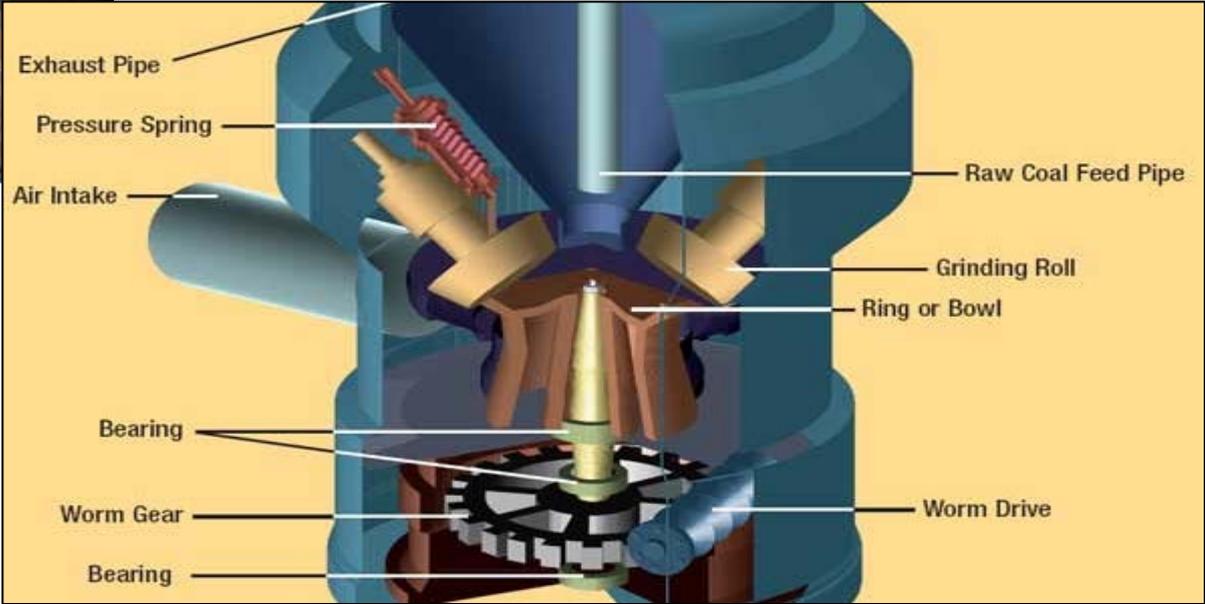
## Fuel Limitations - Coal Issues:

- Excessive moisture or bad weather can lead to:
  - Difficulty unloading
  - Sliding on conveyor belts
  - Build-up in chutes
  - Frozen coal
- Poor quality coal can lead to increases in slagging and high ash resistivity
- Coal must be crushed or pulverized to burn efficiently
  - Degree of crushing depends on burner type
    - Pulverized
    - Stoker
    - Cyclone

# Pulverizer Mill



# Pulverizer Mill



# Fossil Unit Limitations That May Affect Power Output

- Fuel Limitations - Oil Issues
  - Moisture deteriorates the performance of oil and increases the probability of corroding components
    - Increased coking
    - More particulates and impurities
  - Fuel oil needs to be pre-warmed to pump properly (150-180 °F) and warmed further to burn efficiently (250-330°F)
  - Oil injectors need to be cleaned and maintained regularly

# Fossil Unit Limitations That May Affect Power Output

- Fuel Limitations - Gas Issues
  - When moisture is present, it interacts with impurities in the gas lines to form a corrosive mixture

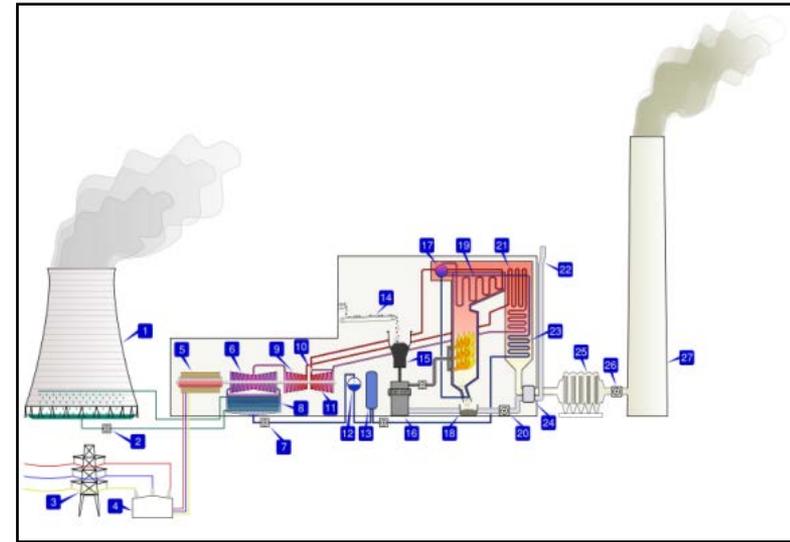
*In all fossil units a major concern is flame detection in the boiler*

- Boiler Water Chemistry - Must be maintained within certain levels to ensure the water wall tubes are not damaged
  - Condenser leaks are the major source of impurities



# Key

1. Cooling Tower
2. Cooling Water Pump
3. Three-phase Transmission Line
4. Step-up Transformer
5. Electrical Generator
6. Low Pressure Steam Turbine
7. Boiler Feedwater Pump
8. Surface Condenser
9. Intermediate Pressure Stage
10. Steam Control Valve
11. High Pressure Stage
12. Deaerator
13. Feedwater Heater
14. Coal Conveyor
15. Coal Hopper
16. Coal Pulverizer
17. Boiler Steam Drum
18. Bottom Ash Hopper
19. Superheater
20. Forced Draft Fan
21. Reheater
22. Combustion Air Intake
23. Economizer
24. Air Preheater
25. Precipitator
26. Induced Draft Fan
27. Flue Gas Stack





# Nuclear Generation

# Generating Unit Principles of Operation

## Nuclear Conversion Process

Nuclear Energy (Fission)

*to*

Thermal Energy (Steam)

*to*

Mechanical Energy (Turbine)

*to*

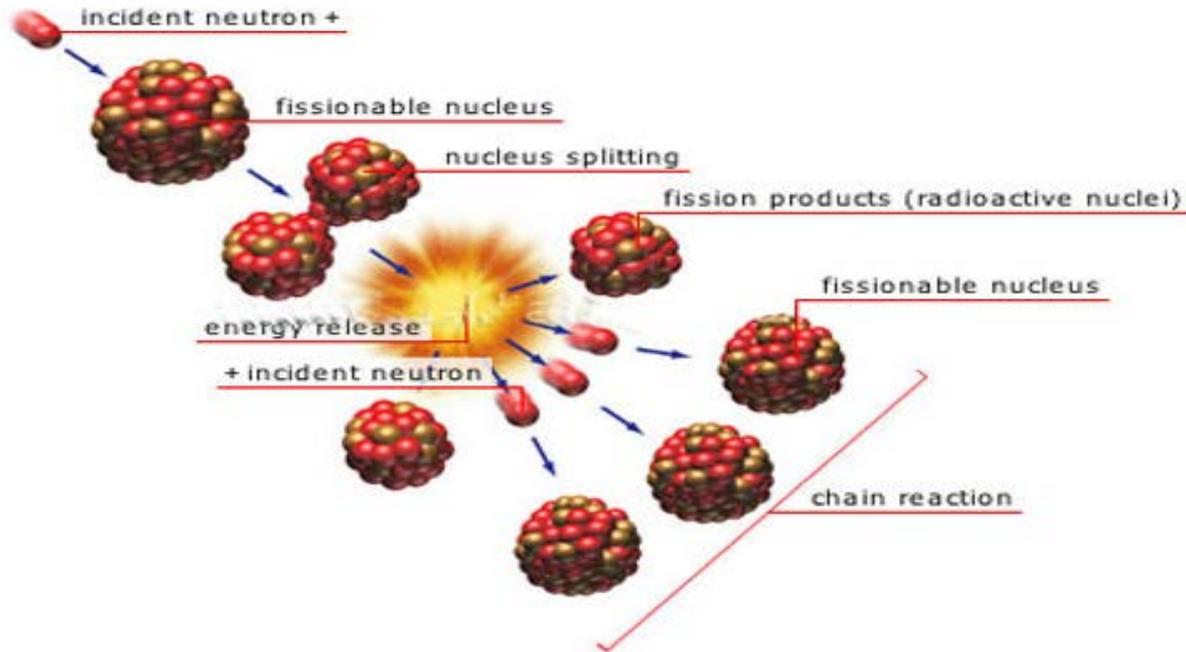
Electrical Energy (Generator)

# Nuclear Generation

- Nuclear Fission yields the highest amount of energy produced per mass of fuel “consumed” for any existing fuel type
  - Two types of light-water reactors:
    - Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR)
    - Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)
  - Light-water reactors use ordinary water to slow down the thermal neutrons produced in the reaction
  - Light-water reactors use enriched uranium, U235

# Nuclear Generation

- The fission process or the “splitting apart” of an atom is what produces heat in a nuclear reactor



# Nuclear Generation

- Conventional light water reactors utilize fuel with an initial  $^{235}\text{U}$  concentration enriched to at least 3.5%
- Fuel is loaded at 3.5%  $^{235}\text{U}$  and replaced once the concentration has fallen to 1.2%
- A 1000 MW plant would consume ~30 tons of fuel per year in comparison to 9,000 tons of coal per day for a fossil plant of the same magnitude
- Nuclear Units require a Coolant, to remove the heat from the fission process (and produce the steam for the turbines) and a Moderator. The Moderator slows down the neutrons to allow the fission process to occur
  - In a light water reactor, water is used as both the Moderator and the coolant

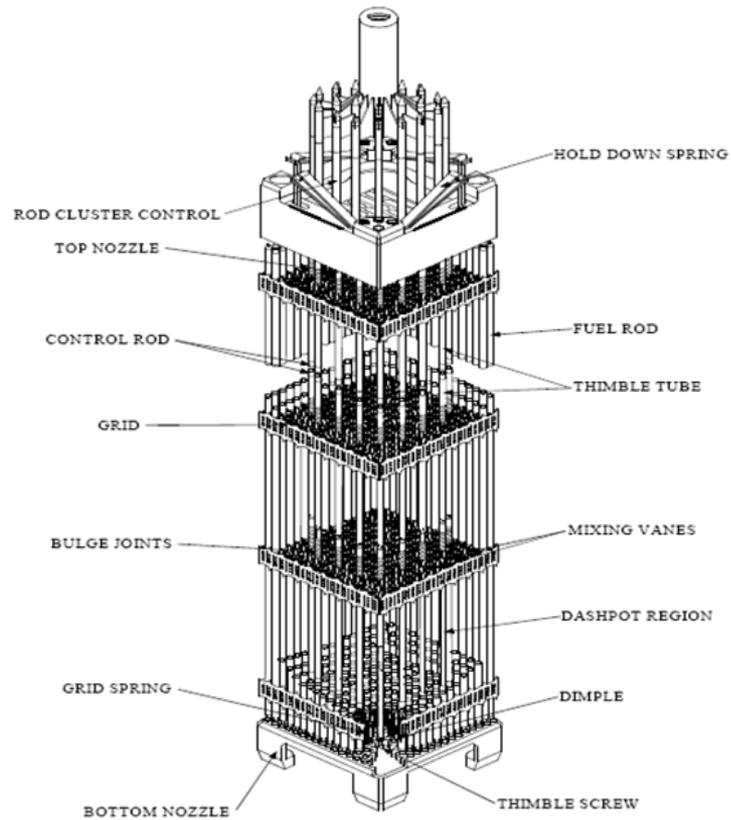
# Nuclear Generation

- Once the steam is generated in a Nuclear Unit, it follows the same Cycle as that used in Fossil Units
  - The Steam is directed to Turbine/Generator assembly to produce Power
  - The Used Steam is sent to a condenser to be turned back into condensate, and non-condensable gasses are removed\*
  - The condensate is cleaned up, reheated through feedwater heaters, and sent back into the steam cycle\*
- \* BWR Units modify this component slightly

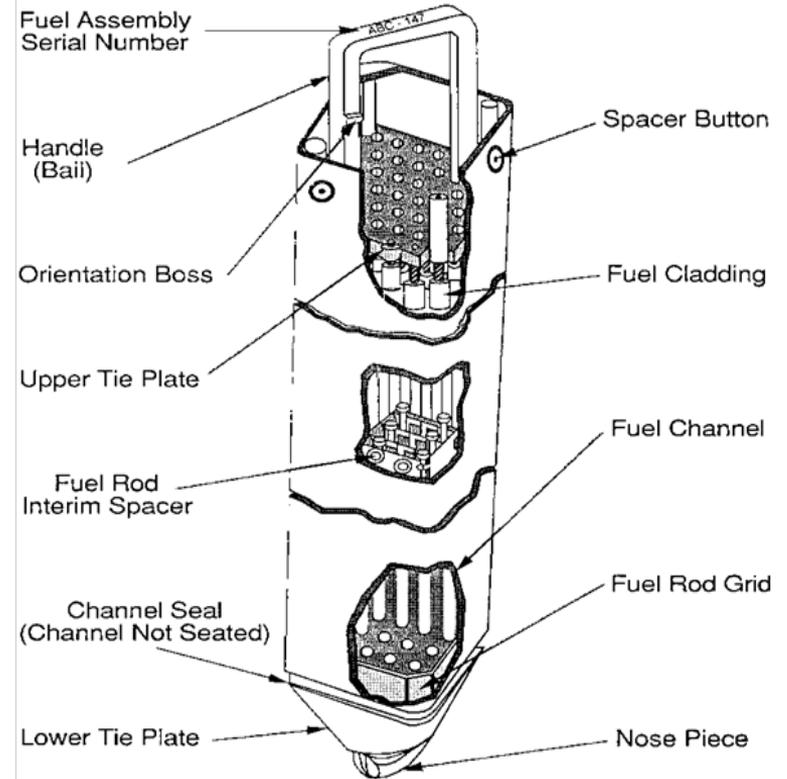
# Fuel Assembly

- Both PWR and BWR fuel assemblies consist of the same major components:
  - Fuel Rods - ~ 12 feet long, made up of stacks of ceramic fuel pellets arranged in a square matrix
    - 17 X 17 for PWRs      8 X 8 for BWRs
  - Spacer Grids – provide rigidity for the assembly and allow coolant to flow up around the fuel rods
  - End fittings – the top and bottom structural portions. Also helps direct coolant through the assemblies
  - BWR Fuel Assemblies are also surrounded by a Fuel Channel, to provide more surface areas for steam bubble formation

# Fuel Assembly



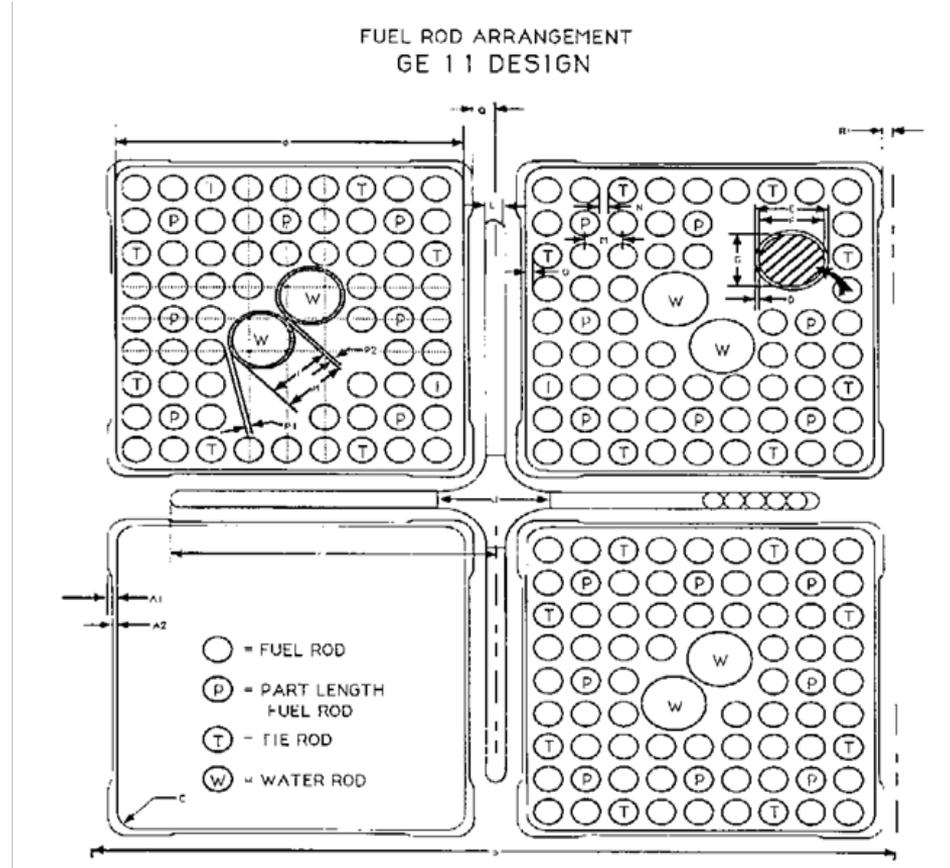
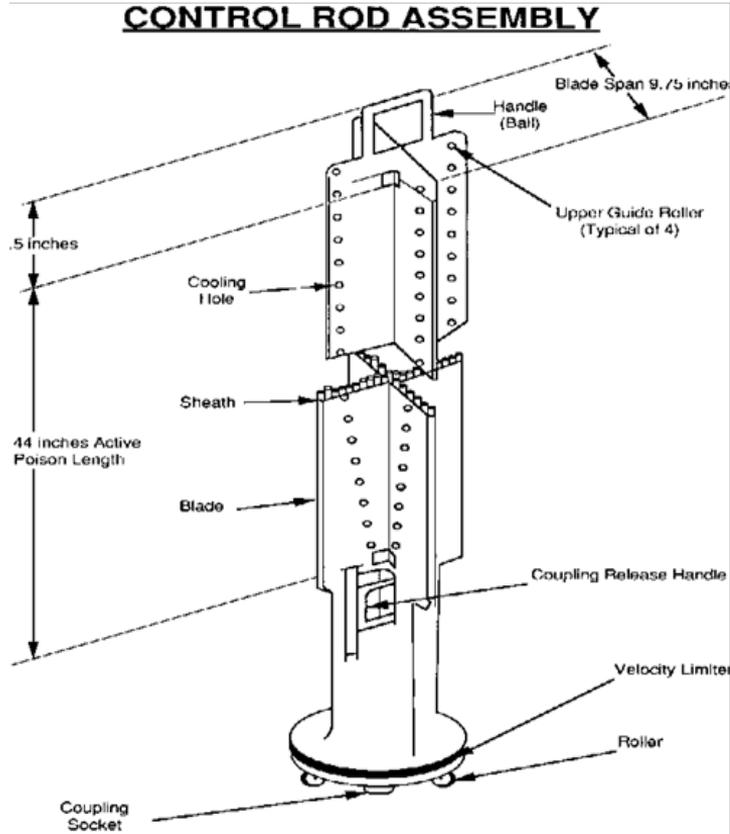
## FUEL ASSEMBLY (Cut-Away)



# Nuclear Generation

- Nuclear Units also use Control Rods to help moderate (BWRs) or Shut down (both types) the fission reaction
- A Control Rod is a cross-shaped blade made of stainless steel containing Boron or other neutron-absorbing materials
- The Boron will “absorb” the thermal neutrons and slow or stop the Nuclear fission process
- A SCRAM is an automatic process that simultaneously inserts all control rods into the core, to quickly stop the fission process and stop the reaction
  - SCRAMs can also be manually initiated from the control room or other remote locations

# Control Rod

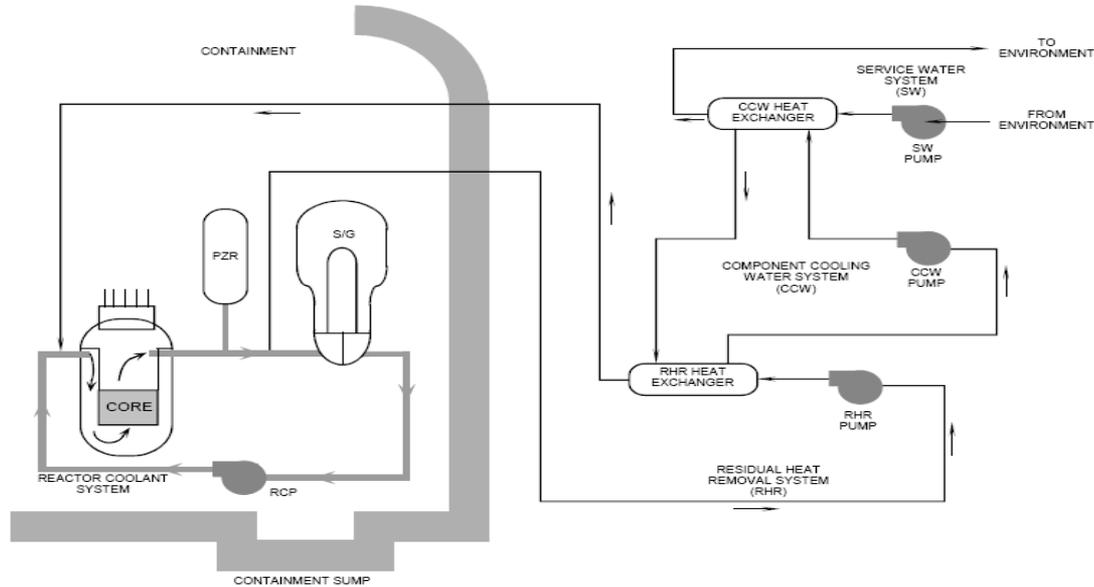


# Systems Common to Both Designs

- PWRs and BWRs differ in some critical design elements, but both share some overall design components
- Even if the Nuclear Reaction in the core is shut down, the vibration of the fission products is sufficient to ensure that the core will produce a substantial amount of heat for some time after plant shut down (**Decay Heat**)
- The plants must have some mechanism to remove this heat to prevent damage to the core components at times when the main steam cycle is not available to remove the heat
- **Residual Heat Removal** Systems are used as a secondary means of removing heat from the core and transferring it to the environment

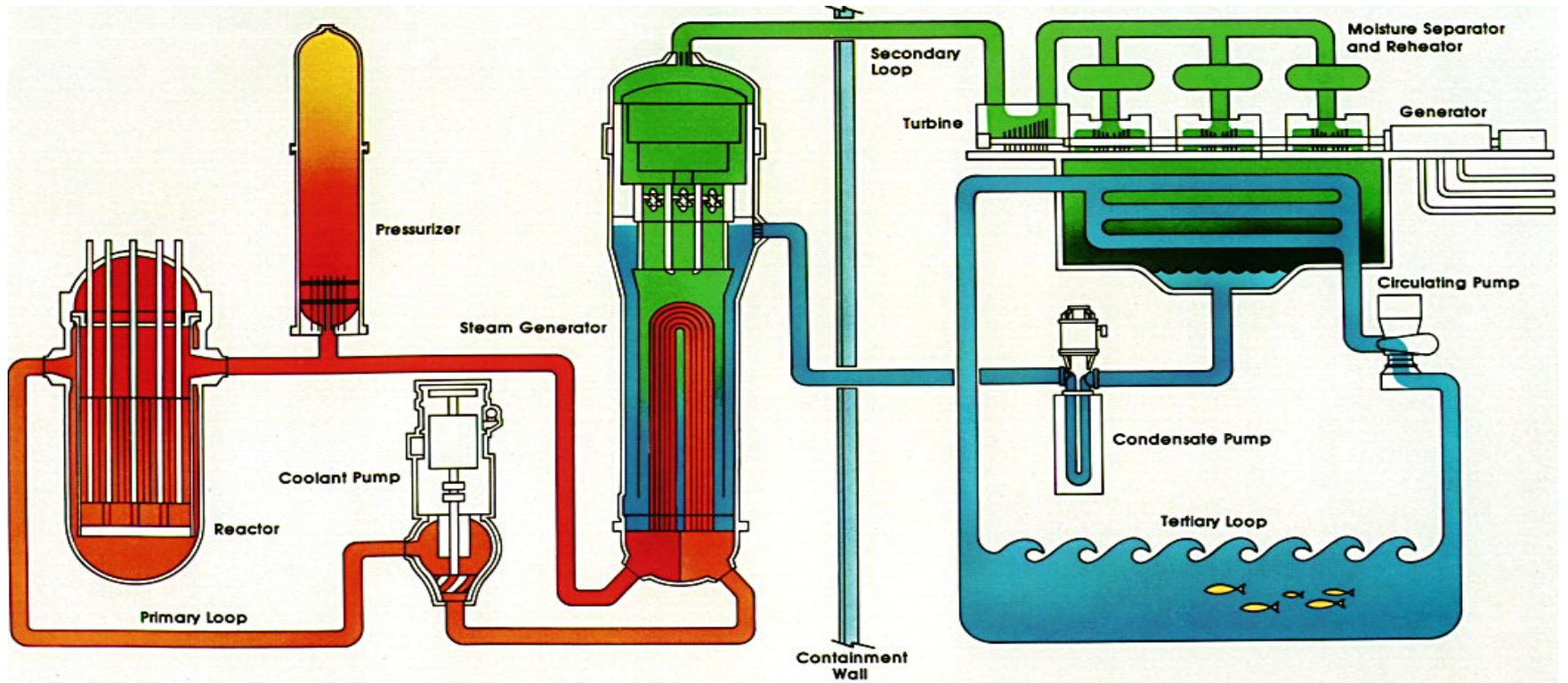
# Systems Common to Both Designs

- **Residual Heat Removal Systems** use a series of heat exchangers to bypass the steam generator / condenser and transfer the decay heat to the ultimate cooling source



# Pressurized Water Reactor

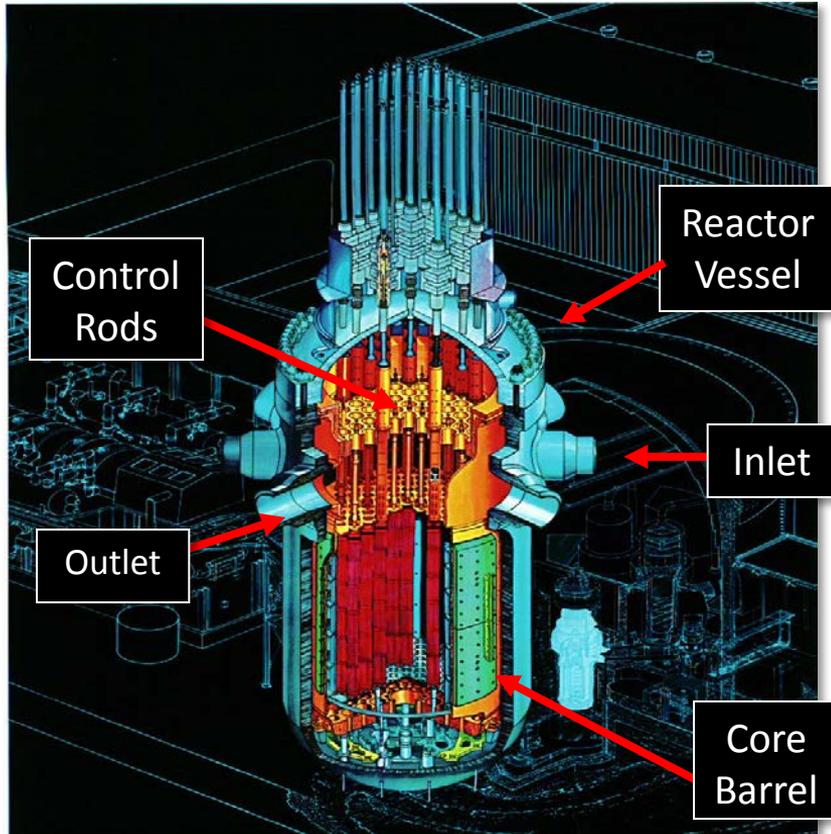
- Major Design Factors for a PWR:
  - The water in the Reactor is not designed to boil. It is maintained under higher temperatures and pressures by the **Pressurizer**
    - ~600 °F at 2250 psi
  - The Primary Coolant is sent to a **Steam Generator** where clean (non-contaminated) water is boiled to make steam
    - This means the Generator and Condenser components never come into direct contact with Nuclear materials
  - Power Levels are controlled by adding or removing Boron (in the form of Boric Acid) to the primary coolant
  - Control Rods drop into the core from the top of the Reactor Vessel



# Nuclear Steam Supply System

MB 3618A

# Pressurized Water Reactor



Water flows downward on the outside of the core barrel to the bottom of the reactor. The flow then turns upward in between the fuel rods from the bottom to the top of the reactor

The water leaves the reactor on its way to the steam generator

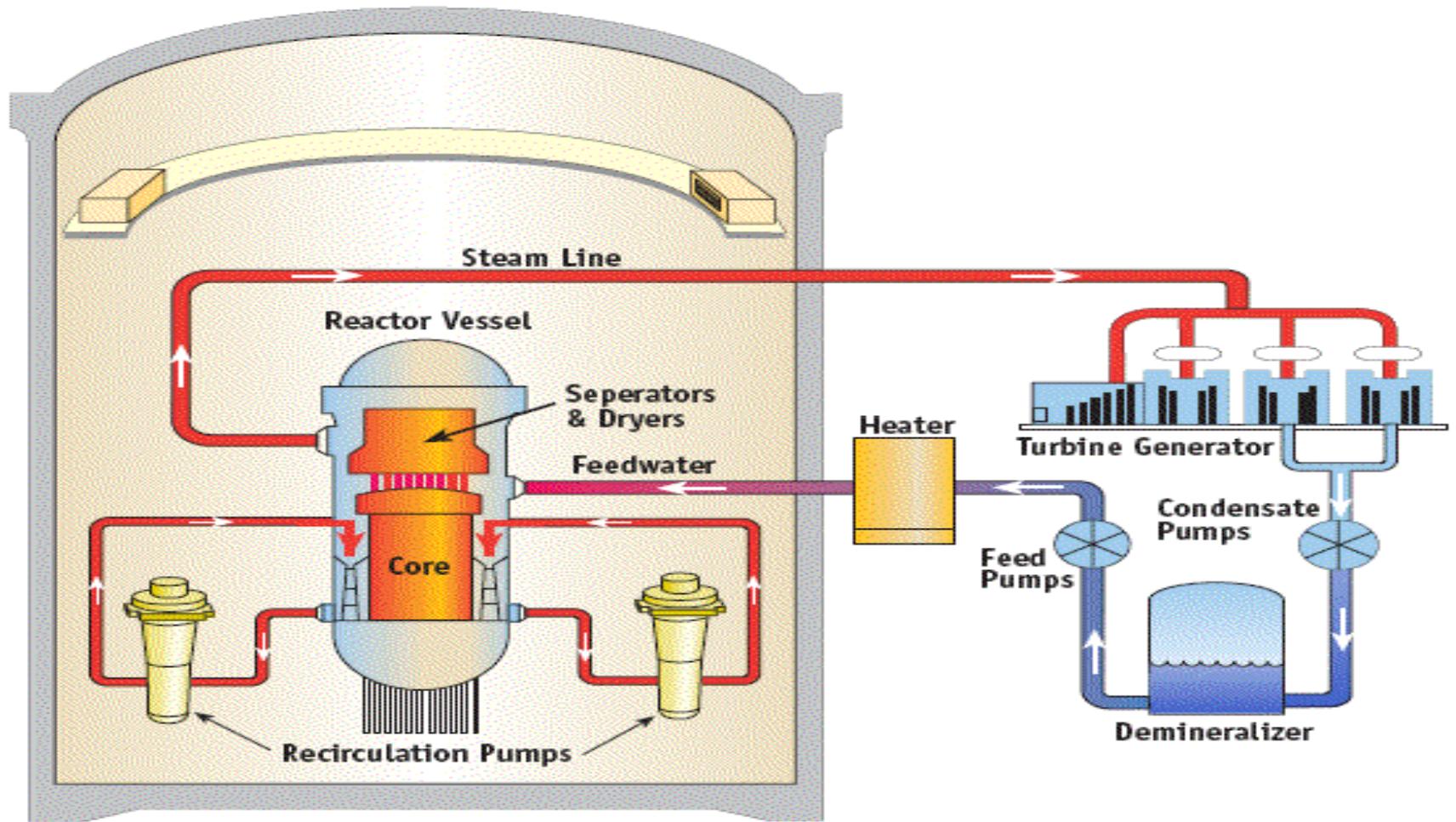
# PWR Components

- The **Reactor Coolant Pumps** provide the motive force to pump water through the Reactor vessel, to the Steam generators to remove the heat from the Fission process, and back into the Reactor Vessel
  - Rated for 6,000 to 10,000 HP each – delivering approximately 100,000 gallons of coolant per minute per pump
  - Generally, PWR's have 2 to 4 coolant pumps per Vessel, each feeding a separate Steam Generator
- The **Pressurizer** is the component in the reactor coolant system which provides a means of controlling the system pressure due to changes in coolant temperature
  - The Pressurizer operates with a mixture of steam and water in equilibrium

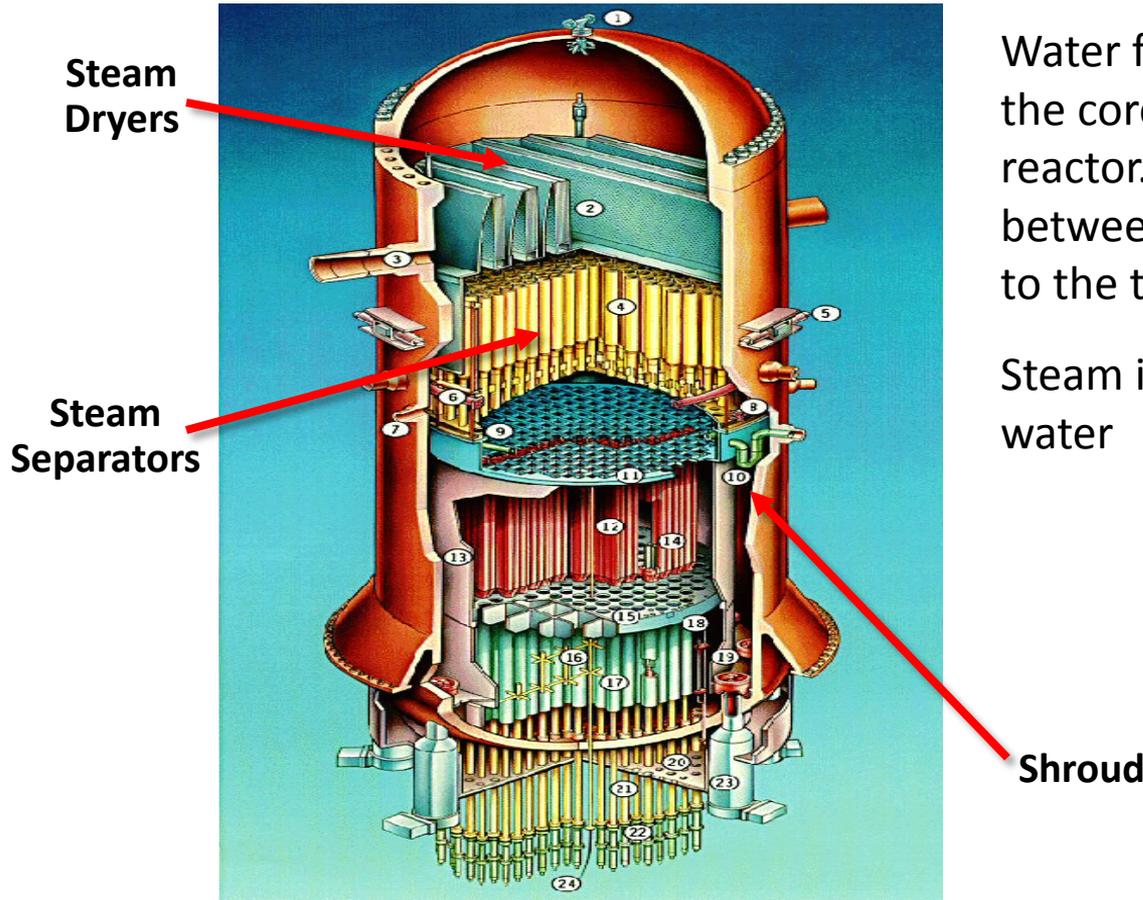
# Boiling Water Reactor

## Major Design Factors for a BWR:

- The water in the reactor does boil. Lower temperatures and pressures are required
  - ~550 °F at 1000 psi
- A Steam Separator and Steam Dryer are installed above the reactor core to dry the steam prior to sending it to the main Turbine
  - This means the Generator and Condenser components do come into direct contact with Nuclear materials
- Power Levels are controlled by adjusting the position of the control rods in the core and by adjusting the rate of coolant flow through the core
- Control Rods are inserted into the core from the bottom of the Reactor Vessel



# Boiling Water Reactor



Water flows downward on the outside of the core barrel to the bottom of the reactor. The flow then turns upward in between the fuel rods from the bottom to the top of the reactor

Steam is separated at the top from the water

Shroud

# BWR Components

- Because the Control Rods on a BWR are inserted from the bottom of the vessel, a failure of the Control Rods to insert would not be helped by gravity alone
- A redundant system called **Standby Liquid Control** provides a tank of highly concentrated boron solution adjacent to the reactor. If the Control Rods fail to shut down the fission reaction when required, an explosive valve if fired, dumping the tank contents into the reactor vessel and shutting down the chain reaction
  - This is likely a one-time event for a BWR – it could never be restarted

# BWR Components

- In a BWR, the steam coming off the reactor contains other gasses as well;
  - Fission Gas by-products: Xenon, Iodine isotopes
  - Normal gasses present in the atmosphere that have been “activated” (or made radioactive) by absorbing an additional neutron in the core
  - Hydrogen and Oxygen – produced when the neutron flux in the core breaks apart the water molecules
- These gasses, if not removed, create backpressure that could lead to turbine damage
- BWR operates with an **Offgas System** that takes a suction on the condenser to remove these gasses

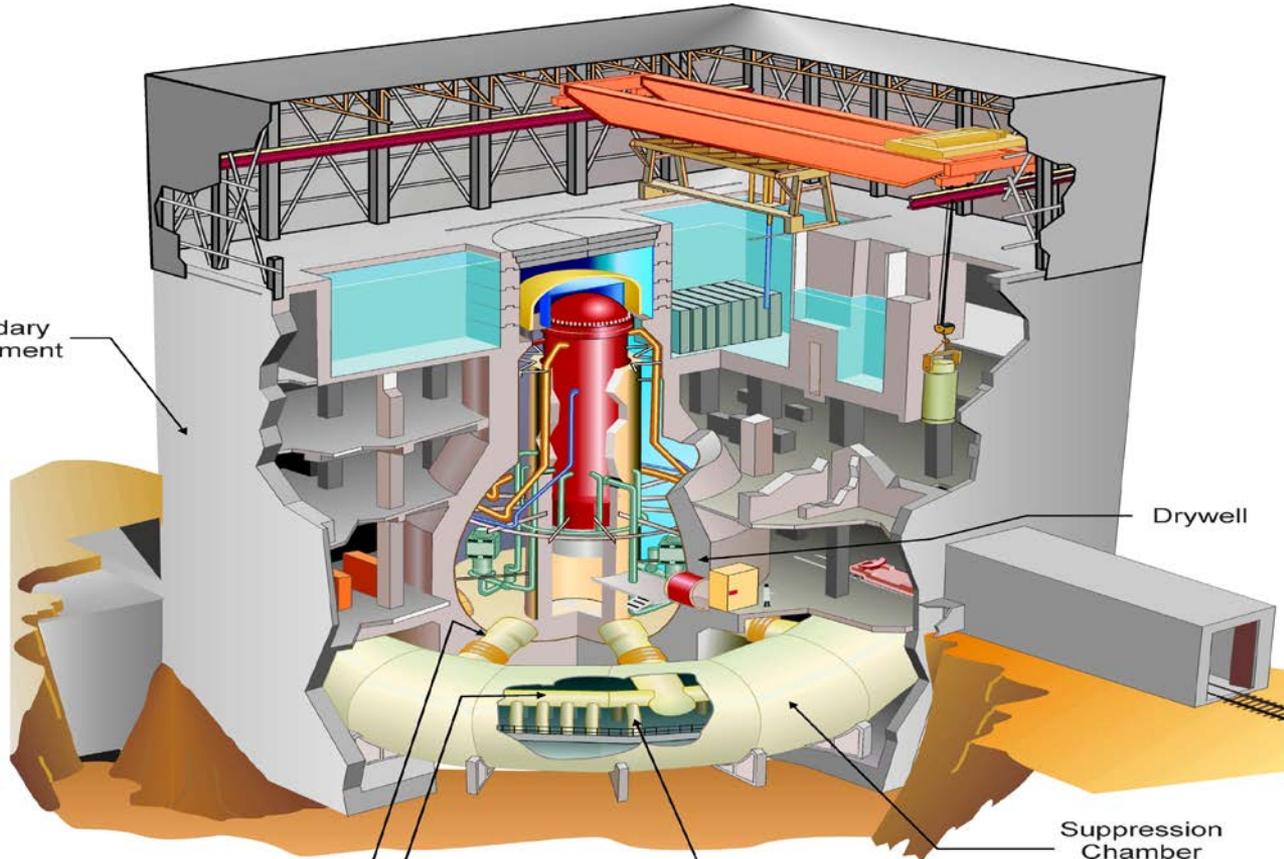
# BWR Components

- The hydrogen and oxygen exist in percentages that are explosive, so a catalytic **Recombiner** is placed in the offgas stream to recombine some of these gasses to water for removal
  - The concentration of hydrogen in the offgas system is constantly monitored and could be a cause for plant shut-down
- The remaining gasses – some of which are radioactive – are passed at a slow rate through a series of charcoal beds. The charcoal “grabs” the gasses and traps them long enough for them to decay below the limits established for them to be released to the atmosphere

# BWR Components

- Some plant transients require the isolation of the main steam lines, to prevent the possible carry-over of radioactive materials
  - This would normally leave the BWR without a means of decreasing the pressure and temperature in the vessel, leading to possible damage
- A series of **Safety Relief Valves** are installed before the main steam isolation valves
  - For core isolation, these valves direct the steam through a set of downcomers into a specially designed **Suppression Pool** below the reactor vessel where the steam can be condensed and pressure relieved

Secondary Containment



Drywell

Suppression Chamber (Wetwell)

Vent Line

Vent Header

Downcomer (Typical of 96)

# Comparison

Plant Issue	BWR	PWR
<b>Temperatures / Pressures</b>	Relatively low, normal carbon steel components can be used	Higher pressures. Primary system components are more costly
<b>Plant Design</b>	All System Components contact radioactive materials – increased safety and cost issues	Only the primary systems contact radioactive materials – lower costs and no disposal issues
<b>Reaction Control</b>	Slow rate of power increase up to 70% - accomplished by slow withdrawal of control rods. 70 – 100% control much faster using jet pumps and altering core flow	Faster control of reaction using boric acid, but this has caused corrosion issues in the reactor vessels and Steam Generators

# Nuclear Limitations

- Equipment Vibration
  - Individual component vibration is monitored by a central computer
  - Systems are quickly identified and isolated to prevent damage from excessive vibration
  - A problem area in nuclear plants are the protective relay panels
    - Excessive vibration may cause a system or plant shutdown due to vibration of relays
- Lengthy start-up times
  - Plants – especially BWR's – can require up to 3 days or more to reach full power output. A great deal of testing and “hold” points occur during power ascension

# Nuclear Limitations

- With most plants operating on an 18 month or 2 year fuel cycle, the most intrusive maintenance work is done during the short (1-2 month) refueling cycles
  - This means that a larger percentage of “routine” maintenance is done while the unit is operating
- Some maintenance activities create a “1/2-SCRAM” Signal due to operating some systems in a compromised manner
  - A grid event may cause the second half of the SCRAM signal and cause a unit trip

# Nuclear Limitations

- Plant operations are controlled by the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)**. The plants must operate by their rules, license restrictions and individually written Technical Specifications (**Tech Specs**)
  - **Tech Specs** specify the actions to be taken if any plant safety component is compromised or out of service requiring a plant to reduce power, or even affect an immediate shutdown if certain conditions occur
- If a Plant experiences a SCRAM, the cause of the SCRAM must be determined and corrected before the plant can request permission to restart
  - NRC permission must be obtained before the plant can be brought online



# Hydroelectric Generation

# Generating Unit Principles of Operation

## Hydro Conversion Process

Kinetic Energy (Falling water)

*to*

Mechanical Energy (Turbine)

*to*

Electrical Energy (Generator)

# Hydroelectric Generation

- Hydro once played a significant role in the electric utility industry accounting for 30%-40% of the total energy produced
- Currently, hydroelectricity produces about 10% of the electricity generated in America
- Because the water cycle is an endless, constantly recharging system, hydro power is considered a renewable energy source
- Two types of hydroelectric generating plants:
  - Run of River
  - Pumped Storage

# Hydroelectric Generation

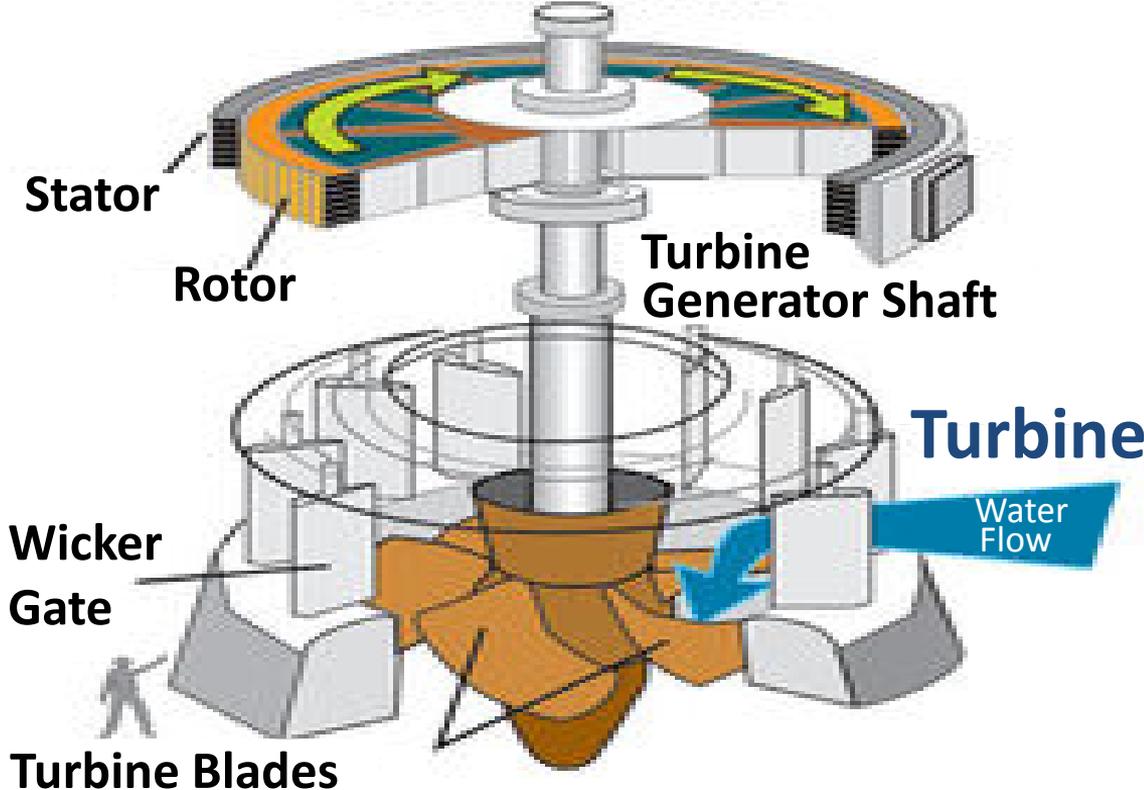
- Basic design elements of hydro facility
  - Water at one elevation, and a dam or reservoir to hold it there
  - A lower elevation to which the water output can be directed
  - A Hydraulic turbine, connected to a generator
  - These plants convert the potential energy of the water to kinetic energy as it changes elevation, then to mechanical energy as it passes through the turbine, and then into electrical energy

# Hydroelectric Generation

- Power capacity of a hydro plant is the function of two variables:
  - Flow Rate of the water (in cubic feet per second)
  - Hydraulic head – the vertical difference between the head water and tail water elevations
- Power output is controlled via the position of the Wicket Gates
  - These are adjustable vanes that control the amount of water that can enter the turbine. These are controlled by the governor by changing the angle of the gates

# Hydroelectric Generation

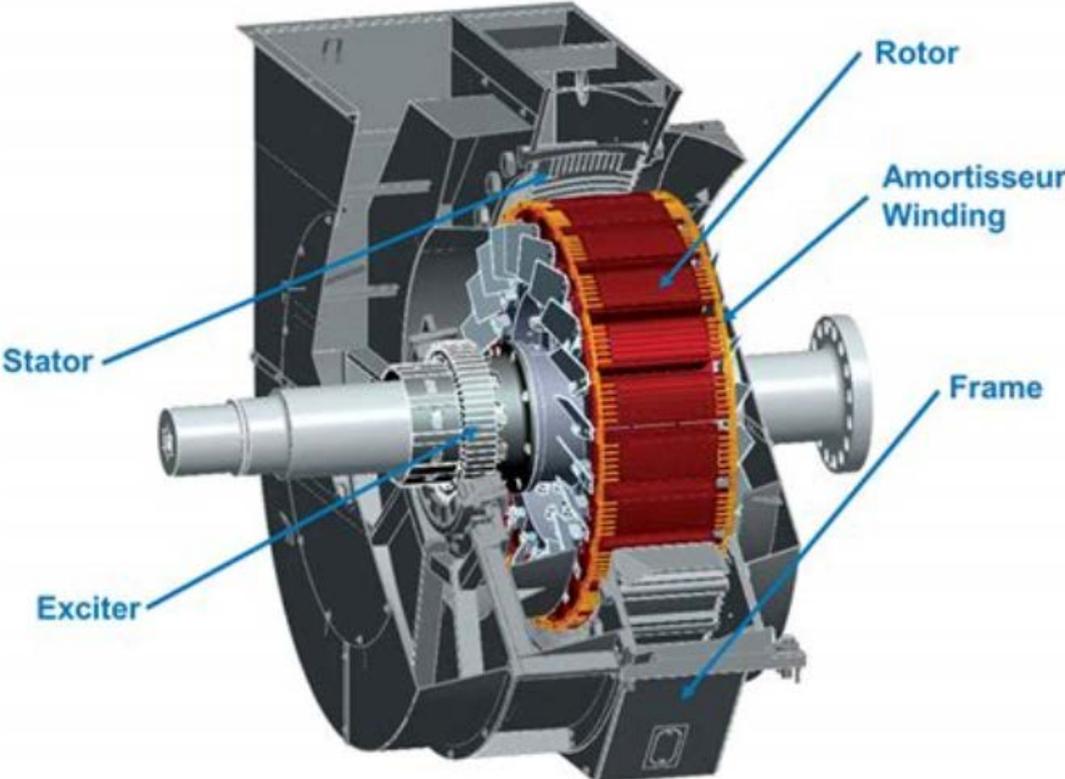
## Generator



# Hydroelectric Generation

- Safety Considerations:
  - An extra flywheel effect is built into the generator
    - Dictated by the hydraulic conditions to prevent excessive rate of rise in speed if load is suddenly lost
    - Both turbine and generator need to be built to stand: “runaway” speeds due to the risk of a load loss when the gate-closing mechanism is inoperative
  - Generators at Hydro units are equipped with **Amortisseur Windings**, which:
    - Reduce overvoltage induced in the field caused by surges or imbalances in the stator
    - Reduce overvoltage in the stator caused by unbalanced faults in the machine
    - Aid in stability by reducing power output oscillations

# Hydroelectric Generation



# Hydroelectric Generation

- Both **Run-Of-River** and **Pumped Storage** units offer:
  - Rapid start-up, shutdown and loading
  - Long life
  - Low operating and maintenance costs
  - Rapid response to changes in load/ frequency
  - Can be operated as a synchronous condenser for voltage control when not generating

# Types of Hydraulic Turbines

- **Impulse Turbine**

- Used in high head plants
- Requires less water volume
- Low velocity head is converted to a high velocity jet then directed onto spoon-shaped buckets
- Less efficient at full load, but more efficient at partial load levels



Repair & Refurbishment of Pelton Wheel Runner - DP Test

# Types of Hydraulic Turbines

- Advantages of an Impulse turbine:
  - Greater tolerance for sand/other particles in the water
  - Better access to working parts
  - No pressure seals needed around the shaft
  - Easier to fabricate and maintain
- Disadvantages of an Impulse turbine:
  - Unsuitable for low head sites because of low specific speeds

# Types of Hydraulic Turbines

- **Reaction Turbines**

- Two types; Francis and Kaplan (Propeller)
- Runner is fully immersed in water and enclosed in a pressure casing
- Pressure differences impose lift forces, which cause the runner to rotate
- Low to medium head is converted into high speed



# Types of Hydraulic Turbines

- Advantages of a Reaction turbine:
  - Will rotate faster for the same head and flow conditions allowing for a more compact machine
  - Eliminates the need for a speed-increasing drive system
  - Simpler to maintain – less cost
  - Higher efficiencies
- Disadvantages of a Reaction Turbine:
  - Requires more sophisticated fabrication
  - Poor efficiency under partial flow conditions

# Run-of-River

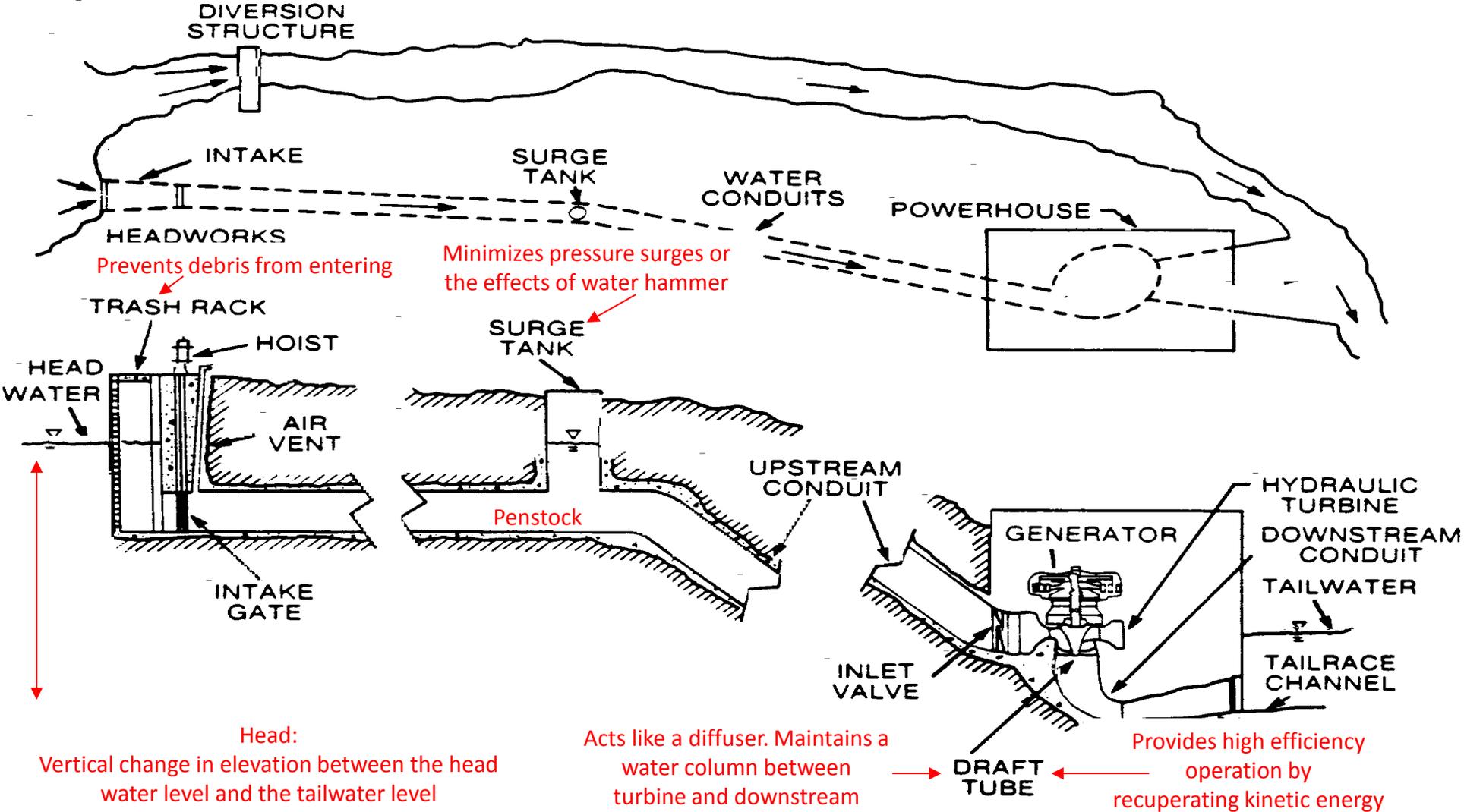


# Run-of-River

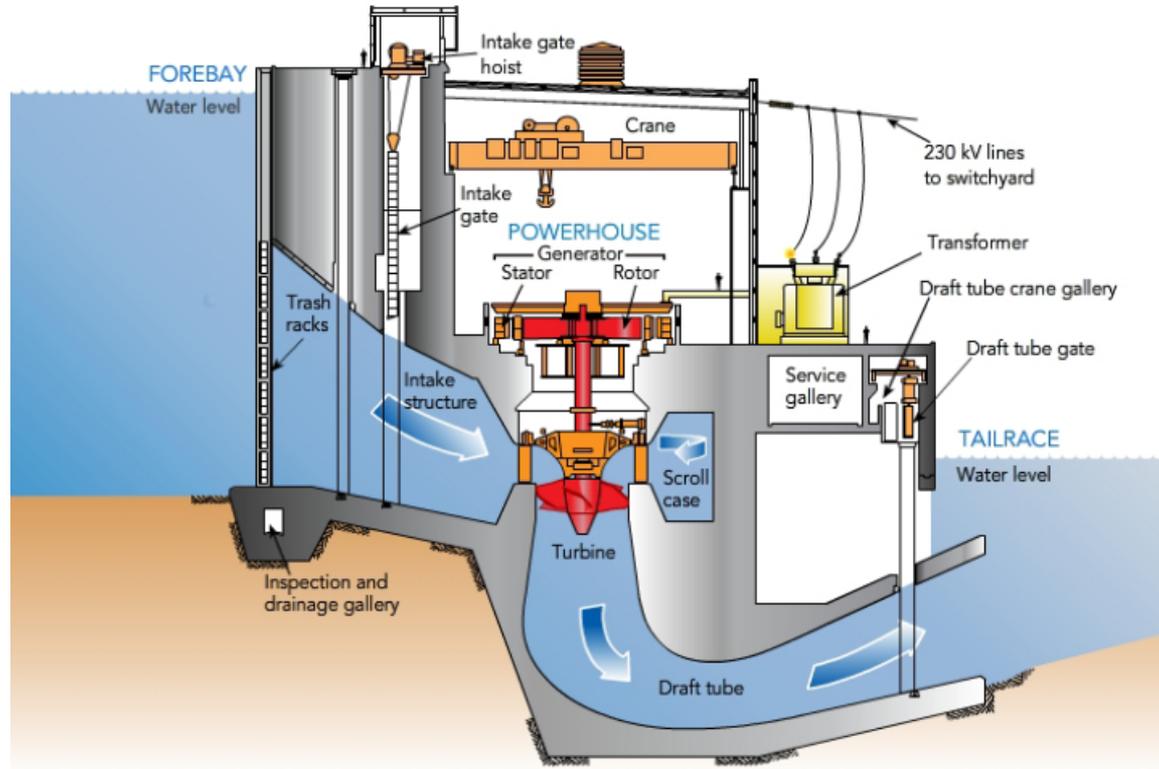
- Low impact method that utilizes the flow of water within the natural range of the river, requiring little or no impoundment
- Produce little change in the stream channel or stream flow
- Plants can be designed using large flow rates with low head or small flow rates with high head
- Advantages:
  - Reduced exposure to price volatility
  - Minimal construction
  - Ecologically sound
  - Reliable
  - Low operating costs

# Run-of-River

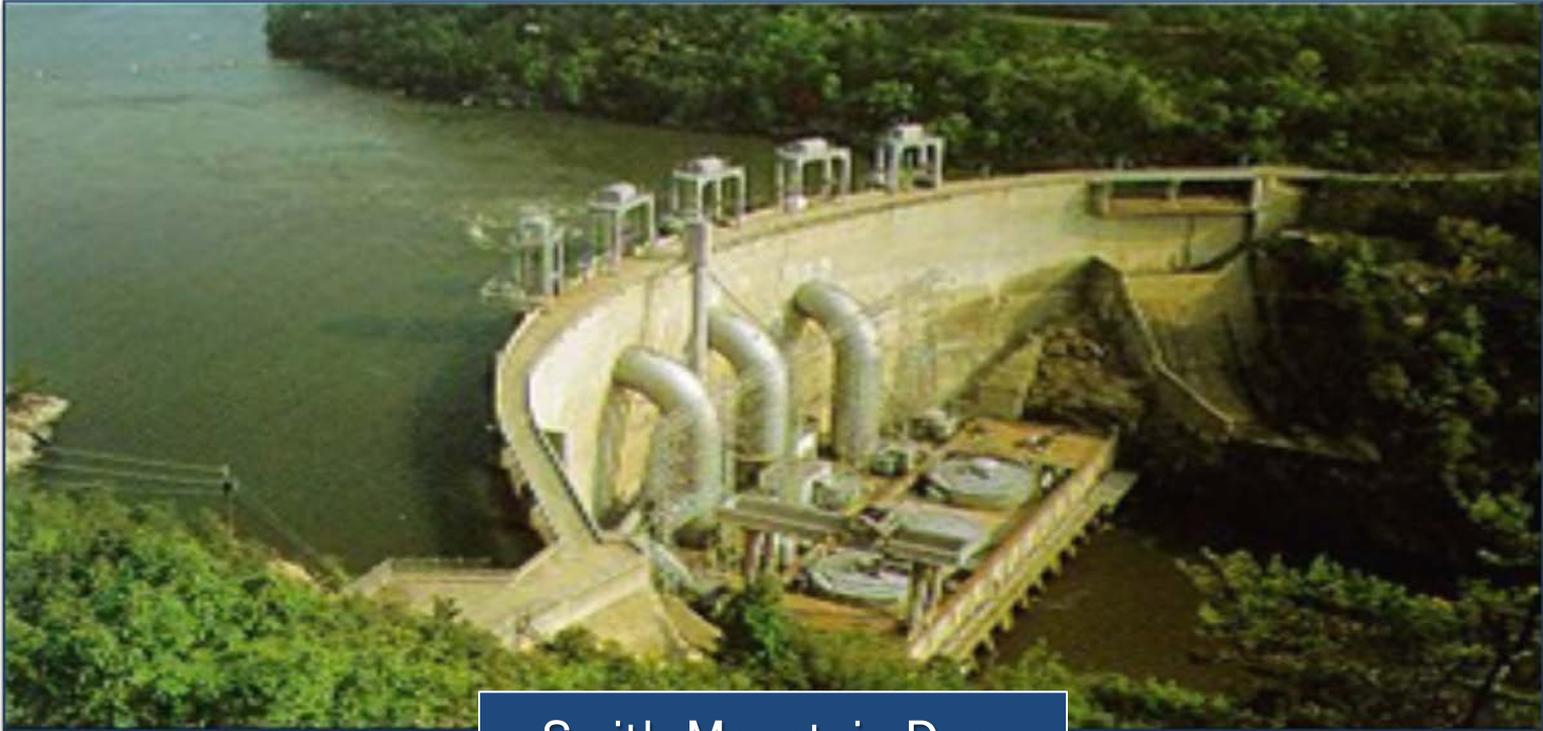
- Operating Considerations
  - Rainfall in the watershed area
  - River flow and Forebay/tailrace elevations
  - Water Quality impacts
    - Dissolved oxygen, temperature, increased phosphorous and nitrogen content
  - Icing problems during frigid temperatures



## Generating Station Side View



# Pumped Storage



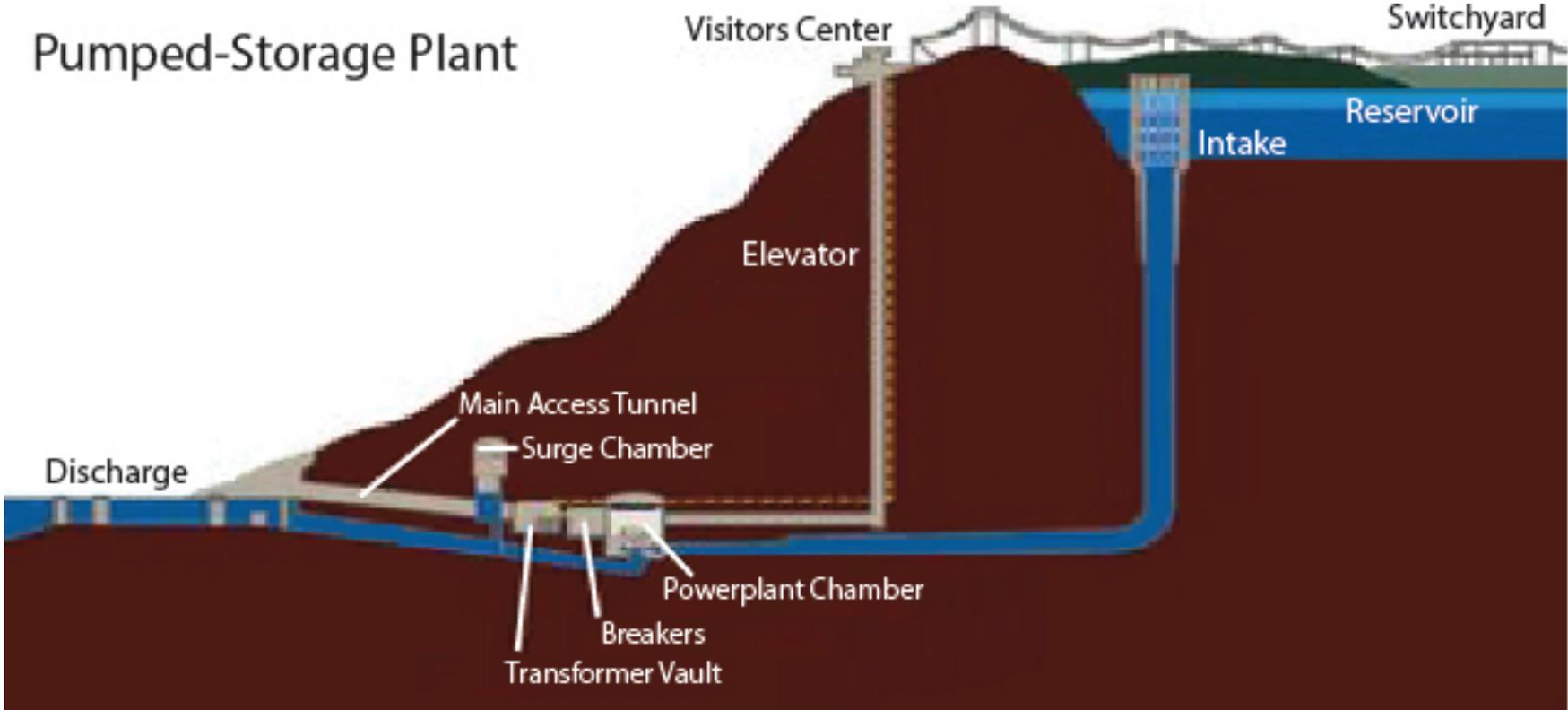
Smith Mountain Dam

# Pumped Storage

- Uses off-peak electricity to pump water from a lower reservoir to an upper reservoir
- During periods of high electrical demand, water is released to generate electricity
- Most modern plants utilize a reversible Francis-type turbine which operates in one direction of rotation as a pump, and the opposite direction as a turbine connected to a synchronous generator/motor driving the pump in one direction, and generating power in the other direction

# Pumped Storage

## Pumped-Storage Plant



# Pumped Storage

- Operating Considerations
  - Water Quality impacts
    - Thermal stratification, toxic pollutants, Eutrophication (loss of nutrients)
  - Reservoir Sedimentation
  - Flood Control / Hazard
  - Effects on groundwater levels
  - Ice formation during cold periods



# Combustion Turbine

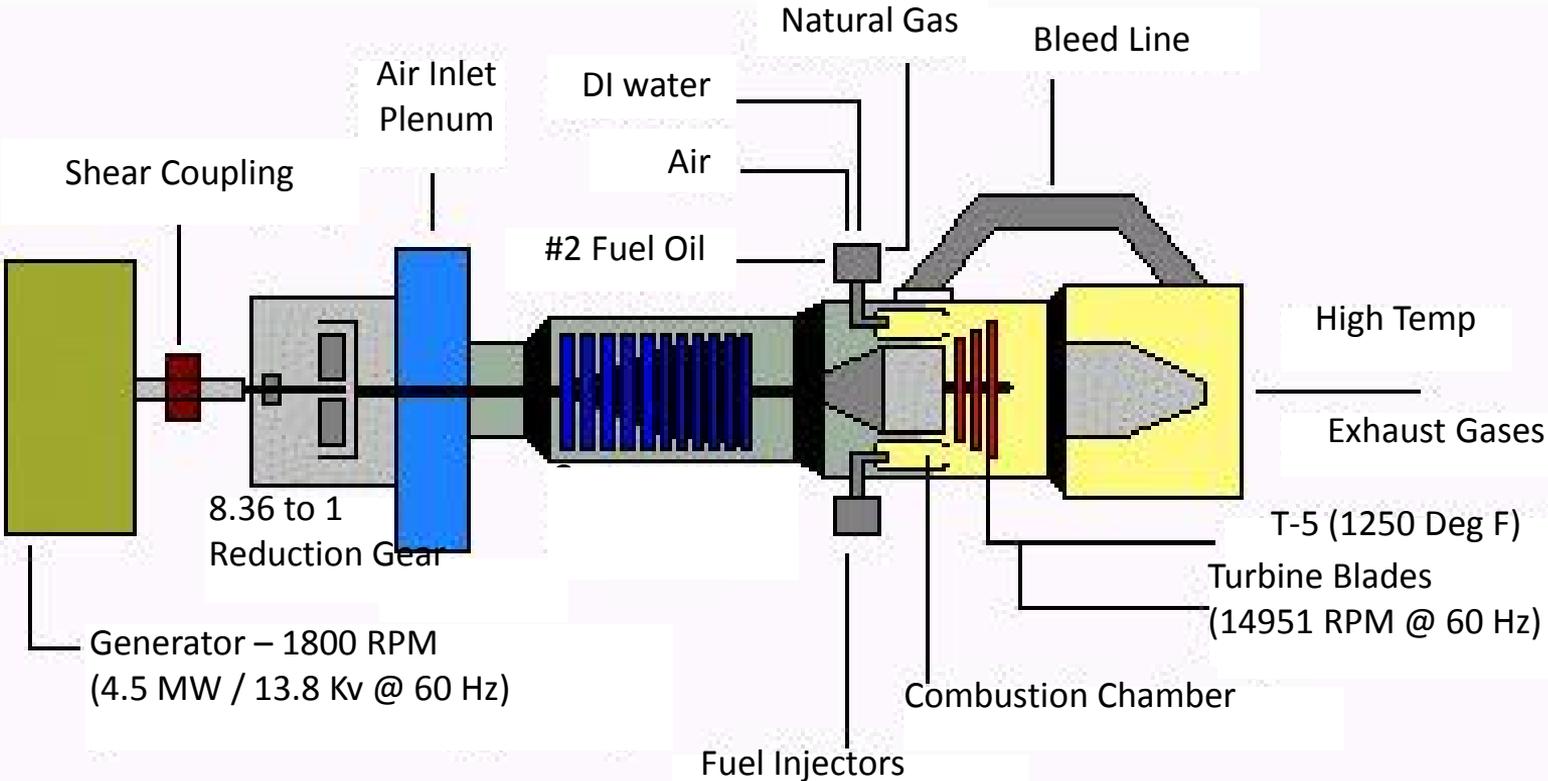
# Combustion Turbines

- Combustion turbines play an important role in utility system generation planning
- Combined-cycle units provide most of the advantages of simple-cycle peaking plants with the benefit of a good heat rate; they also requires less cooling water than conventional fossil and nuclear of the same size
- We will examine both simple (single-cycle) and Combined Cycle CT's

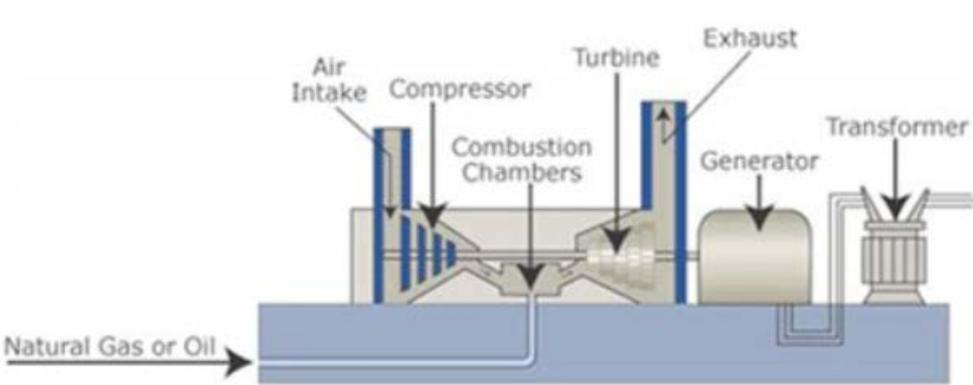
# Simple-Cycle Combustion Turbines

- Operation is similar to a jet engine
- Air is compressed, mixed with fuel in a combustor, to heat the compressed air
- It is an internal combustion engine employing a continuous combustion process
- The turbine extracts the power from the hot air flow
- Connecting a generator to the turbine shaft creates electric power
- 2/3 of the produced shaft power runs the compressor; 1/3 produces the electric power
- Typical capacity – 15-180 MW

# Combustion Turbine



# Combustion Turbine



Combustion turbine diagram  
(Source: TVA)

# Combustion Turbines

- **Advantages:**

- Automatic- Some even have remote start capability (unmanned)
- Low initial capital investment - turn-key operation (modular)
- Self contained unit
- Short delivery time
- Fast starting and fast load pickup
- Very good Governor response
- Some have Black Start capability
- No cooling water required

- **Disadvantages**

- Fuel operating cost (heat rate)
- Low Efficiency: 25%- 40%
- Thermal stress - high rate of temperature change, short life due to cycling, high maintenance cost

# Combustion Turbines

- CT MW Output Limitations:
  - Ambient air temperature & air density
    - Most efficient when using cold, dense air
  - Cold Weather starting problems
    - Lube oil Temperature
    - Moisture in the Fuel
- CT Environmental Limitations:
  - Stack Emissions (Nox/CO<sub>2</sub>/CO)
    - High operating temperatures in combustion section accelerates nitric oxide formation and emission
    - Particulate emissions can be high (especially older units) – Opacity
  - Noise level limitations

# Simple Combined Cycle Unit

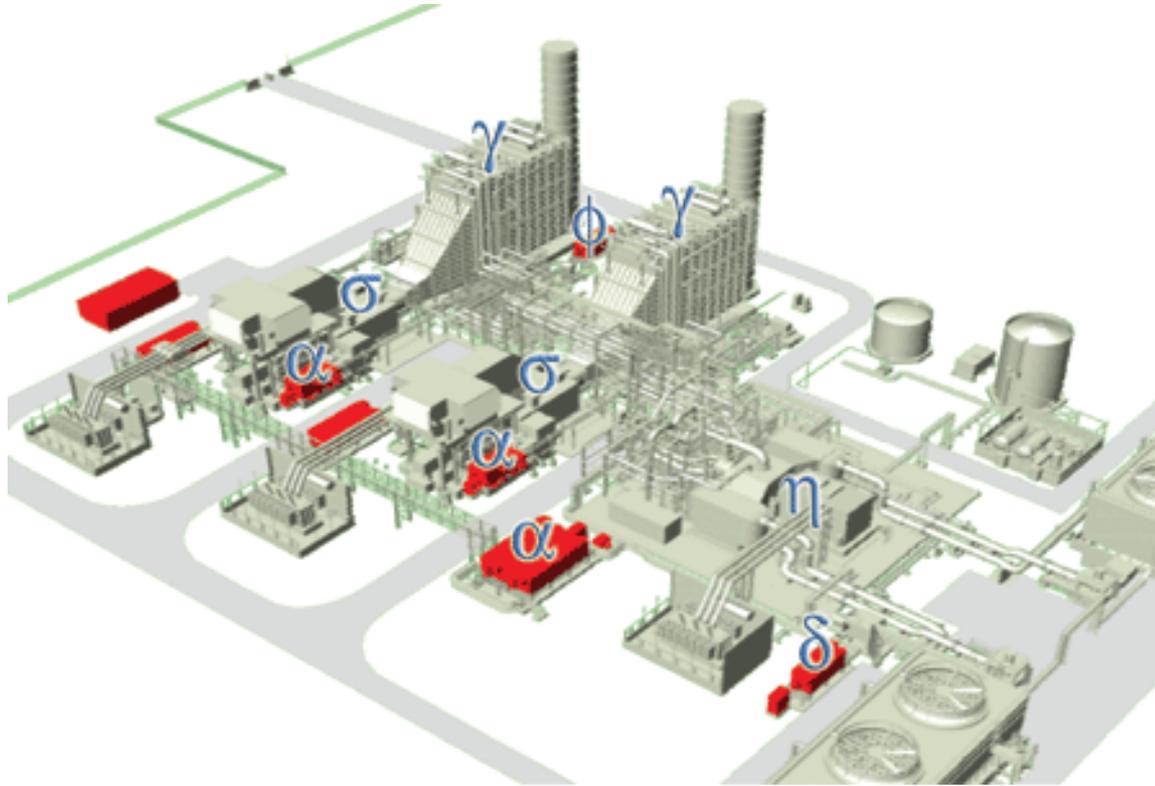
- One (or more) combustion turbine unit along with an associated generator

**AND**

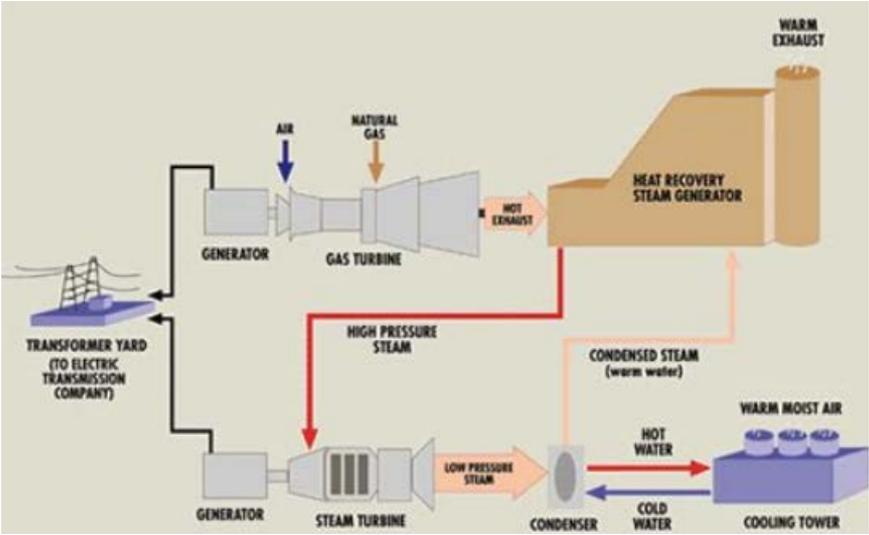
- One Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG) along with it's own steam turbine

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=jQ4yp\\_0Djvc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=jQ4yp_0Djvc)

# Simple Combined Cycle Unit



# Simple Combined Cycle Unit



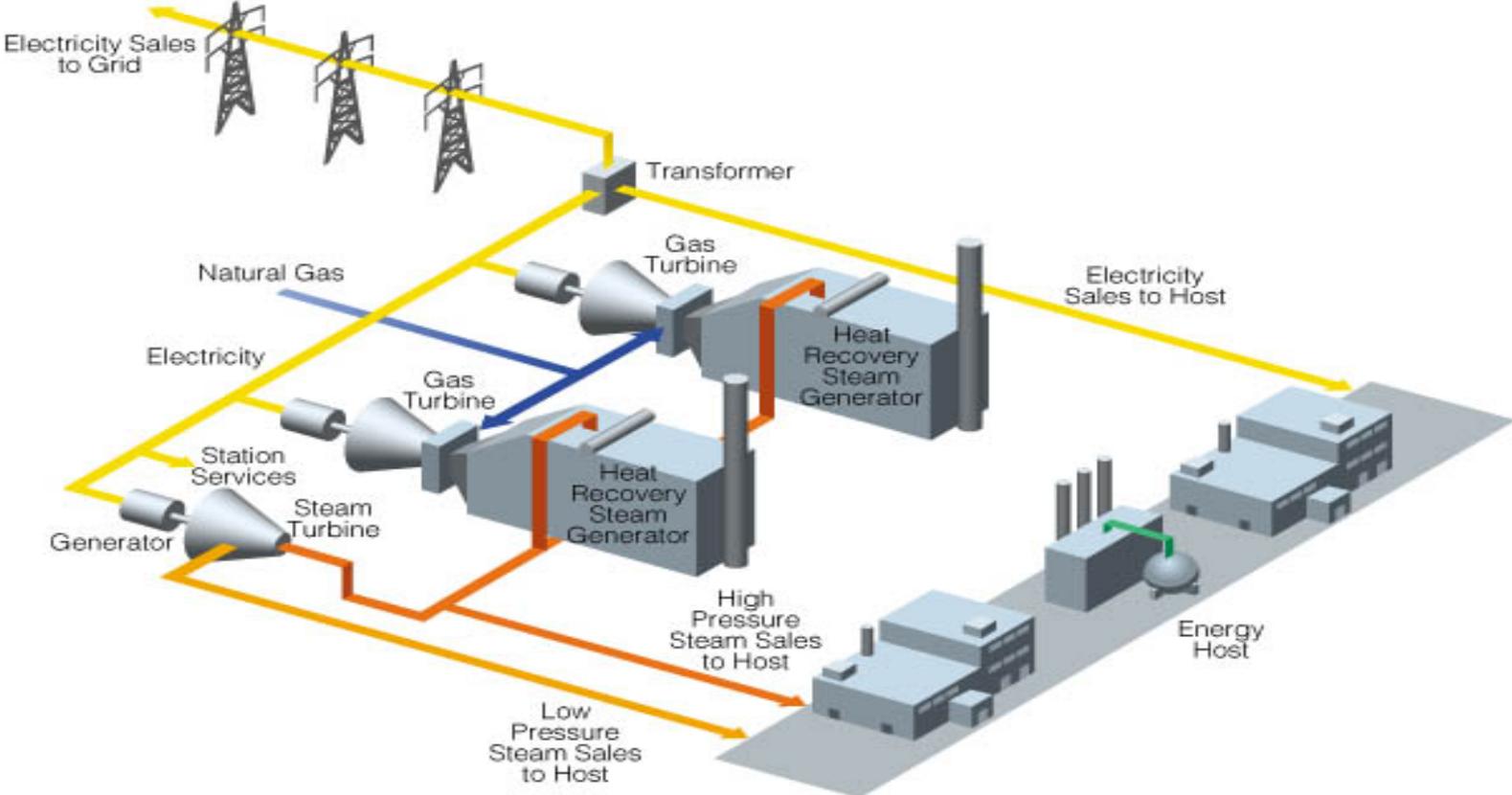
# Combined Cycle

- The HRSG's convert heat in the CT exhaust gas to steam for use in the steam turbine
- CT's utilizing the HRSG can be operated from 50 to 100% peak load
- HRSG incorporates features of conventional fossil-fired boilers such as:
  - Economizer, Evaporator, and Superheater
  - Auxiliary systems for the steam turbine portion are similar to conventional steam plants
  - Cooling water must be supplied for the steam turbine's condenser
  - Operates with a simple feedwater cycle

# Combined Cycle and Co-Generation

- Combined Cycle units can be used in conjunction with Co-Generation
- Co-Generation (Distributed Generation)
  - A means of generating hot water, and / or high and low pressure steam and electricity at the same time, from the same energy source, yielding a highly efficient power plant

# Combined Cycle with Cogeneration



# Thermal Efficiency

<b>Generation Type</b>	<b>Efficiency</b>
<b>Combustion Turbine</b>	<b>28% - 34%</b>
<b>Steam (No Reheat)</b>	<b>31% - 35%</b>
<b>Steam (Reheat)</b>	<b>36% - 41%</b>
<b>Combined Cycle</b>	<b>42% - 53%</b>

**Thermal Efficiency = BTU Content (Kwh)/Heat Rate (BTUs)**

# Environment

- Gas Fired Combined Cycle Unit Advantages
  - Lower Emissions
    - SO<sub>2</sub> and Particulate emissions are negligible
    - Nox emissions are lower than a conventional coal plant
    - No production or emission of sludge
    - No production or emission of ash
  - Land Use
    - CCPP on the average require five times less land than a coal fired plant (100 acres versus 500 acres)
  - Water Use
    - Lower cooling and condensate water consumption
    - Condensing steam turbine is only about 35% of output

# Advantages/Disadvantages

- Disadvantages:
  - Increased chemistry requirements with more complex plants
  - Rapid heating and cooling of critical components
  - Emissions to the environment: nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), and opacity
  - Availability and cost of fuel
  - Poor thermal performance, high vibration, tube leaks, and ambient conditions
  - Auxiliary equipment out of service may prevent unit from achieving full load



# Wind Generation

# Generating Unit Principles of Operation

## Wind Conversion Process

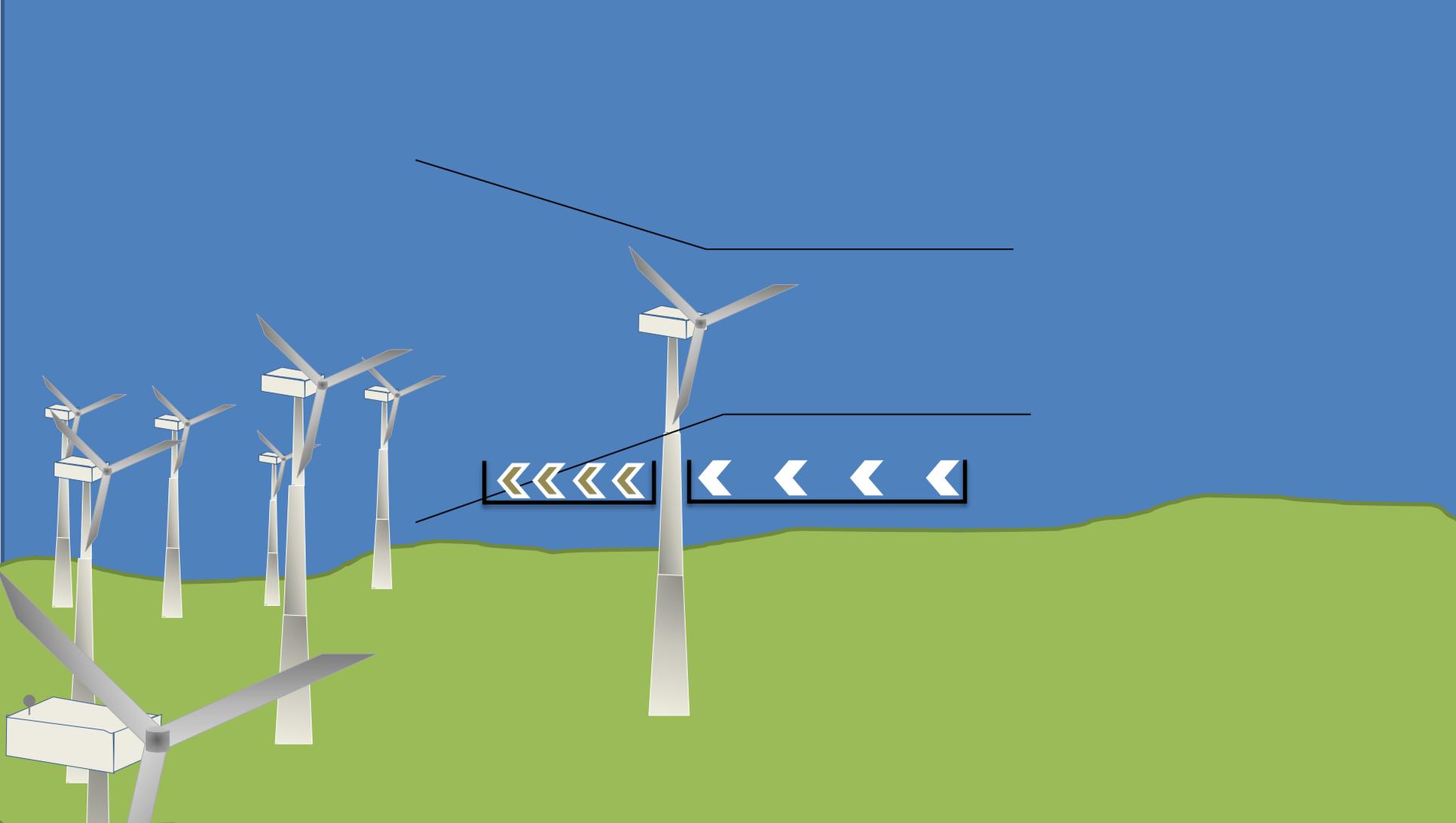
Kinetic Energy (Wind)

*to*

Mechanical Energy (Turbine)

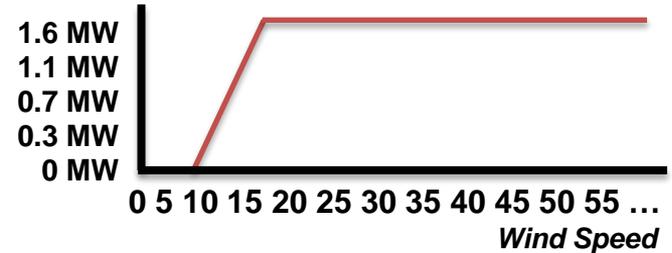
*to*

Electrical Energy (Generator)



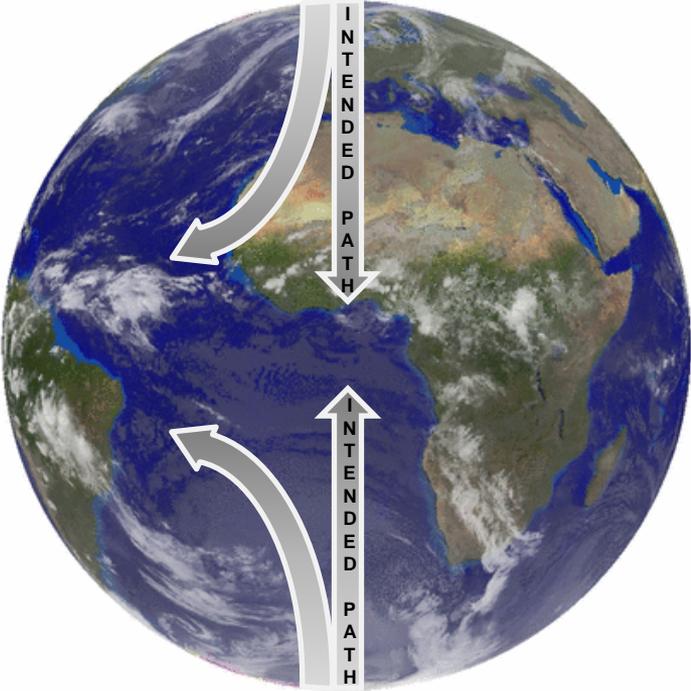
# Wind Generation

- Wind is a form of **solar** energy caused by:
  - Uneven heating of the atmosphere
  - Irregularities in the earth's surface
  - Rotation of the earth

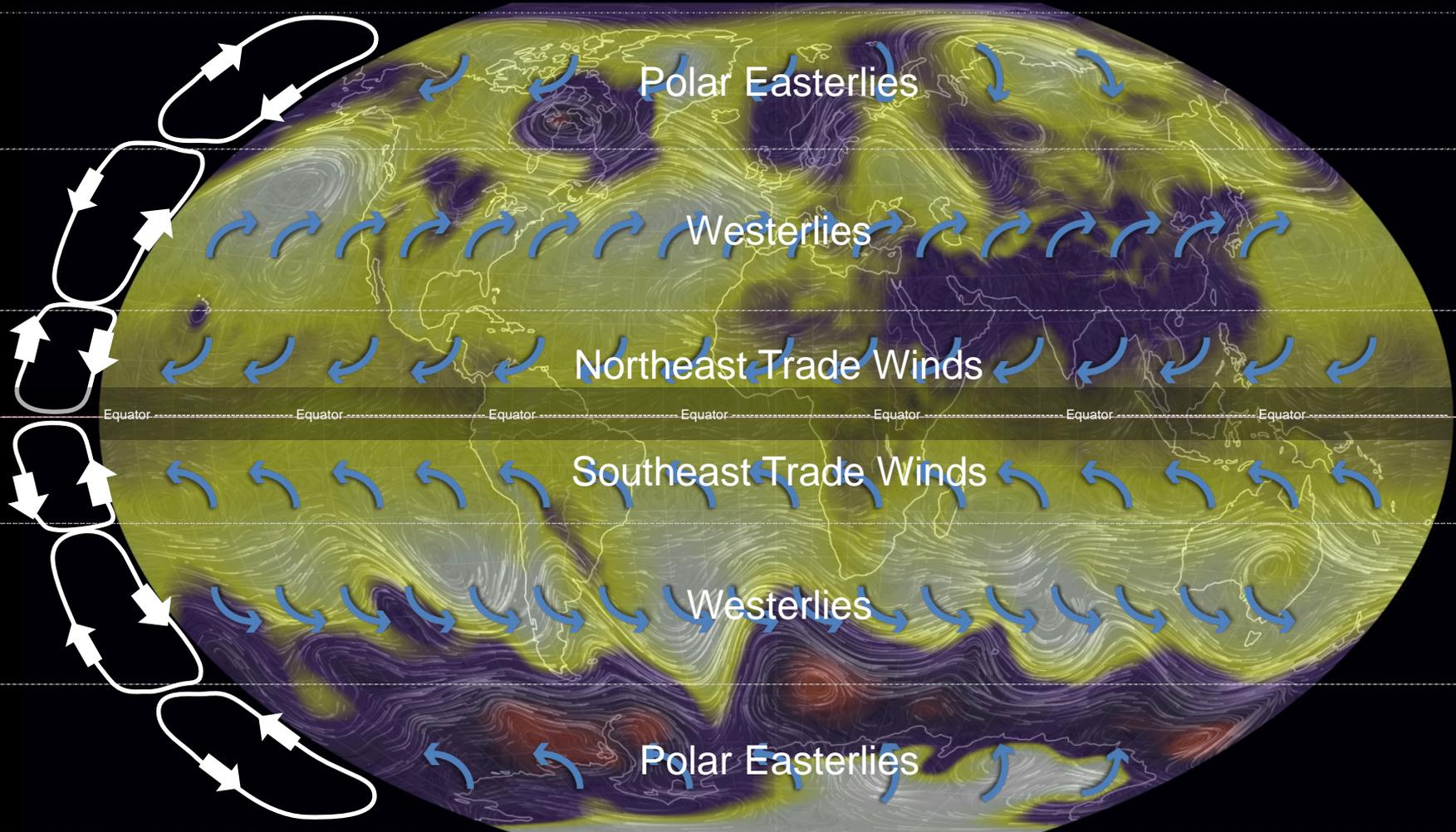


- Wind flow patterns can be effected by; terrain, vegetation, bodies of water, and even the turbines themselves
- Power available in the wind is proportional to the cube of its speed (Double the speed increases the power by a factor of eight)

# Coriolis Effect

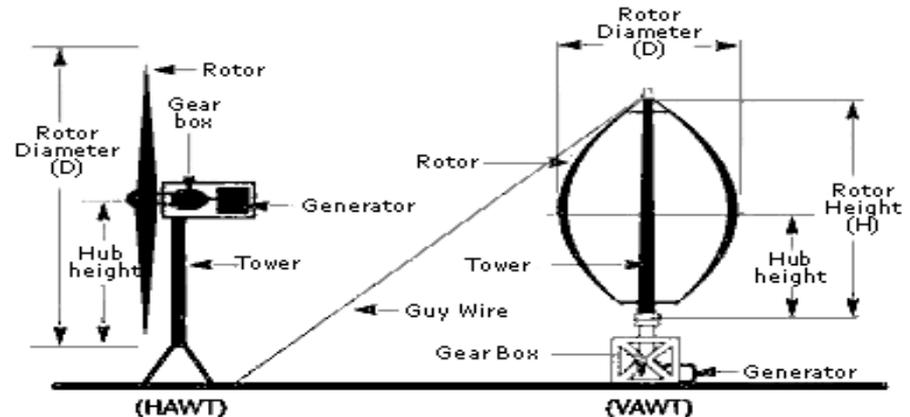


Globe Source: Satellite Applications for Geoscience Education



# Wind Generation

- Wind power depends on elevation and wind speed
- It is considered a free and renewable resource just like hydroelectricity
- Wind power currently provides roughly 2.5% of all electricity in PJM
- Two basic types:
  - Horizontal axis turbines  
HAWT
  - Vertical axis turbines  
VAWT



# HAWT & VAWT



FLOWIND – World's most successful VAWT wind turbine

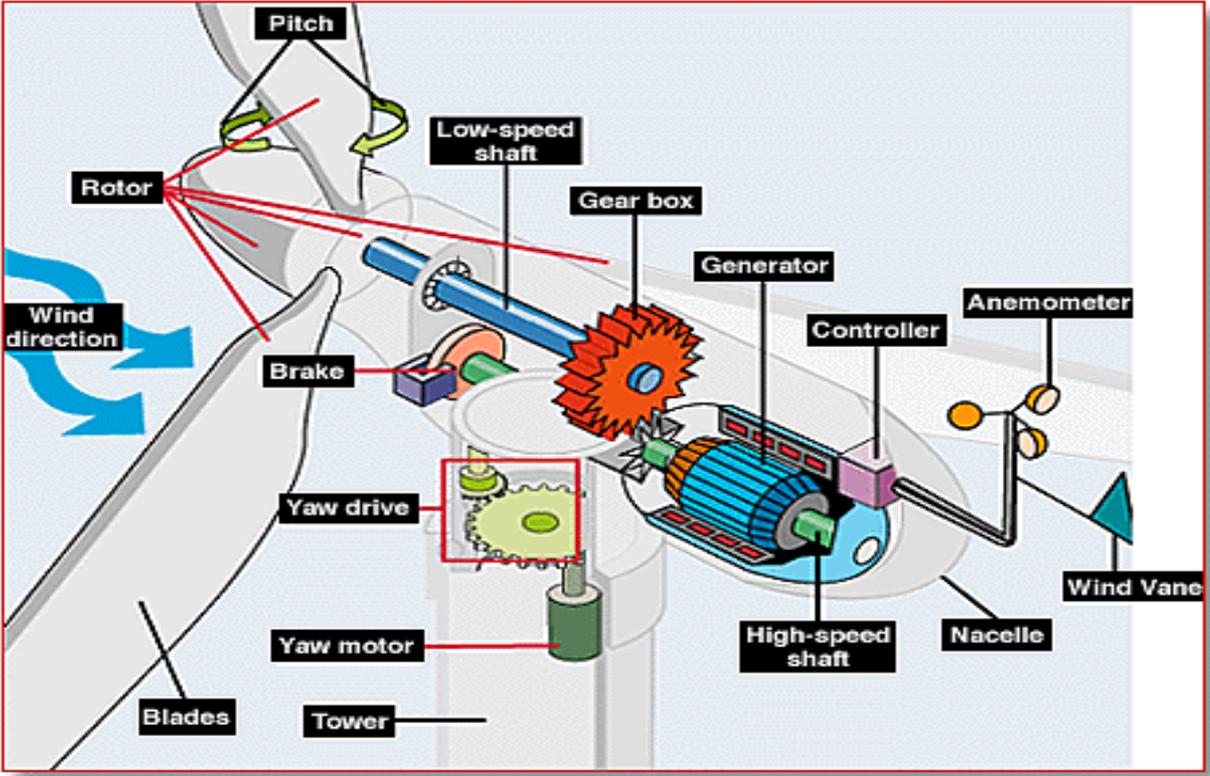


<http://www.wind-works.org>

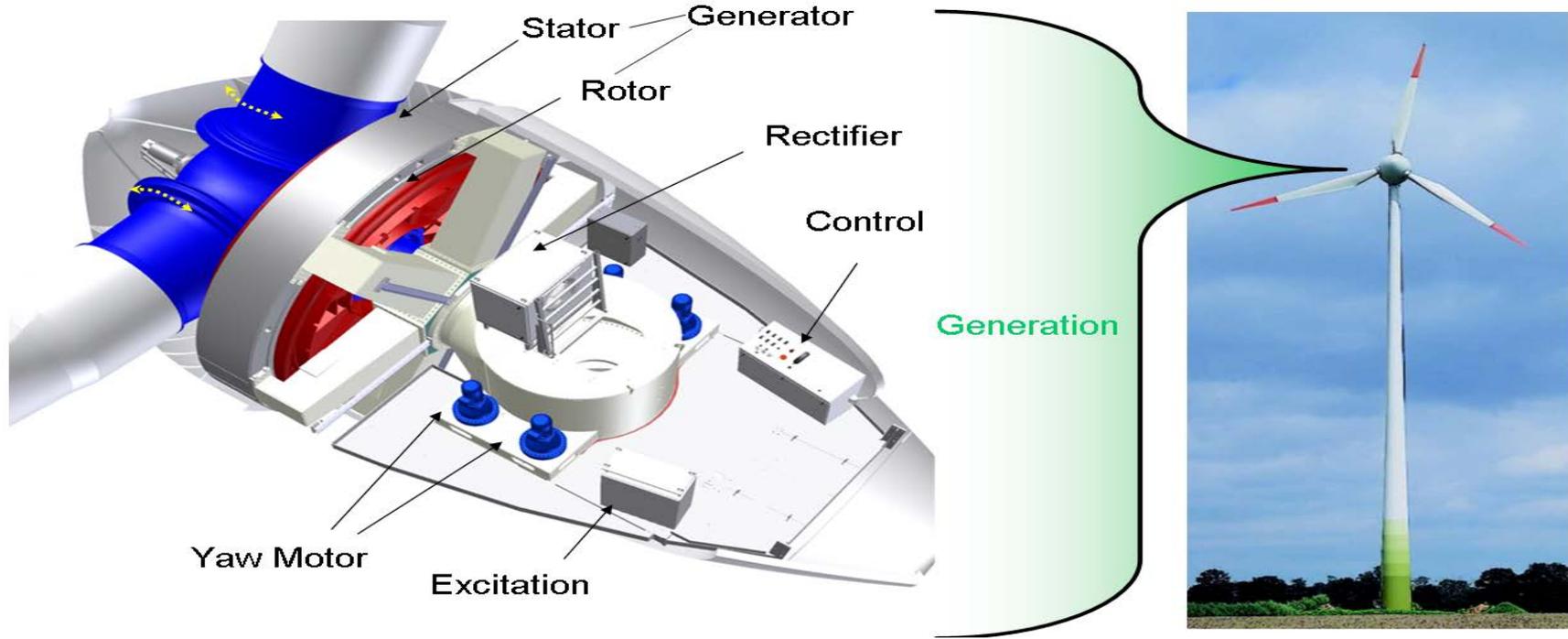
# Wind Generation

- Wind Generators come in both:
  - **Asynchronous** – their speed is not locked in step with the grid
    - They produce power when the shaft of the generator is rotated faster than the synchronous frequency of the equivalent induction motor
    - Operate as Induction Generators
      - Produce useful power at varying rotor speeds and require complicated electronic controllers (allows speed of the generator to vary with the speed of the wind)
      - Are not self-exciting; require external excitation (reactive)
      - Are simpler both mechanically and electrically than other types of generators
  - **Synchronous**
    - Frequency of the rotor and stator magnetic fields generated by the coils are the same

# Wind Power Generation



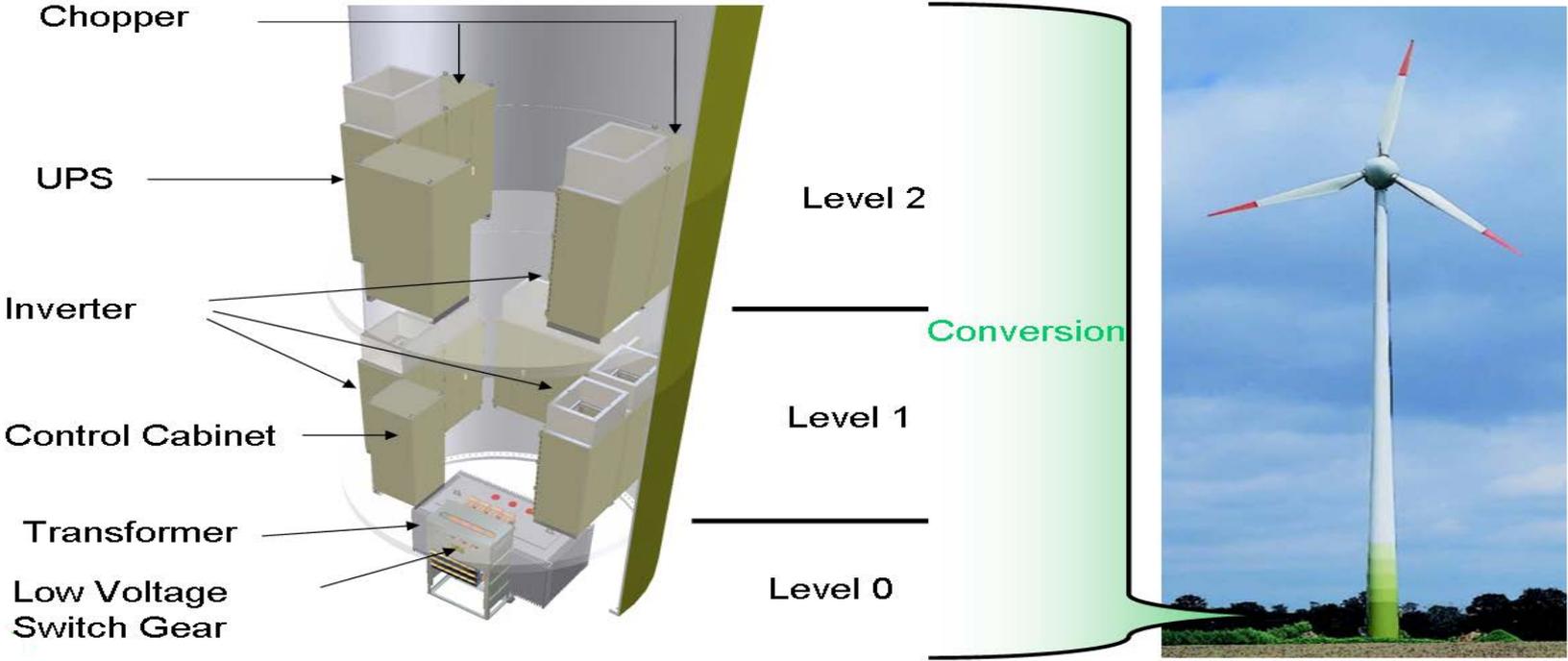
# Wind Turbine Major Parts



**Other type units may have gear boxes**

**Over the past decade, wind turbine use has increased at more than 25 percent a year**

# Tower Components



# Wind Unit Components

- **Anemometer:** Measures wind speed and transmits data to the controller
- **Blade:** Catches the wind causing the blades to lift and rotate converting it to rotational shaft energy (2-3 blades)
- **Brake:** Disc brake which can be applied mechanically, electrically, or hydraulically to stop the rotor in an emergency
- **Chopper:** Circuitry used to obtain a controllable DC voltage from wind-driven, self-excited, pole-changing induction generators
- **Controller:** Computer monitoring the turbine conditions such as overheating and power quality. It also starts the turbine, yaws it against the wind, and checks the safety systems
  - Starts at wind speeds of 8-16 mph
  - Shuts down at wind speeds greater than 55 mph

## Wind Unit Components (Con't.)

- **Gearbox:** Optimizes the power output connecting a low-speed shaft the high-speed shaft increasing rotational speeds from 30 to 60 rpm to 1,000 to 1,800 rpm
- **Generator:** Induction-type producing 60 cycle AC
- **High-Speed Shaft:** Drives the generator
- **Inverter:** Converts incoming DC power into AC power for use on the Interconnection
- **Low-Speed Shaft:** Connected to the rotor
- **Nacelle:** Sits atop the tower and contains the gear box, low- and high-speed shafts, generator, controller, and brake
- **Pitch Control:** Blades are turned out of the wind to control the speed of the rotor

## Wind Unit Components (Con't.)

- **Rectifier:** Converts incoming AC power into DC power for excitation
- **Rotor:** Blade and hub assembly. Power available to the blades is proportional to the square of the diameter of the rotor
- **Tower:** Tubular steel, concrete, or steel lattice. Taller the tower, more energy is captured; more electricity is generated
- **Yaw Control:** Used by upwind turbines to rotate parallel to the ground to keep the rotor facing into the wind as wind direction changes

# Wind Power Generation

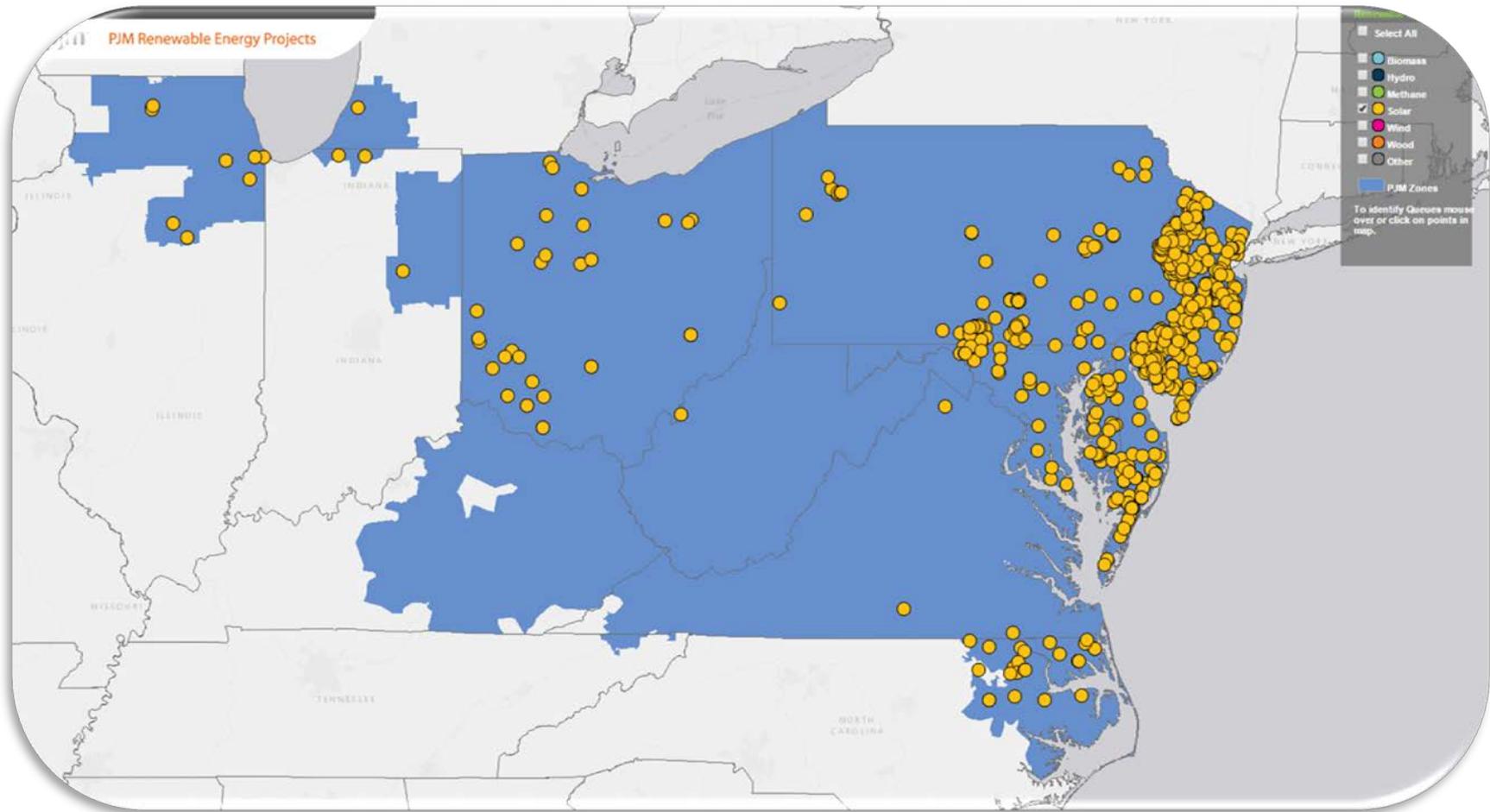
- Wind turbines are available in a variety of sizes
  - Largest has blades that span more than the length of a football field, stands 20 building stories high, and produces electric power for ~ 1400 homes
  - Smaller machines have rotors between 8 and 25 feet, standing ~ 30 feet, supplying an all-electric home or small business (usually below 100 kW)
  - Utility-scale turbines range in size from 100 kW to several megawatts

# Wind Power Generation

- Wind Power Advantages:
  - Wind is a free, renewable resource
  - Non-polluting energy source
- Wind Power Disadvantages:
  - High initial Investment - 80% Equipment, 20% Site preparation
  - Intermittent resources at best
  - Remote locations
- Environmental Impacts
  - Noise produced by the rotor blades
  - Visual impacts on scenery
  - Wildlife effects



# Solar Generation

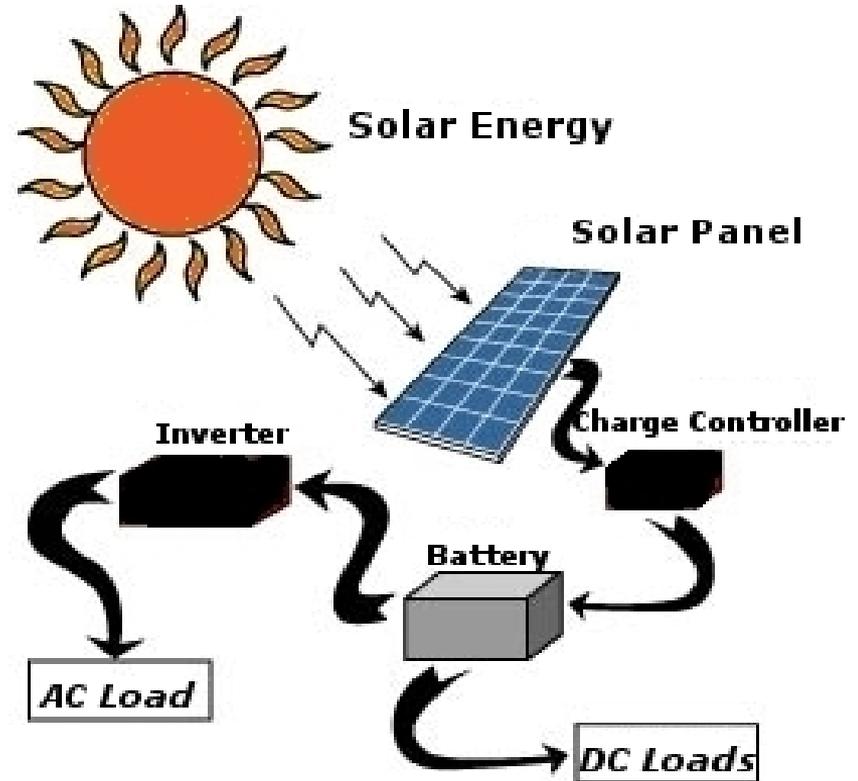


# Direct Solar Energy

- One step transformation to useable energy
  - Sunlight striking a solar cell by which electricity is immediately generated
  - Sunlight that is absorbed by the dark surface warms water in solar thermal collectors
  - Sunlight absorbed by a fiber optic cable that is fixed on the exterior of a building and lights the inside

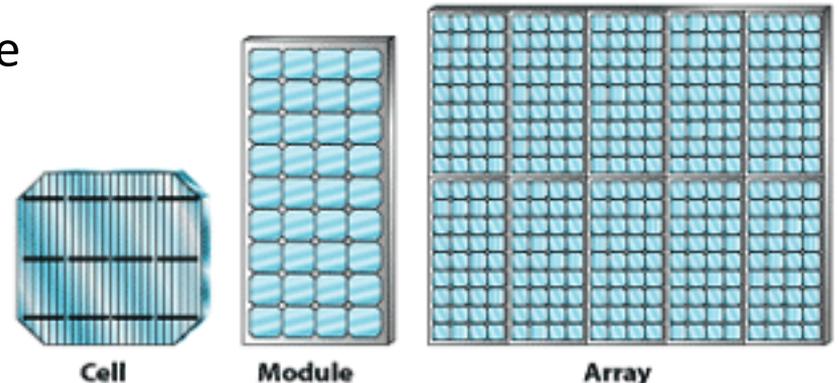
# Direct Conversion into Electricity

- A silicon wafer with wires attached to the layers. Current is produced based on types of silicon used for the layers
- The absorbed light (photons) excites the electrons causing them to begin to flow in one direction
- Initially DC, later converted to AC
- Battery needed if storage is desired
- No moving parts, does not wear out
- Environmental conditions limit life to approx. 20 years



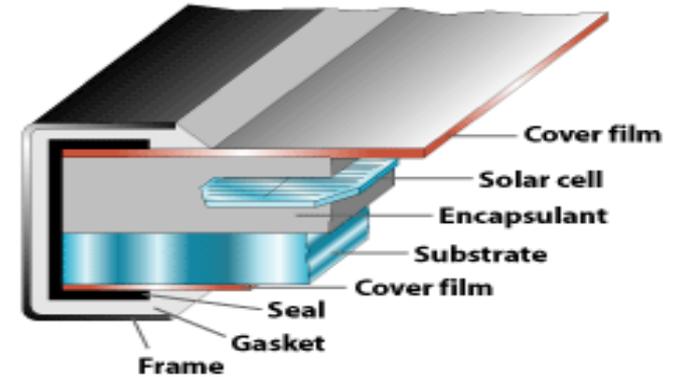
# PV Systems

- Made up of several photovoltaic solar cells absorbing sun light, not warmth
- Individual cells are small, typically producing about 1 or 2 watts of power
- Modules are groupings of individual cells
- Modules can be grouped together to form larger units called Arrays
- Arrays can be interconnected to produce more power
- PV systems are flexible and can meet almost any electric power need, small or large



# Flat Plate Systems

- Most common photovoltaic (PV) array design
  - Fixed position
  - Moveable (track the movement of the sun)
- The simplest is a fixed position
  - Advantages
    - No moving parts
    - No additional equipment needed
    - Relatively lightweight
    - Suitable for many locations, including most residential roofs
  - Disadvantages
    - Orientation to the sun is usually at an angle that is less than optimal
    - Fixed arrays collect less energy per unit area of array than tracking arrays

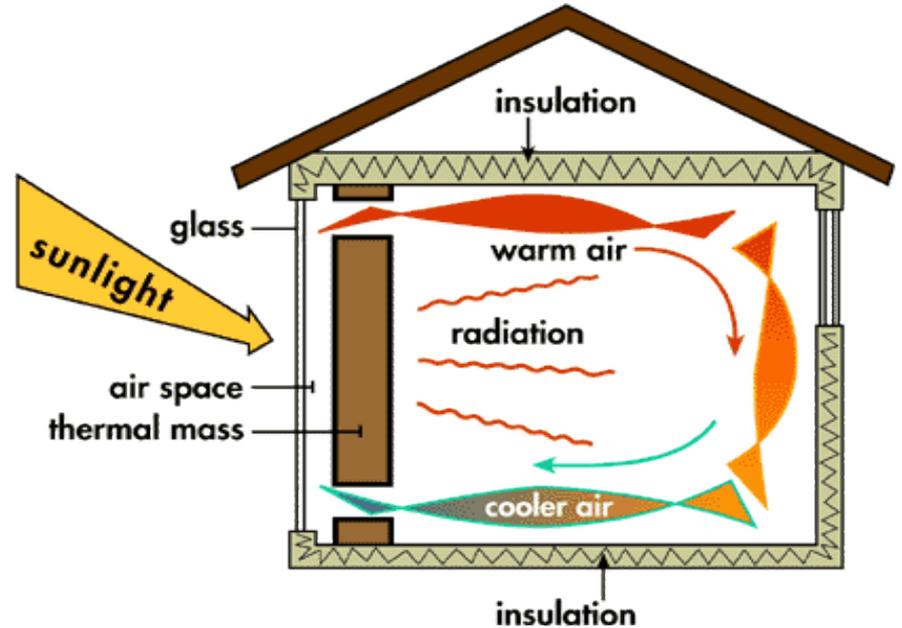


One typical flat-plate module design uses a substrate of metal, glass, or plastic to provide structural support in the back; an encapsulant material to protect the cells; and a transparent cover of plastic or glass.

# Passive Systems

## Requires Direct Sunlight (Only)

- Sunlight warming an area through a window
- Passive solar water heaters use no pump to circulate its water A passively heated home uses about 60-75% of the solar energy that hits its walls and windows
- The Center for Renewable Resources estimates that in almost any climate, a well-designed passive solar home can reduce energy bills by 75% with an added construction cost of only 5-10%
- About 25% of energy is used for water and space heating



# Active Systems

- Active systems use additional energy to make them work
  - Electronic tracking devices to maximize sunlight absorption electric pumps, air blowers, shutters, etc.
  - Can be computer-controlled

## Parabolic Dishes and Troughs



# Solar-Thermal Electricity: Power Towers

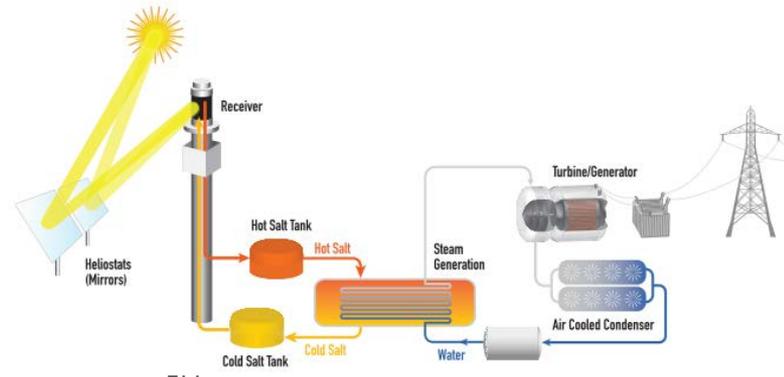


# Molten Salt Pillar Generators

- Traditional PV Solar
  - Daytime use
  - No Sun, No Flow
- Traditional Thermal Solar
  - Mostly Daytime use
  - Ramps out quickly
- Molten Salt Pillar Generator
  - Usable @ Night
  - Salt is its own storage
  - Dispatchable



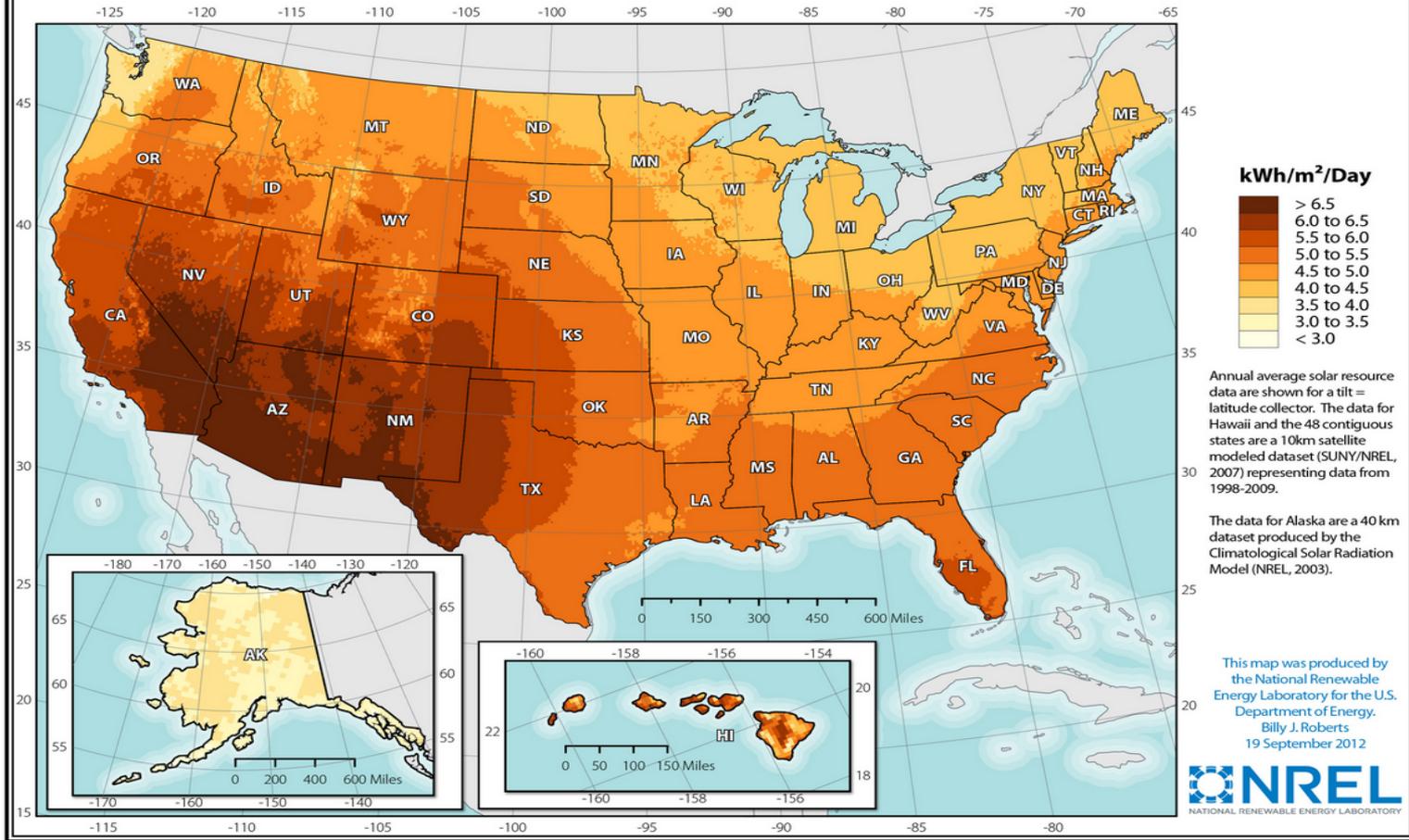
Photo: SolarReserve



# Molten Salt Pillar Generators

- Traditional Thermal
    - Heats oil (400°C) to produce steam
    - Pumps it to a turbine
  - Molten Salt
    - Heats molten mixture of nitrate salts (566°C)
    - Stores in insulated tanks
    - Withdraws on demand to produce steam, then turbine
    - Cheaper / More Efficient
  - SolarReserve
    - 110 MW
    - 10,000 mirrors (sun trackers)
      - 1,000,000 sq meters
    - Dispatchable up to 10 hours past sunset
    - Tonapah, Nev
    - Purpose?
- To energize Las Vegas Strip

# Photovoltaic Solar Resource of the United States



# Summary

- Covered Elements of the Energy Conversion Process
- Provided an overview of:
  - Steam/Condensate/Feedwater and other Common Systems
- Described the various types of units:
  - Fossil generating units
  - Nuclear generating units
  - Hydroelectric generating units
  - Combustion turbines
  - Combined Cycle Power Plants (CCPP)
  - Wind Units
  - Solar Units

# Questions?

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**Toll Free Telephone: (866) 400-8980**

**Website: [www.pjm.com](http://www.pjm.com)**



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