ILLINOIS Facilities & Services

Discover what's

WHAT Abbott Power Plant does.

Provides reliable and environmentally responsible power for electricity and steam for space heating, domestic hot water heating and kitchen use to the majority of buildings on the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus.

WHEN it was built.

1940.

WHAT technologies make it unique.

- Combined heat and power to optimize energy efficiency.
- Fuel flexibility to enhance cost-effectiveness.
- Equipment redundancy to provide reliability.
- Flue-gas scrubbing to reduce emissions.

WHAT key equipment makes it work.

Electrical generating equipment capacity: 84 megawatts (MW)

Generators 1, 2, 3, 4	3 MW ea.
Generators 6, 7	7.5 MW ea.
Generators 8, 9	12.5 MW ea.
Generator 10	7 MW ea.
Gas turbines 1, 2	12.5 MW ea.

Steam production equipment capacity: 1,235,000 lb/hr

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Boilers 5, 6 Boiler 1, 2, 3 Boiler 7 Heat-recovery steam generators 1, 2 150,000 lb/hr ea. 175,000 lb/hr ea. 190,000 lb/hr ea.

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110,000 lb/hr ea.

Emissions controls

Chiyoda flue-gas desulfurization system (wet scrubber with jet bubbling reactor [JBR] design)

Electrostatic precipitators (three)

HOW MUCH electricity and steam it produces.

84 MW electricity, with 77 MW peak load **1,235,000 lb/hr steam**, with peak demand approximately 550,000 lb/hr





Abbott 1940

Electric generating equipment capacity: 6 MW Steam turbine generators (two) 3 MW ea.

Peak electrical load: 1.5 MW

Steam production equipment capacity: 240,000 lb/hr Boilers (three) 80,000 lb/hr ea.

Oscar F. Mayer, a founder of Oscar Mayer Co., signed contracts facilitating Abbott Power Plant's startup when he was president of the University of Illinois' Board of Trustees, 1938 to 1940.

The plant's namesake is William L. Abbott, an 1884 mechanical engineering graduate of the University of Illinois. He served on the university's Board of Trustees from 1905 to 1923. Abbott was nationally recognized as "the dean of the electric light and power industry."

For more information, contact

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Abbott Power Plant, 1940 Courtesy of the University of Illinois Archives, Series 37-2-12 (box 1), Abbott Power Plant Photographs