

### Geothermal Optimization: Planning and Design HAGeotherm01

#### **Presented to:**

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**Presented by:** Kathleen A. Dorsey, P. E.





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#### **Course Description**

This course will review and discuss in detail planning and design criteria necessary to support the proper application and optimization of geoexchange systems.

## **Learning Objectives**

- 1. Understand the types of geoexchange systems and decision making criteria for choosing one over another.
- 2. Understand how to integrate geoexchange into the typical design process for a successful outcome.



- 3. Understand how complimentary HVAC building loads, site conditions and integrated system design can be used to optimize geoexchange systems.
- 4. Understand how *SmartSizing* impacts Life Cycle Cost benefit analysis for geoexchange systems.

#### **Outline for Today**

- Geothermal Geoexchange Basics
- Fitting Geothermal in Design Process
- Important Inputs
- Building and Geology Influences
- Case Studies



#### Audience Poll....

- What are your big questions relating to applying geothermal?
- Where do you think Geothermal is applicable?



### **The Earth – A Thermal Battery**



#### Klamath Falls, Oregon



Source: treehugger.com



#### **Ground Source Heat Pump Basics**

#### HEATING

Heat source for ground source heat pumps to extract heat

#### COOLING

Heat sink for ground source heat pump to inject heat



#### **Closed Systems**





### **Open Systems**







#### **New Well Designs**











#### **Integrate into Foundations**



In Slurry Wall



Loop Under Foundation Slab



## **Energy Piles and Slabs**







#### Fitting in the D&C process



#### SmartSizing Geothermal Systems

#### What is *SmartSizing*?

- A process that explores multiple scenarios
- Find scenario that minimizes number of wells and achieves key benefits

#### Why *SmartSizing*?

- System cost 20% while providing 80% the same benefits
- Financial returns are greater
  - We minimize number of wells
  - We focus on benefits not "tons"

### **SmartSizing**





#### **Inputs to Get Started**

- Desired Outcome/Goals
- Geology/Hydrogeology
- Building systems/CHP
- Load Profiles
- Building energy models
- Aesthetic Requirements
- Financial Goals
- Underground Structure/Features



#### Example of SmartSizing Impacts

Geothermal Well Scenarios 1, 2, and 3



#### **Building Systems Matter**

Geothermal Well Scenarios 1, 2, and 3



#### **Benefits: Optimization Pays**



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#### Go – No/Go

- 30% No-Go's
- Site Conditions/Regulatory
- Goals and Objectives
- Building Load Profiles
  - Heating/Cooling Centric
  - Non-district
- Space

Guais		
		-
2.		-
3		-

Gaala

#### "Go" influencers

- Existing Heating is Electric, Heating Oil, Steam or Propane
- Net zero; High Performance Buildings
- High Standard; Stretch Code
  - =>30% greater than ASHRAE 90.1 2007
- Historic Retrofit; Preservation
- Aesthetics
- Long term ownership (Life Cycle Cost)
- Residential; Mixed Use; Office



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#### **Design & Construction**

Conceptual Design Site Evaluation; System Choices

Schematic Design Schematic Pricing

**Rough ROI** 

**Benefit Quantification** 

Design Development Pilot Thermal Test; Sizing and Modeling

Construction Documents Specification and Drawings; Final Pricing

Construction and Post Construction Commissioning, Training, Monitoring



#### Influence: SmartSizing > Field Test



## **Field Testing**

- Thermal response testing
- Follow ASHRAE/IGSHPA
- Hydrogeologic testing
- Do early as possible
- Geology can vary in 500'
- "Check" in Plan Do Check Act
- For both open and closed



Figure 1: Temperature versus Time Data

## **Design/Build Delivery**



#### **Design/Build Area Vs. Capacity Pricing Tools**



## **PHASE III - Construction**

- Construction Documents
- Drilling Specification
- High Quality ASTM testing
- Commissioning and Verification
- Third Party Monitoring
- Drilling Water Management





#### **Drilling the Installations**



#### Audience Poll....

- Questions so far?
- Experiences related to what we've just covered?



## **CASE STUDIES**





#### **Load Profiles Matter**



#### **Combined System**

#### High End Residential – Size on Bldg Loads



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#### **Using Conventional Sizing Rules**

Cooling Load:31 TonsHeating Load:263 MBH (....22 Tons equivalent)"Cooling Centric"

Rule of Thumb	Number of 400-ft Wells
2 tons/400-ft well	16
3 tons/400-ft well	10

#### ...building is actually *heating-centric*



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#### **Total Loads**



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#### Actual Design: 21 Boreholes > 10-16



### **American University** Washington D.C.



#### **District** – 100% Heating and Cooling



#### District – 50% Heating with Balanced Cooling



#### **Advantage of SmartSizing & District**



- 60 to 30 Boreholes
- Flexible Operation
- 90% of benefit@50% cost
- Single mobilization
- Avoid central plant costs
- Improves return on borefield investment

#### **Geology Matters**



#### **Stanford University: District**

- 75 retrofitted buildings
- Several thousand tons cooling load
- Initial closed loop design: 800 wells
- Geology really matters!



#### **Stanford University**



## **Stanford University**







#### **Owners Goals Matter**

- Off-Grid/Self Sufficient
- Net Zero
- Utilizes "Green" Electricity
- Stretch code
- LEED points
- GHG reduction
- Historic preservation
- Reduce central plant growth
- Cache/Aesthetics



#### **Yale Achieving Project Commitments**

• Commitment to regulatory approval authority:

"Build building that is at least 12% more energy efficient than latest ASHRAE 90.1 base case"



#### **Yale Achieving Project Commitments**

Background:

- Very large residential
- Over 800 tons cooling load



- Significant building envelop and roof area/sq. ft.
- Many Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs) considered
- Sol'n: geothermal system consisting of 55 well installations within courtyards

## **Energy Efficiency Gains of ECMs**



### **Compare "Apples to Apples"**



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## Wakefield High School: Save Space

#### Solution:

- Reduce redundancy
- Deeper Wells
- More Heating Load
- Innovative Well Design
- Integrated with existing HVAC system







![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **100% Geothermal Rule of Thumb**

![](_page_57_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Informed Ground Conditions**

![](_page_58_Figure_1.jpeg)

### **Estimated Smart Sizing**

![](_page_59_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Other Goals**

- Utilizes "Green" Electricity
- Stretch code
- LEED points
- GHG reduction
- Historic preservation
- Reduce central plant growth
- Emission reductions

![](_page_60_Picture_8.jpeg)

#### **Avoid Aesthetic Impacts**

![](_page_61_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Preserve & Create Campus Aesthetic**

![](_page_62_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### Take Aways...

- Powerful ECM
- Possible in most locations
- Understand Ground + Building
- *SmartSize* multiple scenarios early
- Lower Life Cycle Cost
- Huge Range of Feasibility

![](_page_63_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Questions

#### HALEY& ALDRICH

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This concludes The American Institute of Architects Continuing Education Systems Course

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#### **Team Composition**

![](_page_66_Figure_1.jpeg)

Best method to support the client goals

#### Partner Qualifications: What to look for..

- Geologists and Hydrogeologists
- P. E. certified designs
- Mechanical engineering/modeling experts
- Significant experience on higher ed campuses
- Client value driven philosophy

![](_page_67_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_7.jpeg)