



# EPRI Technology Innovation Water Conservation Program Overview

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NSF-EPRI Joint Workshop on Advancing Power Plant Water Conserving Cooling Technologies

ASME 2012 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition

Hilton America, Houston, Texas

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# Outline



- Overview of EPRI and Program
- Request for Information (RFI) (**Max \$500k for a three year project**)
  - 114 Proposal Summary
- Technologies under Development
- Next Steps

*Recordings about our Webcasts can be found [here](#) (at the right bottom).*

# TI Water Conservation Program Overview and Objective

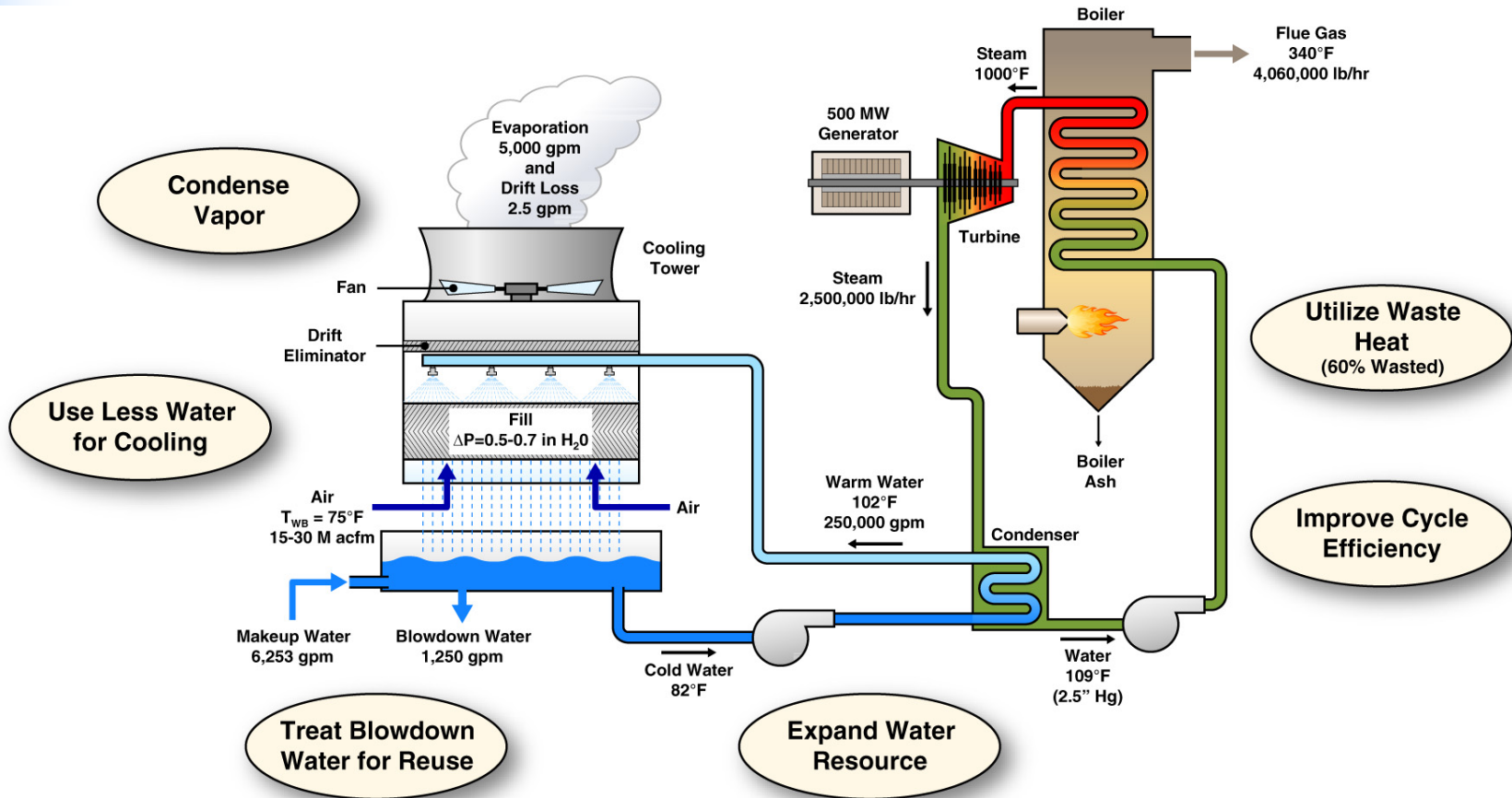
- Initiated in early 2011
- Funded by EPRI Office of Technology Innovation
- Collaborated by all EPRI Sectors (Environment, Nuclear, Generation, and Power Distribution Unit)
- Broadly distributed Request for Information (RFI) to solicit top technologies for development in Feb., 2011 and [June 2012](#)



## Objective

*Seek and develop “out of the box”, game changing, early stage, and high risk cooling and water treatment ideas and technologies with high potential for water consumption reduction.*

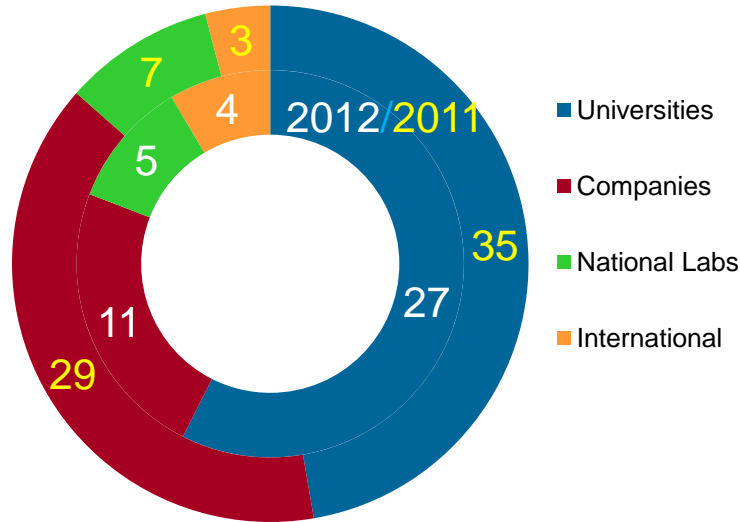
# Opportunities for Power Plant Fresh Water Use Reduction



**Innovation Priorities:** Advancing cooling technologies, and applying novel water treatment and waste heat concepts to improve efficiency and reduce water use

# Received 114 Proposals

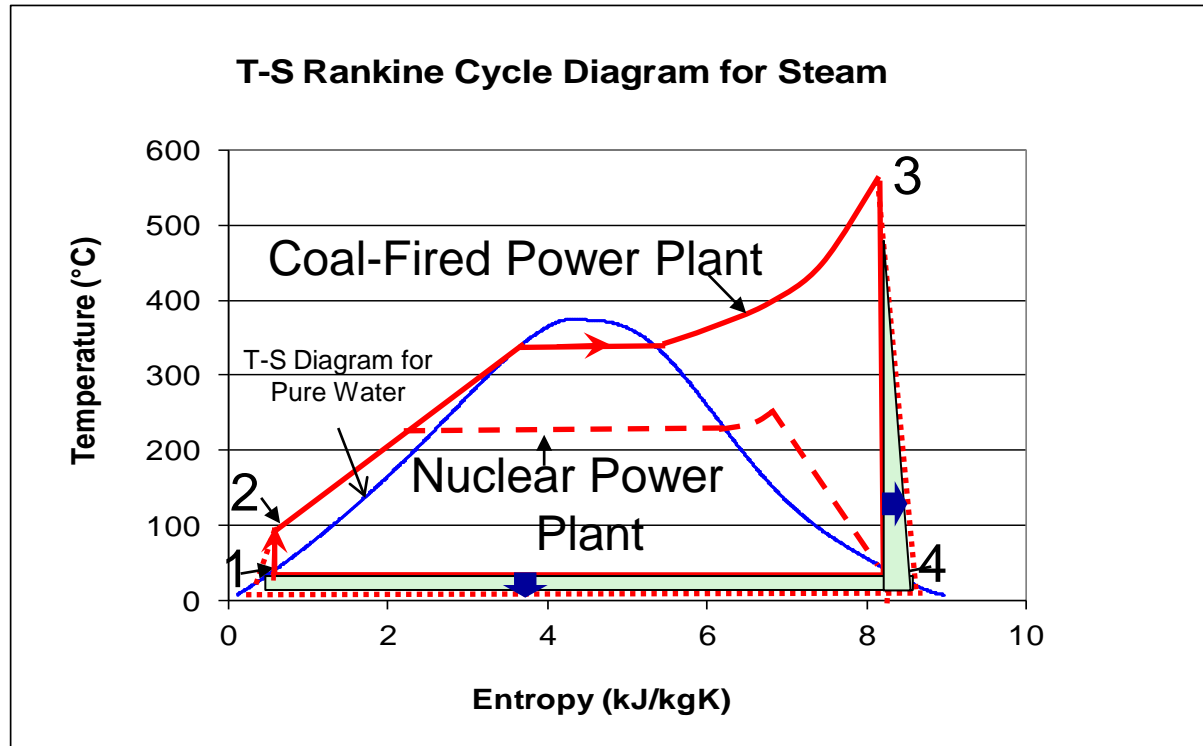
## Responding Organization Summary



- Five 2011 cooling proposals funded.
- Success rate of 1 out of 7 for 2011 cooling proposals.
- Many respondents unfamiliar with power industry.
- Funding four or more projects form 2012 collection

Technology Type	No. of 2011 Proposals	No. of 2012 Proposals	Total
<b>Cooling</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>58</b>
Air Cooled Condensers	1	2	3
Aquatic Life Protection	1	0	1
Cooling Tower	1	0	1
Energy Storage	2	1	3
Evaluation Study	1	0	1
Flue Gas Moisture	0	2	2
Green Chiller	3	4	7
Heat Transfer Enhancement	0	1	1
Hybrid	2	2	4
Other Condensers	1	0	1
Radiator Fields	1	2	3
Thermal Integration	5	2	7
Thermal Transport	1	0	1
Vapor Loss Reduction	1	4	5
Waste Heat Utilization	2	1	3
Water Cooled Condenser	6	2	8
Water Use Integration	2	0	2
Wet Cooling Tower	3	0	3
<b>Coating</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Water Treatment</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>56</b>
CO2 Capture	4	0	4
Scrubber Water	5	0	5
Water Treatment	6	3	9
Water Treatment- Bio	1	4	5
Water Treatment -FO	2	3	5
Water Treatment- Membrane	5	2	7
Water Treatment- Membrane Distillation	3	2	5
Water Treatment- MFC	1	1	2
Water Treatment- RO	8	2	10
Water Treatment- Thermal Desalination	3	1	4
<b>TOTAL PROPOSALS</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>114</b>

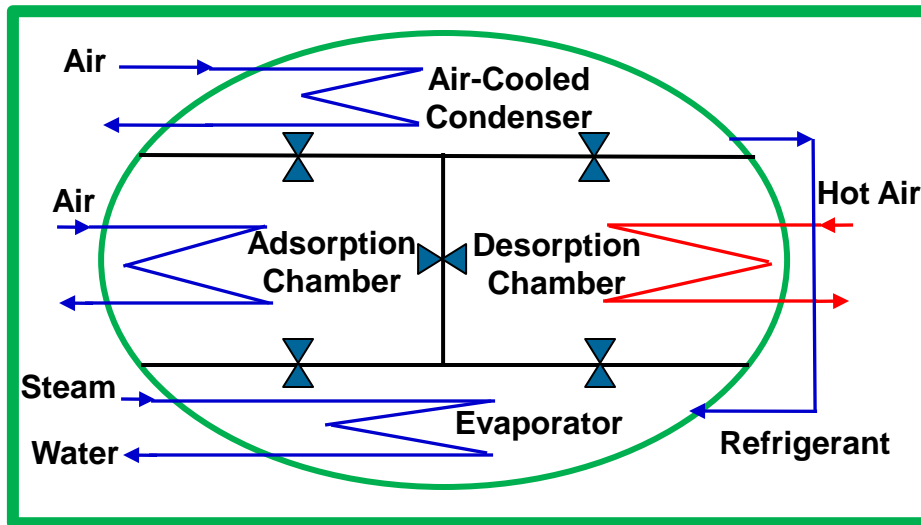
# Effect of Reducing Condensing Temperature on Steam Turbine Rankine Cycle Efficiency



**Potential for 5% (1<sup>st</sup> Order Estimate) more power production or \$11M more annual income (\$0.05/kWh) for a 500 MW power plant due to reduced steam condensing temperature from 50 °C to 35 °C.**

# Project 1: Waste Heat/Solar Driven Green Adsorption Chillers for Steam Condensation (Collaboration with Allcomp)

Schematic Illustration of a Typical Adsorption Chiller



## Key Potential Benefits

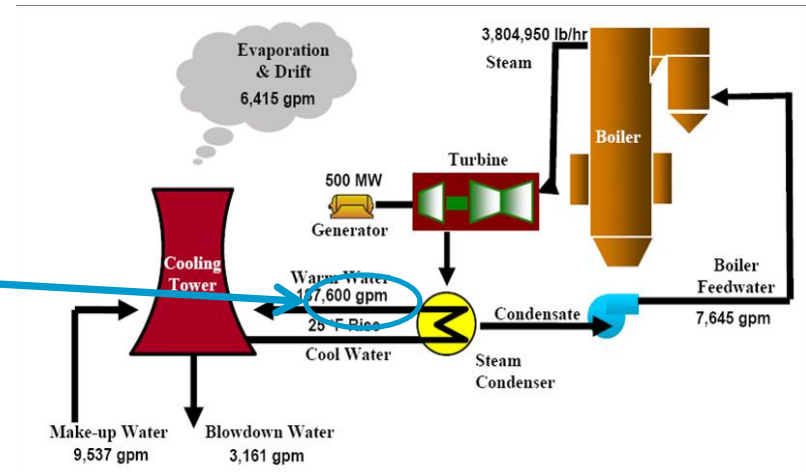
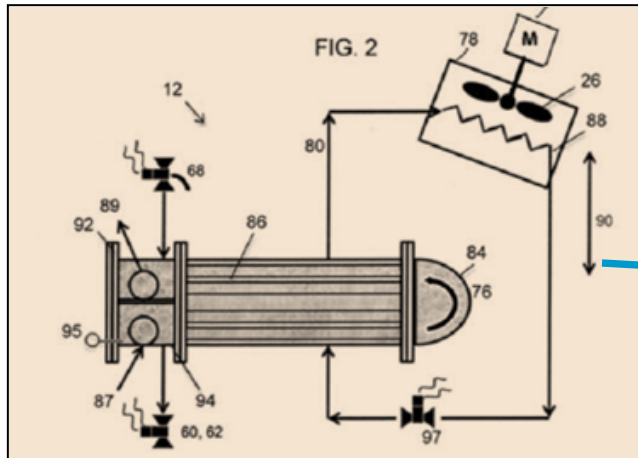
- Dry cooling system
  - **Near Zero** water use and consumption
- Reduced condensation temperature
  - As low as **35 °C**
  - Potential for annual power production increase by up to 5%
- Full power production even on the hottest days compared to air cooled condensers.

## Phase 1 Project Scope (EPRI Patent Pending)

- Explore best power plant system level approaches to utilize waste heat or solar heat for desorption
- Perform system integration energy and mass flow balance analysis for a 500 MW coal-fired power plant
- Perform technical and economic feasibility study



# Project 2: Thermosyphon Cooler Technology (Collaboration with Johnson Controls)



## Project Scope

- Perform a thorough feasibility evaluation of a hybrid, wet/dry heat rejection system comprising recently developed, patent pending, thermosyphon coolers (TSC).
- Make comparisons in multiple climatic locations, to standard cooling tower systems, all dry systems using ACC's, hybrid systems using parallel ACC's, and air coolers replacing the thermosyphon coolers.
- Determine the most effective means to configure and apply the thermosyphon coolers .

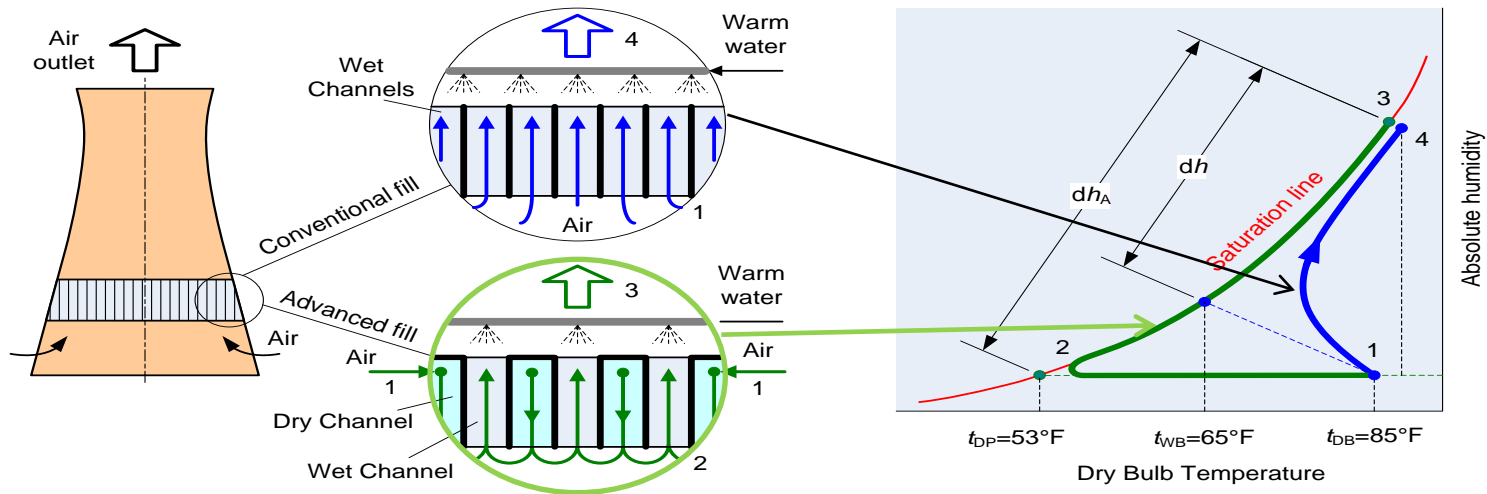
## Key Potential Benefits

- Potential annual water savings up to 75%
- Compared to ACC, full plant output is available on the hottest days
- Ease of retrofitting
- No increase in surface area exposed to primary steam
- Reduced operating concerns in sub freezing weather
- Broad application (hybrid, new, and existing cooling systems)





# Project 3 : Advanced M-Cycle Dew Point Cooling Tower Fill (Collaboration with Gas Technology Institute)



## Project Scope

- Develop an advanced fill
- Perform CFD and other types of energy, mass, and momentum balance modeling
- Evaluate performance and annual water savings for several typical climates using simulation models
- Perform prototype testing in lab cooling towers
- Perform technical and economic feasibility evaluation

## Key Potential Benefits

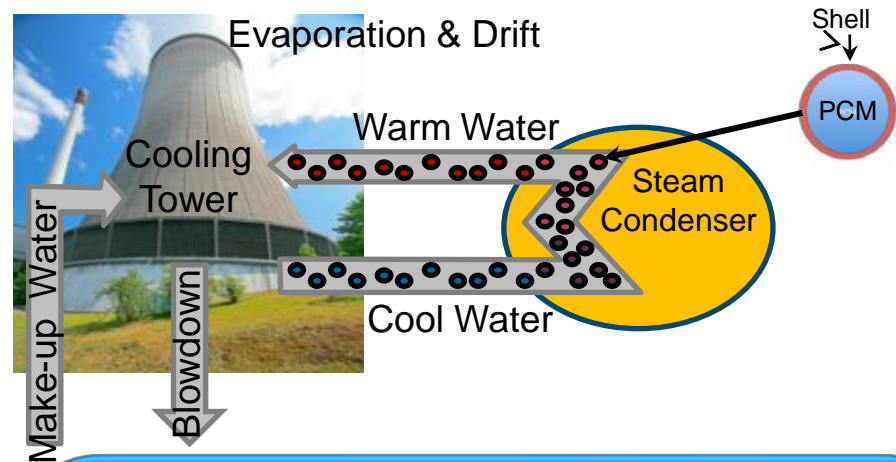
- Potential for less cooling water consumption by up to 20%
- Lower cooling tower exit water temperature resulting in increased power production
- Ease of retrofitting
- Broad applications

# Breakthrough Project: Heat Absorption Nanoparticles in Coolant (Collaboration with Argonne National Laboratory)

Phase Change Material (PCM) Core/Ceramic Shell  
Nano-particles added into the coolant.

## Project Scope

- Develop multi-functional nanoparticles with ceramic shells and phase change material cores
- Measure nano-fluid thermo-physical properties
- Perform prototype testing in scaled down water cooled condenser and cooling tower systems
- Assess potential environmental impacts due to nanoparticle loss to ambient air and water source.
- Perform technical and economic feasibility evaluation




## Key Potential Benefits

- Up to 20% less evaporative loss potential
- Less drift loss
- Enhanced thermo-physical properties of coolant
- Inexpensive materials
- Ease of retrofitting
- Broad applications (hybrid/new/existing cooling systems)

# EPRI Water Innovation Program: Summary and Future Plans

## Progress Since 2011 Program Initialization

- Received 114 proposals from Request for Information.
  - Started seven projects including three more projects on:
    - Thermoelectric Cooling and Waste Heat Recovery Technology (Purdue)
    - Near 100% Vapor Capturing Technology (UMD)
    - Emerging Heat Transfer Enhancement Technology Evaluation (UIUC)
- 

## Status/Plan for 2012

- To fund four or more projects on water treatment and cooling
- Publishing two to three reports
- Planning for possible 2013 joint solicitation with the National Science Foundation.

# Thank You!

Please feel free to contact us:

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