

Overview of Sandia National Laboratories and the National Solar Thermal Test Facility (NSTTF)

*Exceptional service
in the national interest*



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SAND2013-XXXXP



Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.



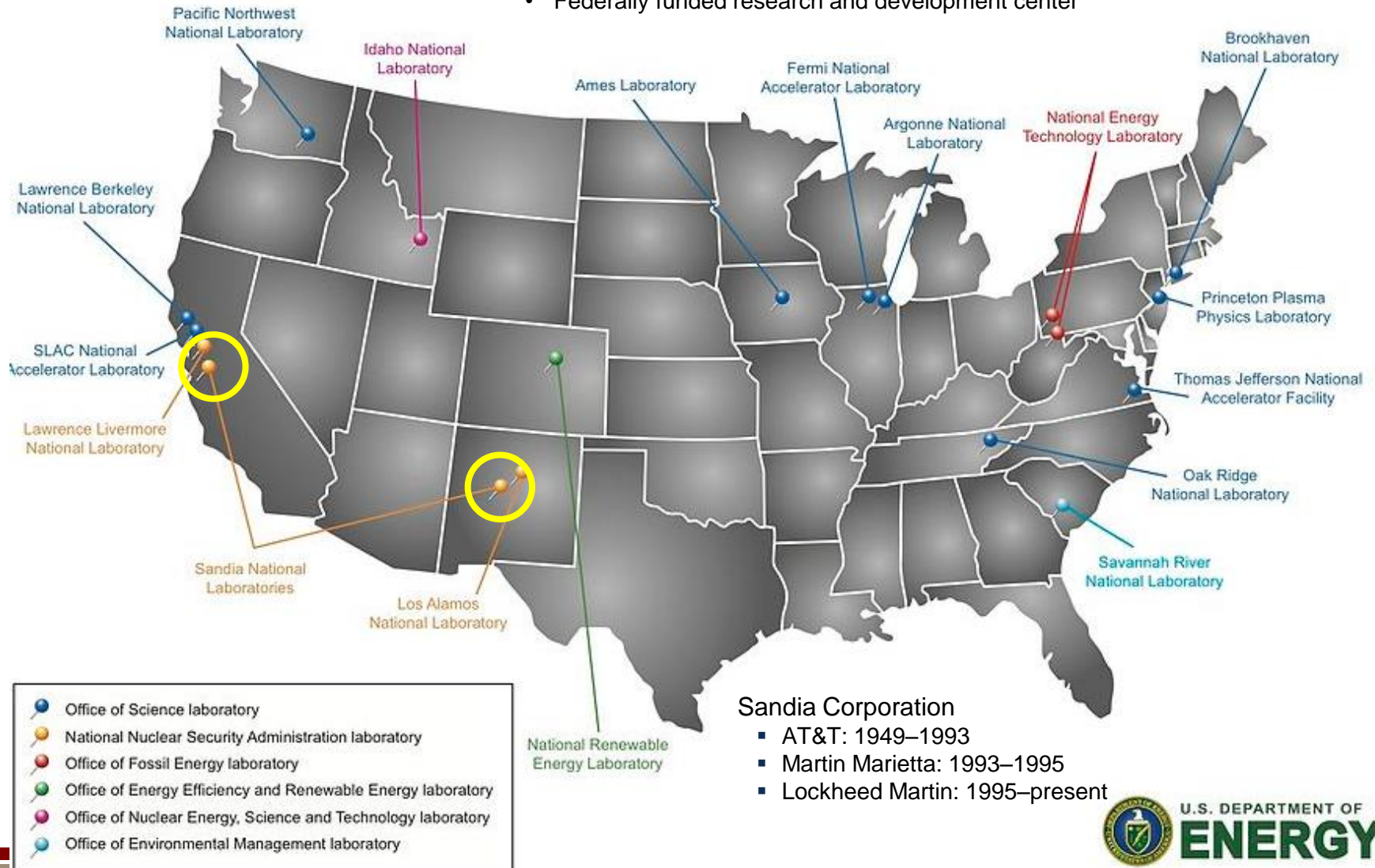
Overview

- Overview of Sandia National Laboratories
- National Solar Thermal Test Facility & CSP Activities
- Bi-National (Sandia/DLR) Proposal for CSP
 - Value proposition
 - Why Sandia and DLR?
 - Funding mechanisms

Overview of Sandia

One of 16 national laboratories operated by United States Department of Energy

- Government owned, contractor operated
- Federally funded research and development center



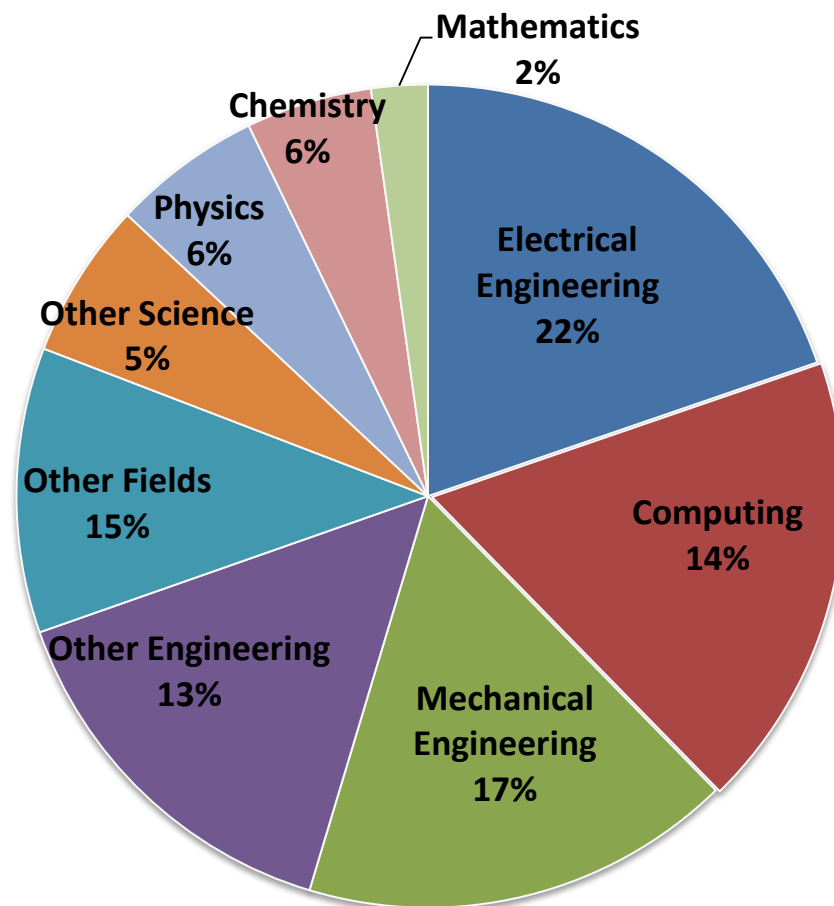
Our Workforce

- On-site workforce: 11,711
- Regular employees: 9,494
- Gross payroll: ~\$1.046 billion

Data as of April 12, 2013



R&D staff (4,799) by discipline

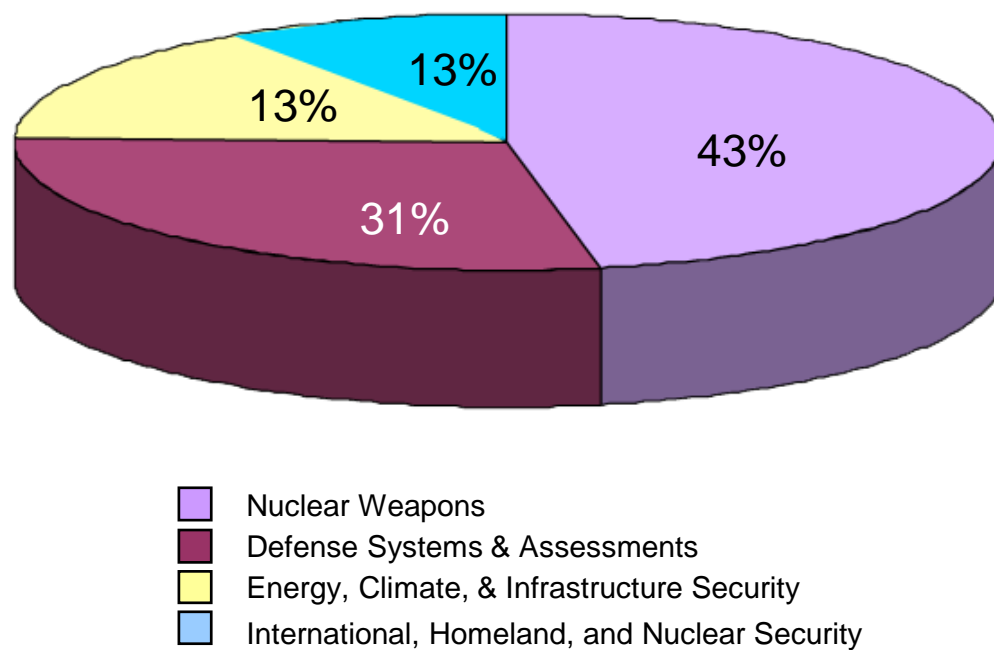


Our Budget

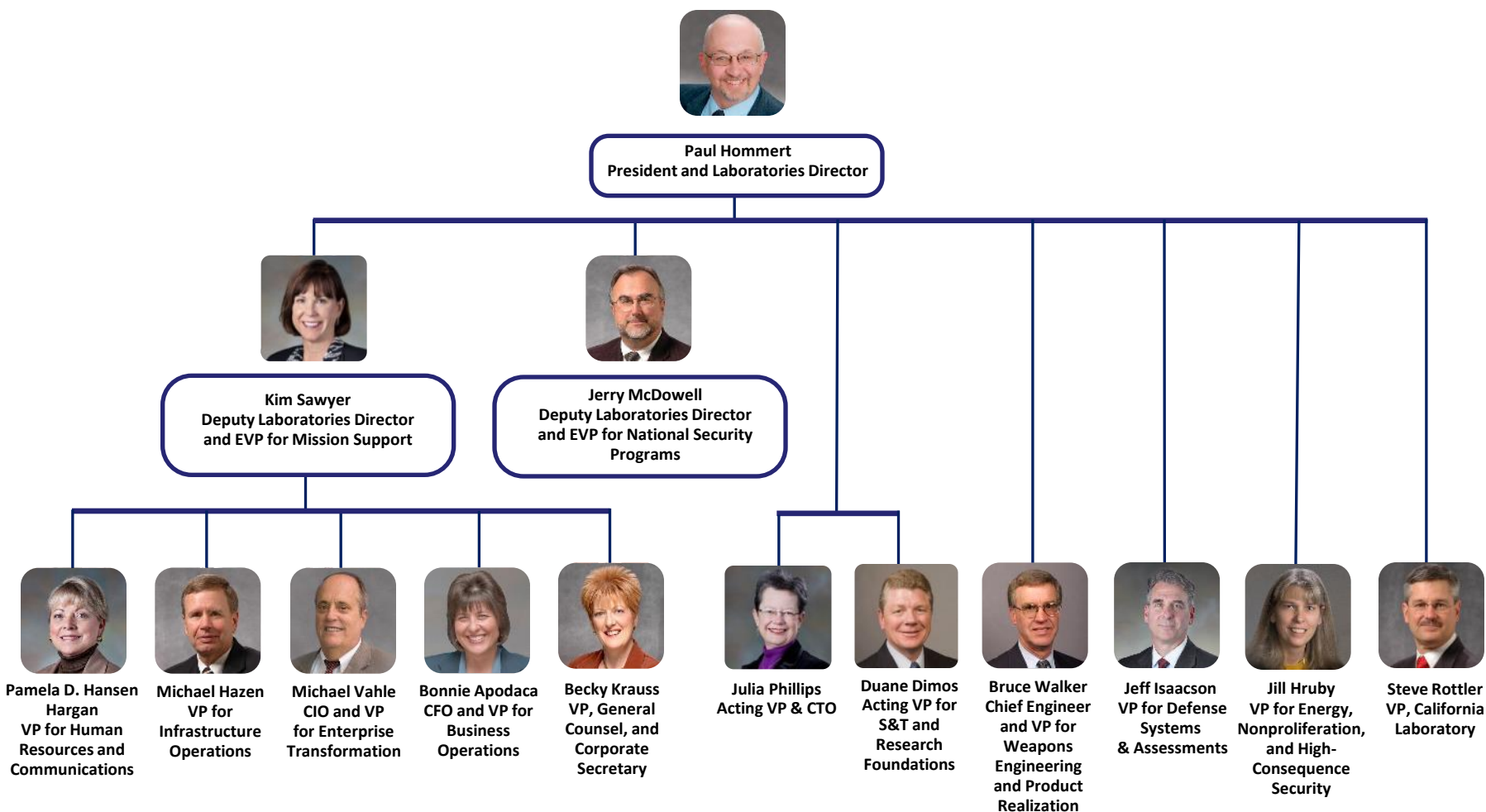
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- Regular employees: 9,494
- Gross payroll: ~\$1.046 billion

Data as of April 12, 2013

FY10 operating revenue: \$2.3 billion



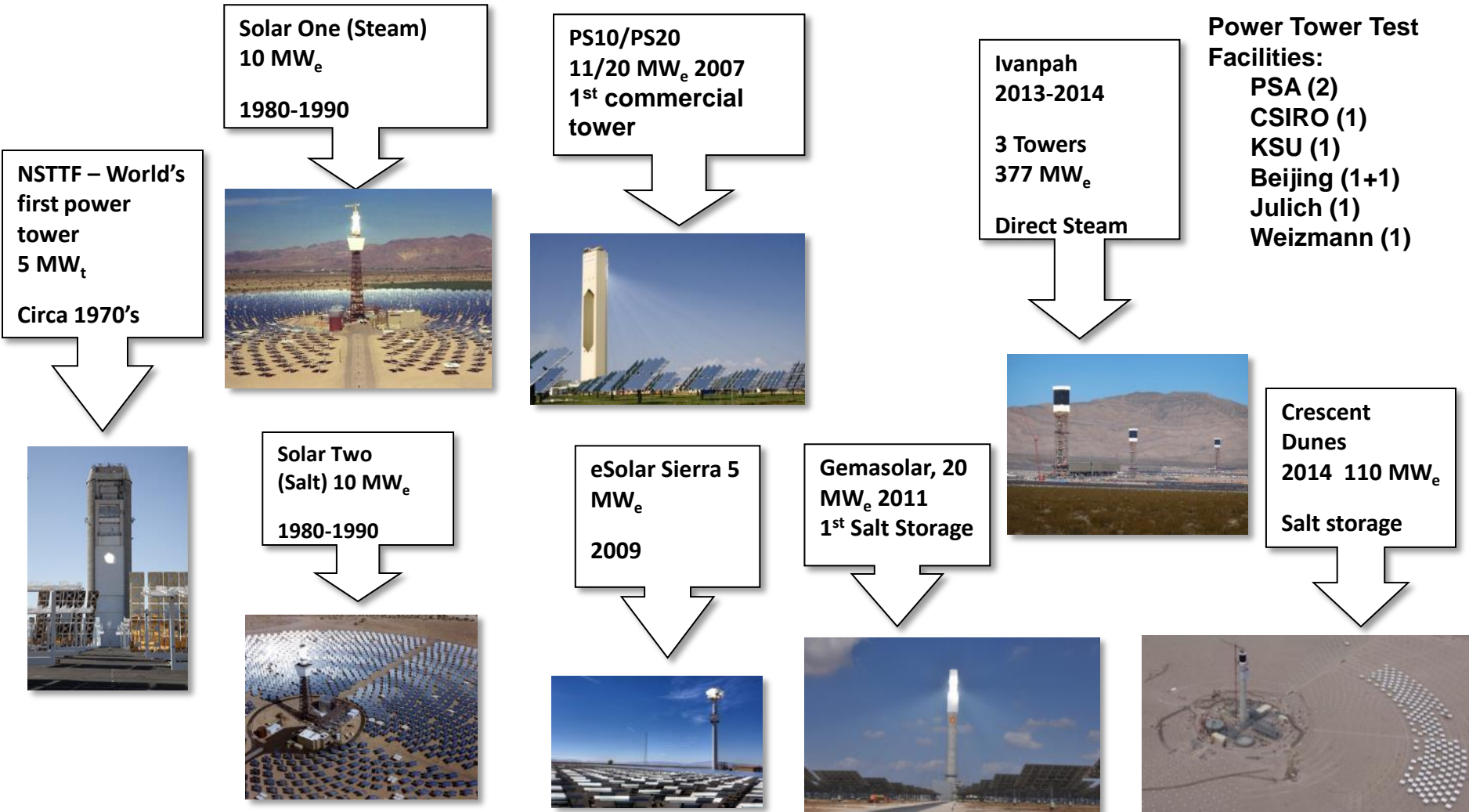
Executive Management Structure



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NSTTF and Power Tower History



1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

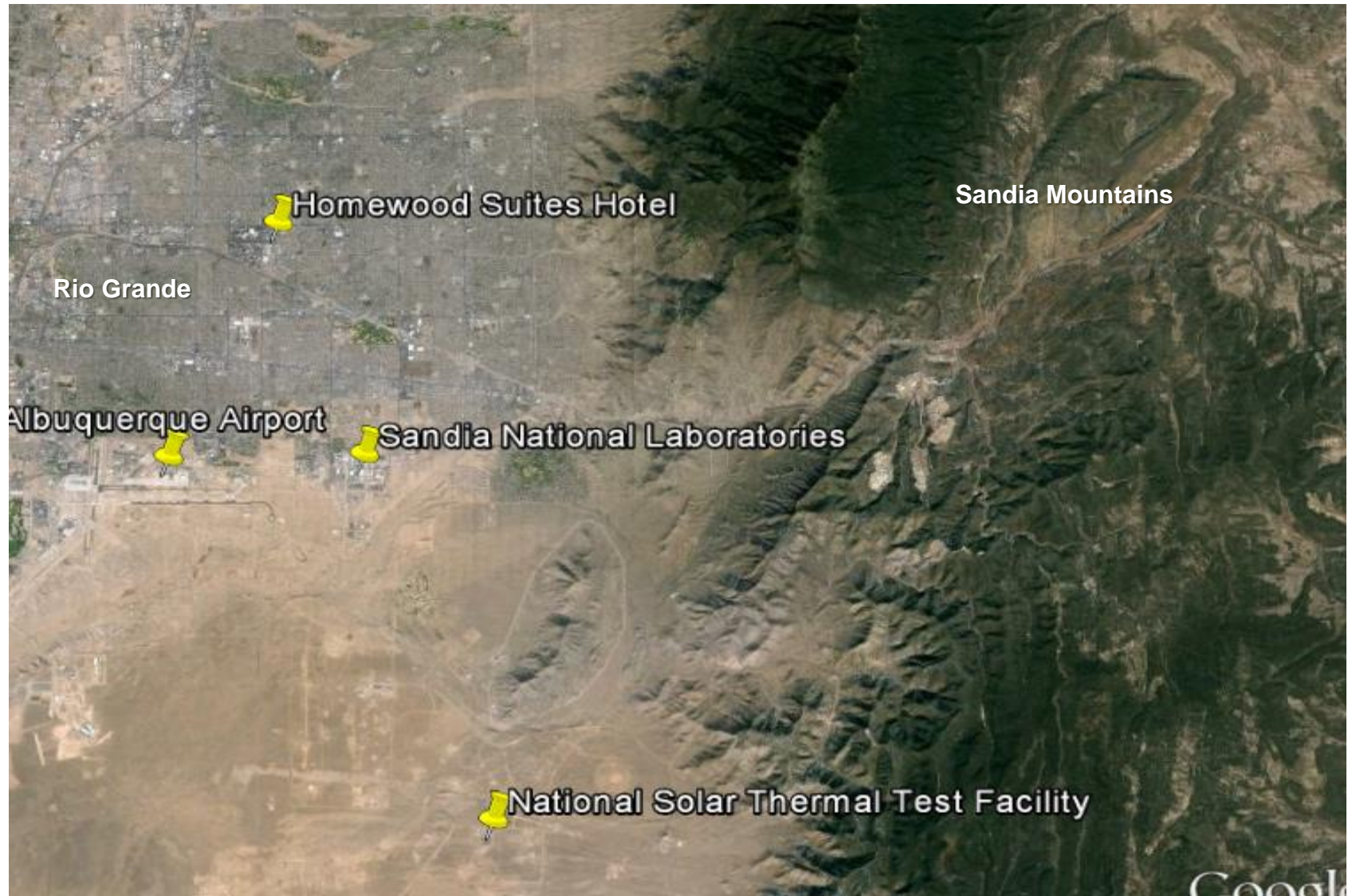
2011

2013

2014

Albuquerque, NM

Population: ~600,000



National Solar Thermal Test Facility

Parabolic Trough R&D



Dish Stirling R&D



Molten Salt Test Loop



Power Tower

Receiver, Heliostat, and Materials
Testing



Solar Fuels and Selective Absorbers

Optics Lab

Tower and Heliostat Field

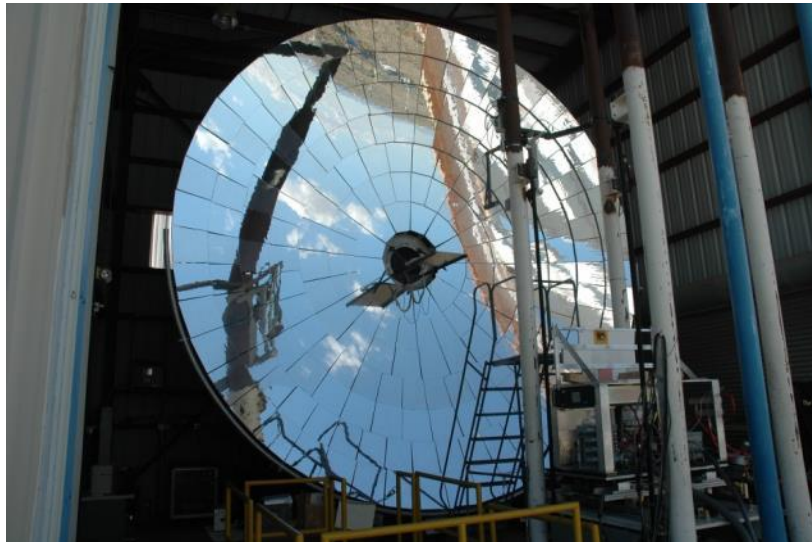


- Peak Flux:
 350 W/cm^2
- Total Power:
 6 MW_t
- 218 heliostats
- Tower (200 ft)
3 test bays plus
top of tower
- Testing of
receivers,
heliostats,
materials, and
subsystem
components

Solar Furnace



- Peak Flux: 600 W/cm^2
- Total Power: 16 kW_t
- Materials testing, solar fuels, calibration, proof of concept testing



Molten Salt Test Loop

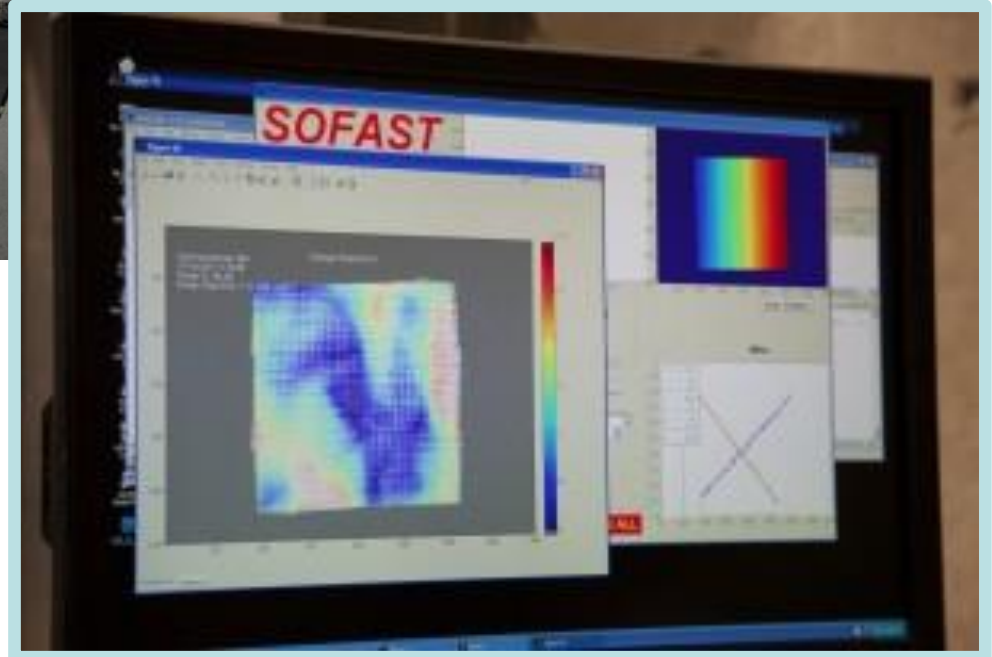


- Operating Temp: 300 - 585 °C
- Max pressure: 40 bar (580 psi)
- Flow rates variable: 44 – 70 kg/s (up to 600 gpm)
- Three test loops
- Component and system testing
- Accelerated life-time testing

Optics Lab

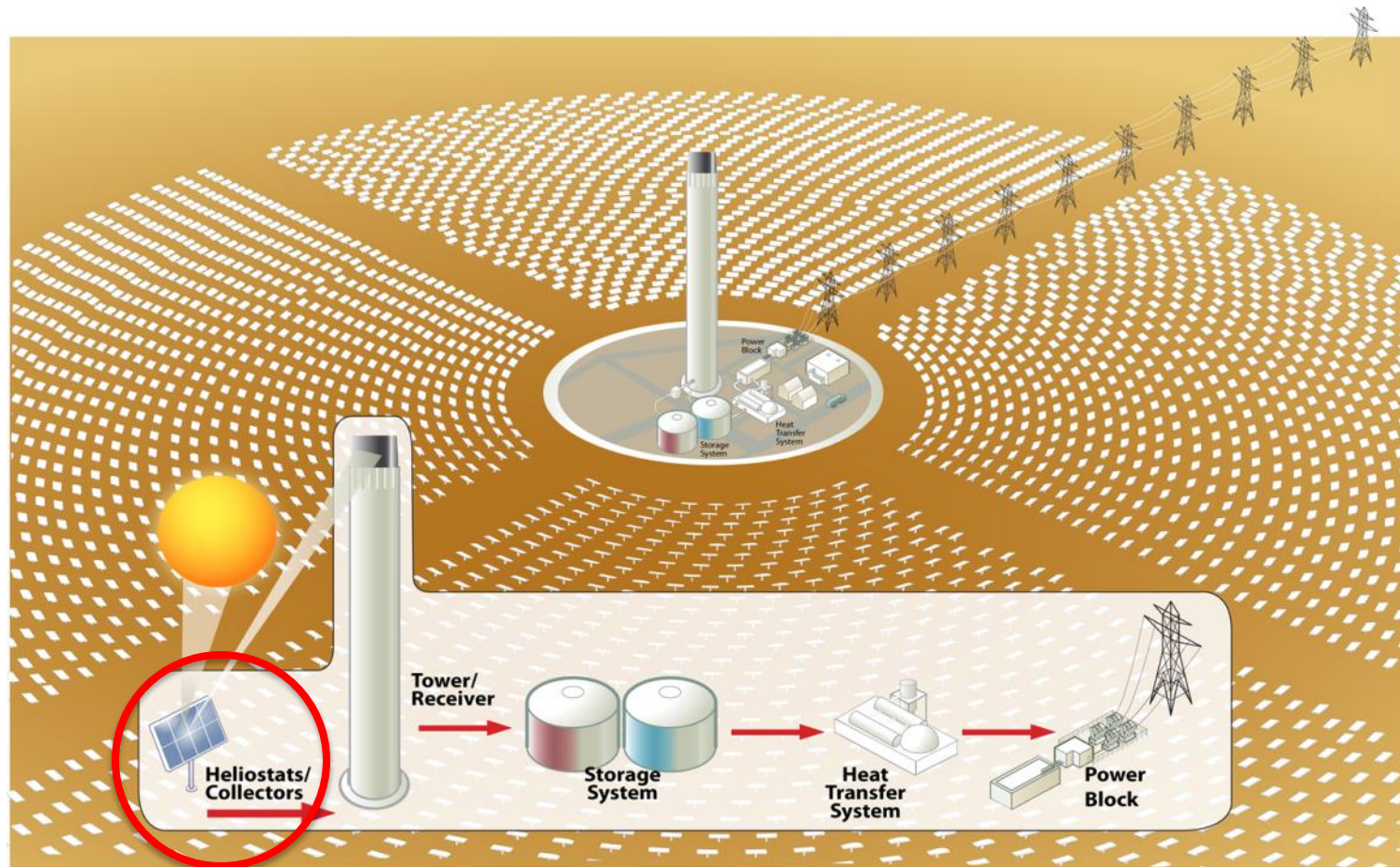


Optical
characterization of
collector facets,
PV modules

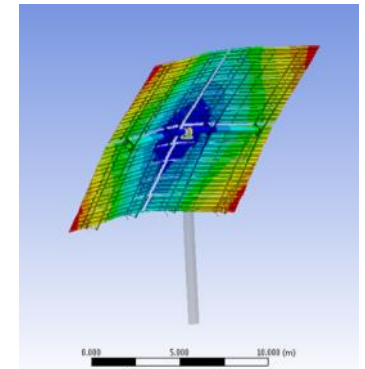
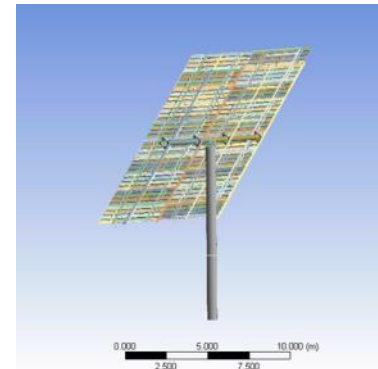


NSTTF Research Activities

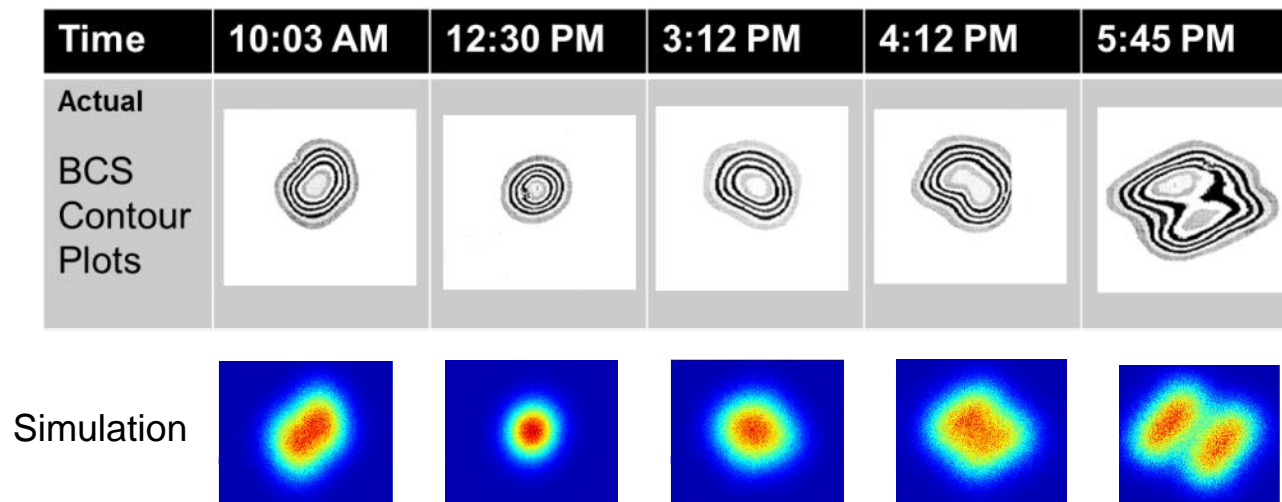
CSP Research



Optical Accuracy – Gravity Sag



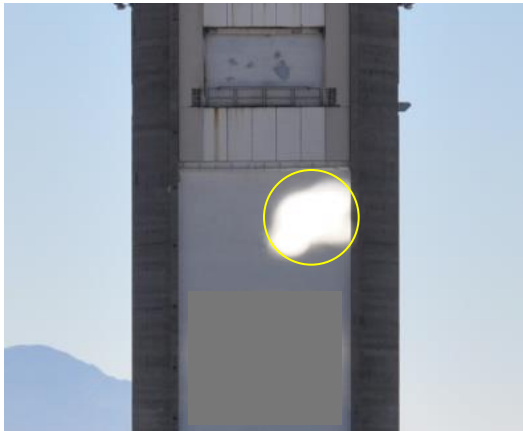
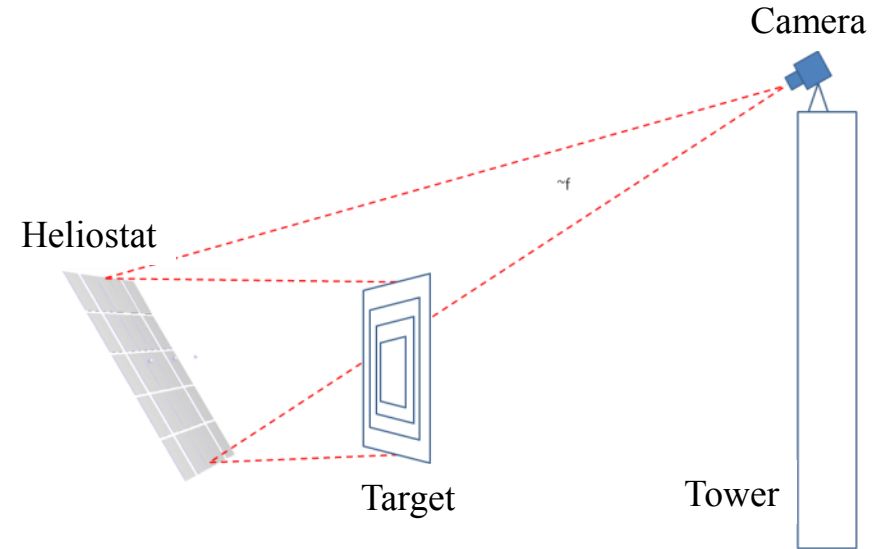
Mirror canting and gravity sag can affect optics
(J.Yuan)



August 23

Optical Accuracy – Characterization, Alignment, and Tracking

(C. Andraka, J. Yellowhair, E. Smith, C. Ho)

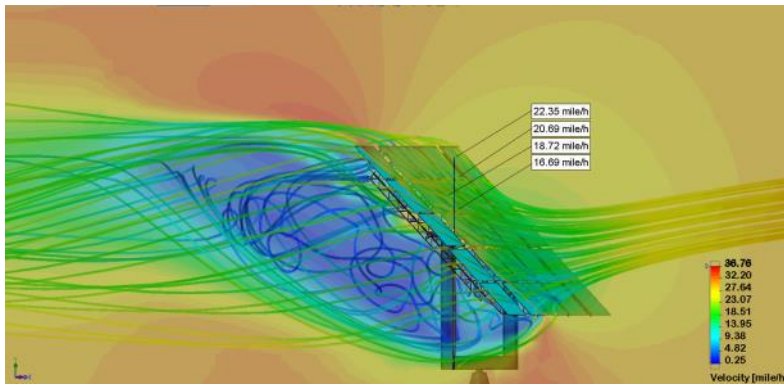


Before

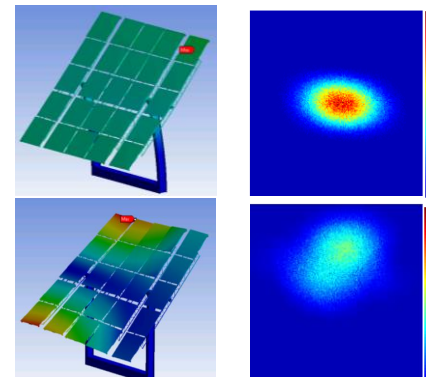


After

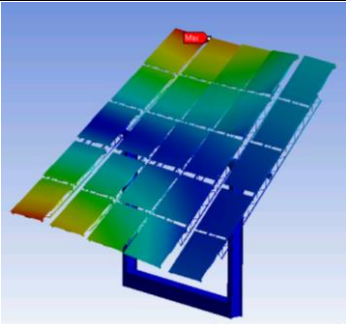
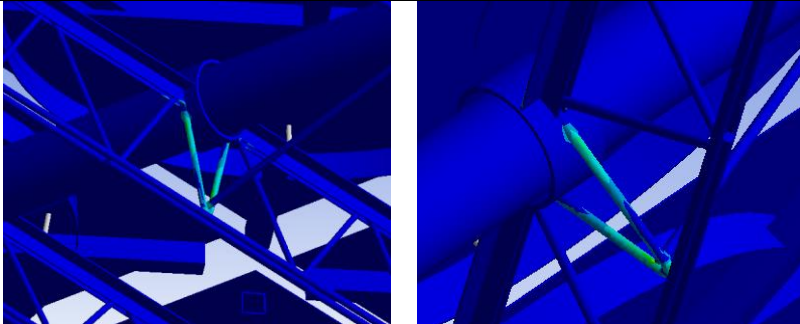
Wind Impacts – Optics and Fatigue

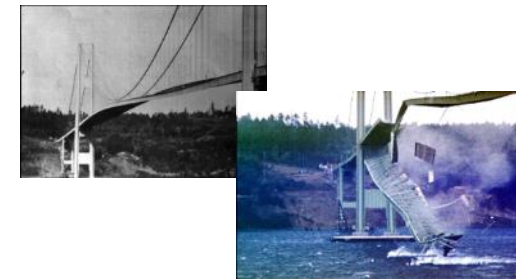


J. Sment, J. Christian, J. Yuan, T. Griffith, C. Ho



Optics impacted by
“sway” or out-of-
plane bending

Mode shape	Fatigue Affected Areas
 <p>Mode 2</p>	 <p>Truss Cross Members at Torque Tube</p>

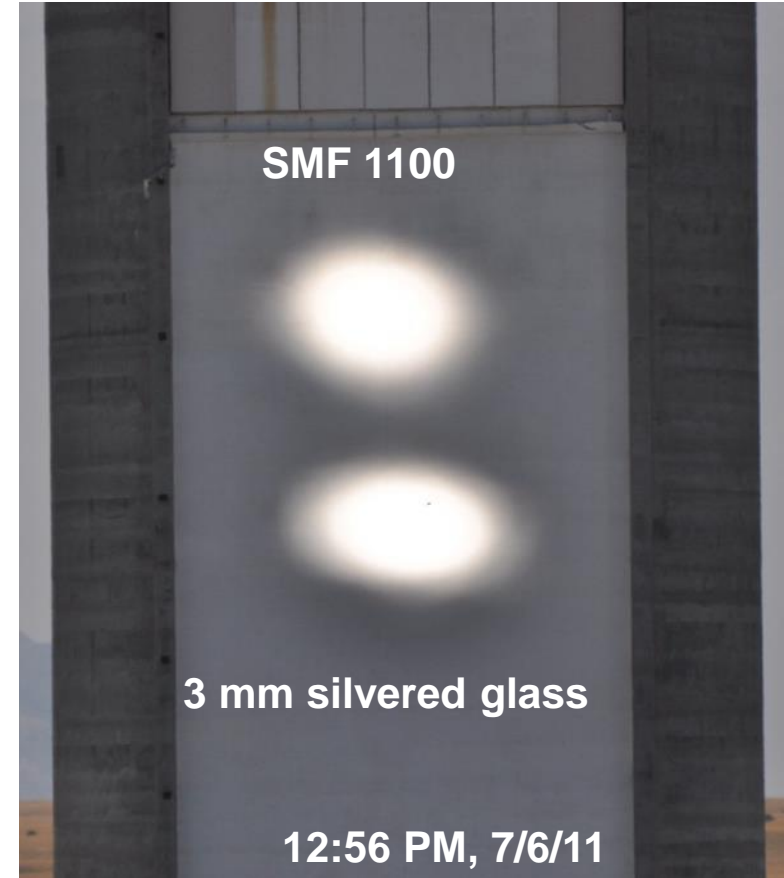


Tacoma Narrows Bridge
collapsing under 40 mph winds
(1940)

Advanced Reflective Materials

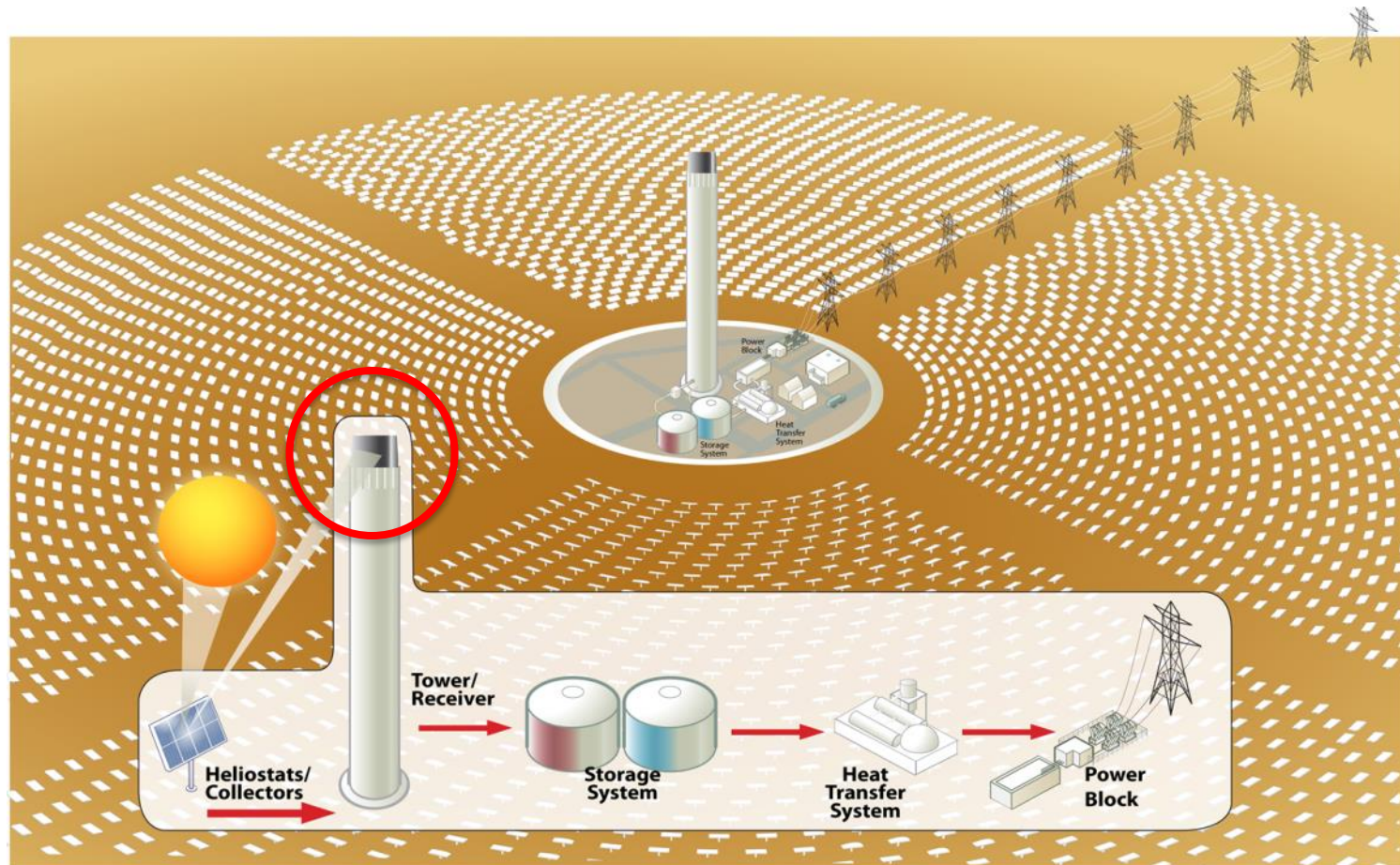


Heliostat with 3M™ Solar Mirror
Film 1100



Ho et al. (*Solar Energy*, 2013)

CSP Research

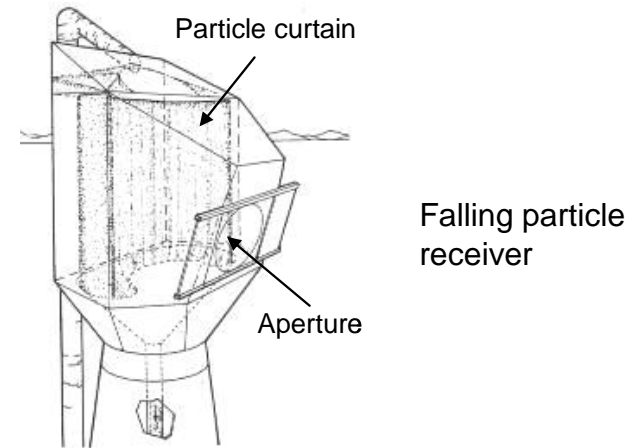


High-Temperature Receivers



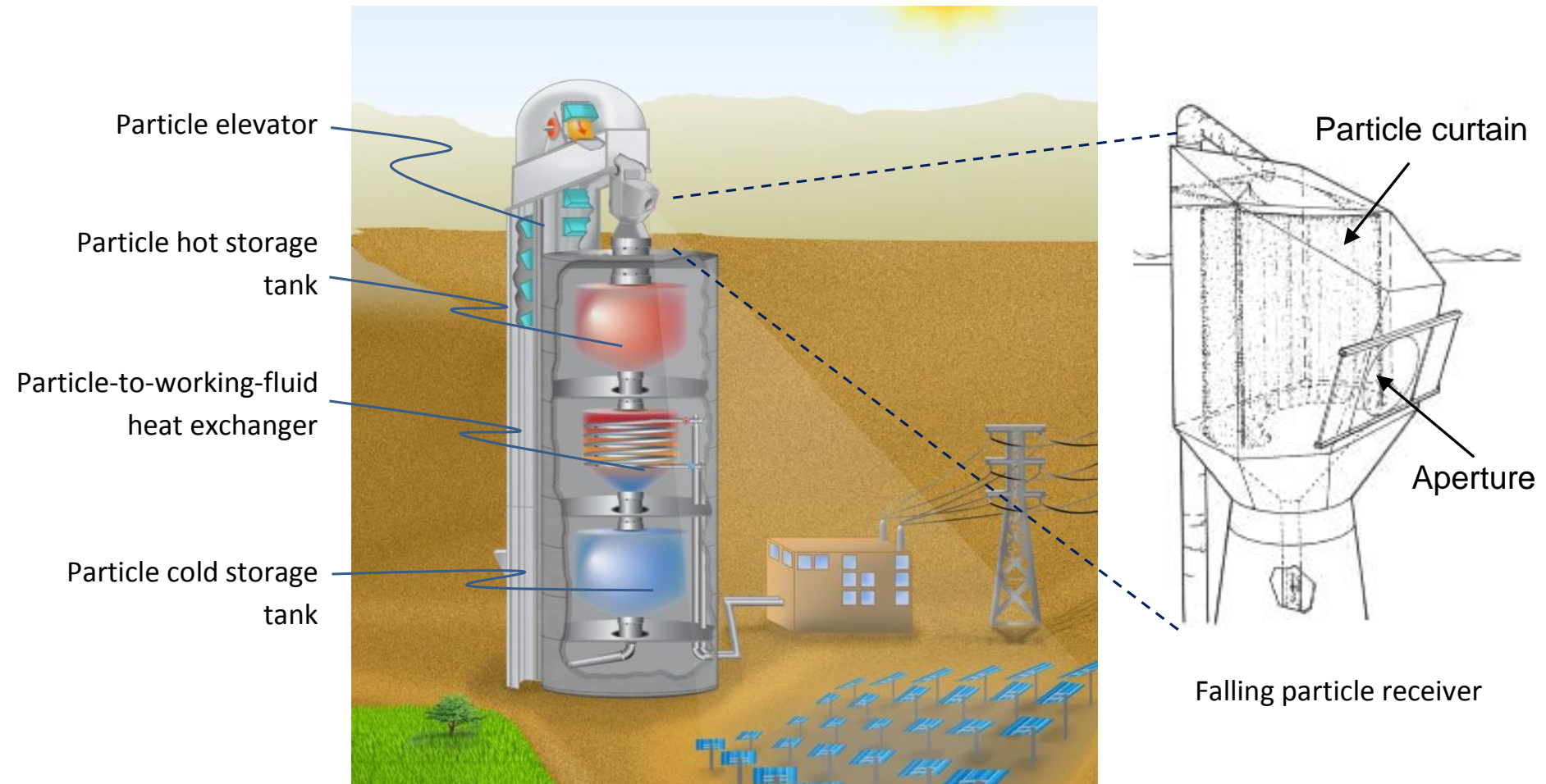
National Solar Thermal Test Facility, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, NM

- Maximize solar absorptance and minimize heat loss (selective absorber coatings, new geometry, high concentration ratio)
- Need materials that operate at high temperature ($>650^{\circ}\text{C}$) and are durable in air



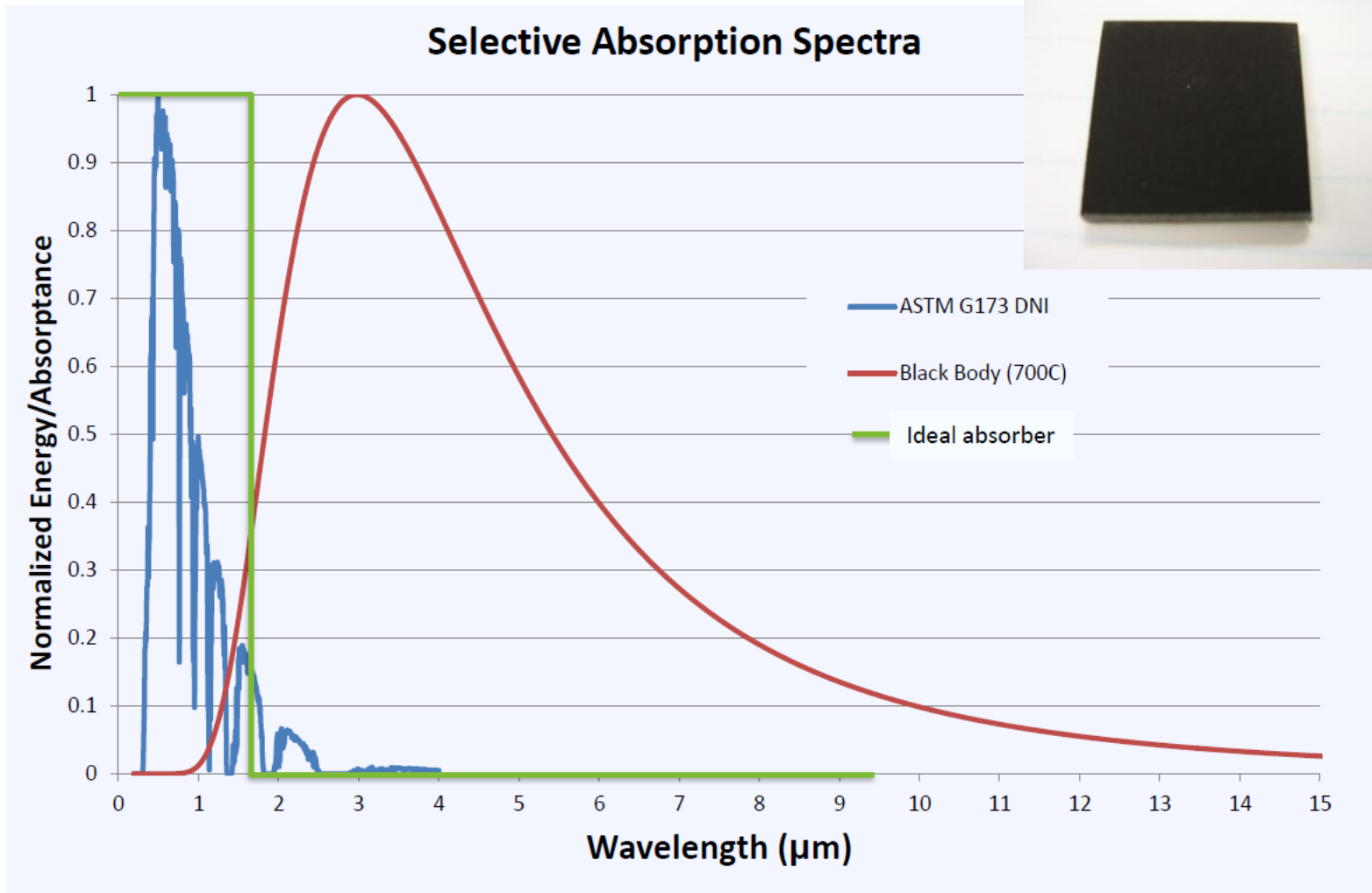
External tubular receiver

High Temperature Falling Particle Receiver (DOE SunShot Award FY13 – FY15)

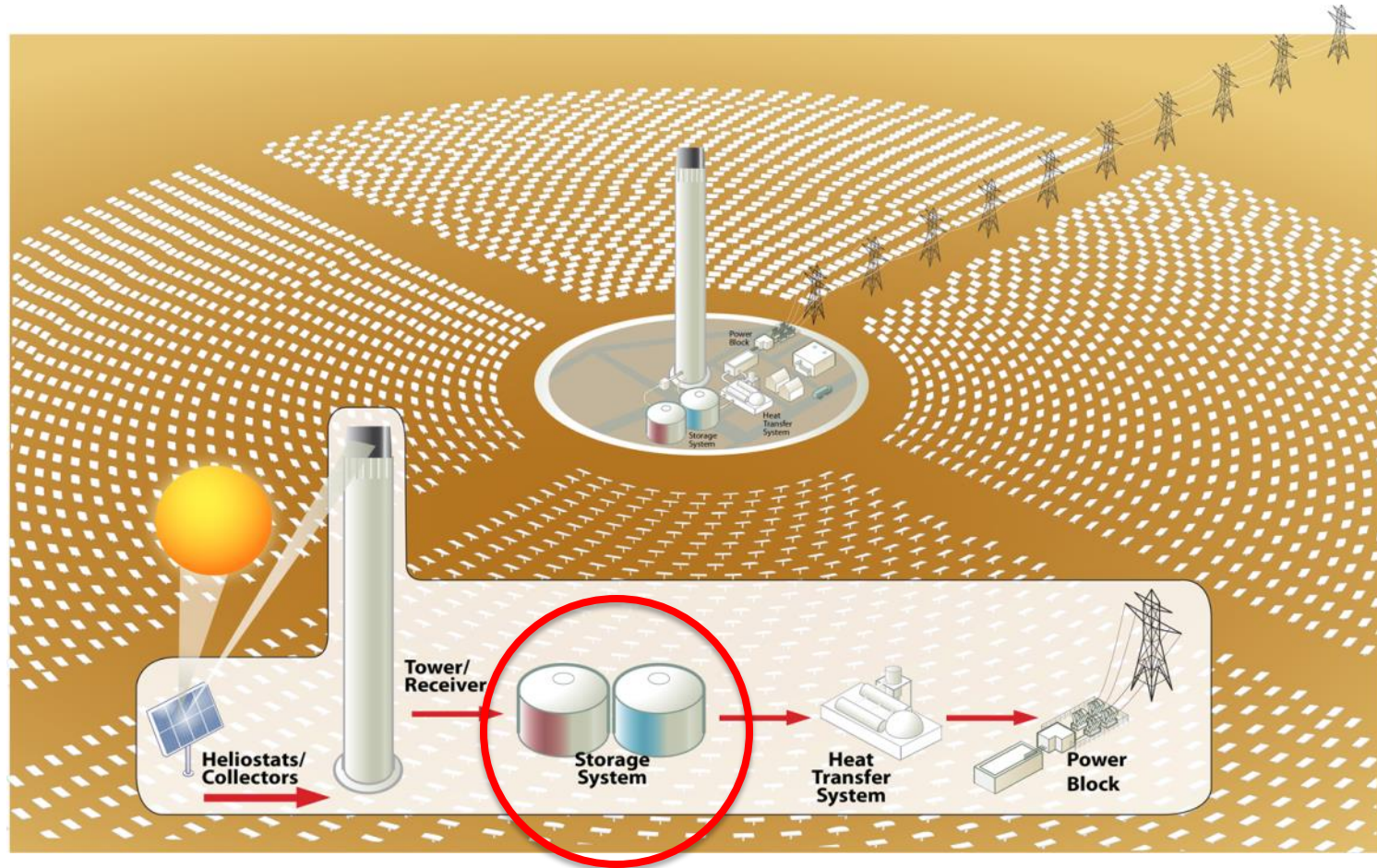


Participants: Sandia, Georgia Tech, Bucknell U., King Saud Univ., DLR

Selective Absorber Coatings



CSP Research



Molten Salt Research

- Molten Salt Test Loop – Plant-Like Conditions for On-Sun Testing of Salt Components/Collectors
- 700 C Salt Pots – Corrosion testing along with Analysis Capability
- Molten Salt Expertise for Testing
- Thermochemical experience from S2P, Fuel Cells, and Hydrogen Expertise



Salt Pot



Molten Salt Test Loop (MSTL)

AREVA Linear Fresnel and Salt Tube Test

Single Module Linear Fresnel Test Connected to MSTL

Evaluate:

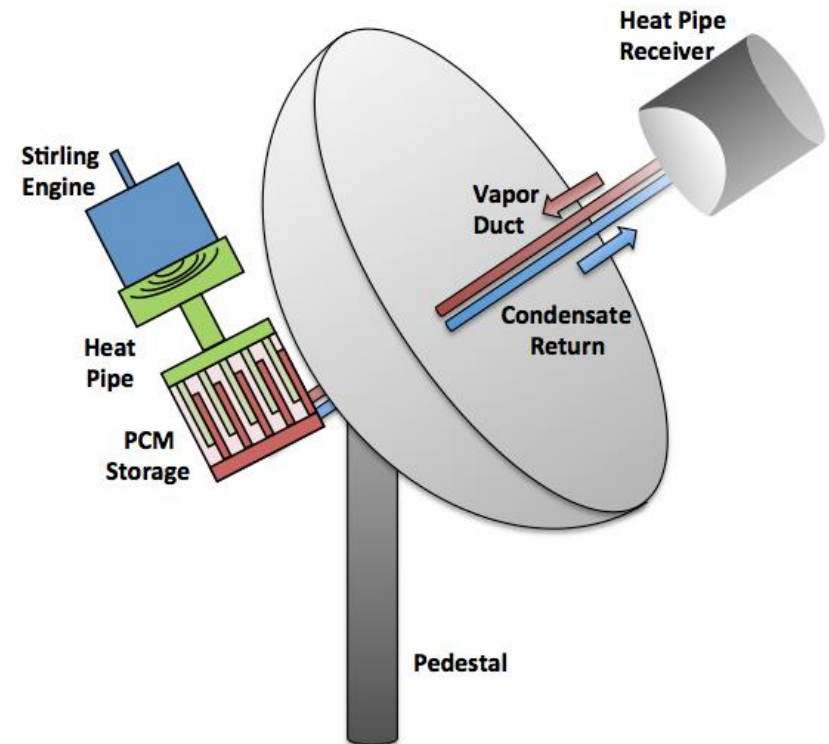
- Salt performance in Linear Fresnel
- Salt components
- Filling/draining strategies
- System efficiency
- Operating strategies
- Off-normal conditions

Areva's Linear Fresnel Test (middle of picture)
Connected to MSTL (lower left)

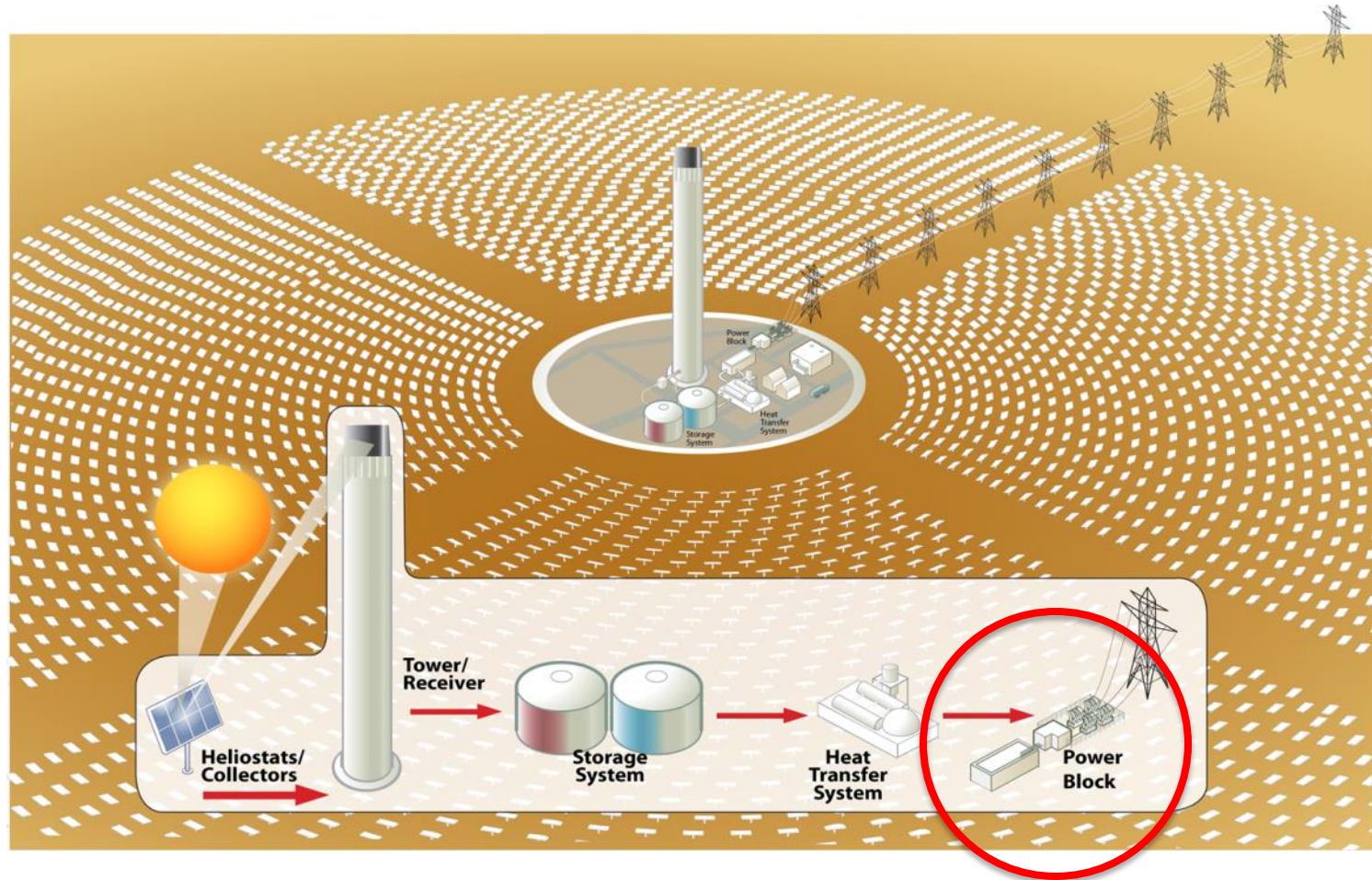


Dish Storage Concept (C. Andraka)

- Phase Change Material (PCM)
 - Heat pipe transport to storage and to engine
 - Latent transport and storage ideal for Stirling input
- Rear dish mount
 - Rebalances system
 - Allows heavy storage
 - Closes pedestal gap
- Demonstrated system performance boost with latent input



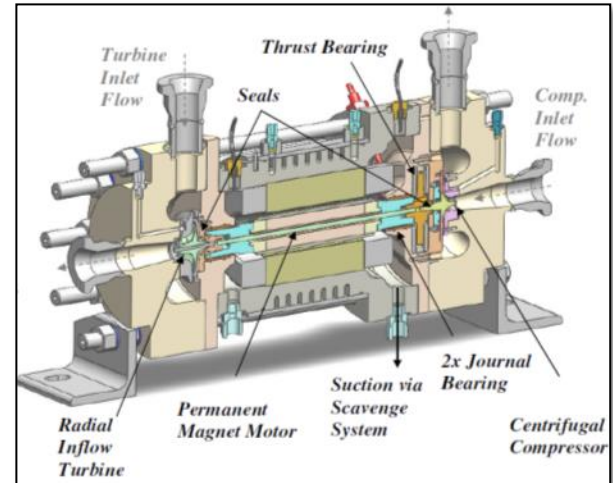
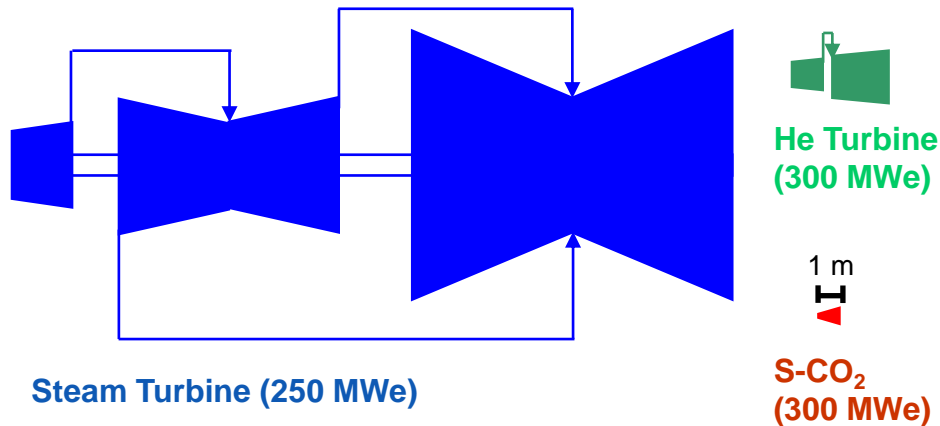
CSP Research



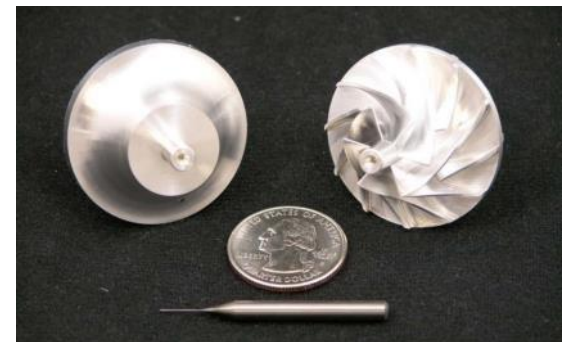
Supercritical CO₂ Brayton Cycle

(Sandia Advanced Nuclear Concepts Group, Conboy et al.)

- High efficiency
 - 50% thermal-to-electric
- Compact power conversion
 - Liquid-like densities with CO₂

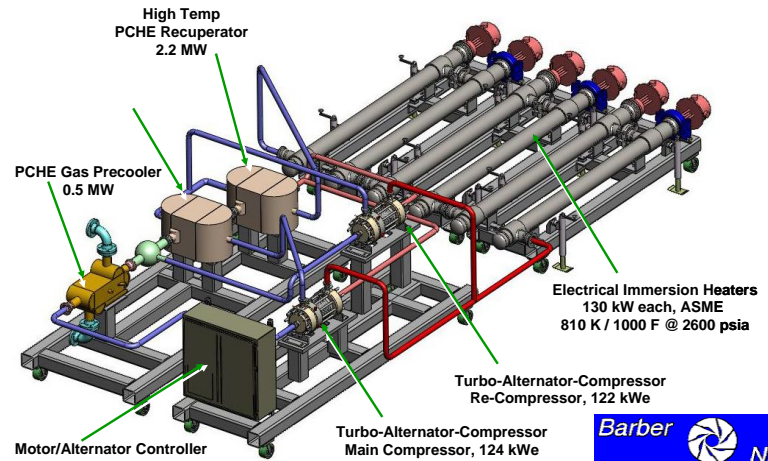
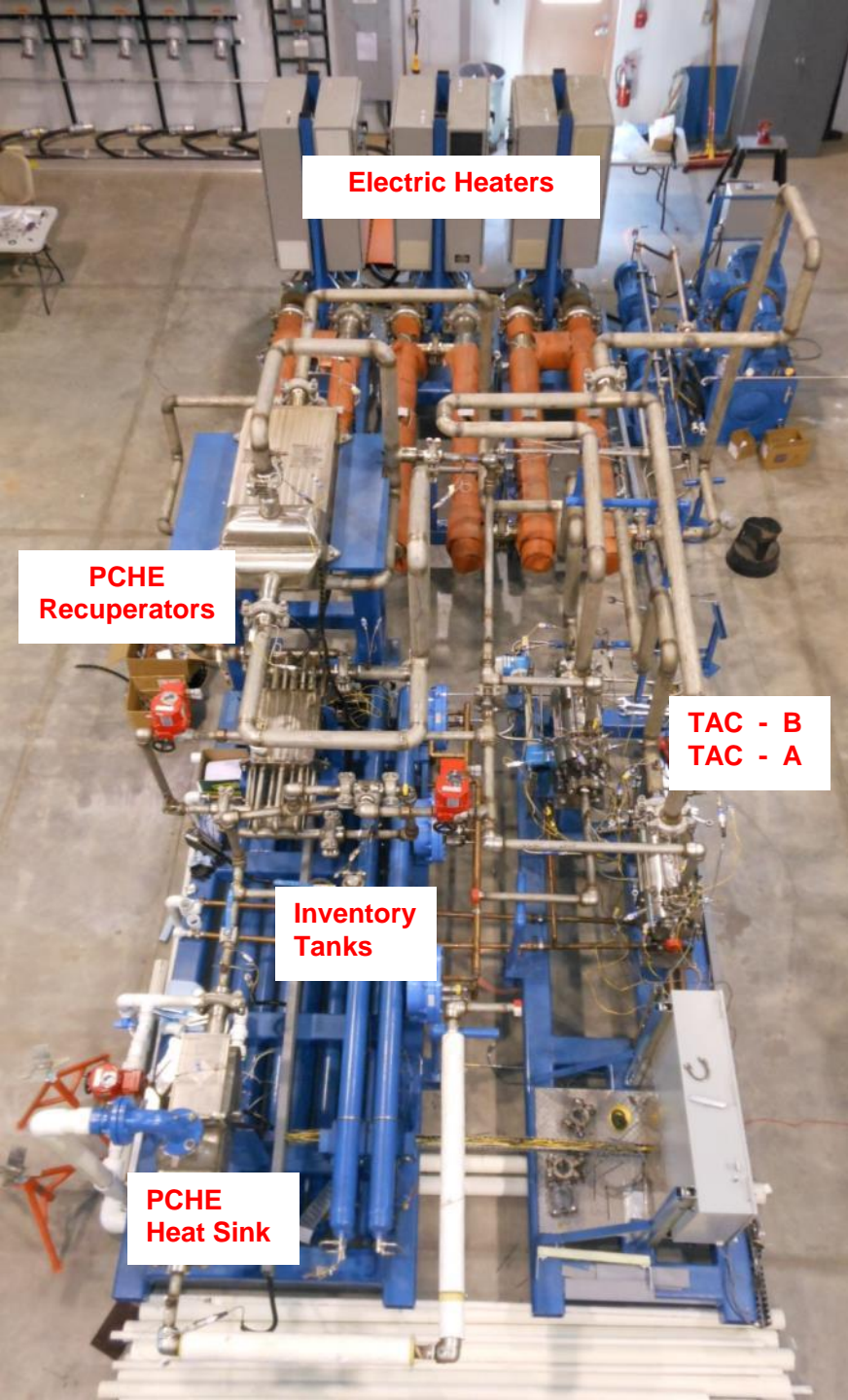


Sandia sCO₂ turbo-alternator-compressor
(Conboy et al., 2013)



Compressor wheel for 150 kW_e sCO₂ Brayton cycle
(SAND2010-0172)

Sandia's Supercritical CO₂ Brayton Cycle Loop



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Solar Particle System with Supercritical CO₂ Power Cycle Demonstration Project

Value Proposition

Technical:

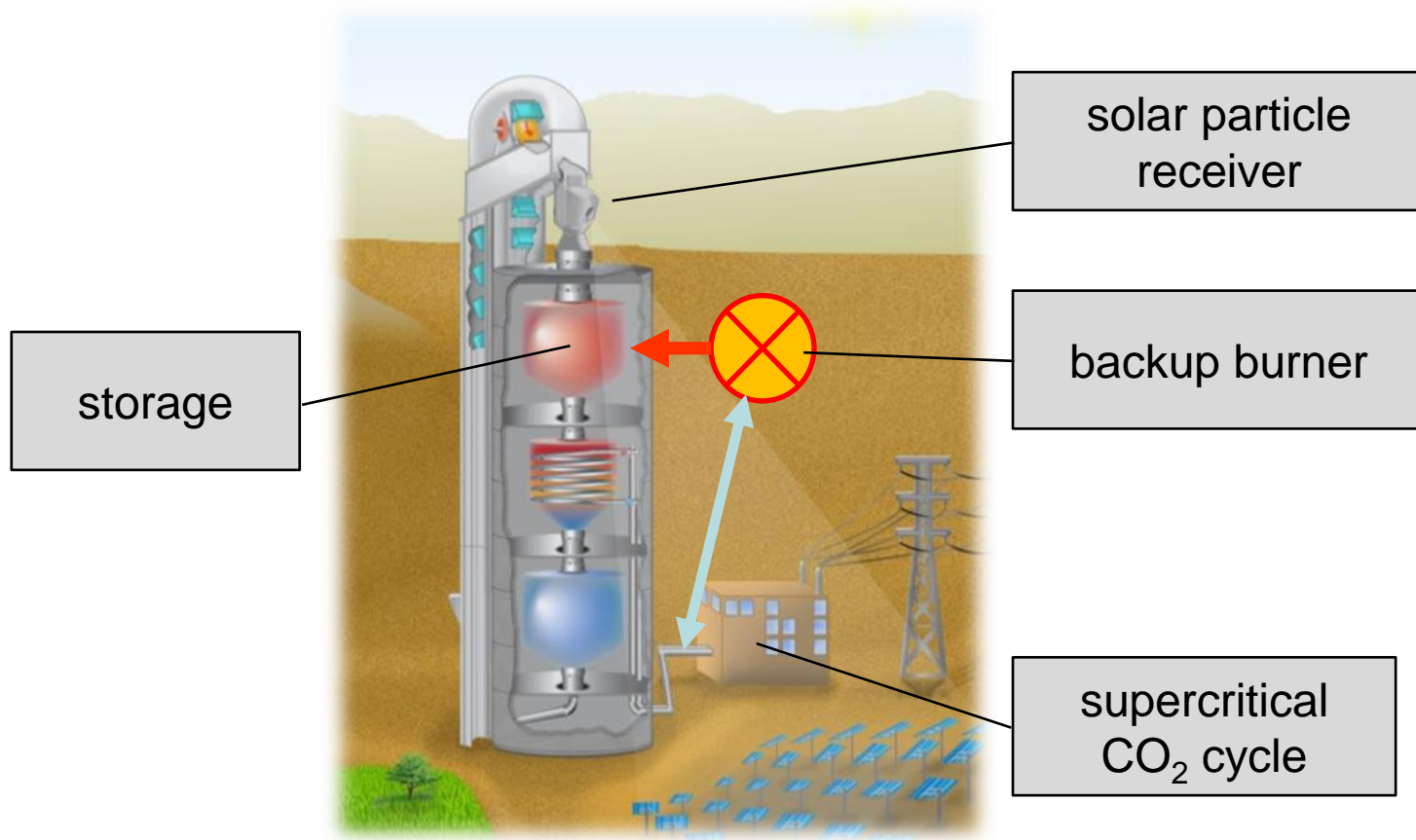
- Next generation solar system with high capacity factor and full dispatchability (storage, backup burner)
- Enables high efficiency sCO₂ power cycle
 - ~50% thermal-to-electric (higher for combined cycles)
- Reduces LCOE toward SunShot goal of 6 cents/kWh*
- Full system demonstration

Programmatic:

- Greater return on investment with bi-national funding and effort

*Power Tower Technology Roadmap and Cost Reduction Plan (SAND2011-2419)

System Scheme



Particles serve as heat transfer and storage medium

Tasks

- Receiver: SNL, DLR
- Supercritical CO₂ cycle: SNL
- Particle-to-CO₂ heat exchanger: DLR, SNL
- Thermal energy storage: DLR, SNL
- Back-up heater: DLR
- System optimization: DLR, SNL
- Component testing and system demonstration: SNL

Why Sandia and DLR?

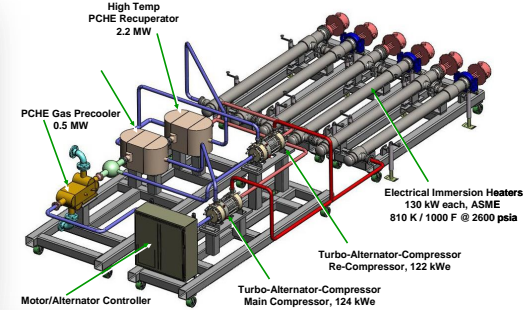
- Leaders in particle receiver, storage, and supercritical CO₂ technology
- Existing collaboration on particle technology
- Complementary expertise, modeling, and testing capabilities



DLR Centrifugal Particle Receiver Test



Sandia Falling Particle Receiver Test



Development and Evaluation of a Prototype Solid Particle Receiver: On-Sun Testing and Model Validation

Nathan P. Siegel
e-mail: nsiegel@sandia.gov

Clifford K. Ho

Siri S. Khalsa

Gregory J. Kolb

Department of Solar Technologies,
Sandia National Laboratories,
P.O. Box 5800,
Albuquerque, NM 87116-5800

A prototype direct absorption central receiver, called the solid particle receiver (SPR), was built and evaluated on-sun at power densities up to 0.5 MW/m² at Sandia National

SolarPACES 2009, Berlin, Germany, September 15-18, 2009

Experimental Validation of Different Modeling Approaches for Solid Particle Receivers

Clifford K. Ho¹, Marc Röger², Siri S. Khalsa¹, Lars Amsbeck², Reiner Buck², Nathan Siegel¹, and Greg Kolb¹

FACE-DOWN SOLID PARTICLE RECEIVER USING RECIRCULATION

Marc Röger¹, Lars Amsbeck², Birgit Gobreit², Reiner Buck²

¹German Aerospace Center (DLR), Institute of Technical Thermodynamics, Solar Research, Plataforma Solar de Almería, 04200 Tabernas, Spain, Phone: +34-950259806, E-Mail: marc.roeger@dlr.de

²Gem
Proceedings of ASME 2011 5th International Conference on Energy Sustainability & 9th Fuel Cell Science, Engineering and Technology Conference
ESFuelCell2011
August 7-10, 2011, Washington, DC, USA

ESFuelCell2011-54430

CFD SIMULATION AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS FOR HIGH-TEMPERATURE SOLID PARTICLE RECEIVERS

Siri Sahib S. Khalsa¹, Joshua M. Christian², Gregory J. Kolb¹, Marc Röger², Lars Amsbeck², Clifford K. Ho², Nathan P. Siegel¹, Adam G. Moya²

¹Sandia Staffing Alliance, Sandia National Laboratories, Concentrating Solar Technologies Department, Albuquerque, NM, USA
²Sandia National Laboratories, Concentrating Solar Technologies Department, Albuquerque, NM, USA

³German Aerospace Center (DLR), Solar Research, Stuttgart, Germany

ABSTRACT

Direct-absorption solid particle receivers are theoretically capable of yielding temperatures in excess of 1000°C, which enables higher efficiency power cycles and lower thermal storage costs. This paper presents rigorous CFD simulations of alternative solid particle receiver designs with recirculation to help identify optimal configurations that maximize the

use of high-temperature central receivers can enable higher efficiency high-temperature power cycles and reduce the costs of thermal storage [1].

Röger et al. [4] evaluated face-down solid particle receivers using analytical models in Matlab. However, these studies did not rigorously model convection due to thermal buoyancy and particle entrainment. Ho et al. [5] developed computational

Potential Industrial Partners

- Abengoa
- Babcock Wilcox
- Barber Nichols
- Bechtel
- EPRI
- GE Global Research



ABENGOA



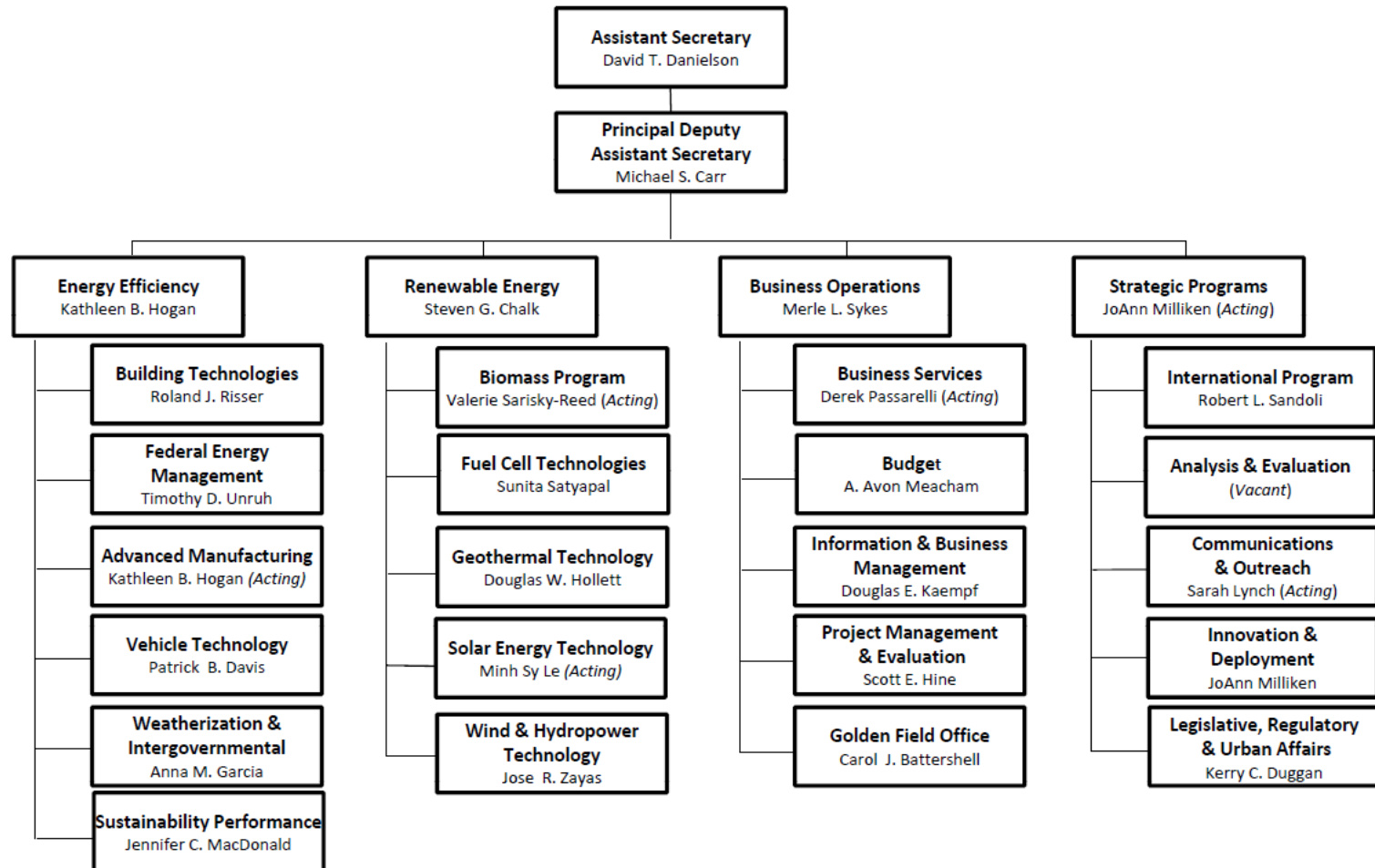
Budget and Funding Mechanisms

- Duration: 5 years
- Budget:
 - SNL: \$10M - \$30M
 - DLR: 10M€ - 20M€
- Funding Mechanisms
 - Bi-National Investment
 - Germany / EU
 - U.S. DOE
 - Industry participation
 - Lockheed Martin Offset Program

EERE Organization Chart

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Energy Efficiency &
Renewable Energy



Summary

- Sandia and DLR have synergistic research and capabilities in CSP
- Seeking collaborative opportunities
 - Bi-National Proposal
 - Solar Particle System with Supercritical CO₂ Power Cycle Demonstration Project
 - Bi-national funding for greater return on investment



Sandia National Laboratories

Questions?



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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

