



# Managing the Utility Relationship

**Strategic Approaches, Best Practices, and Tools for Microgrids**

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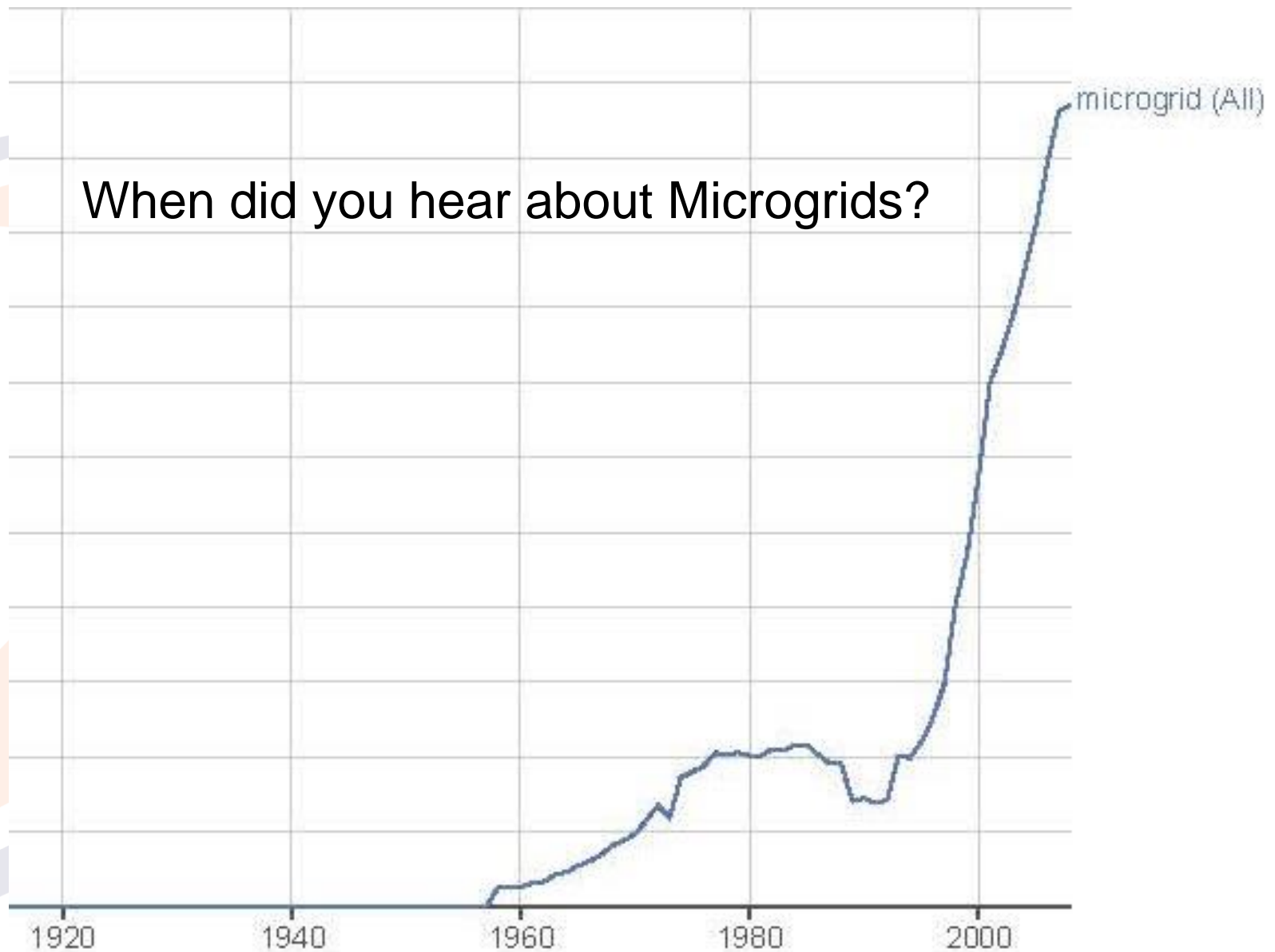
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SourceOne is a leading energy management and consulting firm helping customers develop and deploy sustainable, resilient, economical energy solutions.

# Agenda

- Terms
- Managing the Utility
- Back up tariffs
- The Interconnection Process
- Sample Projects
- What's Next?

When did you hear about Microgrids?



# The Original Microgrid



# Microgrid Defined

- “a small network of electricity users with a local source of supply that is usually attached to a centralized national grid but is able to function independently”
- Local Generation
- Usually connected to the grid
- Ability to island
- Ability to buy and sell power

# Utility Terms

- **PURPA** - the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act enacted November 9, 1978 compelled utilities to purchase energy produced by Qualified Facilities (QFs) if they were developed at cost equal or below what a utility would have to pay for a traditional power plant.

# Back Up Tariffs

- Under PURPA utilities were required to take electricity from Qualified Facilities and to provide Back Up and Supplemental Power.
- ***They were not required to do it economically for the cogen.***
- ***Terms:***
  - ***Contract Demand***
  - ***Supplemental Power***
  - ***Maintenance Power***

# Wholesale vs. Retail Terms

- Retail
  - Behind the Meter
  - Net Metering
  - Standardized Interconnection Requirements (SIR)
- Wholesale
  - Transmission Level
  - LBMP

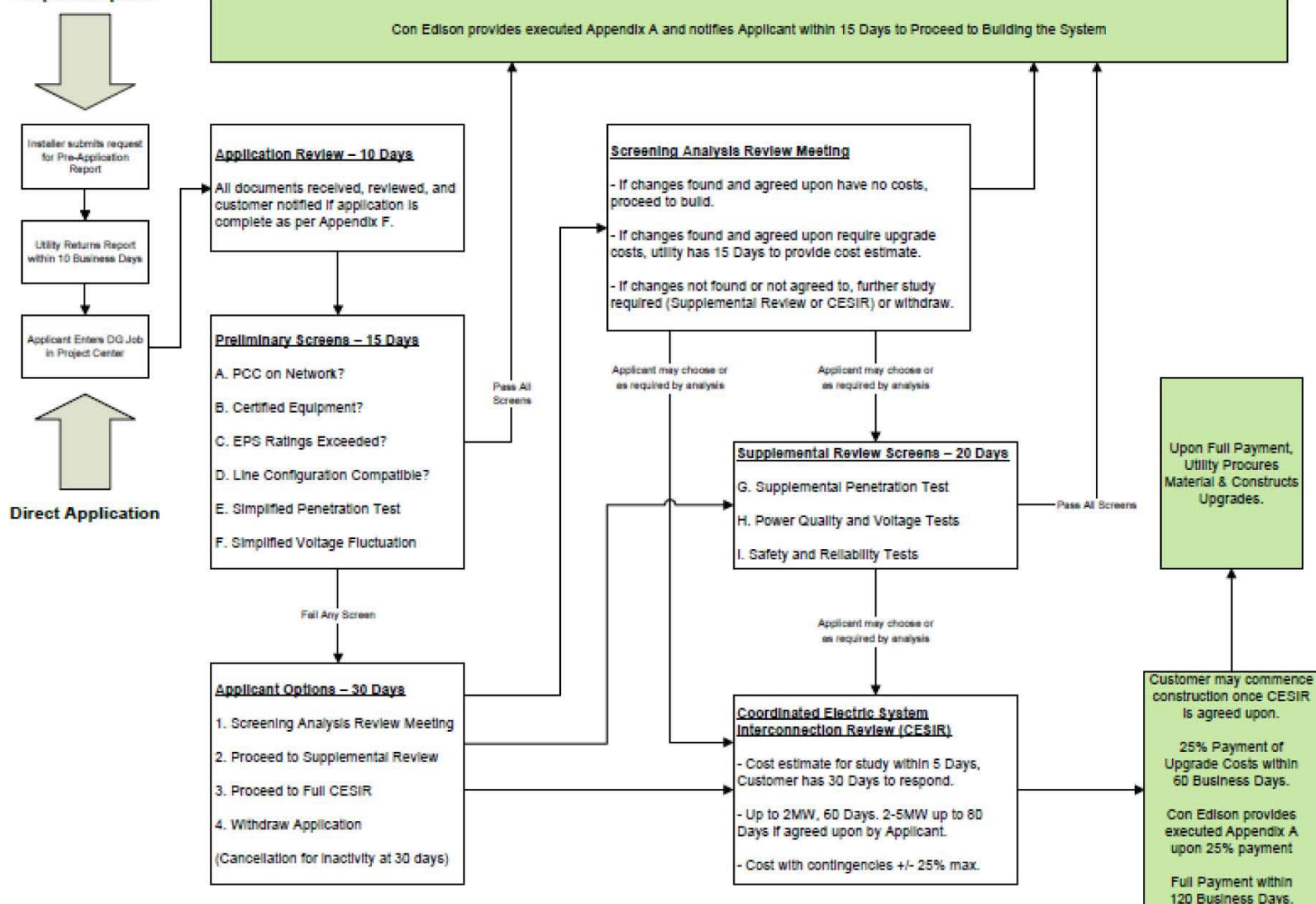


# Dealing with Utilities

- Know the rules – Every state and utility has different rules
- Be Respectful
  - Understand the process
  - Don't waste peoples time
  - Don't threaten
- Know what can be negotiated

# January 2017 NYS SIR - Simplified Process Flow Chart for 50kw – 5MW

## Pre-Application Report Request



# How Much Does This Cost?

Between zero and a boatload!

Import Only:

Minor fees

Some relaying and metering

# How Much Does This Cost?

## Export and Import:

- Application fees

- System Impact Study

- Hardware including:

  - Direct Transfer Trip

  - RTU & SCADA

  - Substation improvements

  - New or upgraded feeders

## Payment Info:

- Revenue Recovery Test

- Advance for Construction

- CIAC – Contribution in Aid of Construction (+approx. 25%)

# Case Studies

- Easy – Cooper Union
- Custom – NYU
- Hard – Bank of America Tower

# Cooper Union – “Easy”

**Foundation Building**



**New Engineering Building**



# Cooper Union – “Easy”

## Solutions

- Install Small Recip Plants in each building
- Natural gas fired
- Behind the meter
- Con Edison SIR
- Standard Backup Tariff

## 450 kW Recip Engine






# NYU Downtown – “Custom”





# NYU Downtown – “Custom”

## Original Co-generation Operation

- 30 year old equipment (was good at the time)
  - 700-900 kW Caterpillar Engines and (1) 2400 kW steam turbine operating as an island
  - Operating on diesel fuel
  - Has performed very well, needs upgrading – capital infusion
  - Plant will need modifications to meet regularly updated environmental standards
- 
- Supplies electricity to 7 University buildings and HTHW to 40 buildings, chilled water to 30

# NYU Downtown – “Custom”

## CHP Plant Options

### Base Case

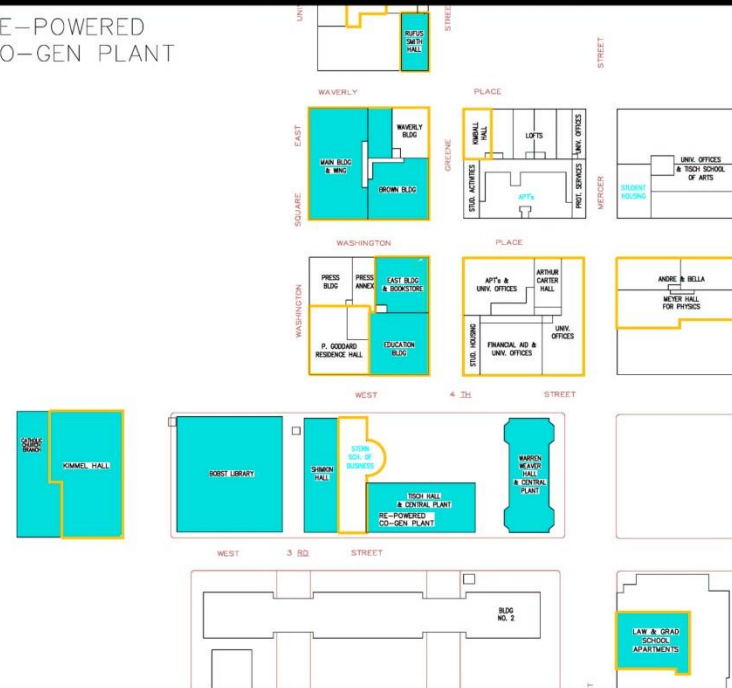
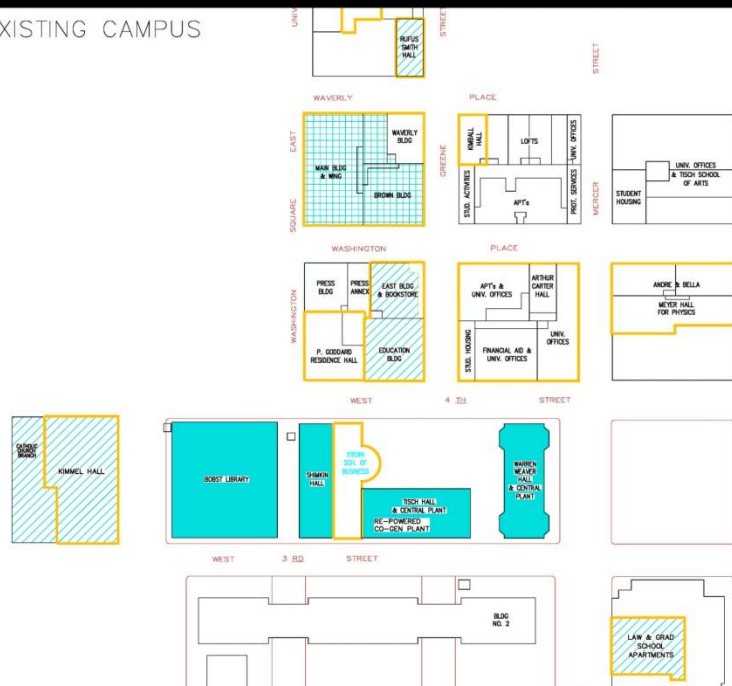
- Re-power existing CHP plant, new plant will be more efficient, reliable and able to serve more buildings

### Abandon Generation Plant

- Revert to Con Edison for all electric supply
- Rebuild boiler plant

### Expand CHP Plant

- Build vault on Mercer Street
- Install (2) 5500 kW gas turbines with heat recovery
- Connect an additional 22 buildings to existing NYU electrical distribution system

RE-POWERED  
CO-GEN PLANT

**Power Technologies**  
110 WALL STREET, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10005  
Telephone: (212) 612-7600 Fax: (212) 612-7601

	HTH W ZONES
	CHILLED WATER SYSTEM
	CO-GEN
	CO-GEN LIFE SAFETY BACKUP
	CW CHILLED WATER
	HW HOT WATER
	NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS
	PEAK KW RATING
	ADDITIONAL PEAK KW RATING
	SES PROPOSED
	24 MONTH AVERAGE MONTHLY LOAD FACTOR (%)
	COGEN SUPPLY
	BACKUP OR LIFE SAFETY
	SEASONAL COGEN PRODUCTION
	PROPOSED ADDITIONAL COGEN

## COGEN REDEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON SQUARE  
PARK CAMPUS  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

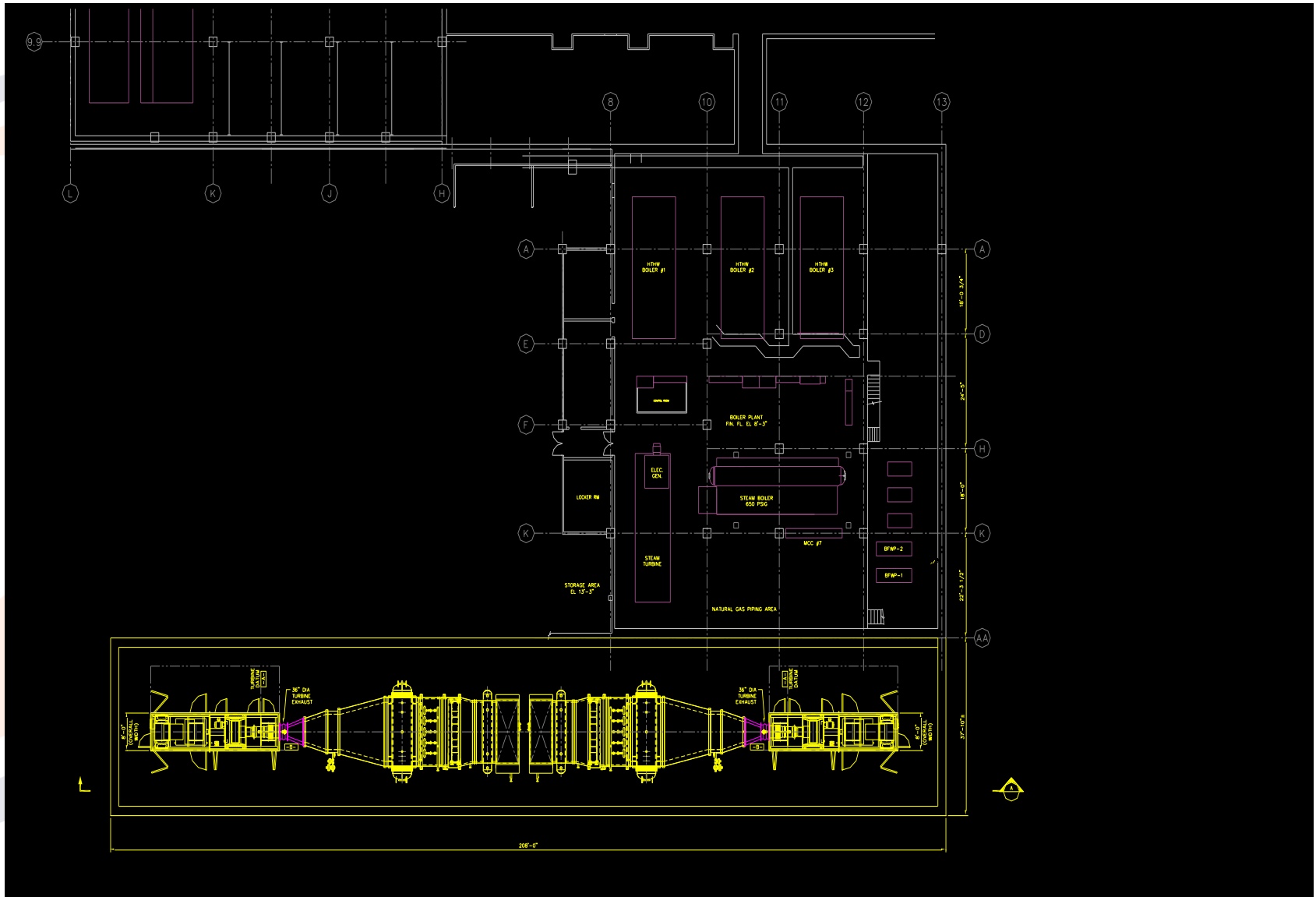
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

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SHEET TITLE

DRAWING NUMBER:

# Two 5.5 MW Gas Turbines in Vault





# Existing lot adjacent to boiler plant





# Construction of new cogen vault



# NYU Downtown – “Custom”

## Main Utility Interconnection

- 15 kV direct feed to Con Ed Substation
  - Import and export on High Tension tariff
  - Buy back at LBMP (Wholesale)
  - Supply at Standard Back Up tariff
    - Contract Demand
    - As Used Daily Demand
    - Energy charges
    - 12.5% Annual Maintenance charge

# NYU Downtown – “Custom”

## 22 Individual 208 V Services

- NYU maintains existing LV feeds to buildings
- NYU also connects them to the 5 KV cogen network – uses existing “revocable consent” to cross city streets
- Con Ed puts them on standard backup service
- NYU pays ***TWICE*** for these 22 buildings



# Bank of America Tower – “Hard”



# Bank of America Tower – “Hard”

## Developed by the Durst Organization

- Challenges of installing a CHP in a high rise building
- 2 Million ft<sup>2</sup>
- 11 Utility interconnections
- Fault current issues at Con Ed sub-station
- Space is at a premium
- Fire Department issues

# Bank of America Tower – “Hard”

## 11 Network Interconnections

- Very expensive to interconnect behind the meter on all 11 feeds
  - AC/DC/AC load control not practical
- Con Ed offers to do a High Voltage Interconnect for export and a low voltage feed for supply
  - Sell at wholesale – buy at retail. Kills project
  - Durst appeals to PSC. Con Ed develops special tariff to allow netting out CHP export meter



# Bank of America Tower – “Hard”

## Fault Current

- Overloaded sub-stations must be able to disconnect in 1 ½ Cycles
- Solutions include AC/DC/AC load control and Fast fuses – both expensive
- Durst designs fast fuse solution while appealing to Con Ed
- Con Ed finds neighboring substation to connect to



# Lessons Learned

- Political influence can be used at the appropriate time
- Most issues are solvable – understand what you are asking for and propose a solution
- Don't throw the lower level guys under the bus – they are doing what they are supposed to and usually want to help

# What's Next?

- Storage – Is Tesla a car company or a battery company?
- Understand all the value streams of a DG or storage solution
- PURPA re-purposed