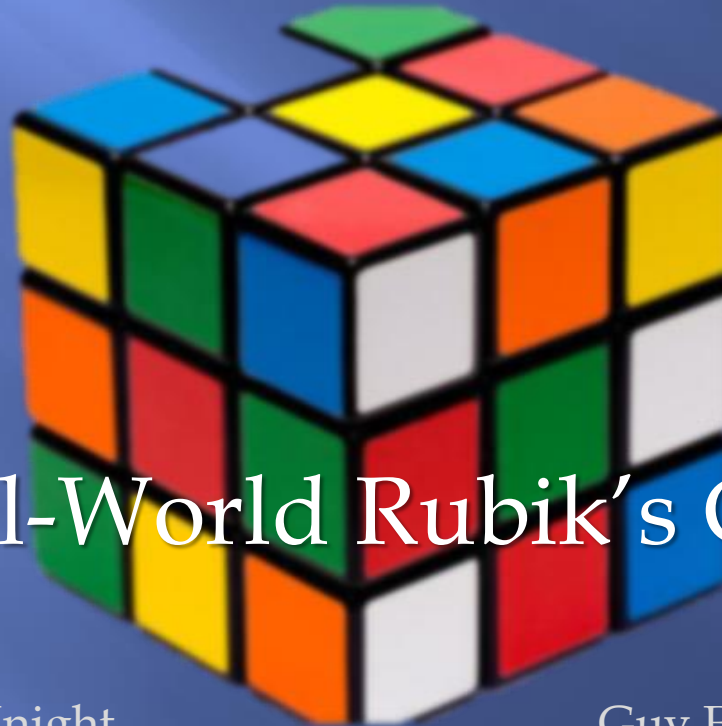


# INTEGRATING THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE DISTRICT CHILLED WATER AND COMBINED HEAT & POWER



## A Real-World Rubik's Cube

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DN Tanks

# Bucknell University Facts

- ▣ Bucknell is a medium sized, private university located in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.
- ▣ Founded in 1846.
- ▣ Known for liberal arts, engineering, and management curricula.
- ▣ Student population of 3,300 - 90%+ live on campus.
- ▣ Faculty and staff of over 1,000.
- ▣ Campus of 450 acres with 175 buildings totaling 2.9 million gross square feet.

# Utility Infrastructure

- Combined cycle CHP plant, including 4.8 MW gas turbine, 70,000 lb/hr HRSG (25,000 lb/hr unfired), 1.2 MW steam turbine generator.
- Central chiller plant with three 800 ton variable frequency electric centrifugal chillers. Variable flow primary based on campus load.
- Distributed steam absorption chillers provide approximately 800 tons cooling capacity.
- Steam distribution to 88% of campus.
- CHW distribution to 69% of campus.
- CHP plant supplies 94% of campus electricity.



# CHP Plant



Gas turbine

A photograph of a large industrial gas turbine engine. The engine is complex, with various pipes, valves, and a large, dark, cylindrical component in the center. It is housed within a metal enclosure with a mesh screen on the left side.



HRSG

A photograph of a large industrial heat recovery steam generator (HRSG). It features a complex network of pipes, valves, and a large cylindrical tank. The structure is supported by a metal frame with yellow safety railings.



Steam turbine

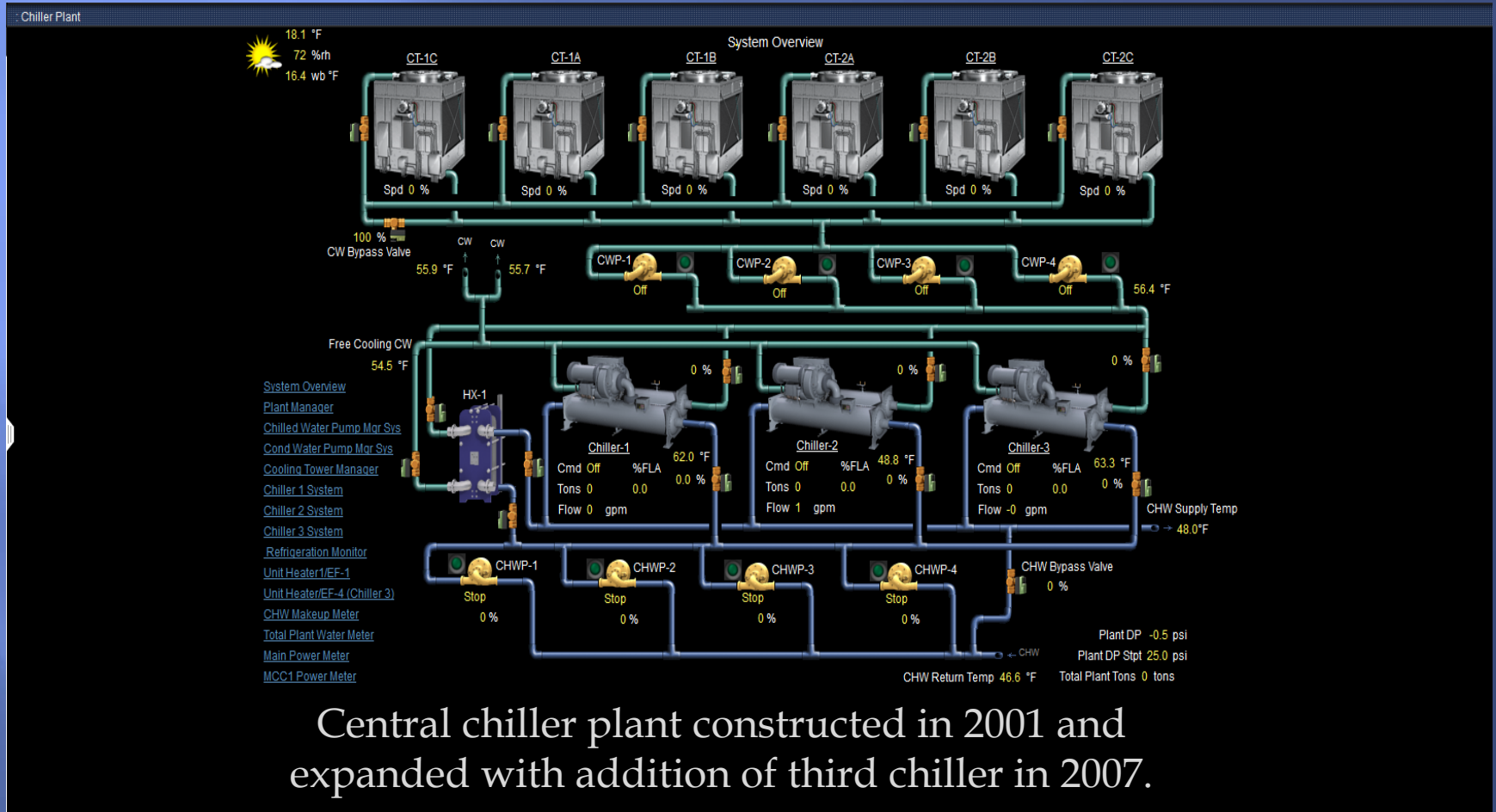
A photograph of a large industrial steam turbine. The turbine is covered in white insulation and is connected to a large, dark, cylindrical component. It is surrounded by various pipes and valves.

Bucknell has operated a combined-cycle CHP plant since 1998.

# Utility Operations

- Gas turbine generator operates at full capacity except occasional off-peak hours.
- Steam turbine generator output follows campus steam load.
- Excess generation is sold to the local utility at spot market rates.
- Gas turbine output is reduced to track campus load if power prices fall below incremental generation cost.
- Absorption chillers provide base (unfired) steam load from late spring through early fall.
- Power is purchased from the utility to meet peak loads in excess of generating capacity.

# Chiller Plant





# Bucknell Campus 2010

A 50-acre expansion of the campus and planned construction of several new buildings created a need for additional cooling capacity.

Utility Plant

South Campus

Student Housing

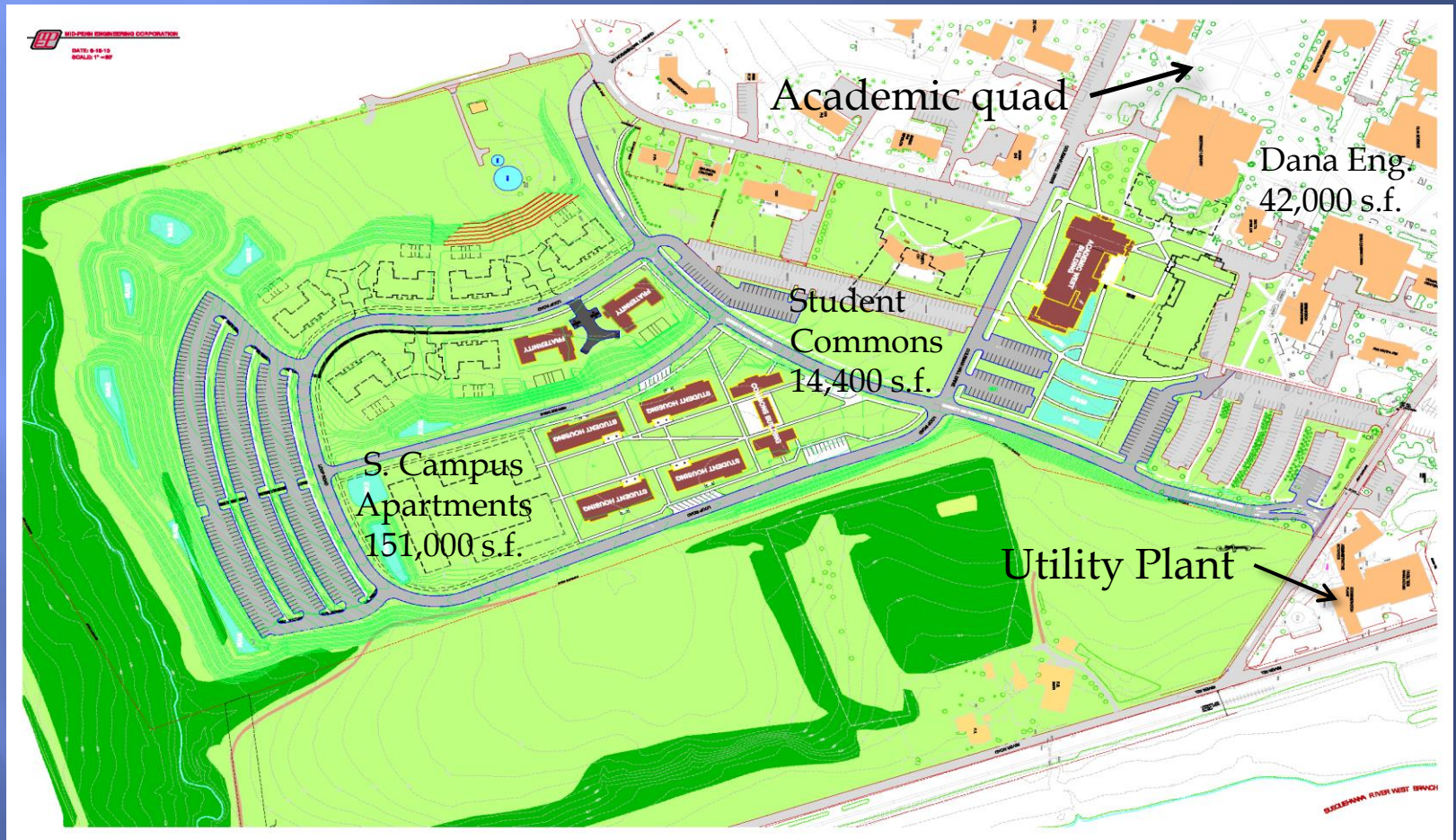
Academic Quad

Student Housing

Athletic Facilities



# South Campus Expansion





# Cost/Benefit Analysis

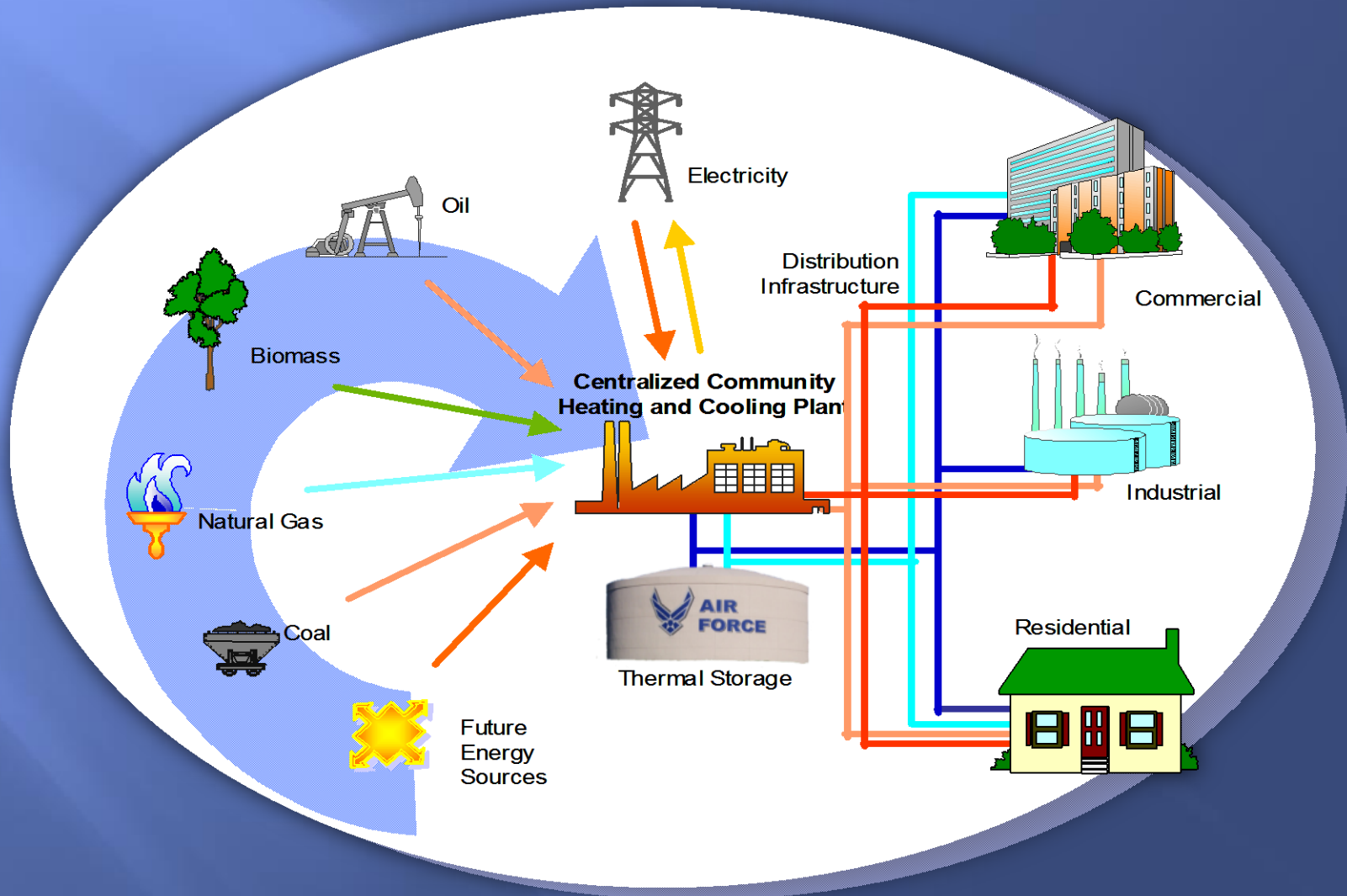
Chilled Water Option	Estimated construction cost	Annual energy cost	Life cycle operating cost
Water-cooled screw chiller	\$1,910,000	\$50,000	\$1,343,519
Water-cooled centrifugal chiller	\$1,830,000	\$44,000	\$1,182,296
Air cooled screw chiller	\$1,730,000	\$60,000	\$1,612,222
Thermal storage tank	\$1,880,000	-\$23,000	-\$618,019

Bucknell considered several chiller options:

- water-cooled centrifugal,
- steam absorption,
- air-cooled, and
- thermal energy storage (no new chiller)

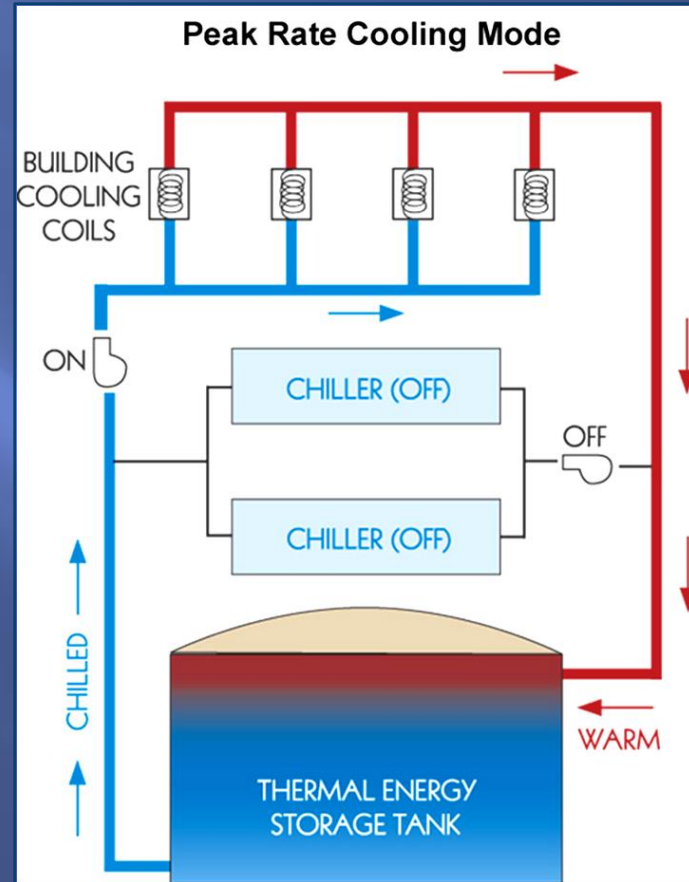
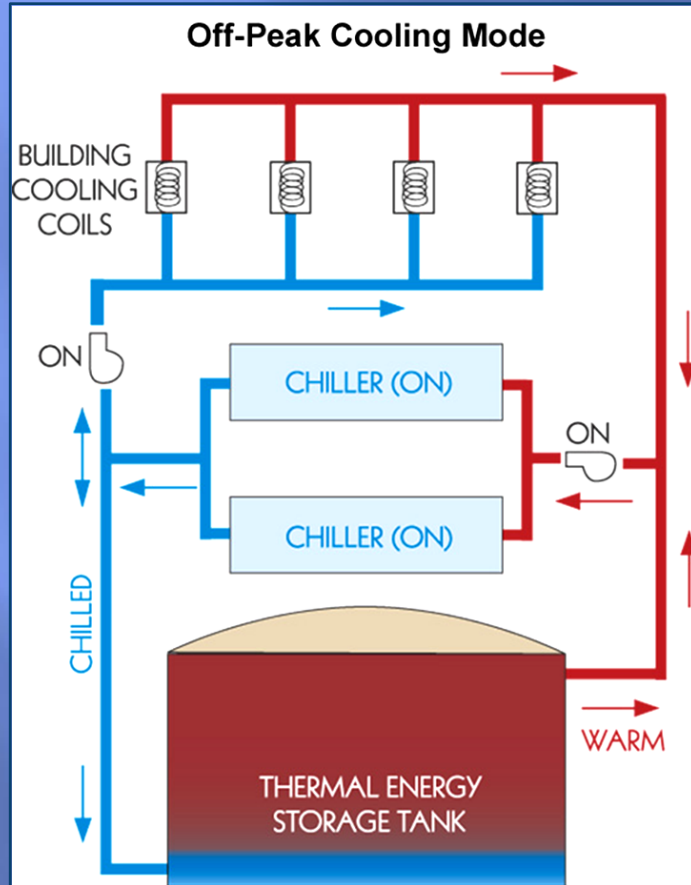
**Thermal energy storage provided the necessary capacity at comparable or lower capital costs and far lower operating costs than the other options**

# TES with Chilled Water District Cooling Systems



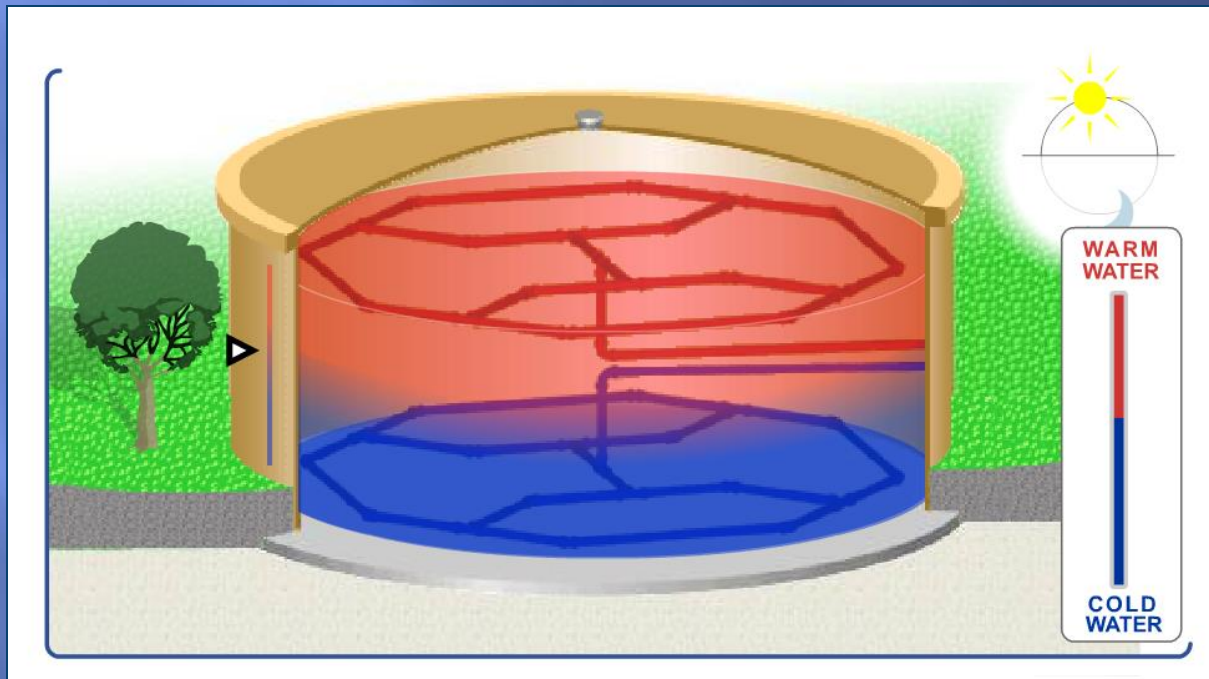


# Chilled Water TES Concept



# Stratified Chilled Water

Maximize the chilled water  $\Delta T$   
to minimize the tank size



Information Required to Size the TES Tank:

- Useable TES capacity (ton-hrs)
- Chilled water  $\Delta T$  ( $^{\circ}\text{F}$ )
- Maximum chilled water flow rate (gpm)



# Bucknell University's TES Tank

## ▣ Design Parameters

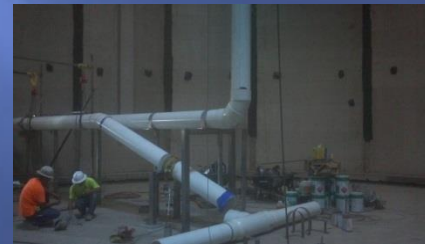
- 6,500 ton-hrs – useable TES capacity
- 2,340 gpm CHW flow rate
- 2% max. heat gain in 24 hrs

## ▣ Tank Details

- 0.9 Million Gallons
- 55' ID x 50' water depth
- Sloping hillside construction
- Differentially buried tank
- Near the 250 year old heritage tree



# TES Tank Construction

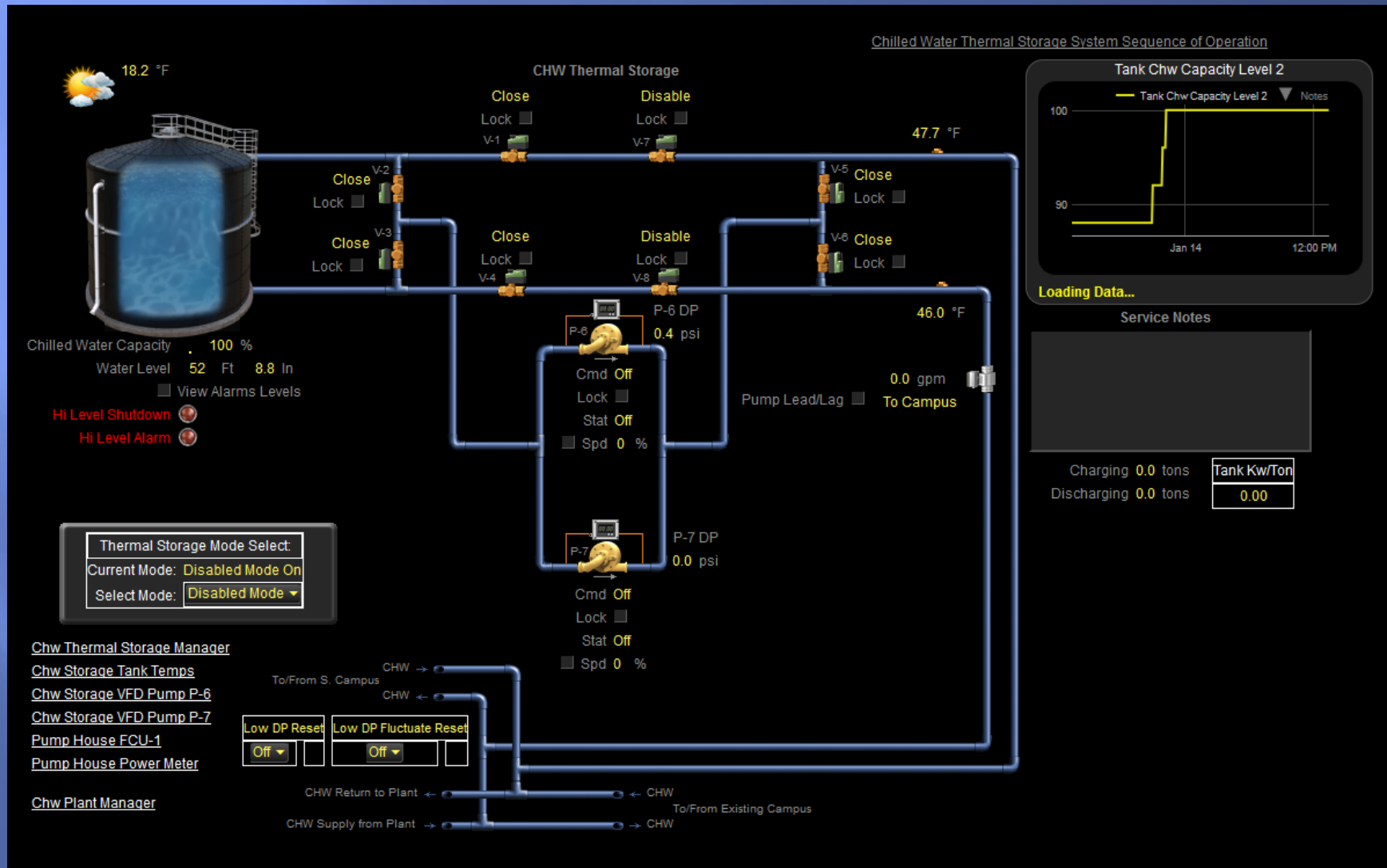




# Project Design Challenges

- **Siting** – Construction site sandwiched between a public road, engineering lab, hazmat storage, underground utilities, and heritage oak tree.
- **Hydraulic Balance** – Integrating atmospheric tank with variable pressure, variable flow distribution system.
- **Control Strategy** – Avoid competing pressure and flow control between plant and tank systems.
- **Operating Criteria** – Develop clear operating instructions while optimizing the value of the TES system.

# Thermal Energy Storage System

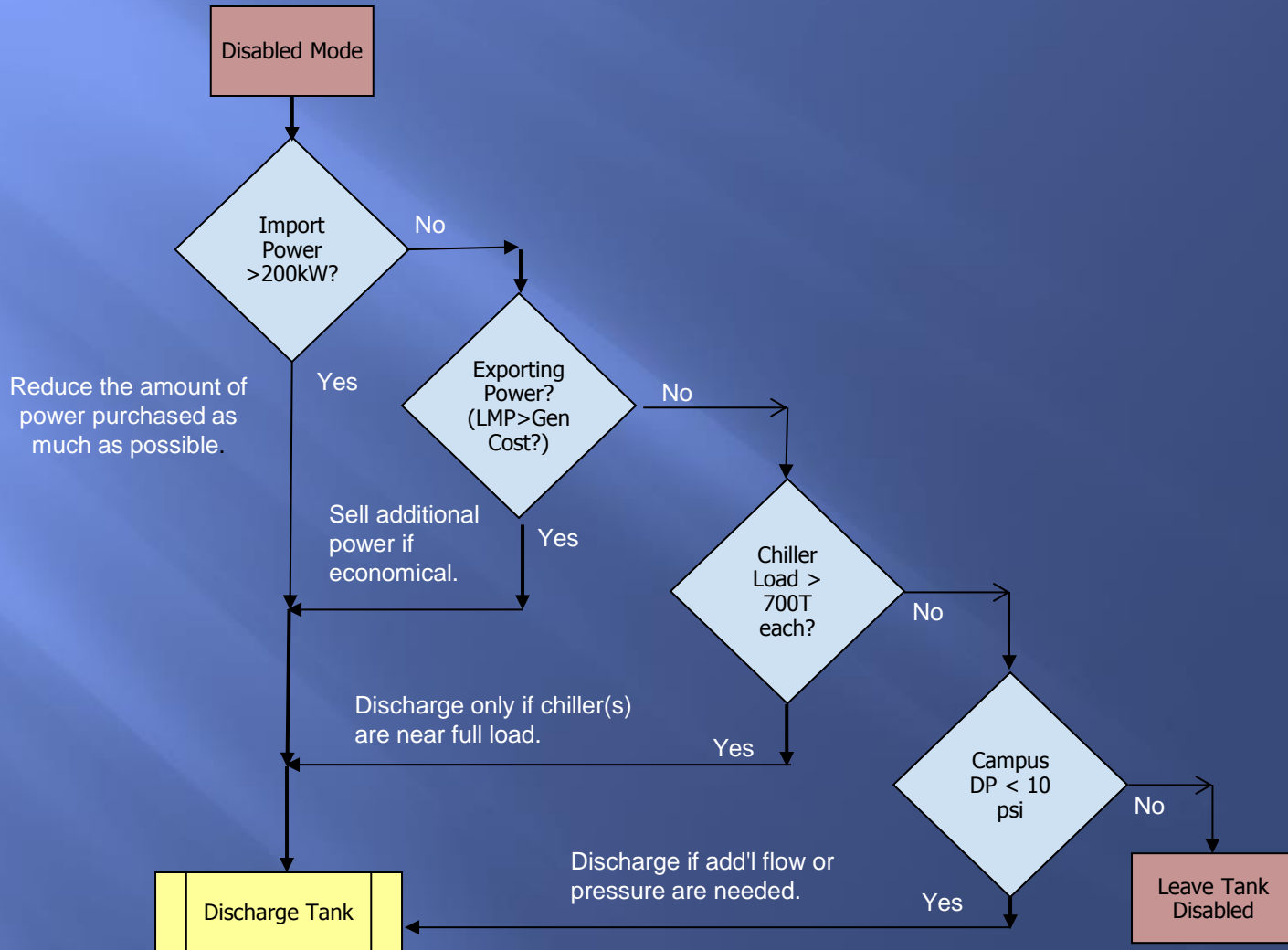




# Optimizing System Performance

- The original system design assumed the TES would operate during pre-selected “peak hours” and “peak days” only in the summer months.
- The simple model of discharging the system during peak daytime hours and charging the system overnight did not consider all the variables that affect system operation.
- Because the campus requires some minimal cooling demand year-round, other opportunities arose to cost effectively operate the system.

# TES Operating Guidelines



# Operational Protocols

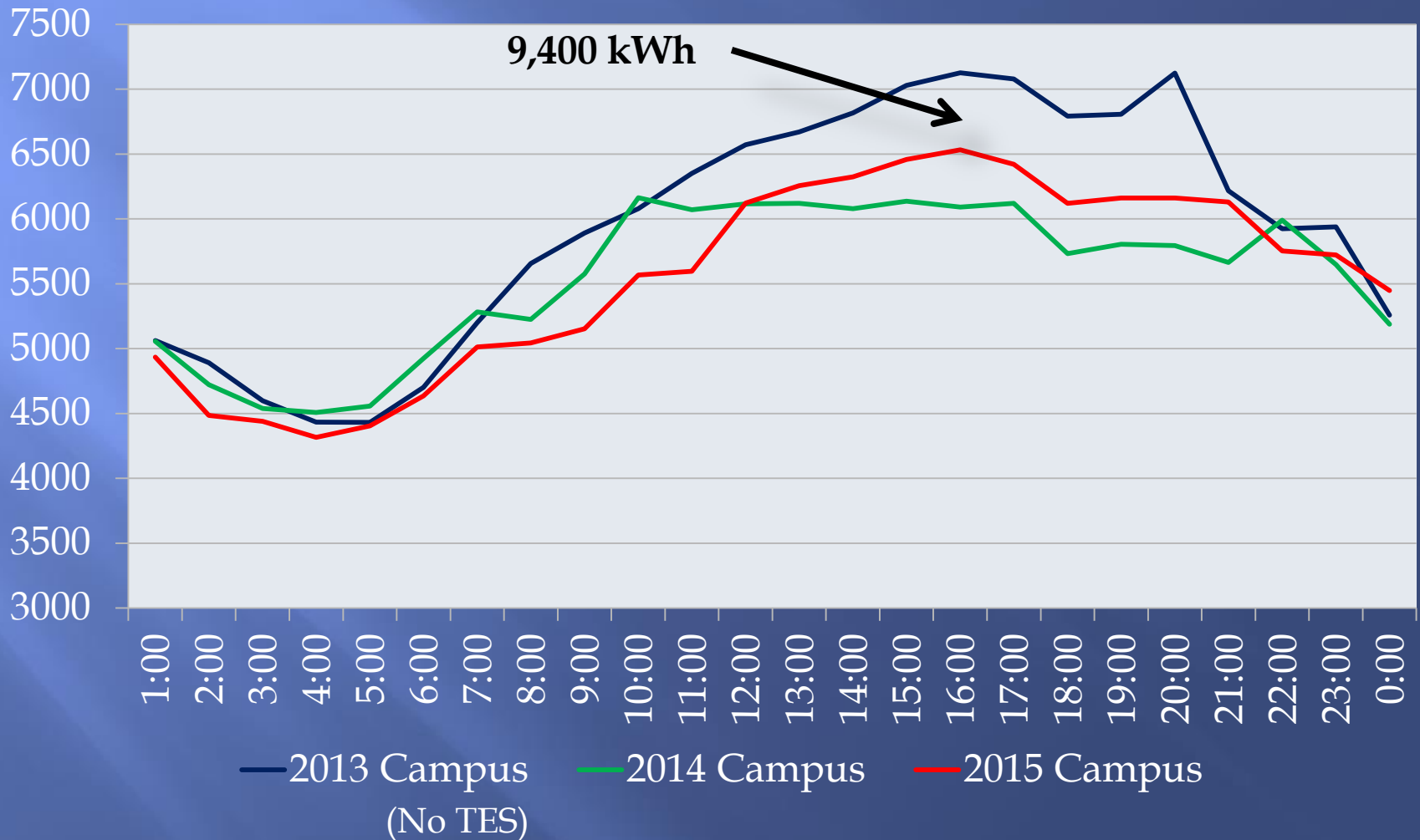
- Importing Power – In addition to providing additional peak cooling capacity, the TES system reduces peak power usage (and associated demand charges).
- Exporting Power – When it is cost effective to sell power to the utility company, discharging the TES system increases the generation capacity available to export.
- Chiller(s) Approaching Full Load – If a chiller (or two) is operating over 90% load, discharging the tank avoids or delays starting another chiller.
- Low System DP – If system pressures are low, indicating a need for additional flow and pumps, discharging the tank avoids operating a chiller in an inefficient high flow, low delta-T condition.



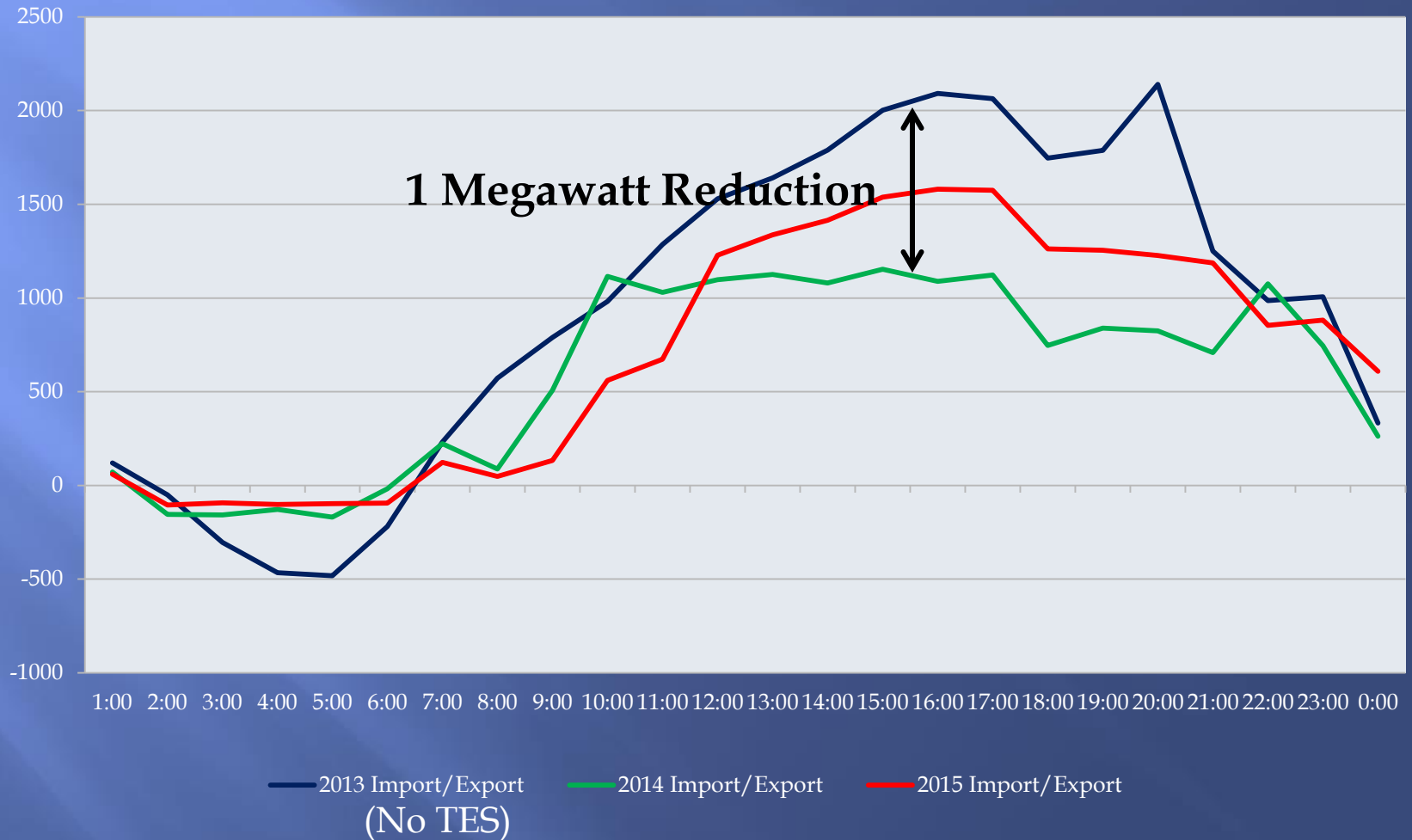
# Peak Load and Demand Charges

- Bucknell is billed a demand charge based on the monthly peak electricity usage.
- Shifting cooling load from peak daytime hours to overnight hours reduces peak usage and demand charges.
- Bucknell also is billed, because of the on-site generation, a Reserve Capacity charge based on annual peak usage.
- Reducing peak load reduces both Demand and Reserve Capacity charges.

# Thermal Storage Effect on Campus Electricity Load



# Utility Demand Savings





# Energy Consumption Savings

	2013	2014	2015
Jun	124,514	81,021 -35%	53,038 -57%
Jul	140,233	34,967 -75%	91,986 -34%
Aug	170,174	94,572 -44%	202,335 19%
Sep	27,412	16,245 -41%	19,347 -29%
Total	462,333	226,805 -51%	366,706 -21%
Cost Savings		\$ 22,564	\$ 9,161
	2013	2014	2015

**2015 included cooling for 207,000 SF of additional space.**

# Electric Demand Savings

	Campus Demand - kW (non-outage)						
	2013	2014	% Chg	2015	% Chg	2014 Savings	2015 Savings
Jun	980	694	-29.2%	813	-17.0%	\$ 801	\$ 468
Jul	1,867	1,489	-20.2%	1,199	-35.8%	\$ 1,058	\$ 1,870
Aug	2,436	959	-60.6%	1,680	-31.0%	\$ 4,136	\$ 2,117
Sep	2,400	1,410	-41.3%	1,973	-17.8%	\$ 2,772	\$ 1,196
Total	<b>7,683</b>	<b>4,552</b>	<b>-40.8%</b>	<b>5,665</b>	<b>-26.3%</b>	<b>\$ 8,767</b>	<b>\$ 5,650</b>

Questions

