



NY-GEO 2024

October 22 -23 | BROOKLYN, NY



Building Energy Modeling

The Foundation of a GHX Design

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October 22, 2024





Learning Objectives

1. Understand the components of building energy modeling
2. Understand the effect of building energy modeling on ground heat exchanger (GHX) design for an individual building
3. Understanding the effect of building energy modeling on GHX design for a district geothermal system



Building Energy Modeling Components



Building Energy Modeling Tools

TRACE 3D



Carrier HAP



eQuest



EnergyPlus



... and more!



Building Energy Modeling Components

- Weather Data (location, TMY3)
- Building Area (sf)
- Building Occupancy
- Space Temperature Setpoints
- Ventilation Loads (ASHRAE 62.1)
- Internal Loads (equipment, lighting, people)
- Building Envelope (ASHRAE 90.1, Passive House)
- Infiltration Loads
- Schedules (occupancy, lighting, equipment)

Building Energy Modeling Applications

Business-as-usual

- Existing buildings
- Poor Insulation

Code Compliance/ ASHRAE 90.1

- Insulation
- BMS Controls
- Energy Recovery

Exceeding Code Compliance

- Passive house design
- Heating dominant loads could become cooling dominant loads

Building Energy Modeling Accuracy

- **GOAL: Capture the actual building energy performance**
- Temperature setpoints (design vs. actual)
- Calibrate with utility bills (natural gas, electricity)
- Schedules
 - Occupancy/Lighting/Equipment
 - Domestic Hot Water Hourly Load Profiles



Domestic Hot Water Hourly Load Profiles

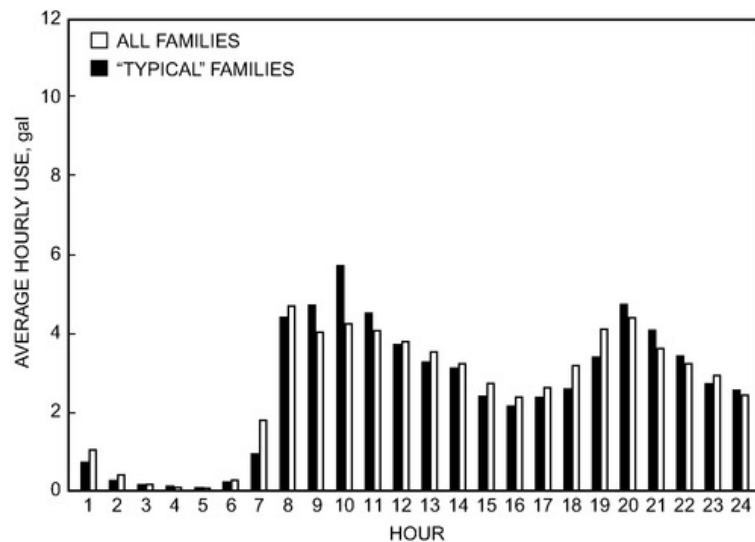


Figure 14. Residential Average Hourly Hot-Water Use

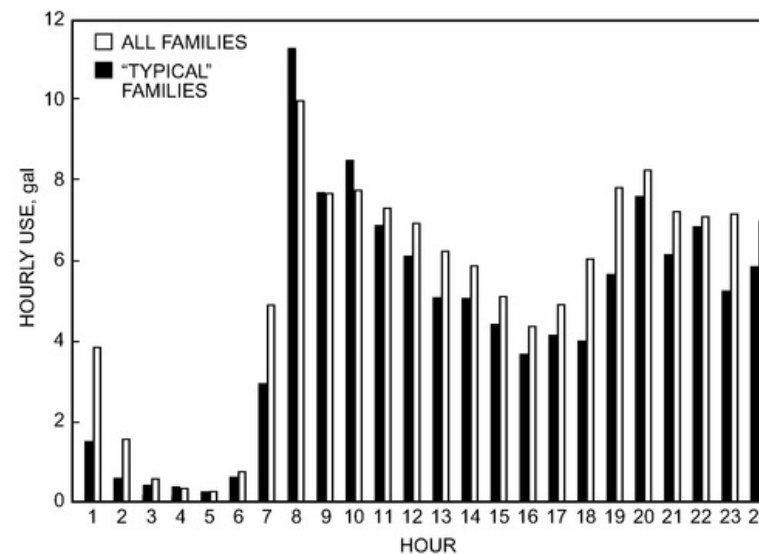


Figure 15. Residential Hourly Hot-Water Use, 95% Confidence Level

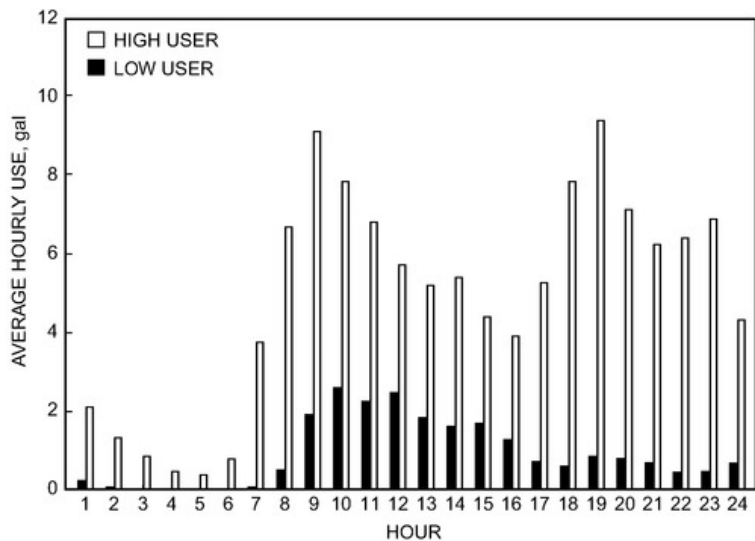


Figure 16. Residential Average Hourly Hot-Water Use Patterns for Low and High Users

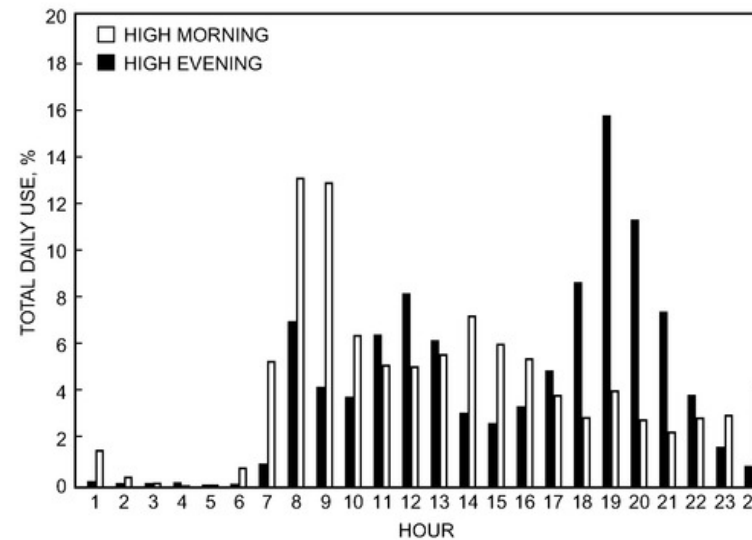


Figure 17. Residential Hourly Hot-Water Use Pattern for Selected High Morning and High Evening Users

Domestic Hot Water Hourly Load Profiles

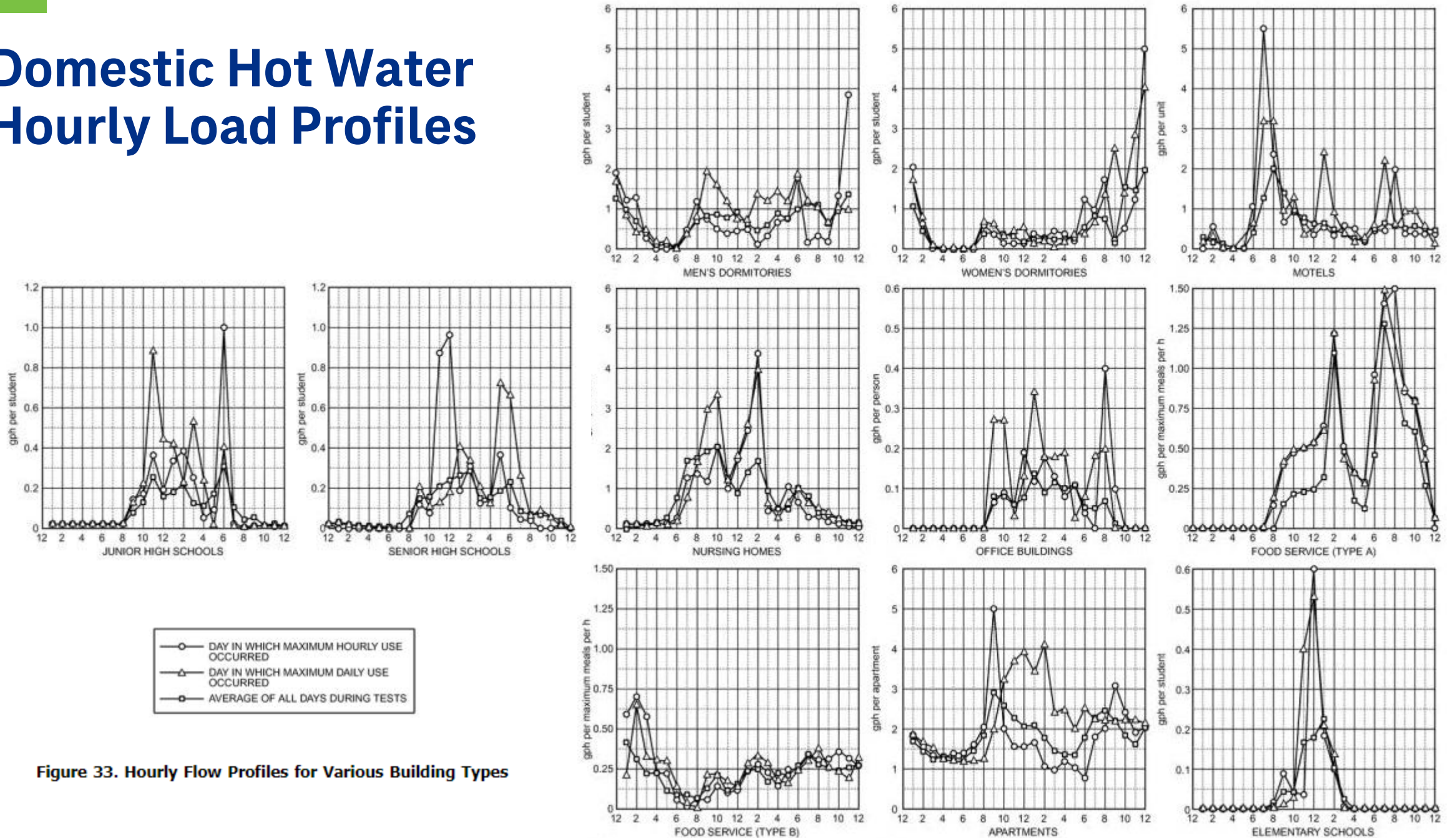


Figure 33. Hourly Flow Profiles for Various Building Types



Knowledge Check #1

What are some components of building energy modeling?



Building Energy Modeling

- Weather Data (location, TMY3)
- Building Occupancy
- Building Area (sf)
- Ventilation Loads (ASHRAE 62.1)
- Internal Loads (equipment, lighting, people)
- Building Envelope (ASHRAE 90.1, Passive House)
- Infiltration Loads
- Schedules (occupancy, lighting, equipment)
- Space Temperature Setpoints



Building Energy Modeling Effect on GHX Design



Peak vs. Annual Energy Loads

Monthly Load Data

| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 0 | 0 | 463087 | 1292 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 379962 | 1226 |
| March | 131 | 6 | 323065 | 1008 |
| April | 5366 | 228 | 171127 | 639 |
| May | 49673 | 656 | 0 | 0 |
| June | 120708 | 931 | 0 | 0 |
| July | 205722 | 1001 | 0 | 0 |
| August | 167315 | 879 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 84358 | 775 | 1136 | 88 |
| October | 1647 | 23 | 109166 | 422 |
| November | 0 | 0 | 268133 | 1077 |
| December | 0 | 0 | 404280 | 1491 |
| Total: | 634918 | 3.0 | 2119956 | 3.0 |

Flow Rate: 3.0 gpm/ton Unit Inlet (°F): 59.2 41.9

Monthly Load Data

| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 0 | 0 | 176812 | 372 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 140719 | 384 |
| March | 0 | 0 | 111464 | 324 |
| April | 0 | 0 | 49966 | 232 |
| May | 51986 | 347 | 0 | 0 |
| June | 105559 | 417 | 0 | 0 |
| July | 150200 | 441 | 0 | 0 |
| August | 128065 | 380 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 72744 | 355 | 0 | 0 |
| October | 0 | 0 | 18366 | 163 |
| November | 0 | 0 | 98421 | 329 |
| December | 0 | 0 | 153386 | 434 |
| Total: | 508554 | 3.0 | 749133 | 3.0 |

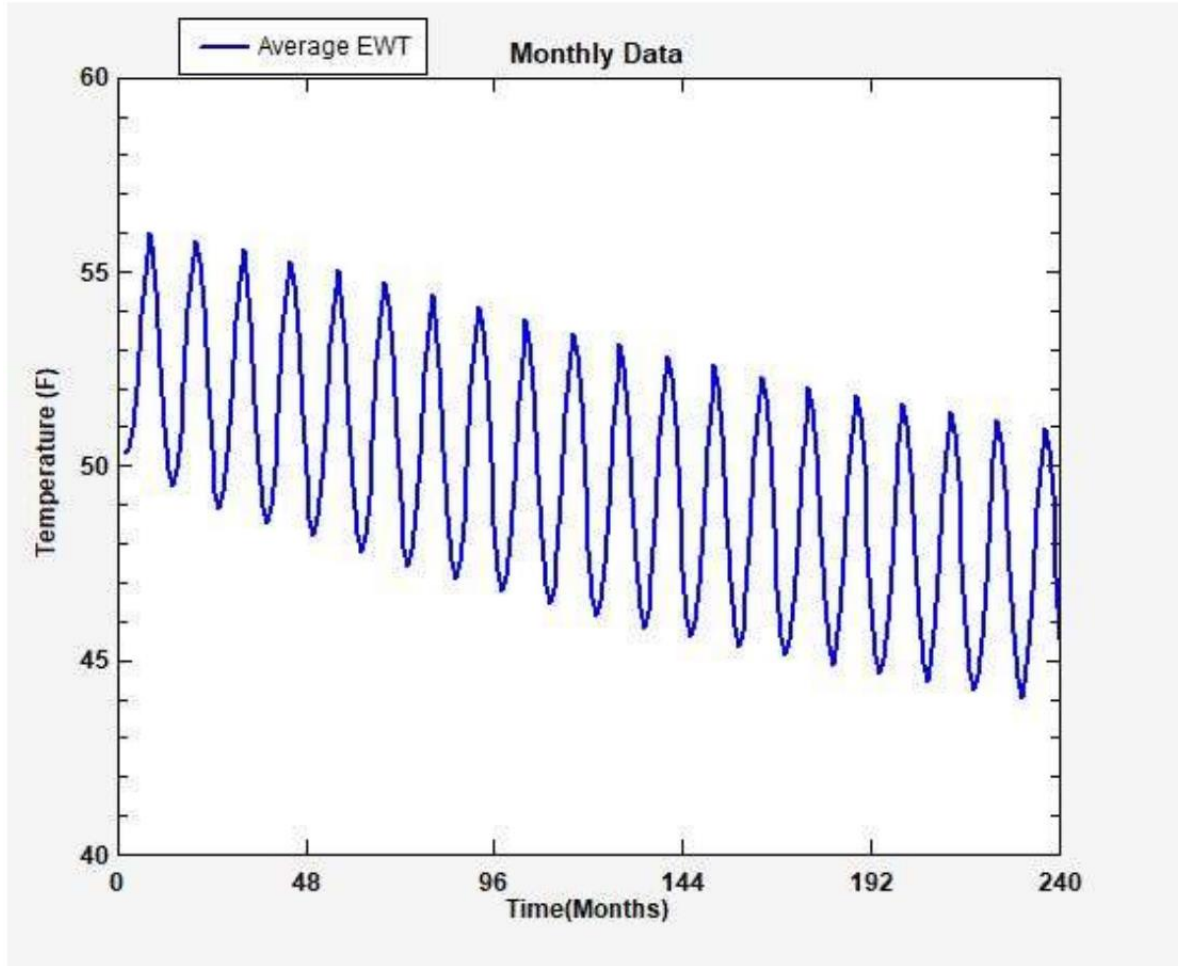
Flow Rate: 3.0 gpm/ton Unit Inlet (°F): 62.0 48.6

Monthly Load Data

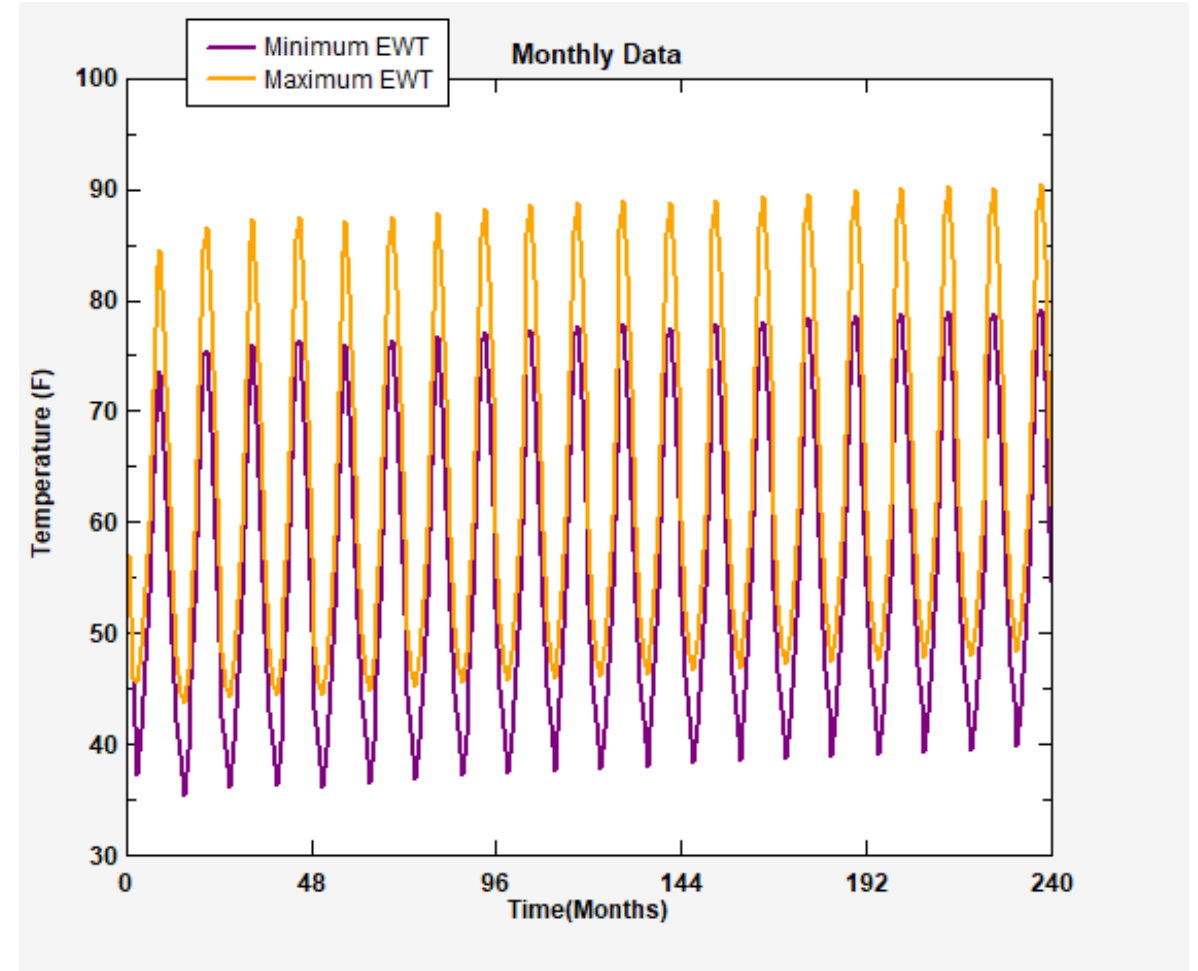
| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 0 | 0 | 417384 | 927 |
| February | 0 | 0 | 326140 | 954 |
| March | 1686 | 63 | 250778 | 784 |
| April | 6645 | 144 | 102030 | 544 |
| May | 112178 | 929 | 0 | 0 |
| June | 259035 | 1099 | 0 | 0 |
| July | 391219 | 1212 | 0 | 0 |
| August | 324168 | 1039 | 0 | 0 |
| September | 167921 | 988 | 78 | 10 |
| October | 19667 | 132 | 31335 | 300 |
| November | 0 | 0 | 223940 | 791 |
| December | 0 | 0 | 361744 | 1058 |
| Total: | 1282518 | 3.0 | 1713427 | 3.0 |

Flow Rate: 3.0 gpm/ton Unit Inlet (°F): 62.4 49.5

Thermal Drift



HEATING DOMINANT

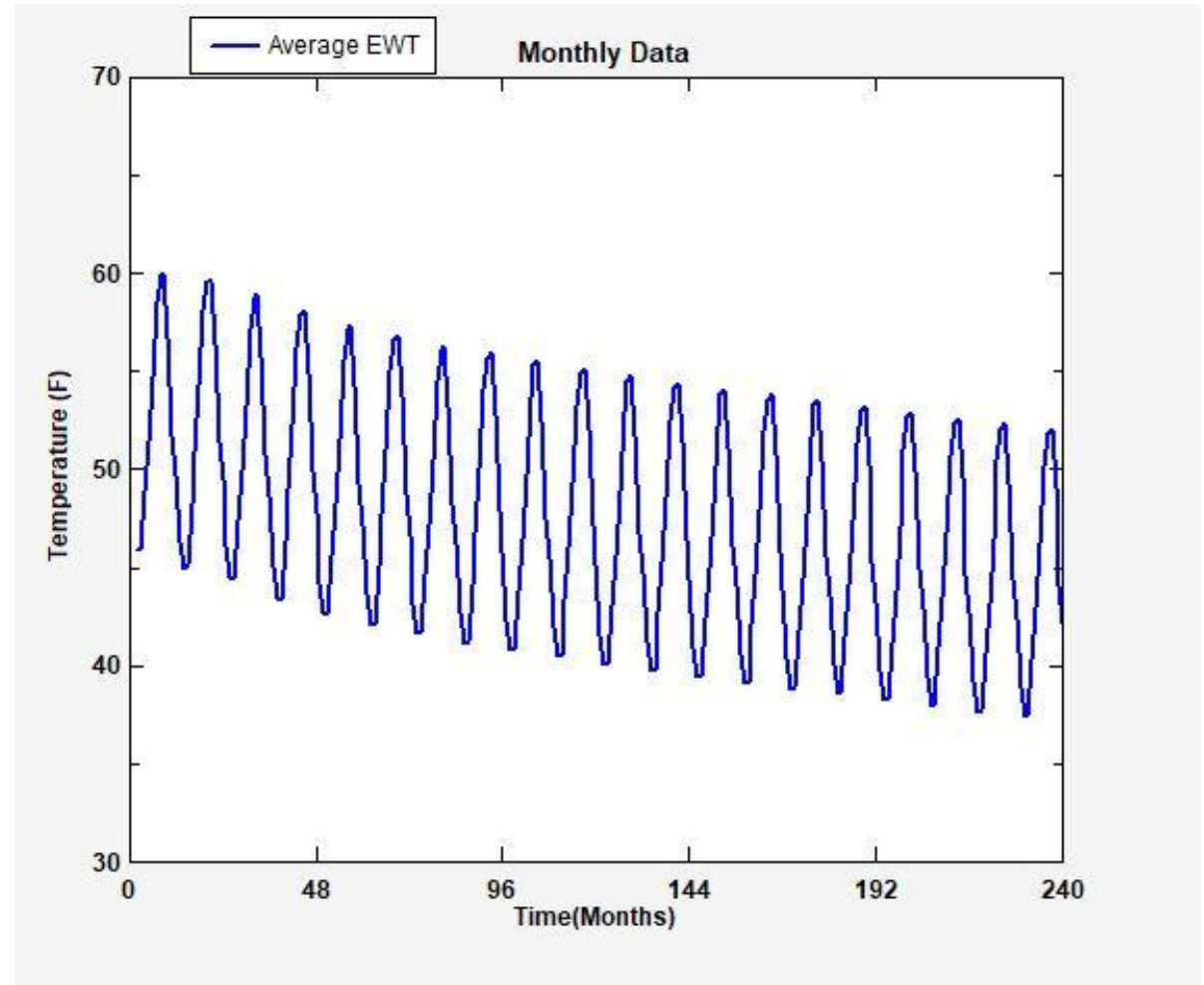


COOLING DOMINANT

Optimizing GHX Design

Monthly Load Data

| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 164 | 12 | 276281 | 531 |
| February | 285 | 13 | 237738 | 510 |
| March | 7242 | 93 | 184659 | 406 |
| April | 26645 | 261 | 139124 | 371 |
| May | 61813 | 387 | 111848 | 279 |
| June | 103572 | 399 | 83513 | 228 |
| July | 118106 | 341 | 76349 | 180 |
| August | 113720 | 378 | 77641 | 197 |
| September | 66238 | 322 | 95590 | 229 |
| October | 20357 | 265 | 154153 | 359 |
| November | 4505 | 89 | 168428 | 398 |
| December | 41 | 5 | 248962 | 487 |
| Total: | 522688 | 3.0 | 1854286 | 3.0 |
| | | Hours at Peak | | Hours at Peak |



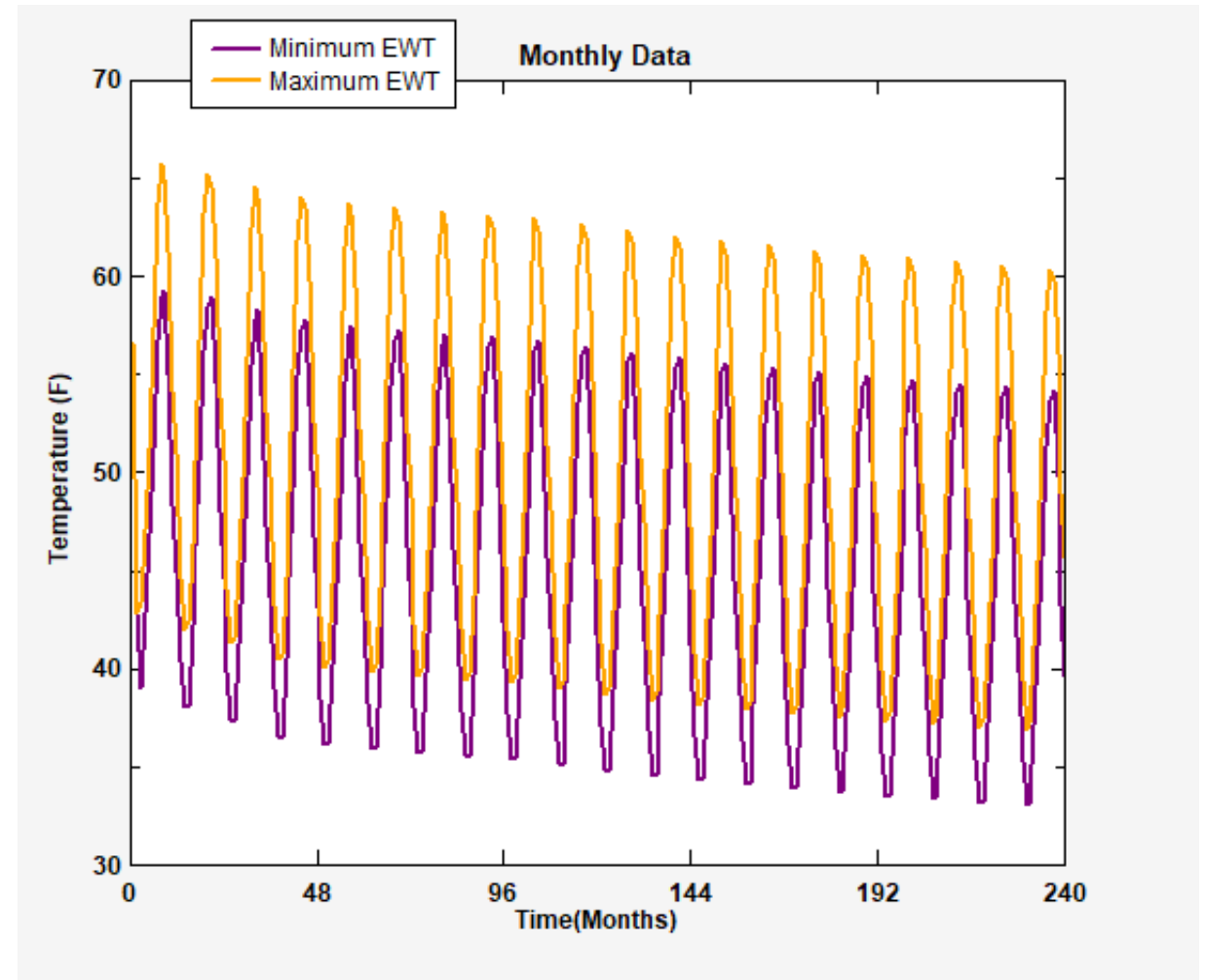
22 500' Boreholes @ 30' OC

Optimizing GHX Design

Monthly Load Data

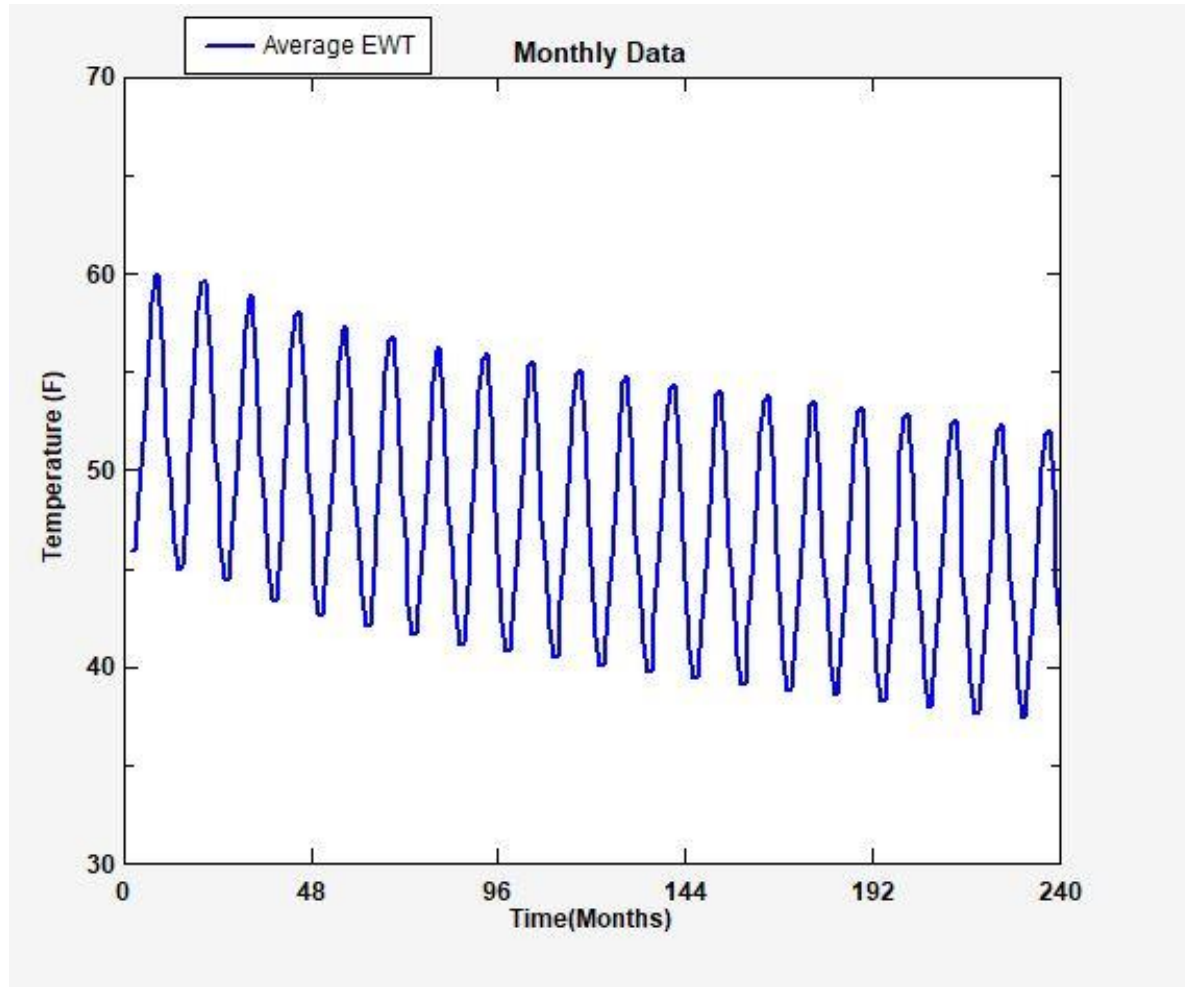
| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 164 | 12 | 276281 | 531 |
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| November | 4505 | 89 | 168428 | 398 |
| December | 41 | 5 | 248962 | 487 |
| Total: | 522688 | 3.0 | 1854286 | 3.0 |

Hours at Peak: 3.0 (Cooling), 3.0 (Heating)

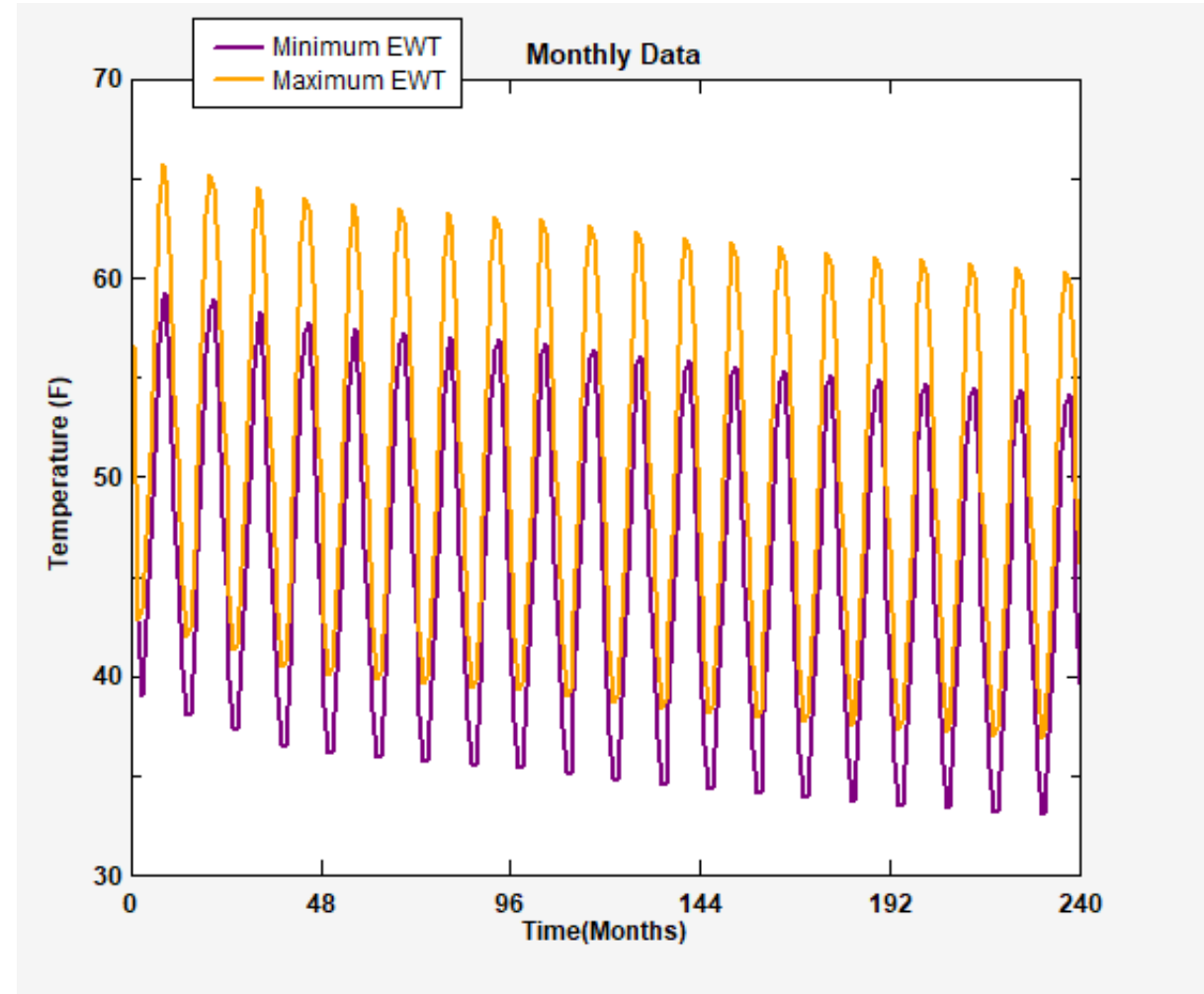


11 800' Boreholes @ 30' OC

Optimizing GHX Design



22 500' Boreholes @ 30' OC



11 800' Boreholes @ 30' OC



Individual Building Geothermal



CASE STUDY

1 Java – Brooklyn, NY

- Mixed-use new construction

- 800 Residential Units
- 13,000+ sf Retail
- Below Grade Parking

- Cooling Dominant

- 320 boreholes (500' @ 15' OC)

- Ground Source Heat Pumps (apartments and common spaces) & Electric Heat (mechanical rooms & storage rooms)

- Dry Cooler required for long term system thermal balance and performance

| | Cooling | | Heating | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) | Total (kBtu) | Peak (kBtu/hr) |
| January | 122711 | 1526 | 1452573 | 6344 |
| February | 129416 | 1228 | 1292623 | 6864 |
| March | 249972 | 2739 | 844480 | 3895 |
| April | 467103 | 4300 | 596770 | 3098 |
| May | 983975 | 5889 | 502752 | 2938 |
| June | 2148772 | 8030 | 474741 | 2634 |
| July | 3254485 | 9010 | 489796 | 2633 |
| August | 2931221 | 8826 | 489523 | 2632 |
| September | 1570104 | 7241 | 476548 | 2681 |
| October | 875190 | 5584 | 567930 | 3423 |
| November | 220855 | 2197 | 815202 | 4333 |
| December | 152348 | 1809 | 1200563 | 4874 |
| Total | 13106151 | | 9203501 | |
| Hours at Peak | | 9.0 | | 5.0 |



Knowledge Check #2

How does building energy modeling effect GHX design for an individual building?



District Geothermal Systems



District Geothermal Building Energy Modeling

Feasibility Study

- UTEN: Evaluating 20+ sites to get down to one
- Where do you begin? How much effort do you put into accurate building energy modeling?
 - Public assessors information
 - EUI factors based on occupancy and square footage

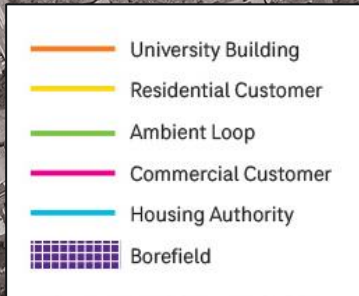
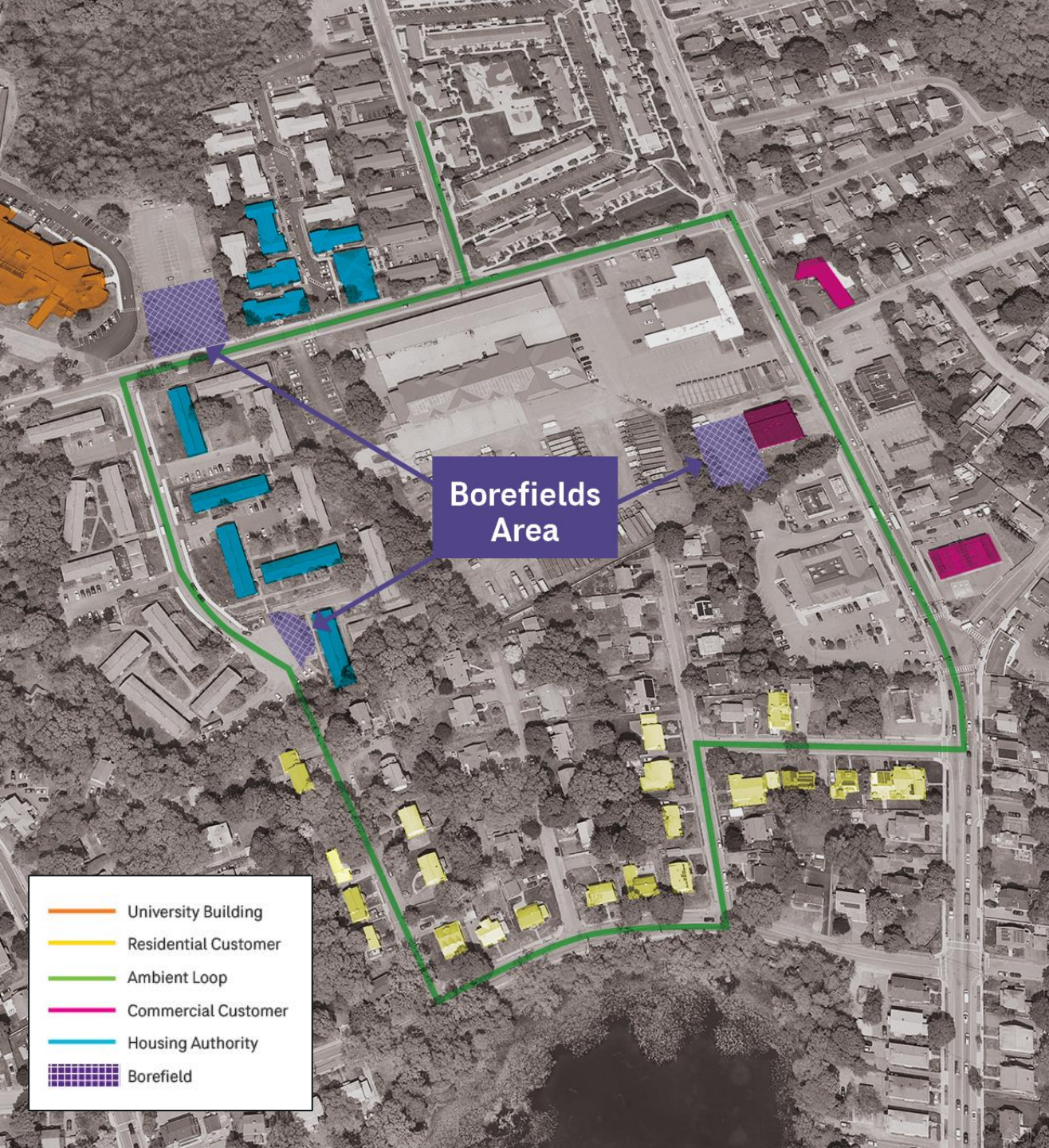
Detailed Design

- Manual J calculations
- Existing plans & site visits to build detailed energy models
- Important Characteristics for District System
 - Diversity of Loads (Commercial vs. Residential; Heating dominant vs. cooling dominant)
 - Annual balance of loads

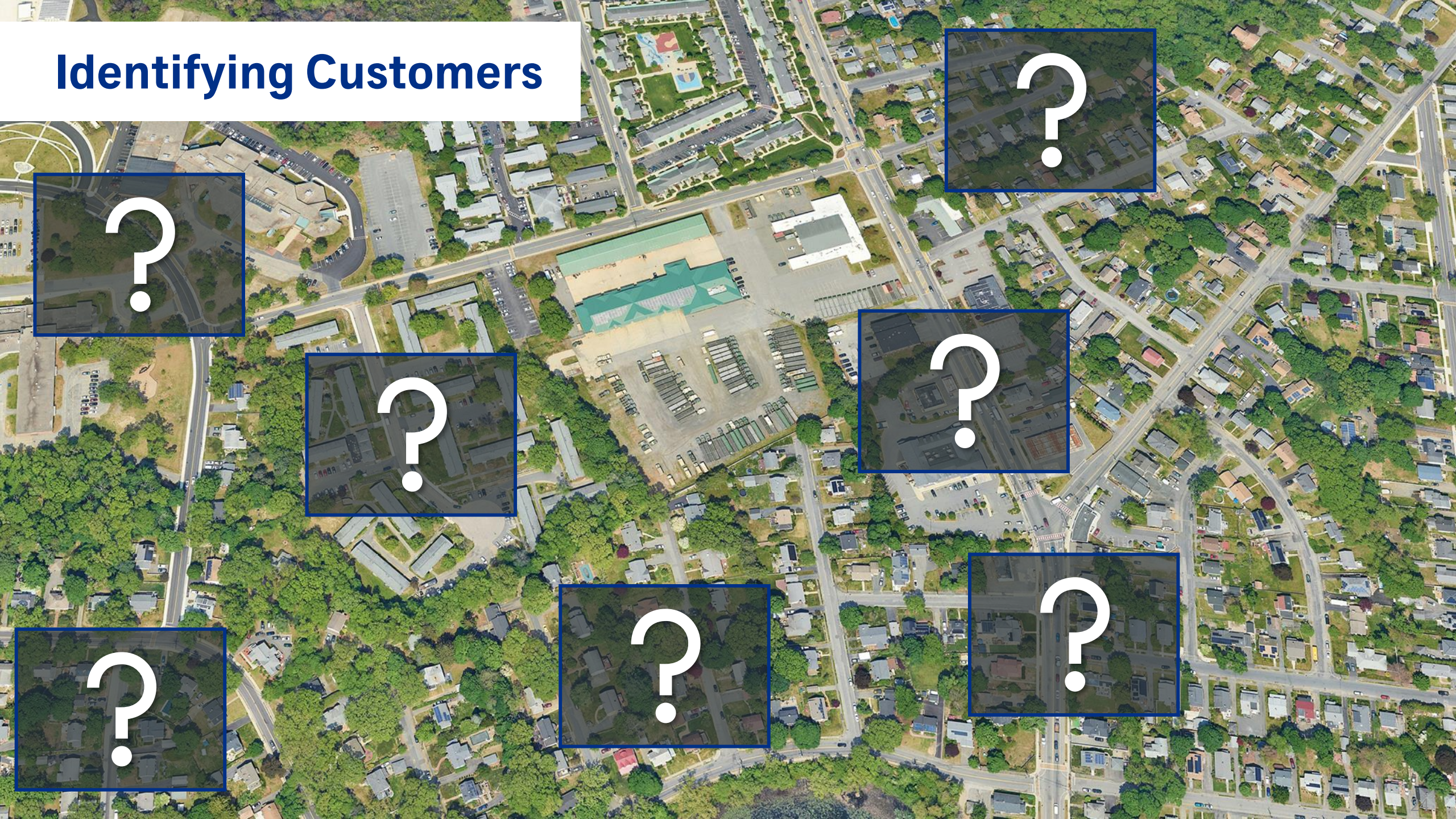
CASE STUDY

Eversource Geothermal Pilot Project (Framingham, MA)

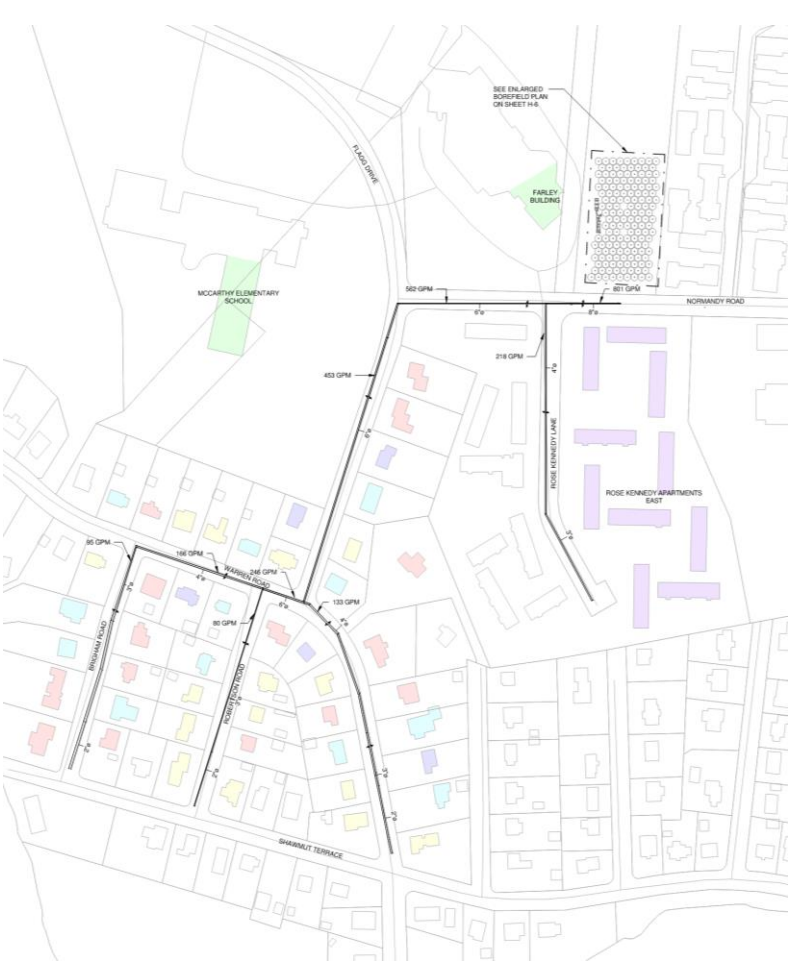
- One main and two recharge borefields
- Primarily Environmental Justice Community
- Mix of loads for system balancing
- 1+ mile of ambient loop piping
- Six outside stakeholders to integrate



Identifying Customers

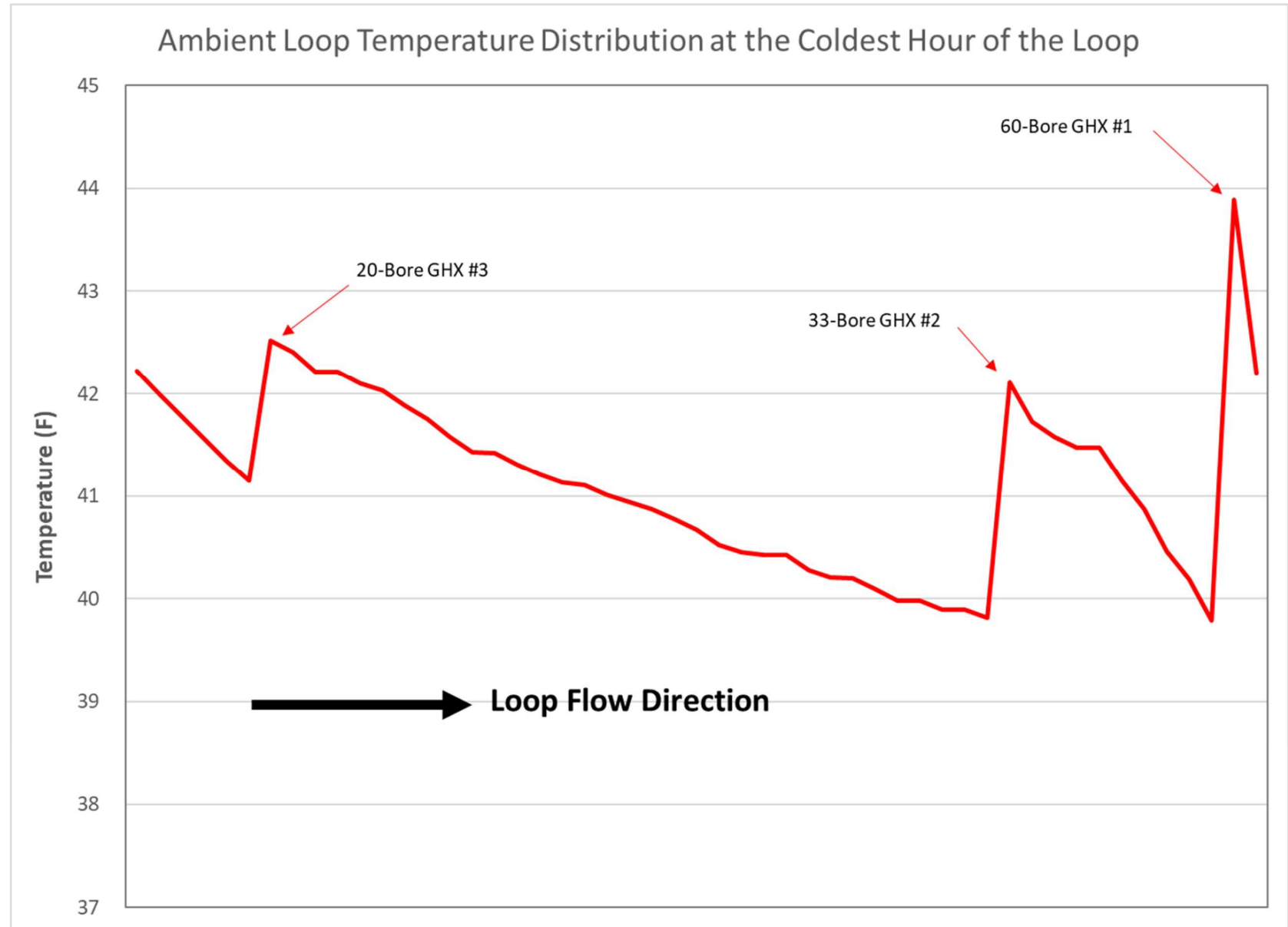


Building the District & Getting the Loads



TRNSYS Modeling

- Transient modeling to assess the performance of the thermal system
- Ensure customers get similar entering water temperatures along the loop
- Recharge Borefields boost temperature





Knowledge Check #3

How does building energy modeling effect GHX design for a district of buildings?



Learning Objectives

1. Understand the components of building energy modeling
2. Understand the effect of building energy modeling on ground heat exchanger (GHX) design for an individual building
3. Understanding the effect of building energy modeling on GHX design for a district geothermal system

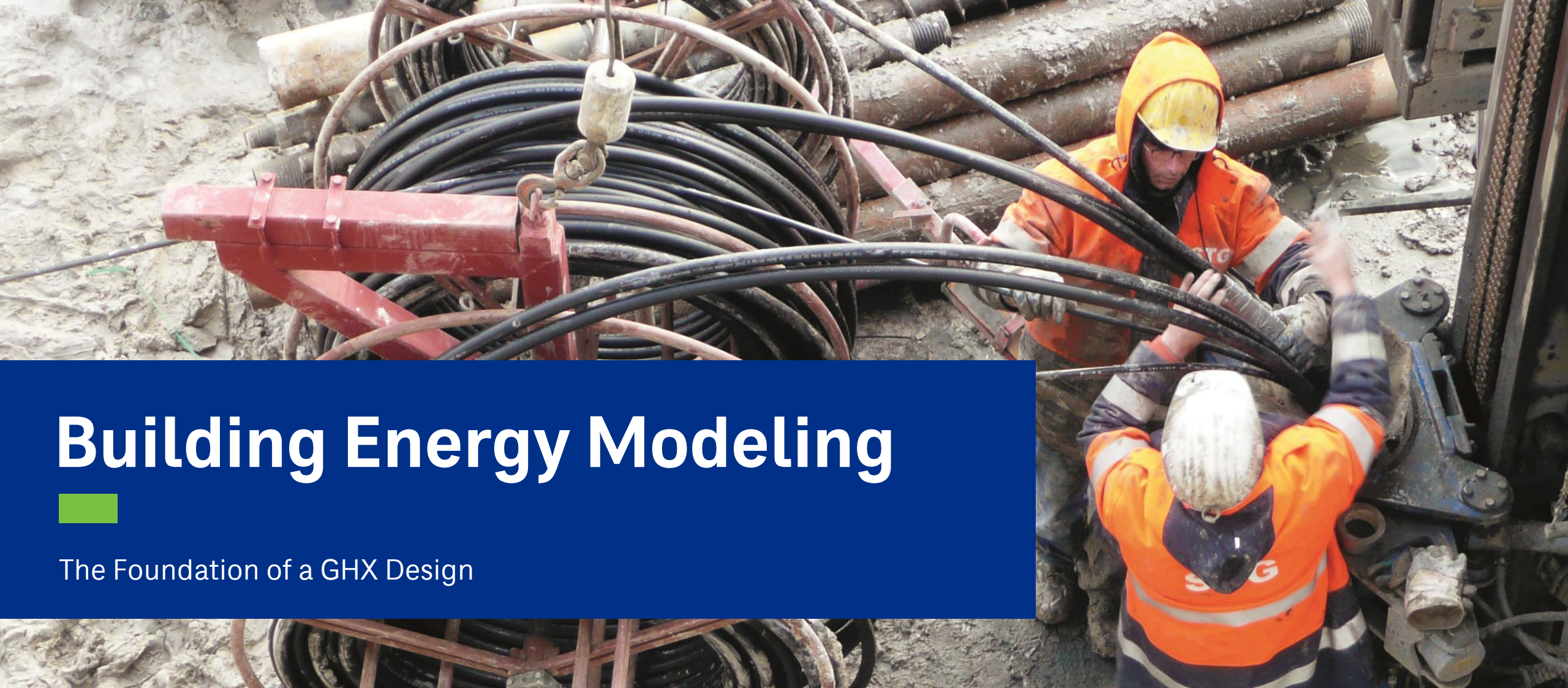


Questions?



Thank you

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