

Bellingham Energy Center

Overview

- » Located in the town of Bellingham, in south central Massachusetts
- » A 300-megawatt gas or oil-fired, combined-cycle plant (150-megawatts net ownership)
- » A subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources operates the plant and owns 150 megawatts of the facility
- » An intermediate plant, which means it is dispatched to operate approximately 16 hours a day based on seasonal demand
- » When operating at full power, generates enough electricity for nearly 300,000 homes
- » Built by Westinghouse; began commercial operation in 1991
- » Acquired by NextEra Energy Resources in 1998



Benefits

- » Staff of 20 full-time employees
- » Pays about \$1.4 million in annual property taxes
- » Bellingham Energy Center supports the following community organizations: United Way, the Bellingham police department, the Bellingham fire department and Little League Baseball

How It Works

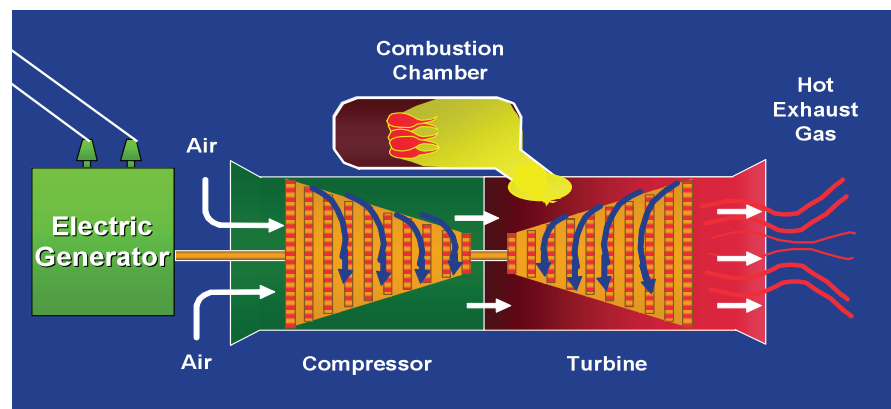
The Bellingham Energy Center generates electricity using both gas turbines and a steam turbine.

First, natural gas is ignited inside a combustion chamber. The hot exhaust gases blow into a gas turbine, spinning the turbine blades. (All power plants have a turbine with blades that are either spun by the wind, by water, by steam or by hot gases.)

The spinning turbine is connected by a shaft to a generator. The shaft turns the generator and the generator makes electricity.

About NextEra Energy Resources

- » A leading clean energy provider operating wind, natural gas, solar, hydroelectric and nuclear power plants across the nation
- » More than 18,000 megawatts of generating capacity in 26 states and Canada
- » The largest wind generator in North America with facilities in 17 states and Canada
- » A subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc., with headquarters in Juno Beach, Florida



The hot exhaust gases are then used to heat water to steam, and the steam is piped into steam turbines, which turn generators making additional electricity.

This is called a combined-cycle plant because it uses the combination of a gas turbine and

a steam turbine to extract maximum energy from the fuel used.

After passing through the steam turbine, the steam is condensed back into water, reheated to steam and used again in a continuous process.