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Use of Systems Engineering in Repurposing Coal-Fired Power Plants with the Malta Pumped Thermal Energy Storage System

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Outline

- Project Motivation & Background
- Use of Systems Engineering/Thinking
 - Project Management and Planning
 - Host Site Selection
 - Integration Options Down Selection
 - Concept Design & Economic Analysis
- Project Outcomes



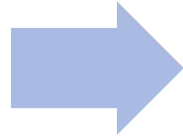
Motivation & Background

Overall Context – Why does this work matter?



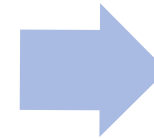
Cost Challenges and Policy Changes

- Massive, earlier than planned retirement of coal plants
- Big energy transition (100 GWs of coal plants retiring)



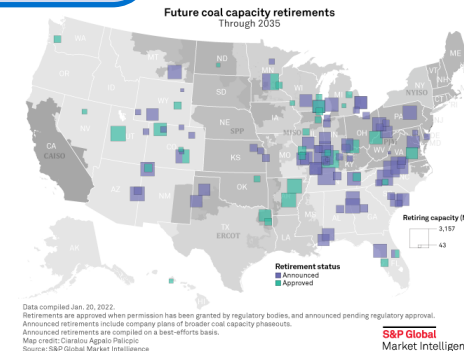
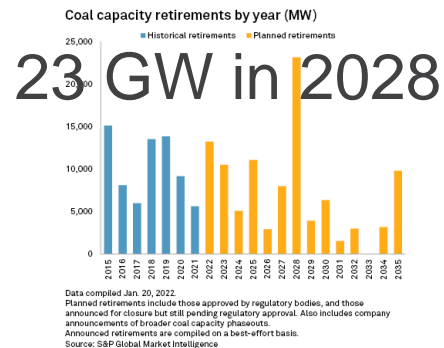
Challenges for Plant Owners and Communities

- Stranded assets
- Local communities lose the primary economic engine



What can we do with these retiring coal plants?

- **Allow a Just Transition for local communities**
- Provides benefits to plant owners

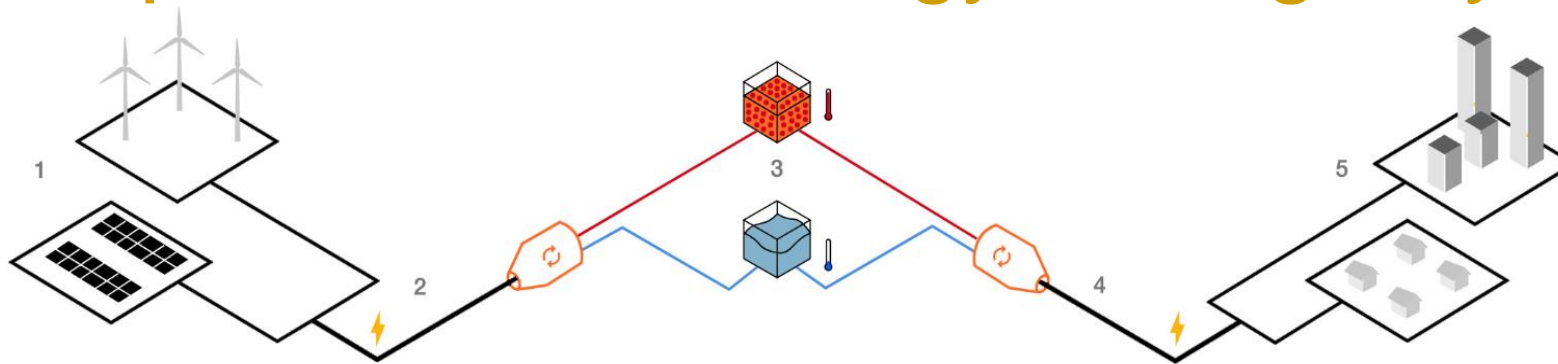


<https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/news-insights/latest-news-headlines/more-than-23-gw-of-coal-capacity-to-retire-in-2028-as-plant-closures-accelerate-68709205>

The idea: Integrating a retiring coal plant with a Malta Pumped Thermal Energy Storage (PHES) system could be the solution.



Malta Pumped Thermal Energy Storage System



Grid scale (100MW) long duration (10+ hours) energy storage



Firming intermittent wind and solar power

Closed loop air Brayton cycle heat pump (charge) & heat engine (discharge)



Similar components to those in thermal power plants (coal, gas)

Energy stored as 565°C heat in solar molten salt



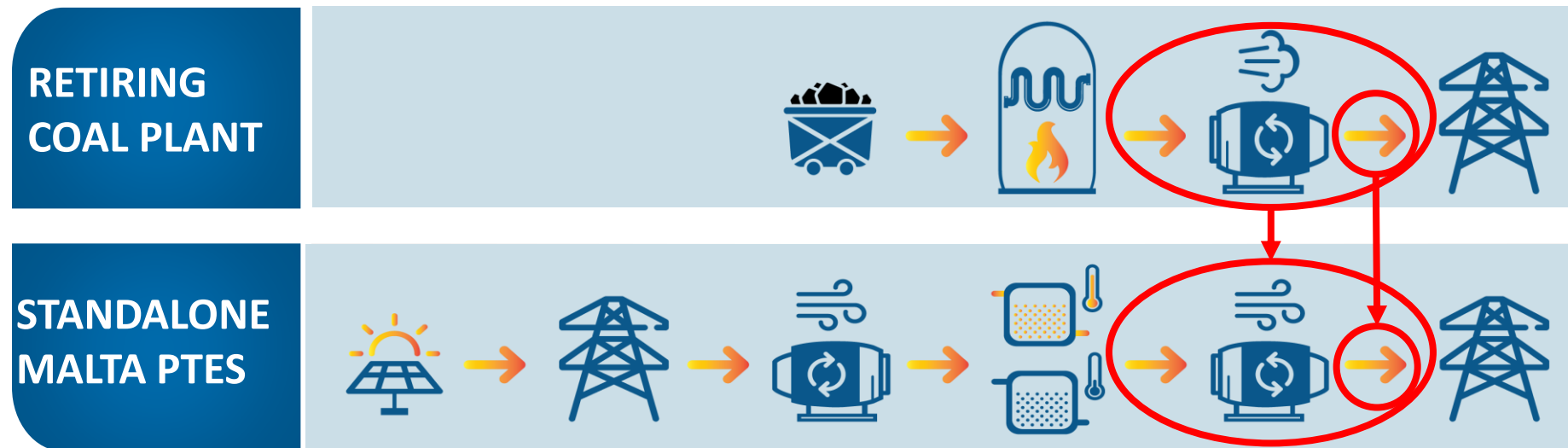
Good temperature range for Steam-Rankine cycle in coal plant

Project Objective & Overview



This project evaluated how a Malta Pumped Thermal Energy Storage (PTES) plant could be integrated with a retiring coal plant to achieve benefits to the plant owner and local community.

- Integration options
- Concept Design
- Economic Benefits & Local Impact



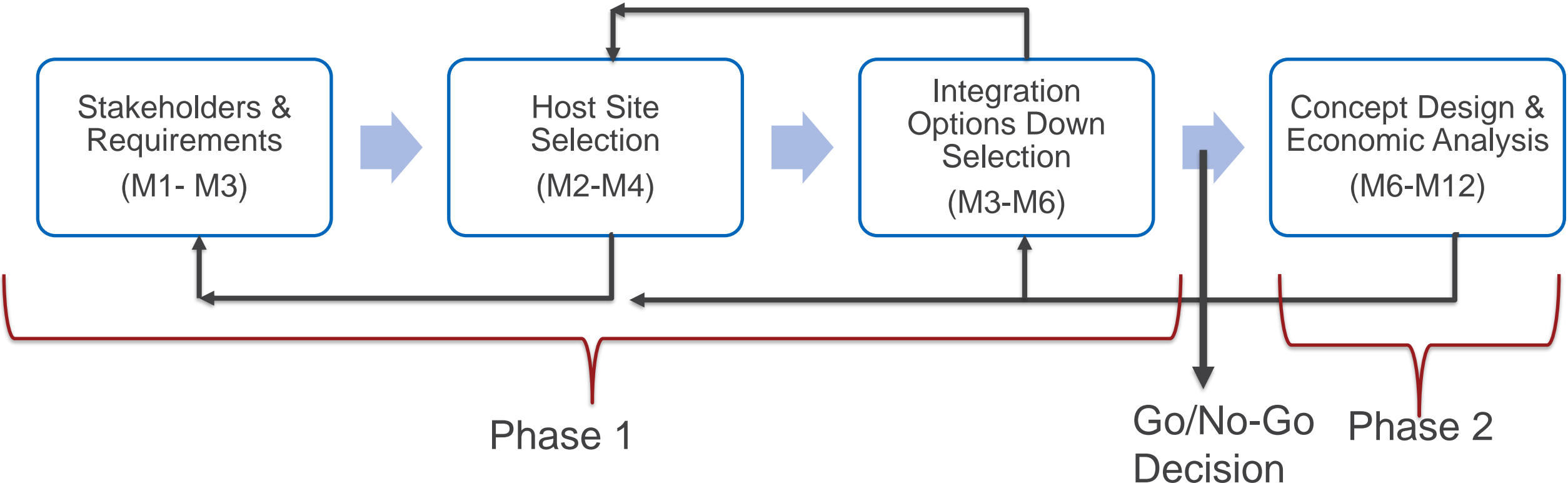


Systems Engineering in the Work



Project Planning and Management

One-year study funded by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)





Stakeholders



- Project's findings translatable/applicable to other retiring coal plants



- Does it make techno-economical sense to repurpose a Duke Energy's retiring coal plant with a Malta PTES?
- More detailed technical/due diligence assessment of Malta PTES technology



- Development of a potential new product offering
- Cultivate potential customer relationship

Local Communities
around Coal Plants



- Can the re-purposed coal plant maintain job and local economy?

Other Utilities

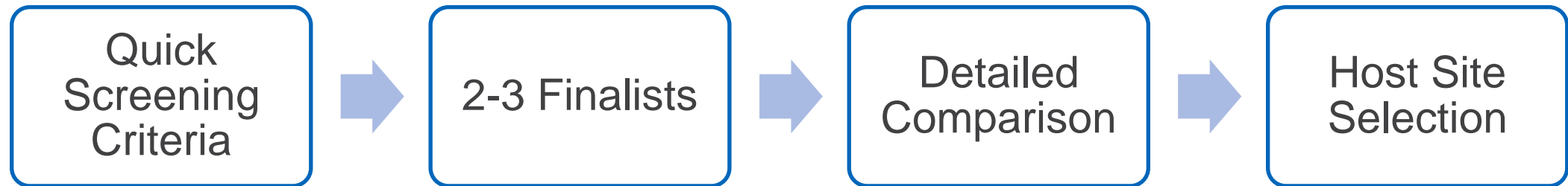


- Can this solution be used for their retiring coal plants?



Host Site Selection Approach

- Duke Energy has many coal plant sites under consideration for retirement.
- How to pick the most optimal host site?



Duke Energy's inputs on what is important to them: always part of the process.

Host Site Selection (cont.)



Quick screening criteria

- Retirement date
- Co-location with operating unit(s)
- Power level range
- Potential load issue during charging

Detailed Comparison

- Importance ranking of different criteria (provided by Duke Energy)

Criteria	Importance Ranking	Cliffside	Mayo
Coal Plant Equipment Reusability	3	3	3
Timeline	4	3	3
OPEX Saving	3	3	1
Maintain Coal Plant Capacity	1	2	1
Job maintenance/creation	3	3	3
Reconfiguration capability	4	2	2
Discharge Duration	2	2	3
Footprint Availability	5	2	3
Potential load issue with grid	4	3	2
Total Score		75	71



Cliffside 5

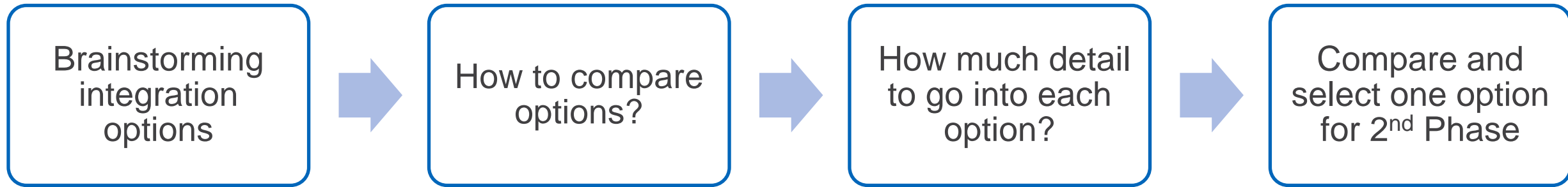


Mayo 1

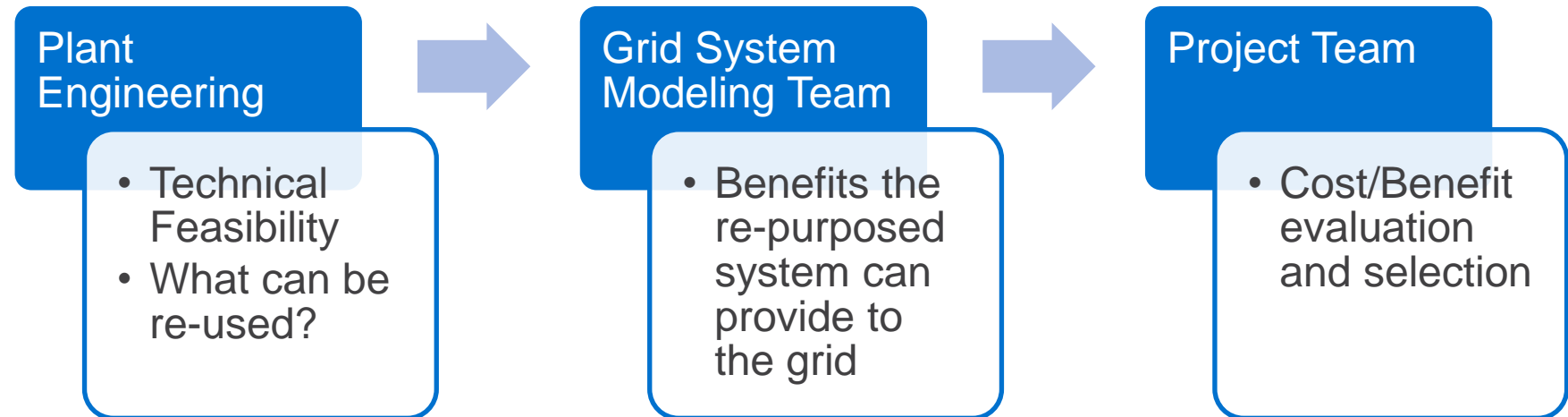
Cliffside 5 was chosen as the host site; part of the reason was access to technical team/data.



Integration Options Down Selection

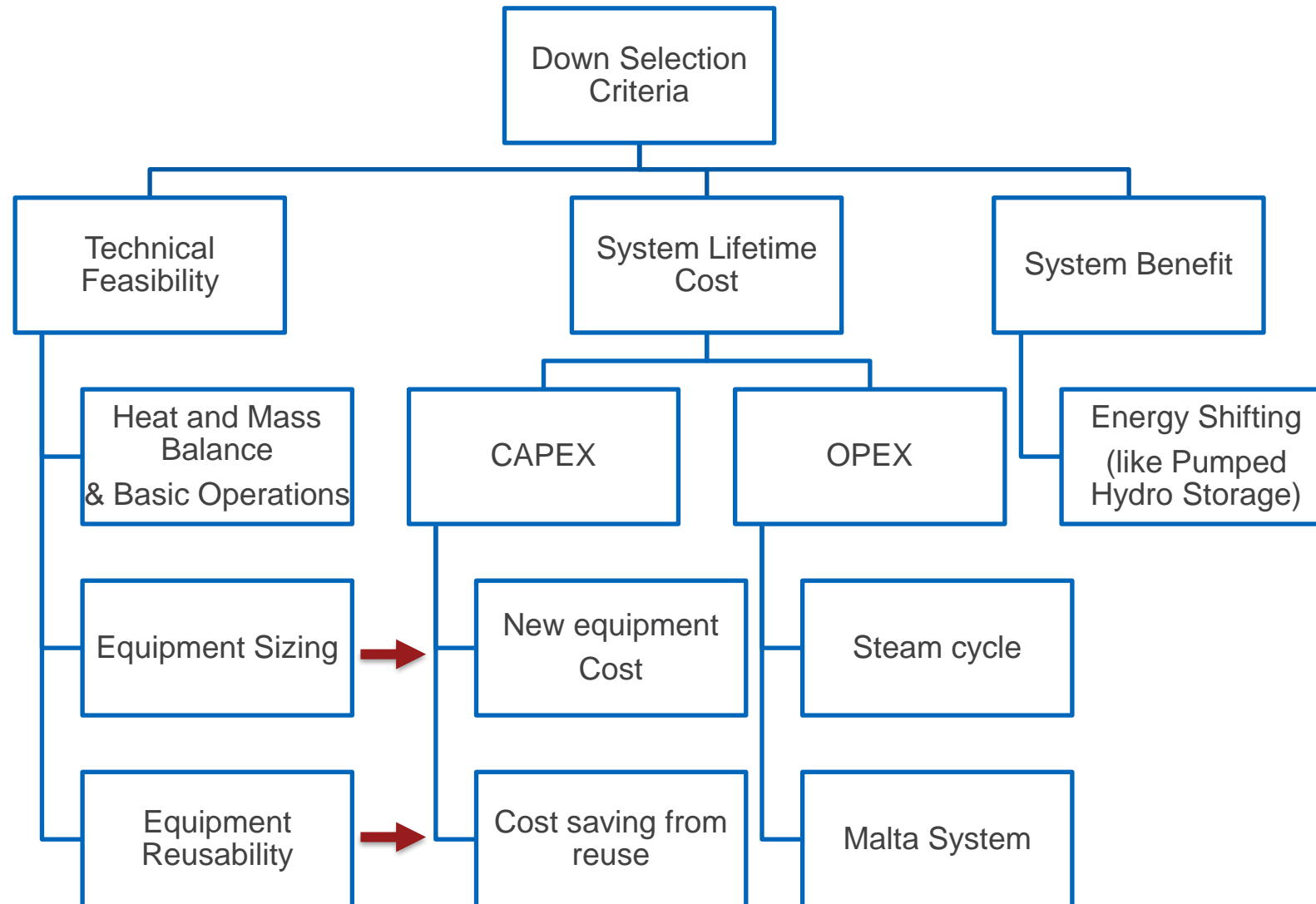


Entire project team involved, with lot of inputs from different groups within Duke Energy





Down Selection Based on Relative Cost/Benefit Analysis





Integration Options

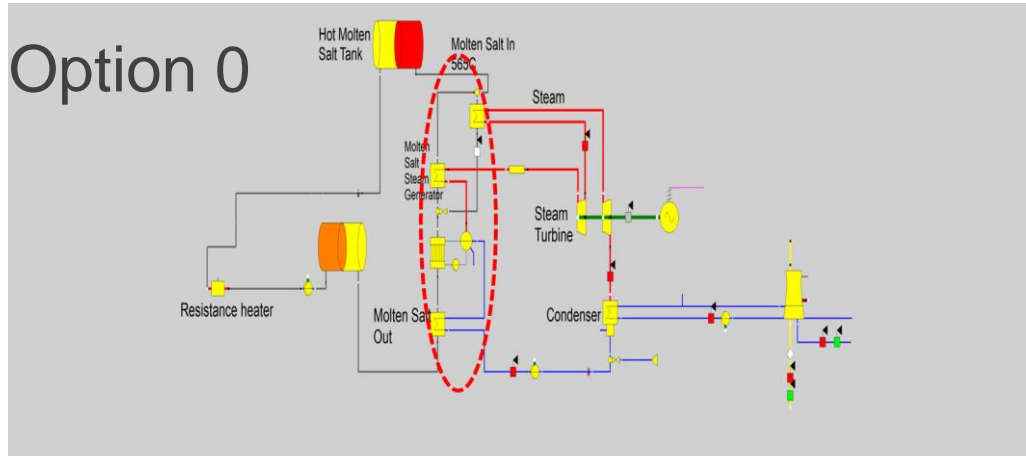
Option	Charging Mechanism	Discharging Mechanism	Major New Equipment	Main Equipment Repurposed	Round Trip Efficiency
0 – Resistance Heater	Resistance Heater	Coal plant's steam cycle	Molten salt Steam Generator (MSSG), resistance heaters	Steam-Rankine cycle	Lowest
1 – Electrical Integration	Malta Heat Pump	Malta Heat Engine		Grid interconnection	Highest
2 – Thermal Integration	Malta Heat Pump	Coal plant's steam cycle	MSSG	Steam-Rankine cycle	3 rd Highest
3 – Hybrid Integration	Malta Heat Pump	Malta Heat Engine +Coal plant's steam cycle	MSSG	Steam-Rankine cycle	2 nd Highest



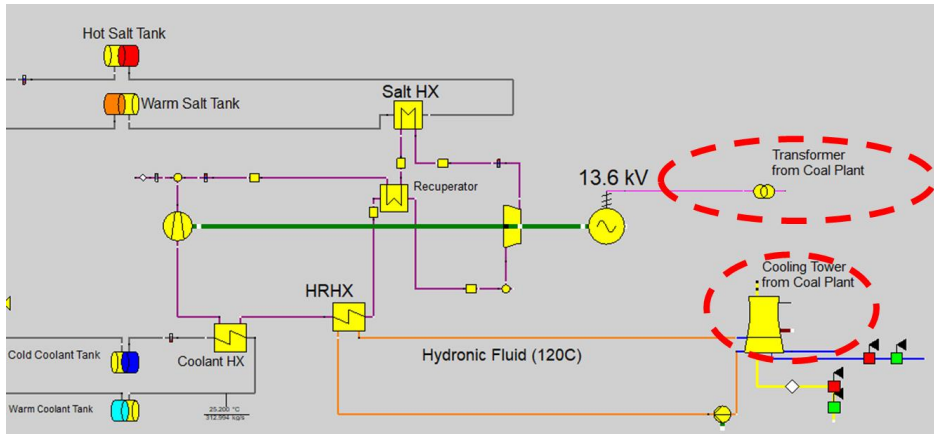
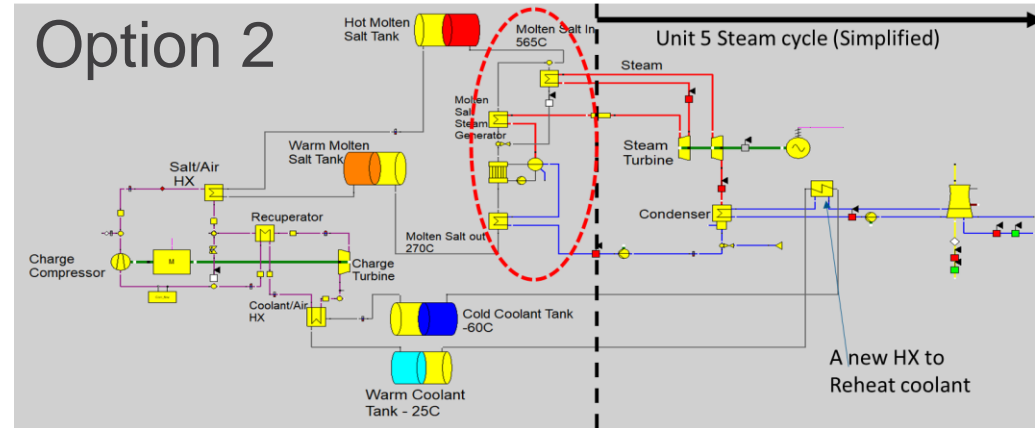
Schematic Diagrams for the Four Integration Options



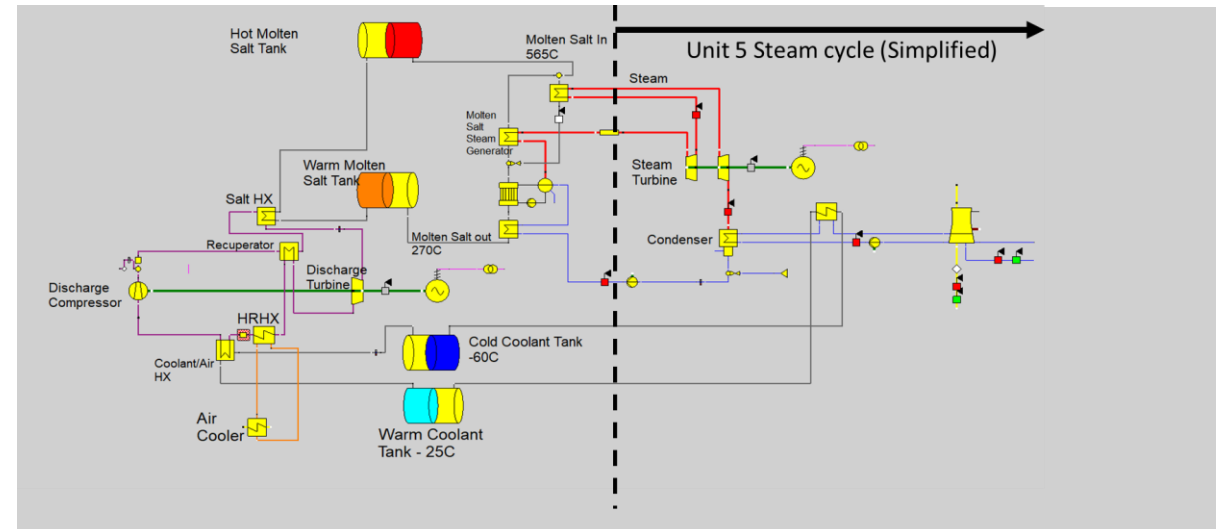
Option 0



Option 2



Option 1: Standalone Malta System
(Reuse Grid Interconnection)

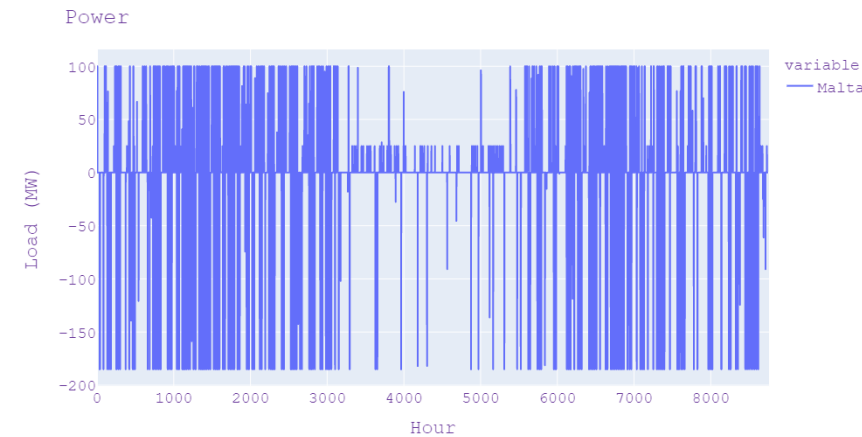


Option 3: Hybrid option: Standalone
Malta + Steam Cycle



Comparison of Energy Shifting Benefit

Option	2025 Yearly Benefit (\$MM)	2030 Yearly Benefits (\$MM)	2040 Yearly Benefits (\$MM)	Relative Cost
Option 0	-1.58	-1.23	2.89	2 nd Lowest
Option 1	-0.30	0.10	5.26	Lowest
Option 2	-0.32	0.03	4.37	3 rd Lowest
Option 3	-0.47	-.07	4.8	Highest



Sample Hourly Dispatch Profile

Overall, Option 1 has the best cost/benefit ratio at Cliffside 5.



Scenario where Option 3 may be better

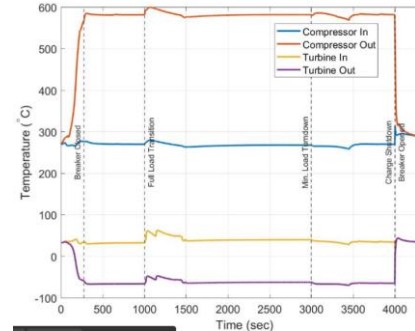
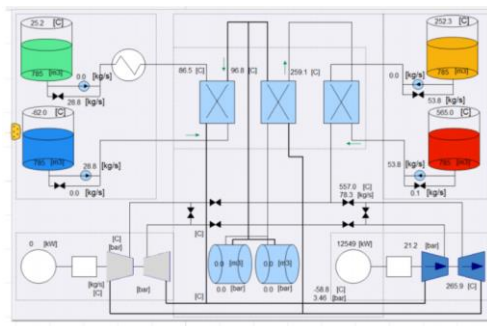
- Newer coal plant → lower cost of overhaul of Steam-Rankine cycle; lot of remaining life
- Plant located in the grid where the followings are expected:
 - Daily shifting of energy is required → Use Malta system to get better round-trip efficiency
 - Occasional need for additional capacity → Use Steam-Rankine cycle to supply the capacity

Concept Design Summary



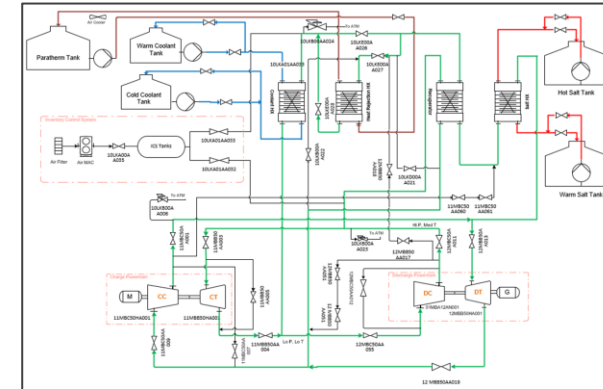
Location on Site

Transient Analyses

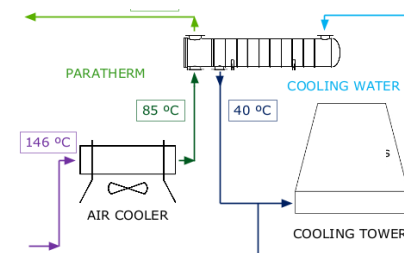


It is feasible to re-use grid interconnection of Cliffside Unit 5 for Malta PTES. There is a large cost saving (~\$20M) and project schedule saving.

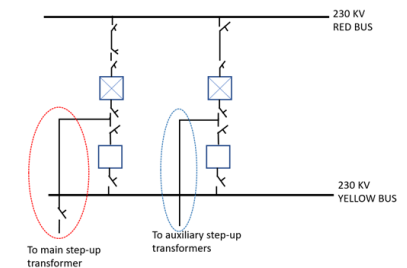
Process Flow Diagrams



Equipment Reusability



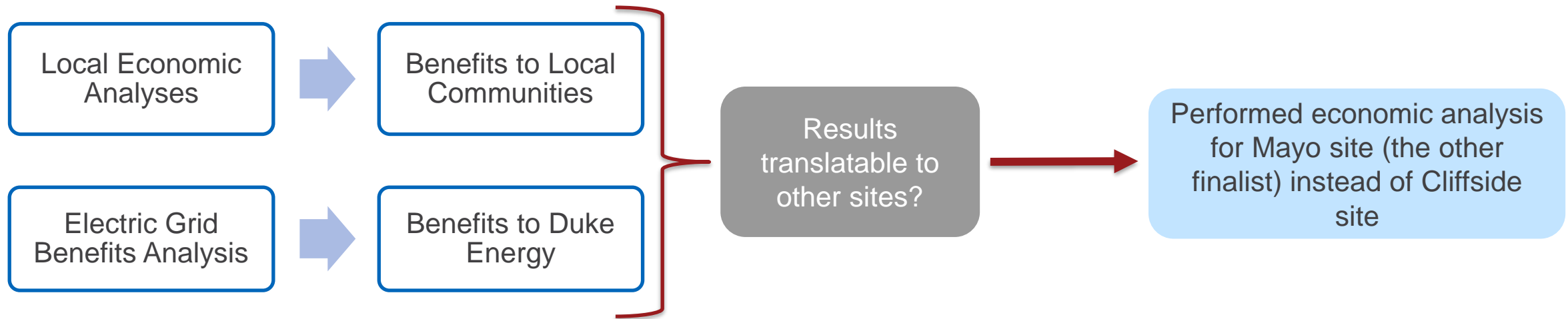
Cooling Tower Re-use Option



Cliffside Unit 5 Grid Interconnection Re-use Option



Economic Benefit Analyses



- Mayo site: Once Unit 1 retires, there is nothing left. Large local economic impact → Most other coal sites are like this
- Cliffside site: Once Unit 5 retires, there is still Unit 6 operating (does not lose all the jobs)
- The technical work done at Cliffside: translatable to Mayo
- Mayo is in the grid where higher renewable (wind + solar) is likely to happen first → similar reason why other coal plants are being retired early



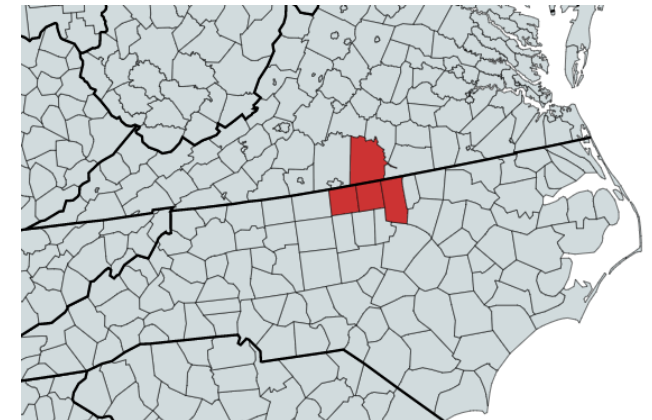
Local Economic Impact Analysis



Local economic impact was measured for 4 activities

1. Decommissioning of the Mayo plant – One time
2. Ceasing of operations of the Mayo plant – On-going
3. Construction of the Malta plant – One time
4. Operations of the Malta plant - Lifetime

4 Counties around Mayo Site



- Construction of a new Malta PTES can bring more than 200 construction jobs
- On a per MW basis, on-going O&M on the new Malta PTES system maintains similar number of jobs compared to the retiring coal plant.

Grid Benefit Analysis

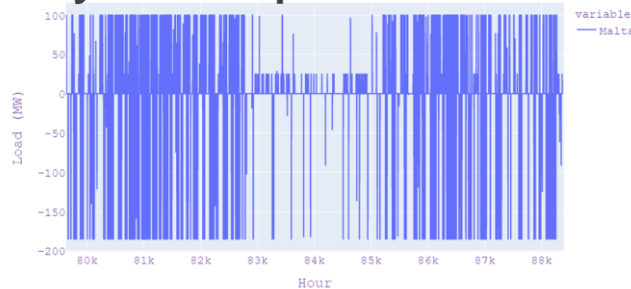


DEP PORTFOLIO RESULTS TABLE

	Base without Carbon Policy		Base with Carbon Policy		Earliest Practicable Coal Retirements		70% CO ₂ Reduction: High Wind		70% CO ₂ Reduction: High SMR		No New Gas Generation	
PORTFOLIO	A		B		C		D		E		F	
System CO ₂ Reduction (2030 2035) ¹	56%	53%	59%	62%	64%	64%	70%	73%	71%	74%	65%	73%
Average Monthly Residential Bill Impact for a Household Using 1000kWh (by 2030 by 2035) ²	\$13	\$21	\$15	\$27	\$16	\$24	\$31	\$39	\$27	\$36	\$49	\$58
Average Annual Percentage Change in Residential Bills (through 2030 through 2035) ²	1.2%	1.2%	1.3%	1.5%	1.4%	1.4%	2.7%	2.1%	2.4%	1.9%	4.0%	2.9%
Present Value Revenue Requirement (PVR) [\$B] ³	\$35.4		\$35.7		\$37.3		\$44.5		\$41.9		\$52.1	
Estimated Transmission Investment Required [\$B] ⁴	\$0.4		\$0.8		\$0.7		\$3.2		\$1.0		\$6.2	
Total Solar [MW] ^{5, 6} by 2035	4,950		6,350		6,450		7,800		7,800		7,950	
Incremental Onshore Wind [MW] ⁸ by 2035	0		600		1,350		1,750		1,750		1,750	
Incremental Offshore Wind [MW] ⁸ by 2035	0		0		0		1,300		100		2,500	
Incremental SMR Capacity [MW] ⁹ by 2035	0		0		0		0		700		0	
Incremental Storage [MW] ^{5, 7} by 2035	700		1,600		1,600		2,000		2,000		5,000	
Incremental Gas [MW] ⁵ by 2035	5,350		4,300		3,950		2,150		2,150		0	
Total Contribution from Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Initiatives [MW] ⁸ by 2035	825		825		825		1,500		1,500		1,500	
Remaining Coal Capacity [MW] ⁸ by 2035	0		0		0		0		0		0	
Coal Retirements	Most Economic		Most Economic		Earliest Practicable		Earliest Practicable ⁹		Earliest Practicable ⁹		Most Economic ¹⁰	
Dependency on Technology & Policy Advancement	🕒		🕒		🕒		🕒		🕒		🕒	

- Analyzed by the **Duke Energy ISOP team**
- Chose a base case portfolio that could reduce CO₂ emission by 70% of the 2005 level (IRP 2020) → **Realistic scenario**
- Results:
 - A Malta 100MW-10 hour system can provide significant saving compared to a 100 MW-10 hour battery system.
 - A Malta 100MW-10 hour system can provide saving compared to a 100 MW-4 hour battery system.

System Dispatch in 2035



The results here validated the value/benefit of the Malta long-duration energy storage system(s) in a highly decarbonized grid.



Project Outcomes

1. This successful project, using systems engineering approach, validated the hypothesis that repurposing a retiring fossil-fuel asset (i.e. coal plant) into energy storage system by integrating it with a Malta PTES system makes sense and provides benefits to the plant owner and local community.
2. Two primary options for integrating a retiring coal plant with a Malta PTES were identified and a guideline for choosing an option was developed.
3. The framework developed for evaluation of repurposing retiring coal plants has received a lot of inquiries and interests from other utilities.
4. Lot of interest from the highest level of government, including the White House.

DOE Director of Integrated Carbon Management visited the project team at Cliffside 5 site.



Malta CEO was invited to the White House to a roundtable discussion hosted by [Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization](#)



Acknowledgement

- This work was done as part of U.S. DOE grant # DE-FE0032004

Thank you!