

# **Thermal Energy in Raleigh, NC**

## **Modernizing Infrastructure Using an Inventive District Cooling Solution Financed via Performance Contract**

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# Outline

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# Introduction and Background

State of NC gov't building complex – Raleigh, NC

- Aging energy infrastructure
- Rising energy costs
- Limited budget for modernization

Decision to pursue Performance Contract:

- **Financed by energy & maint. cost savings**
- Late 2004 – Request for Qualifications
- 1<sup>st</sup> half 2005 – Detailed Audit phase
- Jan - Nov 2006 – Project Execution phase

# Performance Contracting

- Guaranteed Energy Solution
- Paid for from guaranteed cost savings:
  - Energy – reduced consumption and demand
  - Operational – maintenance, service contracts
  - Capital Avoidance – offset future planned projects, reallocate monies
- No capital expenditures incurred
- Energy education and awareness
- Meet energy efficiency initiatives & requirements

# Performance Contracting Benefits

- Replaces Assets that are beyond useful life
- Provide Additional Capacity
- Leverages Limited Budgets and Resources
- Reduces Maintenance Cost
- Increases Comfort
- Generates Cash Flow
- Accommodates Future Expansion
- Ensures Quality and Operability

# The Solution

Innovative approach (including items beyond RFP):

- Major expansion of DC network:
  - Modernization of old DC plant
  - Rehabilitation of old TES tank
  - Large new “packaged” DC plant
  - Large new TES tank
  - Control for high CHW Delta T
  - Did not replace chillers within buildings
- Lighting improvements
- HVAC and control improvements in buildings
- Water conservation

# Benefits of the Solution

- Reduce energy use by over 20 million kWh/yr
- Reduce water use by over 10 million gals/yr
- Over \$2 million per year in energy savings
- ~\$18.9 million in new financed infrastructure
- Over \$7 million in future capital avoidance
- Improved building comfort
- Expanded cooling capacity and redundancy

# **The Backbone of the Solution – District Cooling (DC)**

- Did not pursue in-building chiller replacements
- Expanded the DC network
- Investment focused on efficient new CHW plant
- Primary CHW source – the new CHW plant
- Secondary source – the old (rehab'd) CHW plant
- Peaking & back-up – best of the in-bldg chillers
- Direct-buried un-insulated HDPE piping



# The Key Enhancement of the Solution – Thermal Energy Storage (TES)

## Existing TES Tank – 0.7 millions gals

- In-ground rectangular concrete tank
- Rehab'd after 18 years of non-use
- Repaired leaks; replaced broken diffusers; new integration
- ~7,100 Ton-hours at 39/55 °F CHWS/R temps
- Up to ~1,300 Ton discharge rate

## New TES Tank – 2.7 million gals (architectural façade)

- Partly-buried cylindrical concrete tank, AWWA D110 Type III
- 26,270 Ton-hours at 39/55 °F CHWS/R temps
- Up to ~4,500 Ton discharge rate

*TES minimizes chiller use in high-cost on-peak times  
and provides capacity at low cap. \$ vs. chiller plants.*

# Prioritizing Investments in Efficiency

## – New versus Old Chiller Plants

### Existing CHW Plant – limited investment

- Retired 1 of 3 old inefficient chillers, in place
- Rehab'd 2 of 3 old chillers, for lower CHWS temp
- Orig design CHW Delta T was 12 °F (actual typ'ly 6 to 9 °F)
- Re-spec'd for CHW Delta T of 16 °F (39/55 °F CHWS/R)

### New CHW Plant – “packaged” (vs. “stick-built”) plant

- Footprint – small plot; easy to site; less visual impact
- Schedule – shorter overall; much shorter on-site time
- Efficiency – high, w/ series chillers; high Delta T; low CHWS
- Price – lower capital \$/Ton
- Performance – guarantee of total plant Tons and kW/Ton

# Optimization of the Solution – High Chilled Water (CHW) Delta T

- Raised CHW Delta T (from 6 to 9 °F) to 15 °F
- Enhanced capacity and reduced size & cost of DC piping, DC pumps, and TES tanks.
- Lowered CHWS at new and old chiller plants
- Raised CHWR using Pressure-Indep. FCVs
- Peaking / back-up chillers in the bldgs, used only rarely, will only serve their own bldgs

# DC Capacity and Design Day Loads

New Packaged DC Plant	2,900 T (off-peak; on-pk as needed)
Old (Rehab'd) DC Plant	1,400 T (off-peak; on-pk as needed)
Peaking Chillers in Bldgs	2,800 T (rarely, and only off-peak)
– Admin Bldg	485 T
– Albemarle	450 T
– Mus of History	515 T
– Mus of Nat Sci	600 T
– New Revenue	750 T
New TES Capacity	3,700 T (26,270 T-hrs)
Old TES Capacity	800 T ( 7,100 T-hrs)
Total Chillers Only	7,100 T
Total Chillers + TES	11,600 T
Design Day Peak Load	5,472 T (6,460 T w/ Leg & LOB)
Design Day 24-hr Average	3,756 T (4,388 T w/ Leg & LOB)

# Unique Results and Benefits

- Managing Energy and Energy Costs
- Expandability for Future Load Growth
- Reliability and Redundancy

# Managing Energy and Energy Costs

- Each bldg & CHW plant is individually metered
- Each has different loads, load profiles, & tariffs
- In-bldg chillers used only off-peak, if ever
- Allows most bldgs to use “Small TOU” tariff
- CHW plants use attractive “TES” tariff
- Series chillers and variable speed pumping
- Custom Energy Mgmt System
- Extensive monitoring of system and each bldg

*Keys to maximizing savings (and to project viability):  
managing loads (with DC & TES) and tariff choices*

# Expandability for Future Growth

- Project accommodates future expansion:
  - Load growth within buildings on the DC network
  - Addition of more existing buildings to DC network
  - Addition of future new buildings to DC network
- Several key steps were taken to achieve this:
  - DC headers oversized for addition of 2 more existing bldgs (committed in May 2006) + 3 future bldgs
  - Modest oversizing of new TES (fully useable now)
  - New CHW Plant designed for modular expandability

*Project economics allowed these incremental investments now, rather than larger ones later.*

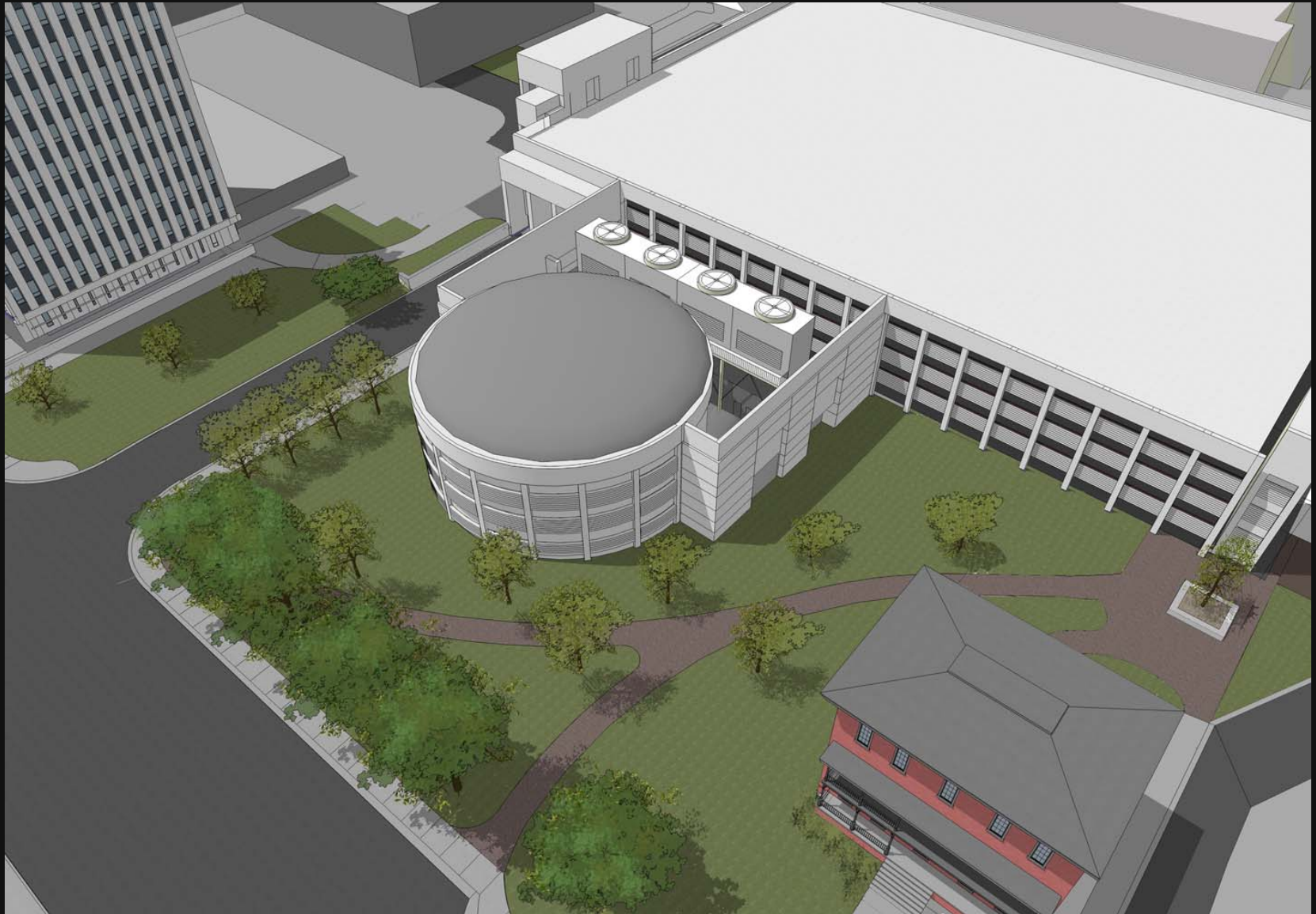
# Reliability and Redundancy

- At least “N+1” redundancy in critical mechanical items (chillers, pumps, cooling towers)
- Peak loads in all DC-connected buildings can be met in the hottest weather, even with the loss of the largest item, or the loss of TES.
- Not economically viable for individual buildings
- But DC (integrated system) approach allows it

*The State enjoys this important & valuable benefit, solely as a result of pursuing the DC solution.*



# Preliminary Architect's Sketch



# TES Tank Construction – March 2006





# TES Tank Construction – May 2006



# Summary

1. Project combined: new and existing assets; DC, TES, plus lighting, HVAC, and water usage measures; all **100% self-financed by operating savings.**
2. Large capital investment (\$18.9 million)
  - E.g. DC piping, New Energy Conservation Center (with its packaged chiller plant & TES), P-Indep FCVs
  - Fully justified by large operating savings vs. initial request to replace chillers within independent bldgs.
3. ESCO gets: attractive ROI and large NPV.
4. State gets (far beyond its original expectations): new infrastructure; no capital req'd; large savings in energy & energy cost; redundancy & reliability; ease of expandability; and a model for other State projects.

# Conclusions

- The ESCO-led team of focused experts yielded an integrated solution whose benefits total more than the sum of the benefits of the parts.
- Performance Contracting is a viable and beneficial vehicle to implement major DC & TES
- Max savings (even the project viability) were achieved only by combining all key elements: DC, TES, Delta T enhancement, and tariff mgmt

*Project demonstrates power of District Energy, especially when leveraged with complementary technologies that may be impractical or uneconomical to apply within individual buildings*

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  - TES Tank Supplier – Natgun Corporation
  - P-Indep FCV Supplier – Cool Systems / Flow Control Ind.
  - Control System Supplier – Siemens Building Technologies
  - Electric Utility – Progress Energy

# Questions ?

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