



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Energy Program

# Pumped Storage Hydropower Siting Information Study



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## PSH Siting Topics: Other Gravity Energy Storage – Rail and Abandoned Mines

WSU Energy Program

January 23, 2025

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# Welcome and a few reminders...

- This meeting is being recorded and will be available on the study website—along with the slides and a meeting summary
- Please remain muted unless you are speaking
- As needed, please rename yourself with your affiliation or workplace in Zoom
- Attendees will be able to chat everyone in the meeting
  - If you are experiencing technical issues, please chat directly to “hosts and panelists” (or email [hsherrow@rossstrategic.com](mailto:hsherrow@rossstrategic.com)).
- To ask questions or join discussion, please use the “raise your hand” button to indicate you would like to speak; chat can also be used for Q&A
- Please be respectful of this process. Allow everyone the chance to speak and listen actively to understand others’ views

# WSU Energy Program

- Self-supporting department within Washington State University based in Olympia
- Other programs: green transportation education and outreach, community solar, Washington state energy codes (residential) support, community energy efficiency, emerging technologies, and more

WSU Energy Program website: <https://www.energy.wsu.edu>

# WSU Pumped Storage Hydro Siting Study Team

- Karen Janowitz  WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Energy Program
- Terri Parr, Tribal Relations  WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY
- Tom Beierle
- Susan Hayman
- Hogan Sherrow 
- Jeff Boyce 

# Today's Meeting Objectives

- Learn about other mechanical/gravity energy storage:
  - Advanced Rail Energy Storage
  - Pumped storage using abandoned mines
- Hear from attendees and promote discussion about key takeaways from the PSH study process

# Agenda Overview

9:30 – 9:45 am	Welcome
9:45 – 10:00 am	Study Overview and Update
10:00 – 10:30 am	Advanced Rail Energy Storage
10:30 – 11:00 am	Pumped Storage Using Abandoned Mines
<i>11:00 – 11:10 am</i>	<i>Break</i>
11:10 – 11:55 am	Group Polling and Discussion
11:55 – noon	Next Steps, Wrap up, and Adjourn

# Online polling

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- We will be using PollEverywhere today to elicit insights from participants
- When prompted, please use a phone or browser screen to access the polls using the QR code or website address: [PollEv.com/lavishnature521](https://PollEv.com/lavishnature521)
- You will be initially asked to share your name, but this can be skipped
- PollEverywhere will stay open throughout the webinar
- For short “word cloud” responses, you can [join\\_words](#) using an underscore

Now, lets try it out on a quick icebreaker question:

***In a word, what outdoor activity would you be least interested in if it was -10 Fahrenheit?***

Join by Web

[PollEv.com/lavishnature521](https://PollEv.com/lavishnature521)

Join by scanning the QR code





# Study Overview and Update

Karen Janowitz, WSU Energy Program

# **Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH) Siting Study Goal**

Identify and understand issues and interests of federally recognized Tribes with territories in Washington State, WA state agencies, and various stakeholders related to **areas where pumped storage might be sited in Washington State.**

**No specific PSH projects are being promoted or sited in this study.**

*Section 306 of House Bill 1216 (2023) on Clean Energy Project Siting:*

<https://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/1216-S2.SL.pdf?q=20240327114612>

# Why a PSH Siting Study?

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- Support goal of WA Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) (SB 5116, 2019)
- Explore PSH, which is an existing proven technology, long-duration, and provides grid reliability
- Understand issues concerning PSH siting to work towards avoiding impacts and disputes

Study ends June 30, 2025 with a report deliverable to the WA State legislature.

# WA Statewide Online Public Meetings

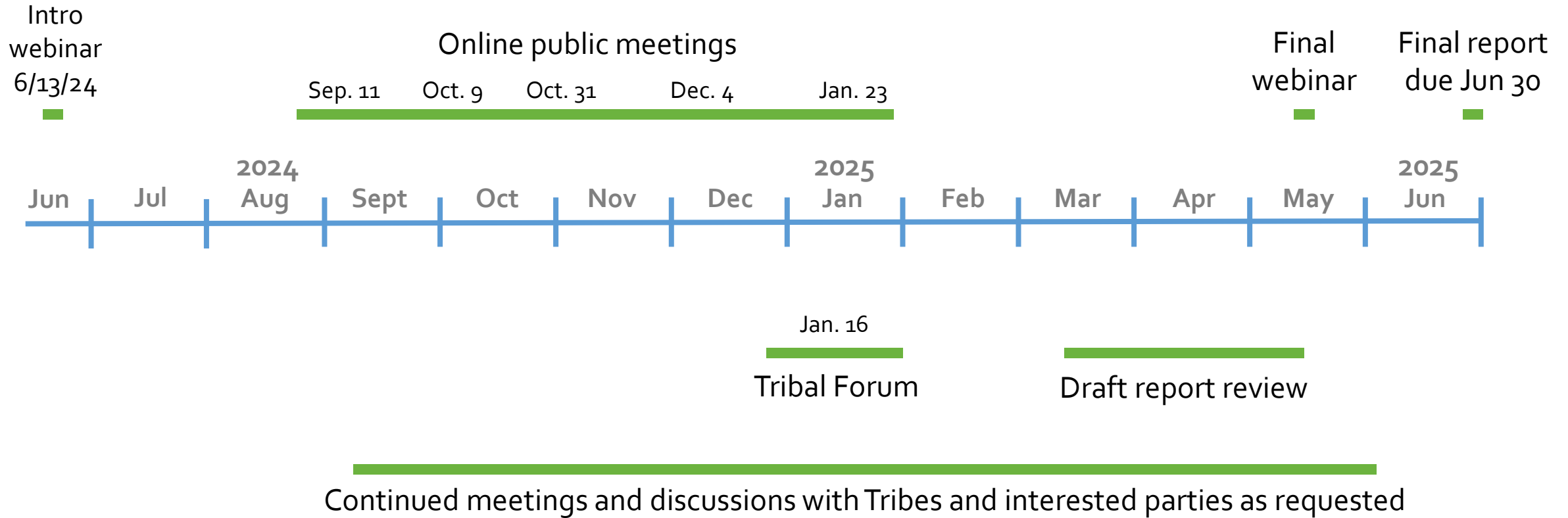
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- Today's online public meeting
  - January 23, 2025
    - Mechanical/Gravity storage – Advanced Rail Energy Storage, PSH in abandoned mines
- Past statewide online public meetings
  - June 13, 2024 introductory webinar
  - Sept 11, 2024 – pumped storage overview, traditional cultural resources
  - Oct 9, 2024 – water quality, water resources
  - Oct 31, 2024 – terrestrial ecology, geology, land use, access
  - Dec 4, 2024 – federal and state permitting, licensing, and environmental processes
- Slides, video-recordings, meeting summaries can be found at <https://www.energy.wsu.edu/CleanFuelsAltEnergy/PSHSiting/Meetings.aspx>

# Tribal Engagement

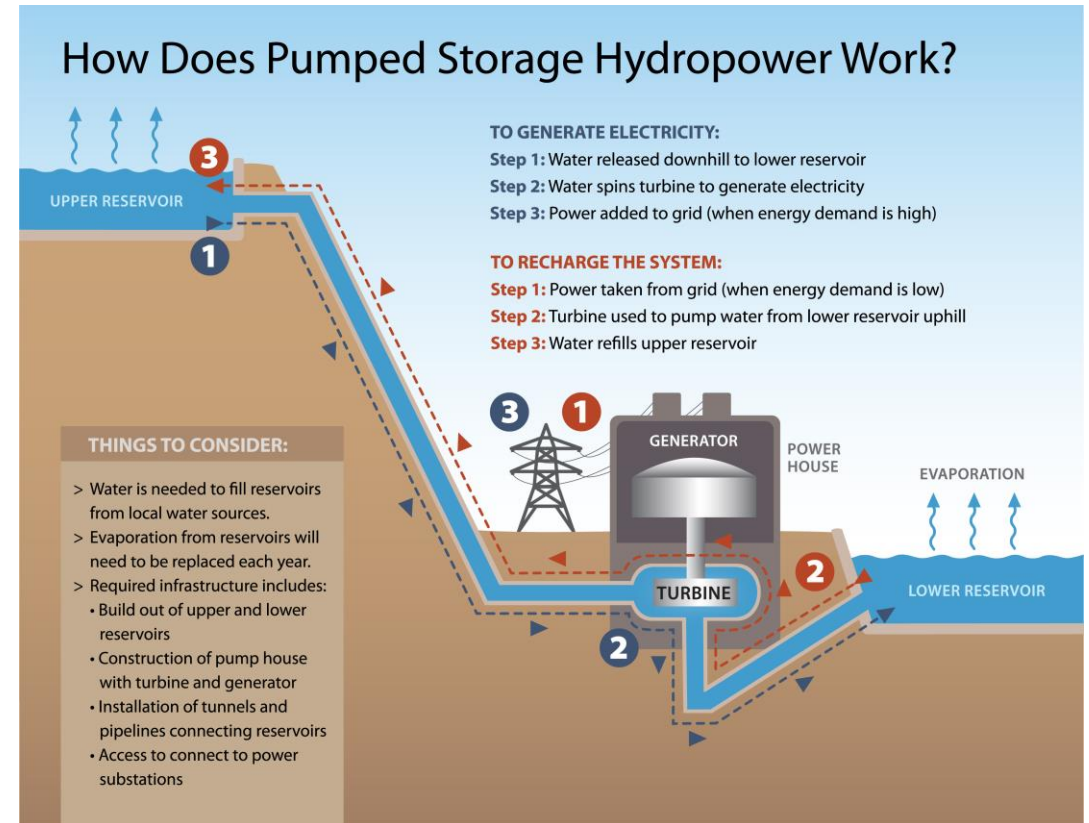
- Attendance and discussion at Tribal conventions & conferences
  - April 2024 – ATNI Tribal Leaders Climate Summit
  - September/October 2024 – ATNI Annual Convention
  - November 18-20, 2024 – ATNI Natural Resources Summit
  - January 27-30, 2025 (upcoming) – ATNI Winter Convention
- Tribal Forum(s)
- Meeting and discussion with individuals and groups

# Timeline *(subject to change)*



# What is Pumped Storage Hydropower?

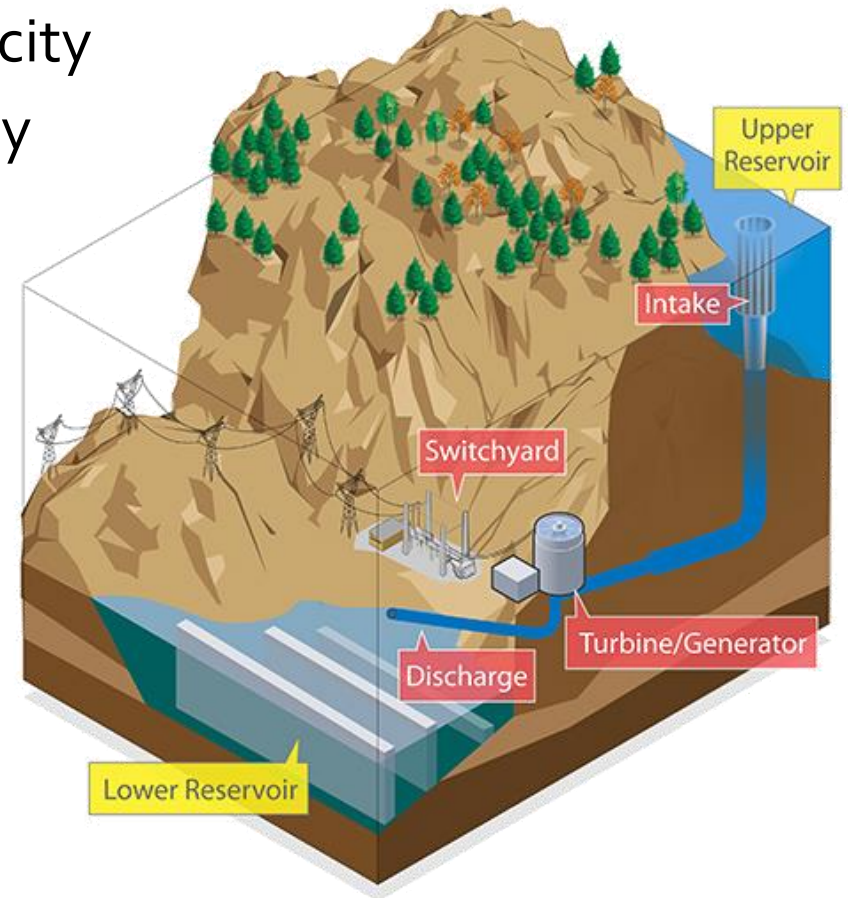
- “Water battery”
- Long-duration energy storage technology
- Stores energy in an upper reservoir, generates energy when water flows to a lower reservoir
- 43 existing plants in USA
- Well-established technology



# PSH Benefits

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- Provides over 90% of U.S. energy storage capacity
- Can provide up to 12 or more hours of electricity
- Supports grid reliability
- Systems last long (up to 50 – 100 years)
- Low life-cycle cost
- ~80% efficient

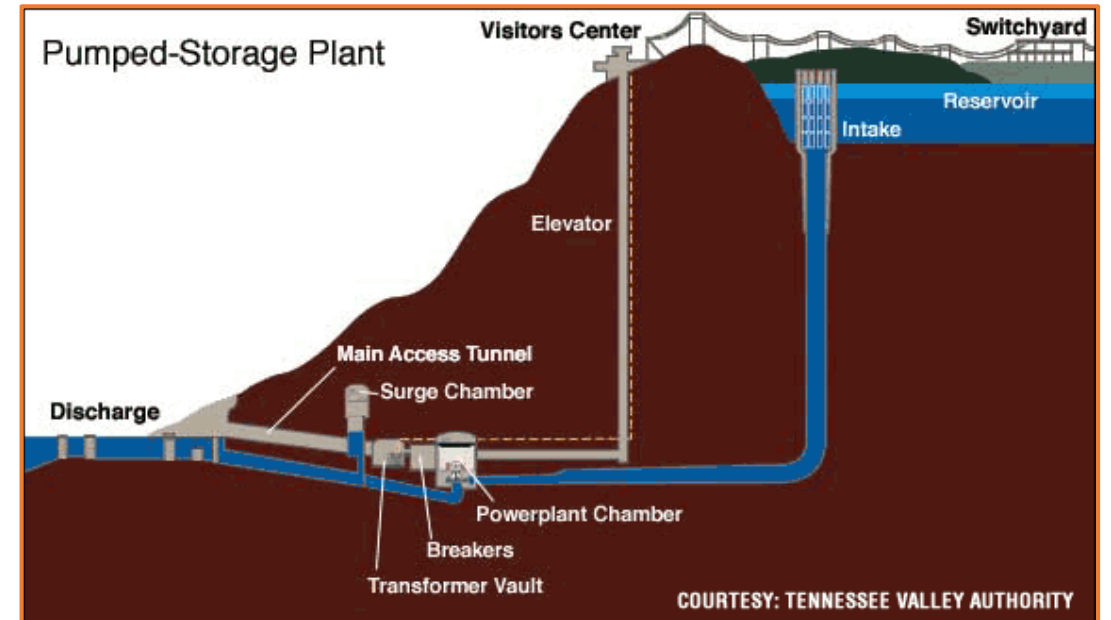




# PSH Drawbacks

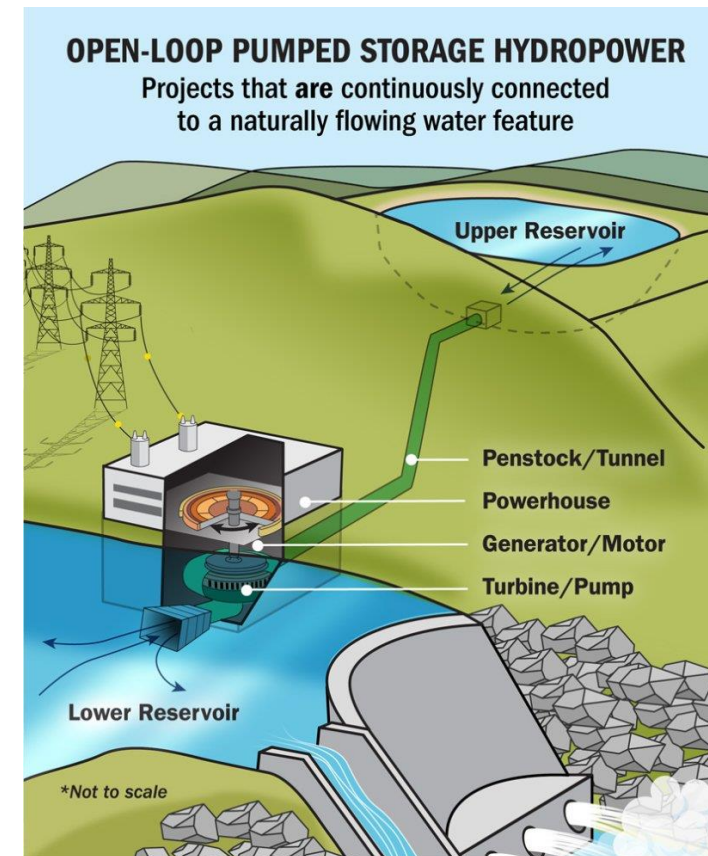
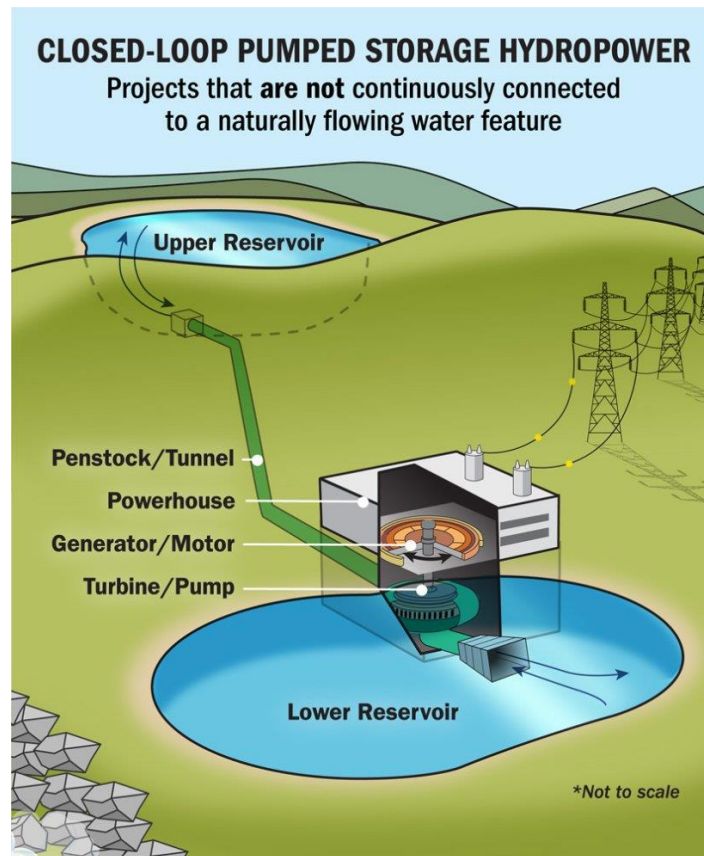
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- Needs water to initially fill closed-loop reservoirs, and “top” off
- Long construction period, expensive construction costs
- Potential environmental and cultural impacts



# Closed-Loop PSH and Open-Loop PSH

This study focuses on closed-loop, where reservoirs are not connected to any existing water bodies.



# Water Availability

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- Closed-loop systems
  - Need water for initial fill and for replacing evaporated water
  - Little impact on fish and aquatic ecosystems
- Open-loop systems
  - No need to fill reservoirs
  - Connected to waterways so greater impact on aquatic ecosystems



# PSH Potential Impacts

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- Cultural resources
- Water resources
  - Surface water
  - Groundwater
- Water quality
- Aquatic habitat and species\*
- Terrestrial habitat and species
- Access
  - Traditional cultural access
  - Public access
  - Recreation access
- Air quality and noise
- Visual and Aesthetics

\*Aquatic ecology impacts are fewer in closed-loop systems

# PSH Responsible Siting Practices

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- Engage early and often with Tribes, local communities, and governments
- Avoid sensitive and sacred areas
- Utilize previously developed sites if possible
- Site and design to minimize footprint and accommodate pre-existing uses
- Enhance existing conditions if possible
- Conduct risk assessments and develop avoidance/minimization plans for specific impacts



Photo by WDFW

# Increasing PSH Capacity without New Projects

- Capacity upgrades of existing pumped storage plants
- Pump Back: Adding PSH capabilities to existing hydropower plants
- Add-on: Construct an upper reservoir and partner it with existing lower reservoir
- Connect two existing reservoirs to develop a PSH project
- Hybrid: For example, combined PSH and water desalination plant (shared infrastructure)

# Questions?

# Advanced Rail Energy Storage

Ray Wiseman, General Manger, Yakama Power





## Rail-Based Gravity Storage - The Advantages of Pumped Hydro without the Disadvantages

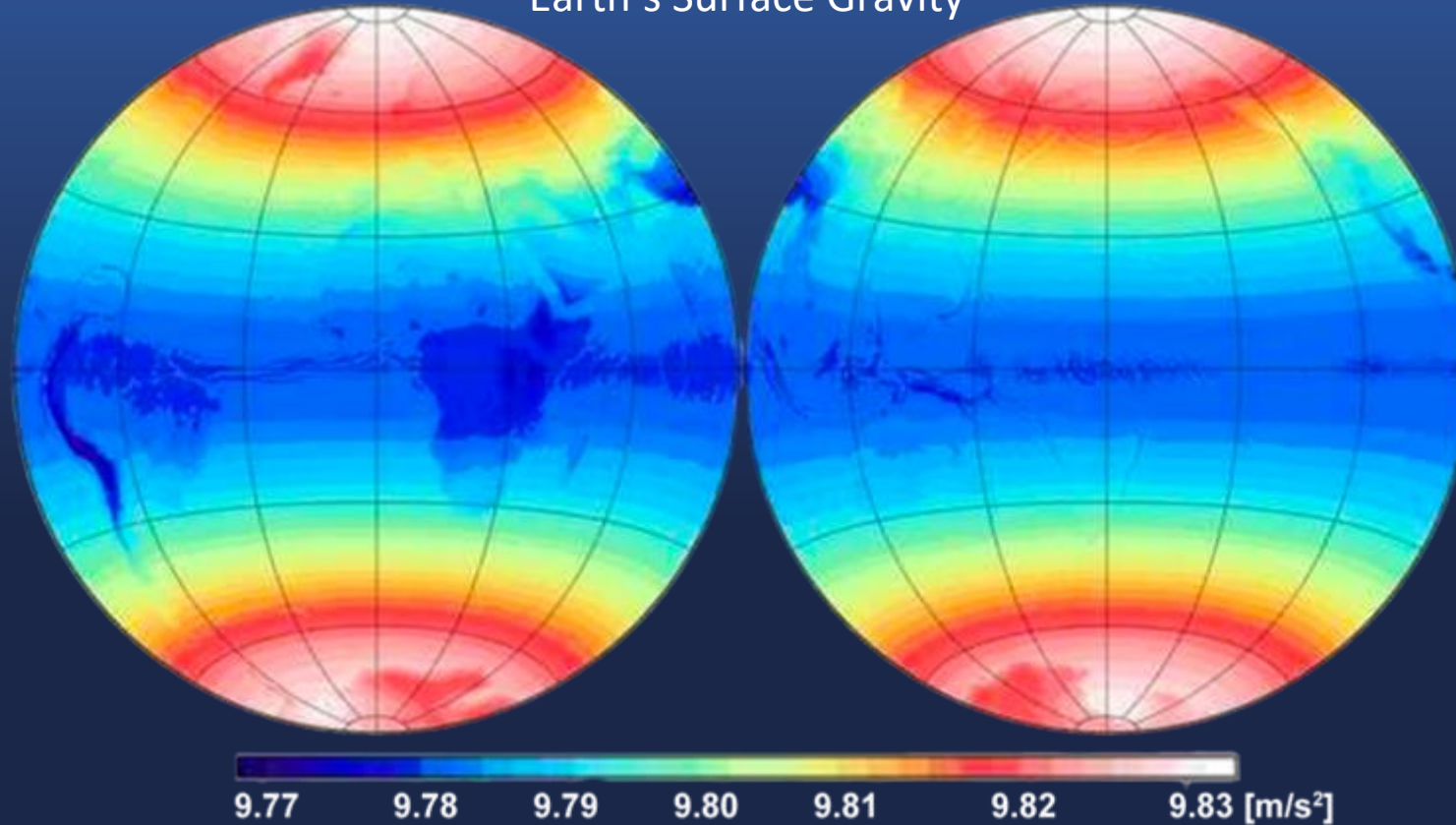


Southwest Sustainability Innovation Engine (SWSIE)  
Long Duration Energy Storage Symposium  
Walton Center for Planetary Health  
December 3, 2024



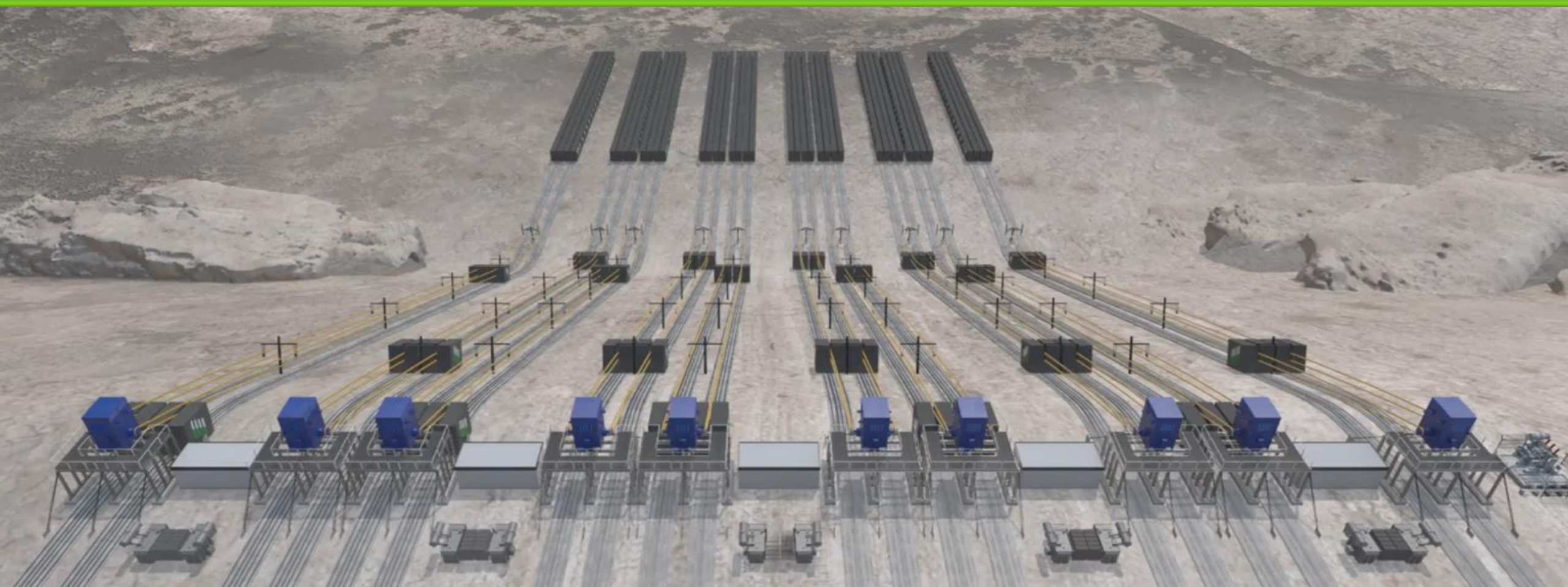
# Gravity is a natural resource like wind or solar

Earth's Surface Gravity



**Acceleration of gravity  $\approx 9.8 \text{ m} / 32 \text{ ft per sec}^2$**

# How ARES Works



**Mass cars connect to 5.5 MW motor/generators with a chain drive system. The motor pulls mass cars uphill to store energy. The generator releases mass cars downhill to power the grid.**

# Energy Capacity of Mass Cars

## Example:

A 15' long Rail Car ( $\approx 750,000$  lbs) motored up 1000ft generates  $\approx 250$  kWh of energy when motored down 1000ft (Round Trip Efficiency:  $\approx 90\%$ )

15' Rail Car  
( $\approx 750,000$  lbs)

1000 ft elevation gain

1kWh = 3,600,000J

# Rail-Based Gravity Storage



Over the last decade, ARES has developed, tested and patented rail-based, gravity-powered energy storage technologies. By 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2024, we will have our first facility in operation with many more to follow.



Manufactured in the United States



No Degradation



Low Cost



Lithium Free



Non-Flammable



Water Free

# Major System Components



# Motor/Generator (5MW<sub>AC</sub>)





# Mass Cars



## ARES makes renewables work

- We allow renewables to generate, regardless of grid demand
- We provide a solution to the generation intermittency caused by renewables
- Energy storage solutions will regulate the supply and demand spikes acting on the grid

## ARES provides grid-based inertia

- Inverter-based energy does not supply enough inertia for the nation's grid system
- Without enough inertia, the grid will fail

## ARES offsets carbon production

- Our energy storage is scalable to address long-duration seasonal needs
- Using stored energy for peak demand times reduces Peaker Plant greenhouse gas emissions

## Further benefits include:

- The ability to provide needed inertia to the electrical grid
- The system can cycle multiple times daily
- Delivering ancillary grid-related services such as black start and voltage support
- Time-shifting and arbitrage reduce system cost to developers and, ultimately, consumers

Unique attributes of the ARES energy storage system



the power of gravity

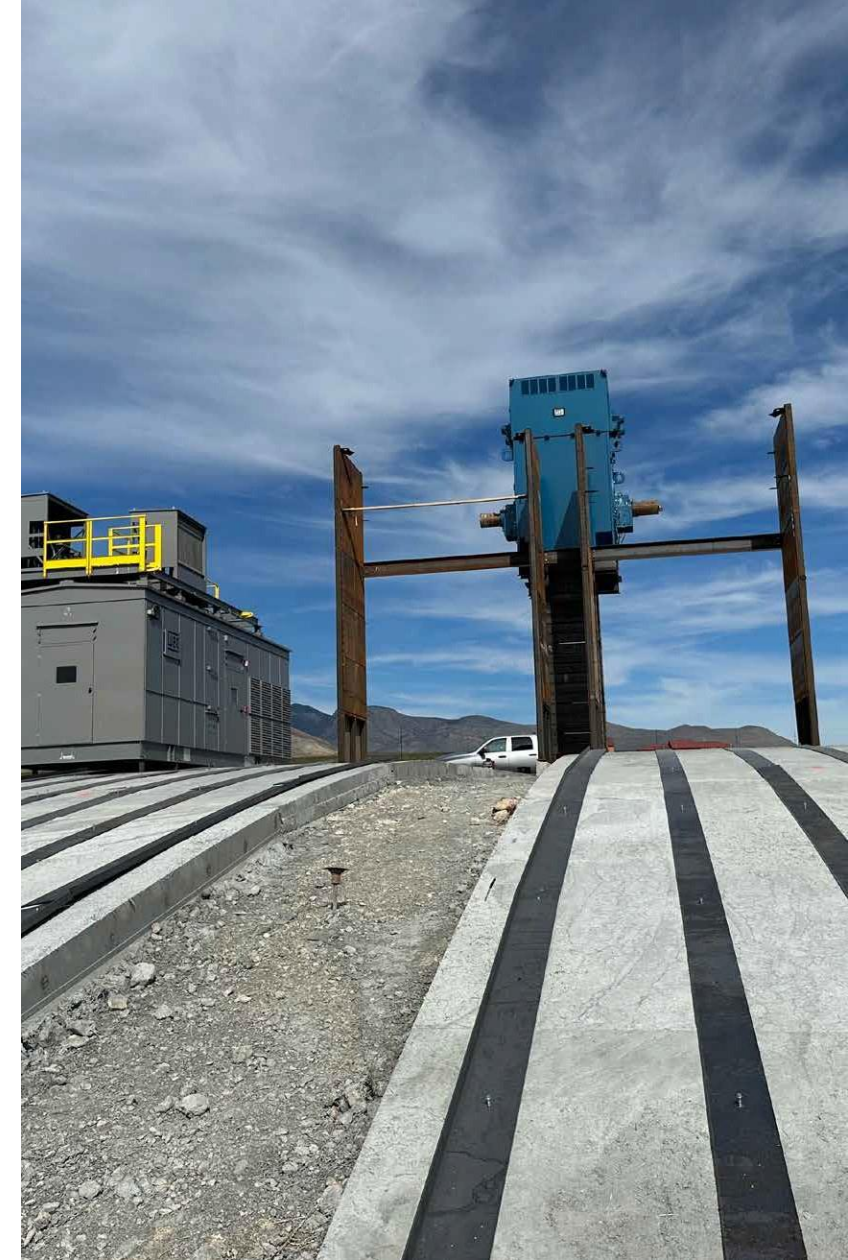
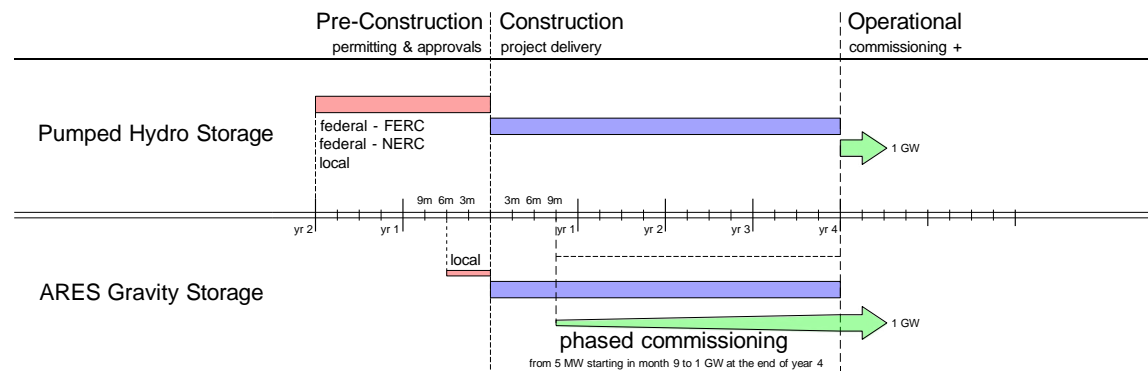
## ARES as compared to Lithium-Ion battery storage

- ARES is more efficient than Li-ion
- ARES has no risk of thermal runaway
- ARES is fully recyclable at EOL and has none of the hazardous materials concerns found in lithium-ion
- ARES is manufactured locally, avoiding the environmental and geopolitical issues associated with lithium and cobalt
- ARES can cycle multiple times a day with durations far exceeding those of Lithium-Ion batteries

## ARES as compared to pump storage

- ARES has no operational impact on local water resources
- ARES avoids the long approval processes required by FERC and other water-related regulatory agencies
- ARES projects have significantly-reduced project delivery schedules
- ARES employs a modular design to allow for phased commissioning during construction (see comparative project schedules below)
- ARES unique ability to deliver phased commissioning results in reduced construction costs and borrowing risks

### Project schedule comparisons



# Advantages of ARES over alternative energy storage systems



ares  
the power of gravity

# ARES Product Comparisons



	ARES	Lithium Ion	Pumped Hydro
Scalability	5 MW – 1 GW+	10kW-1 GW	250 MW – 3 GW
Duration	15 minutes – 24 hours	15 mins – 4 hours	12 – 16 hours+
Roundtrip Efficiency	90%	87-89%	75-78%
Cycle Limitations	Unlimited	6,000	Unlimited
System Life	40+ Years	5+ Years	40+ Years
Density of Storage Device	2.4x density of water		
Price	\$	\$\$	\$\$\$
O&M			
Quick Scalability Based on Need			
Ramp Rate			
Rotating Mass for Inertia			
Water Usage			

# Competitive Advantages



## Fully Sustainable

Comprised of a recycled steel superstructure, foundation, track(s) and chain(s); low carbon mass cars – with recycled steel bases – filled with locally sourced crushed aggregate; highly efficient electric motors; and freely available gravity.

- No rare earth minerals

## Scalable

Project size is a function of number of mass cars, elevation differential and distance.

- 15 minutes to 24+ hours duration

## Flexible

Low impact design allows customers to build (and buy) as much as needed at any given time, with ability to quickly scale up or down in the future.

## Reliable

Motor and chain drive system are proven technologies with a low maintenance burden.

- The system's division into 5 MW track sections allows for isolated repairs ensuring the majority of capacity is available at all times.

## High Ramp Rate

Steep grades enable quick responsiveness.

## Easy Siting

Operates effectively on elevation differentials as low as 300 feet.

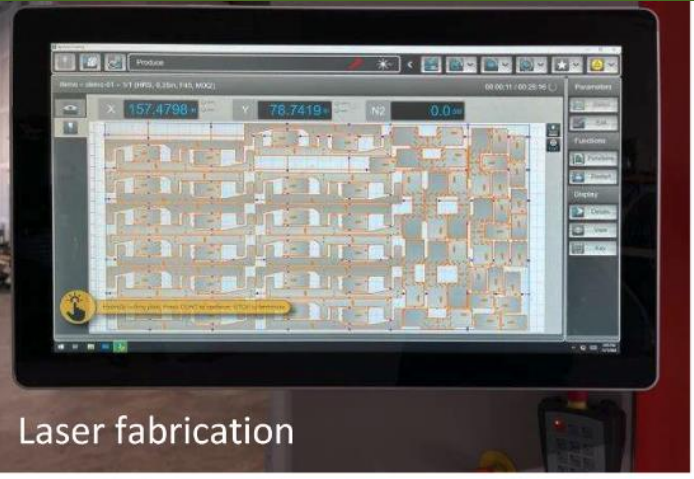
## Cost Effective

Leverages readily available equipment.

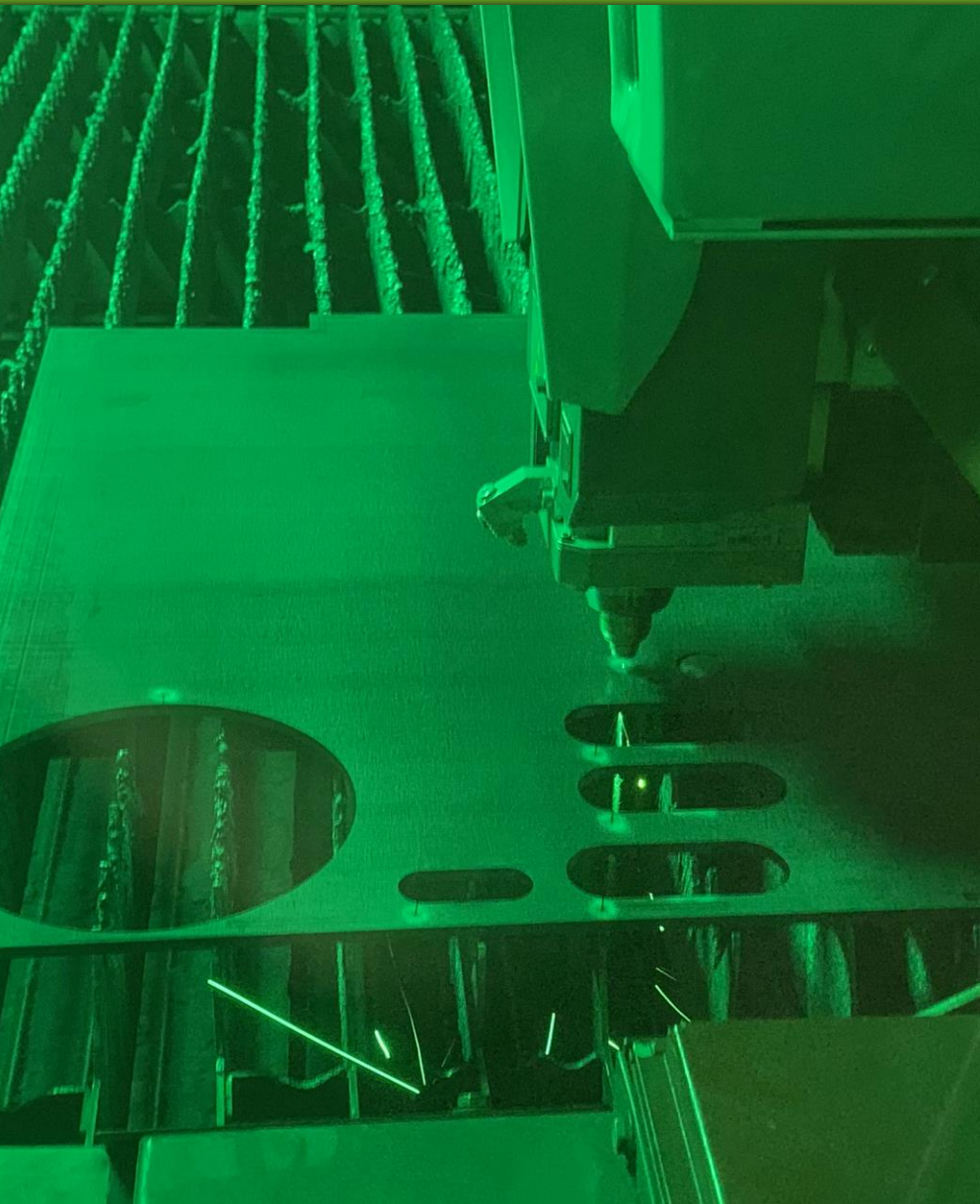


Bystronic Laser for precise cutting and part production at the ARES Manufacturing facility (Las Vegas, NV)

# ARES Manufacturing



# ARES Manufacturing





# ARES Issued Patents



PAT. NO.	TITLE
11,738,781	Gravitational potential energy storage systems and methods
10,069,333	Ridgeline cable drive electric energy storage system
9,096,144	Combined synchronous and asynchronous power supply for electrically powered shuttle trains
8,952,563	Utility scale electric energy storage for utility grid ancillary services
8,674,541	Rail based potential energy storage for utility grid ancillary services
8,593,012	Utility scale electric energy storage system

# A Carbon Conscious Company



Recycled Steel – US Made



Aggregate Sourced On-site



Roller Compacted Concrete – Light Water – Light Cement



Local Manufacturing



Thank You

# Pumped Storage Using Abandoned Mines

Tim Scarlett, Associate Professor, Michigan Technological University

# Pumped Storage in Abandoned Mines

**Timothy Scarlett**  
Keweenaw Energy Transitions Lab  
Michigan Technological University



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY  
Energy Program

Pumped Storage Hydropower (PSH) Siting Study

Washington State University Energy Program

Thursday, January 23rd, 2025

[WSU PSH Website](#)



**Michigan Technological** University



“Michigan Technological University sits on the beautiful shore of Portage Lake in Houghton County, Michigan.

*Gakiiwe-onigamiing* in Ojibwe:

"the place where they go straight across a point by portage."

Our campus lands are located within Ojibwa (Chippewa) homelands and ceded-territory established by the Treaty of 1842.

These are lands and waters we share with the Native American nations in Gakiiwe'onaning (Keweenaw Bay), Gete-gitgaaning (Lac Vieux Desert), Mashkii-ziibing (Bad River), Odaawaa-zaaga'iganing (Lac Courte Oreilles), Waaswaaganing (Lac Du Flambeau), Miskwaabikong (Red Cliff), Wezaawaagami-ziibiing (St. Croix), Zaka'aaganing (Sokaogon Mole Lake), Nagaajiwanaag (Fond du Lac), Misi-zaaga'iganiing (Mille Lacs), and Gaa-mitaawangaagamaag-ininiwag (Sandy Lake)."

"It is becoming increasingly clear that routine energy analyses do not offer suitable answers to these sorts of issues. The enduring questions they provoke involve aspects of equity and morality that are seldom explicit in contemporary energy planning and analysis."

(Sponholz and Drucker 2013)

# Pump Storage Hydropower: Ludington, Michigan



102,000,000 m<sup>3</sup>  
111 m head  
6 turbines  
1,872 MW total  
9 hrs.  
19,548 MWh

Michigan Technological University

Photo credit: Consumers Energy on Flickr:  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/consumersenergy/28497624290>





# Dinorwig Power Station

Mynydd  
Gwefru

“Electric  
Mountain”

Gwynedd,  
north Wales.

maximum  
power of 1,728  
MW storage  
capacity +/- 9  
GWh



national  
museum  
wales  
amgueddfa  
cymru



PARC CENEDLAETHOL  
**ERYRI**  
**Snowdonia**  
National Park



National Slate  
Museum World  
Heritage Site

The Slate  
Landscape of  
Northwest  
Wales



# Underground Pumped Storage Hydropower (UPSH, or PUSH):

What are specific concerns about *underground* PSH facilities?

- a. How does it work?
- b. Where is it feasible?

What are potential benefits vs. adverse impacts?

# Some Companies in the Energy Space in Abandoned Mines

Minestorage International AB (PUSH) <https://www.minestorage.com/>

Hydrostor (A-CAES) <https://hydrostor.ca/>

Ontario Power <https://www.opg.com/projects-services/projects/energy-storage/marmora>

Rhe Energise (High Density hydro PUSH) <https://www.rheenergise.com/>

Gravitricity (Gravity) <https://gravitricity.com/>

SENS Sustainable Energy Solutions Sweden Holding AB (PUSH), <https://www.sens.se/en/>

Cavern Energy Storage (A-CAES) <https://cavernenergy.com/>

Enel Green Power (Binary Cycle Geothermal), <https://www.enelgreenpower.com/countries/north-america>

Energy Vault (Gravity), <https://www.energyvault.com/>

Gravitricity (gravity): <https://gravitricity.com/>

EuroHeat & Power (Geothermal), <https://www.euroheat.org/>

Ormat Technologies (Geothermal), <https://www.ormat.com/en/renewables/geothermal/main/>

Mälarenergi (PUSH, working with MineStorage) <https://www.malarenergi.se/om-malarenergi/miljo-och-hallbar-utveckling/ekologisk2/minestorage/>

Quidnet Energy (Geomechanical PSH) <https://www.quidnetenergy.com/>

Sperra Technologies (Underwater PSH) <https://sperra.com/>

## Example projects:

Minestorage just won a EUR 22 Mil award for their Norberg Project:

<https://www.minestorage.com/projects/>

Rye Development: <https://www.ryedevelopment.com/>

Their Lewis Ridge Project (Coal Mine land): <https://lewisridgeproject.com/>

Ontario Power

Their Marmora Clean Energy Hub (Iron Mine): <https://marmorapumpedstorage.com/>

Dairyland (PUSH, working with MineStorage)

## Other companies perhaps involved:

Exceed Geoenergy (well-based underground geothermal energy and carbon sequestration) <https://exceedgeoenergy.com/>

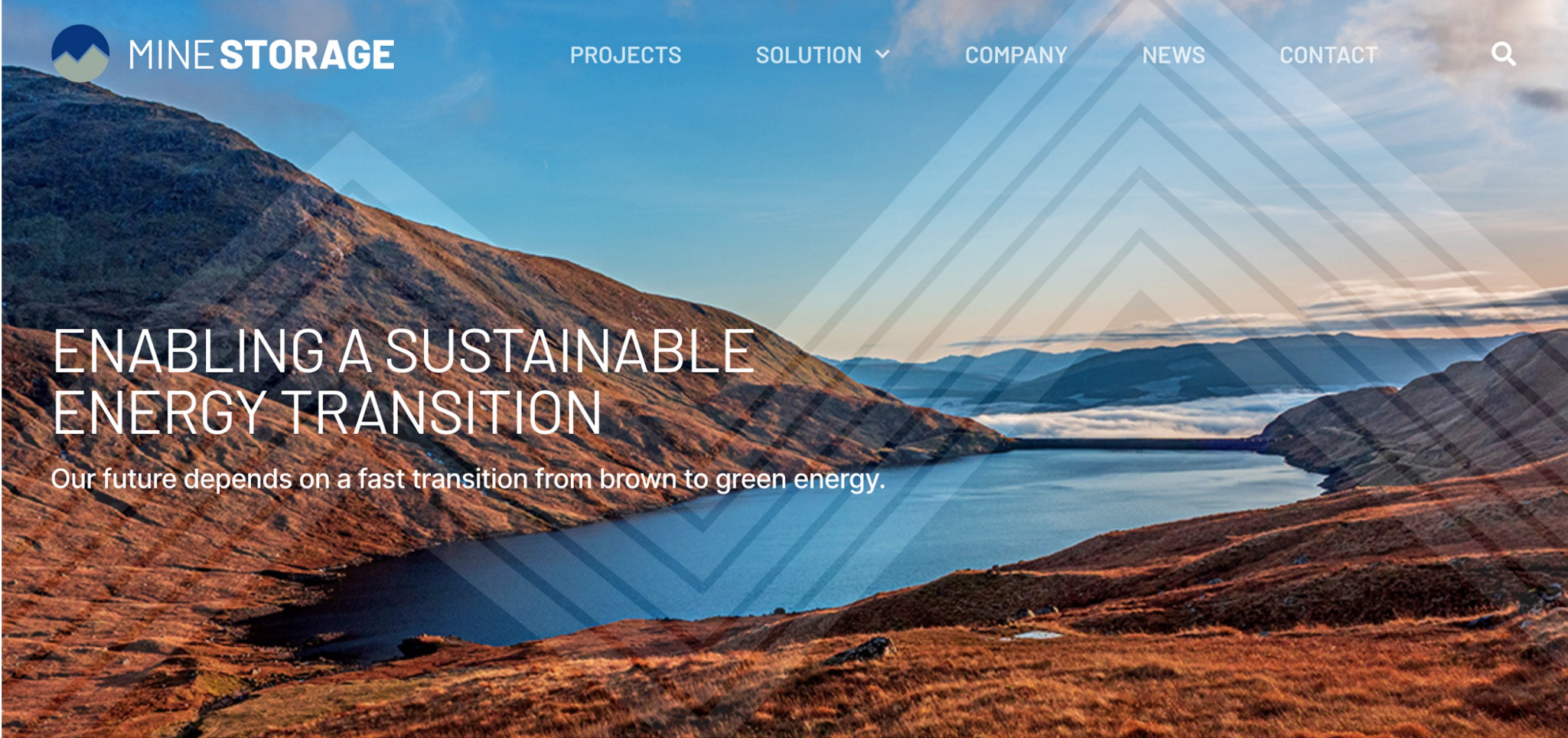
Hatch (underground mining and energy storage) <https://www.hatch.com/en>

EPC Solar (South Africa, exploring grid-scale underground) <https://www.solarepc.co.za/>

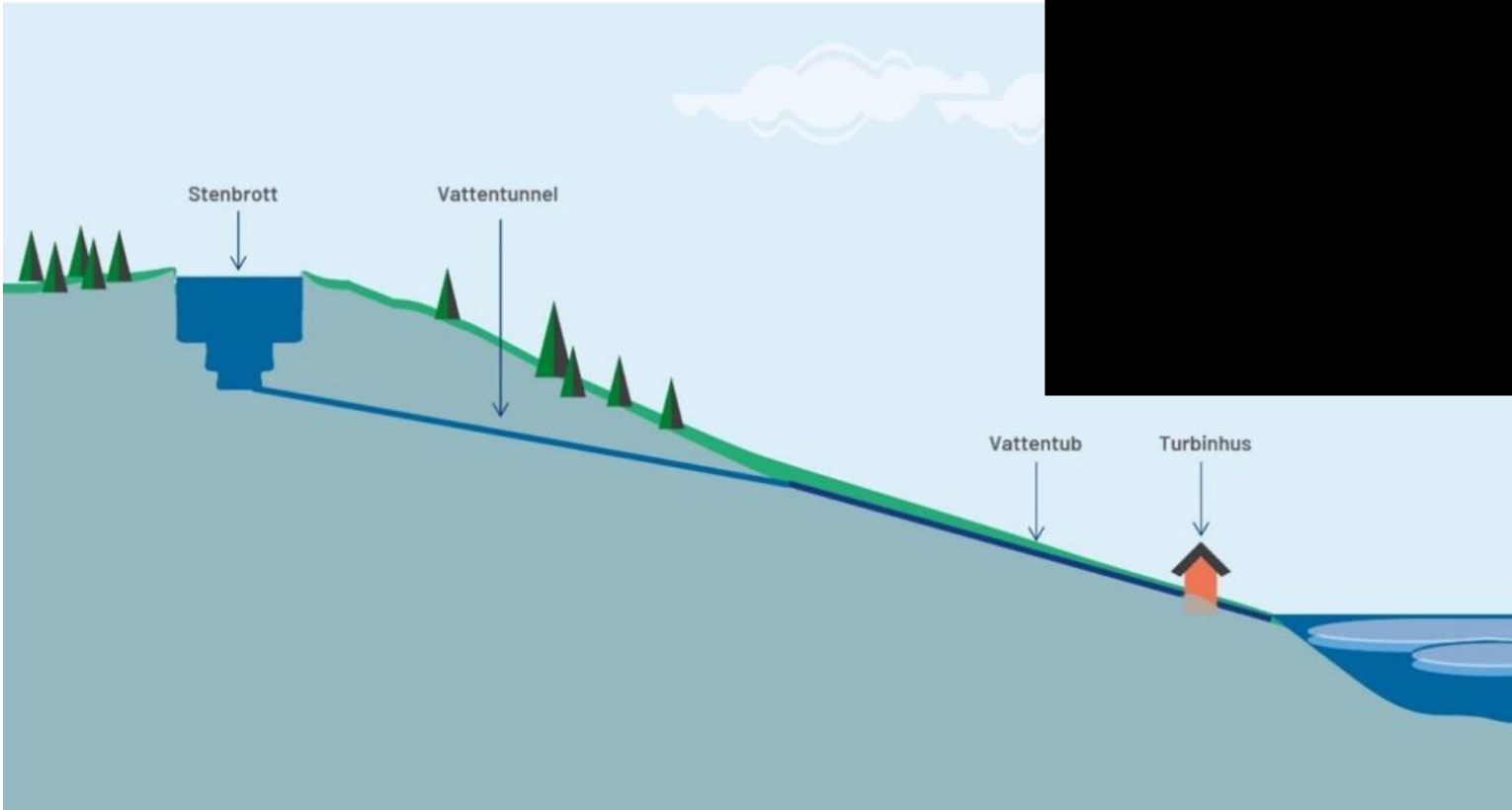
Hydromine (Australia, but maybe closed) <https://www.hydromine.com.au/>

# ENABLING A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRANSITION

Our future depends on a fast transition from brown to green energy.



Minestorage AB project in Vånga, Skåne, Sweden.  
50-70 MWh per cycle  
20,000 - 30,000 households



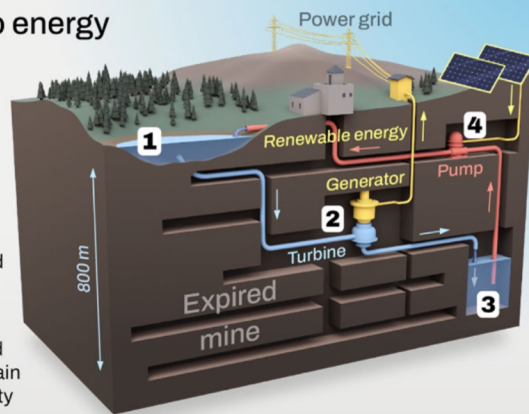
# Pumped Hydro Storage

← → ↻ sens.se/en/17/65/pumped-hydro-storage/



## Pumped hydro energy

- 1** Water is taken from a reservoir above ground
- 2** A turbine in the mine generates electricity as water passes through
- 3** The water is emptied into an underground reservoir...
- 4** ...to then be pumped up to the surface again with excess electricity



## Our solution

SENS's solution is based on an understanding of the electricity market and future revenue streams for pumped storage plants. We have translated this into a software to simulate revenue streams from electricity trading and balancing services for the electricity grid. We use the knowledge to design and optimise facilities. These are easily adapted to local market and operating conditions.

Each facility has a unique and customised operating schedule. This maximises the utilisation of the energy storage to the benefit of its owner. The technology itself is proven and consists of pumps, generators and turbines in a synchronised system. With the help of this, water is moved in a closed system through corrosion-resistant pipes between an upper and a lower reservoir. By constructing the reservoirs in underground mines, the cost of these plants and the environmental impact are minimal.



## FutureMINE

The FutureMINE project develops the Pyhäsalmi mine's infrastructure into a digital test mine of which can influence the electrification and digitalization of the entire mining industry and internationally.

The mining industry is moving towards a more digital and electronic era. In the future, genuine mining test environments are required, where the cluster members involved plan testing models and develop their testing services in close cooperation with ODM's and technology vendors, and where the mining industry products and solutions are studied, and tested in both real and simulated digital development environment.

One of the target groups of the FutureMINE innovation cluster project is manufacturers and the battery-powered technology (e.g., batteries, charging points, battery-powered vehicles, vehicles and equipment, servers, and backup power services) whose activities are testing new technology and ensuring end-to-end operational safety. Such safety

### BUSINESS RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities

Testing

< FutureMINE

Underground Rescue

Energy Park

FireLAB



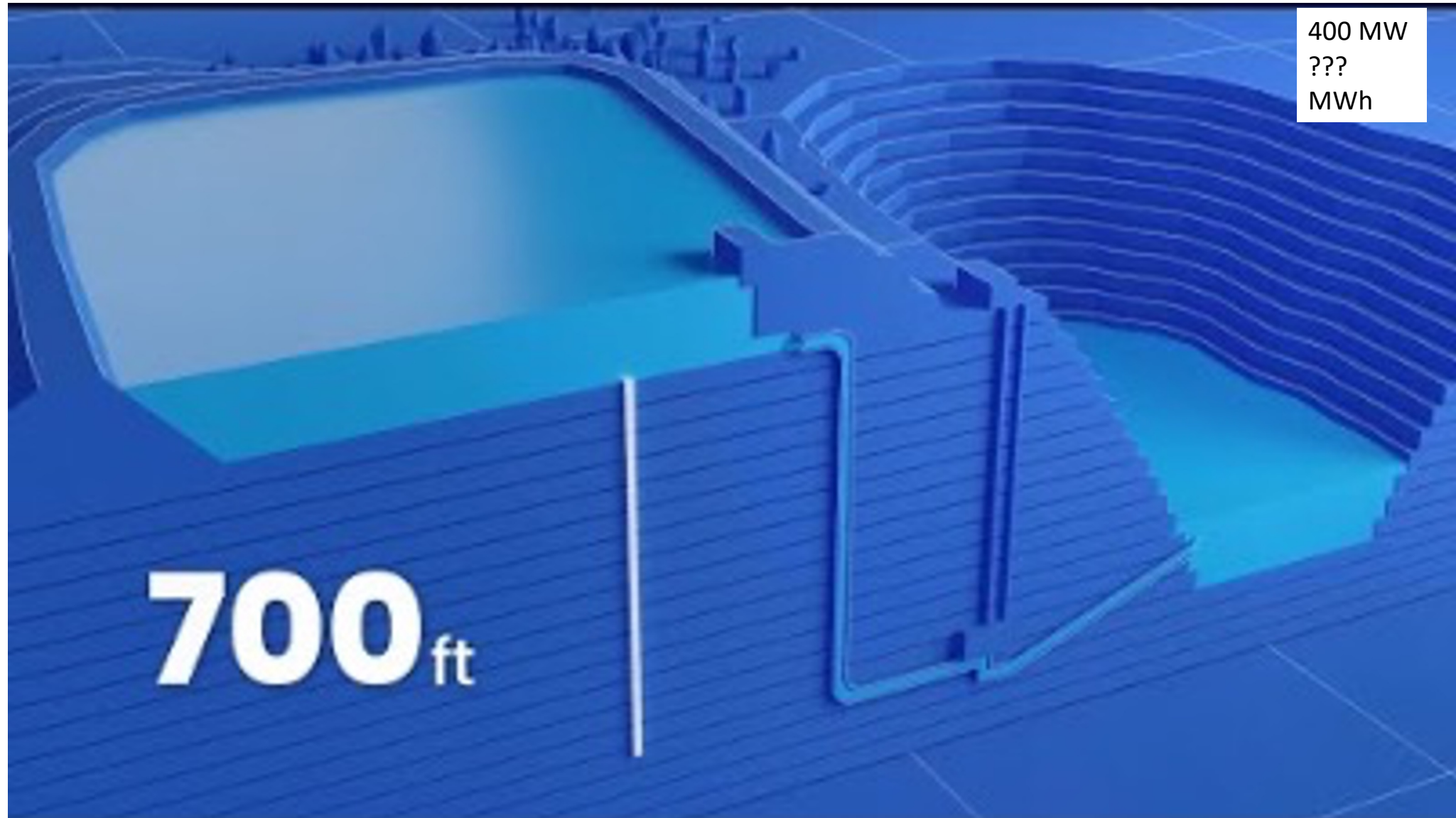
# Marmora clean energy hub project

From a long inactive, open-pit iron ore mine to an innovative clean energy asset, we're planning on building a cleaner tomorrow, together.

**ONTARIO** **POWER**  
GENERATION







400 MW  
???  
MWh

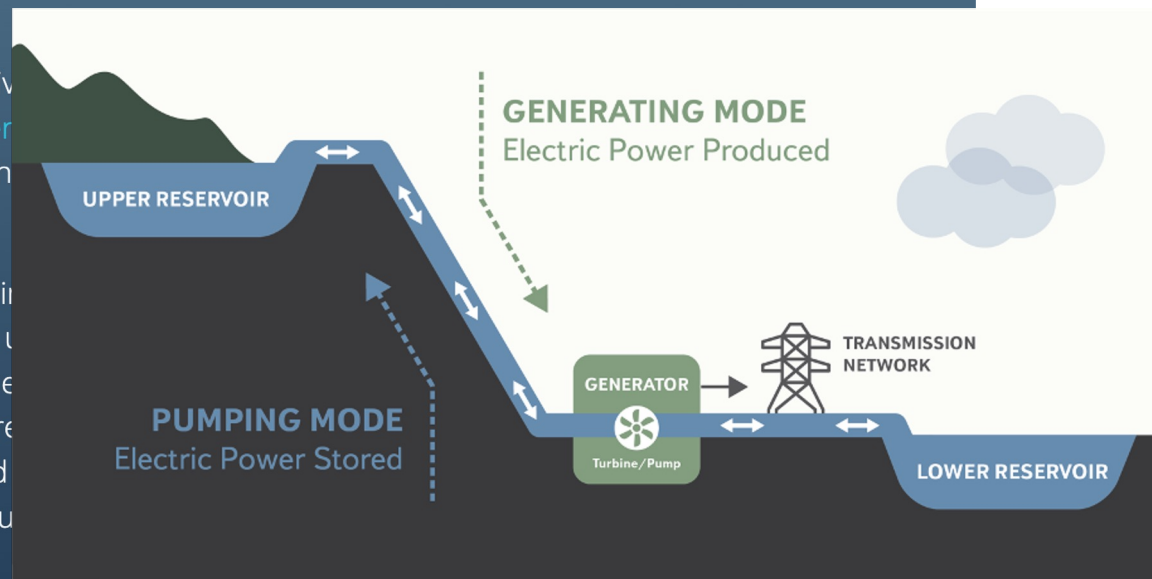
**700** ft



## Rye Development Selected by U.S. Department of Energy to Receive \$81 Million for Lewis Ridge Pumped Storage Project

Rye Development is one of five organizations that receive funding through the [Energy Demonstration Program on Current and Formerly Disturbed Land](#) to develop pumped storage hydropower facilities constructed in the United States on former mine land.

Lewis Ridge is a closed-loop pumped storage facility using existing infrastructure and land that is undisturbed. When energy demand is low, electricity is used to pump water to the upper reservoir. When more energy is needed, such as during times of peak demand or emergency, water is released from the upper reservoir to the lower reservoir, generating electricity. In the United States, pumped storage hydropower currently provides the most dependable energy storage solution. Pumped storage is the most climate-friendly long-duration storage solution available. [More information is available in the report released in 2023.](#)



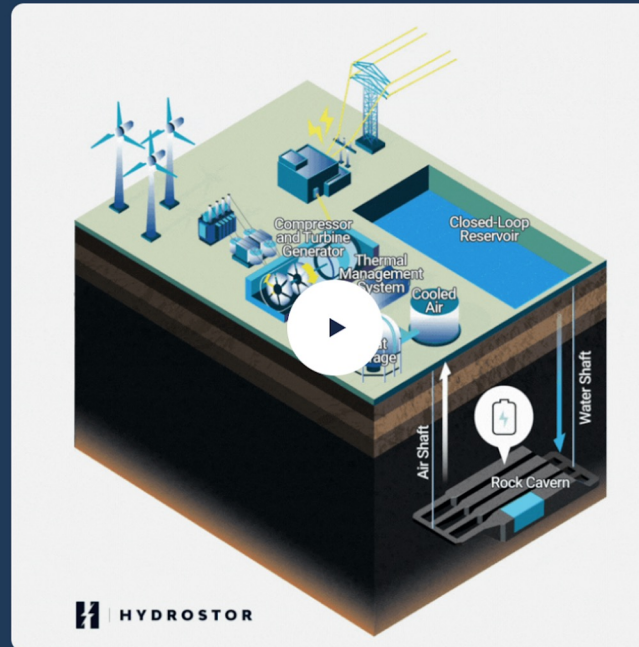


## Long duration energy storage is the missing link to support carbon free electricity

Hydrostor's Advanced Compressed Air Energy Storage (A-CAES) technology provides a proven solution for delivering long duration energy storage of eight hours or more to power grids around the world, shifting clean energy to distribute when it is most needed, during peak usage points or when other energy sources fail.

DRAG TO DISCOVER

1/4



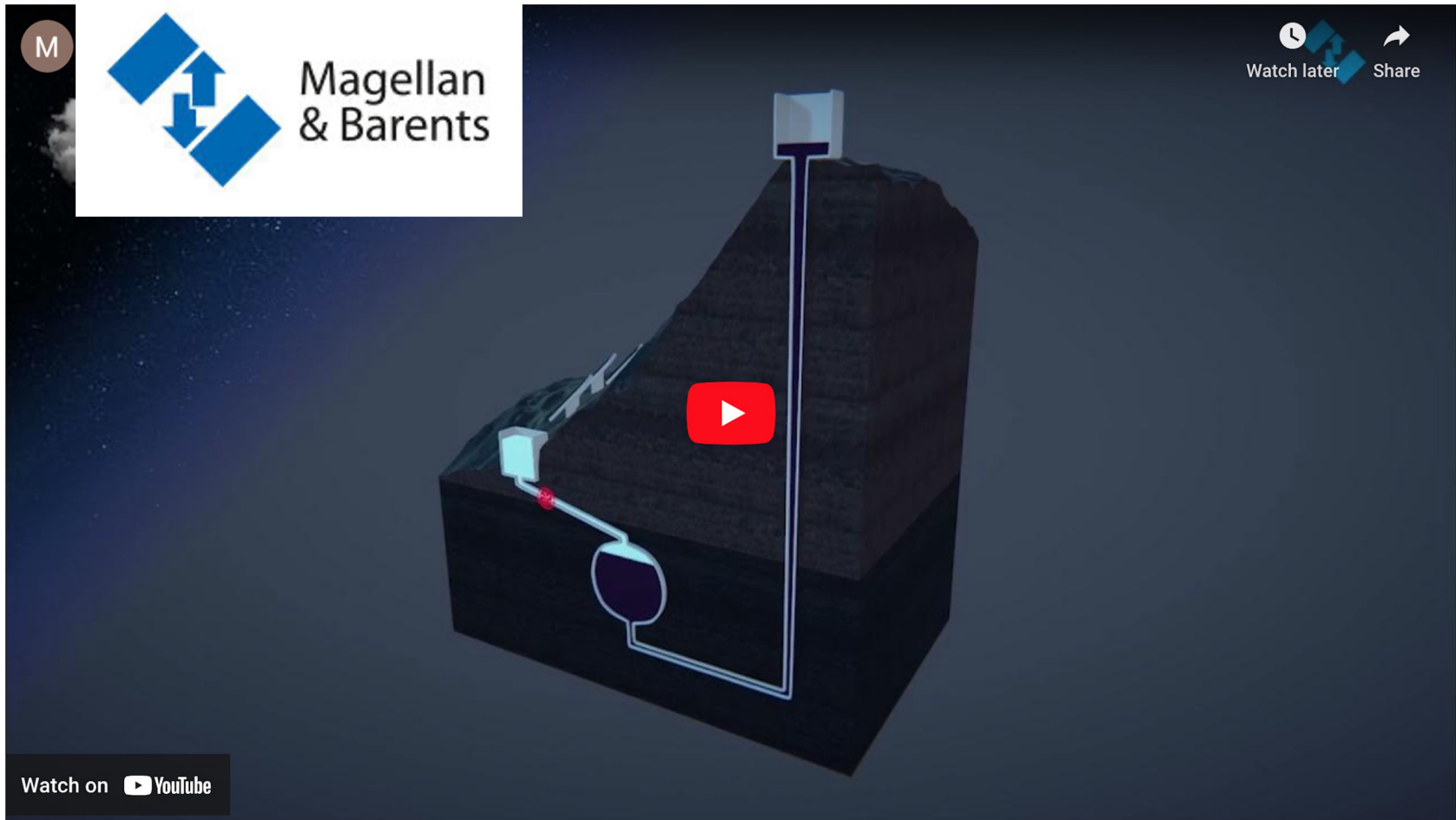
Using compressed air and water to store energy, A-CAES allows grid operators to store clean energy, even when there is no fuel solar panels and no wind to generate energy from turbines.

DRAG TO DISCOVER

● DRAG TO DISCOVER



**400MW/3,200MWh** Pechos Energy Storage Center in San Luis Obispo County; Willow Rock Energy Storage Center in Kern County in **200MW/1,600MWh**; **4GWh TBA**



“Superdense” Fluid PSH, a.k.a. “High-Density Hydro”

[Home](#) > MagnaDense

# MagnaDense

MagnaDense is a natural Magnetite used for loose ballast and high density concrete.

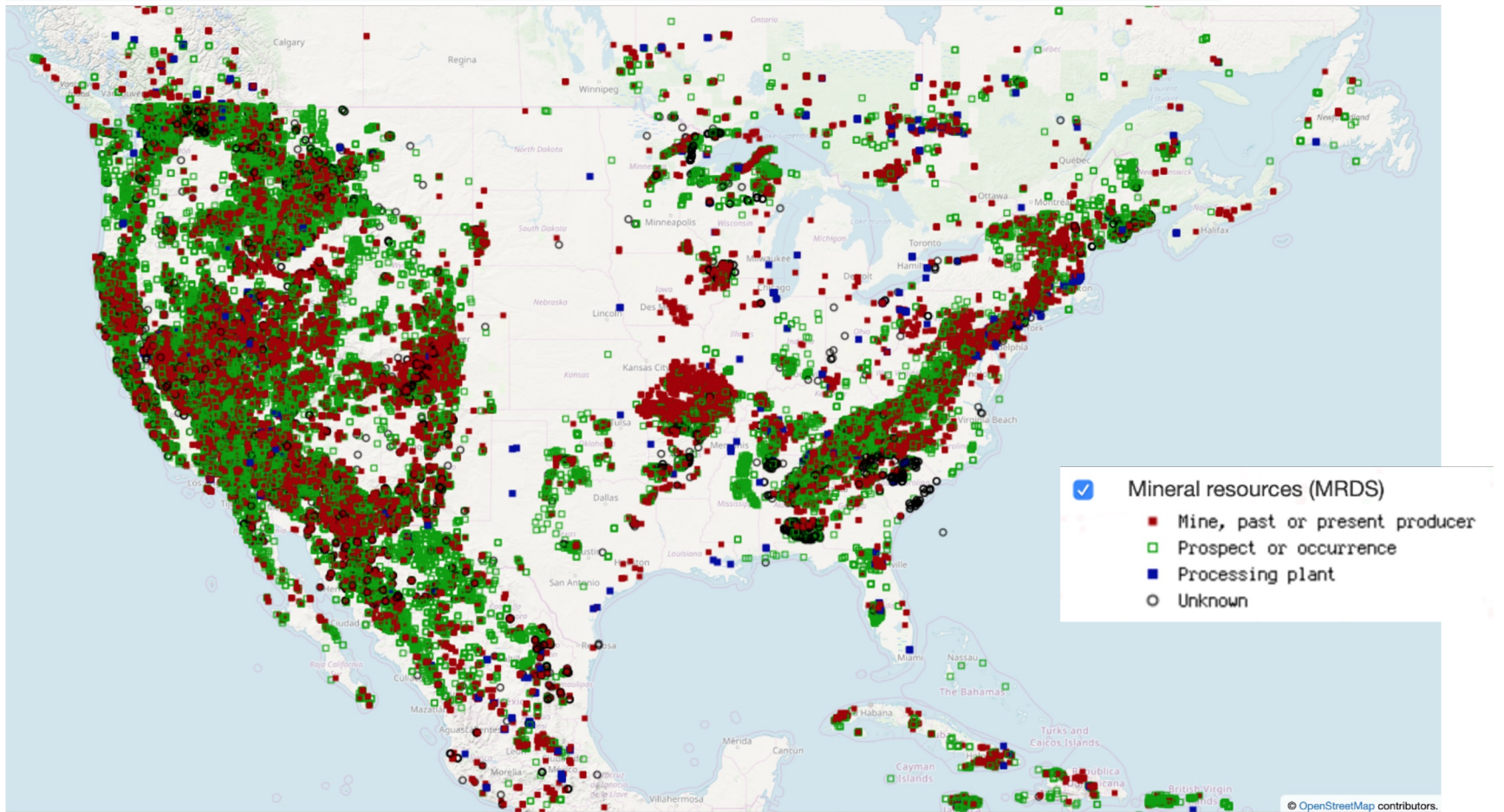
- ✓ **Certified according to EN standards**
- ✓ **High density**
- ✓ **High submerged/saturated density**
- ✓ **Reduced heat of hydration**
- ✓ **Space-saving**
- ✓ **Consistent quality**
- ✓ **High radiation shielding characteristics**
- ✓ **Noise and vibration dampening**
- ✓ **Reduced volume**
- ✓ **Thermal energy storage**



1. What are specific concerns about underground PSH facilities?
  - a. How does it work?
  - b. Where is it feasible?
2. What are potential benefits vs. adverse impacts?

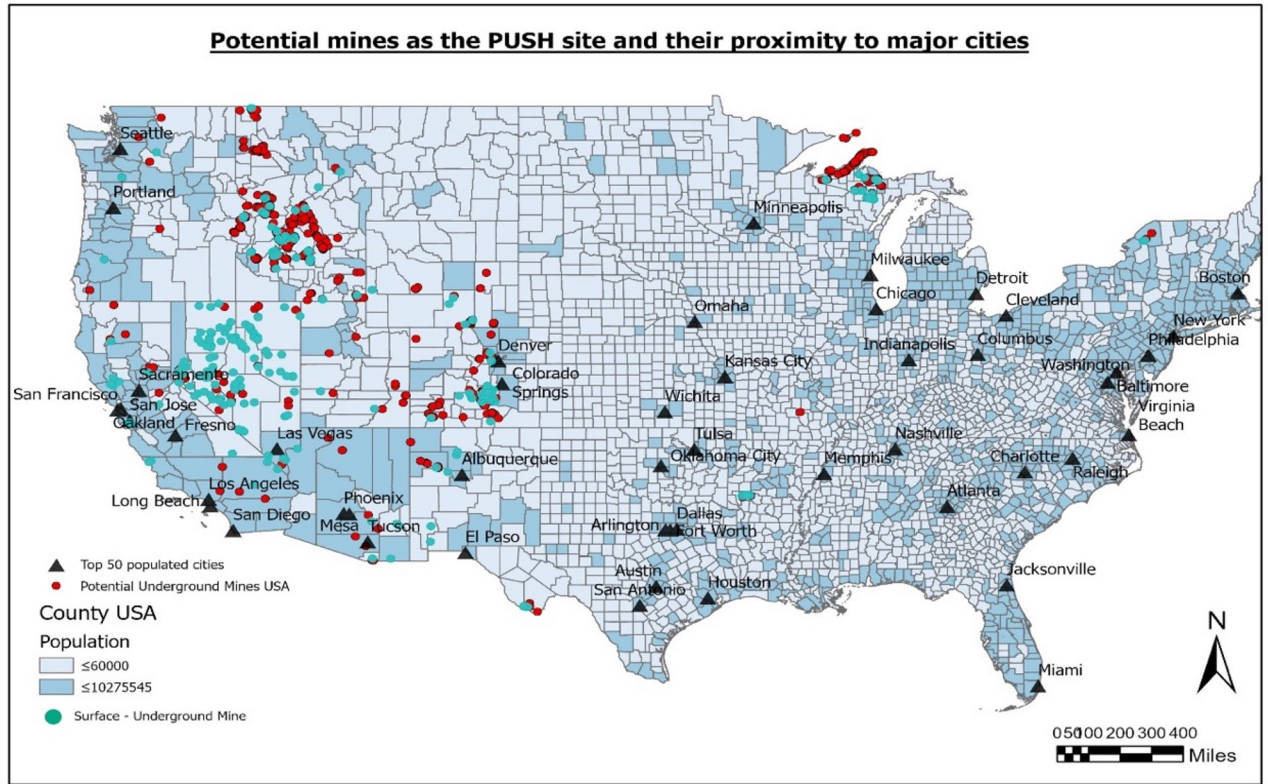


<https://mrdata.usgs.gov/mrds/map-commodity.html#home>



## Potential PUSH site location with solar map

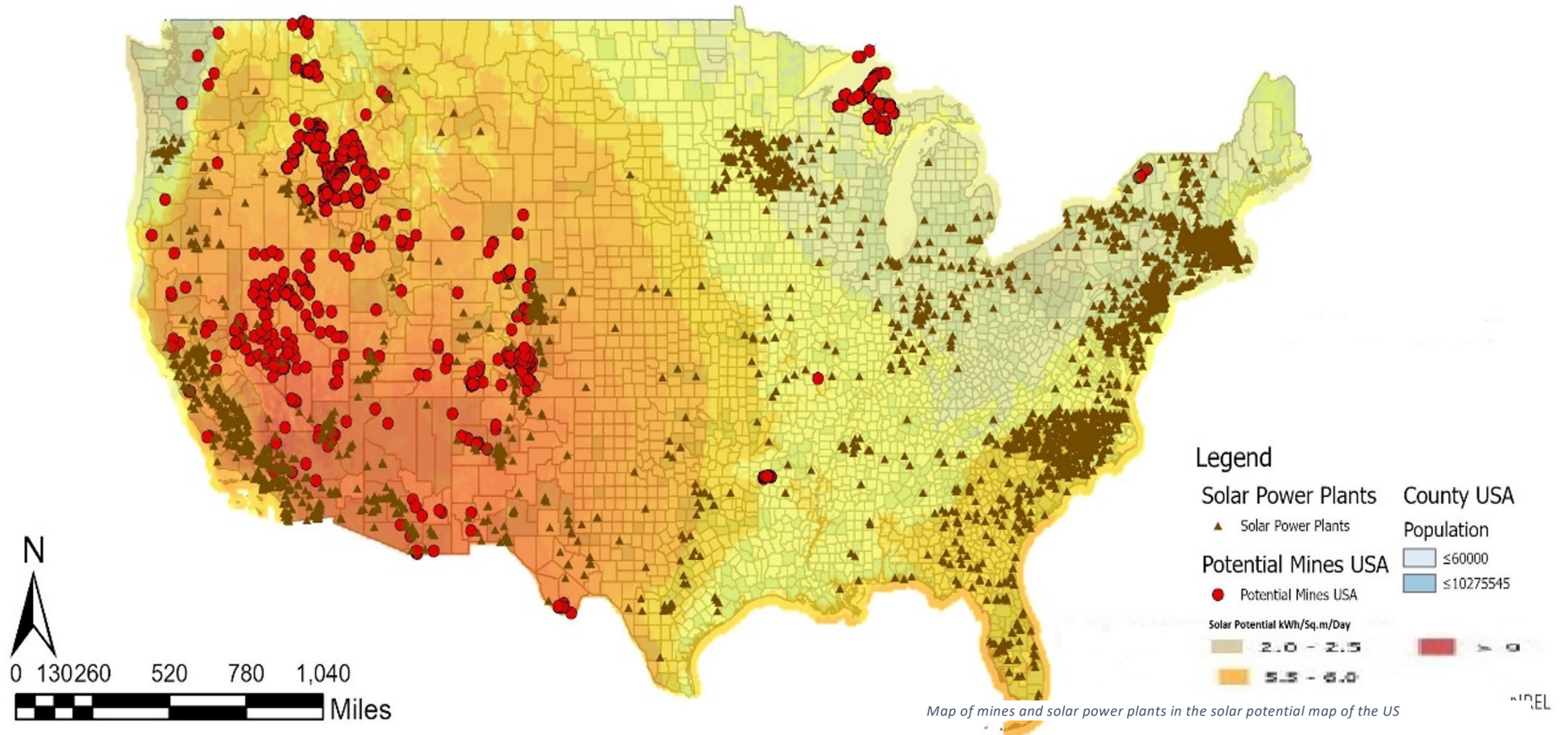
- ❖ Total 968 mines identified as feasible mines for PUSH development
- ❖ 873 mines are past producing mines and 95 are currently operational
- ❖ 706 mines are completely underground and 262 are semi – underground mines



Map showing load centers (cities and counties) with mine location



# Solar Potential, Mines and Existing Solar Power Plants in the USA



1. What are specific concerns about underground PSH facilities?
  - a. How does it work?
  - b. Where is it feasible?
2. What are potential benefits vs. adverse impacts?



Closed loop (or not)?

Underground (or not)?

Old Mine?

End-of-life?

In Development?

Facility's purpose?

Daily storage/Arbitrage?

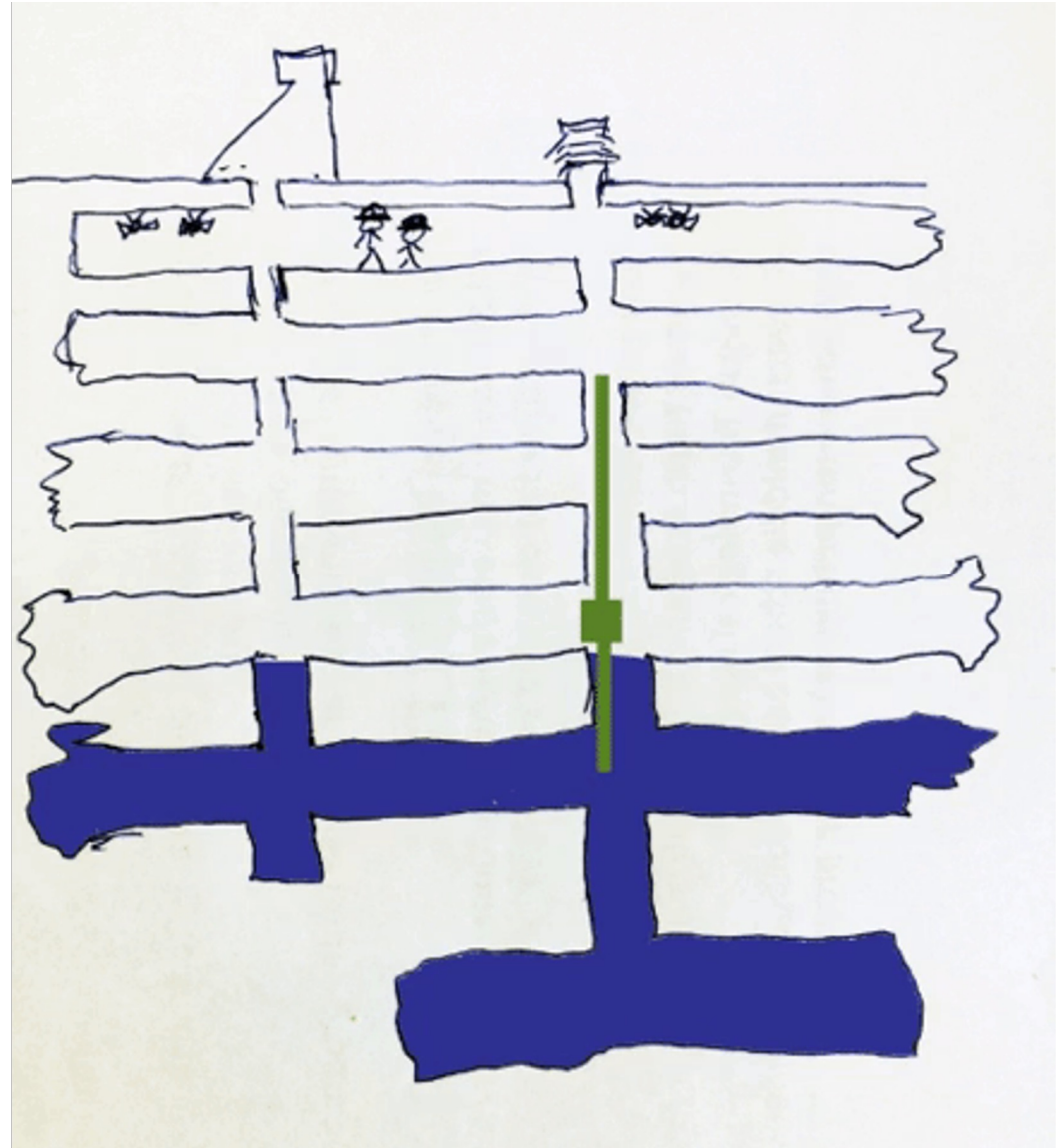
Seasonal?

grid services?

security? Islanding?

transmission/congestion?

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# Keweenaw Energy Transition Lab



*"It is becoming increasingly clear that routine energy analyses do not offer suitable answers to these sorts of issues. The enduring questions they provoke involve aspects of equity and morality that are seldom explicit in contemporary energy planning and analysis."*

*(Souacool and Dworkin 2015)*



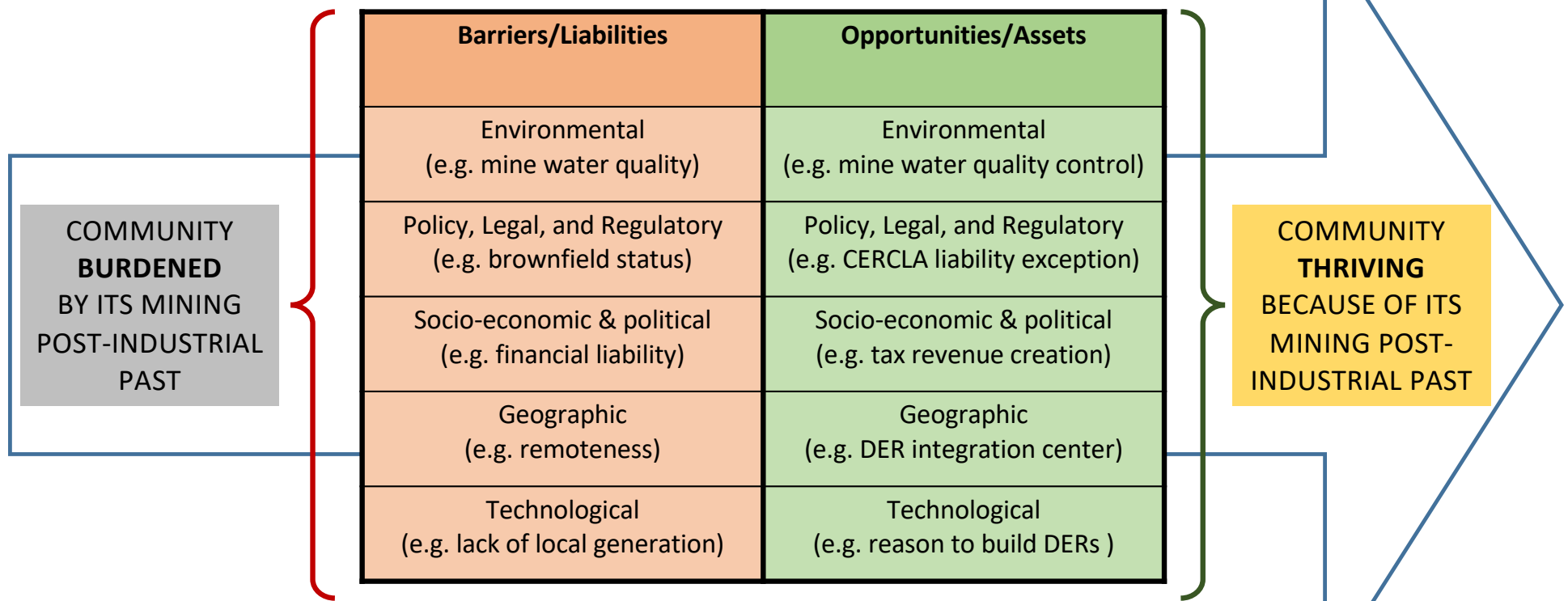
Hancock City Hall  
b. 1898



Old Marquette City Hall  
b. 1895



# Liabilities into Assets for Post-Mining Communities in Michigan



# Mather B: Liabilities into Assets for Post-Mining Communities

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation



Photo credit: By Rklawton - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=69521341>

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Photo credit: Paul Petosky, GenealogyTrails.com





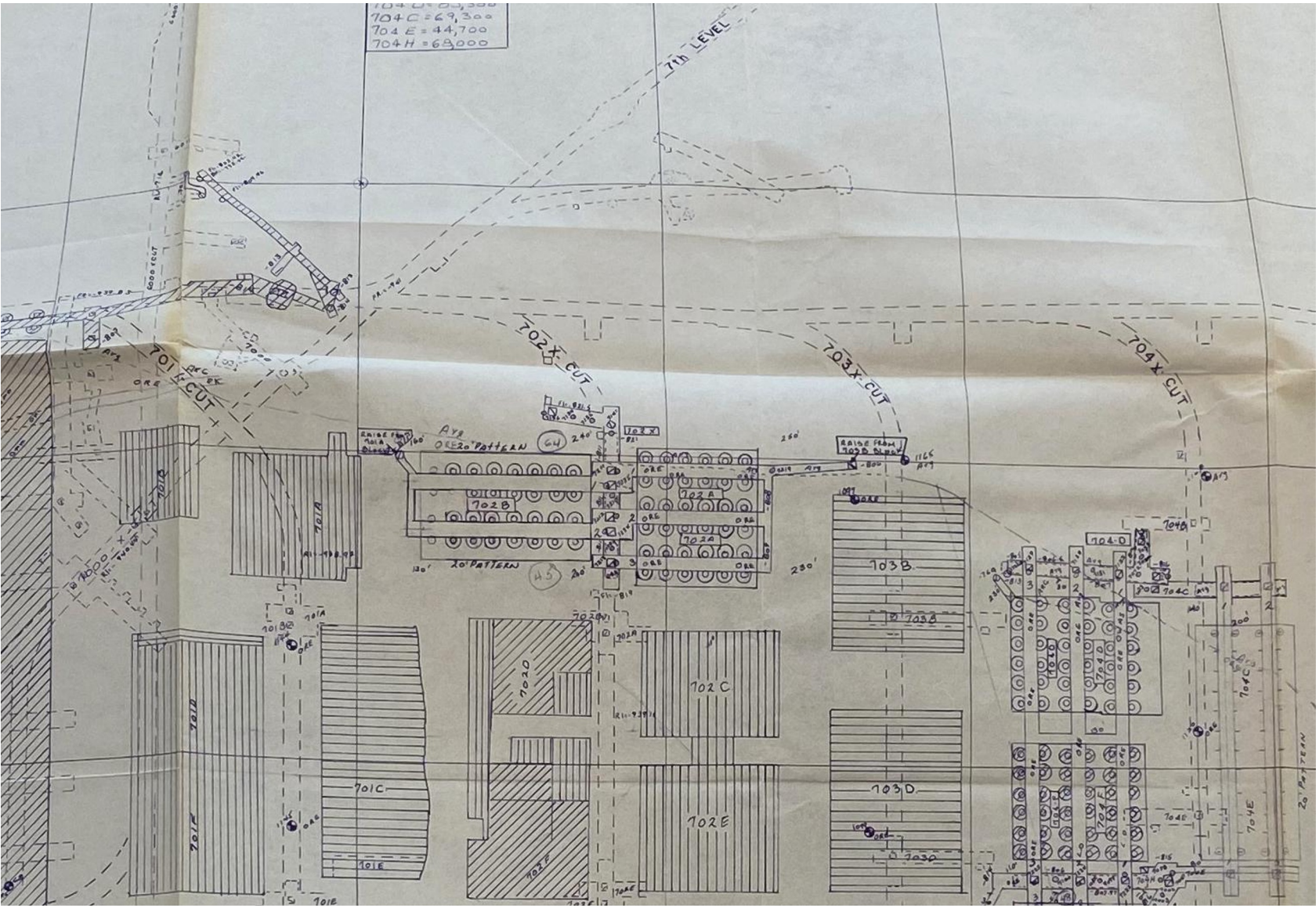


Mic





704 D = 63,300  
704 C = 49,300  
704 E = 44,700  
704 H = 63,000



# SECTION A — A' TYPICAL VERTICAL SECTION THRU PANEL

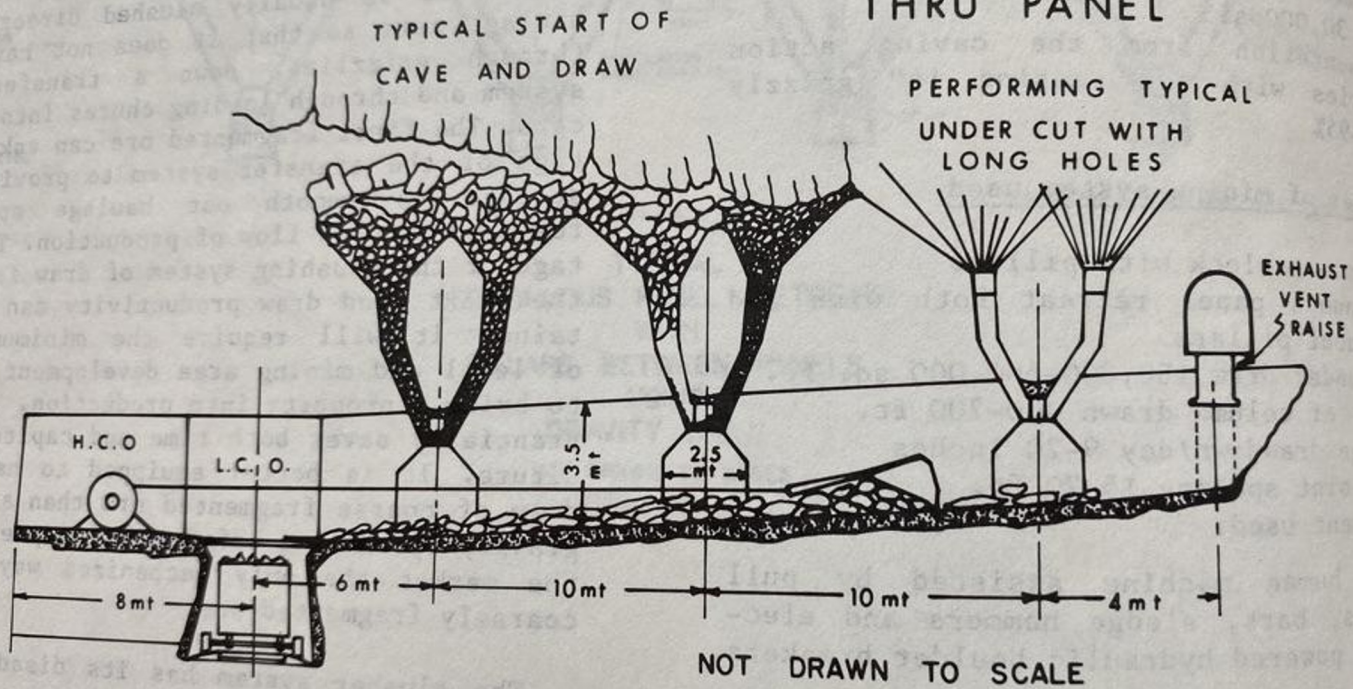


FIGURE 2

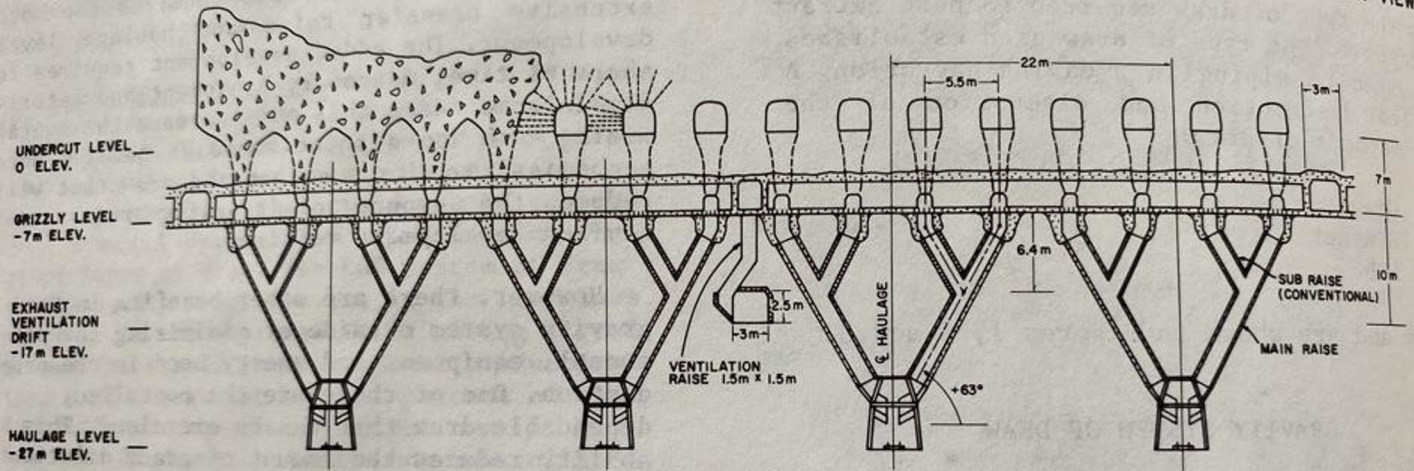
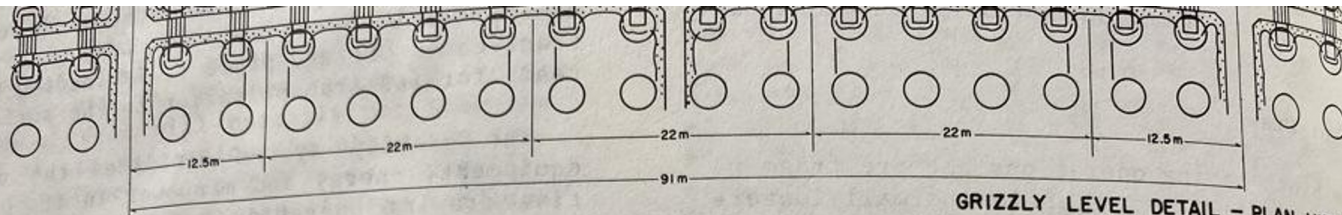
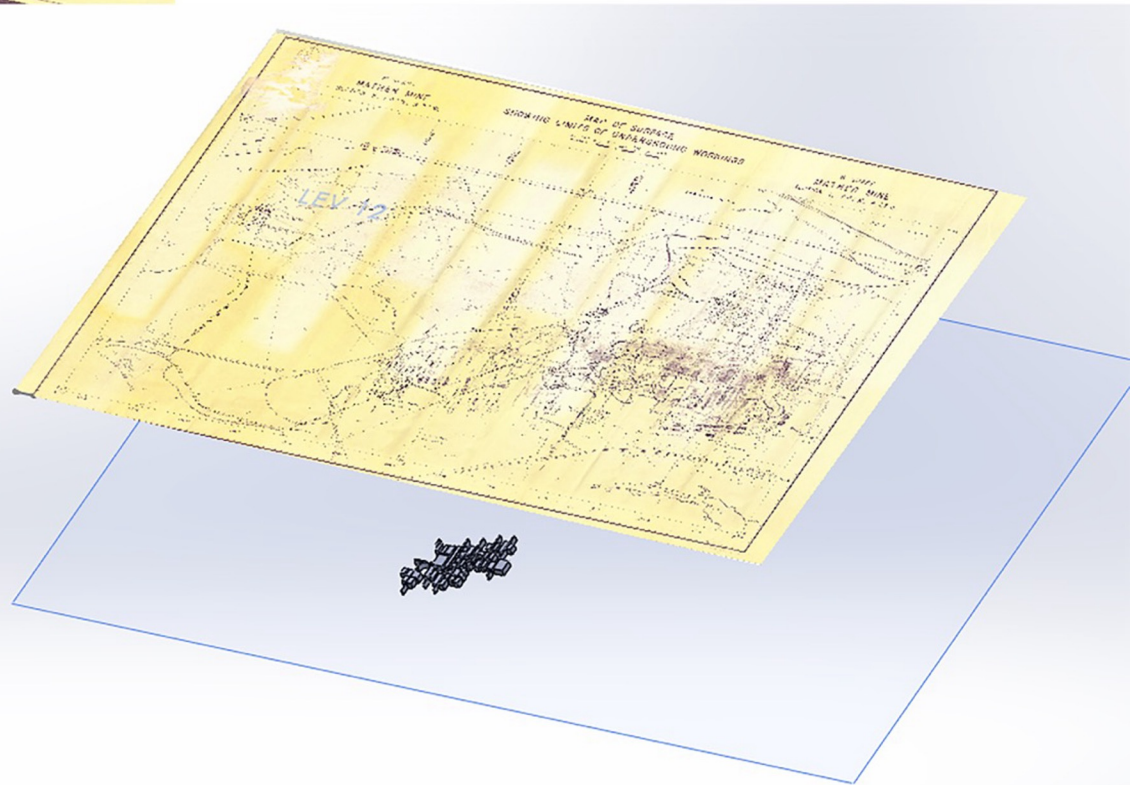
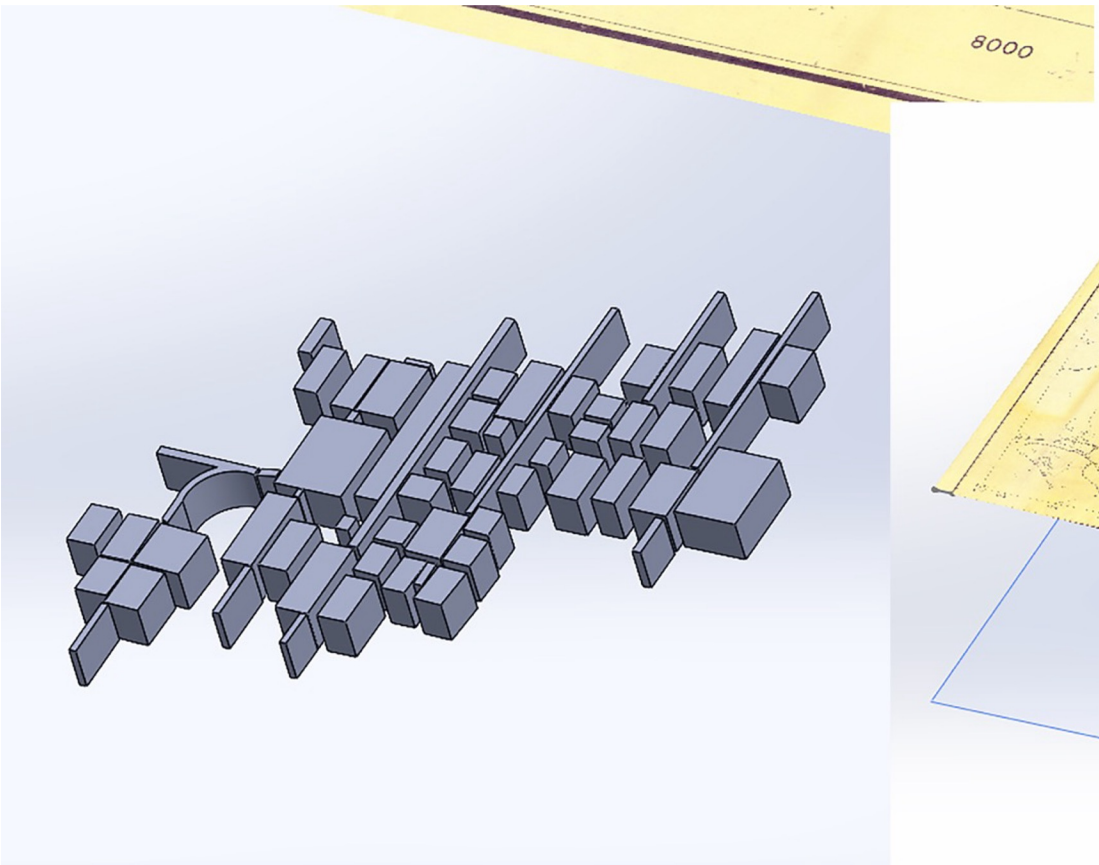
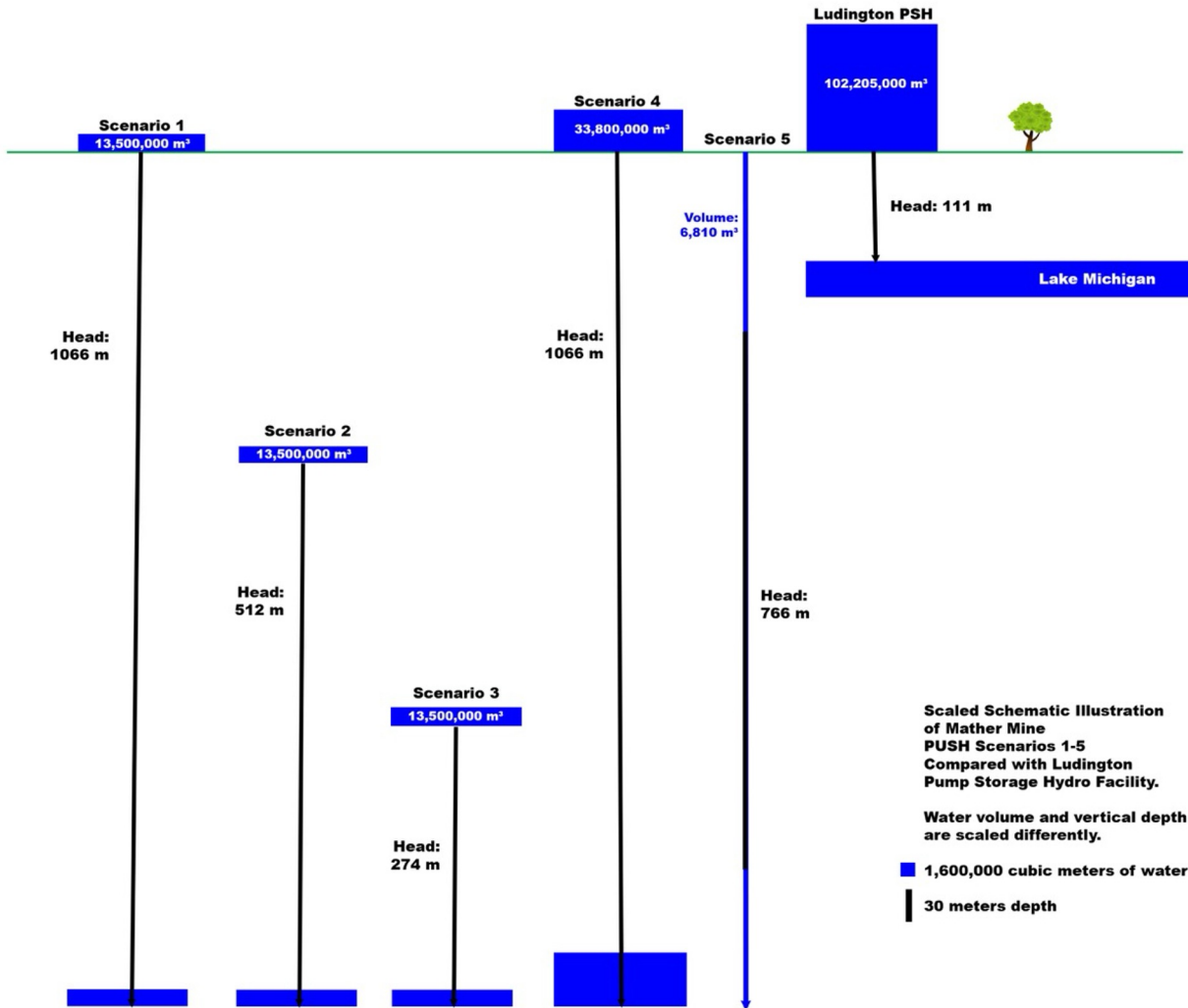


FIGURE 1

TYPICAL  
CONTINUOUS PANEL RETREAT  
WITH  
PILLARS BETWEEN PANELS  
USING  
GRAVITY DRAW  
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

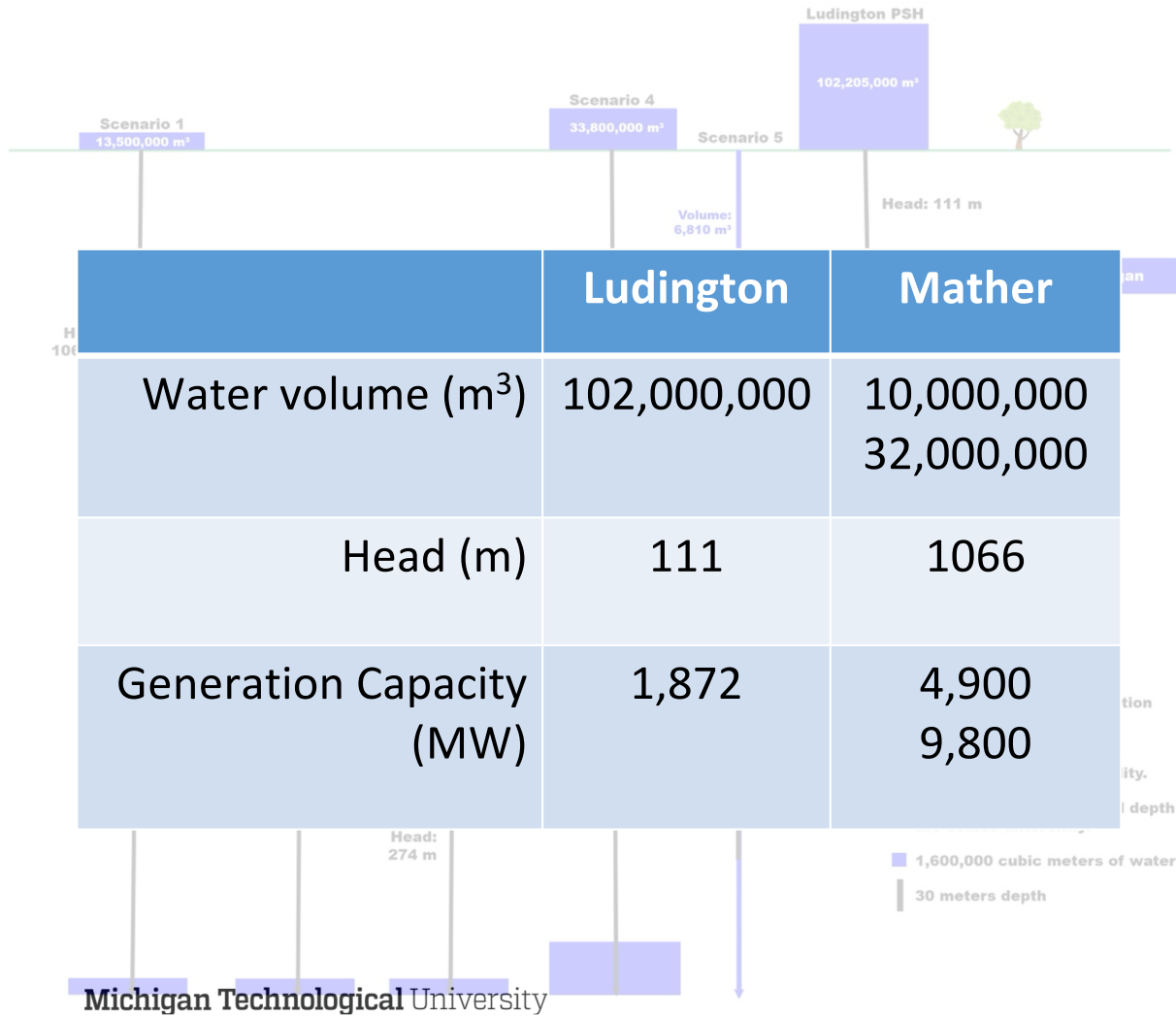




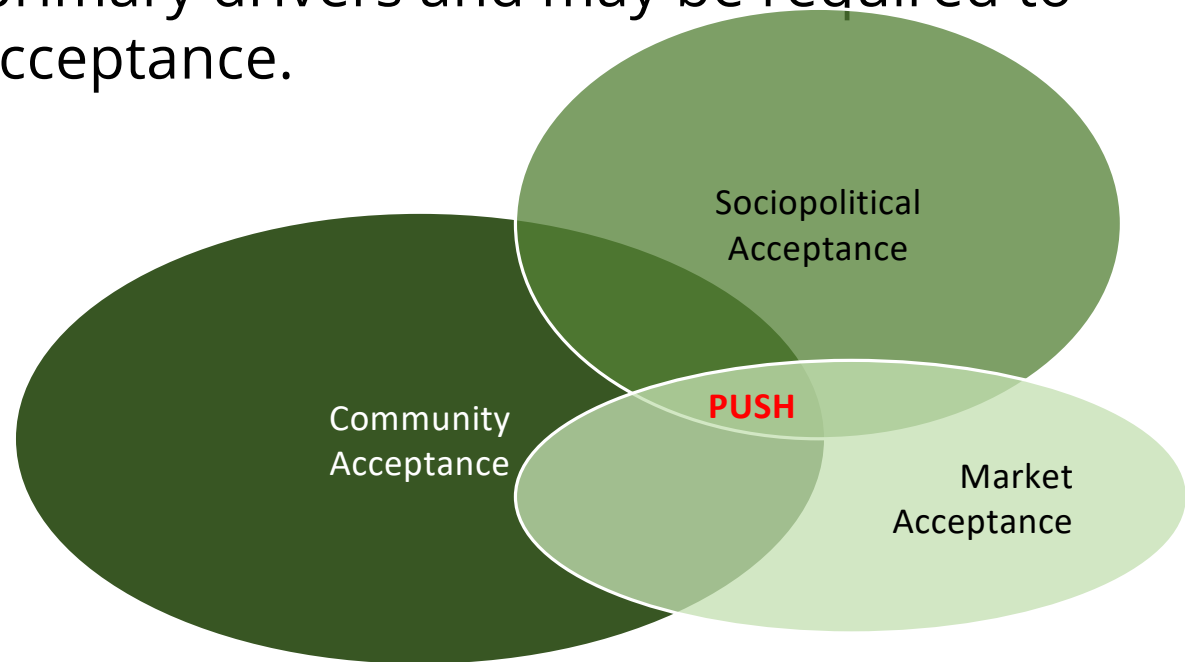
*Table 1: High and Low Water Volume and Maximum Head estimates for five different PUSH design scenarios in the Mather Mine.*

Scenario	High Volume Estimate (m <sup>3</sup> )	Low Volume Estimate (m <sup>3</sup> )	Maximum Head (m)	Scenario designation in 2020 interim report
Scenario 1: Surface pond to Levels 11-12	13,536,062	13,536,062	1066	Similar to 1
Scenario 2: Levels 2-4 to Levels 11-12	13,536,062	13,536,062	512	Similar to 3a
Scenario 3: Level 6-8 to Levels 11-12	13,536,062	13,536,062	274	new
Scenario 4: Surface to levels 7-12	33,800,000	18,551,208	792	new
Scenario 5: Shaft only	6,810	6,810	766	2





- Meeting energy transition needs at Brownfield instead of Greenfield sites.
- *Community input* into design considerations and *economic participation* are the primary drivers and may be required to achieve community acceptance.



# Key Questions

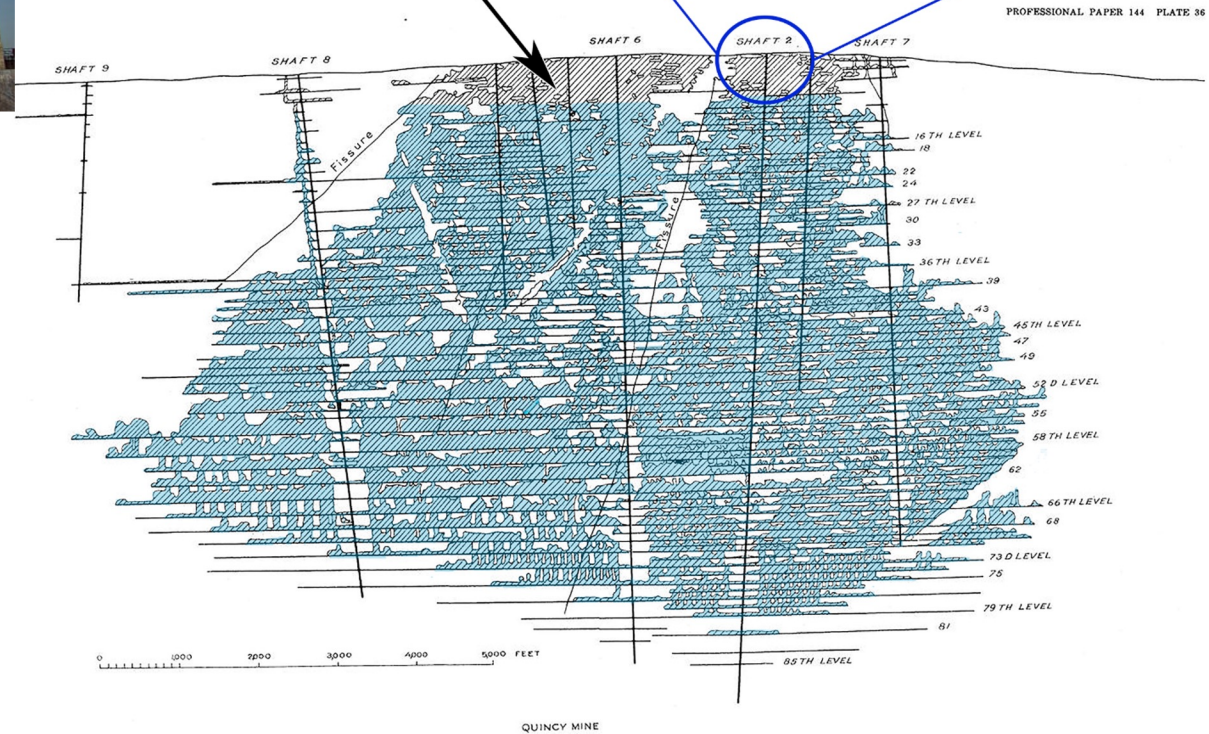
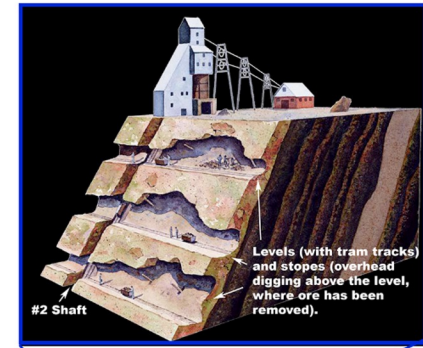


Photo Credits: Timothy Scarlett,  
Keweenaw National Historic Park.

- Improve water quality.
- Improve habitat (bats).
- Improve energy access.
- Educational Opportunities.
- Land access/Greenspace.
- Improve Heritage value.

Michigan Technological University

Quincy Mine's stopes and shafts are flooded below the 7th level. This means the empty mine is essentially an underground honeycomb reservoir, 5,000 feet deep and more than a mile wide.



# Thank you!

Timothy Scarlett, [scarlett@mtu.edu](mailto:scarlett@mtu.edu)  
<https://ketl.info>



# Break

Returning at 11:15 am

# Group Polling and Discussion

# Polling and Discussion Questions

- *What are your overall impressions of the other mechanical storage systems you heard about today?*
- *If you've attended multiple meetings and your views of PSH siting have changed, how have they changed?*
- *In a word, what criteria should be emphasized when siting PSH?*
- *What have you found most useful from these meetings?*

# Online polling reminder

- When prompted, please use a phone or browser screen to access the polls using the QR code or website address: [PollEv.com/lavishnature521](https://PollEv.com/lavishnature521)
- For short “word cloud” responses, you can [join\\_words](#) using an underscore

Join by Web

[PollEv.com/lavishnature521](https://PollEv.com/lavishnature521)

Join by scanning the QR code







# Next Steps and Wrap up

*Karen Janowitz, WSU Energy Program*

# Next Steps

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- Continued meetings with individuals and groups, as requested
- Draft report review (estimated April 2025)
- Final webinar (TBD)
- Final report – June 30, 2025

# WSU PSH Website and Email List

WSU Energy Program PSH Siting Study Webpages:

<https://www.energy.wsu.edu/CleanFuelsAltEnergy/PSHSiting.aspx>

PSH Siting Study Meeting Webpage:

- Meeting summary
- Meeting video-recording
- Meeting slides

<https://www.energy.wsu.edu/CleanFuelsAltEnergy/PSHSiting/Meetings.aspx>

Sign up for the email distribution list:

<https://www.energy.wsu.edu/CleanFuelsAltEnergy/PSHSiting/PHSSitingEmailRegistration.aspx>

Karen Janowitz

[janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu](mailto:janowitzk@energy.wsu.edu)

The screenshot shows the WSU Energy Program website. The header includes the WSU Energy Program logo and the text 'WSU Energy Program Clean Fuels & Alt Energy'. The main content area is titled 'Information Study for Pumped Storage Hydropower Siting'. A navigation menu on the left lists various programs: Community Solar Expansion Program, New Information Study for Pumped Storage Hydropower Siting, Least-Conflict Solar Siting, Green Transportation Program, Energy Code, and Home Energy Raters. An 'UPDATE' section states 'You are invited for Pumped Storage Hydropower Siting from 10:00'. The 'Meetings' section provides an introductory webinar summary for June 2024 and lists upcoming meetings: 'June 13, 2024 Introductory Webinar' with links for 'Meeting summary', 'Meeting slides', and 'Video-recording'; and 'September 11, 2024 Online Public Meeting' with a link for 'Meeting agenda'. A 'Future meetings' section is also visible.

# THANK YOU!

Study lead:

Karen Janowitz

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