

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE

Gen3 CSP Summit 2021

August 25-26, 2021 Virtual Event

Gen3 Gas Phase System

Development and **Demonstration**

DE-EE00008368

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FrBraytonEnergy

an innovative R&D firm dedicated to making meaningful contributions in the field of environmentally responsible, sustainable energy production



- 5 Acre 38,000 ft² campus
- 50-person technical staff performing:
 - Engineering Research + Development
 - Design and Analysis
 - Rapid prototyping and testing
 - · Fabrication, assembly, on-site advanced precision machining

Alternative Fuels

- Pilot Production
- ✓ Turbomachinery
- Compact Heat Exchangers
- ✓ Distributed Generation/CHP
- 🗸 Concentrating Solar Thermal 🗸

- Hybrid Vehicles
- Nuclear Systems 🗹 Combustion
- Energy Storage 🛛 🗸 UAVs





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Gen3 Gas Phase System

- Develop a 100 MW_e commercial system that can absorb, store, and dispatch concentrated solar energy to a working fluid at conditions commensurate with an sCO₂ power cycle (700 °C, 25 MPa)
- Design a Megawatt-scale test facility to demonstrate and de-risk the technology innovations embodied in the commercial design



- ✓ Phase 1 (October 2018-December 2019)
 - System specification, design, modeling, analysis
- ✓ Phase 2 (January 2020-March 2021)
 - Component-level testing
 - Test facility design



Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy





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Governing Program Philosophy

- De-risk, working backwards from Commercial Design
 - Engineer the 100 MW_e Commercial System
 - Large scale initially identified as "preferable" via TAC
 - 100 MW_e represented "hardest case" technologies
 - De-risk the Commercial System via Phase 3 Test Facility
 - Emulate full-scale commercial system in Phase 3 design to the extent possible
 - De-risk new technologies and integrated system operation
 - Employ actual commercial component/subsystem geometries where possible
 - De-risk new Phase 3 technologies via Phase 2 Testing
 - Capture representative scale and conditions in test articles wherever possible
 - De-risk Phase 2 testing via Phase 1/Early Phase 2
 - Design, model, and refine Phase 1, Phase 2, Phase 3, Commercial elements
 - Perform subscale and component testing
 - e.g. TES HX coupon creep and fatigue testing, particle property characterization, TES cold flow testing
- Perform full system optimization to determine lowest-LCOE configuration
 - Iterate/Update the commercial and Phase 3 designs with optimization results

Target the DoE-specified down-select criteria

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Design Overview

- Nominally: employ "gaseous" phase working fluid in the receiver
- Utilize supercritical carbon dioxide (sCO₂) from the power block as the working fluid
 - Appropriate for baseload operation, leverages high-efficiency power block
 - "cold" riser and down-comer
 - "cold" working fluid control valves
 - Minimize capital costs by leveraging existing sCO₂ power block
- Supplemental analysis for peaker-type system (using hot sCO₂ circulator)

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PARAMETER	UNITS	COMMERCIAL	PHASE 3	PHASE 2
FACILITY				
Location	2	Barstow, CA	Arizona, USA	Hampton, NH
SOLAR FIELD				
Layout	2	Surround Field	Surround Field	North Field
Heliostat Provider	-	TBD	Heliogen	Southwest Solar Tech
Mirror Size	m²	TBD	1.5	9
Field Size	m²	1,510,666	~ 7,500	216
Field Power	MWt	~675	~ 5	0.15
TOWER				
Tower Height (optical)	m	111	~45	9.8 (recevier) 6.1 (TES)
Media Conveyance	2	Skip Hoist	Skip Hoist	batch swap
Skip Hoist Provider	-	ABB/Siemag/spg	ABB/Siemag	(forklift)
RECEIVER				
Configuration	-	Modular Tube Panels	Modular Tube Panels	Modular Tube Panels
Receiver Provider	-	Licensed Brayton Design	Brayton Energy, LLC	Brayton Energy, LLC
Working Fluid	2	sCO ₂	sCO ₂	sCO ₂
Nominal Fluid Temp.	°C	730	730	730
Nominal Fluid Press.	Mpa	25	25	25
Power	MWt	3 x 135	3 x 0.8	1 x 0.065
Sizes	0			
North Receiver	mxm	17.4 x 25.4	4.434 x 0.617	1.3 x 0.1
East/West Receiver	m x m	17.4 x 25.4	2.625 x 1.375	n/a
Peak Material Temp.	°C	761.9	761.9	761.9
Operating Life	hr	100,000 (30 years)	100,000 (30 years)	100,000 (30 years)
THERMAL ENERGY STORAGE				
Storage Type	2	Sensible Heat	Sensible Heat	Sensible Heat
Storage Media	2	300 µm Silica Sand	300 µm Silica Sand	300 μm Silica Sand
Capacity	MWht	2106	10	0.056
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	hr	11.4	10	3.5
Heat Exchangers	-	Counterflow, Flowing Bed	Counterflow, Flowing Bed	Counterflow, Flowing Bed
Heat Rate	MWt	185	1	0.016
Configuration	-	Int-Supported Brazed Cell	Int-Supported Brazed Cell	Int-Supported Brazed Cell
Heat Exchanger Provider	25	Licensed Brayton Design	Brayton Energy, LLC	Brayton Energy, LLC
Operating Life	hr	100,000 (30 years)	100,000 (30 years)	100,000 (30 years)
CYCLE				
"Cycle"	2	sCO ₂ Brayton	sCO ₂ Circulator Analogue	sCO ₂ Circulator Analogue
Engine/Circulator Provider	2	TBD	Sandia National Lab.	Brayton/Echogen
Work (or Analogue)	2	Turbine Work Extraction	Heat Rejection to Amb.	Heat Rejection to Amb.
Heat Rate	MWt	100-150	1.0	0.1
Equiv. Cycle Power	MWe	50-75	~ 0.5	n/a

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Baseline Gen3 System (Baseload)

- 1. RCBC sCO₂ power block
- 2. Low temp. high press. sCO₂ piping
- 3. Low temperature flow valves
- 4. TES charging receivers
- 5. TES charging heat exchangers
- 6. TES low pressure particle shaft
- 7. TES hot particle storage silo
- 8. High temp. TES discharge heat exchanger
- 9. Low temp. TES discharge heat exchanger
- 10. TES cold particle storage silo
- 11. TES particle lift
 - Mass flow is dictated by power block
 - Heat input is constrained by peak allowable receiver material temp.
 - Control parameters shown in red



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Particle-Side Schematic

- Charge heat exchanger particle outlet temperatures are controlled to 715 °C via sand flow rate
 - This temperature ensures that TIT can achieve 700 °C at design conditions, with design approach temperature
- Split discharge heat exchanger enables media to reject heat to sCO₂ inlet temperature (553 °C)
 - Otherwise, rejection temperature is limited to charging heat exchanger sCO₂ outlet conditions of 600 °C
 - This higher temp. is a result of heat exchanger approach temps.



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Solar Test Facility: January 2021







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Gas Phase: Key Results and Conclusions

- Novel Solar Receiver and TES Heat Exchanger designs
 - 30-year operating life under sCO₂ conditions (750 °C, 25 MPa)
 - Designs tested on-site at Brayton by January 2021
- Detailed Integrated Commercial System Design
 - **BASELOAD** system (83 MW): LCOE = $5.02 \text{ } \text{e}/\text{kWh}_{e}$
 - **PEAKER** system (65 MW_e): LCOE = 2.83 ϕ /kWh_e
 - PPA price (year 1) = $3.40 \text{ } \text{c/kWh}_{e}$
- Phase 3 Test Facility Design submitted
 - Emulates the form, fit, and function of the Commercial System
 - Incorporates commercial-scale components to showcase manufacturability and performance







LCOE (c/kWh

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Bringing together the people and the pieces for an

Thank You



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