Briefing Notice

How Combined Heat and Power Saves Money, Reduces Emissions and Improves Energy Security

Wednesday, May 22, 2013
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
210 Cannon House Office Building
Please RSVP to expedite check-in: www.eesi.org/052213CHP#RSVP

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) invites you to a briefing on how combined heat and power (CHP) technology can provide critical facilities (e.g. hospitals, wastewater treatment), businesses, institutions, and communities with more resilient and reliable heat and power, while at the same time reducing energy costs and harmful emissions over time. This briefing will introduce participants to CHP technology and present a number of recent case studies in which CHP systems helped communities pull through extreme weather events when the grid went down. Speakers will discuss both some of the opportunities and the barriers to deploying more CHP systems.

Speakers for this forum are:

- Anne Hampson, Senior Associate, ICF International
- Susan Wickwire, Chief, Energy Supply & Industry Branch, Climate Protection Partnerships Division, EPA
- Tom Bourgeois, Deputy Director, Pace Energy and Climate Center, Pace University
- Robert Araujo, Manager for Sustainable Development and Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S), Sikorsky Helicopter
- Dale Louda, Executive Director, CHP Association

A recent study from ICF International details numerous case studies on the critical role CHP played keeping the lights, heat and air conditioning on during recent extreme weather events across the country. New York State Emergency Services and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority have been identifying and developing strategies to increase the use of CHP in key facilities to advance disaster preparedness, business continuity, and community sustainability.

Combined heat and power systems combine the production of heat and power into one process, using much less fuel than when heat and power are produced separately. CHP systems can achieve energy efficiencies of 80 percent or more, compared to producing heat and power separately, which is on average less than 45 percent efficient. CHP provides reliable energy to users on site and nearby, minimizing electricity transmission losses (which can range up to 7 percent) and increasing the resilience and reliability of local energy supplies.

More than 3500 CHP systems are in use in the U.S. today. Most are fueled with natural gas, but renewable biomass, process wastes, and coal are also used. In 2011, the United States had more than 80 gigawatts (GW) of installed CHP capacity, representing about eight percent of total U.S. electric power generation capacity.

This event is free and open to the public.
For more information, contact Ned Stowe at nstowe@eesi.org or (202) 662-1885.