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Rural Renewable Energy Alliance

Jason Edens
MN BC 629837
NABCEP Certified
www.rreal.org

Form and Function: Solar Energy in Cold Climates





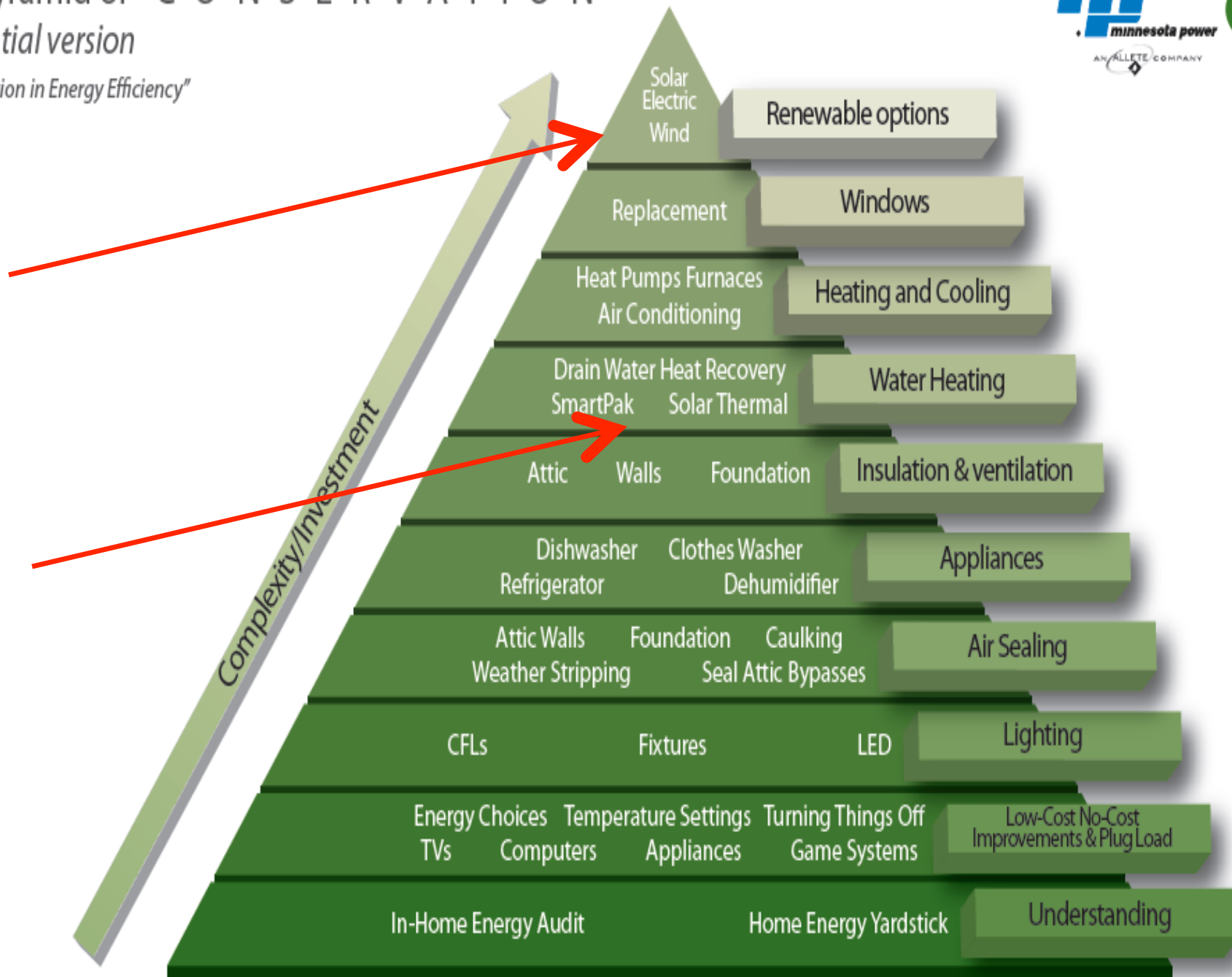
STOP

**What about
energy
efficiency?**

The Pyramid of CONSERVATION

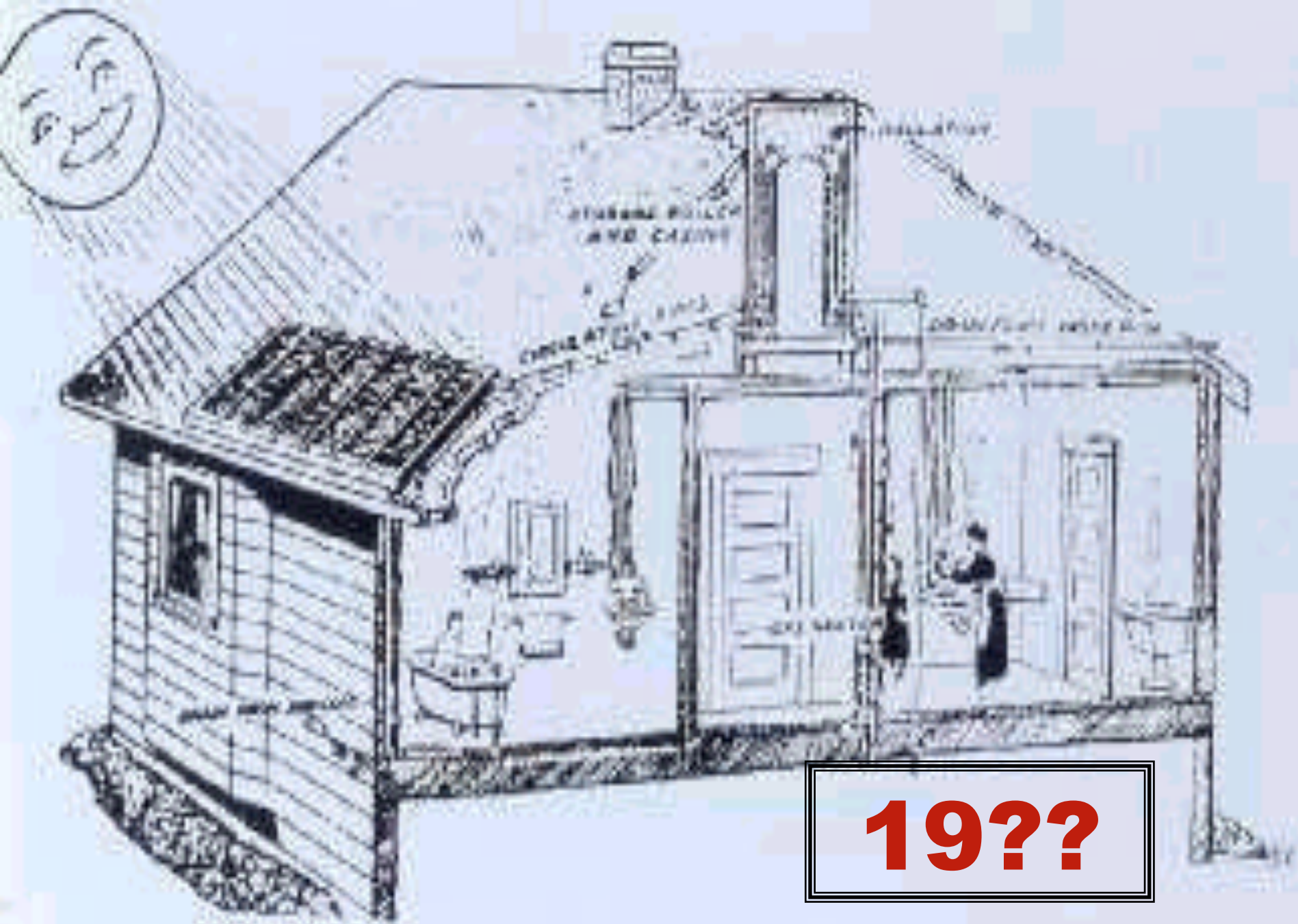
residential version

"A Foundation in Energy Efficiency"





Nothing New...



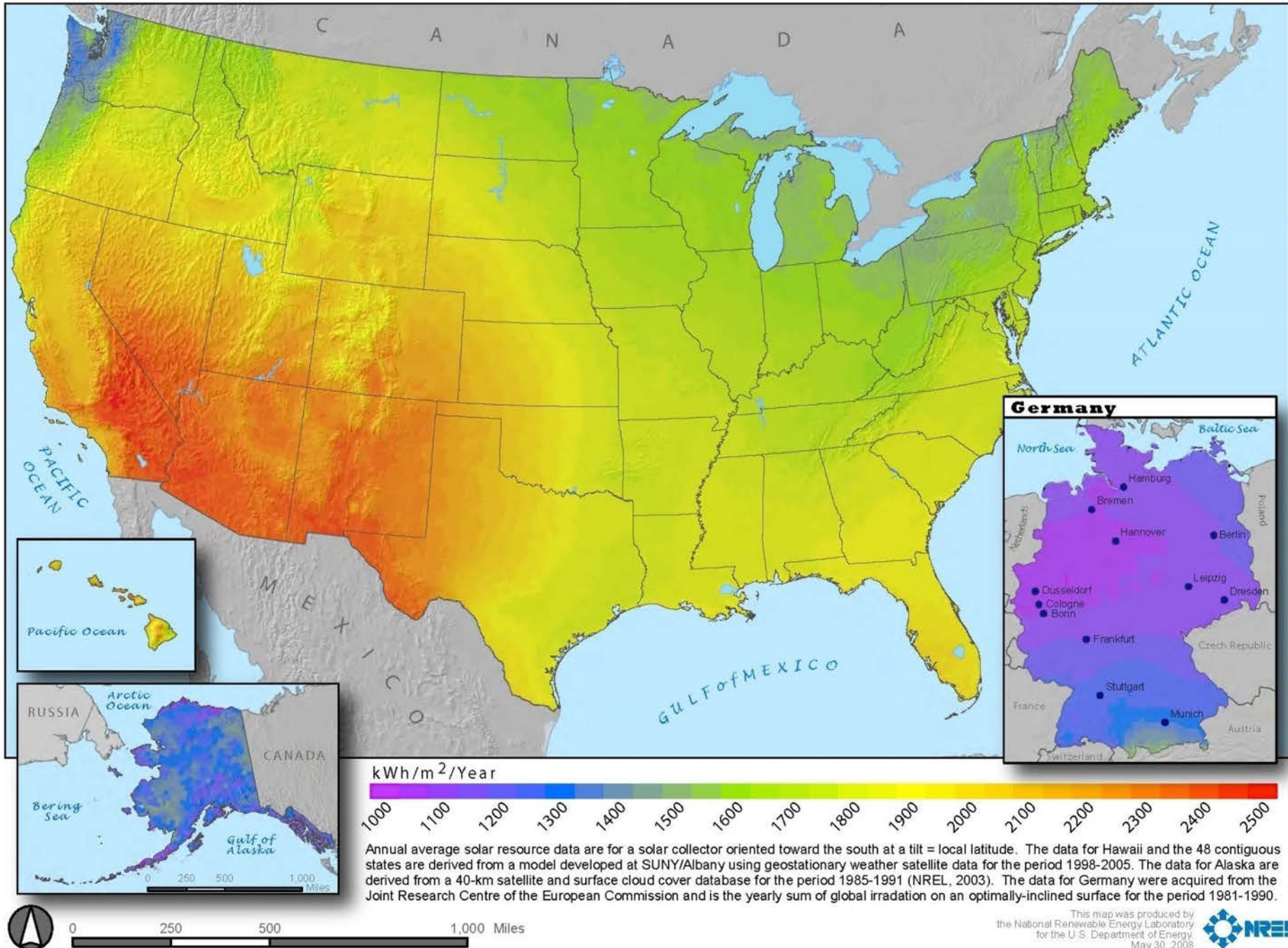
19??

Is Solar Energy an Appropriate Technology?

MAYBE!

- 1. Regional Solar Resource*
- 2. Site-based Solar Resource*
- 3. Site-based needs,
opportunities and limitations*

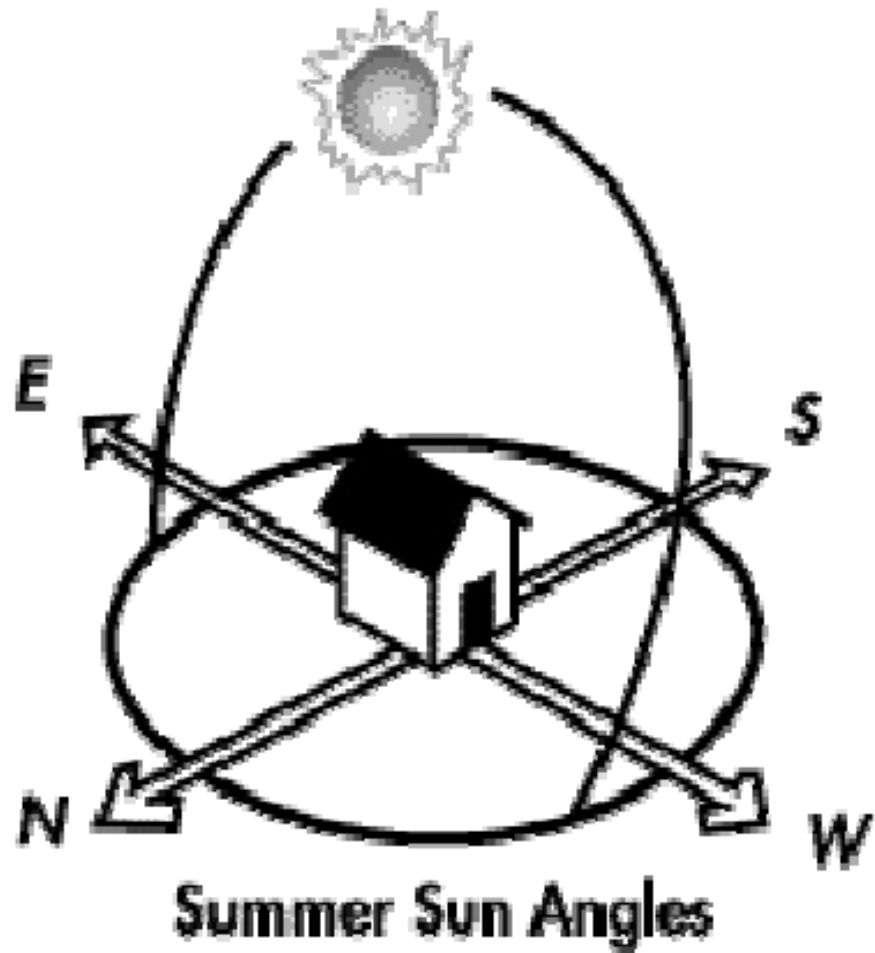
Photovoltaic Solar Resource : United States and Germany



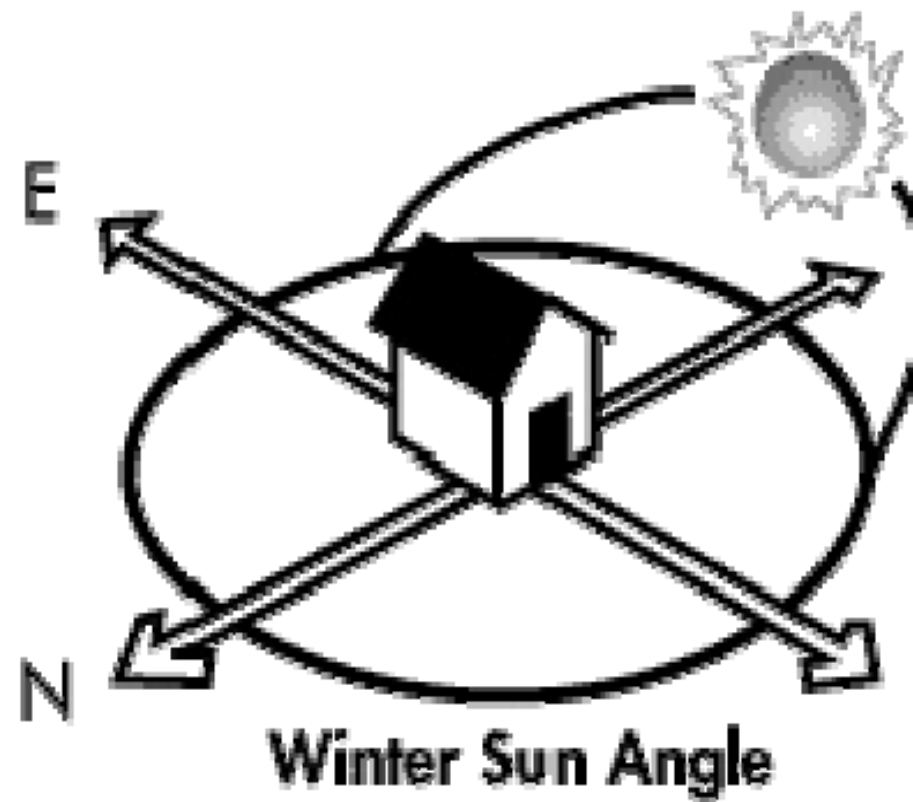
**Is your place
solar compatible?**



Sun Path



June 21st



December 21st



The Site Visit



Solar Energy

Solar Thermal

Solar Electric

Appropriate Solar Air Heating Systems

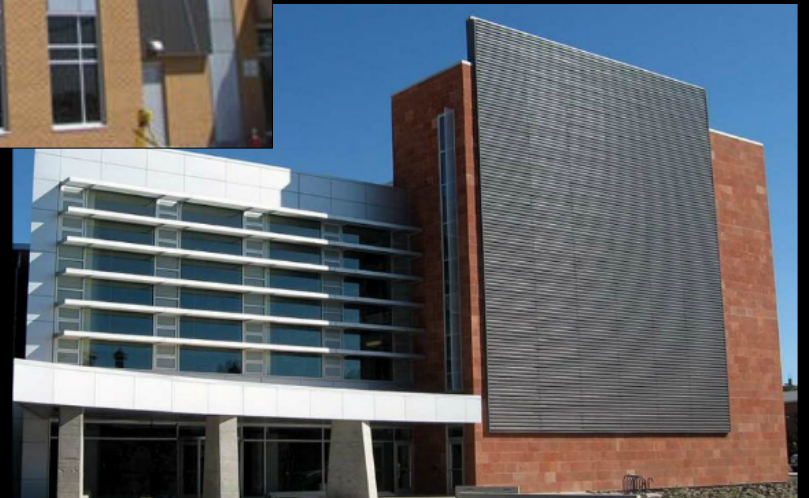


Transpired Air

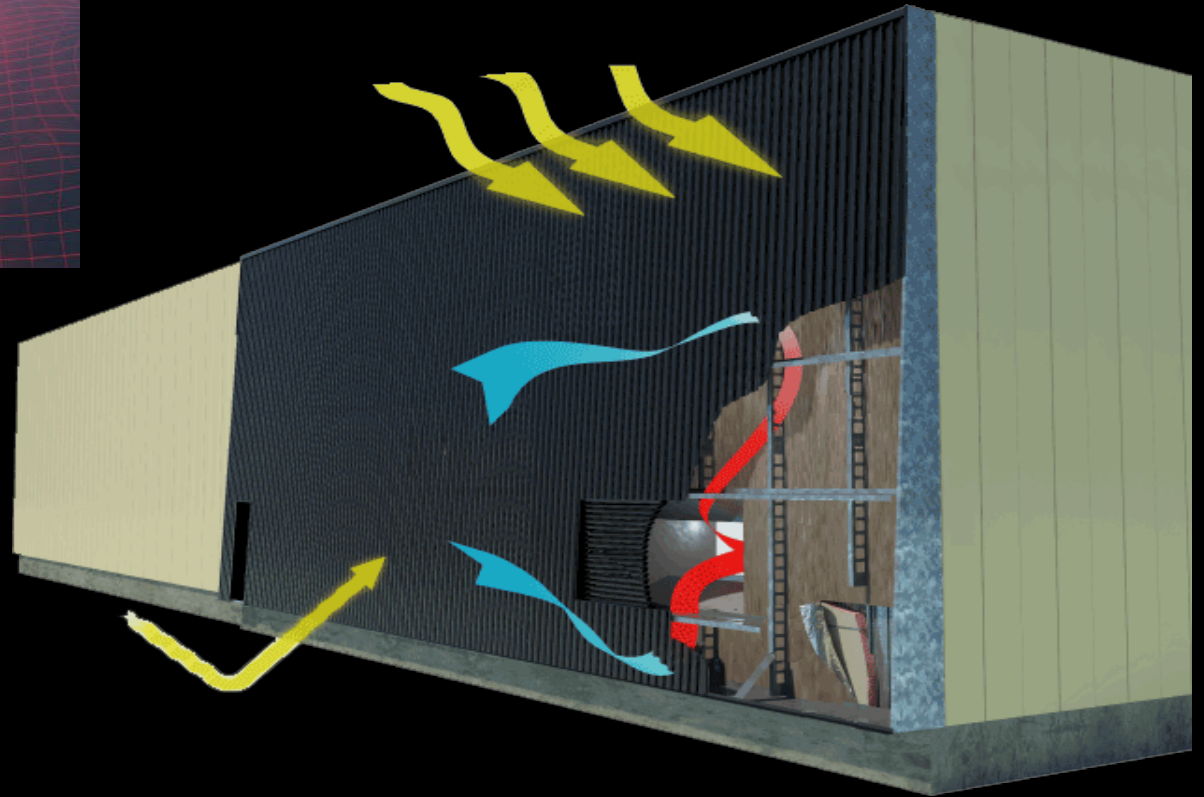
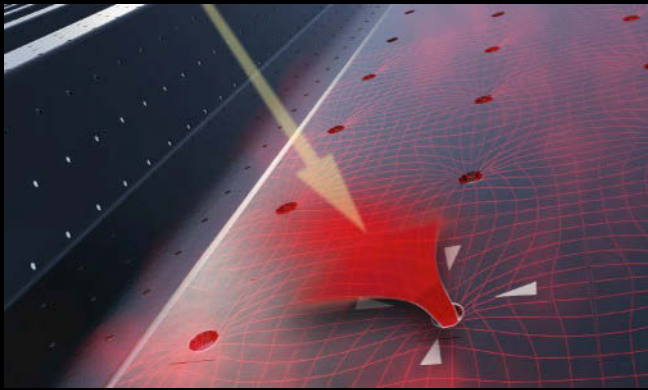


Recirculation Solar Air

Transpired Air



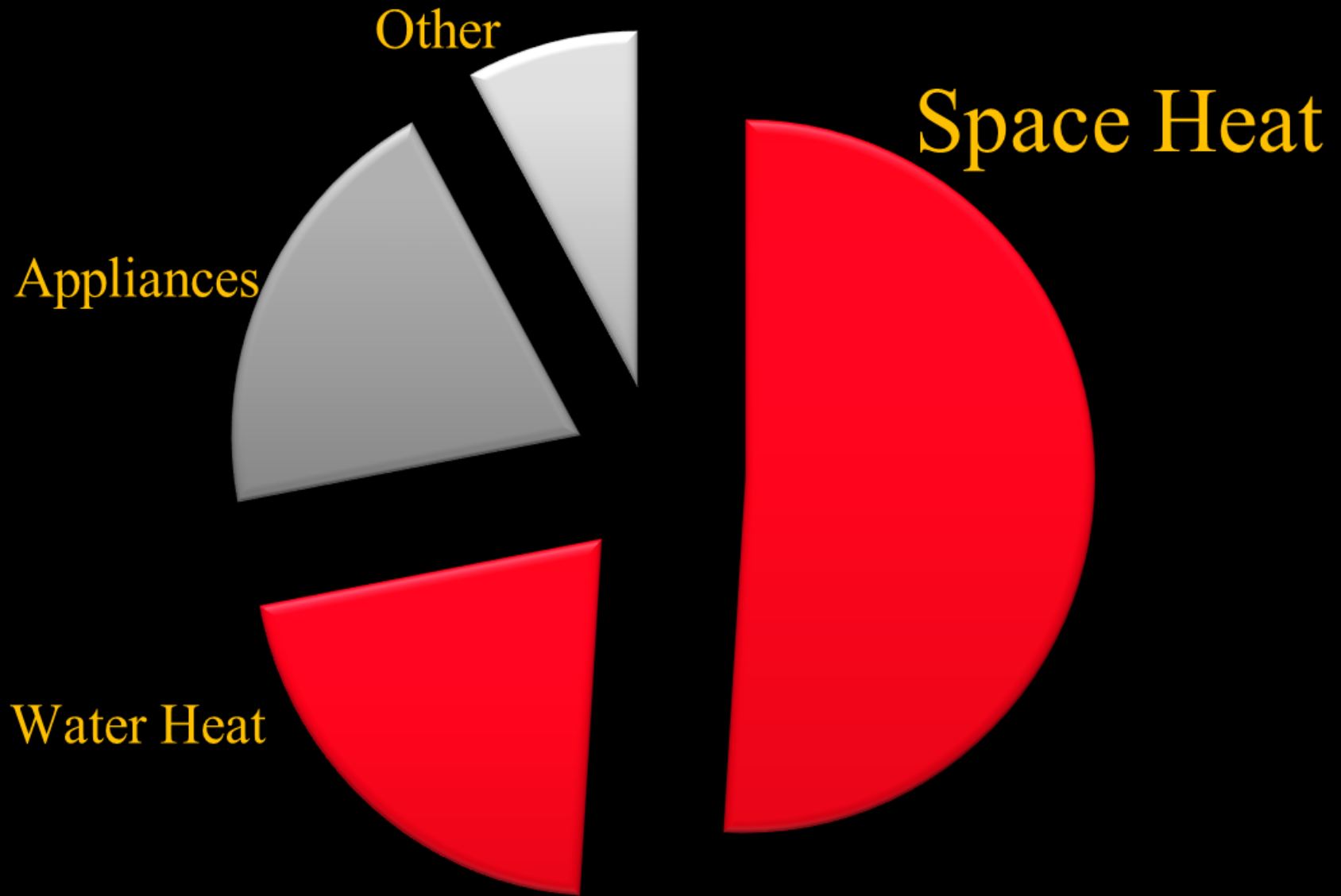
Pre-heating Ventilation Make-up Air with Solar Heat



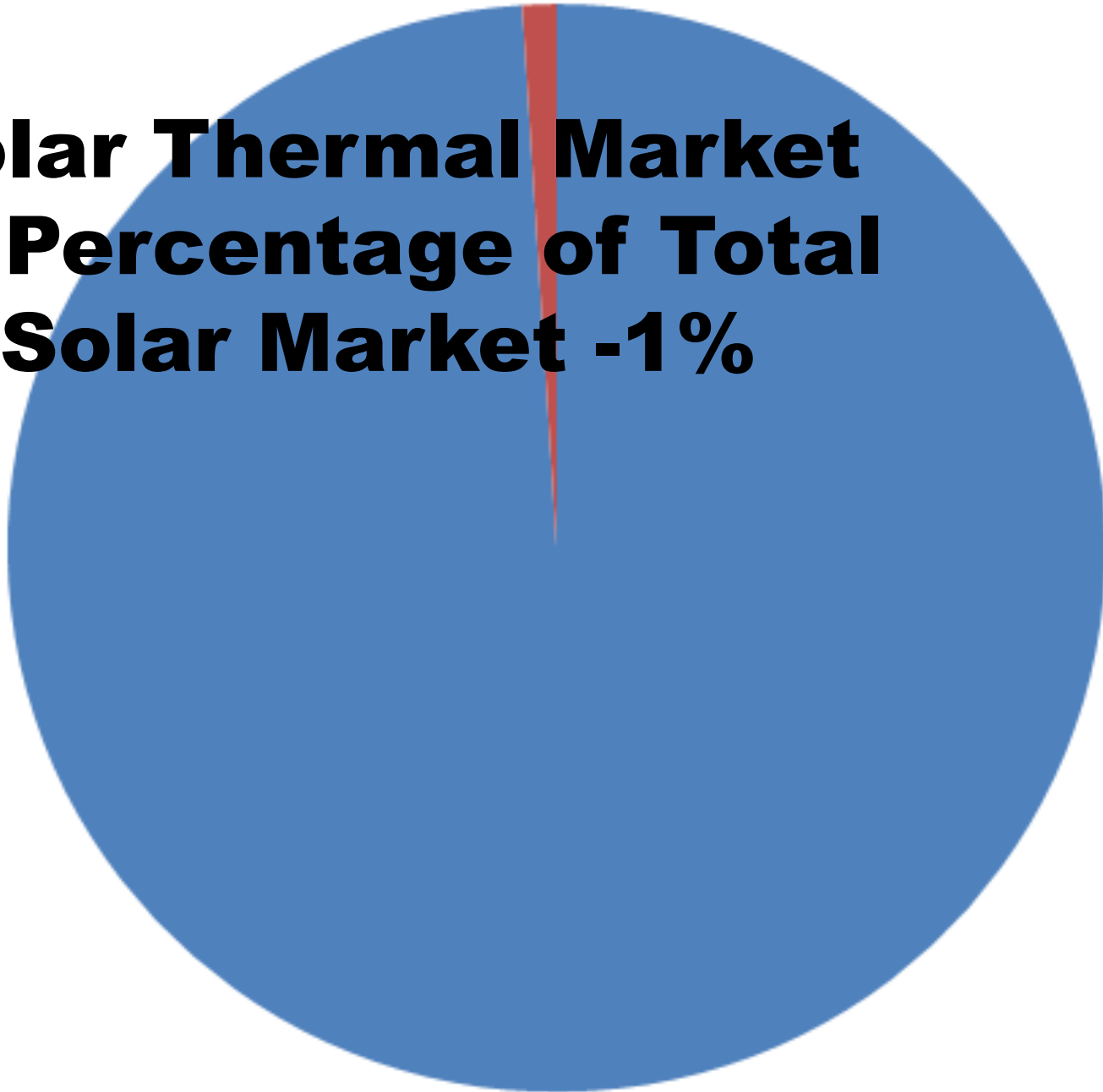
Transpired Air at Bemidji State



Why Solar Thermal?

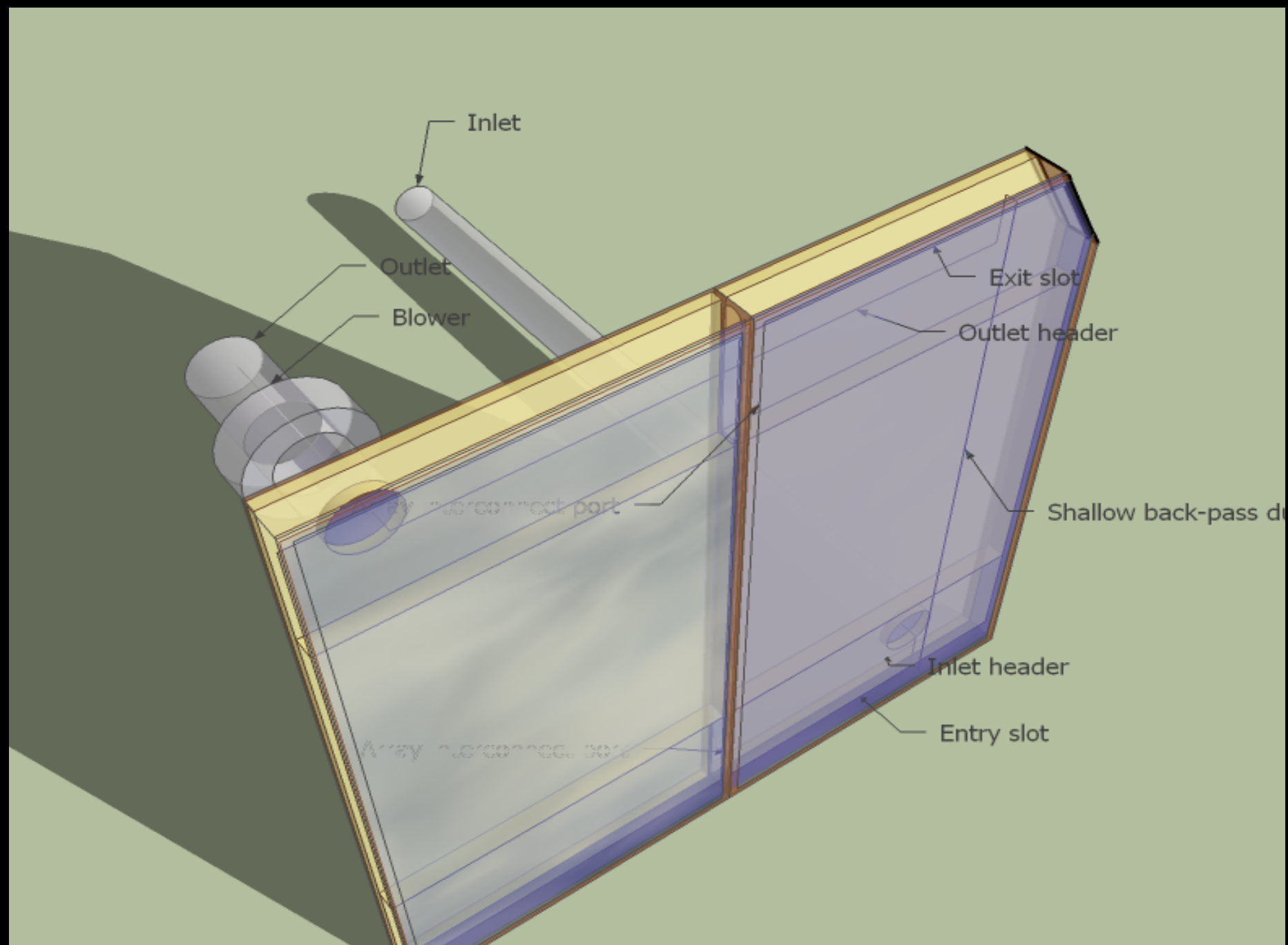


**Solar Thermal Market
as Percentage of Total
Solar Market -1%**



Solar Air Heat





Inlet

Outlet

Blower

Exit slot

Outlet header

Shallow back-pass duct

Inlet header

Entry slot

Array interconnect port

Array interconnect port

Site Selection



Fuel Source displaced

*Return on investment***

Payback

Propane

0

Fuel oil

Natural Gas

5.0%

Electricity

6.0%

Site Specific!



Solar Space Heating Systems





$$\text{Energysavings} = \sum_{\text{hour}=1}^{8760} (Q_{\text{usable}})_{\text{hour}}$$

$$Q_{\text{usable}} = \begin{cases} Q_u, & Q_u < E_L \\ E_L, & Q_u \geq E_L \end{cases}$$

$$E_L^* = \begin{cases} E_L \cdot (1 + \text{overheat}), & \text{HDD} > 0 \\ 0, & \text{HDD} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$I_T = I_b R_b + \text{diffuse sky} + \text{diffuse ground}$$

$$Q_{\text{usable}} = \begin{cases} Q_u, & Q_u < E_L^* \\ E_L^*, & Q_u \geq E_L^* \end{cases}$$

$$E_L^* = E_L \cdot (1 + \text{overheat})$$

$$\eta = \max\left(0, F_R \tau \alpha - F_R U_L \cdot \left[\frac{T_i - T_a}{I_T}\right]\right)$$

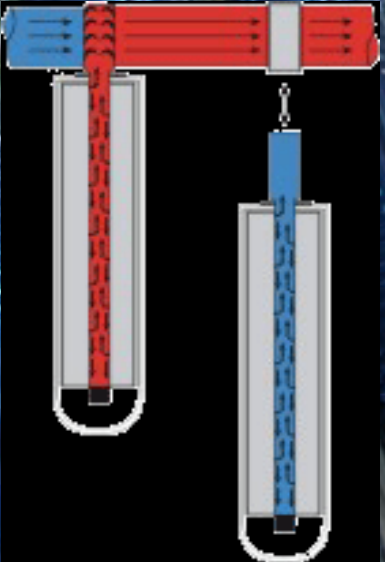
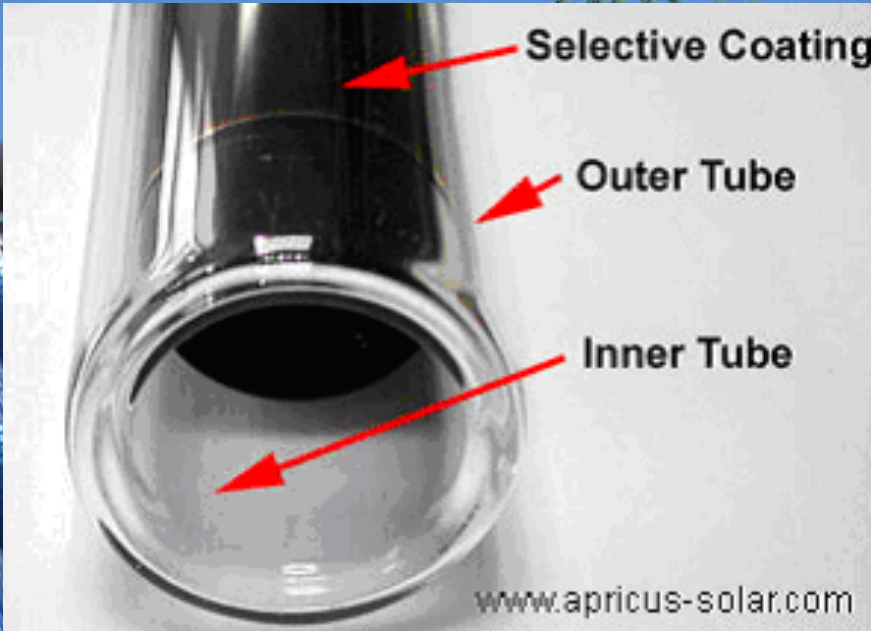
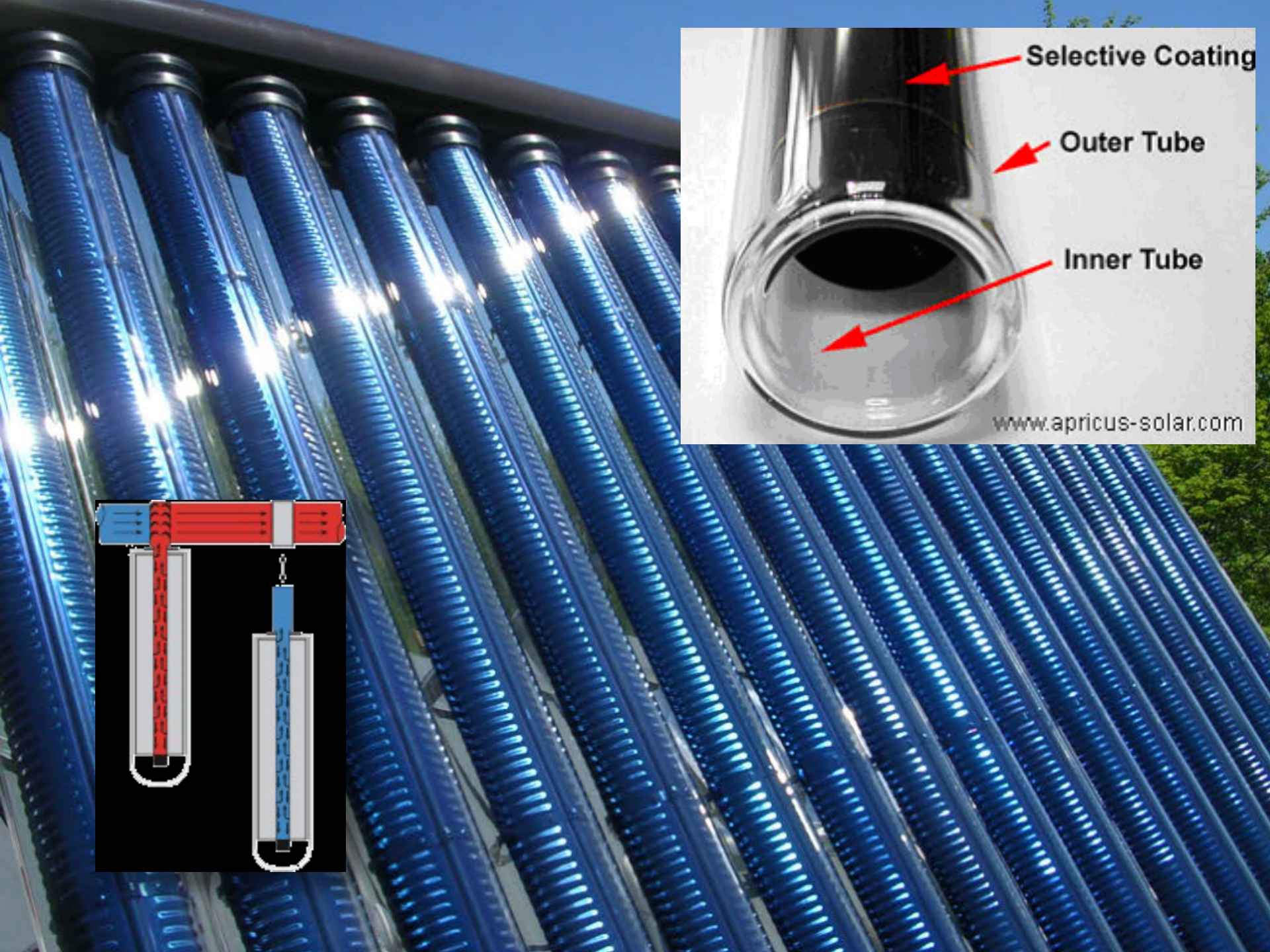
$$E_B = b0 + b1^* \cdot \max(0, b2 - T_a)$$

Solar Water Heat



Glazed Flat Plate Collectors





SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEM TYPES

- 
- 1. DRAINBACK**
 - 2. CLOSED-LOOP
PRESSURIZED ANTI-
FREEZE**

BASIC SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEM

