# Colorado School of Mines Heating Plant

Andrew Mudd, Colorado School of Mines

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#### **Campus Steam**

- Under Capacity
- Reliant on 3<sup>rd</sup> Party
- Rising Expenses
- Supply Line imminent failure

### Heating Plant

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- Old and Failed Equipment with asbestos
- State mandated building audit score less than 60%

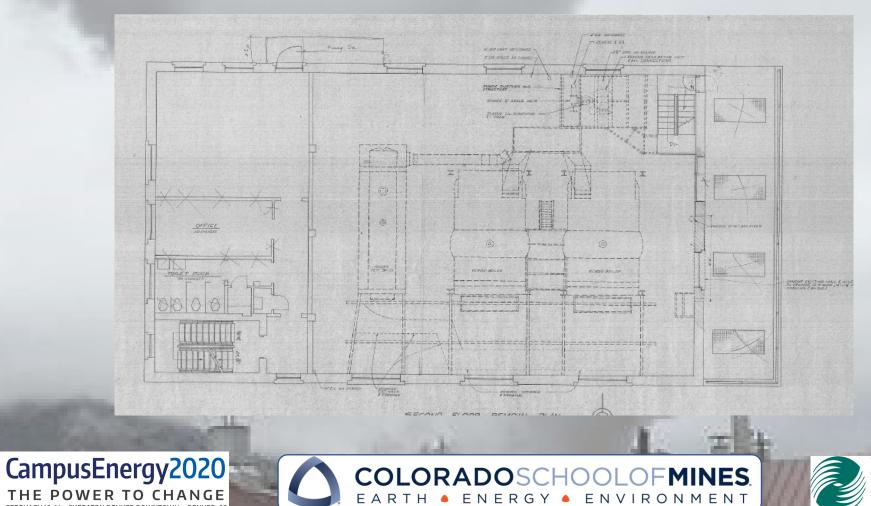
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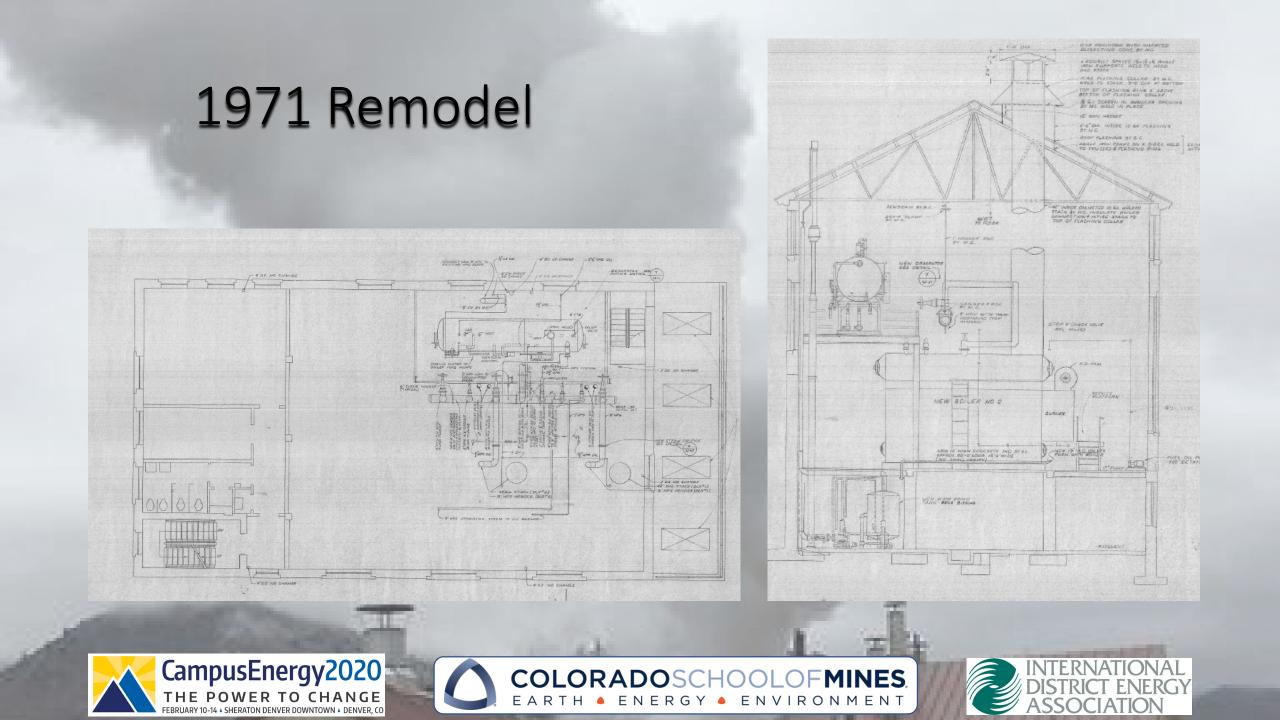
### History

#### Original 1948 Plant lay out



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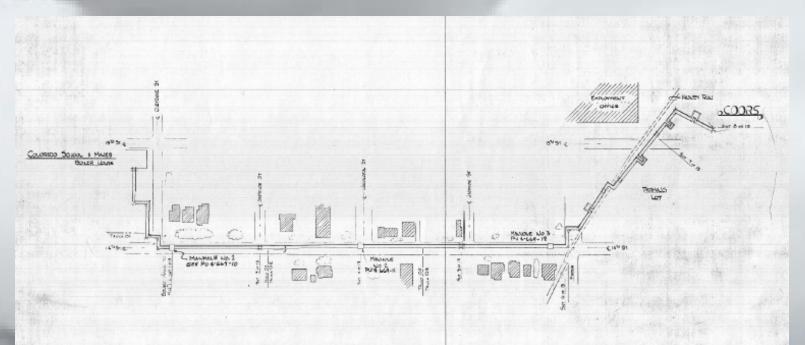
#### 1971 Remodel

- 1971 campus was over capacity with zero redundancy. Every new building was being built with a self-serving boiler
- 1971 first remodel; estimated cost \$226,000
- Replaced old Babcock and Wilcox boilers with two 40,000 lb./hr Riley water tube boilers
- Installed new deaerating feed tank
- Decommissioned use of coal and use natural gas
- Operated continuously for 11 years before purchasing steam from Coors Brewery



#### **Coors Builds Steam Line Through Golden**

• 1982 Coors was operating a COGEN (CHP) Plant. Their discharged process steam was piped approximately 1/4 mile through downtown Golden







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#### **Investigating Options**

- Consulting Engineering Firms in 2012
- Steam Distribution Study and CHP Study conducted
- CHP not economically feasible (too expensive)
- Personnel
- Real Estate
- Matching existing steam load with existing electric load (absorption chillers installed throughout campus)



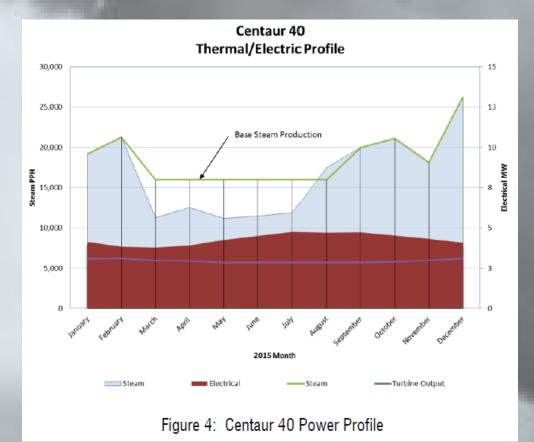
### CHP (Combined Heat and Power) Analysis

30,000

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25,000 13 **Base Steam Production** 10 20,000 Hdd 15,000 8 10,000 - 5 5.000 - 3 W34 1. May October 2015 Month Steam Electrical — Steam ——Gas Turbine Output

Centaur 50

**Thermal/Electric Profile** 

15

ΜW

Electrical

Figure 5: Centaur 50 Power Profile



#### Construction

- Commenced in 2016
- Operational equipment without a roof through winter
- Operating on Coors Steam through start up and commissioning
- Installing temporary DA shed in the parking lot
- Contractor feuds cause multiple delays in the project



#### Removal of Old DA Tank for Temporary Install

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#### No Roof for 2016/2017 Winter



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#### **Concrete Insulating Blankets**

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Installed to keep operational steam piping safe during cold weather.





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### Keeping Coors Steam Supply Line Warm

The Coors supply line was kept on a slow bleed to keep from going cold during commissioning



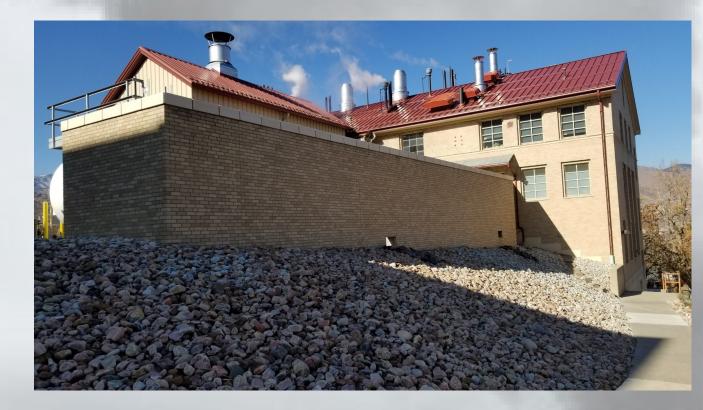
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INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT ENERGY ASSOCIATION

#### **Construction Complete**



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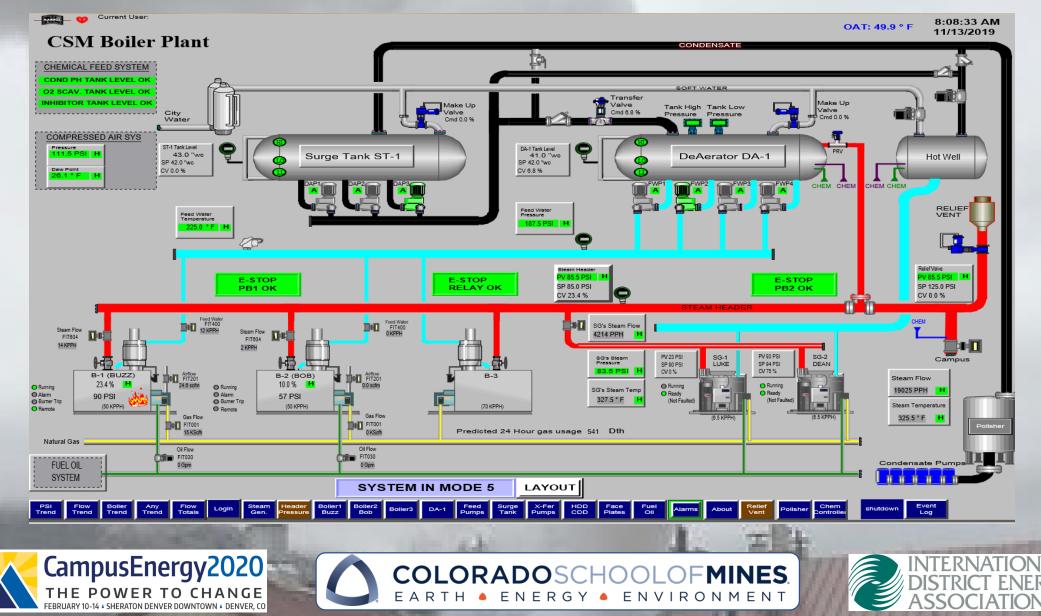


## Using Technology

- Plant operates automatically; starting/stopping equipment based on load/demand
- Individual equipment controls integrated with Master Plant control
- Phone alarm dialers in plant and in strategic points in the steam distribution system
- PLC controls allow remote view and operation of the plant
- Extra safety measures utilized in order to mitigate risks from operating unmanned



#### **PLC Controls**



#### **Cost Savings Analysis**

- Coors Steam \$13.11 per 1000 lbs. steam
- Heating Plant Steam \$6.14 per 1000 lbs. steam

89 %

• 1<sup>st</sup> year savings over \$0.5 million including staff salaries and benefits

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Dany Predicted and Pretrage Readings					
Avg Steam Production since midnight Predicted 24 Hour gas usage Avg Boiler Gas consumption since midnight	28973 916 32	Lbs/ Hour Dth KSCF/ Hour	Predicted Boiler Dth by gas usage Predicted STG Dth by steam Predicted Total Dth	852 8 860	
Predicted 24 Hour V-Cone	695341	Lbs.			
Predicted 24 Hour Steam Gen	6383	Lbs.	Yesterday's Dth	757	
Predicted 24 hour lbs/Dth	759	Lbs/Dth	Predictions	736	
Boiler 1 Efficiency 81 % Boiler 2 Efficiency 89 %			Predicted Dth with 1 SG		
Boiler 1 Daily Efficiency 85 % Boiler 2 Daily Efficiency 89 %			on Oil for 12 hours	774	
Yesterday's Boiler Efficiency Boiler 1 Daily Efficiency 23 %	7				

#### **Daily Predicted and Average Readings**

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Boiler 2 Daily Efficiency

#### Efficiency is Our Mission

- Daily efficiency monitoring BTU in BTU out
- 98% condensate return
- Monthly trap maintenance
- Annual insulation refurbishment
- Peak shaving gas usage
- Make-up water savings by installing a Condensate Polisher





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#### Preparing for the Future

- Increasing steam distribution capacity for new construction on campus
- Replacing 70,000 lb./hour boiler with new/updated controls to integrate into system
- Completing end of campus steam loops for steam supply redundancy
- Upgrades for easier maintenance and operation



#### Questions?

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#### THANK YOU

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