



Geothermal Heating & Cooling in Health Care Applications

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Intro to Geo

- Why Geothermal?
 - Future outlook for Geothermal in Ontario
- What is Geothermal?
 - Overview of the technology
 - How it is applied
- Applications
 - Specific examples of healthcare facilities

The Future for Geo Looks Bright

- ❑ Provincially funded programs – Multiple Branches of Government
- ❑ Investment from both public and private sector
- ❑ Exponential growth in multiple sectors
 - Residential new construction and retrofit
 - Multi family and condo market investment
 - Institutional, educational and healthcare investment
 - Indigenous community investment
- ❑ Geothermal heating and cooling will be the fastest growing technology in the province of Ontario over the next 5 to 10 years.

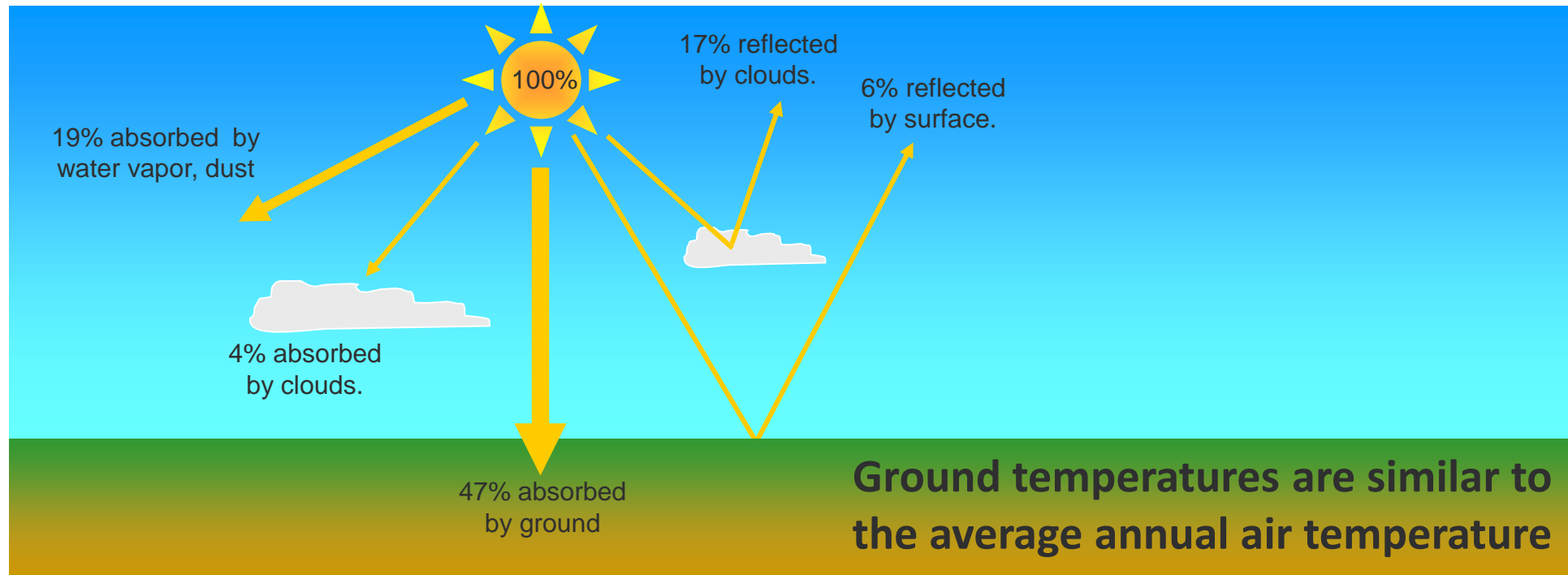
Common Misconceptions

- ❑ Geo is very expensive and doesn't give me a return on my investment
- ❑ Geo is very time consuming during construction and interrupts the construction schedule
- ❑ Geo systems never work properly

What is Ground Source Energy?

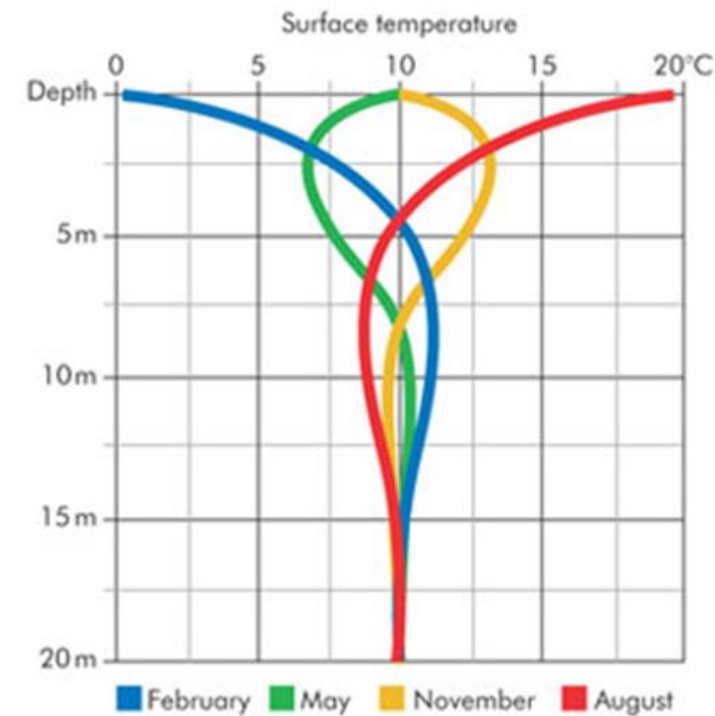
(not geothermal)

Ground source captures indirect solar energy



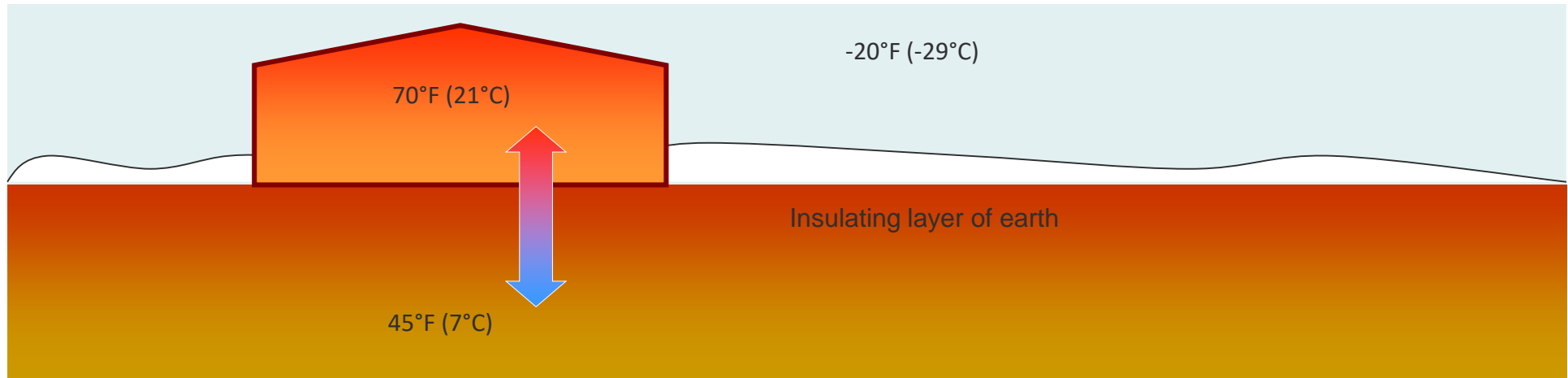
Average Ground Temperature

- Near the surface the ground temperature varies with the air temperature.
- At greater depths the soil temperature becomes more stable throughout the year.
- Approximately 50°F (10°C) in southern Ontario



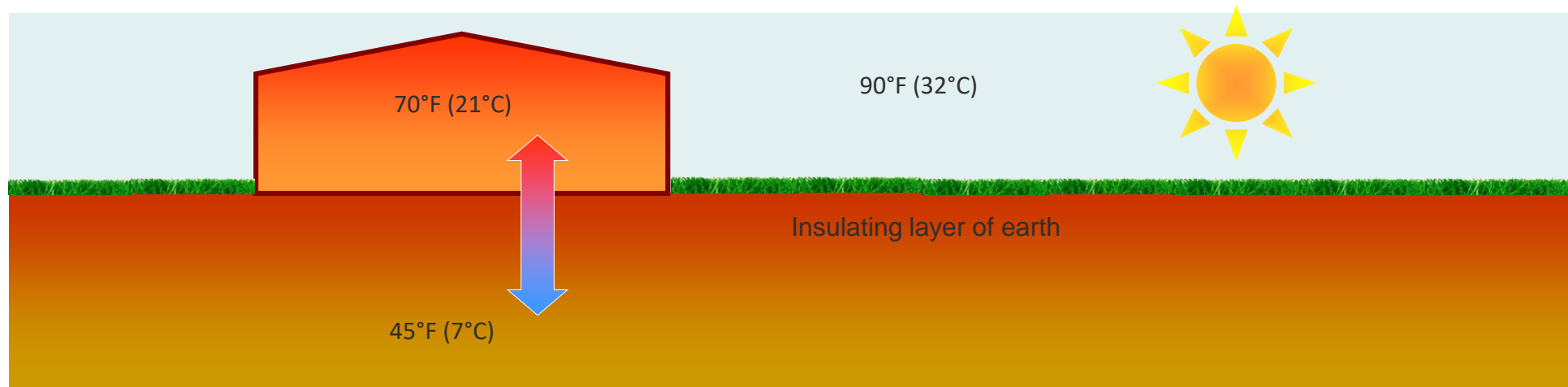
Ground Source Heating

- The earth provides a stable and renewable energy source to supply the energy required to heat the building.
- The low temperature heat can be utilized using standard refrigeration units
- The refrigeration process is 3 to 7 times more efficient than combustion heating



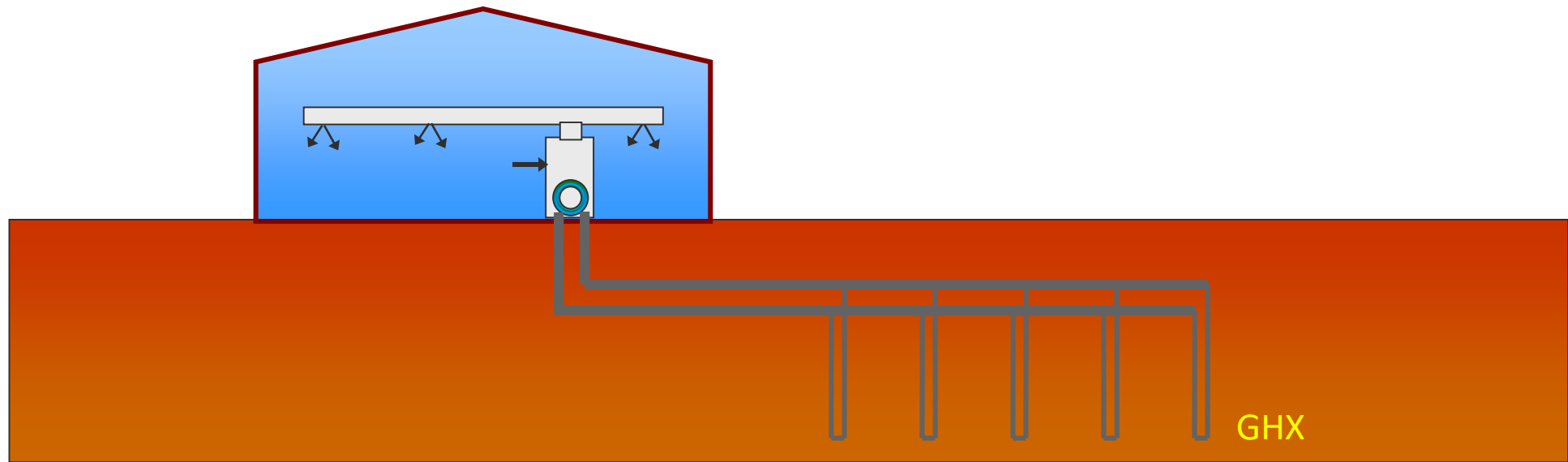
Ground Source Cooling

- In cooling the ground easily absorbs heat removed from our buildings.
- Cooling equipment is functionally identical to standard refrigeration units
- It is 30% to 40% more efficient for the system to reject heat to a GHX buried in 45°F (7°C) earth than air at 90°F (32°C)



Ground Heat Exchanger (GHX)

- Energy is transferred by circulating fluid through plastic pipe buried in the ground.
- Pipes can be below the building or adjacent below a field or parking lot.



Ground Heat Exchanger options

Vertical GHX

- ❑ Boreholes are typically drilled to a depth of 250 to 650 feet (76 to 198 m) deep
- ❑ A pair of HDPE pipes with a U-bend connection are inserted into the borehole and sealed with a cementitious grout mixture
- ❑ Requires minimal footprint and can be located beneath the building



Horizontal GHX

- ❑ Installed by excavating trenches 6 to 10 feet (2 to 3 m) deep and laying HDPE pipe
- ❑ Alternatively can be done with horizontal directional drilling.
- ❑ If the land area is available, it can often be installed for 25% to 60% lower cost than a vertical GHX



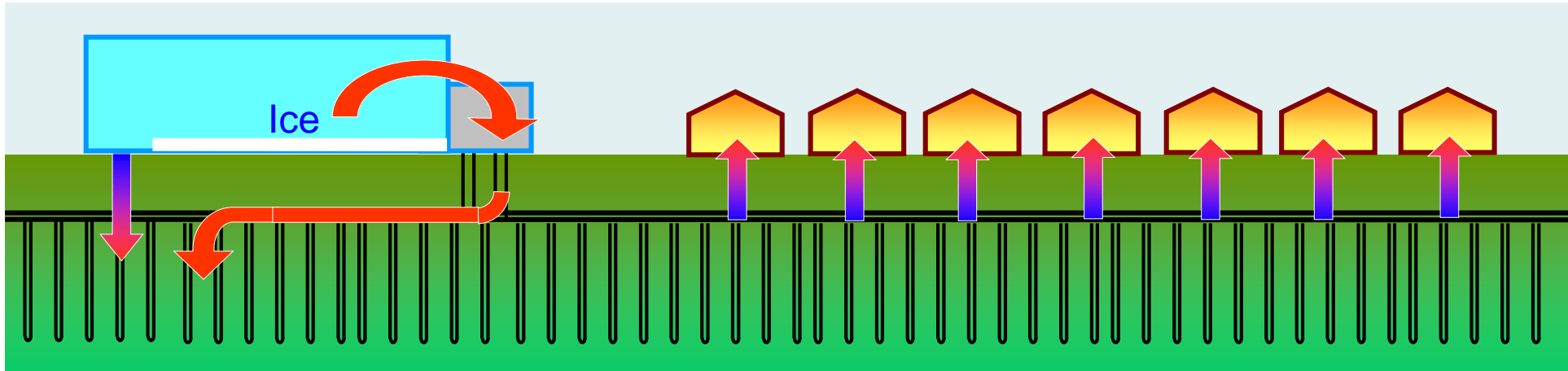
Lake or Pond GHX

- ❑ A lake, pond, or river can be used as a consistent and effective energy source at a much lower cost than other GHX options
- ❑ Requires special installation to prevent seasonal damage
- ❑ May require permitting from provincial or federal agencies

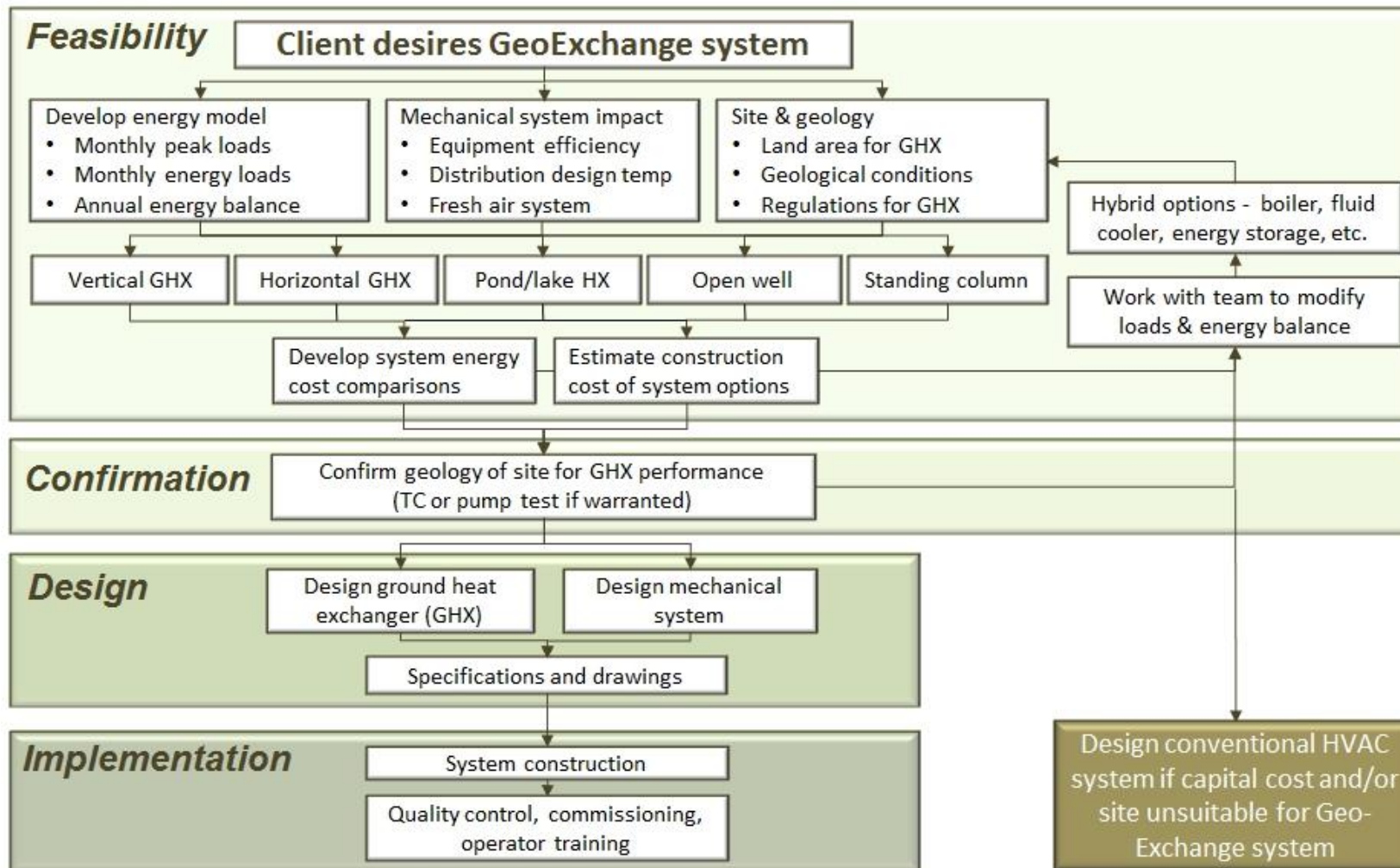


District Systems

- Some projects connect a common GHX to a number of buildings
- Instead of piping hot and chilled water through insulated pipes in a conventional district arrangement, ambient/ ground temperature fluid is circulated.
- Greater diversity of loads offers numerous financial and operational advantages.

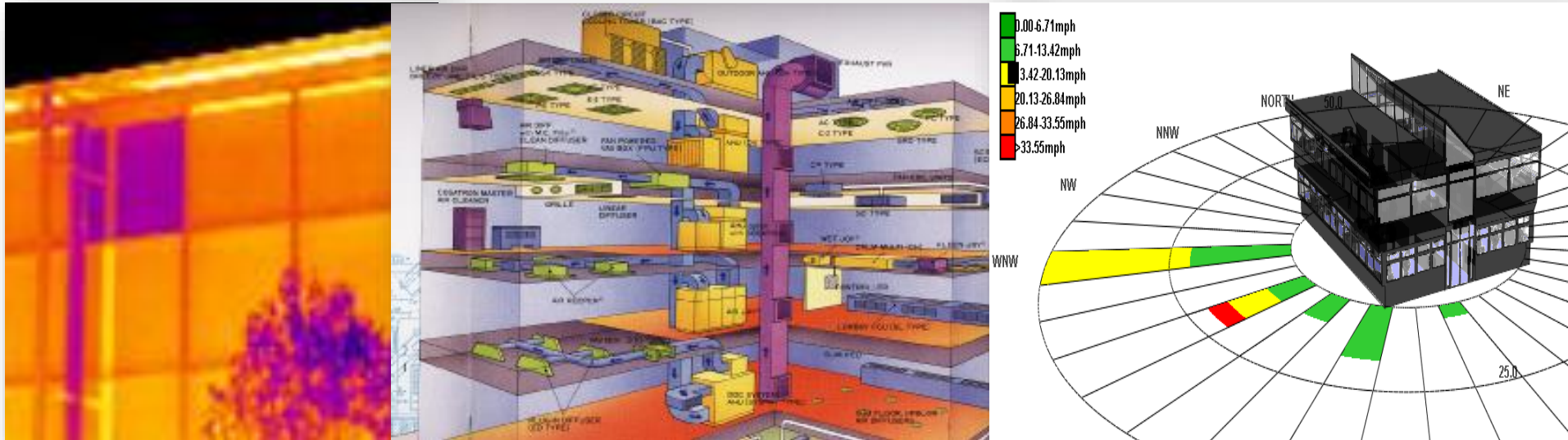


Design Process

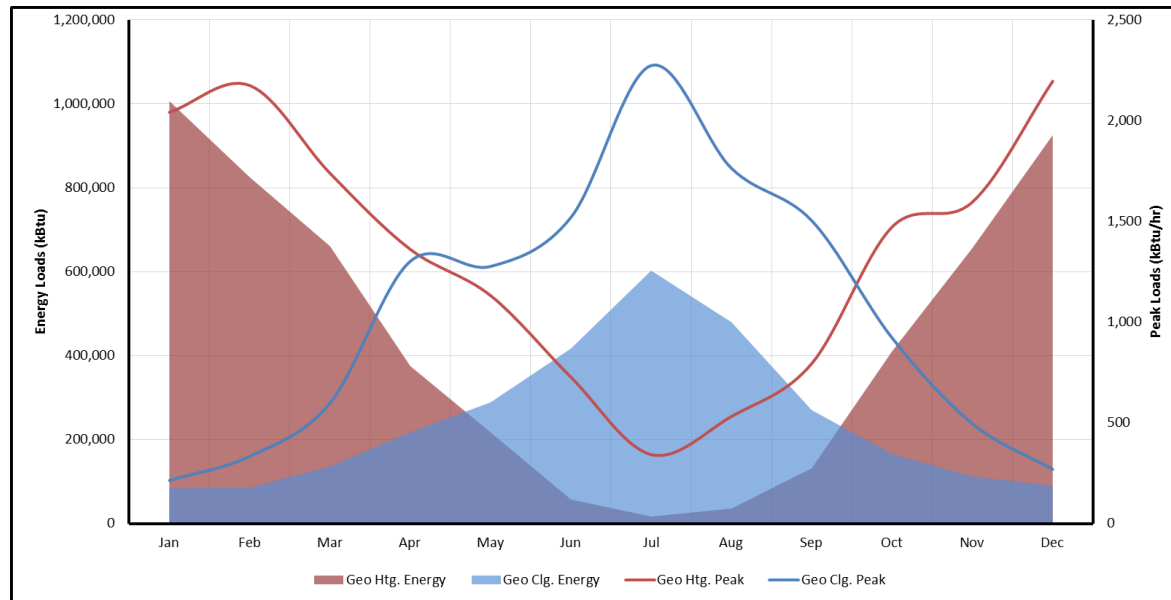


Energy Modeling

- ❑ In order to design the GHX we must know the peak and annual energy loads to and from the building.
- ❑ Requires detailed analysis of the building and mechanical systems

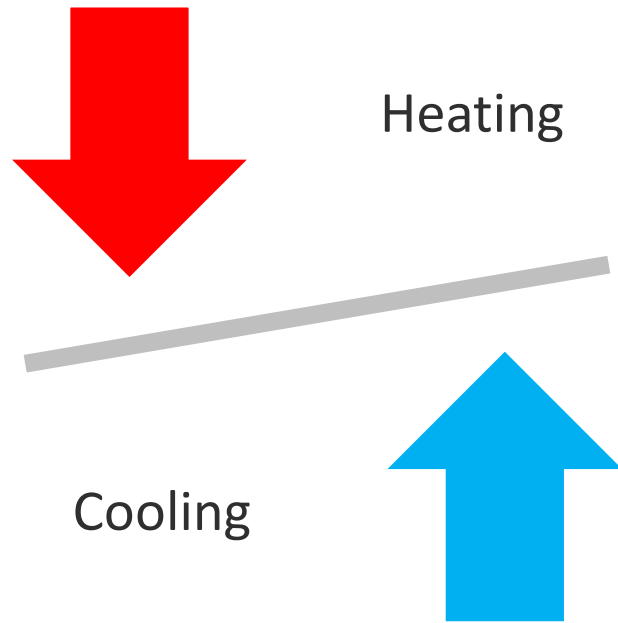


Energy Modeling



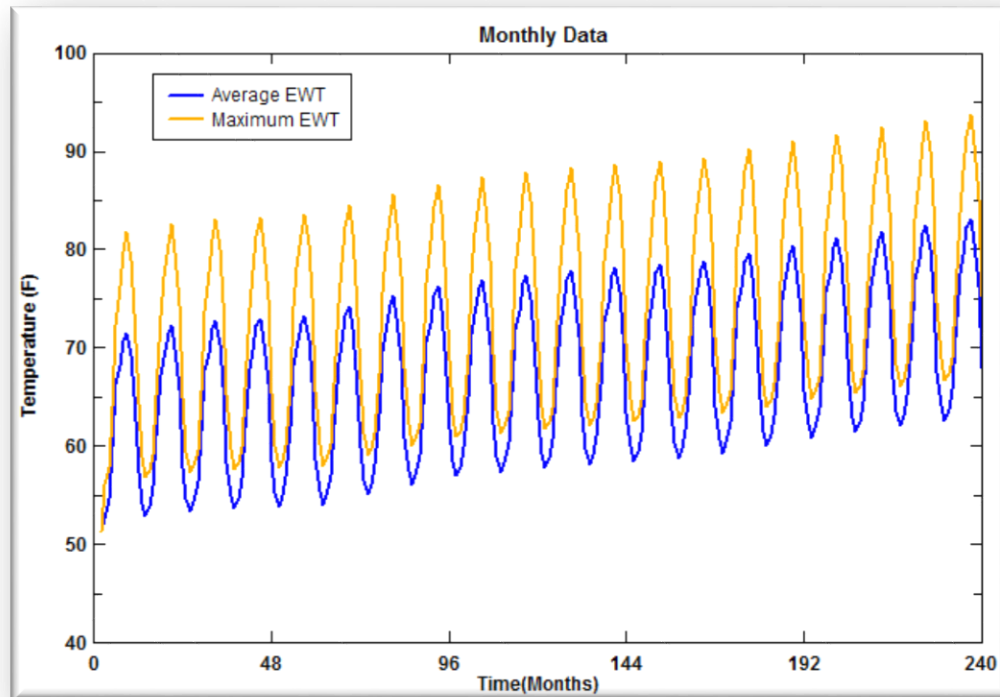
- Basis of design and critical for any project
- Has become very common in the industry but with varying intents:
 - Compliance
 - Incentives
 - Design
 - Predictive

Energy Requirements and Balance



- A GHX works best, and its size can be reduced if loads are balanced over the year.
- Many large buildings in Canada will have a greater demand for cooling than heating.
- Supplementary systems can significantly reduce capital costs without large impacts on operating costs.

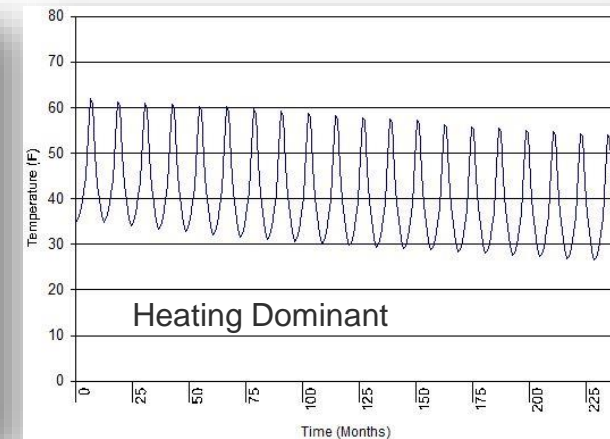
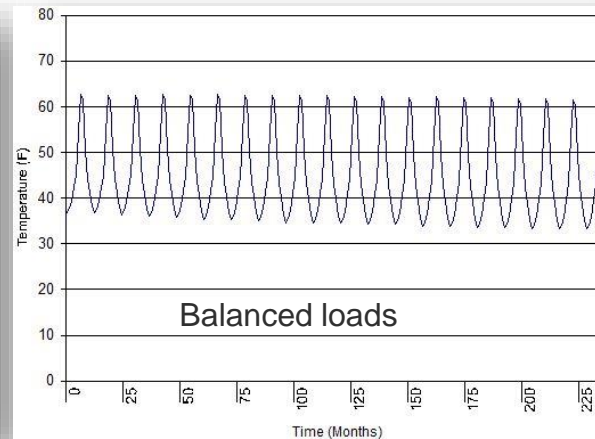
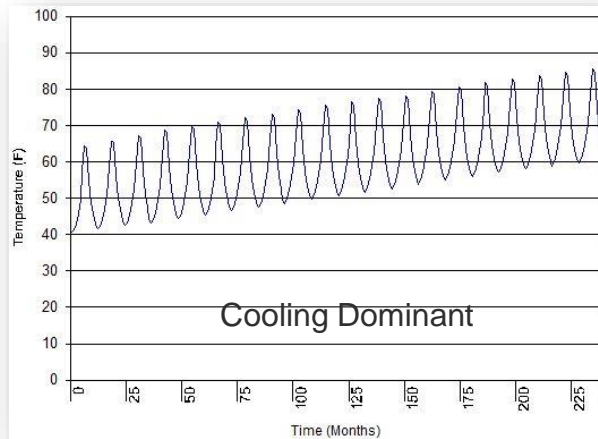
Energy Requirements and Balance



- Based on energy model we can predict the long term GHX temperature profile
- This must be stable, otherwise the GHX will prove unusable over time
- Simple adjustments to the building construction and/ or building mechanical systems will balance the energy loads and stabilize the temperature profile.

Iterative Process

- Proper modeling allows us to assess the profile of the base building systems
- Adjustments can be made to balance the energy loads
- Our process includes sensitivity analysis to anticipate problems such as improper operation or dramatic changes in weather patterns



What if I don't want to use heat pumps?



HEAT PUMPS
(VERTICAL STACK)



HEAT RECOVERY
CHILLER
w/ FAN COILS

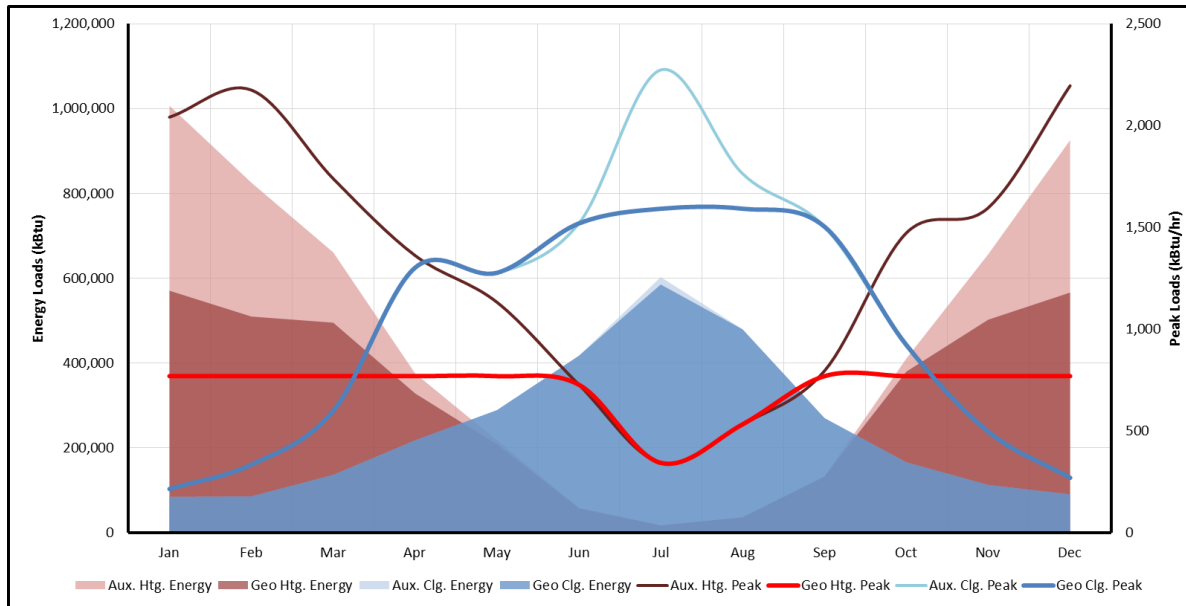


WATER SOURCE
VRF

Any hydronic based system can work

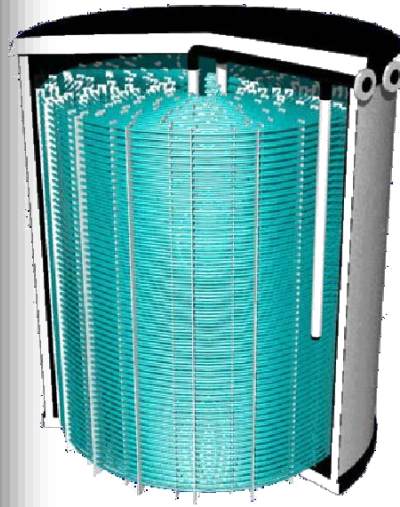
How do we make all of this work?

Hybrid Systems



- Supplementary heating sources (i.e. combustion boiler) are very common
- Supplementary cooling (i.e. fluid cooler) is much more expensive
- Ideally done with other efficiency and renewable sources

Technology options



- ❑ There are a number of options for energy balancing:
 - ❑ Snow Melt/ Heat Rejection Pad
 - ❑ Active window shading
 - ❑ Domestic Water Preheat
 - ❑ Hybrid Makeup Air Systems
- ❑ Also options to reduce peak energy:
 - ❑ Thermal Energy (Ice) Storage
 - ❑ Co-Generation Plants
 - ❑ Biomass/ Fuel Boiler

INTEGRATION

- ❑ Design mechanical equipment and systems to optimize the ground source asset
- ❑ Install the controls equipment required to operate the system effectively
- ❑ Commission the systems to ensure they operate as intended from initial occupancy
- ❑ Monitor the system performance to ensure it continues to operate as designed for the life of the building

Peel Memorial Centre



Systems Installed

- ❑ 100 vertical boreholes - each 600' deep - installed adjacent to building in parking lot
- ❑ Connected to heat recovery chiller plant
- ❑ Supplies base load heating and cooling year round



Selkirk Regional Health Centre



Systems Installed

- Horizontal directional drilled system installed in three modules below adjacent parking spaces
 - Almost 200,000 feet of pipe installed
- Connected to central heat recovery chillers to supply 100% of cooling load and ~70% of heating load



Pine Falls Primary Health Ctr



Systems Installed

- ❑ 20 vertical boreholes installed 400' deep in adjacent parking area
- ❑ Connected to central heat recovery chiller to serve new addition and existing building





THANK YOU...

QUESTIONS?

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