



Harney Community Energy

Harney Community Energy, LLC is a community-scale thermal energy services company providing affordable biomass heat to institutions and businesses in Harney County, Oregon while supporting local employment and enhancing forest restoration on the surrounding landscape. Wisewood Energy developed the project and was responsible for project finance, design, construction, and ownership and operations until mid-2017, when the local community took over long-term ownership through the newly formed High Desert Biomass Cooperative, enabling ongoing community economic development.



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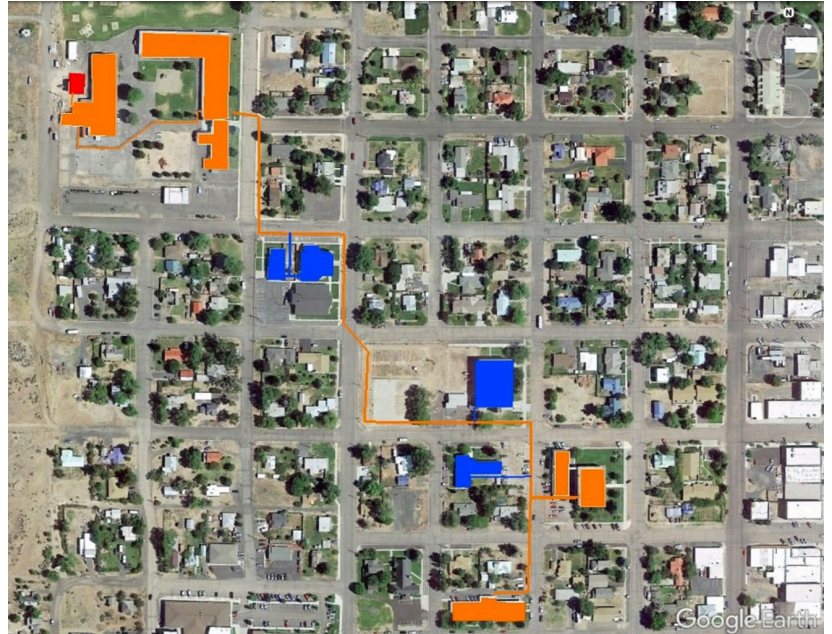
Community Infrastructure that Supports the Local Economy

Through a network of buried, pre-insulated steel and PEX pipes carrying steam and hot water, the HCE project is an expandable biomass district energy system that is providing heat to multiple community institutions using a single biomass boiler. The project will annually save up to:

- 17,000 gallons of fuel oil
- 40,000 gallons of propane
- \$135,000 in fuel costs

Additional savings can be expected as more buildings are connected to the system.

Buildings (orange) served by the HCE biomass boiler (red) in Burns, OR. Additional future connections with installed piping tees are shown in blue. →



Wood Chips: Direct from Local Forest Land

HCE is the first community-scale biomass district energy system in the Western US that can use "hog fuel," a coarse wood chip material that is produced directly from forest management and restoration activities. Hog fuel can be produced in a single pass through a large chipper/grinder and does not need additional processing. This allows the community to source its biomass fuel from a wide variety of vendors, including future local forest products businesses that could become established locally. The community was clear from the outset that pellets would not have the same economic or ecologic impact as a system that could utilize wood chips direct from the surrounding forest. Wisewood Energy brought together the technology to make this happen.

