



# Hidden Treasure

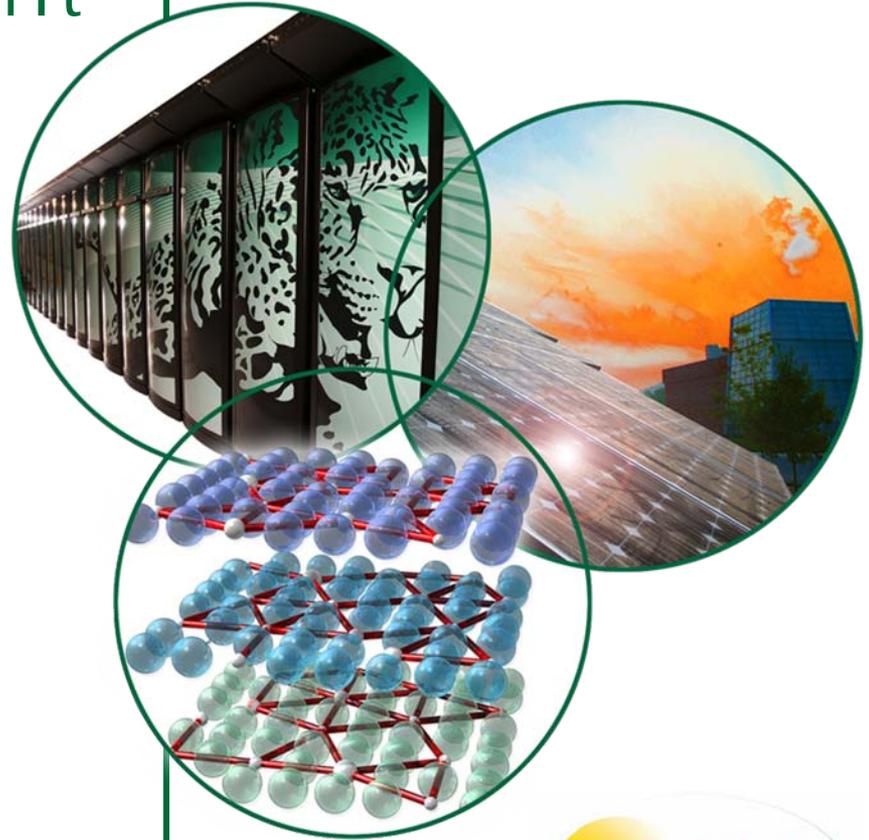
## Potential Benefits of Residential GSHP Retrofit

Xiaobing Liu, Ph.D., CGD, LEED AP

ORNL Building Technologies  
Research & Integration Center

for

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
March 21, 2013



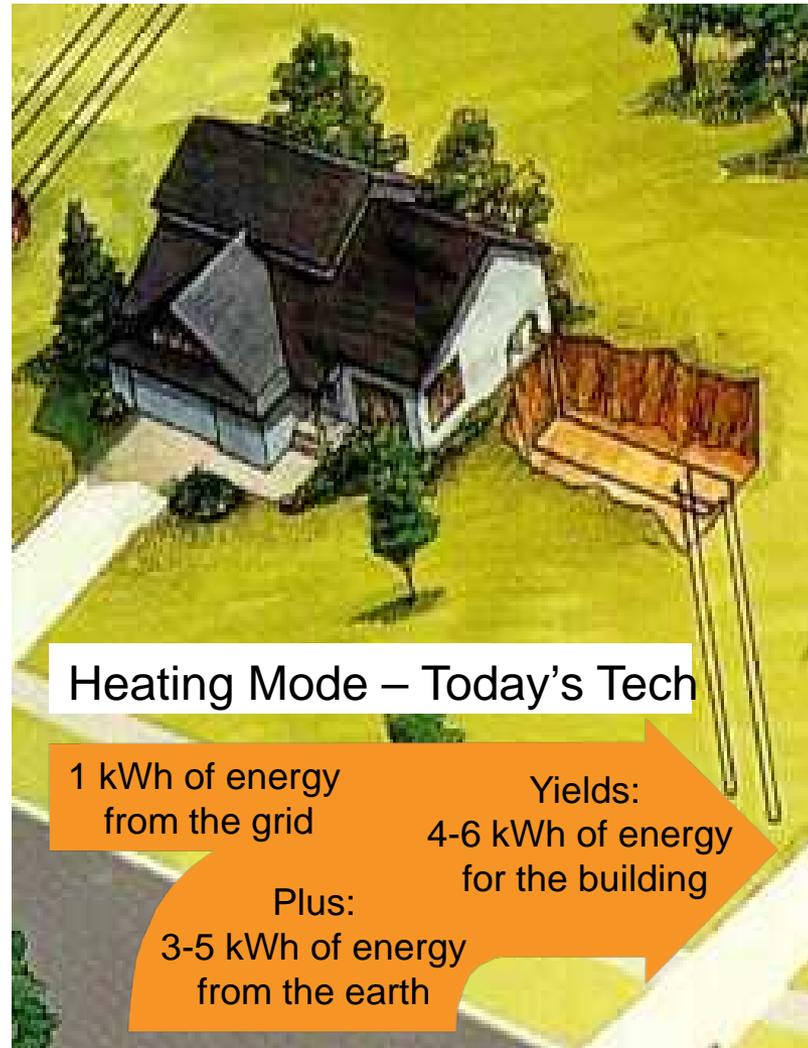


# Agenda

- **Background**
- **Assessment methodology**
- **Results**
  - **National assessment**
  - **12 GW goal of CA: a different solution**
- **Actions to Realize the Potential**
- **Conclusions**

# Characteristics of GSHP

- Use **renewable** low-grade **energy** in
  - Earth, ground water, river, etc.
- Move heat at **high energy efficiency**
  - With 4-6 COP today
- **Reduce summer peak electrical demand and improve load factor**
- Labor intensive installation (**create jobs**)
- Widely applicable
  - New
  - Retrofit
  - Commercial and residential





# Largest Potential Market for GSHP: Single-family Homes

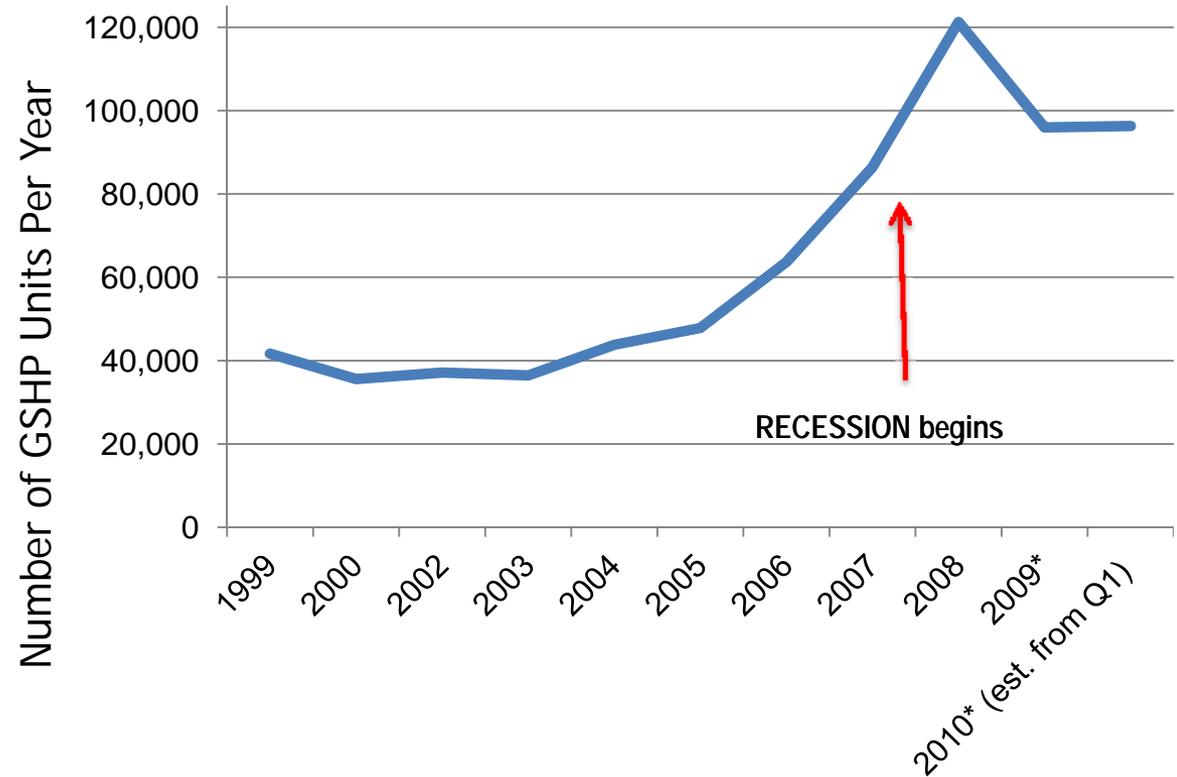
86.1 million single-family homes (SFH) in U.S. (Census 2008)

- On average, 73% of the energy consumed in SFH is for space conditioning and WH (DOE 2009)
- Many of existing conventional space conditioning and WH equipments in SFH are approaching the end of their service life and thus need to be replaced
- Many SFHs have adequate space and accessibility for installing ground heat exchanger



# Market Status of GSHP in U.S.

- Approximately 1 million GSHP units have been installed in the U.S.
- Less than 1% existing SFHs in the US are using GSHP
- Shipments of GSHP units grew rapidly before the recession and around 100,000 GSHP units were shipped in 2009



(Source: Tina Kaarsberg at DOE)



# Rationale for Assessing National Benefits of Residential GSHP Retrofits

- Increase awareness of public, especially the policy makers, about the potential benefits of GSHP retrofit in residential buildings:
  - Savings in primary energy
  - Reduced carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions
  - Reduced summer electrical peak demand
  - Savings in consumer energy expenditures
- Inform potential investors about the economics of residential GSHP retrofits
- Facilitate the development of roadmap for GSHP industry



# Assessment Methodology

- Based on energy consumption data of existing residential space-heating, space-cooling, and water-heating (SH–SC–WH) systems obtained from Residential Energy Consumption Survey (EIA 2005)
- Determine relative differences in energy consumption between existing residential SH–SC–WH systems and a state-of-the-art GSHP system
- Account for various climate and geological conditions, energy prices, as well as source energy factors and emissions factors for electricity and fossil fuels

$$\text{Energy saving potential} = \sum_{\text{All existing SH-SC-WH systems}} \left[ \text{Total energy consumption of a particular existing SH-SC-WH system} \right] \times \left[ \text{Percentage of energy saved by GSHP system} \right]$$



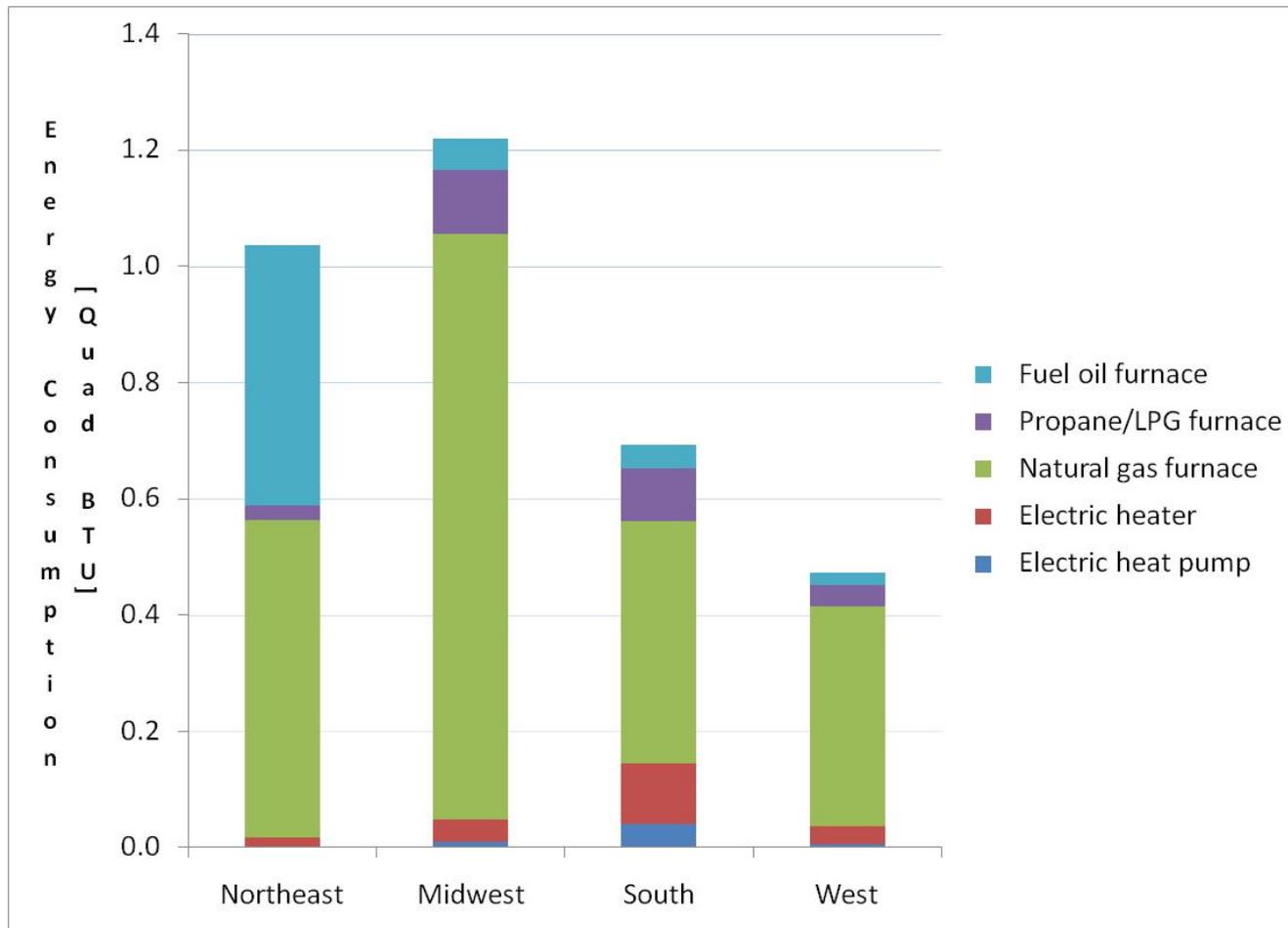
# Types and Efficiencies of Existing SH-SC-WH Systems in U.S. SFHs

<b>Energy services</b>	<b>Existing systems and equipment</b>	<b>Rated efficiencies</b>
<b>Space heating</b>	<b>ASHP</b>	<b>3.2 COP</b>
	<b>Electric heater</b>	<b>100 EF</b>
	<b>Natural gas-fired furnace/boiler</b>	<b>80 AFUE</b>
	<b>Propane- or LPG-fired furnace/boiler</b>	<b>80 AFUE</b>
	<b>Heating oil-fired furnace/boiler</b>	<b>80 AFUE</b>
<b>Space cooling</b>	<b>CAC/ASHP</b>	<b>10 SEER</b>
	<b>RAC</b>	<b>7.7 SEER</b>
	<b>Combination of CAC and RAC</b>	<b>7.7–10 SEER</b>
<b>Water heating</b>	<b>Electric heater</b>	<b>88 EF</b>
	<b>Natural gas heater</b>	<b>58 EF</b>
	<b>Propane or LPG heater</b>	<b>58 EF</b>
	<b>Heating oil heater</b>	<b>58 EF</b>

(EIA 2000; DOE 2005)



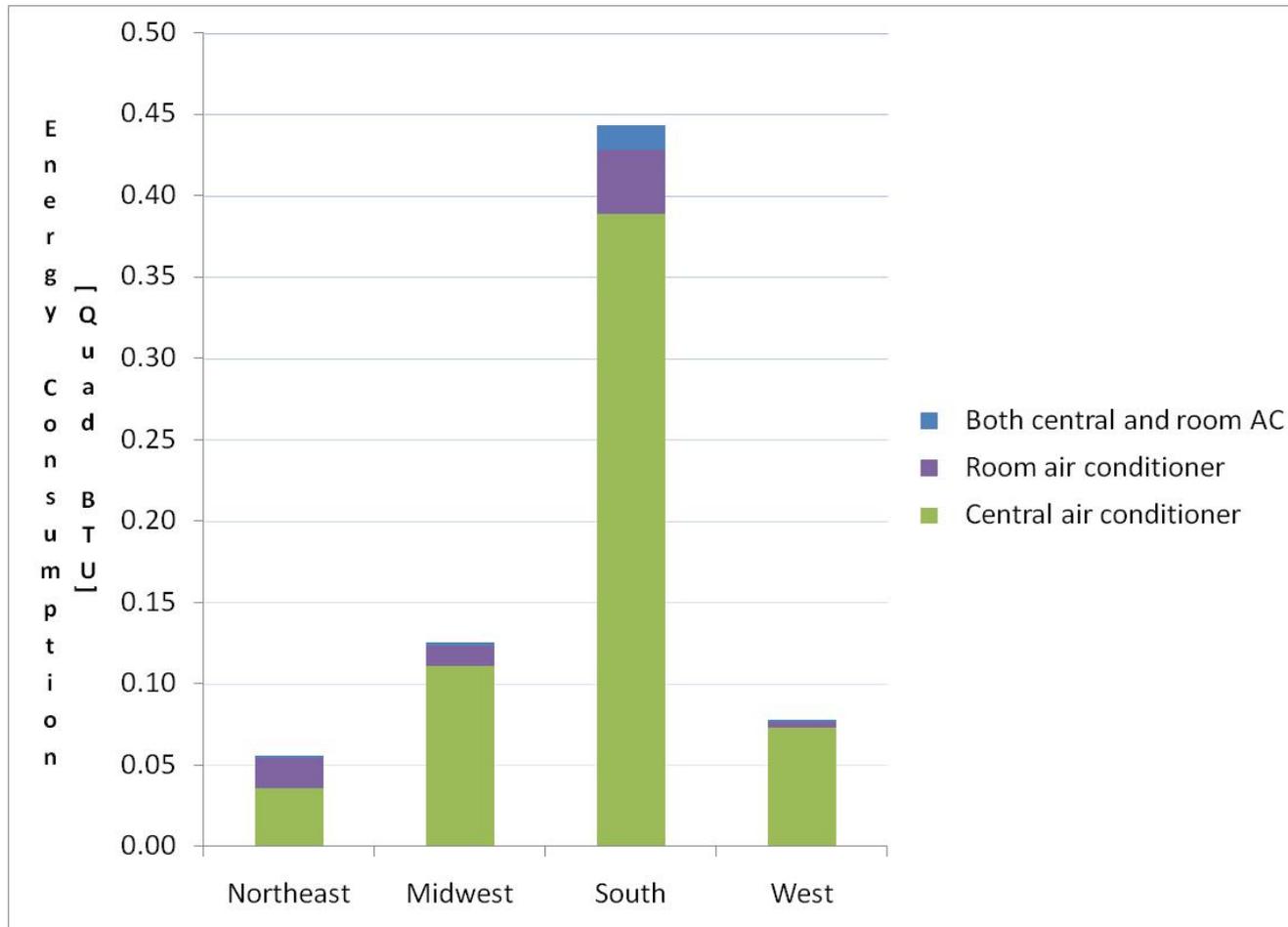
# Energy Consumption of Existing Space Heating Systems by Census Region



Obtained from 2005 RECS Public Use Microdata Files



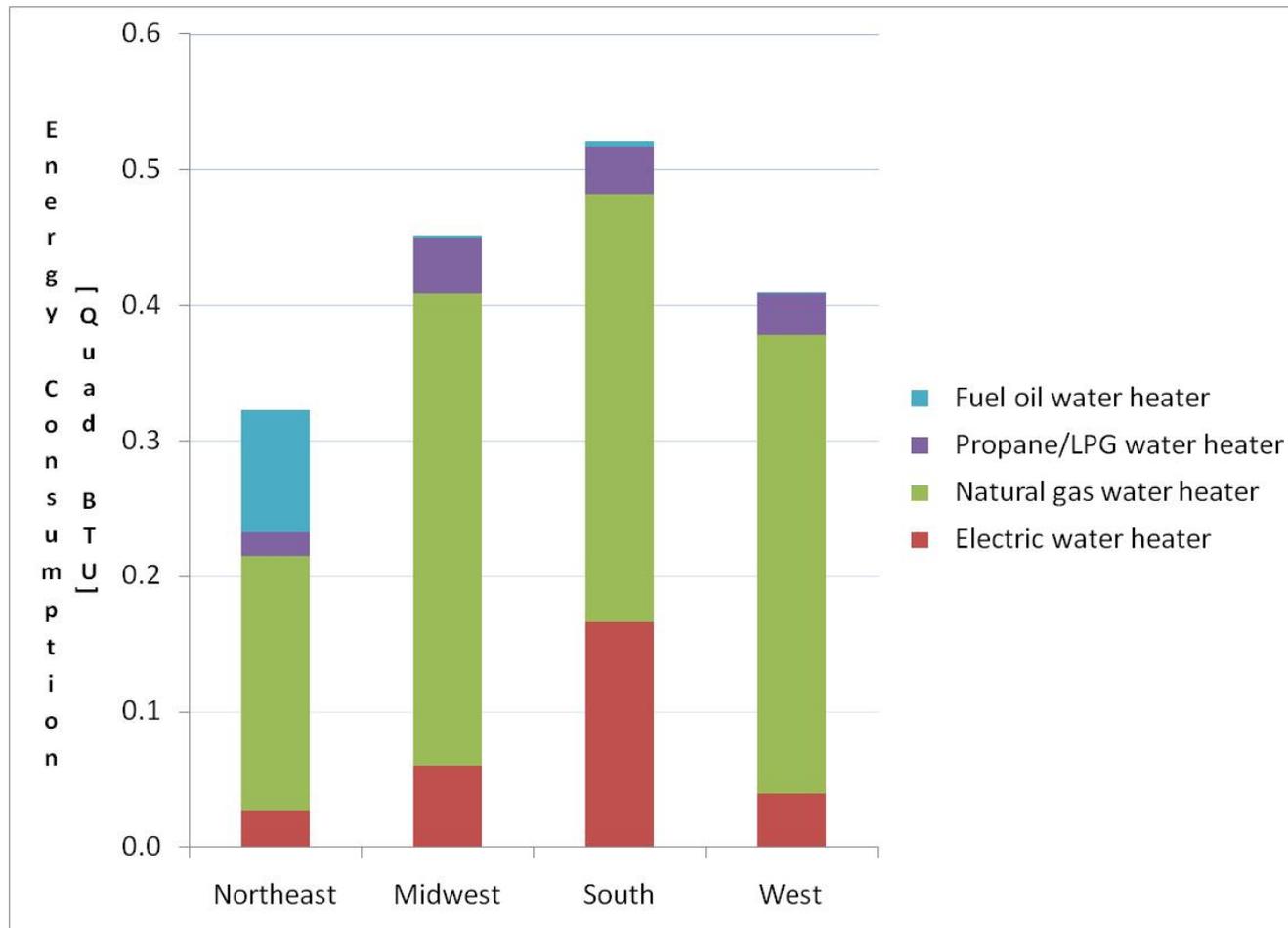
# Energy Consumption of Existing Space Cooling Systems by Census Region



Obtained from 2005 RECS Public Use Microdata Files



# Energy Consumption of Existing Water Heating Systems by Census Region

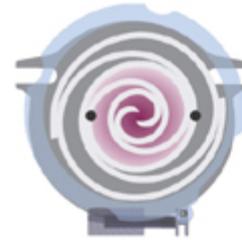


Obtained from 2005 RECS Public Use Microdata Files

# State-of-the-Art GSHP System

- Packaged water-to-air GSHP unit with two-stage scroll compressor and ECM fan
  - Cooling: 18.2 EER (full load) & 27 EER (part load)
  - Heating: 4.0 COP (full load) & 4.5 COP (part load)
- Vertical closed-loop ground heat exchanger (maintaining 30°F–95°F EFT to GSHP unit)
- Storage-type electric water heater assisted with the desuperheater of GSHP unit
- Highly energy-efficient circulation pump

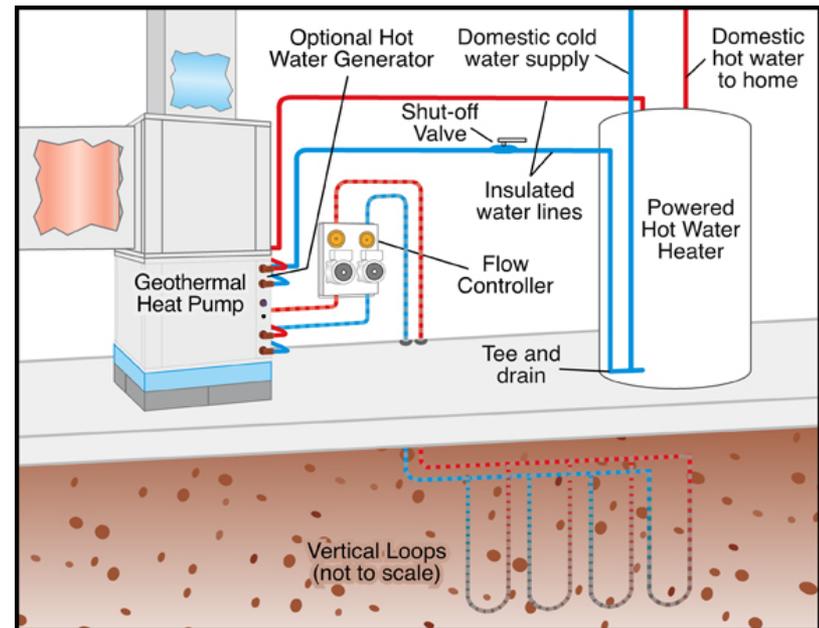
## Two-stage scroll compressor



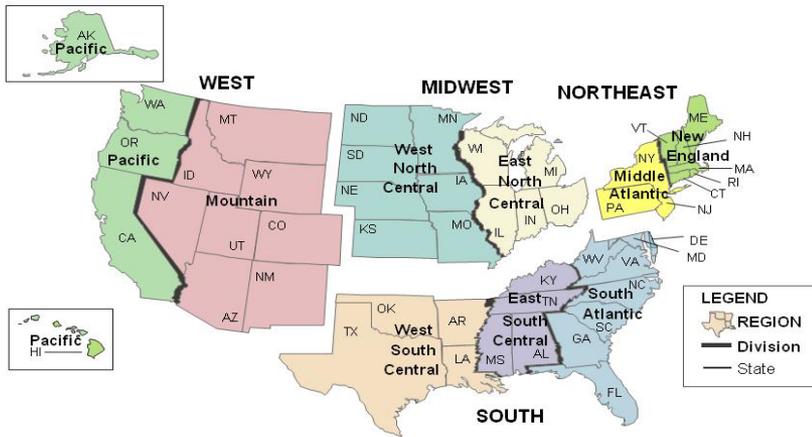
67% Capacity  
@ part load



100% Capacity  
@ full load

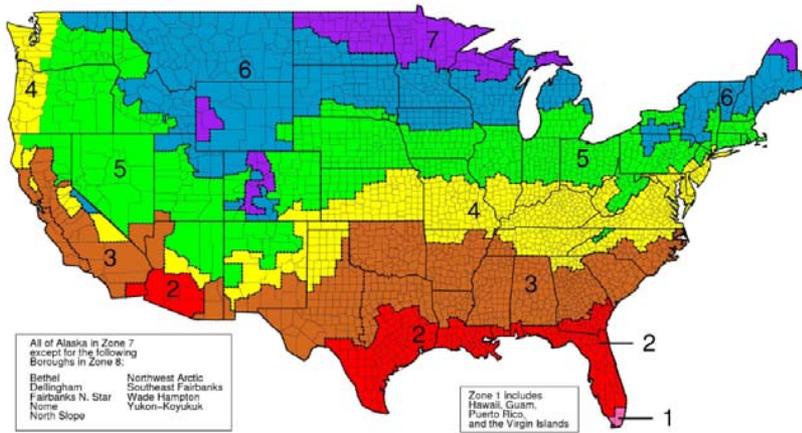


# Various Climate and Geology Conditions



U.S. census regions and divisions

- Select 14 cities to represent various major climate zones within each census region
- Use weather data and undisturbed ground temperature of each representative city
- Assume typical ground thermal conductivity for all cities



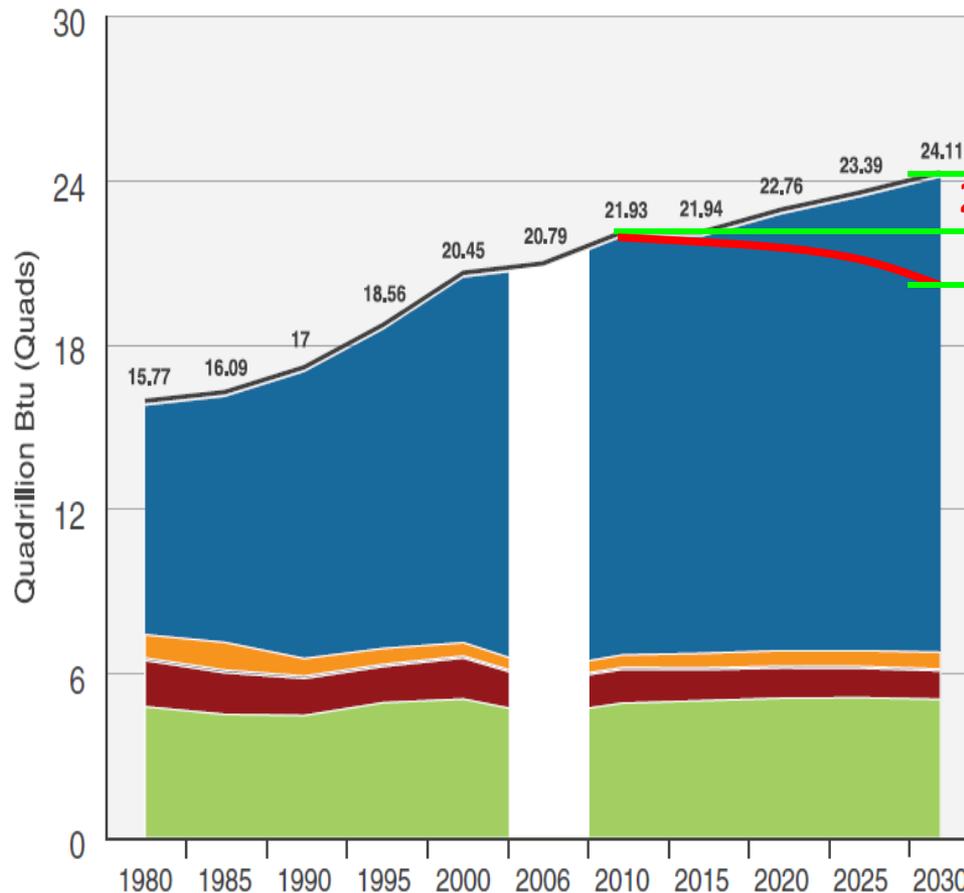
2004 IECC climate zones of the U.S.



Ground or groundwater temperatures in the U.S.

# Potential Energy Savings from Ground Source Heat Pump (GSHP) Systems

U.S. Residential primary energy consumption by year and fuel type (DOE 2009)



Predicted increase of primary energy consumption if “business as usual”

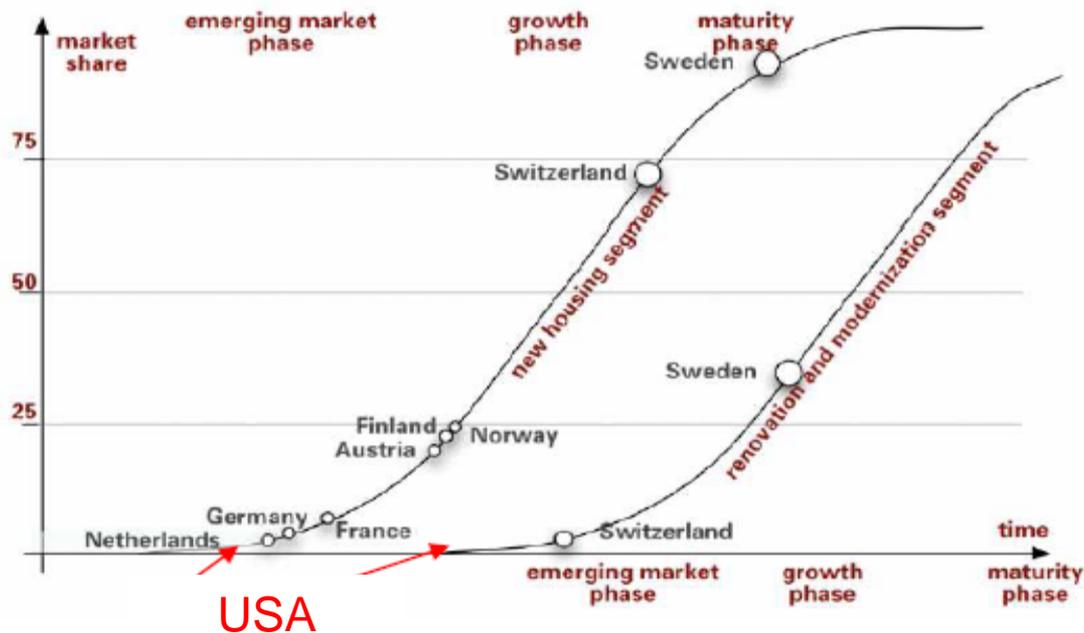
2.2 quad Btu

4.2 quad Btu

Maximum technical potential of the primary energy savings achievable from retrofitting existing homes with state-of-the-art GSHP systems

# Annual National Benefits: at Various Market Penetration Rates

Estimated national benefits	Market penetration rate of GHP retrofit				
	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Primary energy savings [quad BTU]	0.8	1.7	2.5	3.3	4.2
Percentage savings	9.0%	18.0%	27.1%	36.1%	45.1%
CO2 emissions reduction [MM ton]	54.3	108.7	163.0	217.3	271.7
Percentage savings	9.1%	18.1%	27.2%	36.2%	45.3%
Summer peak electrical demand reduction [GW]	43.2	86.4	129.5	172.7	215.9
Percentage savings	11.2%	22.4%	33.6%	44.9%	56.1%
Energy expenditures savings [Billion \$]	10.4	20.9	31.3	41.7	52.2
Percentage savings	9.6%	19.3%	28.9%	38.5%	48.1%





# 12 GW: A Different Solution

How many GSHP-retrofitted homes can avoid the same amount of primary energy consumption as generating 12 GW electricity with solar power?

## Assumptions

- A solar energy system output in a day is equivalent to full-load hours: 5 hr/day
- Shading correction factor: 0.8
- Total delivered efficiency: 0.78
- Conversion factor for electricity to source energy: 3.365
- Primary energy savings from GSHP retrofit: 530 Therms per average home per year
- Total number of households in CA: 13 million

## Conclusion

- 2.9 million homes (23% market penetration)



# Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Report for the Residential Ground Source Heat Pump Program

Prepared by Robert Mowris & Associates for Redding Electric

Findings from this study indicate the GSHP units provide advantages for all participants.

- For the utility, the GSHP reduces peak demand in summer by an average of 2.1 kW per unit and shifts summer cooling loads to winter increasing annual electricity use by 1,355 kWh per year (roughly 10 percent).
- For the customer, the GSHP reduces annual energy bills for space conditioning by 48 percent saving \$639 ± \$185 per year.
- For society, the GSHP mitigates global warming by reducing carbon dioxide emissions for space conditioning by 44 percent, saving 59 million British thermal units (MMBtu) per year of source energy per GSHP.

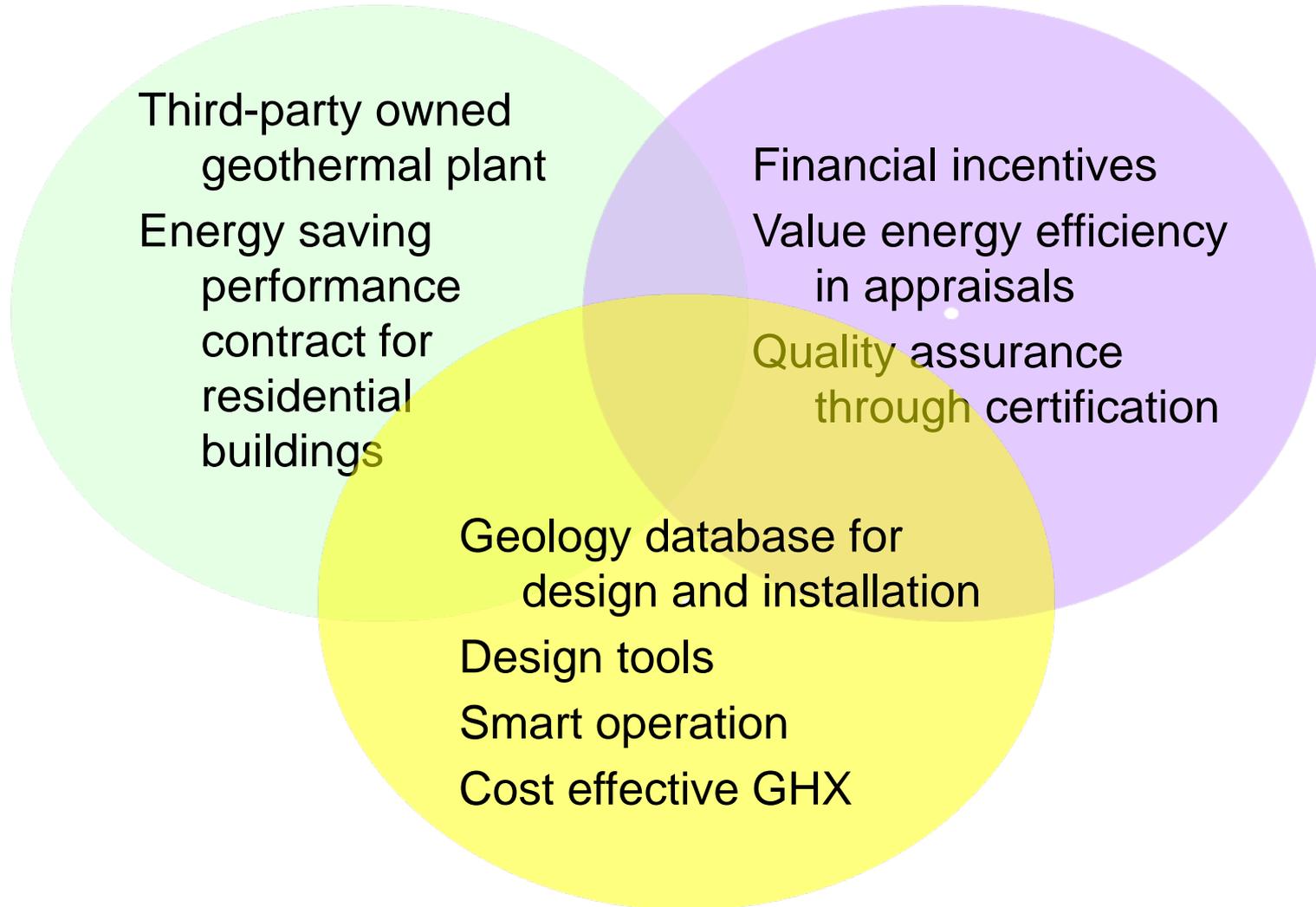
Note: Content added by CaliforniaGeo

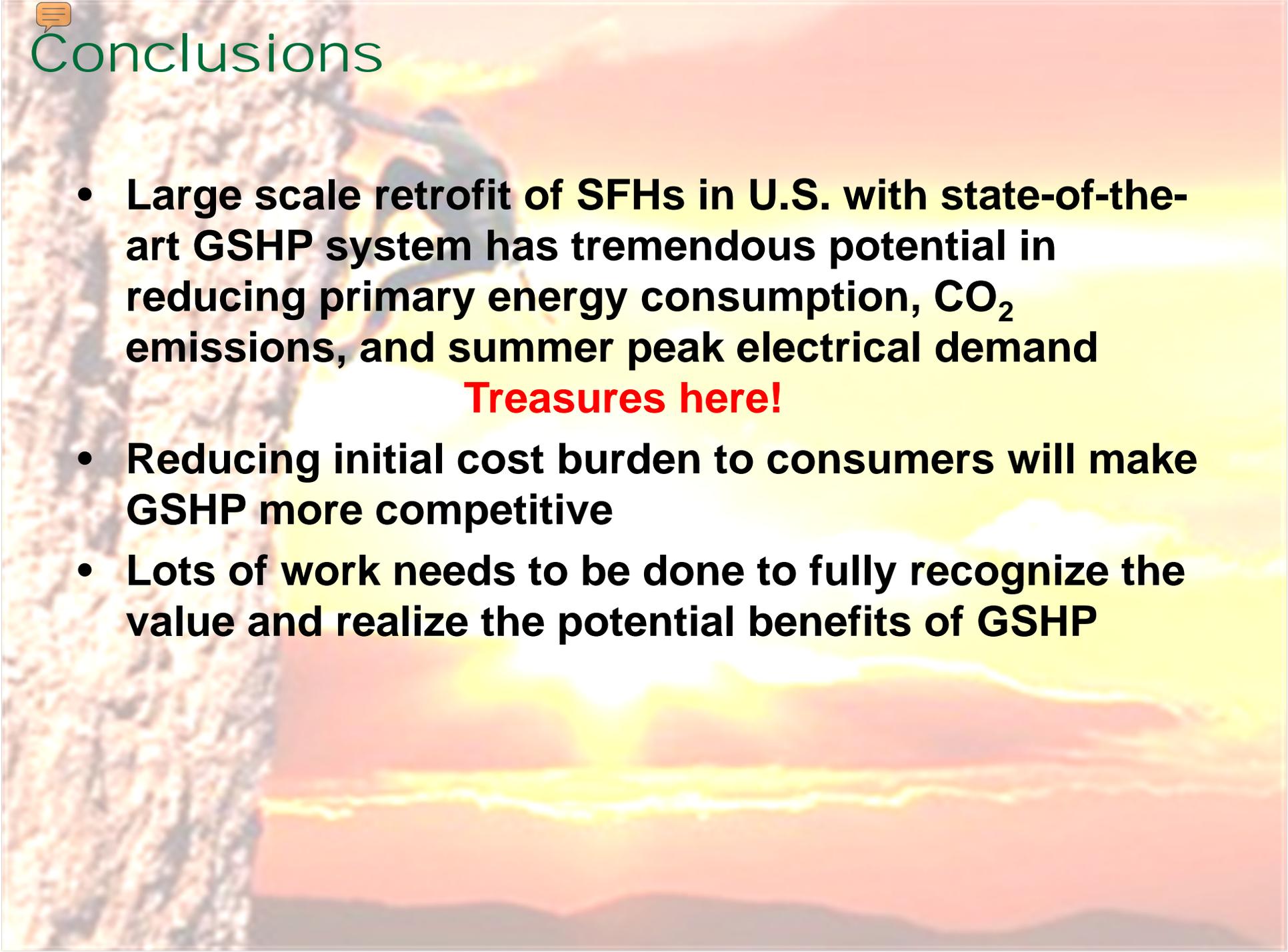


# Actions to Realize the Potential

## Financial/business model

## Regulation



A background image showing a person climbing a rock face. The scene is set against a sunset or sunrise sky with warm orange and yellow tones. The person is silhouetted against the bright light, reaching up to a ledge. The overall mood is one of achievement and reaching for goals.

# Conclusions

- **Large scale retrofit of SFHs in U.S. with state-of-the-art GSHP system has tremendous potential in reducing primary energy consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and summer peak electrical demand**

**Treasures here!**

- **Reducing initial cost burden to consumers will make GSHP more competitive**
- **Lots of work needs to be done to fully recognize the value and realize the potential benefits of GSHP**

# For more information, please contact:

Xiaobing Liu, Ph.D.

Building Technologies Research & Integration Center

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

[liux2@ornl.gov](mailto:liux2@ornl.gov)

865-574-2593

[www.ornl.gov/btrc](http://www.ornl.gov/btrc)

