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**Course Objectives**

- Basic understanding of how electricity is produced and distributed
- Basic understanding of production and distribution options
- Overview of common approaches in higher education
- Class exercises - APPA University

**APPA Utilities**

**Electric Production & Distribution**

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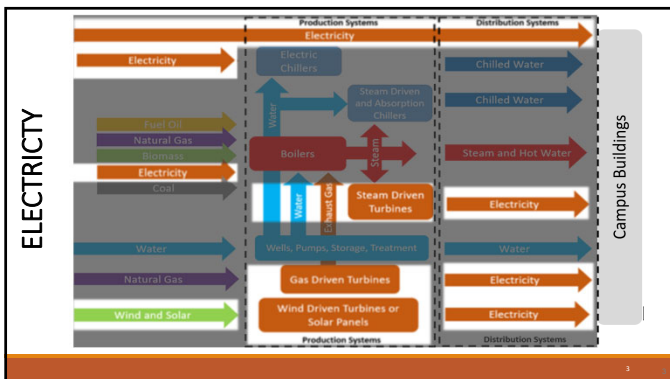
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**PHYSICAL PLANT**

**“Everything” Needs Electricity**

- Drinking water
- Chilled water
- Heating hot water
- Steam
- Building lighting and power
- Geothermal
- Sanitary sewer
- Storm sewer



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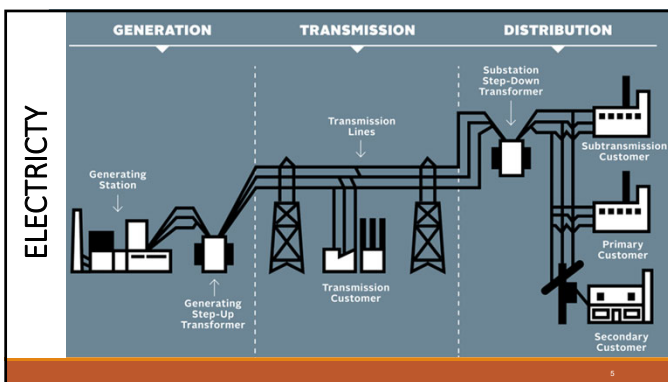
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**ELECTRIC PRODUCTION**

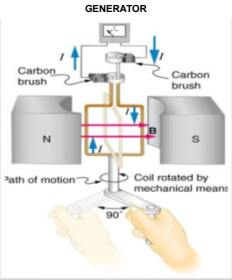
**It's "simple"**

**Turn copper inside a magnet\***

- Copper turning speed determines frequency

**How it is turned is up to you...**

- Resource availability
- Economics
- Sustainability goals



\* Exceptions (fuel cell & PV solar)

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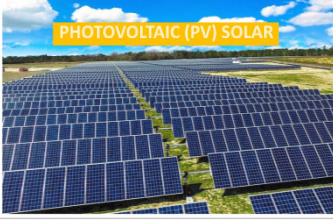
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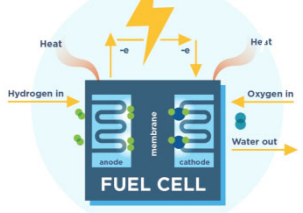
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PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) SOLAR



FUEL CELL

ELECTRIC PRODUCTION EXCEPTIONS

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TURNING THE GENERATOR

**Steam (~80% of power production)**

- Coal, natural gas, fuel oil, bio-fuel
- Nuclear

**Combustion Turbine**

- Natural gas
- Fuel oil
- Heat can be recovered to generate steam for use in a steam turbine

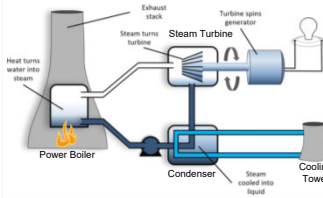
**Engine**

- Natural Gas
- Fuel oil (diesel)

**Water**

- River/dam
- Waves
- Pumped hydro

**Wind**



CONVENTIONAL THERMAL POWER PLANT

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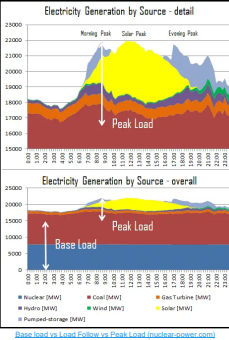
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GENERATING PLANTS



**Base Load Power Plant:**

- Runs 24/7/365
- Only turned off for service & maintenance, overhaul, & upgrades
- Demand Response is SLOW for most base load plants
- Examples: nuclear, conventional thermal, hydro-electric, geothermal

**Load Following (Peak Load) Power Plant:**

- Runs only during hours of peak load demand
- Demand Response is FAST for most peaking plants
- Examples: gas turbines, engines, and pumped storage

**Non-Load Following Power Generation:**

- Produces only as much as the energy resource is available
- NO Demand Response – it produces what it can when it can
- Examples: solar PV and wind turbines

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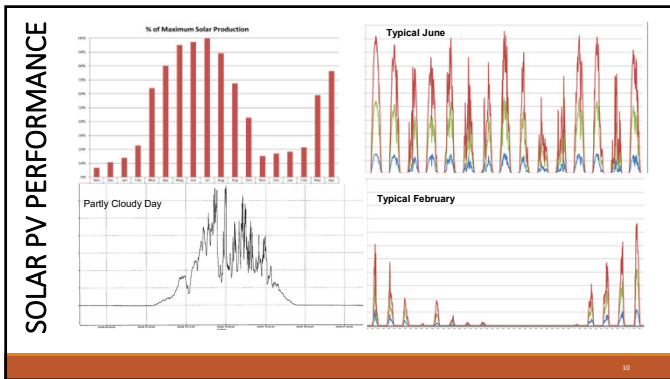
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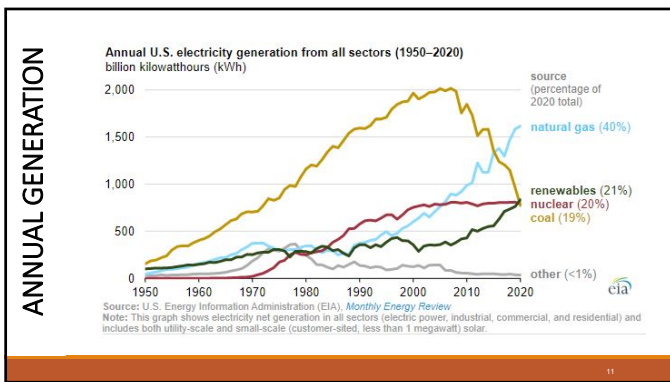
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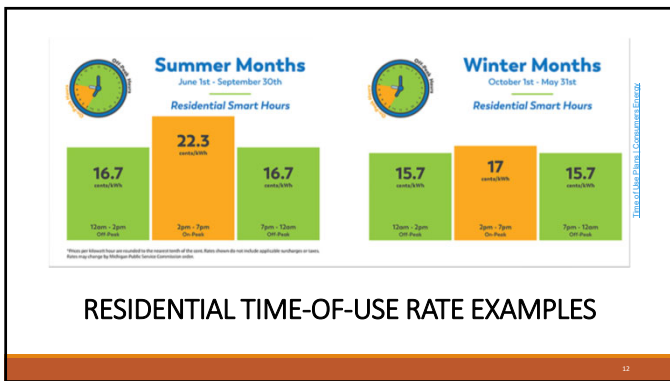
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 <p><b>Business Standard</b></p> <p>Pay the same rate all day.</p> <p><a href="#">About Business Standard</a></p>	 <p><b>Business Demand</b></p> <p>Pay a lower rate if your power use is steady.</p> <p><a href="#">About Business Demand</a></p>	 <p><b>Time of Use</b></p> <p>Pay less for power when demand is lower.</p> <p><a href="#">About Time of Use</a></p>	 <p><b>High Energy Use</b></p> <p>Special plans for energy demands of over 2,400 volts.</p> <p><a href="#">About High Use</a></p>	<p><b>DEMAND BASED RATES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy charge – same all the time</li> <li>Delivery charge</li> <li>Demand charge – monthly surcharge based on highest energy use over a 15-minute period</li> <li>Other fees</li> </ul> <p><b>TIME-OF-USE BASED RATES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy charge - peak and off-peak rates</li> <li>Delivery charge</li> <li>Other fees</li> </ul> <p><b>HIGH ENERGY USE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May include peak and off-peak energy charges PLUS demand AND capacity charges</li> </ul>
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[What is The Best Plan For Your Business? | Consumers Energy](#)

**BUSINESS RATE EXAMPLES**

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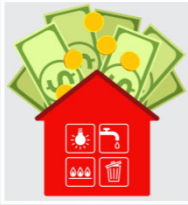
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**ELECTRIC UTILITY RATES**

**Cost for power consumed (consumption)**

**Power is measured in Watts**  
 1,000 Watts (W) = 1 kiloWatt (kW)

**Energy Used = Power x Time**  
 kiloWatt hours (kWh) = Power (kW) x Time (hours)




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**ELECTRIC DRYER EXAMPLE**

- Power consumption = 2.5 kW
- Run time = 3 hours/day
- Rate = \$0.12 per kWh

Energy Used = 2.5 kW x 3 hours = 7.5 kWh

Cost = 7.5 kWh x \$0.12/kWh = \$0.90




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**POWER PURCHASE OPTION**

### Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

- Developer investment (DBOOM) on university property
- University purchases net power produced a fixed rate (\$/kWh) and receives Renewable Energy Credits (REC)
- Agreement durations 20 – 35 years (typ)
- Additional things to consider:
  - Climate
  - Parking lot usage cases
  - Production & microgrid stability risk
  - Interconnection cost and risk
  - FERC registration and “sale for resale” prohibition
  - Buy-out clauses
  - End of agreement clauses



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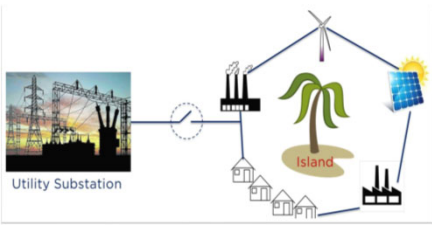
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### SELF-GENERATION – INCREASED RELIABILITY & RESILIENCY



- Generation capacity vs. campus demand
- N+1 redundancy
- Black-start capability
- Ability to “island” from local utility grid

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**CAMPUS UTILITY RATES**

### Not just one way...

- Cost based accounting
- Enterprise model or not...
- Fees or not...
- Capital depreciation or not...
- Debt interest or not...
- Where does the distribution system stop?
- Special rates...grants may dictate...
- Rates for energy conservation projects...



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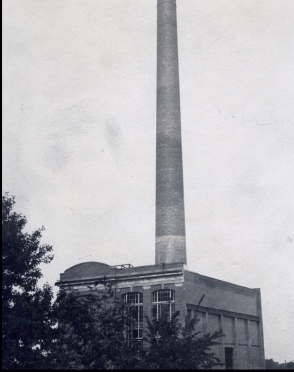
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### APPA University Plant

#### Things to Consider

- **University Values & Expectations**
  - Sustainability
  - Academic vs. Research
  - Reliability vs. Resiliency
- **Location**
  - Heating and cooling needs
  - Energy resource availability
- **Generation**
  - Technology
  - Fuel/energy resource availability & cost
- **Return On Investment (ROI)**

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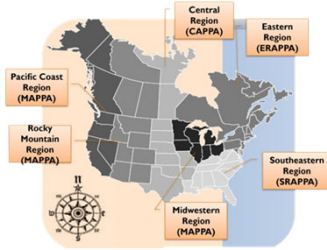
### CLASS EXERCISE

**Assumptions:**

- New university/site
- Self-generate
- In/adjacent to major city
- Positive ROI

**10-minute discussion → report out:**

- Fuel / energy resource to be used
- Generation type and capacity
- Why



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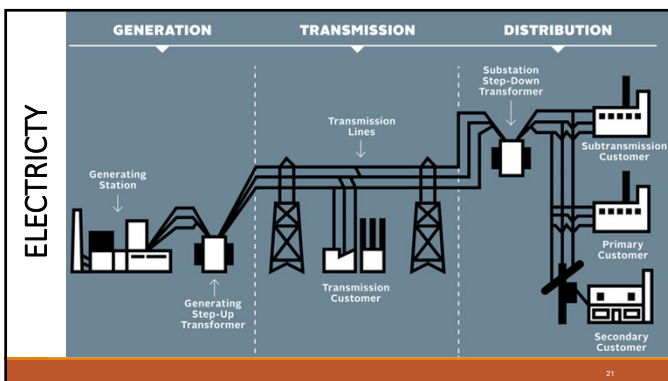
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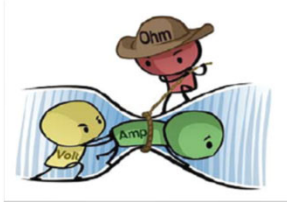
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**ELECTRICITY EXPLAINED**



**Voltage (Volts)**  
Difference in charge between two points (pressure in the circuit)

**Current (Amps)**  
Rate at which the charge is flowing (like flow rate)

**Resistance (Ohms)**  
The material's tendency to resist the flow of charge (like pipe size or friction)

Power (Watts) = Voltage (V) x Current (Amps)  
Voltage (V) = Current (Amps) x Resistance (Ohm)

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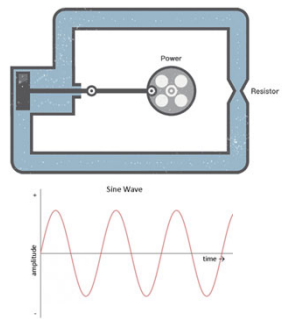
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**AC CURRENT EXPLAINED**

Alternating Current: The Water Analogy



**AC = Alternating Current**

- Current reaches a peak and changes direction (sine wave)
- Transmits electric efficiently over long distances
- AC voltage can be easily stepped up for longer distance transmission, then stepped down for building use
- Examples: turbine generators, inverters, transmission & distribution, buildings, industrial

[Alternating Current \(AC\) vs. Direct Current \(DC\) - SparkFun Learn](#)

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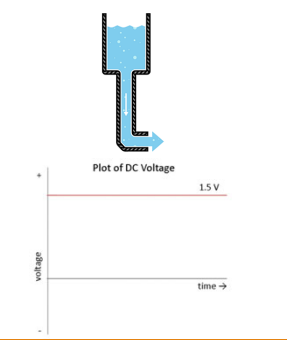
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**DC CURRENT EXPLAINED**



**DC = Direct Current**

- DC is constant and flows in one direction, from negative to positive
- Transmits electric over short distances
- DC is more stable and reliable for sensitive devices and power storage
- Examples: batteries, DC generators. Solar PV cells, telecom, electronics

[Alternating Current \(AC\) vs. Direct Current \(DC\) - SparkFun Learn](#)

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**AC / DC CONVERSION**



**Inverter** – converts DC to AC



**Rectifier** – converts AC to DC

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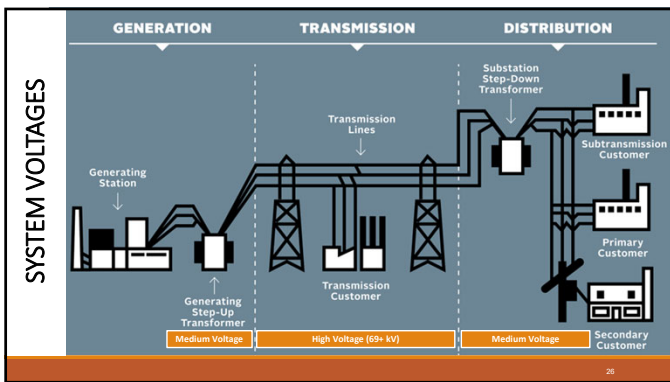
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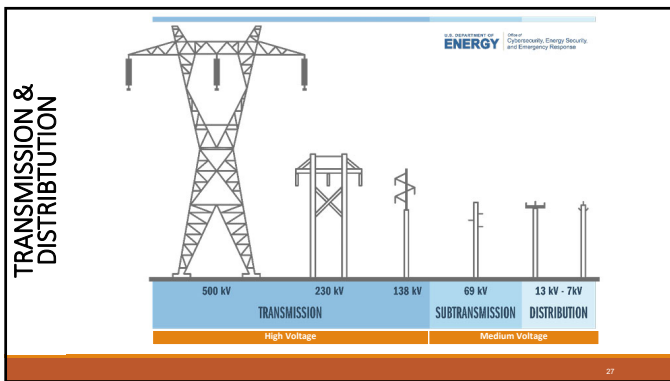
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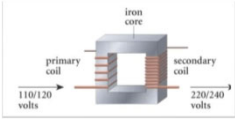
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## TRANSFORMERS

- Changes voltage and current
- Step-up Transformer increases voltage, but lowers current
- Step-down Transformer decreases voltage, but raises current
- **Why is this necessary?**  
Current produces heat (losses)



Stepping up voltage (138kV+) for long distance transmission greatly improves efficiency by minimizing heat losses and therefore cost

Voltage can then be stepped down to safe usage levels (120/240V) close to the point of use

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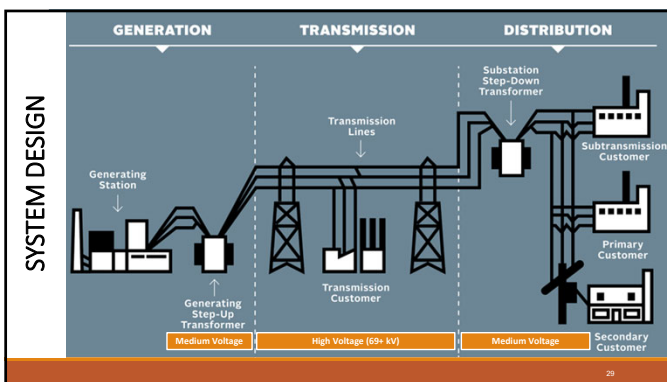
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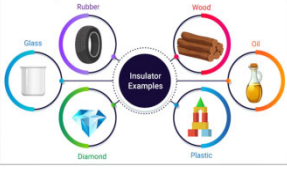
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## ELECTRICAL CONDUCTION



**Electrical Conductor Examples**



**Insulator Examples**

**Aluminum**

- 60% as conductive as copper
- Less expensive (more abundant)
- 33% lighter than copper
- Thermally reactive (cold creep)

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### Overhead Transmission & Distribution




- Significant cost advantage over underground installations
- Longer life
- Faster fault finding and repair
- More readily withstand overloads

### Underground Distribution



Duct Bank



Direct Buried

- Aesthetics
- Safety – less chance for public contact
- Significantly fewer service interruptions
- No tree trimming needed
- Less voltage drop

OVERHEAD VS. UNDERGROUND CABLES

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CAMPUS DISTRIBUTION

### Distribution: Radial vs. Loop Topology

**Radial**



**Loop**



**Radial:** One feeder line from generation to each load.

- Simple, lower cost, but inflexible in the event of a line fault
- No way to divert power through other feeders to keep power on

**Loop:** Multiple feeder lines, allowing power to flow to load from either direction

- Managed via switchgear (breakers, switches, etc) to allow or block the flow

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
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ELECTRIC RELIABILITY



**Service Interruption –**

- An event that results in zero voltage at the customer load
- Also known as power outage



**Power Quality –**

- Power delivered to the customer within a specified voltage range above required minimum current

*Power Quality events are not considered to be Service Interruptions as defined by IEEE*

How do you know if you have experienced a power quality event?

What are the potential impacts of a power quality event?

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**BUILDING ELECTRICITY**

**Emergency generators** supply power for Building Code life safety systems such as:

- Egress lighting
- Fire alarm systems
- Smoke evacuation
- Elevators
- Broadband Utility and Telephone Utility Rooms
- Communication and Fiber rooms
- Central Control system cabinets

**Standby generators** supply power for user defined needs beyond building code life safety. For example:

- Critical lab equipment such as ultra-lows/freezers
- Critical lab exhaust fans

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**BUILDING ELECTRIC OUTAGES**

- Outage identified
- Isolate circuits (using loop or redundancy to maintain power)
- Communicate if power lost
- Diagnose issue
- Repair and test
- Restore power
- After-action review
- Communicate / notify



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**APPA University  
Electric Distribution**

**Things to Consider**

- University Values & Expectations
  - Reliability vs. Resiliency
  - Aesthetics
- Return On Investment (ROI)



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### APPA University Electric Distribution

**Things to Consider**

- University Values & Expectations
  - Reliability vs. Resiliency
  - Aesthetics
- Return On Investment (ROI)

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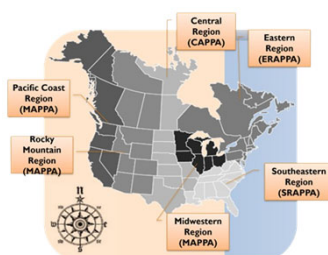
**CLASS EXERCISE**

**Assumptions:**

- New university/site
- Academic and research
- Self- generate
- In/adjacent to major city
- Positive ROI

**10-minute discussion → report out:**

- Major features of electrical distribution system design
- Reliability and resiliency design features
- Why



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- Sign-in sheet
- Evaluation form

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