



HVAC Building System Decarbonization

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What is Decarbonization?

“A low-carbon economy (LCE) or decarbonized economy is an economy based on low-carbon power sources that therefore has a minimal output of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions into the atmosphere, specifically carbon dioxide.” - Wikipedia



**Localized Decarbonization:
Policies Are Becoming More
Prevalent**

- 325 Cities have stated a commitment to climate action
- Minneapolis, St Paul, and St Louis park have made commitments
- 18 of the top 20 most populated cities have set a quantified reduction goal



New U.S. Policies will Focus on Reduced GHG Emissions

- United States re-signs Paris Agreement: Commitment to reduce GHG emissions
 - Initial commitment: 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2025
 - Latest commitment: 50-52% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Department of Energy efficiency standards
- Environmental Protection Agency give authority to regulate high GWP refrigerants

Pathways to Decarbonization



Efficiency



Refrigerants



Electrification



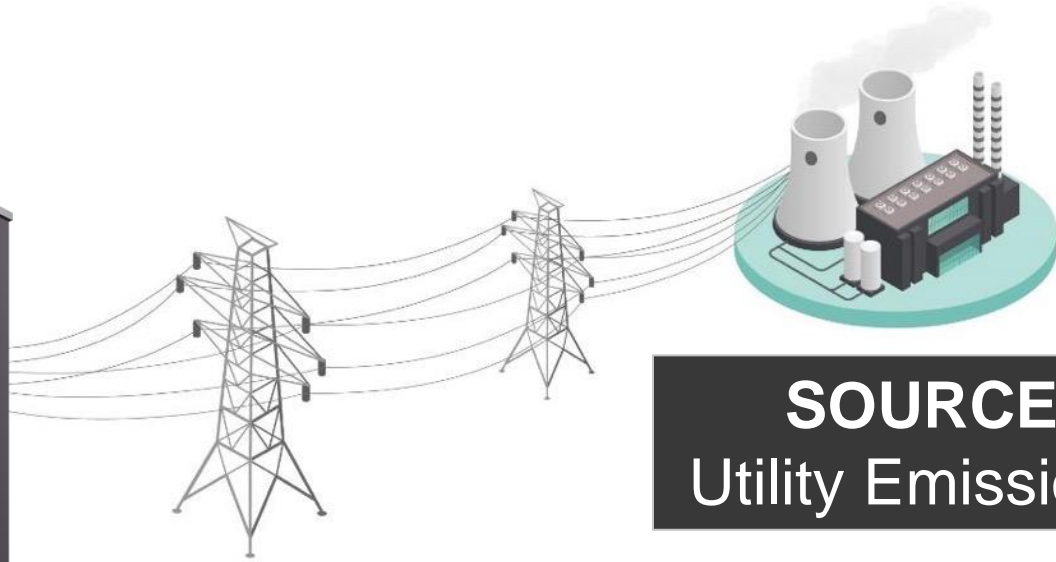


Efficiency



SITE
Building Emissions

Lower Energy Usage = Lower Carbon



SOURCE
Utility Emissions

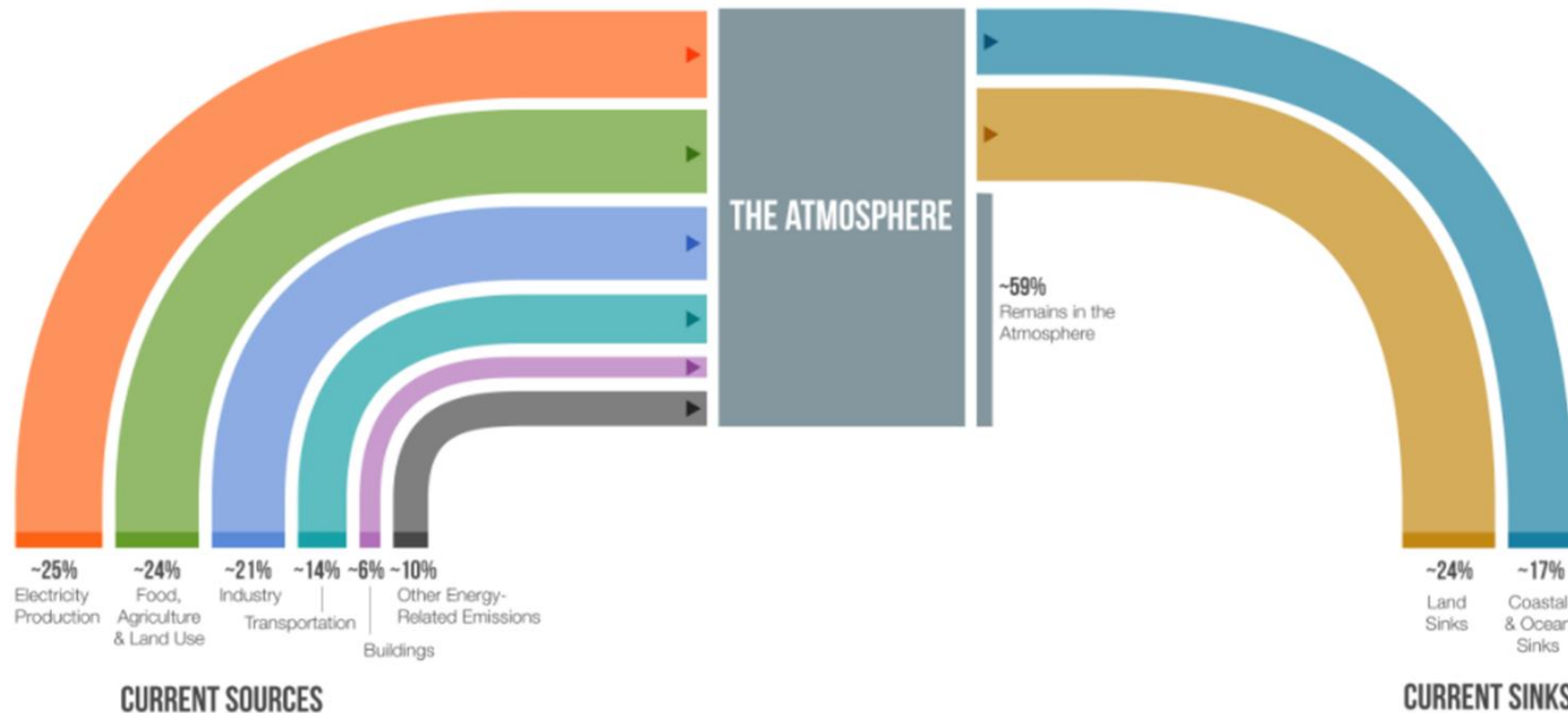
OPPORTUNITIES

- Modeling during design (Documentation)
- Building upgrades (lighting, windows, etc.)
- Higher efficiency products/systems
- Controls/optimization



Refrigerants

PROJECT
DRAWDOWN.



IEFT

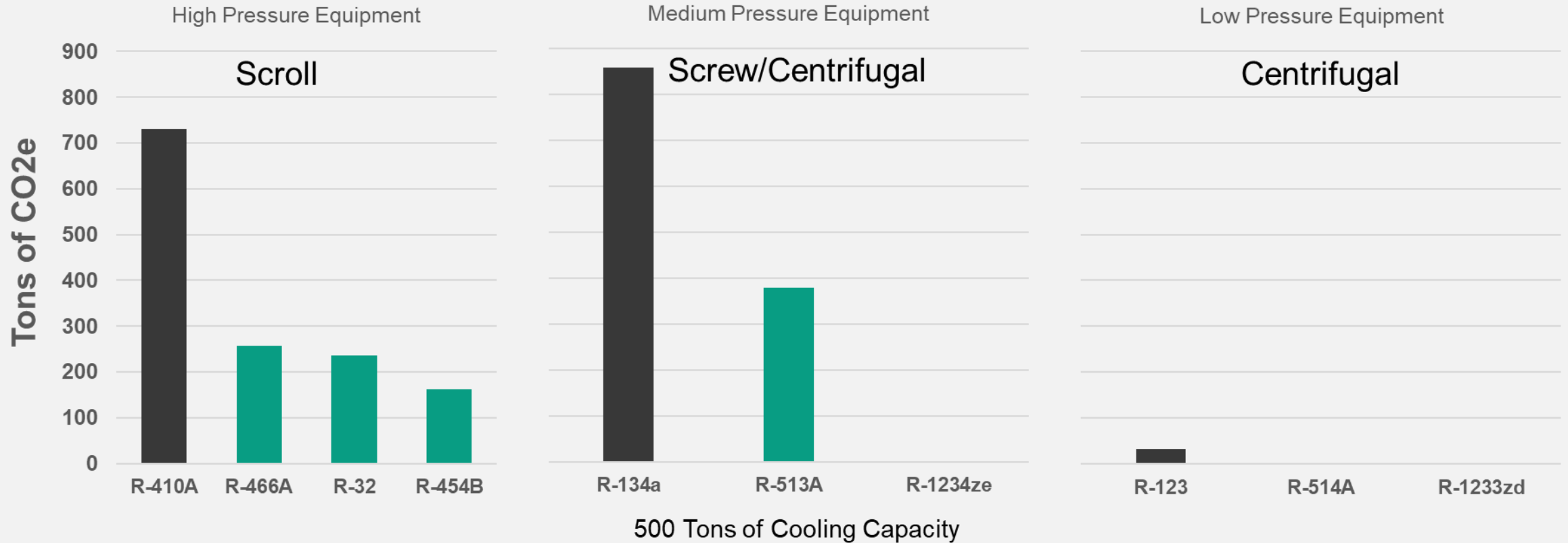


Source: drawdown.org



Refrigerants

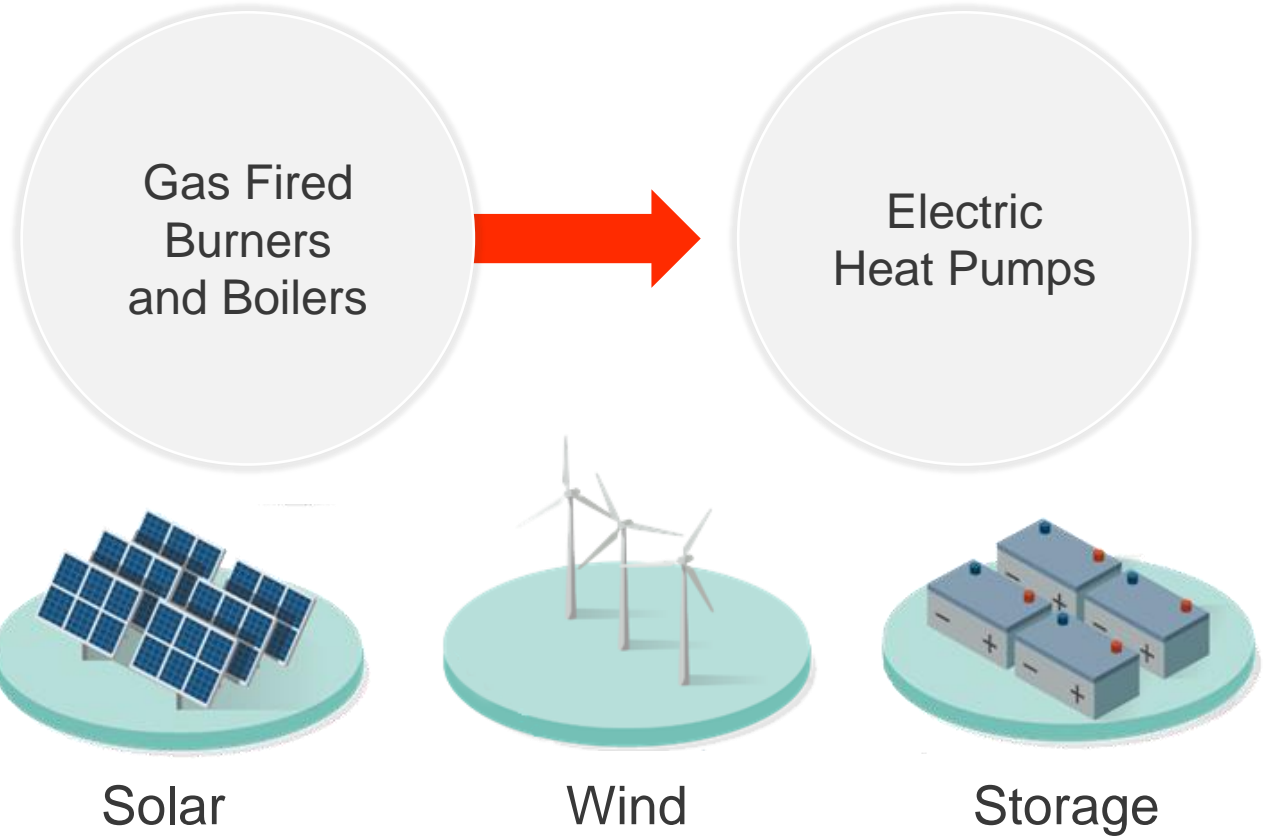
LOWER GWP = LOWER CARBON





Electrification

Utilizing electricity
in place of burning
fossil fuels



Decarbonization Impact Example



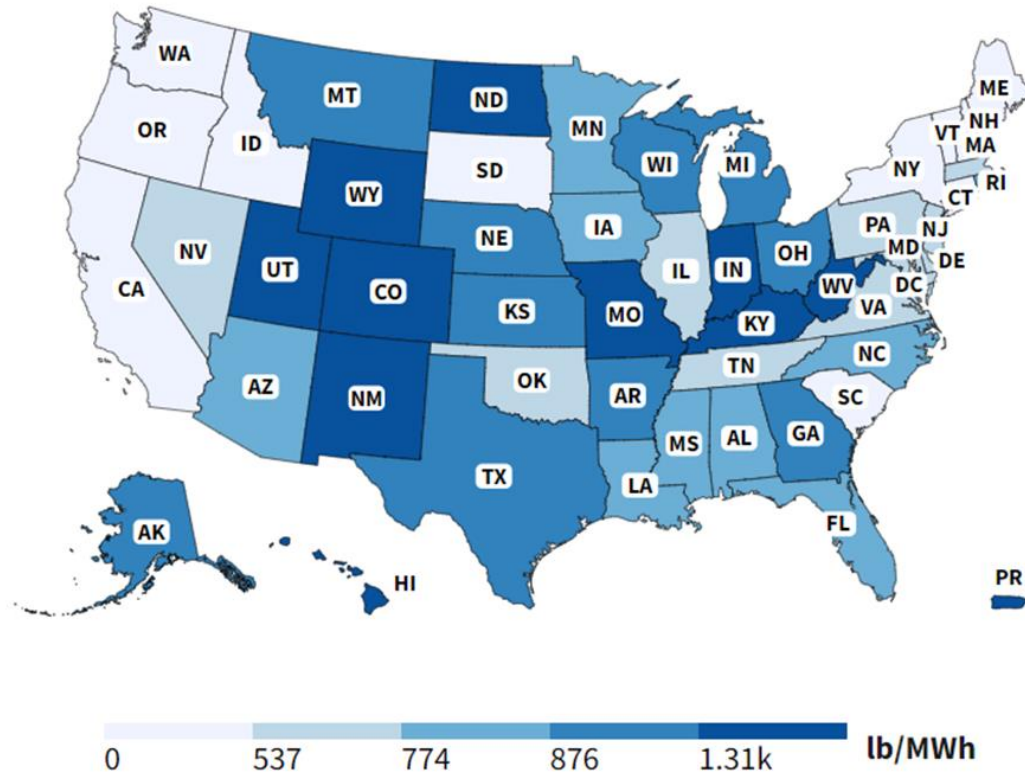
Minnesota





eGRID Output by State

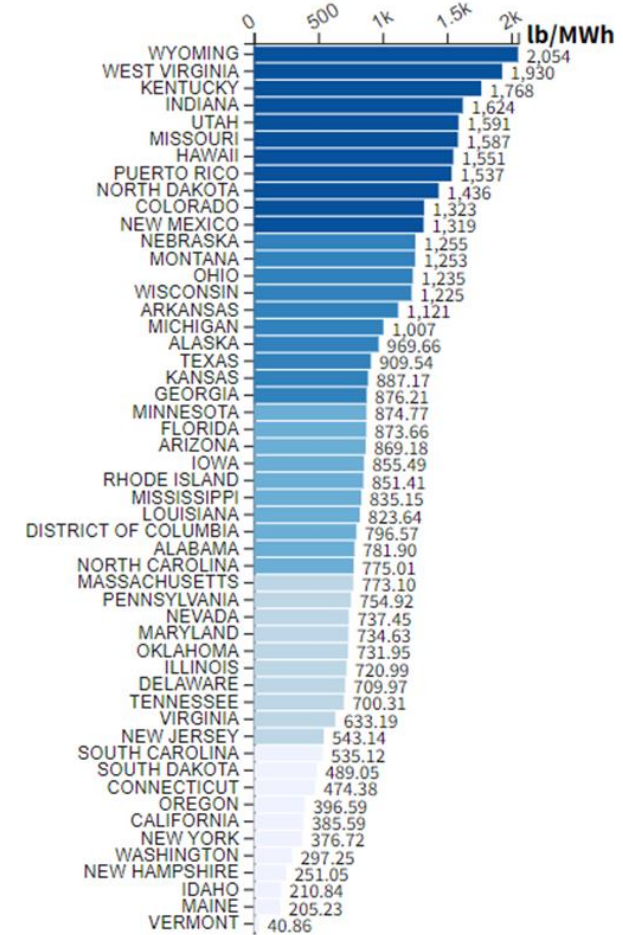
CO₂ total output emission rate (lb/MWh)
by state, 2019



Sort A to Z

Sort by Amount

US: 884.23 (lb/MWh)





Spotlight on Minnesota

Electricity
energy intensity
(kwh/square foot)

	North-east	Mid-west	South	West
Principal building activity				
Education	8.7	10.3	12.6	10.0
Food sales	45.0	50.5	56.2	42.7
Food service	39.7	43.1	49.7	41.1
Health care	22.0	23.1	29.5	24.6
Inpatient	26.3	24.9	34.3	32.5
Outpatient	17.6	20.1	21.7	14.3
Lodging	14.0	13.4	16.6	14.1
Mercantile	16.3	17.5	19.7	17.6
Retail (other than mall)	12.8	14.1	16.3	15.8
Enclosed and strip malls	19.9	21.4	22.5	19.1
Office	17.1	15.3	16.0	14.9
Public assembly	14.1	13.2	16.3	13.2
Public order and safety	15.1	10.3	18.3	Q
Religious worship	4.5	4.5	6.1	4.7
Service	6.6	7.3	9.8	8.8
Warehouse and storage	4.9	6.6	8.4	4.8
Other	43.2	20.2	32.0	20.3
Vacant	Q	5.3	4.0	5.6

Natural gas
energy intensity
(cubic feet/square foot)

	North-east	Mid-west	South	West
Principal building activity				
Education	46.6	38.8	16.5	27.9
Food sales	Q	Q	59.1	Q
Food service	130.7	162.4	178.0	139.7
Health care	68.8	85.7	77.0	86.0
Inpatient	107.4	111.7	88.3	109.0
Outpatient	33.1	48.0	24.8	45.2
Lodging	43.9	49.3	33.1	56.3
Mercantile	40.4	43.0	26.1	31.4
Retail (other than mall)	25.1	33.9	15.1	15.2
Enclosed and strip malls	50.3	50.9	31.2	44.4
Office	31.8	33.2	17.2	22.2
Public assembly	42.6	40.5	26.0	26.7
Public order and safety	Q	Q	23.4	Q
Religious worship	25.8	38.9	22.2	29.1
Service	64.8	38.1	44.6	35.3
Warehouse and storage	27.6	20.3	11.3	25.5
Other	Q	Q	41.6	74.0
Vacant	Q	Q	Q	Q



Spotlight on Minnesota



61% Electric = 1,530 MWh

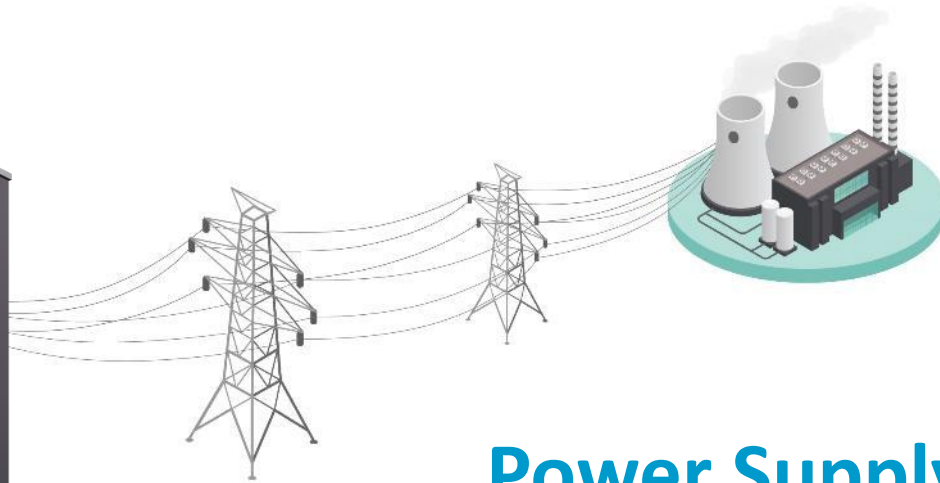


39% Natural Gas = 1,009 MWh

Site Carbon Emissions = 182 metric Tons CO₂e



Spotlight on Minnesota



MN eGRID

Power Supply Mix:

Carbon Free = 48.8%

Coal = 30%

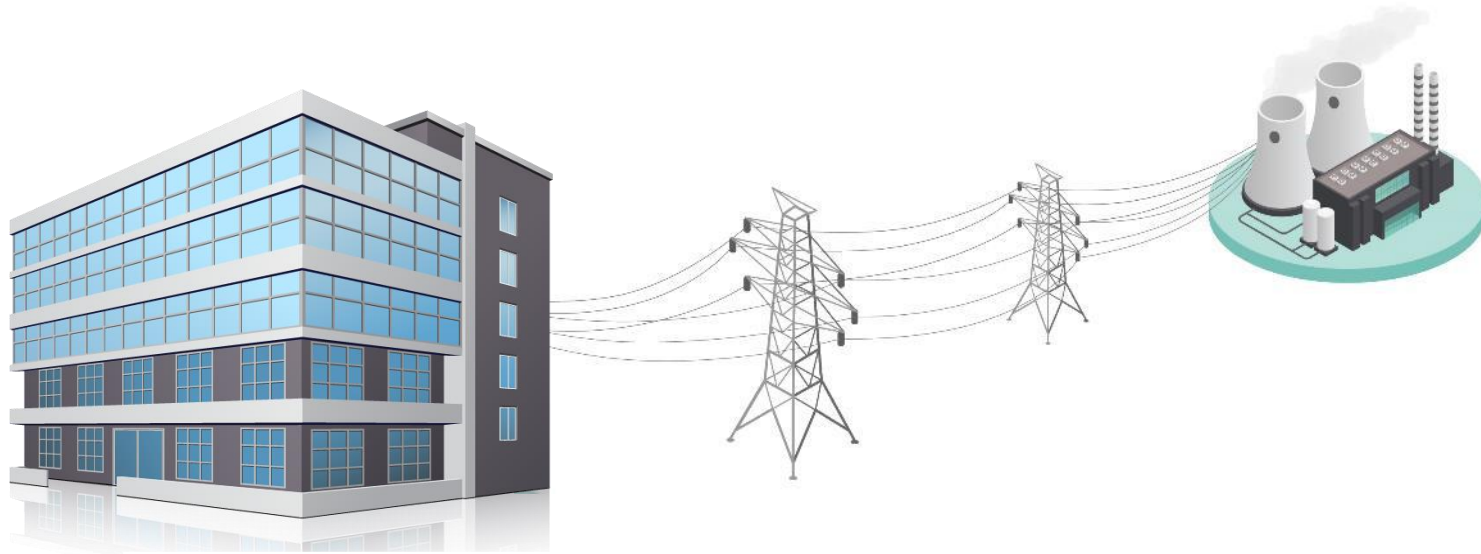
NG = 21.2%

874.77 lbs
CO₂e/MWh

Source Carbon Emissions = 607 metric Tons CO₂e



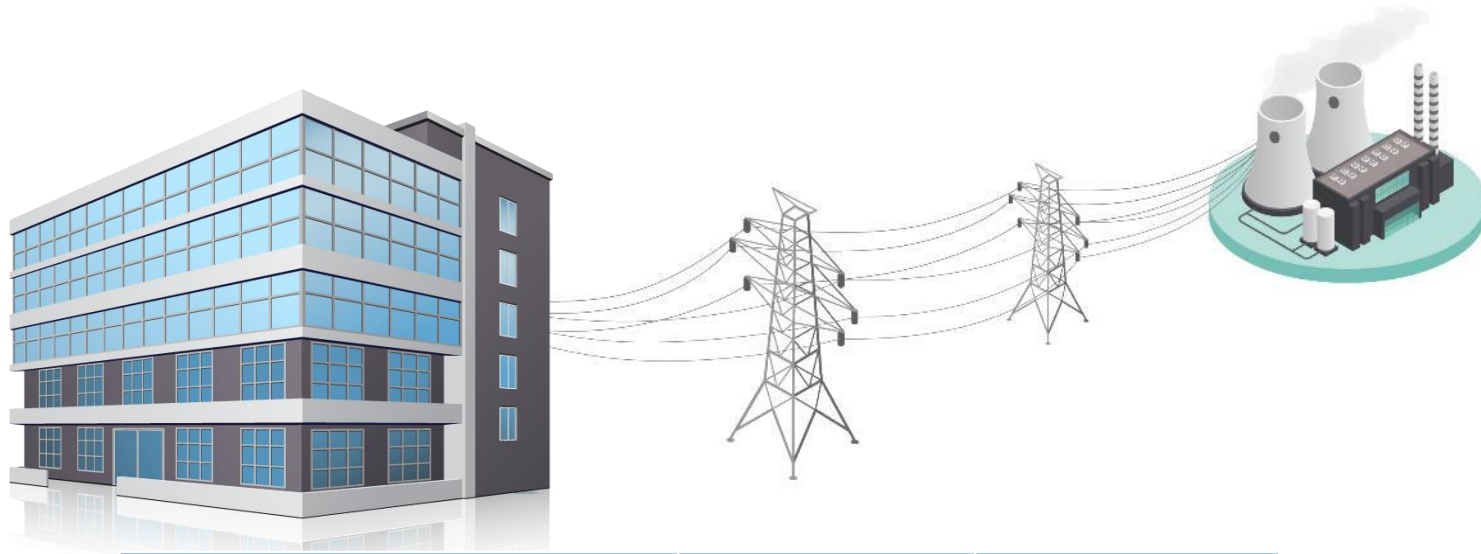
Spotlight on Minnesota



	Gas/Electric Today
Total Energy	2,539 MWh
On Site Natural Gas	1,009 MWh
Electricity	1,530 MWh
Site Carbon CO2 Emissions	182 mTons
Source Carbon CO2 Emissions	607 mTons
Total CO2e Emissions	789 mTons



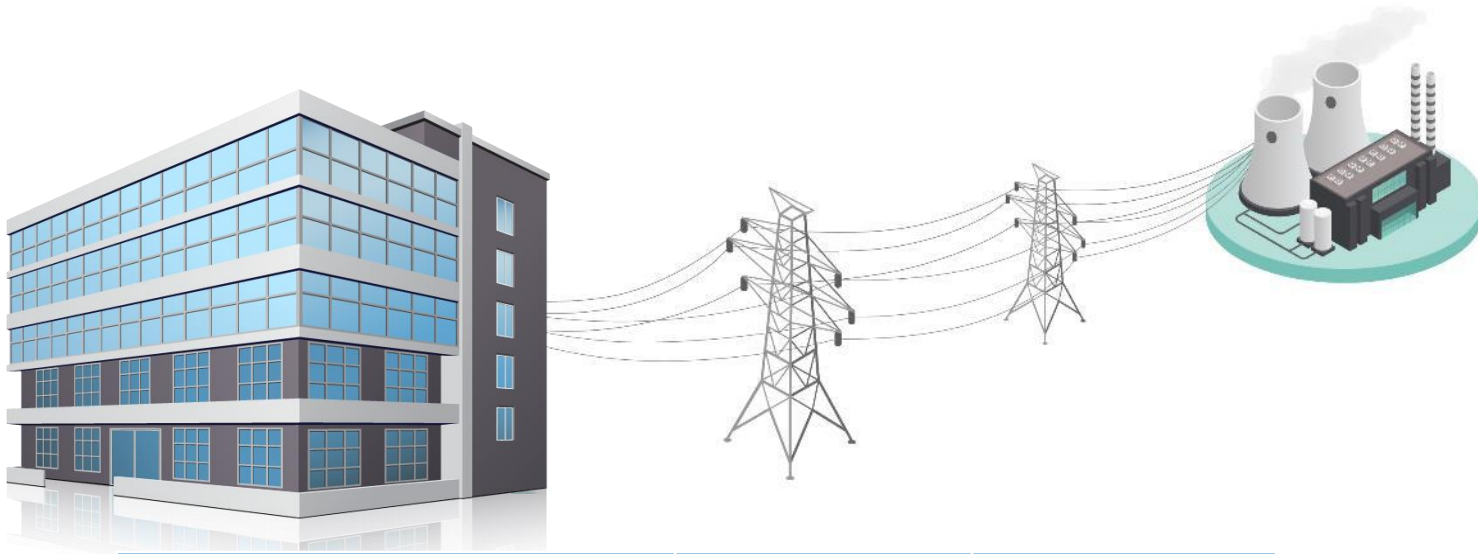
Spotlight on Minnesota



	Gas/Electric Today	All Electric Today
Total Energy	2,539 MWh	1,791 MWh
On Site Natural Gas	1,009 MWh	0 MWh
Electricity	1,530 MWh	1,791MWh
Site Carbon CO2 Emissions	182 mTons	0 mTons
Source Carbon CO2 Emissions	607 mTons	714 mTons
Total CO2e Emissions	789 mTons	714 Tons (10%)

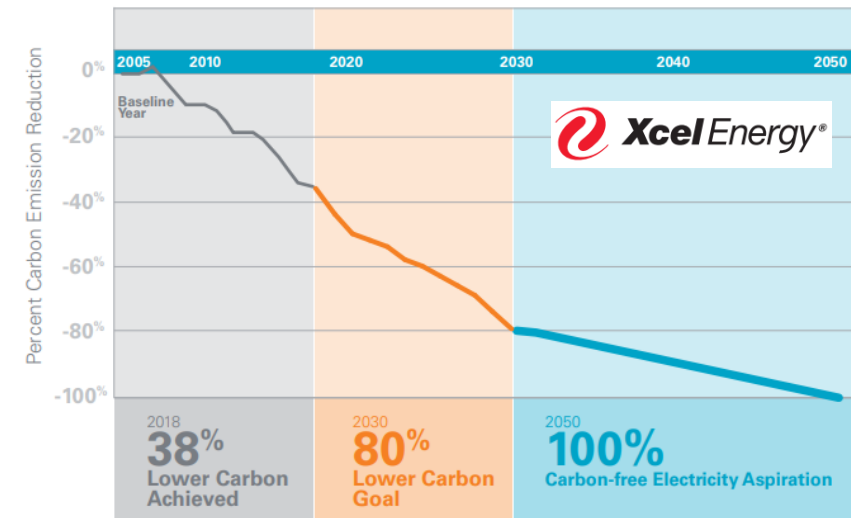


Spotlight on Minnesota



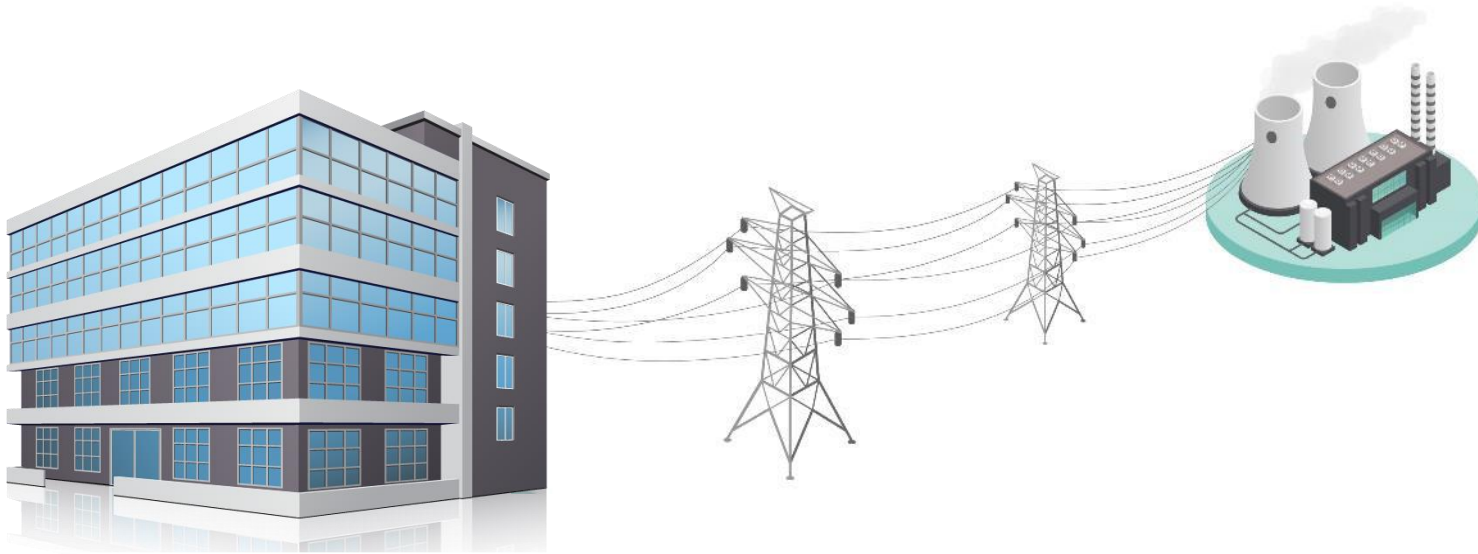
Power Supply Mix:
 Carbon Free = 48.8% → 75%
 Coal = 30% → 5%
 NG = 21.2% → 20%

	Gas/Electric Today	All Electric Today
Total Energy	2,539 MWh	1,791 MWh
On Site Natural Gas	1,009 MWh	0 MWh
Electricity	1,530 MWh	1,791MWh
Site Carbon CO2 Emissions	182 mTons	0 mTons
Source Carbon CO2 Emissions	607 mTons	714 mTons
Total CO2e Emissions	789 mTons	714 Tons (10%)





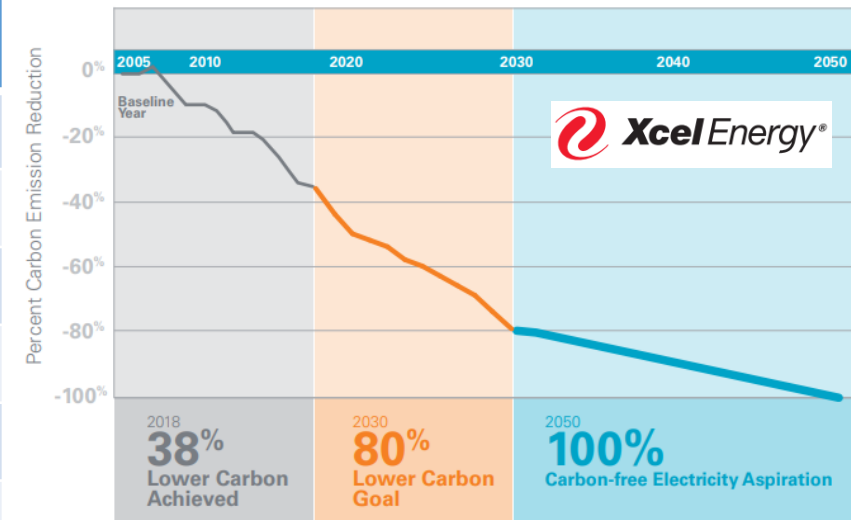
Spotlight on Minnesota



Power Supply Mix:

Carbon Free = 48.8% → 75%
 Coal = 30% → 5%
 NG = 21.2% → 20%

	Gas/Electric Today	All Electric Today	All Electric 2030
Total Energy	2,539 MWh	1,791 MWh	1,791 MWh
On Site Natural Gas	1,009 MWh	0 MWh	0 MWh
Electricity	1,530 MWh	1,791MWh	1,791MWh
Site Carbon CO2 Emissions	182 mTons	0 mTons	0 mTons
Source Carbon CO2 Emissions	607 mTons	714 mTons	251 mTons
Total CO2e Emissions	789 mTons	714 Tons (10%)	251 Tons (68%)



System Ideas for Decarbonization



Heat Pump Definition



Design Considerations



Applied Systems



Domestic Water Heating



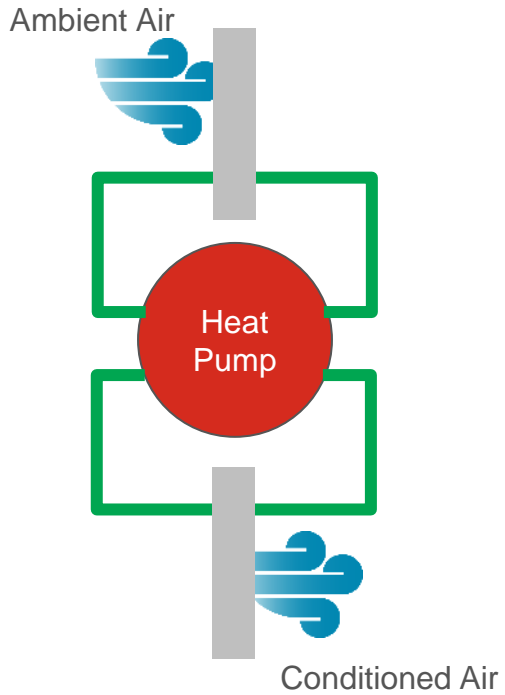
Other Heat Sources





Heat Pump Definition

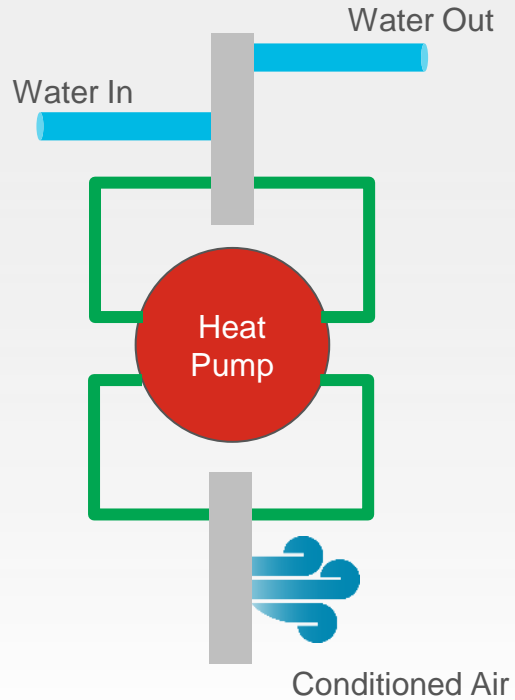
Air to Air



*Example:
Rooftop Units
VRF*

Reversing

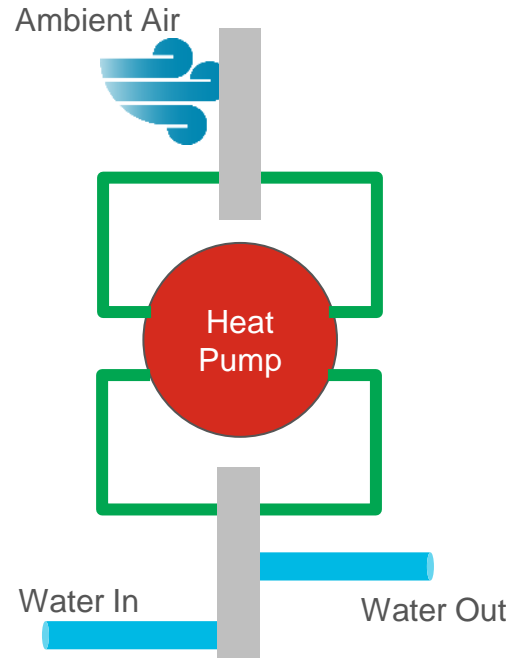
Water to Air



*Example:
WSHP*

Reversing

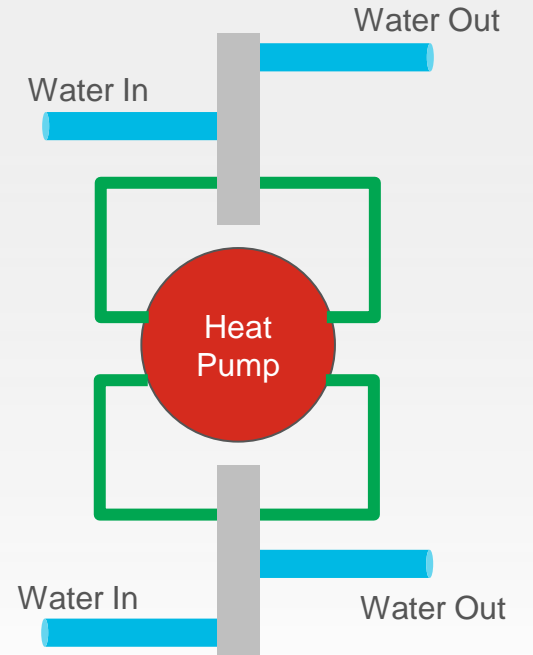
Air to Water



*Example:
Air-Source Heat Pump Chiller*

Reversing

Water to Water



*Example:
Chiller/Heater*

Reversing / Non-Reversing



Design Considerations



MINNEAPOLIS-ST PAUL INTL, MN, USA (WMO: 726580)

Lat: 44.883N

Long: 93.229W

Elev: 872

StdP: 14.24

Time zone: -6.00

Period: 90-14

WBAN: 14922

Annual Heating and Humidification Design Conditions

Coldest Month	Heating DB		Humidification DP/MCDB and HR						Coldest month WS/MCDB				MCWS/PCWD to 99.6% DB	
			99.6%			99%			0.4%		1%		MCWS	PCWD
	99.6%	99%	DP	HR	MCDB	DP	HR	MCDB	WS	MCDB	WS	MCDB		
1	-10.6	-5.8	-19.1	2.0	-9.4	-14.7	2.6	-4.7	26.0	17.3	23.5	19.4	8.1	300

Annual Cooling, Dehumidification, and Enthalpy Design Conditions

Hottest Month	Hottest Month DB Range	Cooling DB/MCWB						Evaporation WB/MCDB						MCWS/PCWD to 0.4% DB	
		0.4%		1%		2%		0.4%		1%		2%		MCWS	PCWD
		DB	MCWB	DB	MCWB	DB	MCWB	WB	MCDB	WB	MCDB	WB	MCDB		
7	17.3	90.8	73.3	87.8	72.0	84.9	70.2	76.9	87.2	74.8	84.0	72.9	81.8	12.5	180

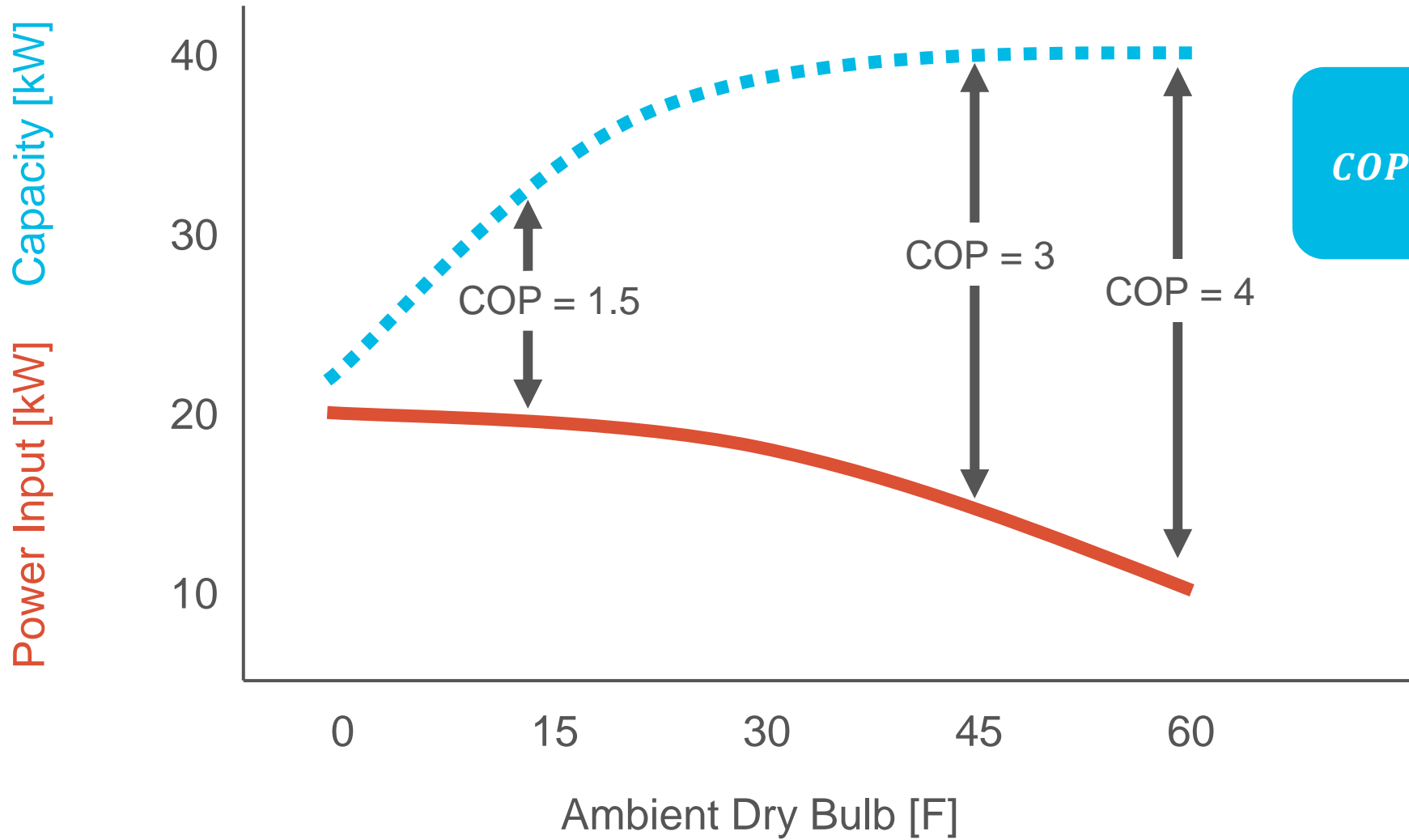
Dehumidification DP/MCDB and HR									Enthalpy/MCDB						Extreme Max WB
0.4%			1%			2%			0.4%		1%		2%		
DP	HR	MCDB	DP	HR	MCDB	DP	HR	MCDB	Enth	MCDB	Enth	MCDB	Enth	MCDB	
73.7	129.4	83.5	71.7	120.9	81.2	69.6	112.6	78.6	41.0	87.1	38.9	84.2	37.0	82.0	84.9

Extreme Annual Design Conditions

Extreme Annual WS			Extreme Annual Temperature				n-Year Return Period Values of Extreme Temperature								
			Mean		Standard deviation		n=5 years		n=10 years		n=20 years		n=50 years		
1%	2.5%	5%	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
24.0	20.6	18.8	DB	-16.7	96.0	5.9	3.5	-20.9	98.5	-24.4	100.6	-27.8	102.5	-32.1	105.1
			WB	-17.1	80.2	5.6	2.0	-21.1	81.6	-24.3	82.7	-27.4	83.8	-31.5	85.3



Design Considerations

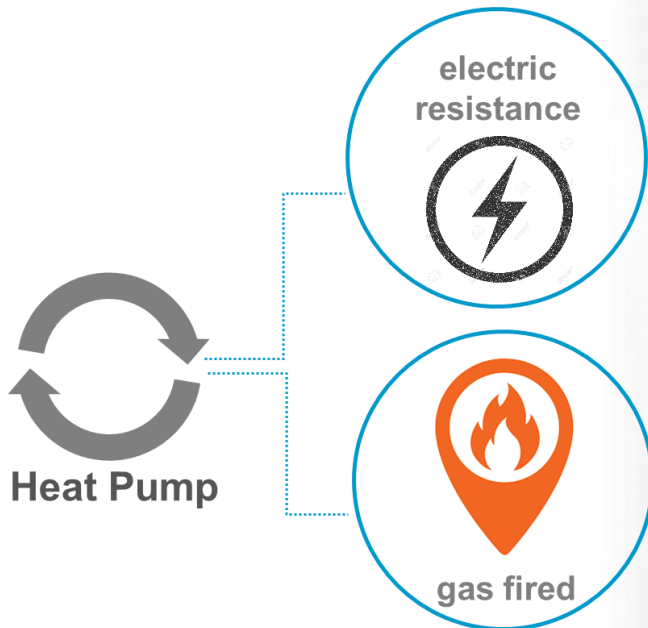


$$COP = \frac{\text{Capacity Output [kW]}}{\text{Power Input [kW]}}$$



Design Considerations

- Defrost
- Dual / Auxiliary fuel





Design Considerations

Split System Heat Pumps

Sizes: <20 Tons

Applications:

- Classrooms
- Small Office
- Small Retail

Options:

- Dual / Aux Fuel
- Cold Climate Operation

Retrofits Capability:

do-able

difficult





Design Considerations

Rooftop (RTU) Heat Pumps

Sizes: <20 Tons

Applications:

- Classrooms
- Small Office
- Retail
- Warehouse/Distribution Center

Options:

- Dual / Aux Fuel
- Cold Climate Operation

Retrofit Capability:

do-able

difficult





Design Considerations

Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF)

Sizes: <40 Tons

Applications:

- Schools
- Office
- Mixed Use

Options:

- Dual / Aux Fuel
- Cold Climate Operation
- Smart Defrost

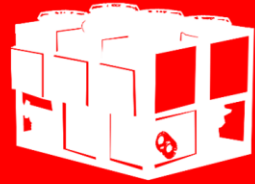
Retrofit Capability:





Applied Systems

HEAT PUMP



**Heating and Cooling
Typically Reversible**

**Heating and Cooling
Controlled to Cooling**

HEAT RECOVERY



HEATER



**Heating and Cooling or Just Heating
Controlled to Heating**

**Heating and Cooling
Controlled to Either or Both**

CHILLER/HEATER





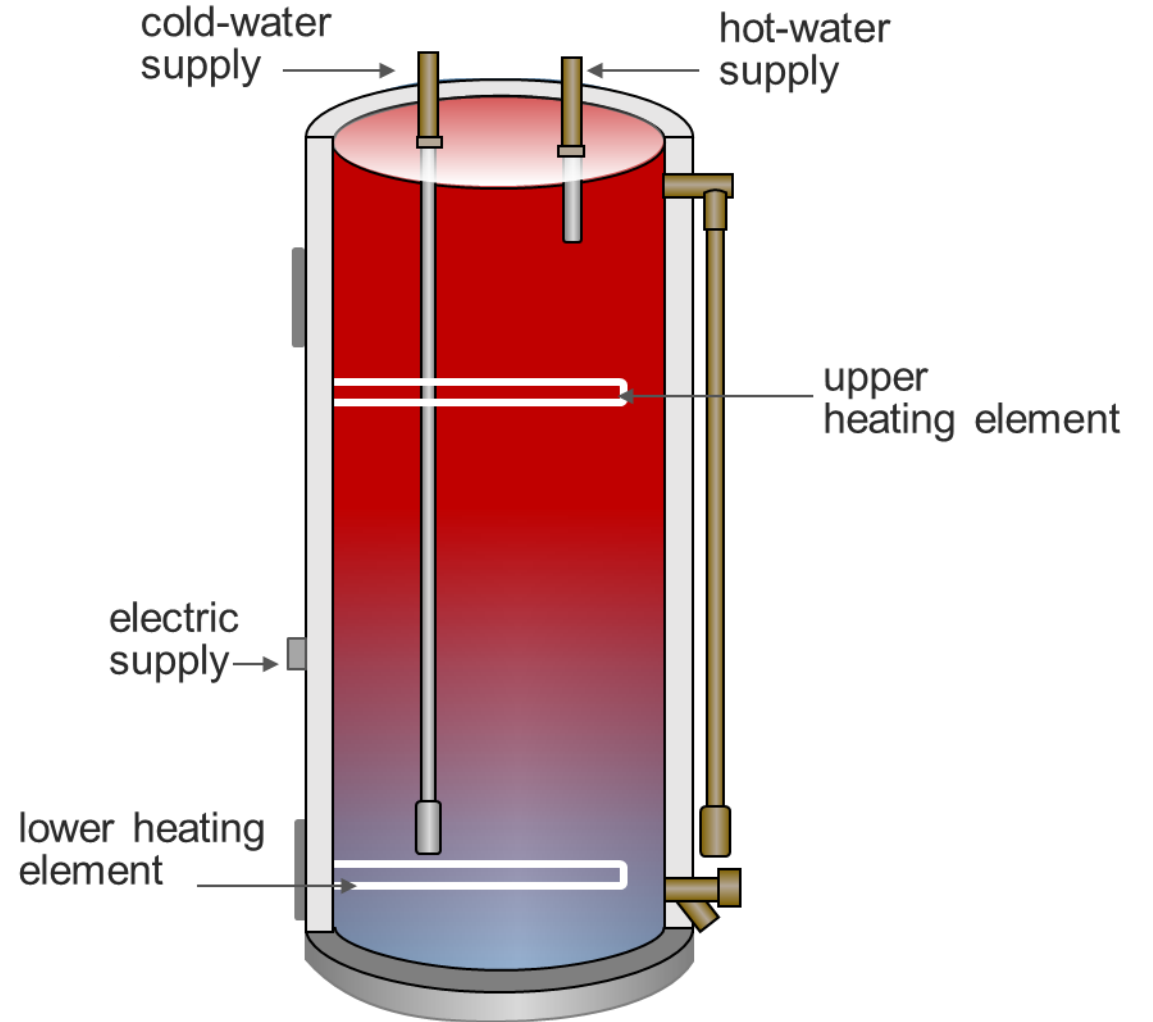
Domestic Hot Water

Potable Hot Water Electric Resistance

Output Capacity: 15-350 MBH

Considerations:

- Electric service
- Storage capacity
- Cost to operate





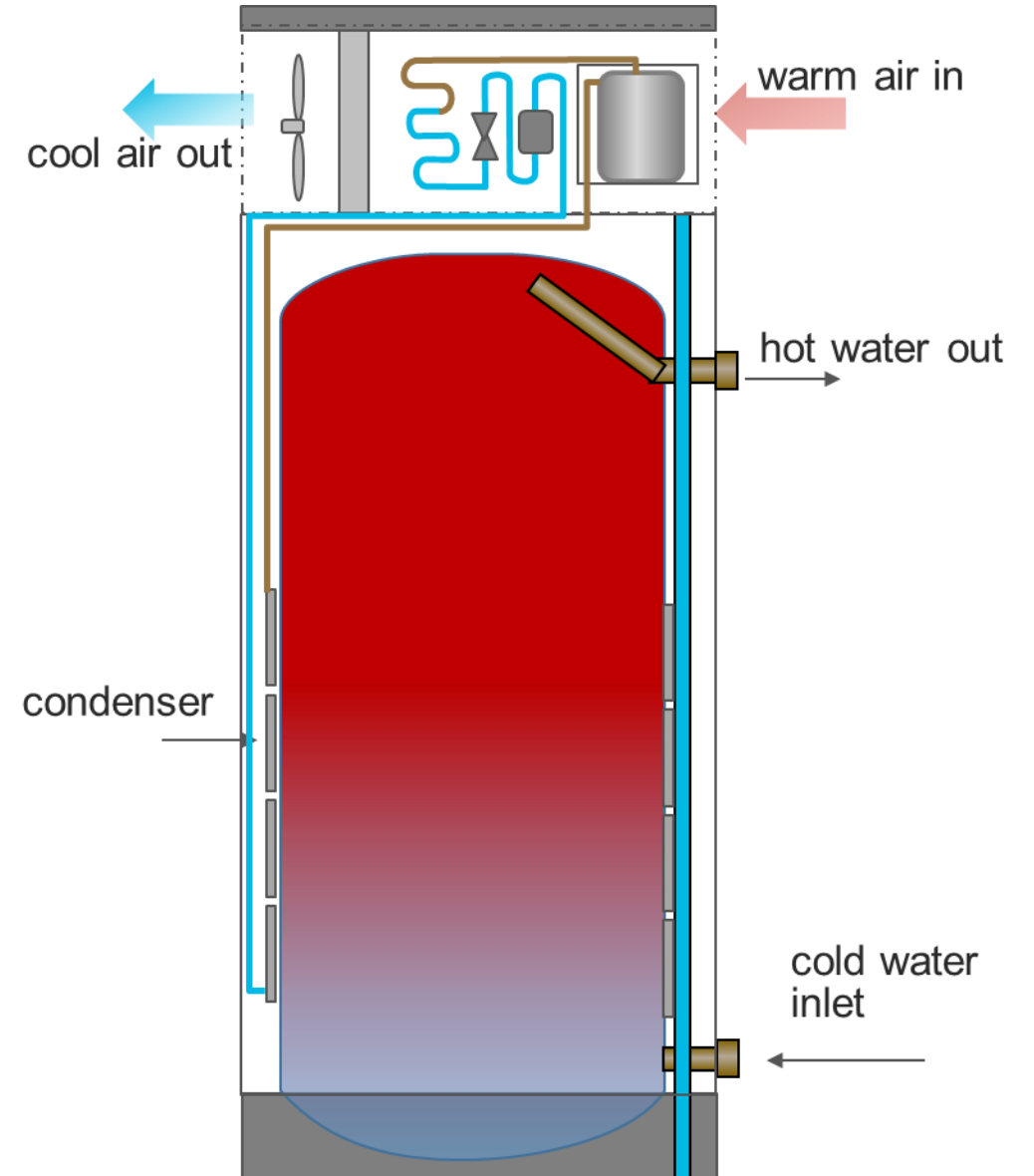
Domestic Hot Water

Potable Hot Water Electric Packaged Heat Pump

Output Capacity: 15-60 MBH

Considerations:

- First Cost
- Space Impacts





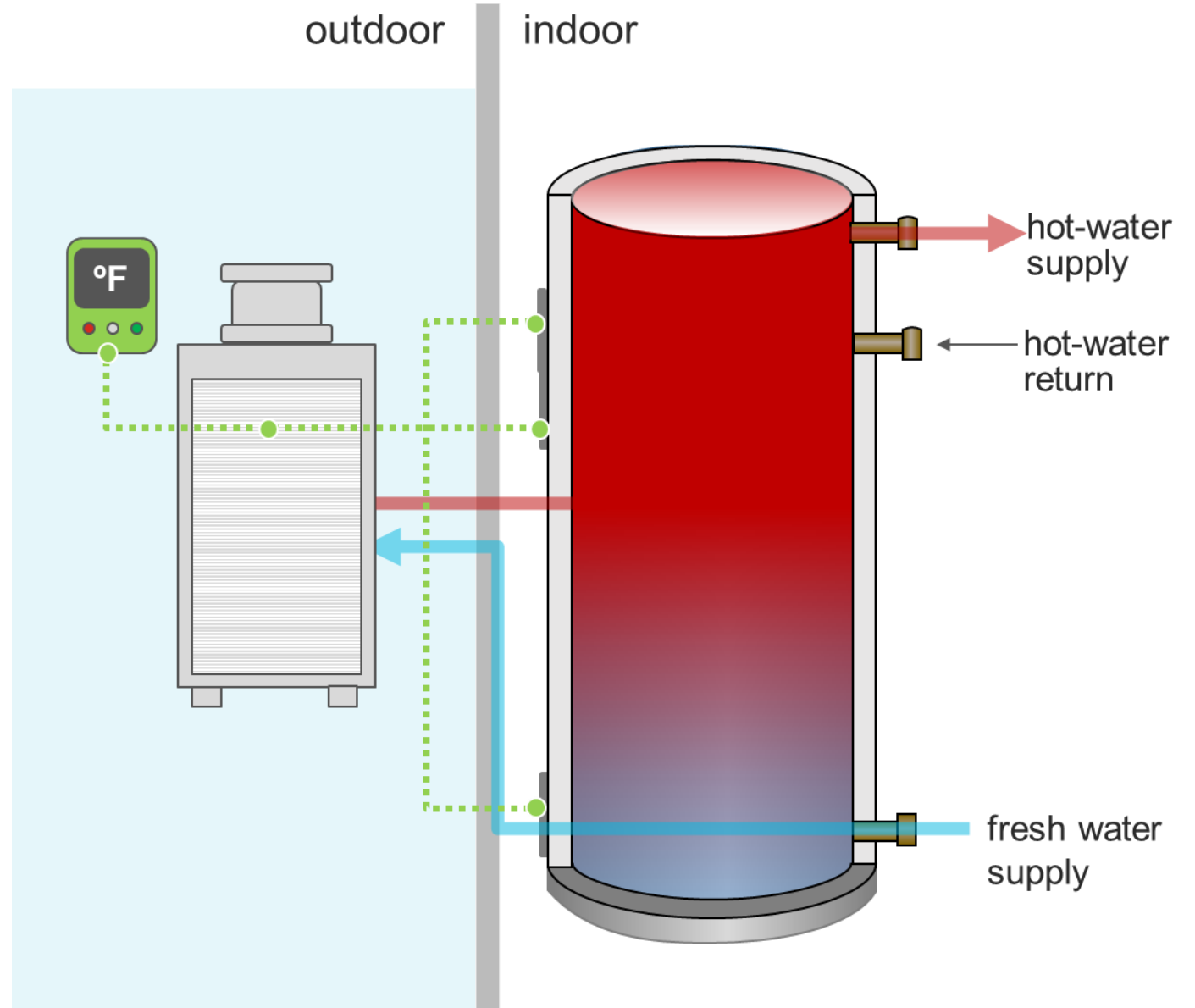
Domestic Hot Water

Potable Hot Water Split Heat Pump

Output Capacity: 15-2000 MBH

Considerations:

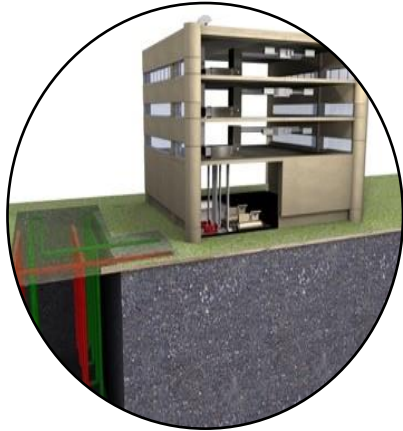
- Ambient
- Freeze protection





Other Heat Sources

Geothermal Loop



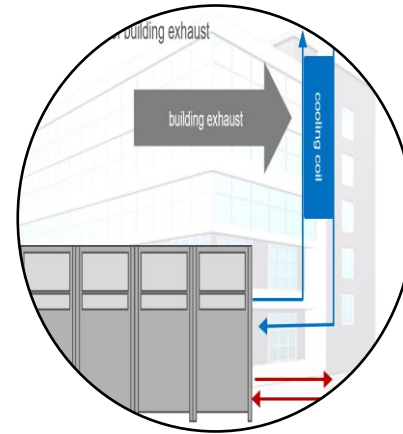
Lake, River, Pond




Storm and Sewer



Thermal Energy Storage



Exhaust Air Coil

A modern multi-story building with a glass facade and balconies, set against a clear blue sky. The building's architecture features a grid of windows and balconies, with some balconies having glass railings. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Thank you!
Any Questions?