HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM is routed from the biomass-CHP boiler to the turbine.

TURBINE BLADES spin at nearly 5,290 revolutions per minute. Steam acting on the turbine blades creates mechanical energy in the **TURBINE**.

The mechanical energy output from the turbine drives the **SHAFT** that connects the turbine and the **GENERATOR**. As the shaft spins, it rotates coils within magnets inside the generator, converting mechanical energy to electricity.

The **GENERATOR** produces electricity at 13.8 kV, which is sent to a transformer in a substation at a nearby power plant to increase voltage to 115 kV, matching voltage on the transmission system (the grid). Some of the electricity is used for plant operations at various voltages (4160 and 480 volts) via **TRANSFORMERS**, switchgear, and circuit breakers in the plant.

- This production of electricity by the turbine-generator reduces the HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM to EXTRACTED STEAM, which is exported to a **HEAT EXCHANGER** to transfer the energy to the District Energy **HOT WATER SUPPLY**.
- Low-pressure steam that cannot be utilized for heating must be cooled and the heat released through cooling towers.



EXTRACTED STEAM 20 PSI **STEAM** 1250 PSI **TURBINE BLADES** (inside TURBINE unit)

CHP-turbine room





Biomass (WOOD CHIPS) moves through a series of conveyors that drops the wood chips down into five **METERING BINS**.

- The **METERING BINS** control the flow of **WOOD CHIPS** into the **BOILER**, to optimize combustion conditions. A small amount of **NATURAL GAS** is injected to help stabilize combustion.

The boiler walls are lined with pipes filled with water, which absorb the heat from the combustion and raise the temperature of the water to **HIGH-PRESSURE STEAM**. High-pressure steam traverses the **SUPERHEATER**, which prepares the steam to be sent to the **TURBINE**.

EXTRACTED STEAM captured from the electricity generation process is used to heat water for the District Energy HOT WATER SUPPLY.

The combustion of the **WOOD CHIPS** and **NATURAL** GAS creates combustion gases (EXHAUST GAS), which pass from the boiler through an **ELECTROSTATIC PRECIPITATOR**, which removes particulate before exhaust gas is released through the stack.

Ash remaining from the combustion is beneficially reused whenever possible, primarily for agriculture purposes.





Inside **BOILER** reaches 1750°F



wood-CHP boiler



- **NATURAL GAS** is injected into the boiler under pressure, where it is ignited. Natural gas is continually added to sustain the fire and temperature. The boilers primarily run on natural gas, with the option of **OIL** when natural gas is not readily available.
- The boiler walls are lined with pipes filled with water, which absorb the heat from the combustion and raise the temperature of the **FEEDWATER** to 150 psig **STEAM**. Four of the boilers export **STEAM**. Two of the boilers export **HOT WATER**.
- When steam is exported from a boiler, it uses a heat exchanger to transfer the energy to the District Energy **HOT WATER SUPPLY**. When hot water is exported, it can heat the hot water supply directly.
- Once heat is removed from the **STEAM** through the **HEAT EXCHANGER**, it is condensed to water which is returned to the **BOILER** as **FEEDWATER** and cycled back through the pipes in the boiler walls.





natural gas-oil boilers



To **45** truckloads **E 1,000 tons** of biomass wood chip fuel is delivered to the plant each day

- The **WOOD STORAGE SILOS** hold more than 600 tons of wood fuel, the amount the plant burns overnight.
- The **THERMAL STORAGE TANK** is 72 feet high by 80 feet in diameter and stores 2.5 million gallons of water. It is 1 of 2 tanks used in the system.
- The **WOOD DELIVERY BAY** allows 2 trucks to simultaneously unload. Delivery trailers are equipped with **MOVING FLOORS** for efficient unloading. A series of conveyor belts moves the wood fuel from the delivery bay to the storage silos.
- Wood **ASH** is removed from the system, trucked to other locations, and either used for agricultural land applications.
- **COOLING TOWERS** are used to reduce the heat of the steam to condense the steam to a liquid before releasing the heat to the atmosphere as **VAPOR**.



WOOD STORAGE SILOS THERMAL STORAGE TANK

WOOD DELIVERY BAY

Transport trucks have **MOVING FLOORS** for efficient • unloading of wood

delivery and storage area





- The **COMPRESSOR** takes **LOW-PRESSURE REFRIGERANT VAPOR** from the **EVAPORATOR** and pressurizes it, producing **HIGH-PRESSURE REFRIGERANT VAPOR** and heat.
- The heat from the **HIGH-PRESSURE REFRIGERANT VAPOR** is transferred to a separate water loop in the **CONDENSER** and **REJECTED HEAT** is released to the atmosphere by the **COOLING TOWER**.
- The high-pressure refrigerant is now cool and in liquid form. This liquid refrigerant is passed through the **EXPANSION VALVE** into the **EVAPORATOR** becoming a cold vapor.
- The low-pressure, cold, VAPOR REFRIGERANT is then used to cool the **RETURN WATER** coming back from customers at ~56°F to produce ≤42°F **CHILLED WATER SUPPLY** for customers to use to cool their buildings. Vapor refrigerant absorbs this heat and returns to the compressor to restart the chilling cycle.







