

**Central Utilities at UNL:**  
NU Corp & Development of  
Thermal Energy Storage (TES)  
at UNL East Campus

Big Ten and Friends  
Mechanical & Energy Conference

**U of Nebraska-Lincoln** – October 15, 2012

## Before NU Corp

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- ❑ No funds for deferred maintenance
- ❑ System condition was deteriorating
- ❑ Safety and reliability
- ❑ Capacity was inadequate

# In the Beginning...

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- Initial Actions
  - Bonds
  - Gas / Elec Purchases
  - Capital and operating funds

- ❑ Reduces Capital Budget Requests by providing Financing Mechanism
- ❑ Eliminates Deferred Maintenance
- ❑ Provides Specialized Expertise
- ❑ Improves System Reliability, Efficiency, and Safety
- ❑ Implements New Technologies

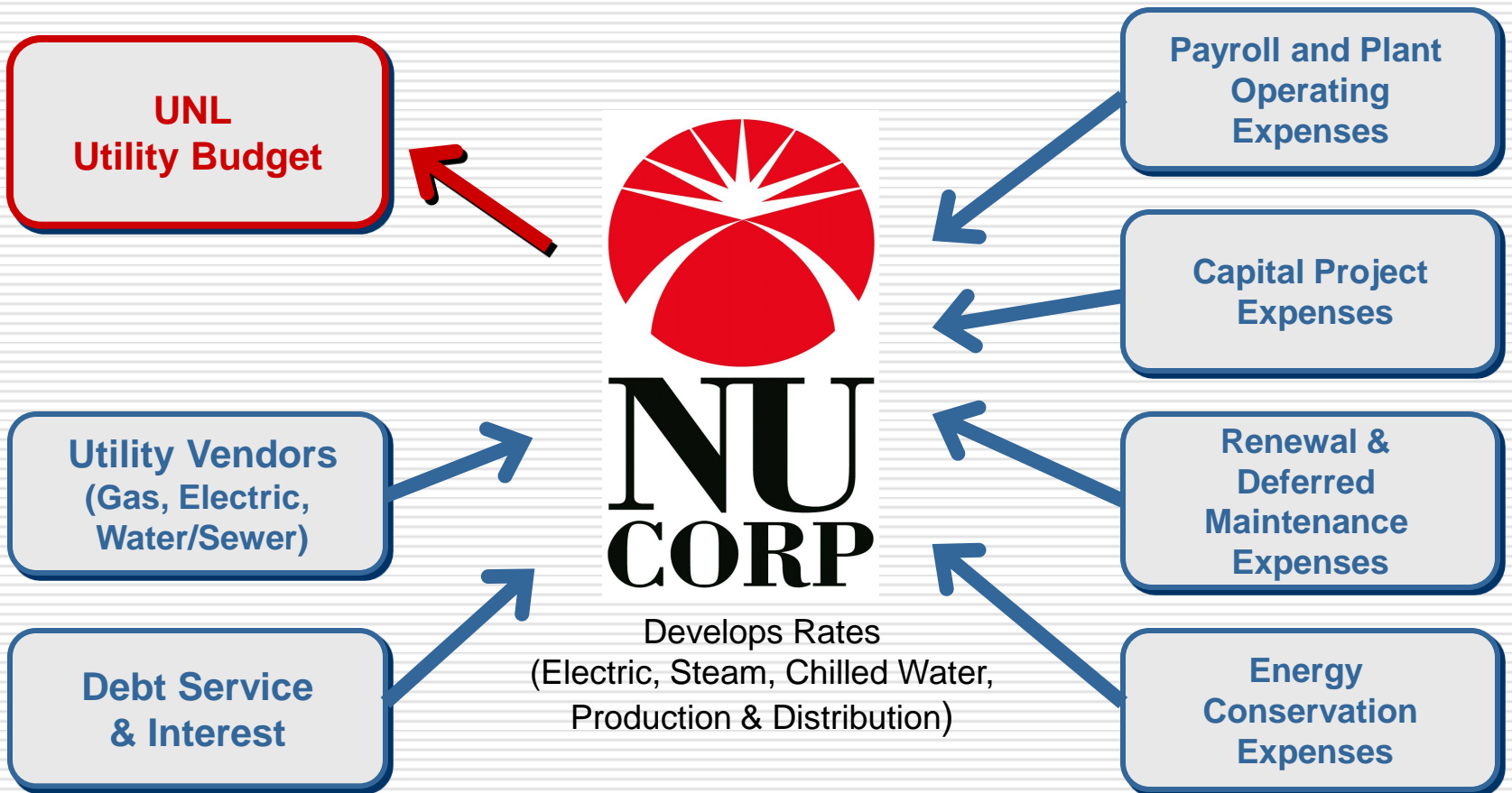
## LES Benefits

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- ❑ Builds a stronger Relationship with Largest Customer
- ❑ Lowers Energy Cost through Joint Purchasing and operating
- ❑ Retains Mutual Benefits of joint WAPA Scheduling
- ❑ Provides Capacity via Energy Conservation
- ❑ Provides Joint Planning and Coordination of Operations

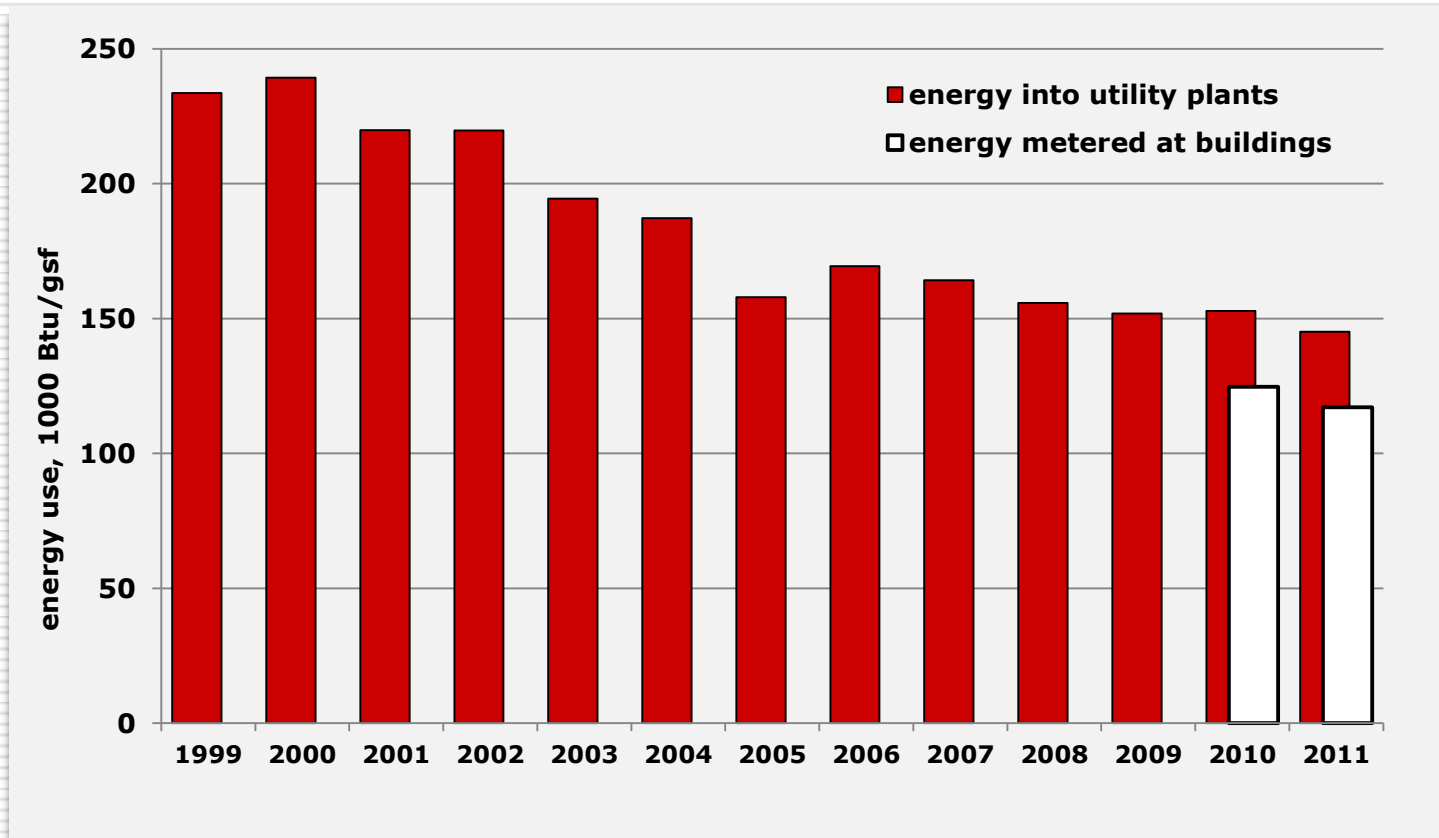
- Fuel purchases
- Rate Analysis
- Accounting /auditing
- Engineering support
- Assist in feasibility studies

- Operations
- Maintenance
- Construction
- Energy conservation
- Capital Planning





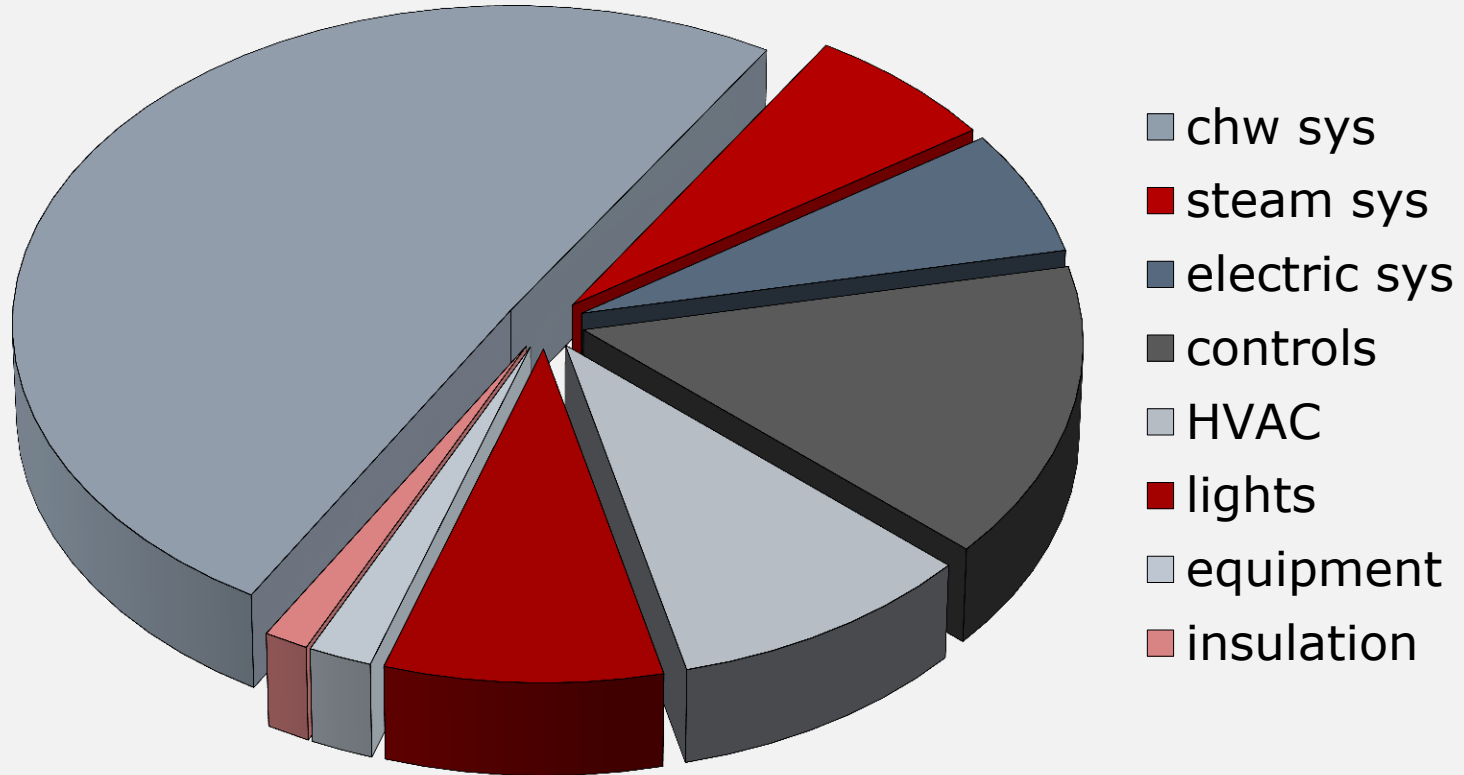
# Energy Use under NU Corp



# Project Costs & Savings

<b>Project Type</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Installed Cost</b>	<b>Annual Savings</b>	<b>SP</b>
chw sys	11	\$8,618,303	\$238,967	36.1
steam sys	12	\$1,118,786	\$160,097	7.0
electric sys	4	\$1,082,819	\$16,039	67.5
controls	16	\$2,535,331	\$2,071,239	1.2
HVAC	11	\$1,641,901	\$555,957	3.0
lights	10	\$1,477,224	\$591,106	2.5
equipment	5	\$339,137	\$145,793	2.3
insulation	3	\$237,595	\$186,590	1.3
<b>NUCorp Era</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>\$17,051,097</b>	<b>\$3,965,787</b>	<b>4.3</b>

# Project Types Funded







# Steam Infrastructure





# Chilled Water Infrastructure





# Plant Additions



# Chillers

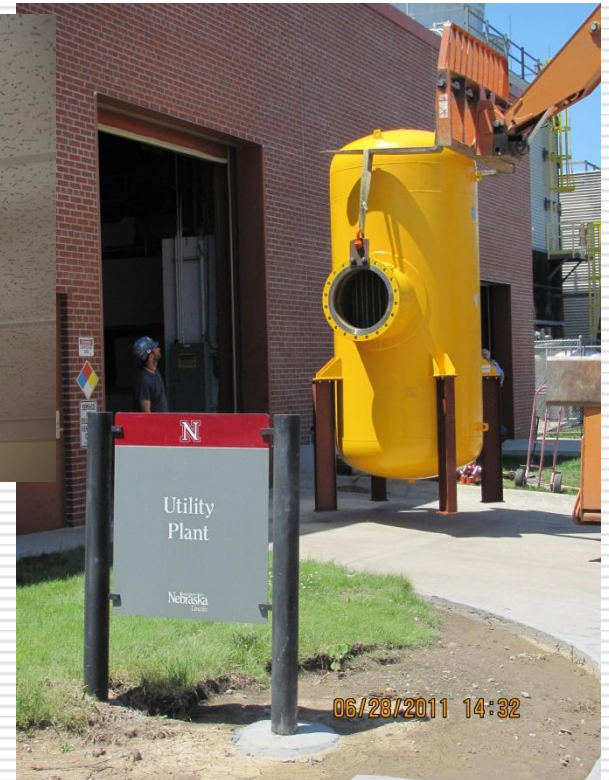




# Cooling Towers



# Energy Conservation





# Deferred Maintenance



# Heat Pump Loop





# Thermal Energy Storage



**Central Utilities at UNL:**  
**Thermal Energy Storage (TES)**  
**at UNL East Campus**

*John S. Andrepont, President*

**The Cool Solutions Company**

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# Outline

- Intro to Thermal Energy Storage (TES)
  - Concept, Drivers, Types, and Characteristics
- The Extensive Use of TES on Campuses
- TES at the UNL East Campus
  - Analysis and Justification
  - Selection, Sizing, and Design Specifications
  - Initial Operating Results and Benefits
- Summary and Conclusions

# Terminology

- CHP - Combined Heat & Power
- CHW - Chilled Water
- CHWS / R - CHW Supply / Return
- LTF - Low Temperature Fluid
- NPV - Net Present Value
- PSV - Pressure Sustaining Valve
- TES - Thermal Energy Storage



# TES Concept

- Store thermal energy for cooling or heating
- De-couple generation from usage
- Reduce installed equipment capacity (just as in your home water heater)
- Reduce peak power demand
- Shift energy use from peak to off-peak
- TES can be charged-discharged seasonally, weekly, or (most often) daily

# Drivers for Using TES

- “Flatten” thermal and electric load profiles
- Reduce electric “demand” costs
- Reduce on-peak energy costs
- Can often reduce net capital costs (through avoided conventional equip investment, e.g. new constr, retro expansion, or equip rehab)
- Reduces life cycle costs of ownership
- Improve operational flexibility and stability
- Can often add redundancy and reliability

# Types of TES

- “Full shift” or “partial shift” TES configuration
- Latent Heat TES Systems
  - Energy is stored as a *change in phase*
  - Typically, **Ice TES**
- Sensible Heat TES Systems
  - Energy is stored as a *change in temp*
  - Stratified **Chilled Water (CHW) TES**, or
  - Stratified **Low Temp Fluid (LTF) TES**

# Inherent Characteristics of TES

(typical generalizations only)

	<u>Ice</u>	<u>CHW</u>	<u>LTF</u>
Volume	good	poor	fair
Footprint	good	fair	good
Modularity	excell	poor	good
Economy-of-Scale	poor	excell	good
Energy Efficiency	fair	excell	good
Low Temp Capability	good	poor	excell
Ease of Retrofit	fair	excell	good
Rapid Charge/Dischrg Capability	fair	good	good
Simplicity and Reliability	fair	excell	good
Can Site Remotely from Chillers	poor	excell	excell
Dual-use as Fire Protection	poor	excell	poor

# The Extensive Use of TES in Campus District Cooling Applications

TES Survey (IDEA *District Energy* mag, 2005):

- 159 TES installations on 124 campuses
- Over 1.8 million ton-hrs
- Peak load shift over 258,000 tons (194 MW)
- Avg 14,584 ton-hr, 2,083 ton (1.6 MW) / campus
- 78% sensible heat TES (CHW or LTF)
- 22% latent heat TES (Ice)
- Many repeat users, e.g. Cal State U system has 16 CHW TES on 14 campuses (278,000 ton-hrs)

# TES Analysis for UNL EC

- Inputs: existing & future projected peak cooling loads & 24-hr load profiles; existing CHW plant equip; CHWS/R temps; electric utility rates; CHW distribution issues; siting
- Options: TES type & configuration; temps; location; tank-to-system pumping & valving; all vs. a No-TES base case
- Spreadsheet Outputs: equipment capacities; capital cost; electric & other operating costs; payback & NPV; all vs. a No-TES base case

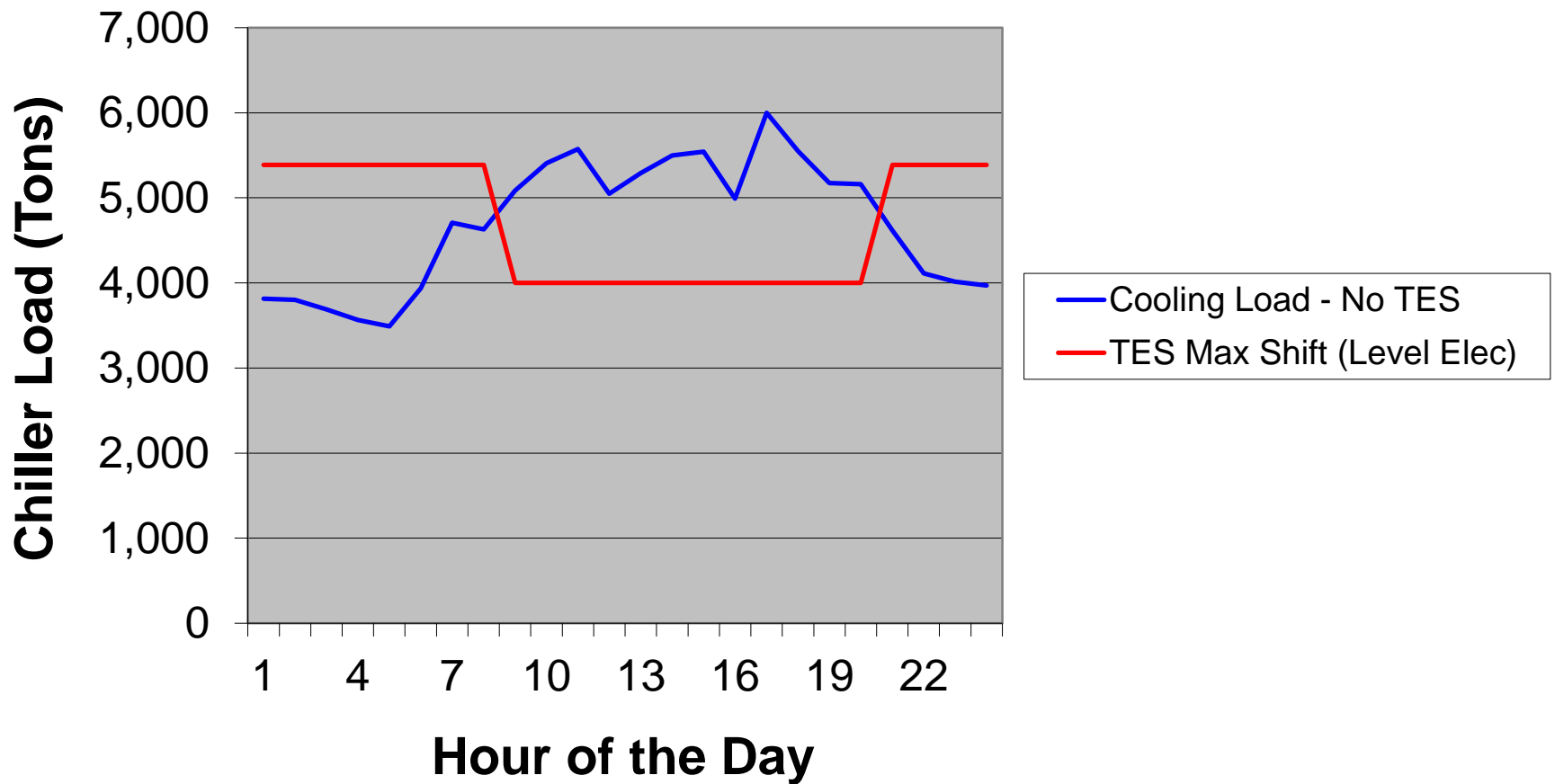
# TES Justification for UNL EC

- 2009 chillers: 7000T total; 4000T “firm” (N-1)
- Peak load: 5020T in 2012; 6000T in 2015
- Postpone new chiller, but add TES by 2012
- Add 2000T chiller in ‘15; can add 1700T load
- Achieve cooling “load level” w/ N-1 chillers; and deeper “load shift” (beyond cooling load level) with N chillers, for electric load level.
- Reduce demand by 2,000 T (1.6 MW)

*Near 0-yr payback + over \$4M in 20-yr NPV*

# UNL EC - 24-hr design day (2015)

## Peak Day Comparison of TES Options



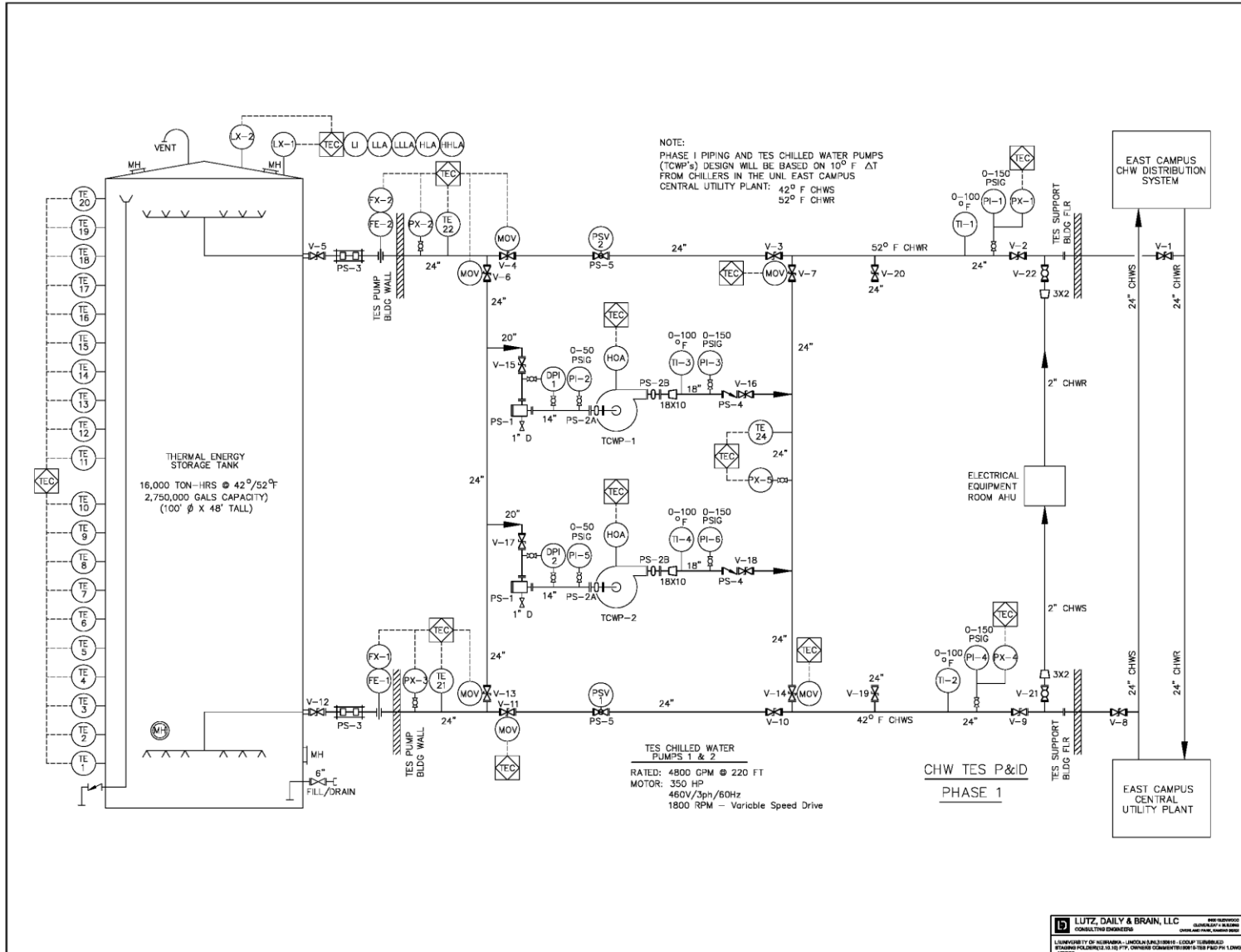


# UNL EC - TES Design / Specifications

- Tank sited remotely from CHW plant, with dedicated TES pumps and PSVs
- Above-grade welded-steel **CHW TES** tank:  
2.94 M gals gross tank vol. (100' D x 50' H)
- 16,326 T-hrs at 42 / 52 °F CHWS / R temps
- Max load reduction = 4,000 Tons (3.2 MW)
- Turnkey: foundation, tank, diffusers, paint, insulation, thermal performance guarantees

*Potential for future conversion to **LTF TES** at  
32 / 52 °F for 32,260 T-hrs and 7,900 Tons*

# TES Tank, Pumps, Valves, I&C



**95% Owner Review Package**  
 NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA - LINCOLN**  
 EAST CAMPUS  
 Thermal Energy Storage Project

**LUTZ, DAILY & BRAIN, LLC**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS

**DATE:** 10/01/10  
**SCALE:** 1/8" = 1'-0"  
**DESIGNED BY:** JWB  
**CHECKED BY:** JWB  
**DATE:** 10/01/10

**m2**

# TES Results & Benefits

- New chiller plant addition avoided/postponed
- Peak demand and electric cost reduced
- Oper'l flexibility & redundancy enhanced
- Low maintenance and long life expectancy
- Also serves as a fire protection reservoir
- **CHW TES** capacity increases with Delta T, potentially by double with conversion to **LTF**
- Flat electric load enhances econ's for CHP
- Peak load mgmt aids electric grid (and renewables); thus, utility may offer incentives

# Summary and Conclusions

- Cool TES flattens cooling and electric load profiles, and thus aids the economics of campus cooling.
- TES (mostly **CHW TES**) is widely used on campus.
- For UNL's East Campus, the new **CHW TES**:
  - meets load growth at near-zero net capital cost,
  - reduces peak demand and electric costs,
  - captures millions of \$ in NPV, and
  - adds oper'l redundancy, reliability, and flexibility.

*Best value from TES occurs at times of:  
new construction, retro expansion, or chiller rehab.*

# Thermal Energy Storage





# Thermal Energy Storage







# Thermal Energy Storage













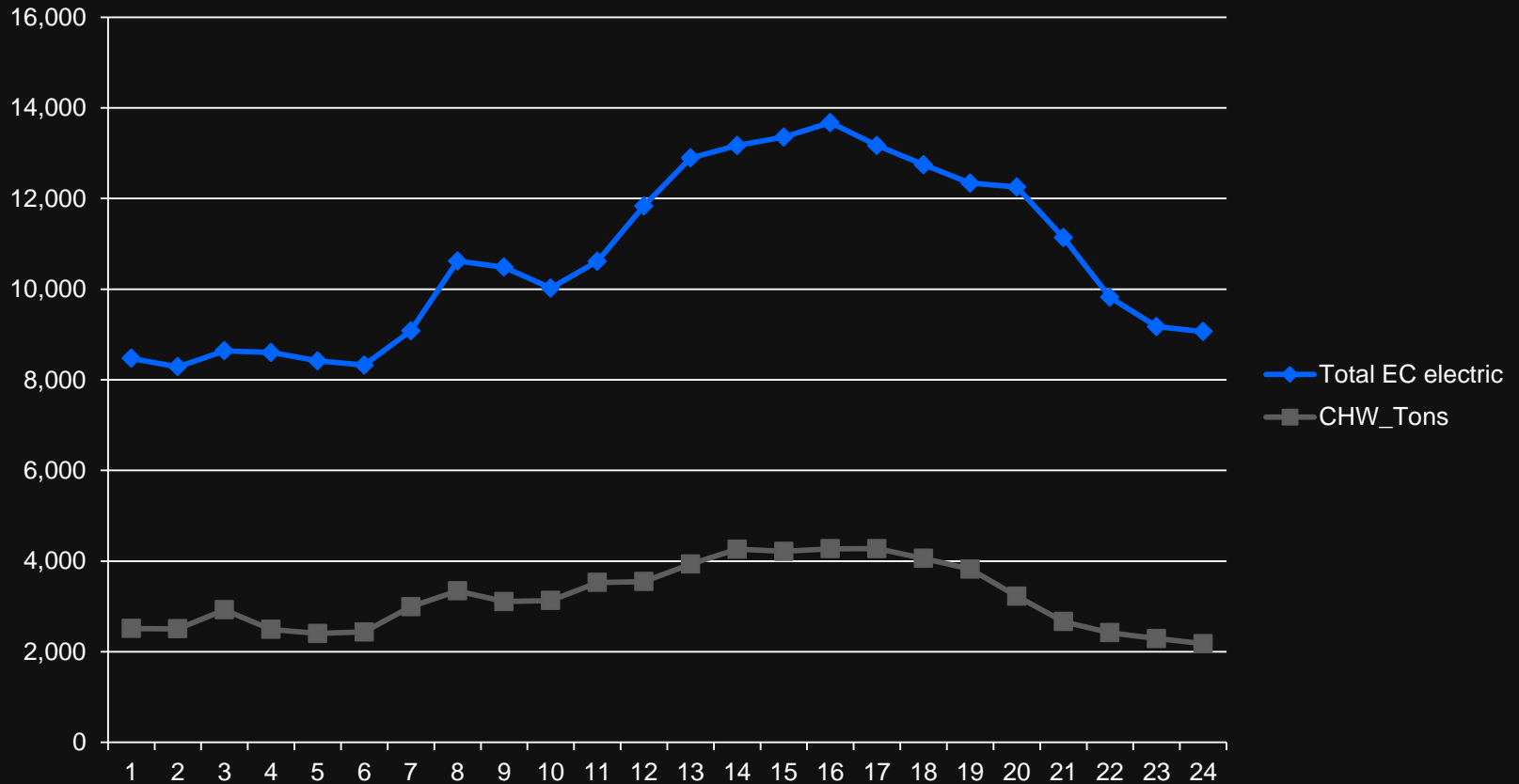
# Thermal Energy Storage





# UNL EC - Chiller Load without TES

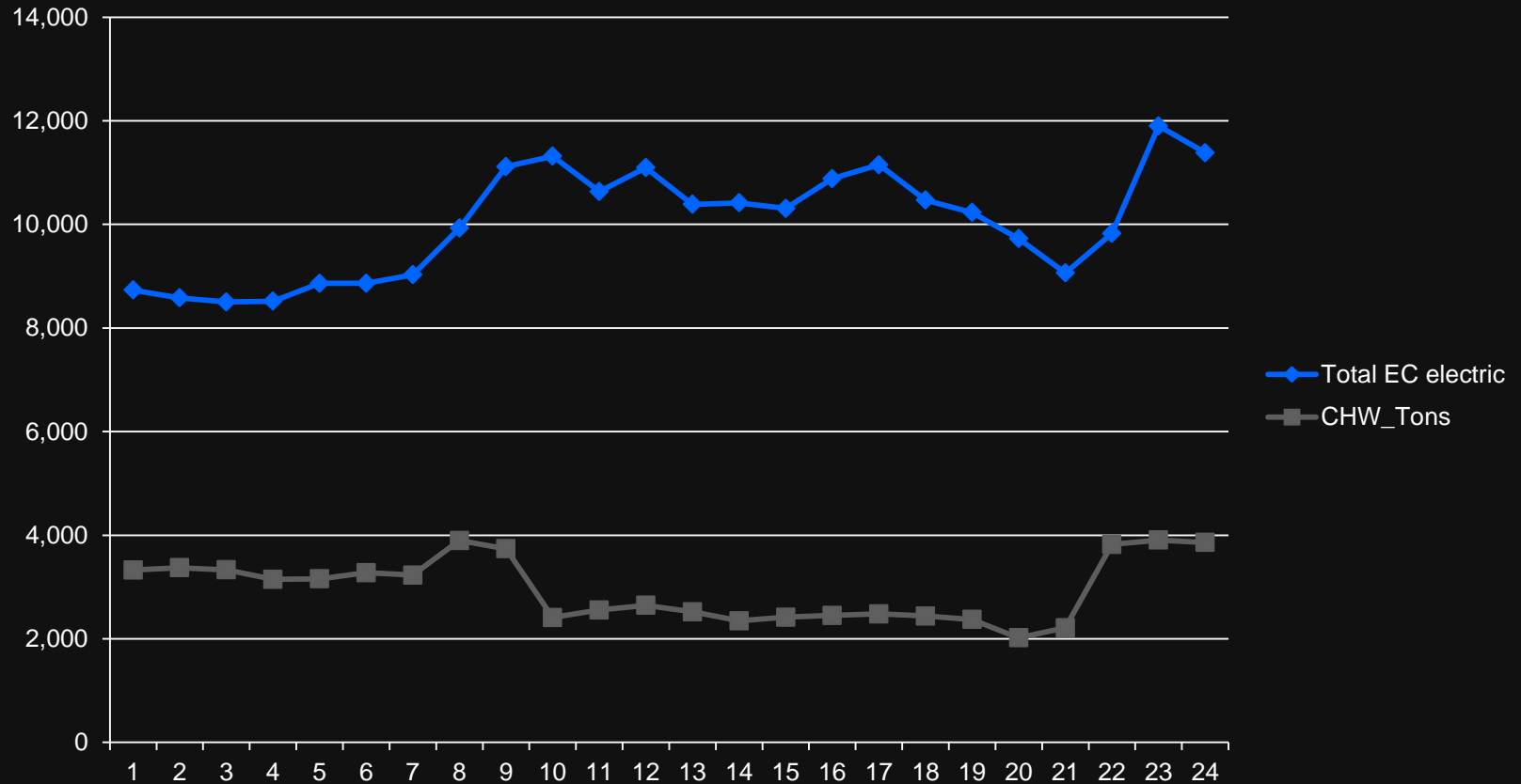
## Aug 8, 93 F day with light student load





# UNL EC - Chiller Load with TES

## Aug 30, 92 F with full student load



# Acknowledgments

Thank you to:

*Owner:* **The University of Nebraska - Lincoln**

*Electric Utility:* LES (Lincoln Electric System)

*Mechanical Engineer:* Lutz, Daily & Brain

*Project Engineering Manager:* Morrissey Engineering

*Architect:* Sinclair Hille Architects

*Gen'l Contractor:* Shanahan Mechanical & Electrical

*TES Tank:* CB&I (Chicago Bridge & Iron)



# Questions / Discussion ?

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

