Don't Freeze in the Dark

The University of Alaska Fairbanks CHP Story





Introducing University of Alaska Fairbanks





• Founded in 1917

- Located in Fairbanks Alaska
- Approximately 10,000 students at the Fairbanks campus
- 3,400,000 square feet of academic, research, administrative and housing space
- \$124 Million in Research grants per year
- Extreme temperature variation: -66° F to 99° F

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• Approximately 14,000 degree heating days



Our foundation looks like this







UAF's Project Objectives

- Increase capacity to meet 30 year growth
- Reduce emissions
- Natural Disaster Resistant
- Increase reliability and lower costs
- NO real Natural Gas
- Be permitted in an PM2.5 non-attainment area







CHP is the Foundation







Options Considered

- Do Nothing
- Coal CFB w/ Steam Turbine =Selected Option
- Gas Turbine w/ HRSG
- Gas Boilers w/ Steam Turbine
- Coal/Biomass gasifier/boiler/steam turbine
- Electric boilers (using Susitna hydro electricity)
- Reciprocating Engines (Natural Gas) w/HRSG boilers





Why don't you

- Buy power from GVEA
 - We need **heat** and **electricity**.
 - CHP more efficient
- Build a natural gas plant
 - A reliable supply of gas is not available
 - Lower capital cost
 - Double to more than triple the fuel cost





Solution: Major plant upgrade

- Circulating fluidized bed boiler 240,000 lbs/hr
- 17 MW Steam turbine
- Use condensing water for campus heat
- 3 Cell ACC

- Baghouse with DSI system
- Common steam header with existing plant





Environmental benefits

- Current main boilers are 1890's technology
- Plant burns coal, diesel and gas
- Newer technology is more efficient



since 1917



Permitting

- Modification to existing permit
- Lowest PM2.5 ever guaranteed
- Almost 3 years to get permit
- No major opposition



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Fishing for Funding

- \$245M Total Project Cost
- Champion in the Legislature
- Statewide Community support
- Hire a Marketing Team !!!







The Boilers

Old Boilers from 1964



20% more efficient !!

New CFB boilers



1 ton of coal makes 10,012 lbs of 600 psi steam 1 ton of coal makes 12,174 lbs of 600 psi steam









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Contracting

- Advance Purchase of major equipment
- Construction Manager at Risk
- Early Contractor involvement
- Real Time cost estimating during design
- Requires active Owner involvement



















Project Budget Challenges

- Original Scope \$50M over budget !!!
- Team Effort to rescope (UAF/Engineer/vendors/contractor)
- Maintained capacity but sacrificed flexibility (2 - 50% boilers to 1 - 100%)
- 4 month delay



Project Schedule

- 2011 Preliminary Engineering and Permitting
- 2014 Obtain permit, funding and start Design
- 2015 Site Preparation and Re-scoping
- 2016 Foundation, steel and boiler erection, install steam turbine
- 2017 2018 Complete boiler erection and Balance of Plant scope
- 2018 Commissioning (starts in April)
- Fall 2018 Commercial Operation











+ Lessons learned

- Use of DCS simulator
- Early Contractor Involvement
- Early Site Preparation
- Robust Document
 Management System







- Lessons learned

- Pay Attention to Contract Interfaces
 - Especially structural
 - Vendor/Engineer/Contractor
- Commissioning Costs
- Procure equipment early
- Model Everything!











