# District Energy for UC Davis Primate Research Center

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### **District Energy System Condition**



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<u>"New" Chiller and Tower</u> Repurposed from campus



Steam Piping Needs renewal within 10 yrs



## **Project Objectives**

- Renewal of energy infrastructure
- Improve redundancy
- Align energy supply with UC initiatives
- Improve efficiency
- Reduce operating costs
  - Eliminate need for 24/7 boiler watch

UNIVERSITY Carbon Neutrality OF CALIFORNIA Initiative







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## Nearby Energy Supply

- Biogas sources within 1 mile, existing pipeline
- Significant surrounding land area
  - Geothermal, solar thermal, solar PV
- Donated solar thermal panels





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### Leverage Available Funding Programs

### Cal Solar Initiative (PG&E Incentive)

- \$10/therm rebate to offset gas
- 2 year performance period

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Solar thermal panels donated to UC Davis



### **CNPRC Background and Project Objectives**

- Existing campus has very high energy utilization
  - Most spaces served are 100% Outside Air labs & animal holding
  - High process loads from cage washing activities and sterilization
  - Aging high pressure steam infrastructure
  - Piecemeal modular building construction in many cases
  - Minimal infrastructure investment over last 20 years.
- Project Goals
  - Convert comfort heating from steam to hot water.
  - Eliminate 24/7 boiler attendance

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- To the greatest extent technically feasible, utilize donated solar thermal collectors.
- Serve remaining process loads with minimal to no Scope 1 carbon emissions



### **CNPRC Energy Improvements & CHCP**



- Electric process steam boilers
- 135 °F Industrial HW
- 195 °F Industrial HW
- Convert 1 cage washer to Hot Water operation

#### **HHW Distribution Piping:-**

- Direct buried PEX construction
- Primarily a manifold & "home run" configuration limiting field joints and valve boxes

#### **Solar Thermal Collector Field:**

- Approximately 300 total panels
- Faces due south for maximum annual production





#### Main Lab/Animal Building:

- Demo existing steam plant
- Steam to HW conversion
- Convert 2 cage washers to hot water operation
- New indirect heater for DHW

#### CCM Lab Building:

- Electric process steam boilers
- Remove existing heating HW boiler

#### **New CHCP Building:**

- Electric chillers
- HHW Boilers NG, Biogas, Propane
- Water source solar thermal heat pumps
- 25,000 MBtu HW Thermal Energy Storage Tank

#### **Quarantine Building:**

- Steam to HW conversion
- New Indirect heater for

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## New Central Heating and Cooling Plant (CHCP)

- New 3,250 Sq. Ft. Building Housing:
  - Two 550 Ton Electric Chillers (blue)
  - Three 3,980 MBH Flexible Watertube Boilers (yellow)
  - Four 93 kW electric high-pressure steam boilers (red)
  - Four 680 MBH Water Source Heat Pumps for solar thermal system (green)
- Estimated 47% of annual heating load satisfied by solar thermal + heat pump output.
- Modular expandable system with potential geothermal and HR chiller integration.
- Need for 24/7 boiler attendance eliminated.

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### Solar Thermal Heat Pump System

- Solar Thermal Collector Conversion Efficiency Depends on Several Factors:
  - ISO Efficiency = 0.736-0.68438(P/G) 0.00132(P<sup>2</sup>/G)
    - P=Entering Water Temp (Deg. F.) Ambient Temp (Deg. F)
    - G = Global Radiation
  - By passing through heat pump, collector entering water temperature can be controlled

#### Collector Efficiency



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## Underground HW Distribution System

- PEX Flexible Piping System
  - Magnitude of CNPRC heating loads allows relatively small pipe sizes of 6" and smaller.
  - PEX piping available pre-insulated (up to 4") and field insulated in larger sizes.
  - Flexibility to route around existing utilities rather than relocate.
  - Manifold & home-run design eliminates most field joints, tees, and valve boxes.
  - Valve boxes only for future system expansion.













## Summary

- CNPRC district energy system needed substantial improvements:
  - Redundancy, reliability, sustainability, efficiency
- Multi-faceted solution to satisfy diverse district needs
  - Integrated solar, heat pump, and HW TES
  - Biogas-ready
  - Electrical steam and high-temp HW production
- Load sizes and site layout suitable for PEX
- Alignment with UC initiatives
  - Significant carbon reduction
  - Designed to fully electrify in the future



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# Questions?

# Thank You!

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