



NY - GEO 2024
October 22 -23 | BROOKLYN, NY



Feasibility Studies: Approaches & Tools

Scott Thompson / *Climate Control Group*

&

Tim Ashmore / *CDM Smith*

DESIGN TRACK • DAY 1 • 2:45 PM



NY - GEO 2024
October 22 -23 | BROOKLYN, NY



Feasibility Studies: Approaches & Tools

Scott Thompson/ *Climate Control Group*

DESIGN TRACK • DAY 1 • 2:45 PM



Geothermal Feasibility Tools

**Presenter:
Scott Thompson
Climate Control Group**

NY Geo 2024 Conference



About Your Presenter

Scott Thompson

Regional Sales Engineer, CCG

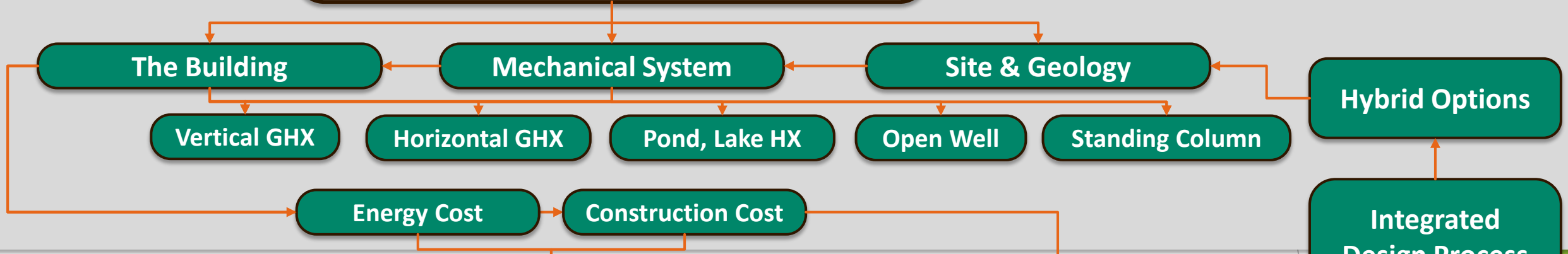


- Throughout his career, Scott has remained active in the HVAC and geothermal industries through equipment sales, application and engineering.
- 10+ years of commercial HVAC experience with a focus on renewables and geothermal heat pumps
- Graduate from the University of Oklahoma School of Engineering. Boomer Sooner!
- Current focus is education and utilization of geothermal technologies and tax incentives.

LET'S DISCUSS FEASIBILITY

FEASIBILITY

Client Desires a GeoExchange System



CONFIRMATION

Test Drill / Excavation TC Test

DESIGN

Design GHX Design System

Specs & Drawings

IMPLEMENTATION

Construction QA / QC

OPERATION

Commissioning

Operator Training

Design Conventional HVAC system if capital cost is too high or site unsuited for Geo

Feasibility Tools

- **System operating and lifecycle costs**
 - Geo vs alternative systems – **BEST software**
 - Energy efficiency and lifecycle cost
- **Initial Cost**
 - Incentives and tax credits – **Geo Economics Calculator**
 - IRA geo tax incentives
- **Alternative Geo Application**
 - Hybrid geo system – **HyGCHP Tool**
 - Balancing initial and long-term costs

System Comparison

- **BEST – Building Efficiency System Tool**
- Developed by the Hydronic Industry Alliance
- Interactive commercial building HVAC system efficiency comparison application



Download Here!



[*https://www.tacomfort.com/software/best-building-efficiency-systems-tool/](https://www.tacomfort.com/software/best-building-efficiency-systems-tool/)

System Comparison - BEST

File View Edit Help

Project | System 1 | System 2 | System 3 | System 4 | Overview | Energy Costs | Monthly Energy Costs | Life Cycle Costs | DEER


Project

Project: NYGEO Headquarters

Location: Brooklyn, NY

Engineer: BEST Engineering

Date: 10/22/24



Nearest Climatological Data Location

Country: United States

State: NY City: NEW YORK LAGUARDIA ARPT

Building Size

Length: 100 (ft) Floor Height: 10 (ft) Perimeter Width: 15 (ft)

Width: 100 (ft) Number of Floors: 10 Total Area: 100000 (ft²)

Energy Costs

Applies to: All Systems

Electricity Demand:	.00	\$/Kw
Electricity Consumption:	.1944	\$/KwHr
Fossil Fuel Oil:	5.32	\$/Gal
Fossil Fuel Natural Gas:	1.00	\$/Therm
Fossil Fuel Propane:	3.71	\$/Gal

Wizards

Heat Loss

----- Heat Loss / Area -----

Enter Total Enter BreakDown Use Default User Input

Total Heat Loss:	2128500	(BtuH)
Heat Loss / Area:	21.3	(BtuH/ft ²)
Ventilation Loss:	855400	(BtuH)
Envelope Heat Loss:	1273100	(BtuH)

Heat Gain

----- Heat Gain / Area -----

Enter Total Enter Breakdown Use Default User Input

Total Heat Gain:	2886000	(BtuH)	People Heat Gain:	200000	(BtuH)
Heat Gain / Area:	28.9		Light Heat Gain:	680000	(BtuH)
Ventilation Sensible Gain:	243600	(BtuH)	Equipment Heat Gain:	340000	(BtuH)
Ventilation Latent Gain:	346545	(BtuH)	Envelope Heat Gain:	1075855	(BtuH)

System Comparison - BEST

- Preloaded with ARI data for all 50 states
- Customizable Building Design

Nearest Climatological Data Location

Country:

State: City:

Building Size

Length: (ft) Floor Height: (ft) Perimeter Width: (ft)

Width: (ft) Number of Floors: Total Area: (ft²)

Energy Costs

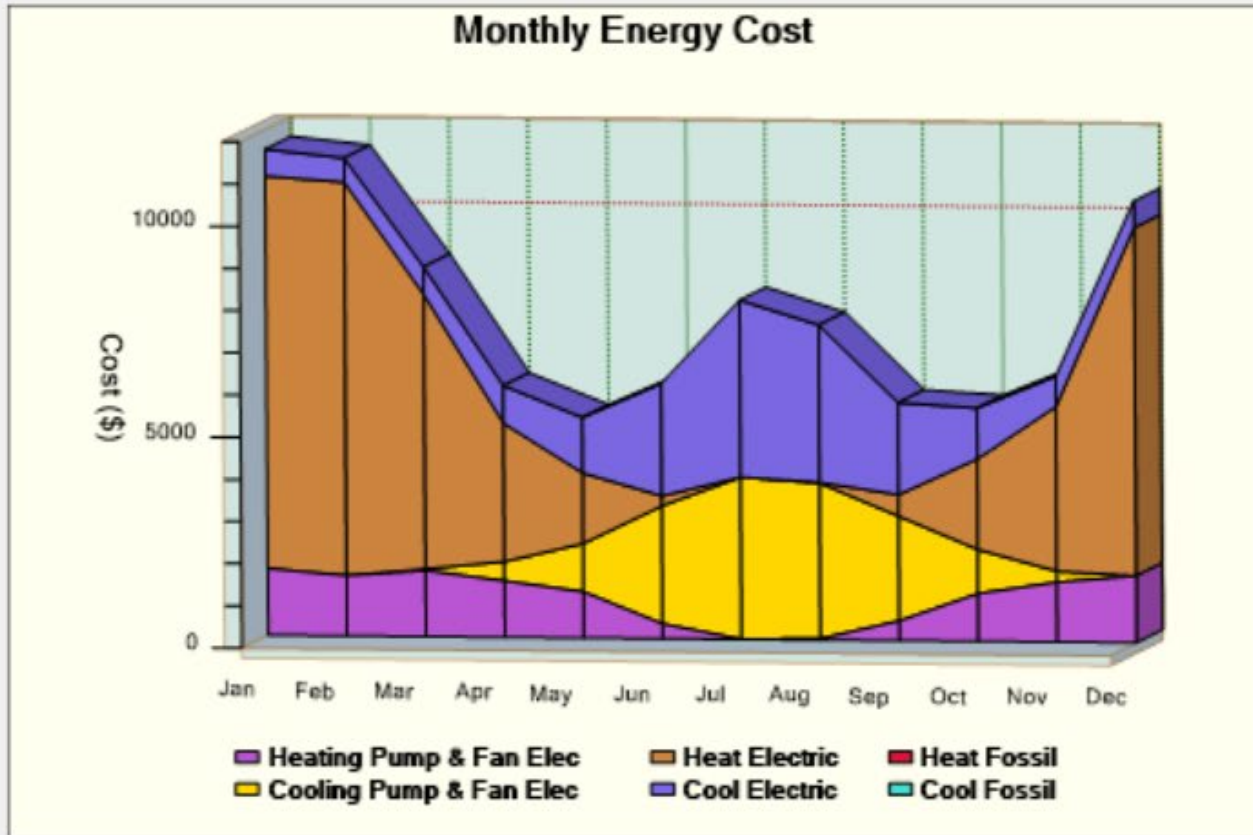
Applies to:

Electricity Demand:	<input type="text" value=".00"/>	\$/Kw
Electricity Consumption:	<input type="text" value=".1944"/>	\$/KwHr
Fossil Fuel Oil:	<input type="text" value="5.32"/>	\$/Gal
Fossil Fuel Natural Gas:	<input type="text" value="1.00"/>	\$/Therm
Fossil Fuel Propane:	<input type="text" value="3.71"/>	\$/Gal

- Regularly updated energy costs for each state
- Reliable financial estimates

System Comparison - BEST

System Description: **WSHP Closed Loop Geothermal**



Total Annual Energy Cost

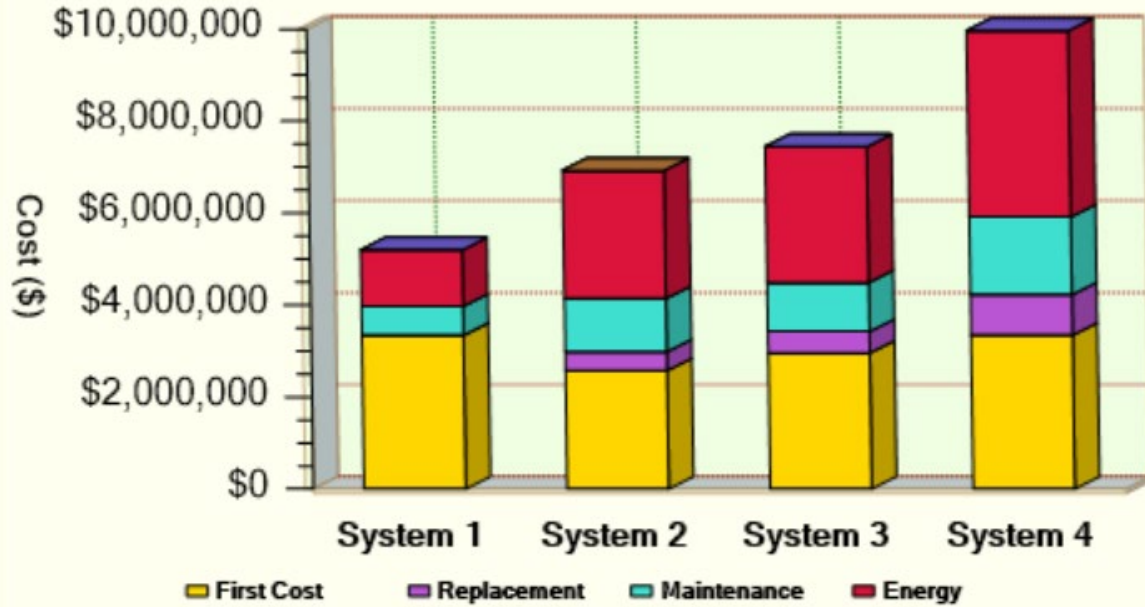
	HVAC	Domestic Hot Water	
Electrical Consumption:	474924	0	KwHr
Electrical Consumption Cost	92325	0	\$
Electrical Demand Cost	0	0	\$
Total Electrical Cost	92325	0	\$
Fossil Fuel Consumption:	0	0	MMBtu
Fossil Fuel Cost	0	0	\$
Total Energy Cost	92325	0	\$

System Performance

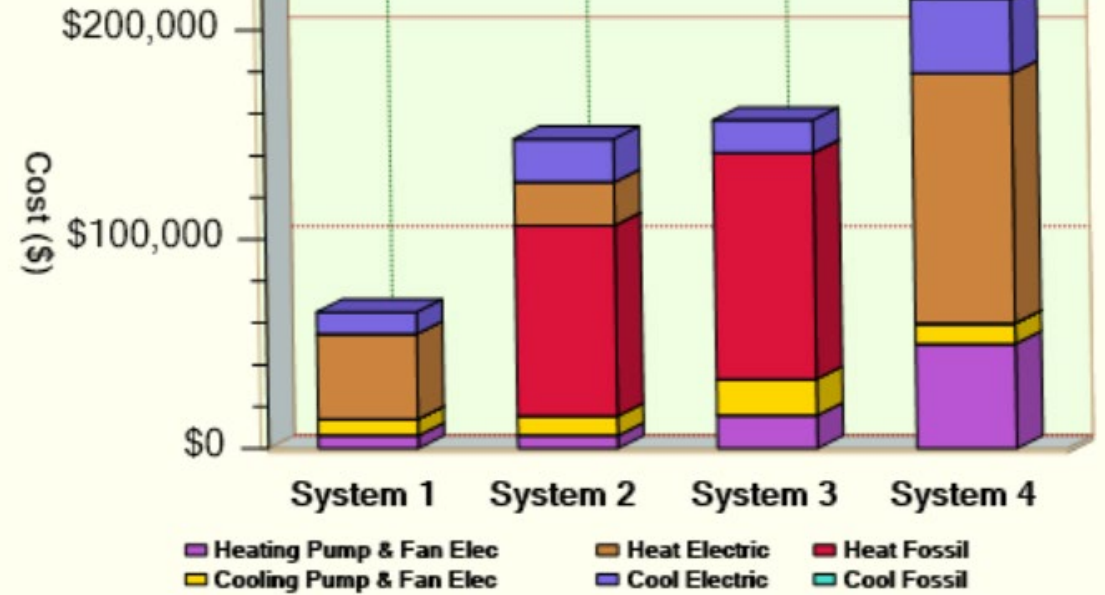
	Heating	Cooling
Pump & Fan Distribution HP	11.27	53.18
System BEER	49.79	

System Comparison - BEST

Total System Life Cycle Cost



Total HVAC System Energy Cost



System Description

System 1: WSHP Closed Loop Geothermal

System 2: WSHP Boiler/Tower

System 3: VAV, Hot Water Heating, Chilled Water Cooling, Air Cooled Chiller, 4 Pipe

System 4: VRF, Air To Air

System Comparison - BEST

Cooling

	Pump & Fan (\$)	Other Elec (\$)	Fossil Oil (\$)	Fossil Nat Gas (\$)	Fossil Propane (\$)	Total (\$)
Jan	0	404	0	0	0	404
Feb	0	365	0	0	0	365
Mar	13	409	0	0	0	422
Apr	415	696	0	0	0	1110
May	715	884	0	0	0	1599
Jun	1496	1541	0	0	0	3037
Jul	2122	2153	0	0	0	4276
Aug	1809	1678	0	0	0	3487
Sep	1089	1054	0	0	0	2143
Oct	154	484	0	0	0	638
Nov	47	411	0	0	0	459
Dec	0	404	0	0	0	404
Total	7860	10485	0	0	0	18345

Total Annual HVAC Energy Cost

	System 1	System 2	System 3	System 4	
Electrical Consumption:	527,044	459,002	392,956	1,739,309	KwHr
Electrical Consumption Cost	65,195	56,779	48,609	215,152	\$
Electrical Demand Cost	0	0	0	0	\$
Total Electrical Cost	65,195	56,779	48,609	215,152	\$
Fuel Consumption Oil:	0	0	0	0	Therm
Fuel Consumption Natural Gas:	0	54,196	64,427	0	Gal
Fuel Consumption Propane:	0	0	0	0	Gal
Fossil Fuel Cost	0	91,212	108,430	0	\$
Total Cost:	65,195	147,991	157,039	215,152	\$
Savings for System 1:		82,796	91,844	149,957	\$

Key Takeaways

- **Powerful tool, but easy to use**
 - “Wizard” style easy selection or fully customizable
 - Preloaded data for over 30 different systems
- **The price is right!**
 - No upfront cost or licensing fees
 - Big thanks to the Hydronic Industry Alliance
- **Full system comparison reports**
 - Energy cost and consumption data
 - Compare total system lifecycle costs
 - Geo is the clear winner

Initial Cost

- **Geo Economics Calculator**
- Developed by ClimateMaster and Comfortworks
- Compare the upfront economics of Geothermal vs traditional HVAC systems
- Take advantage of all the geo incentives available!



Download Here!



<https://www.climatemaster.com/commercial/tax-credit>

Federal GEO Incentives



IRA 2023

COMMERCIAL GEOTHERMAL
Tax Guide 2023



- Geothermal is now on renewable energy credits equal to wind and solar
- This is not product or brand specific
- 10 Year 30% Credit through 2032
- 10% Domestic Content
- Direct IRS Pay for NFP & Govt Bldgs
- 179D increases from \$1.80 to \$5.00/sqft

GEO ECONOMICS TOOL - IRA

How it Works

ClimateMaster Geothermal HVAC Economics - using Special Depreciation Allowance


Project Name:

Conditioned Area (sq ft): Vertical Market: State:

sq ft per ton: *Tip: 400 sq ft per ton is a typical rule of thumb for commercial buildings. Variables that affect this include glass area and type, insulation values, lighting and plug load, etc.*

Calculated HVAC Tons: Brief Description: Business Type:

Updated 3-20-23 based on current data
This is an estimating tool only. [Click Here](#) for Disclaimer, Terms & Conditions



Geothermal Costs

Geothermal HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Geothermal HVAC Cost

Describe your Geothermal System:

Additional Cost: \$ 500,000
 Utility Rebate*: \$ (25,000)
 Net Additional Cost: \$ 475,000

Other Installation Costs**: portion of electrical, plumbing and GC fees related to HVAC system (for either system)

Income Tax Rate: Corporate / Federal State *Based on business type and state table in Input Data Tab*

Energy Credit: Domestic Content Credit: Energy Community Credit:

Energy Inflation: *Tip: This number typically follows economic inflation trends. Generally between 2% to 8%.*

Savings per sq ft: in energy and maintenance *Tip: Lean on the experience of your trusted HVAC professional to estimate this savings vs. alternative systems.*

Annual Cost Savings: calculated

Conventional Costs

Conventional HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Conventional HVAC Cost

Describe your Conventional HVAC System:

Tip: Varies based on region and incentives. Consult your local energy program specialist for insight.

Project Completion Year: Project Completion Quarter:

YEAR	GEO DEPREC ALLOWANCE		GEO DEPREC DEDUCTION		GEO TAX SAVINGS****		Addtl Cost	GEO CASH FLOW			CONV CASH FLOW		GEO NET CASH FLOW	
	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Tax Credits	Depreciation		Tax Savings	O&M Savings	Total	Depr Ded	Tax Savings	Annual	Cumulative
2023	80%	15.00%	\$ 1,020,000	\$ 38,250	\$ 850,000	\$ 355,572	\$ (475,000)	\$ 1,205,572	\$ 9,375	\$ 739,947	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 729,393	\$ 729,393
2024		34.00%		\$ 86,700		\$ 29,131		\$ 29,131	\$ 39,375	\$ 68,506	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 57,952	\$ 787,346
2025		20.40%		\$ 52,020		\$ 17,479		\$ 17,479	\$ 41,344	\$ 58,822	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 48,269	\$ 835,614
2026		12.24%		\$ 31,212		\$ 10,487		\$ 10,487	\$ 43,411	\$ 53,898	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 43,344	\$ 878,958
2027		11.30%		\$ 28,815		\$ 9,682		\$ 9,682	\$ 45,581	\$ 55,263	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 44,709	\$ 923,668
2028		7.06%		\$ 18,003		\$ 6,049		\$ 6,049	\$ 47,861	\$ 53,910	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 43,356	\$ 967,024
2029									\$ 50,254	\$ 50,254	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 39,700	\$ 1,006,723
2030									\$ 52,766	\$ 52,766	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 42,212	\$ 1,048,936
2031									\$ 55,405	\$ 55,405	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 44,851	\$ 1,093,787
2032									\$ 58,175	\$ 58,175	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 47,621	\$ 1,141,408
2033									\$ 61,084	\$ 61,084	\$ 31,410	\$ 10,554	\$ 50,530	\$ 1,191,937

Geothermal HVAC systems are classified as "Energy Property" which are eligible for 5 yr MACR depreciation and a special depreciation allowance
 Conventional HVAC systems are generally only eligible for 39 yr (27.5 yr residential) straightline depreciation under tax code with no special depreciation allowance
 Analysis assumes a mid-quarter depreciation convention based on the substantial completion quarter
 Tax credits may be carried back up to 3 years for credits arising in tax years beginning after 12/31/22
 Tax credits may be transferred (generally sold at some discount) to an unrelated party beginning in 2023
 Energy credit limited to 10%; and domestic content and energy community tax credits are not available for projects placed in service before 1/1/23

Simple Payback Years: 0

Internal Rate of Return: infinite

Installation Comparison

Traditional HVAC \$1,700,000

Geothermal \$2,200,000

Geothermal Savings

IRA Tax Credit \$860,000

Savings per Sq Ft .75

Geo Cumulative Savings

Year 1 \$787,346

Year 5 \$967,024

Year 10 \$1,191,937

PRE-IRA REAL ECONOMICS

Non-Taxable Entity

ClimateMaster Geothermal HVAC Economics - using Special Depreciation Allowance Updated 3/22/21 based on current data. This is an estimating tool only. [Click Here](#) for Disclaimer, Terms & Conditions.

Project Name:

Conditioned Area (sq ft): Vertical Market: State:

sq ft per ton: Tip: 400 sq ft per ton is a typical rule of thumb for commercial buildings. Variables that effect this include glass area and type, insulation values, lighting and plug load, etc.

Calculated HVAC Tons: Brief Description: Business Type:

Geothermal Costs vs. **Conventional Costs**

Geothermal HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Geothermal HVAC Cost

Describe your Geothermal System:

Conventional HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Conventional HVAC Cost

Describe your Conventional HVAC System:

Additional Cost: \$ 228,480
 Utility Rebate* \$ (16,950)
 Net Additional Cost: \$ 211,530 per ton estimate of utility geo rebate Tip: Varies based on region and incentives. Consult your local energy program specialist for insight.

Other Installation Costs**: portion of electrical, plumbing and GC fees related to HVAC system (for either system) Tip: Rely on your experience / cost quotes to estimate this number

Income Tax Rate: Corporate / Federal: State: Based on business type and state table in Input Data Tab

Energy Credit: Domestic Content Credit: Energy Community Credit: Tip: Choose applicable credit rate % under IRA Guidelines

Energy Inflation: Tip: This number typically follows economic inflation trends. Generally between 2% to 8%

Savings per sq ft: in energy and maintenance Tip: Lean on the experience of your trusted HVAC professional to estimate this savings vs. alternative systems

Annual Cost Savings: calculated

Project Completion Year: Project Completion Quarter:

YEAR	GEO DEPREC ALLOWANCE		GEO DEPREC DEDUCTION		GEO TAX SAVINGS***		Addtl Cost	GEO CASH FLOW			CONV CASH FLOW		GEO NET CASH FLOW	
	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Tax Credits	Depreciation		Tax Savings	O&M Savings	Total	Depr Ded	Tax Savings	Annual	Cumulative
2023	0%	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (211,530)	\$ -	\$ 8,500	\$ (203,030)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (203,030)	\$ (203,030)
2024		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 35,020	\$ 35,020	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,020	\$ (168,010)
2025		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 36,071	\$ 36,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,071	\$ (131,939)
2026		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 37,153	\$ 37,153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,153	\$ (94,787)
2027		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 38,267	\$ 38,267	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,267	\$ (56,519)
2028		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 39,415	\$ 39,415	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,415	\$ (17,104)
2029									\$ 40,598	\$ 40,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,598	\$ 23,494
2030									\$ 41,816	\$ 41,816	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,816	\$ 65,309
2031									\$ 43,070	\$ 43,070	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,070	\$ 108,380
2032									\$ 44,362	\$ 44,362	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,362	\$ 152,742
2033									\$ 45,693	\$ 45,693	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,693	\$ 198,435

Geothermal HVAC systems are classified as "Energy Property" which are eligible for 5 yr MACRS depreciation and a special depreciation allowance. Conventional HVAC systems are generally only eligible for 39 yr (27.5 yr residential) straightline depreciation under tax code with no special depreciation allowance. Analysis assumes a mid-quarter depreciation convention based on the substantial completion quarter. Tax credits may be carried back up to 3 years for credits arising in tax years beginning after 12/31/22. Tax credits may be transferred (generally sold at some discount) to an unrelated party beginning in 2023. Energy credit limited to 10% and domestic content and energy community tax credits are not available for projects placed in service before 1/1/23.

Simple Payback Years: 5.4
 Internal Rate of Return: 14%

Installation Comparison

Traditional HVAC \$845,170
 Geothermal \$1,073,650

Geothermal Savings

IRA Tax Rebate \$0
 Savings per Sq Ft 1.00

Geo Cumulative Savings

Year 1 (\$168,010)
 Year 5 (\$37,04)
 Year 10 \$198,435

IRA ECONOMICS

Non-Taxable Entity

ClimateMaster Geothermal HVAC Economics - using Special Depreciation Allowance Updated 3-22-21 based on current data. This is an estimating tool only. [Click Here](#) for Disclaimer, Terms & Conditions.

Project Name:

Conditioned Area (sq ft): Vertical Market: State:

sq ft per ton: Tip: 400 sq ft per ton is a typical rule of thumb for commercial buildings. Variables that effect this include glass area and type, insulation values, lighting and plug load, etc.

Calculated HVAC Tons: Brief Description: Business Type:

Geothermal Costs vs. **Conventional Costs**

Geothermal HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Geothermal HVAC Cost

Conventional HVAC Cost: per sq ft
 per ton
 Total Conventional HVAC Cost

Describe your Geothermal System: Describe your Conventional HVAC System:

Additional Cost: \$ 228,480
 Utility Rebate* \$ (16,950)
 Net Additional Cost: \$ 211,530 per ton estimate of utility geo rebate Tip: Varies based on region and incentives. Consult your local energy program specialist for insight.

Other Installation Costs** portion of electrical, plumbing and GC fees related to HVAC system (for either system) Tip: Rely on your experience / cost quotes to estimate this number

Income Tax Rate: Corporate / Federal State Based on business type and state table in Input Data Tab

Energy Credit: Domestic Content Credit: Energy Community Credit: Tip: Choose applicable credit rate % under IRA Guidelines

Energy Inflation: Tip: This number typically follows economic inflation trends. Generally between 2% to 6%

Savings per sq ft in energy and maintenance Tip: Lean on the experience of your trusted HVAC professional to estimate this savings vs. alternative systems

Annual Cost Savings calculated

Project Completion Year Project Completion Quarter

YEAR	GEO DEPREC ALLOWANCE		GEO DEPREC DEDUCTION		GEO TAX SAVINGS***		Addtl Cost	GEO CASH FLOW			CONV CASH FLOW		GEO NET CASH FLOW	
	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Special	5 Yr MACRS	Tax Credits	Depreciation		Tax Savings	O&M Savings	Total	Depr Ded	Tax Savings	Annual	Cumulative
2023	0%	0.00%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 422,585	\$ -	\$ (211,530)	\$ 422,585	\$ 8,500	\$ 219,555	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 219,555	\$ 219,555
2024		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 35,020	\$ 35,020	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,020	\$ 254,575
2025		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 36,071	\$ 36,071	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 36,071	\$ 290,646
2026		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 37,153	\$ 37,153	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 37,153	\$ 327,798
2027		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 38,267	\$ 38,267	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 38,267	\$ 366,066
2028		0.00%		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 39,415	\$ 39,415	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,415	\$ 405,481
2029								\$ 40,598	\$ 40,598	\$ 40,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,598	\$ 446,079
2030								\$ 41,816	\$ 41,816	\$ 41,816	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,816	\$ 487,894
2031								\$ 43,070	\$ 43,070	\$ 43,070	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,070	\$ 530,965
2032								\$ 44,362	\$ 44,362	\$ 44,362	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 44,362	\$ 575,327
2033								\$ 45,693	\$ 45,693	\$ 45,693	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,693	\$ 621,020

Geothermal HVAC systems are classified as "Energy Property" which are eligible for 5 yr MACRS depreciation and a special depreciation allowance. Conventional HVAC systems are generally only eligible for 39 yr (27.5 yr residential) straightline depreciation under tax code with no special depreciation allowance. Analysis assumes a mid-quarter depreciation convention based on the substantial completion quarter. Tax credits may be carried back up to 3 years for credits arising in tax years beginning after 12/31/22. Tax credits may be transferred (generally sold at some discount) to an unrelated party beginning in 2023. Energy credit limited to 10% and domestic content and energy community tax credits are not available for projects placed in service before 1/1/23.

Simple Payback Years: 0
 Internal Rate of Return: infinite

Installation Comparison

Traditional HVAC \$845,170

Geothermal \$1,073,650

Geothermal Savings

IRA Tax Rebate \$422,585

Savings per Sq Ft 1.00

Geo Cumulative Savings

Year 1 \$254,575

Year 5 \$366,066

Year 10 \$621,020

Key Takeaways

- **Take advantage of the incentives!**
 - Up to 50% **installed** cost of the entire system
 - Non-taxable entities are now eligible
- **Geo is no longer the higher upfront cost**
 - Less expensive than traditionally “low cost” alternatives
- **We’re here to help**
 - Contact ClimateMaster directly
 - Contact one of our local manufacturer representatives

Alternative Geo



- **HyGCHP – Hybrid Ground-Coupled Heat Pumps**
- Developed by UW Madison and Energy Center of WI
- Compare upfront and lifecycle costs of Hybrid vs Traditional Geo systems

Download Here!

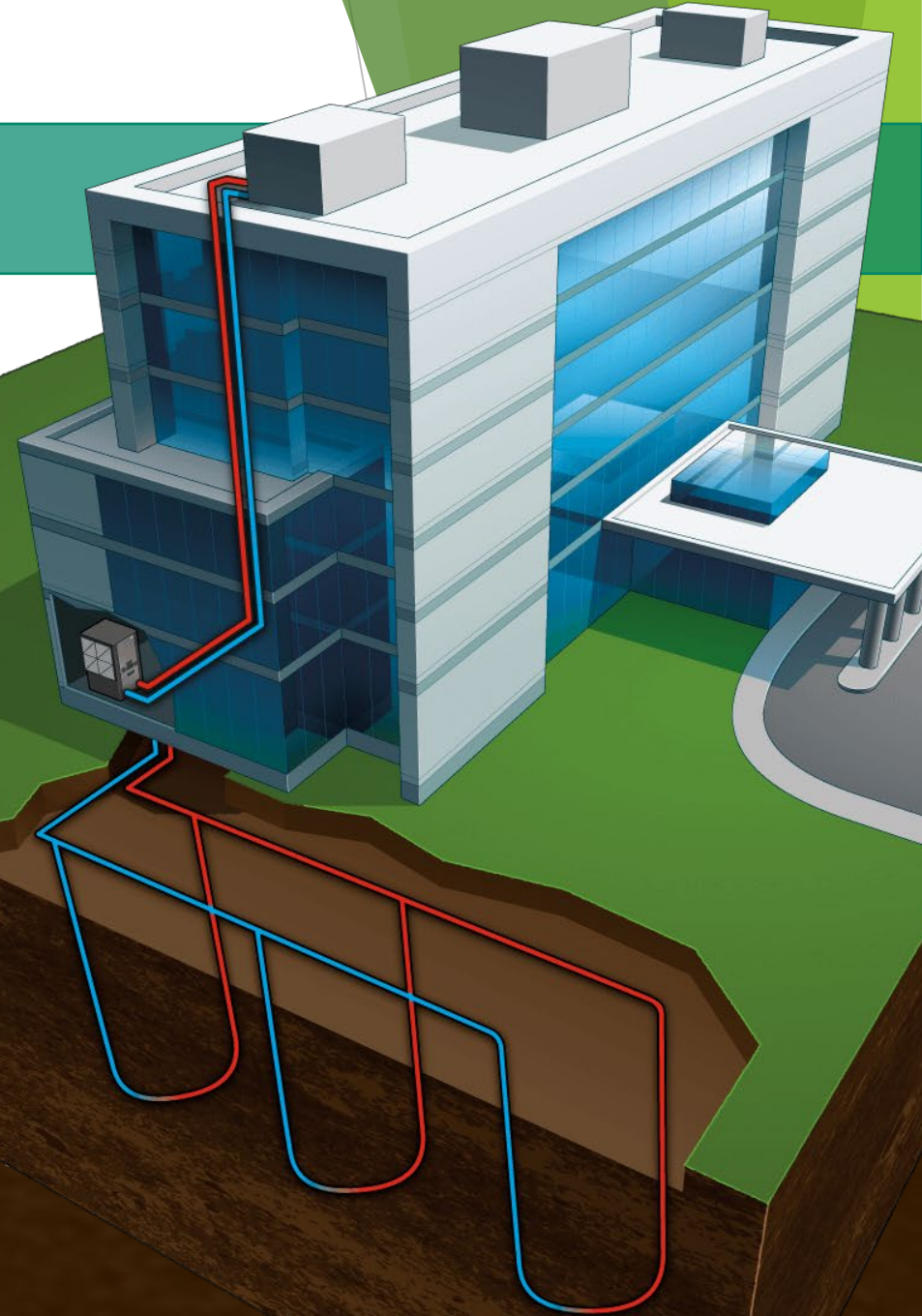


<https://slipstreaminc.org/tools/hygchp-modeling-tool>

HYBRID GROUND LOOPS

Cooling tower or dry cooler rejects excess system heat during peak cooling demand

- Strategic ground loop design
- Provides heat of extraction needed to handle entire heating load
- Provides heat of rejection option for cooling load design optimization
- Optimal for use with the IRA Tax Credit program. 50% of heating must be by geothermal



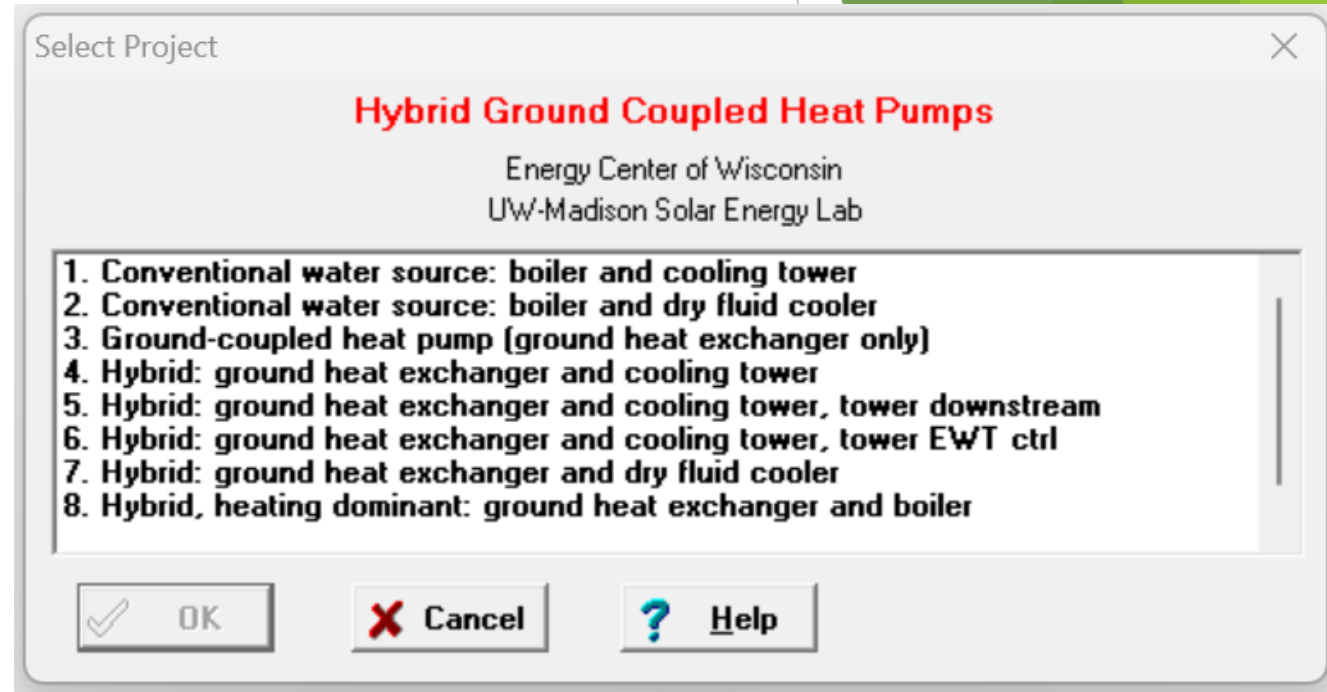
Alternative Geo

Pros:

- Customizable equipment inputs
- Customizable loop inputs
- Simulates 20 year lifecycle costs for comparison

Cons:

- Only has loaded ARI data for three cities
- Only compares with condenser water or traditional geo systems





Specific Case Results - Hybrid

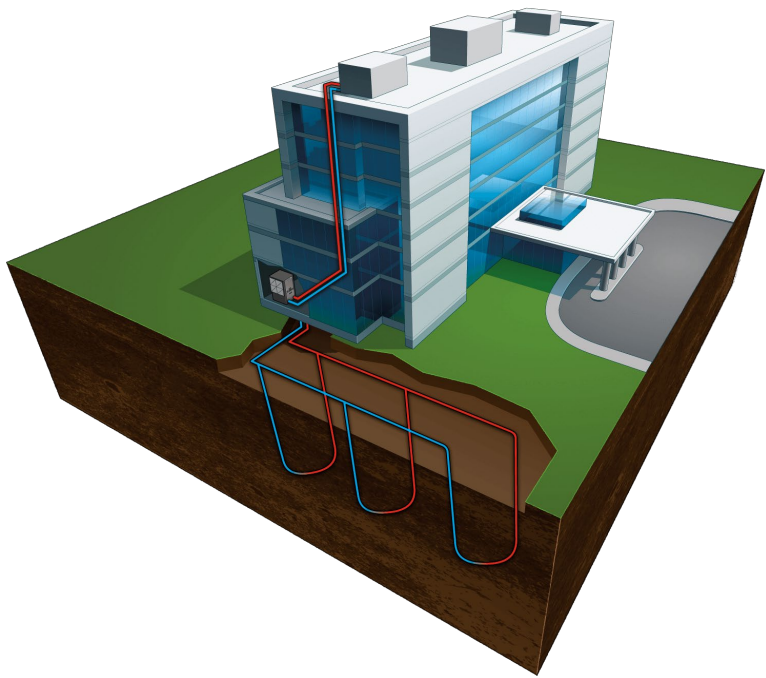
See hourly results in ../HyGCHP/Results (Press F1 for other info about results)
Select Primary or Secondary units from the Calculate menu to change results' units.

20-yr. Life Cycle Cost* (real \$)	714.79	k\$
Equipment Cost (nominal \$)		
Total	320.84	k\$
GHX cost	258.75	k\$
Operating Costs (nominal \$)		
Electricity - consumption	423.56	k\$
Electricity - demand	51.44	k\$
Maintenance cost	12.67	k\$
Water cost	22.03	k\$
Gas cost	0.00	k\$

Quiz Time!

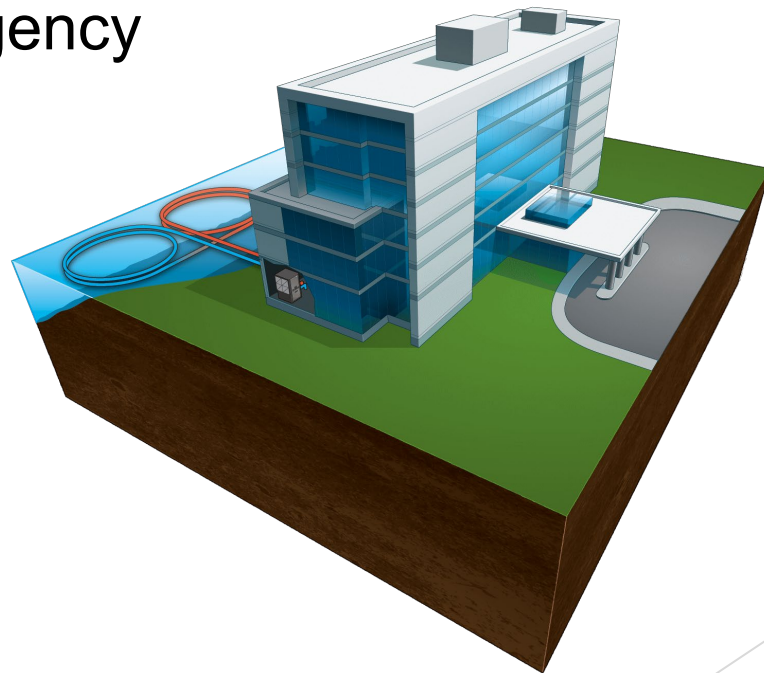
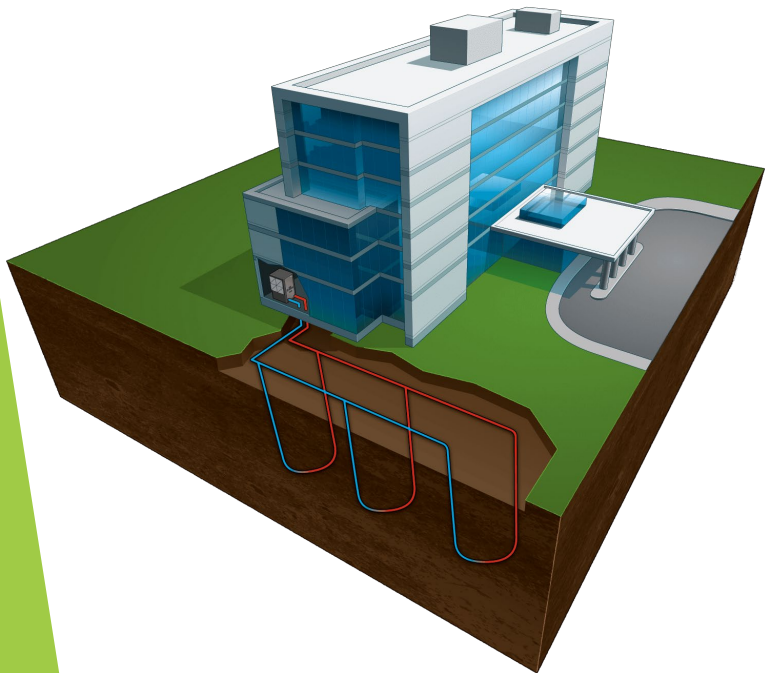
- True or False, geothermal heat pump systems have the lowest total lifecycle costs?
- Up to what % of the installed cost of a geothermal system can qualify for IRA tax credits?
- Does an organization need to pay taxes to take advantage of the IRA tax incentives?
- What percentage of annual heat load must be from geothermal for a hybrid system to qualify for the IRA incentives?





“Geo exchange systems are the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean and cost-effective space conditioning system available today”

- United States Environmental Protection Agency



Thank you

Scott Thompson

www.climatemaster.com

SThompson@climatemaster.com



NY - GEO 2024
October 22 -23 | BROOKLYN, NY



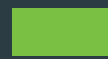
Feasibility Studies: Approaches & Tools

Tim Ashmore / *CDM Smith*

DESIGN TRACK • DAY 1 • 2:45 PM



Approaches to Geothermal Feasibility Studies



Tim Ashmore

October 2024



Learning Objectives

01

Elements of a quality feasibility study

02

Differences between standalone building systems and geothermal networks

03

Important tools

Study Phase Lays the Foundation for Future Phases

FEL 1

FEL 2

FEL 3



Feasibility

Selection

Definition

Design

Construction

Feasibility

- Permitting
- Technical Feasibility
- Cost/Schedule Analysis

Selection

- Select Project Approach
- Establish Design Criteria
- Identify Equipment and any Long Lead

Defining the Project

- Finalize P&ID
- Finalize Scope
- Perform Engineering

Engineering Documents

- Solicit Stakeholder Feedback
- Obtain Permits

Project Implementation

- Purchase LLE
- Develop / Maintain Construction Schedule

Project Purpose

Why is the Owner doing the project?

How does geothermal fit into its pro forma?

What 2-3 elements will make/break feasibility?

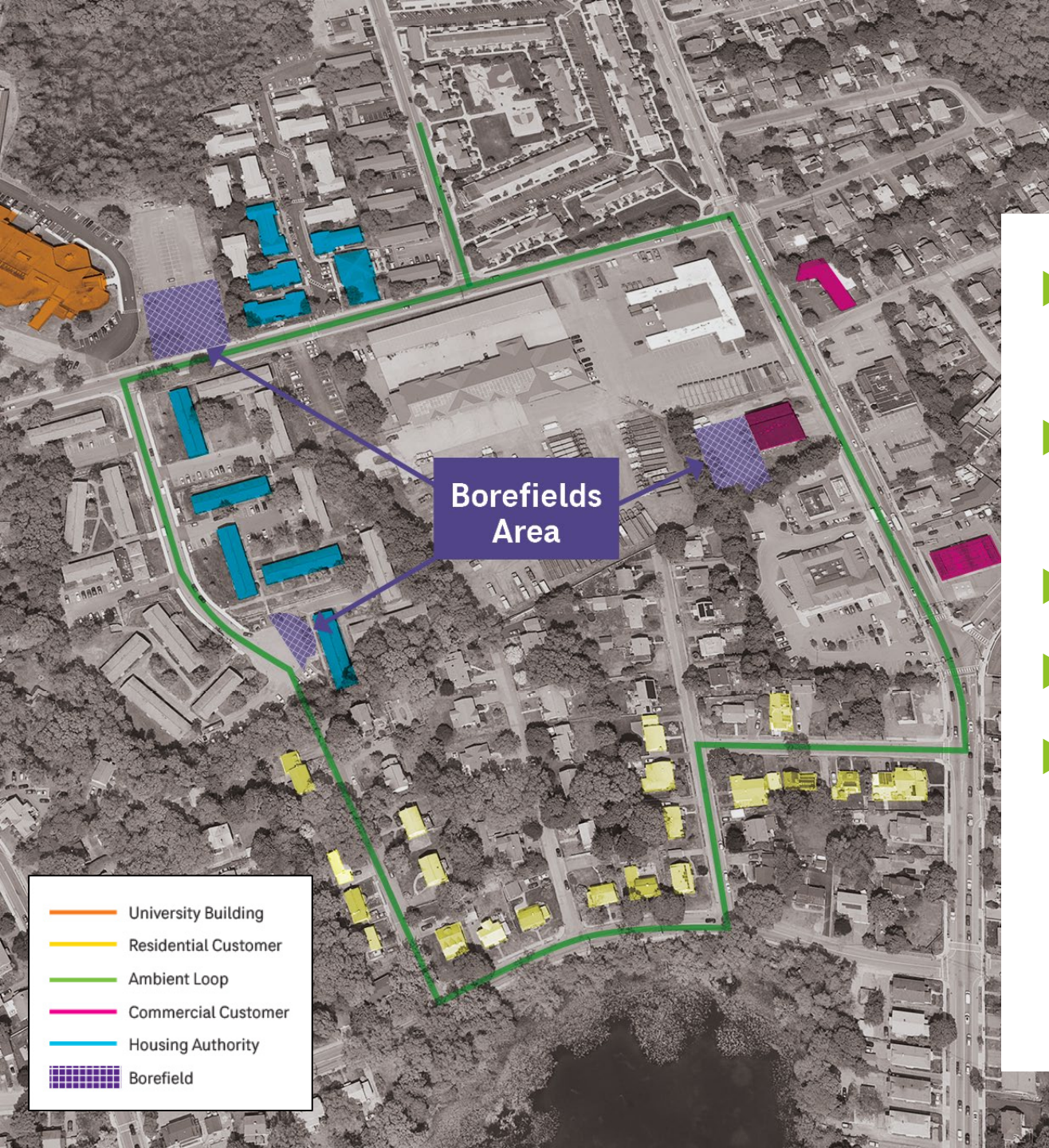
What end point creates a smooth transition into design?

Common Evaluation Elements

- ▶ Review geology and hydrogeology
- ▶ Evaluate permitting pathway and establish strategy
- ▶ Perform initial test fit
- ▶ Perform building energy model
- ▶ Update borefield sizing
- ▶ Evaluate tradeoffs of thermal conductivity testing
- ▶ Establish preliminary budget and schedule
- ▶ Identification of incentives
- ▶ Perform initial cost-benefit analysis
- Evaluate stakeholder acceptance
- Determine “offtake” potential
- Consider conversion complexity
- Review potential for utility / infrastructure conflicts
- Identify space for energy center equipment
- Evaluate environmental conditions

Framingham Pilot

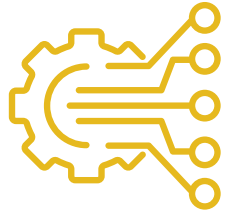
- ▶ One main and two recharge borefields
- ▶ Primarily Environmental Justice Community
- ▶ Mix of loads for system balancing
- ▶ 1+ mile of ambient loop piping
- ▶ Six outside stakeholders to integrate



Utility Network Geothermal: Finding your starting point



Selecting
a Site



Resource
Management



Connecting
with
Stakeholders



Feasibility



Education



Tools

Library / Template Editors -

File View Options Window Help

Libraries
Global Templates
Print...
Import Custom Library
Export Custom Library
Exit

Unitary
HP
heat pump

Comments

Save
Close
New
Copy
Delete
TOPSS Import
Packaged Energy Breakout...
Curves...

Operating Mode	Capacity	Energy Rate
Cooling	tons	1.2193 kW/ton
Heat Recovery	14.4 Mbh/ton	0.095 kW/Mbh
Tank Charging		
Tank Charging & heat recovery		

Pumps	Type
Primary chilled water	None
Condenser water	None
Heat recovery or aux condenser	None

Unloading Curves

Curve type...
 Standard
 DOE

	Primary	Secondary
Power consumed	EQ1288L	AAHP Power Consumed Curve
Ambient modification	EQ1288L - Amb Mod	AAHP Ambient Relief Curve
Capacity		

Main Options Graph

NUM

Tools

Monthly Load Data

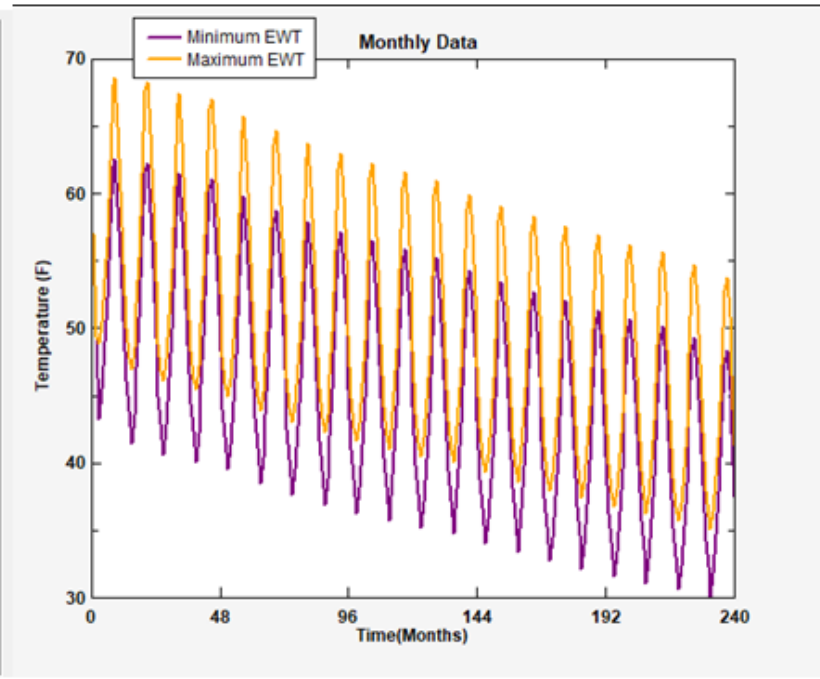
	Cooling		Heating	
	Total (kBtu)	Peak (kBtu/hr)	Total (kBtu)	Peak (kBtu/hr)
January	1804	34	2278697	9975
February	416	28	2121224	9060
March	15676	1442	1743004	6573
April	85668	1953	1121420	5266
May	305959	3639	667389	3259
June	998451	6040	422178	1916
July	1614522	6311	368986	1260
August	1492854	6270	349074	1170
September	718432	4630	394460	1852
October	226948	2696	628128	3637
November	12681	382	1321971	6508
December	4620	35	1971595	7056
Total:	5478030	3.0	13388127	3.0

Hours at Peak: Cooling 3.0, Heating 3.0

Flow Rate: 3.0 gpm/ton

Unit Inlet (°F): 90.4 (Cooling), 35.4 (Heating)

	COOLING			HEATING		
	Design Day	Monthly	Hourly	Design Day	Monthly	Hourly
Total Bore Length (ft):	200000.0	200000.0	--	200000.0	200000.0	--
Borehole Number:	400	400	--	400	400	--
Borehole Length (ft):	500.0	500.0	--	500.0	500.0	--
Ground Temperature Change (°F):	-1.2	--	--	-1.2	--	--
Peak Unit Inlet (°F):	76.2	68.6	--	36.2	30.0	--
Peak Unit Outlet (°F):	85.6	74.2	--	30.8	24.6	--
Total Unit Capacity (kBtu/Hr):	8832.0	6310.6	--	9974.7	9974.7	--
Peak Load (kBtu/Hr):	6310.6	6310.6	--	9974.7	9974.7	--
Peak Demand (kW):	371.7	301.2	--	950.1	1063.2	--
Heat Pump EER/COP:	18.2	22.7	--	3.2	2.8	--
System (Seasonal) EER/COP	17.0	122.4	--	3.1	3.6	--
Avg. Annual Power (kWh):	--	4.48E+4	--	--	1.09E+6	--
Equip. Flow Rate (gpm):	2208.0	1577.6	--	2493.7	2493.7	--
System Flow Rate (gpm):	1577.6	1577.6	--	2493.7	2493.7	--



Decision Analysis Tool

Criteria and Metrics ^{1,4}	Criteria Weights ²	Metric Weights ³	Site 1			Site 3A			Site 10					
			Metric Score	Weighted Metric Score	Weighted Criteria Score	Metric Score	Weighted Metric Score	Weighted Criteria Score	Metric Score	Weighted Metric Score	Weighted Criteria Score			
Existing Electrical Territory	5%	100%	1	1	1	10	10	5	10	10	5			
Viability for Future System Expansion	5%	100%	10	10	5	10	10	5	0	0	0			
Customer Participation and Willingness	20%			6.7	13		5.85	12		0.7	1			
<i>Relative level of community interest in geothermal</i>		10%	7	0.7		6	0.6		7	0.7				
<i>At least one government/municipal official has issued a letter of support for the project</i>		30%	10	3		7.5	2.25		0	0				
<i>At least one customer has issued a letter of support for the project</i>		30%	0	0		5	1.5		0	0				
<i>At least one community organization has issued a letter of support for the project</i>		30%	10	3		5	1.5		0	0				
Geological Conditions & Thermal Conductivity	20%			7	14		7.6	15		2.8	6			
<i>Depth to Bedrock</i>		40%	7	2.8		7	2.8		3	1.2				
<i>Bedrock Conditions/Drillability</i>		20%	10	2		10	2		3	0.6				
<i>Groundwater-Producing Formation(s)</i>		20%	5	1		7	1.4		0	0				
<i>Overburden Type Drillability</i>		10%	7	0.7		7	0.7		3	0.3				
<i>Thermal Conductivity</i>		10%	5	0.5		7	0.7		7	0.7				
Environmental Justice Impacts	10%			10	10		7.5	8		5	5			
<i>Presence on Site on GIS Mapping</i>		100%	10	10		7.5	7.5		5	5				
Right of Way (ROW) for Accessibility and Construction	20%			2.9	6		6.4	13		7.5	15			
<i>Borefield Work Area Accessibility</i>		30%	0	0		5	1.5		10	3				
<i>Concentration of Utilities (Buried/Overhead)</i>		20%	5	1		5	1		5	1				
<i>Buildings Adjoining or Separated</i>		20%	0	0		10	2		10	2				
<i>Density of Pedestrian Usage</i>		10%	5	0.5		5	0.5		0	0				
<i>Ease of Procuring Easement (if required)</i>		10%	6	0.6		8	0.8		6	0.6				
<i>No. of Building Owners for Negotiation</i>		10%	8	0.8		6	0.6		9	0.9				
Building Loads	15%			1.5	2		10	15		0.5	1			
<i>Additional Land Area Required</i>		50%	0	0		10	5		0	0				
<i>Load Size</i>		50%	3	1.5		10	5		1	0.5				
Environmental Impacts	5%			8	4		5.5	3		7	4			
<i>Proximity to Wetlands / Permitted Jurisdictions</i>		40%	10	4		5	2		10	4				
<i>Proximity of Borefield Areas to Subsurface Environmental Contamination (Federal/State Superfund or Brownfield Sites, etc.)</i>		40%	5	2		5	2		5	2				
<i>Proximity to Classified Aquifers or Regulated Surface Water Bodies</i>		10%	10	1		5	0.5		10	1				
<i>Proximity to Municipal / Private Drinking Water Supply Wells and/or Associated Regulated Areas</i>		10%	10	1		10	1		0	0				
Notes: 1) Criteria are in bold, Metrics are in italics, 2) Green cells potentially large cost impacts to project.			Site Score			55	Site Score			75	Site Score			36

Geological Conditions & Thermal Conductivity

Depth to Bedrock

Bedrock Conditions/Drillability

Groundwater-Producing Formation(s)

Overburden Type Drillability

Right of Way (ROW) for Accessibility and Construction

Borefield Work Area Accessibility

Concentration of Utilities (Buried/Overhead)

Buildings Adjoining or Separated

Building Loads

Additional Land Area Required

Load Size

Environmental Impacts

Proximity to Wetlands / Permitted Jurisdictions

Existing Electrical
Viability for Future
Customer Participa
Relative level of co
At least one govern
for the project
At least one custom
er has issued a letter of support for the project
At least one comm
for the project
Geological Condit
Depth to Bedrock
Bedrock Condition
Groundwater-Proc
Overburden Type
Thermal Conducti
Environmental Ju
Presence on Site o
Right of Way (ROW
Borefield Work Ar
Concentration of U
tilities (buried/overhead)
Buildings Adjoinin
Density of Pedestr
Ease of Procuring
No. of Building Ow
Building Loads
Additional Land A
Load Size
Environmental Im
Proximity to Wetl
Proximity of Borefield Areas to Subsurface Environmental Contamination
(Federal/State Su
Proximity to Clas
Proximity to Mun
Associated Regul
Notes: 1) Criteria
large cost impacts

10	Weighted	Weighted
Criteria	Criteria	Criteria
Score	Score	Score
0	5	
0	0	
0.7	1	
0.7		
0		
0		
0		
2.8	6	
1.2		
0.6		
0		
0.3		
0.7		
5	5	
5		
7.5	15	
3		
1		
2		
0		
0.6		
0.9		
0.5	1	
0		
0.5		
7	4	
4		
2		
1		
0		
0		
36		

Learning Assessment

- ▶ How can the study phase set a project up for success?
- ▶ What areas of study are most important to a feasibility study?
- ▶ What additional areas of study are critical when considering geothermal as part of a district or network?
- ▶ What materials will support the final decision-makers best?



Thank you

Tim Ashmore: ashmoret@cdmsmith.com, 617.452.6116