

Journey to the 40% Mine

Sector-wide reduction of energy consumption
associated with mining to 40% of year 2000 levels,
by 2040

McGill University, 30th October, 2015

Dean Millar

MIRARCO Research Chair of Energy in Mining

Professor, Bharti School of Engineering, Laurentian University

dmillar@mirarco.org

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MIRARCO's Energy, Renewables & Carbon Management Team



Tom Clifford
Turbomachinery
Efficiency
(Riventa)



Harvard Farrant
Wind Energy /
Mine Energy
Services Co



Alex Hutchison
HAC Gas
mixing
/separation



Ariel Kadiayi
Mine
refrigeration



Saruna Kunwar
Cryogenic
Mine
Ventilation



Dr Michelle
Levesque
Mine Energy
Audits
(now CANMET)



Dr Dean
Millar
Director



Dr Caterina Noula
Analytical Chemist
for HAC project



Valeria Pavese
HAC Efficiency



Javier Rico-Paez
(UQAT)
Jet Pump
Cooling



Alberto Romero
Optimal Mine
Site Energy
Supply



Sujit Sengupta
HAC
Cryogenics /
Electrical
(Admira
Distributed
Hybrid Energy
Systems)



Dr Kim Trapani
Deep Mine
Cooling/
Floating
Photovoltaics /
Carbon
Business



David Vitone
HAC Demo
Project
Manager
(CEMI)



Steve Young
HAC
Hydrodynamics



Chen Zhuo
Deep Mine
Cooling

What is a 40% Mine?

The 40% Mine:

Identification of a portfolio of energy conservation, energy efficiency, energy storage and renewable energy technologies to bring primary energy consumption associated with mineral production down to 40% of that today, by the year 2040.

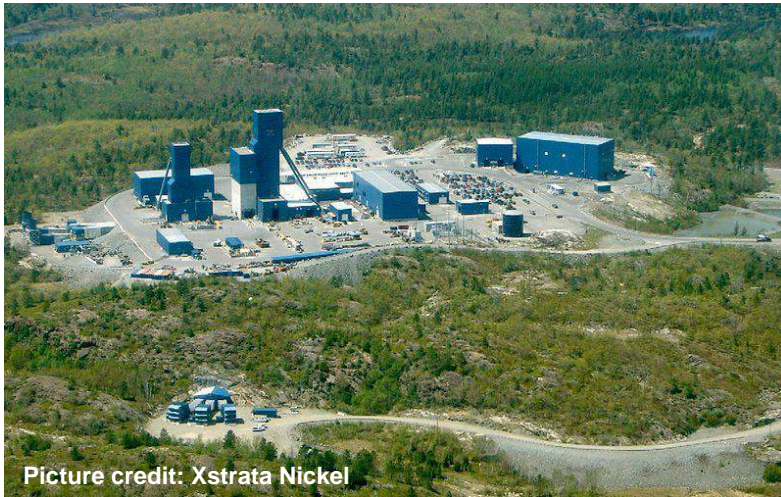
Motivation:

The research considers targeted energy solutions for mining operators that bring about the benefits of lower energy consumption, lower cost and lower environmental impact.

Why do we need a 40% Mine?

Wherever it goes on, mineral production is an energy intensive process; energy costs are dictating mine economics

1st equation:



=



Nickel Rim South

Discovered: 2001

Nameplate production achieved: 2011

Initial producing life: 15 years

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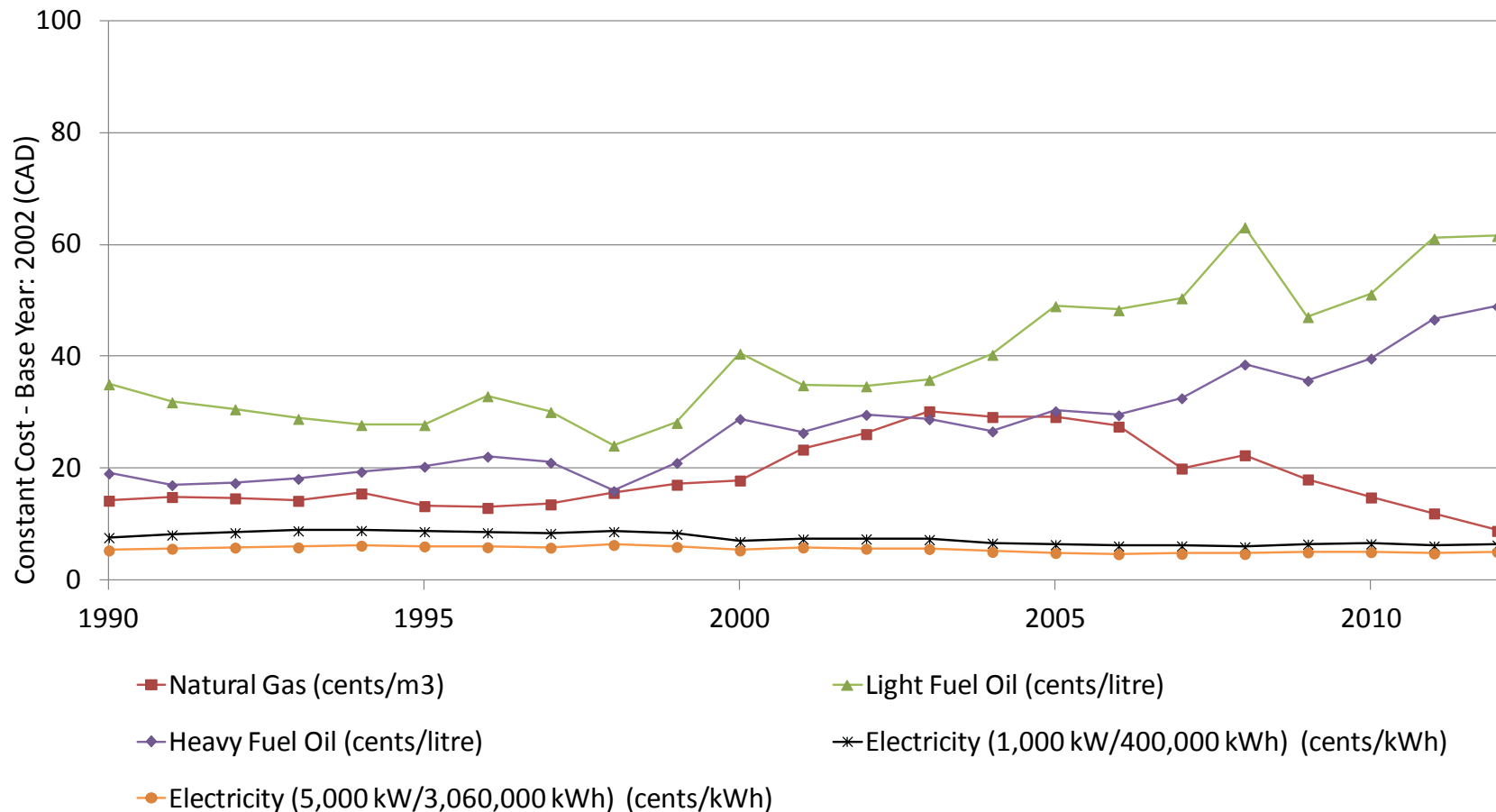
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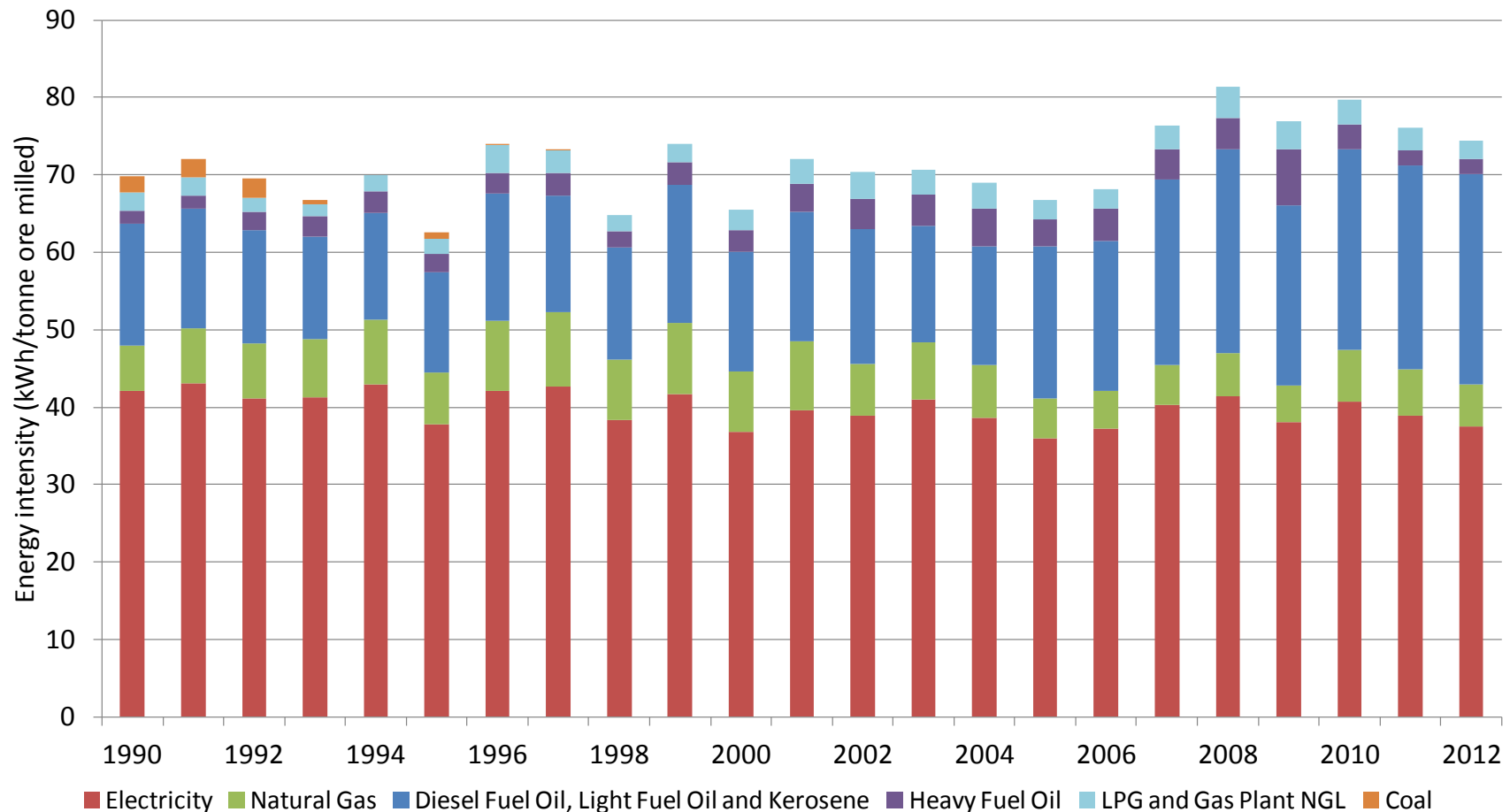


Diesel prices have risen since 1990



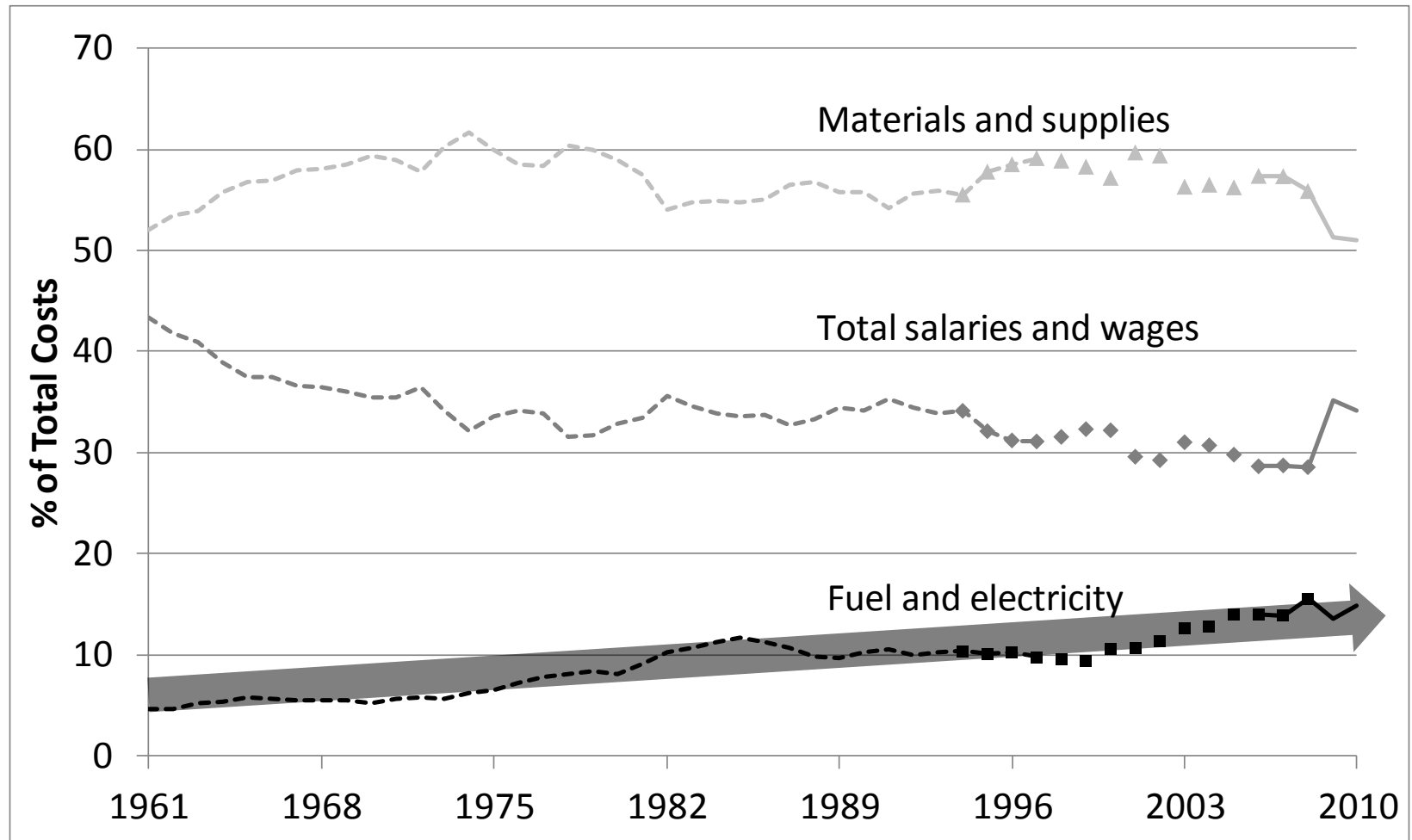
(Natural Resources Canada ca. 2014, Statistics Canada 2015)

It appears that electricity savings have enabled increased diesel consumption



Canadian copper, nickel, lead and zinc mines energy intensity 1990-2012 (Natural Resources Canada, nd)

Proportion of total costs allocated to energy for metal mines in Canada has risen to 15%



How could we do a 40%
Mine 'for real'?

Practical options for a 40% Mine today must have Technology Readiness Level (TRL) >8

TRL	Description of Level
Level 9	Actual technology proven through successful deployment in an operational setting.
Level 8	Actual technology completed and qualified through tests and demonstrations.
Level 7	Prototype ready for demonstration in an appropriate operational environment.
Level 6	System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a simulated environment.
Level 5	Component and/or validation in a simulated environment.
Level 4	Component and/or validation in a laboratory environment.
Level 3	Analytical and experimental critical function and/or proof of concept.
Level 2	Technology concept and/or application formulated.
Level 1	Basic principles of concept are observed and reported.

Source: Canada Mining Innovation Council (CMIC): <http://www.cmic-ccim.org/>

CMIC has identified a range of technology options

- Waste heat recovery in mines (TRL 8 or 9)
 - Use warm exhaust air to heat up cold intake air
- VAM / methane drainage (TRL 7 to 9)
- Kalina cycle / Organic Rankine Cycle (TRL 8 or 9)
 - Low temperature thermal resources
- Hydropower generation (TRL 9)
 - Low flow/ high head applications: Minewater, hydraulic fill, paste fill
- Hydropowered mining equipment (TRL 9)
 - Northam Platinum Mine, Mponeng Mine,
- Regenerative breaking of downward mass flows (TRL 9)
 - Conveyors, Archimedian Screw Turbine, Electric vehicles, Trolley assist
- Seasonal Storage of thermal and mechanical power (TRL 9)
 - Stobie Ice Stope / Creighton Mine Natural Heat Exchange Area

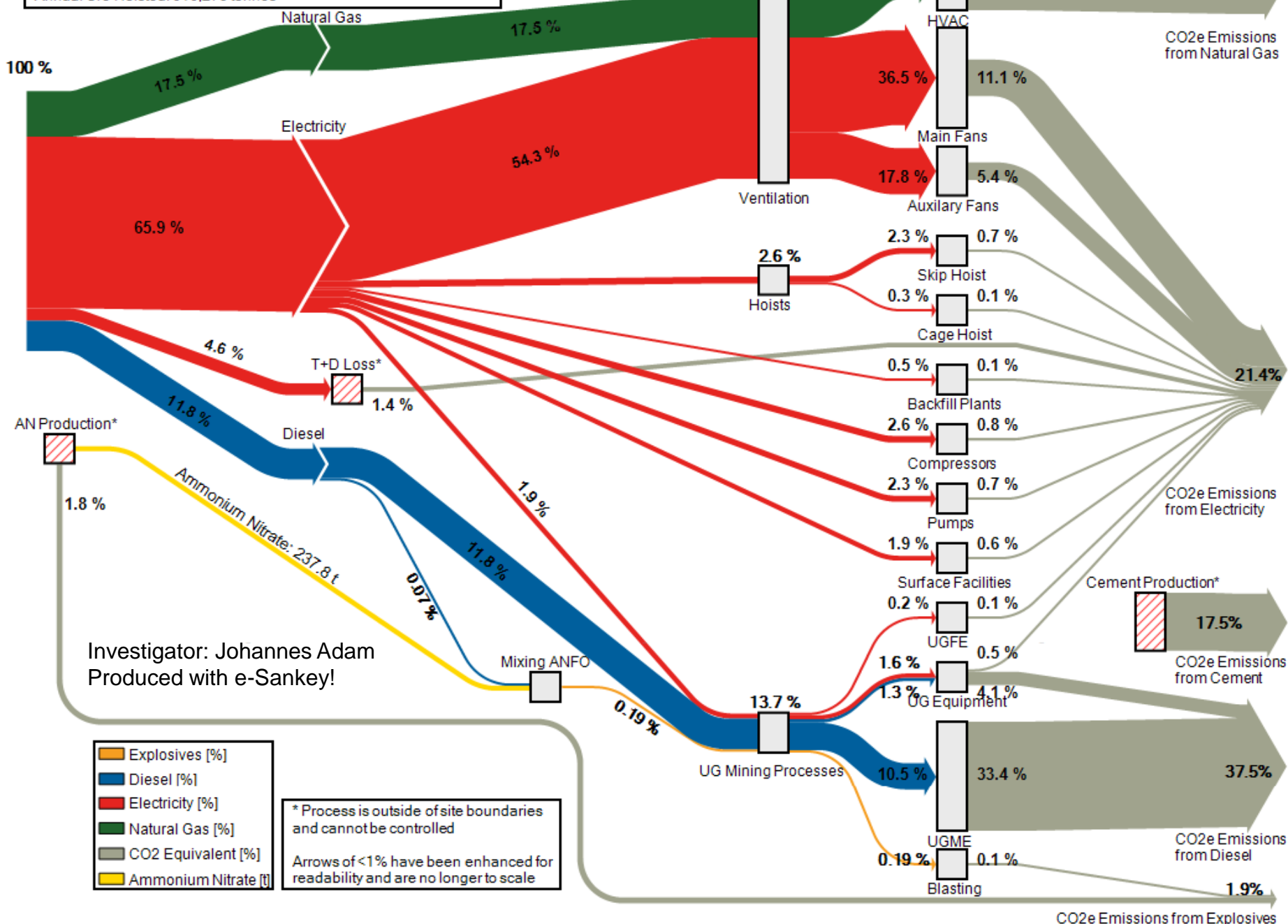
40% Mine Strategy

- Reduce wasted energy
 - Eliminate obvious waste
 - Improved control systems
 - Storage of wasted energy for future use
- Use energy more efficiently
 - Improved control systems
 - Storage systems
 - Higher efficiency technology
- Technological solutions
 - Renewables
 - Re-newed technology

Example 1

Mine Energy / CO2e Breakdown

Annual Energy Use: 139,519MWh Annual CO2e Emissions: 47,885t
Annual Ore Hoisted: 616,279 tonnes



Initial energy, cost and emissions statement

Process	Proportions of Base Consumption			
	Type	Energy %	Cost %	Emissions %
HVAC	Natural Gas	17.5%	5.2%	21.7%
Main Fans	Electricity	36.5%	38.5%	11.1%
Auxiliary Fans		17.8%	18.8%	5.4%
Skip Hoist		2.3%	2.4%	0.7%
Cage Hoist		0.29%	0.31%	0.09%
Backfill Plants		0.46%	0.49%	0.14%
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Surface Facilities		1.9%	2.0%	0.58%
UG FE (Crusher)		0.23%	0.24%	0.07%
UG Equipment		1.6%	1.7%	0.48%
	Diesel	1.3%	2.4%	4.1%
UG ME		10.5%	19.4%	33.4%
	Explosives	0.07%	0.14%	-
ANFO Blasting		0.19%	3.49%	1.9%
Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%
Totals:	Totals:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Ventilation: 54.3%

Ventilation + Winter air heating: 71.8%

Investigator: Dr Michelle Levesque

Measure 1: Slippery, well installed, auxiliary ventilation ducting + Ventilation On Demand (TRL = 9)

Auxiliary ventilation duct strings can be designed and assessed with a useful, freely downloadable, tool:

<https://zone.biblio.laurentian.ca/dspace/handle/10219/2301>

70% savings against layflat and fixed speed fans, ~1 year payback

Source: Levesque, 2015. An improved energy management methodology for the mining sector. PhD Thesis, Laurentian University

Other initiatives:

Inflatable, velcro fixed exhaust cones
Improved characterization of leakage



Measure 1: Slippery, well installed, auxiliary ventilation ducting + VOD

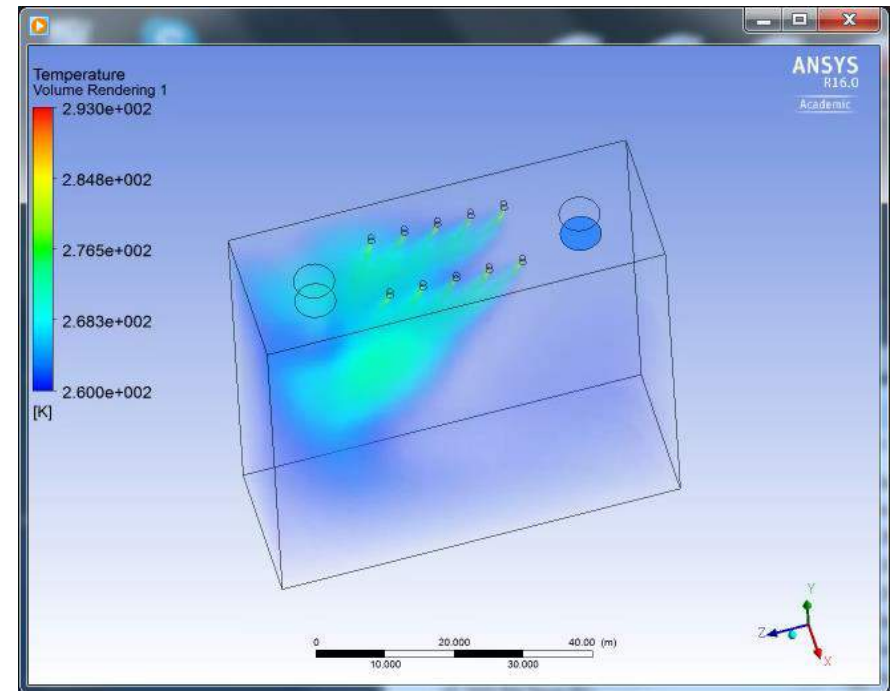
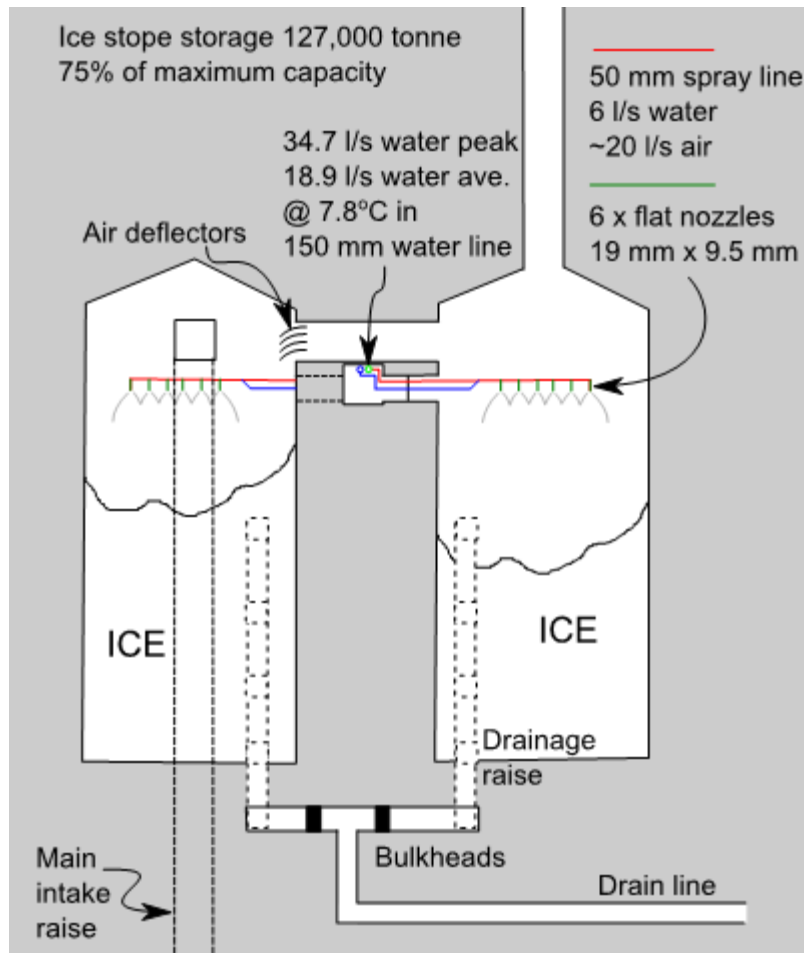
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T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%
Totals:	Totals:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Saving

70%

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ANFO Blasting	Explosives	0.1%	0.14%	-
		0.2%	3.49%	1.9%
Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%
Totals:	Totals:	87.5%	86.9%	96.2%

Measure 2: Eliminate natural gas usage completely through use of snow cannons and open stopes / voids (TRL = 9)



CAPEX (excavation) : CAD 10/m³
Mine pumps already lift warm water
Main fans already provide air movement

Air heating system at Stobie Mine, Sudbury

Measure 2: Snow cannons and open stopes / voids

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T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%

Totals: Totals: 100.0% 100.0% 100.0%

Saving

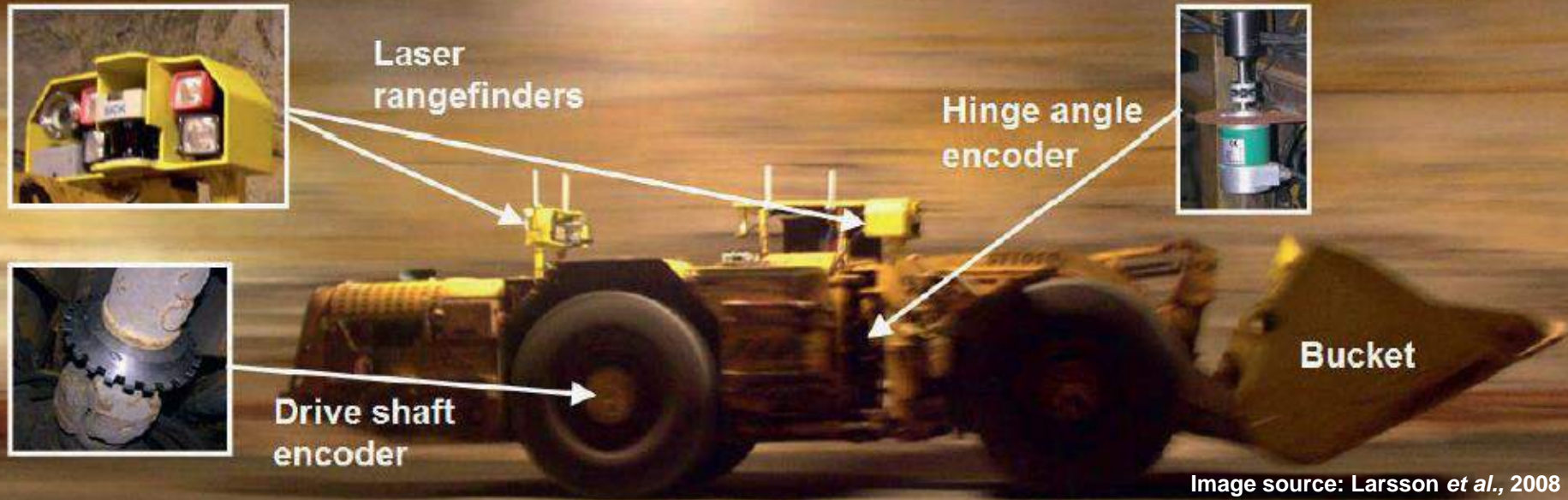
100%

70%

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		0.2%	3.49%	1.9%
Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%

Totals: Totals: 70.1% 81.7% 74.5%

Measure 3: **Electrification** of sub-surface mining equipment will improve worker health, with similar cost and save energy



- Substantially reduced ventilation requirements due to lower airborne contaminants and less heat (electric motors are efficient prime movers)
- For mobility/flexibility: run on conventional batteries, flow batteries or fuel cells
- Modern communications: remotely operated (to improve worker health & safety)
- Automate operation for enhanced productivity
- There is now appreciable effort deployed in R&D sector and by OEMs in development of battery-electric production equipment

Kirkland Lake Gold

- Battery electric scoops were 164% of diesel scoop costs (130 kW)
- Battery electric haul trucks are reported to have 65% of diesel cost per hour (170 kW)
- Trends positive: reliability improving, costs reducing



Source: Schuman, M. 2015. Case study: Battery powered underground mobile equipment. Presentation at Energy and Mines Summit, Toronto, 23rd October.

The ratings of battery electric production equipment are becoming greater

ScoopTram BEST7

- 7t bucket capacity
- Built on same chassis as diesel for commonality
- Lithium Ion battery packs
- Quick battery change out in 10 minutes
- Runtime on one battery is 3-4 hours depending on application



MineTruck BEMT2010

- 20t payload capacity
- Runtime on one battery is ~3 hours loaded up ramp.
- Consider your mine design to travel down ramp loaded, and up empty.
- Regenerative braking.



Source: Travis Battley. Atlas Copco, Pers. Comm.



Measure 3: Electrification (TRL = 8 now, but TRL = 9 by 2020)

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Totals: Totals: **100.0%** **100.0%** **100.0%**

Saving

100%

70%

-3.9%

100%

100%

Process	Proportions of Base Consumption			
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HVAC	Natural Gas	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Main Fans	Electricity	36.5%	38.5%	11.1%
Auxiliary Fans		5.3%	5.6%	1.6%
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UG Equipment		5.4%	5.7%	1.65%
UG ME	Diesel	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
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ANFO Blasting	Explosives	0.1%	0.14%	-
ANFO Blasting	Explosives	0.2%	3.49%	1.9%
Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%

Totals: Totals: **62.2%** **64.0%** **38.2%**

Measure 4: Revise ventilation system loading due to reduced DPM emissions (TRL = 9)

2nd Equation: (for the main mine fans):

$$\text{MWh} \propto RQ^3$$

so reducing air flow volume to 73% of its former value will reduce the electrical energy consumed by the fan to 39% of its former value

Measure 4: Modulate main fans for reduced airborne contaminant

Process	Proportions of Base Consumption			
	Type	Energy %	Cost %	Emissions %
HVAC	Natural Gas	17.5%	5.2%	21.7%
Main Fans	Electricity	36.5%	38.5%	11.1%
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Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%
Totals:	Totals:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Saving

100%

61%

70%

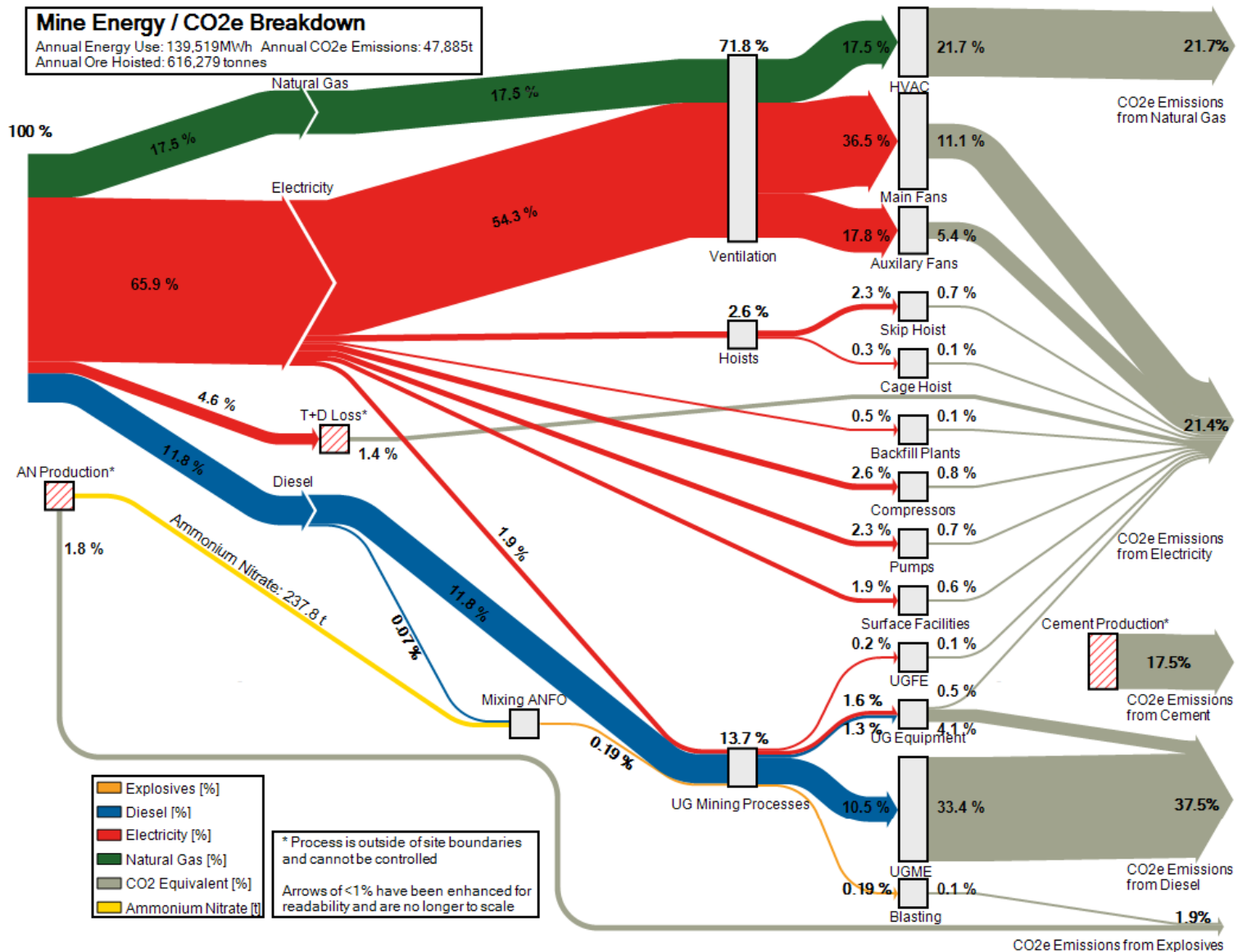
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100%

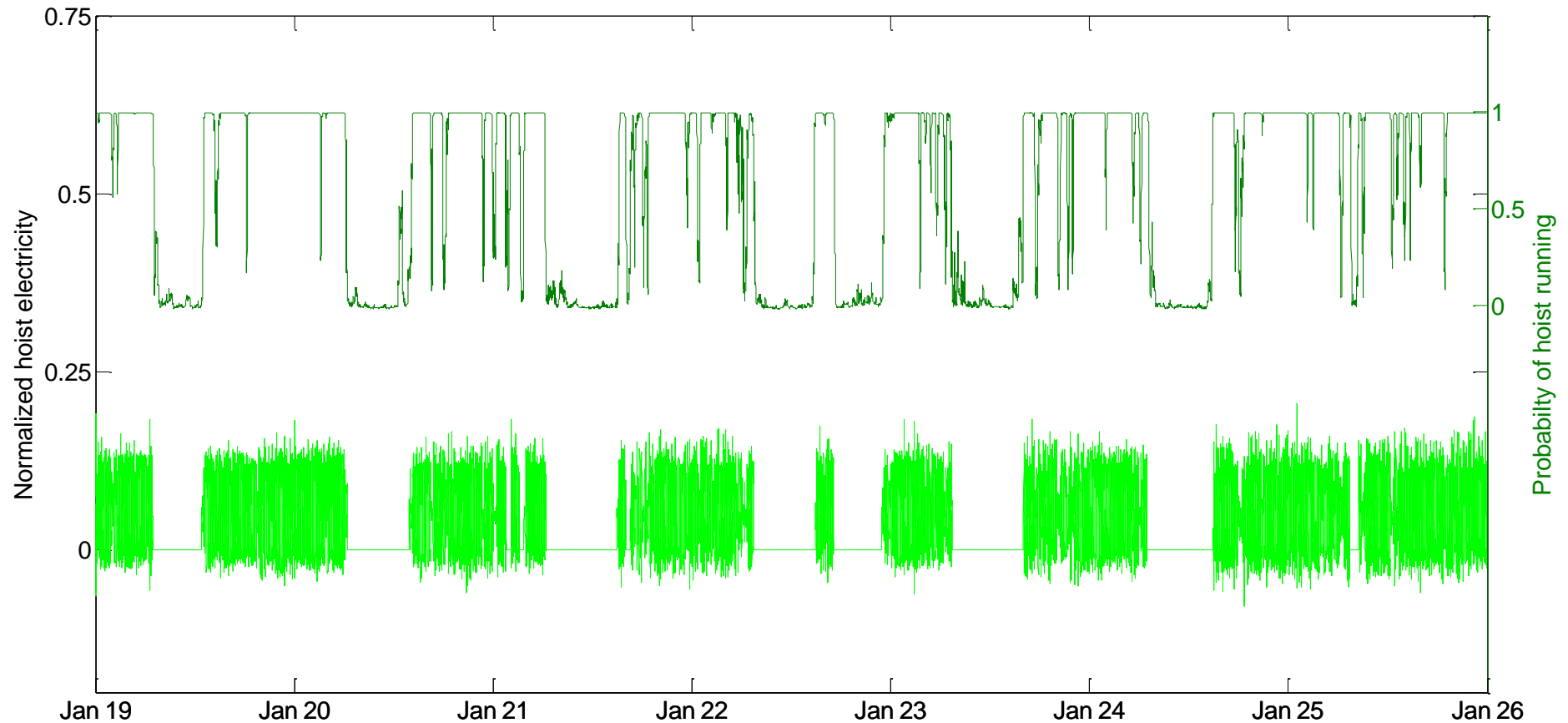
100%

Process	Proportions of Base Consumption			
	Type	Energy %	Cost %	Emissions %
HVAC	Natural Gas	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Main Fans	Electricity	14.2%	15.0%	4.3%
Auxiliary Fans		5.3%	5.6%	1.6%
Skip Hoist		2.3%	2.4%	0.7%
Cage Hoist		0.3%	0.31%	0.09%
Backfill Plants		0.5%	0.49%	0.14%
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ANFO Blasting	Explosives	0.1%	0.14%	-
		0.2%	3.49%	1.9%
Paste Plant	Cement			17.5%
T + D Losses	Electricity	4.6%	4.83%	1.39%
Totals:	Totals:	39.9%	40.6%	31.4%

The thin lines in the Sankey diagram need investigation too, for increased cost savings, via load levelling



The hoist consumed 4% of the total electricity at the mine



Are all 40% Mines the same?

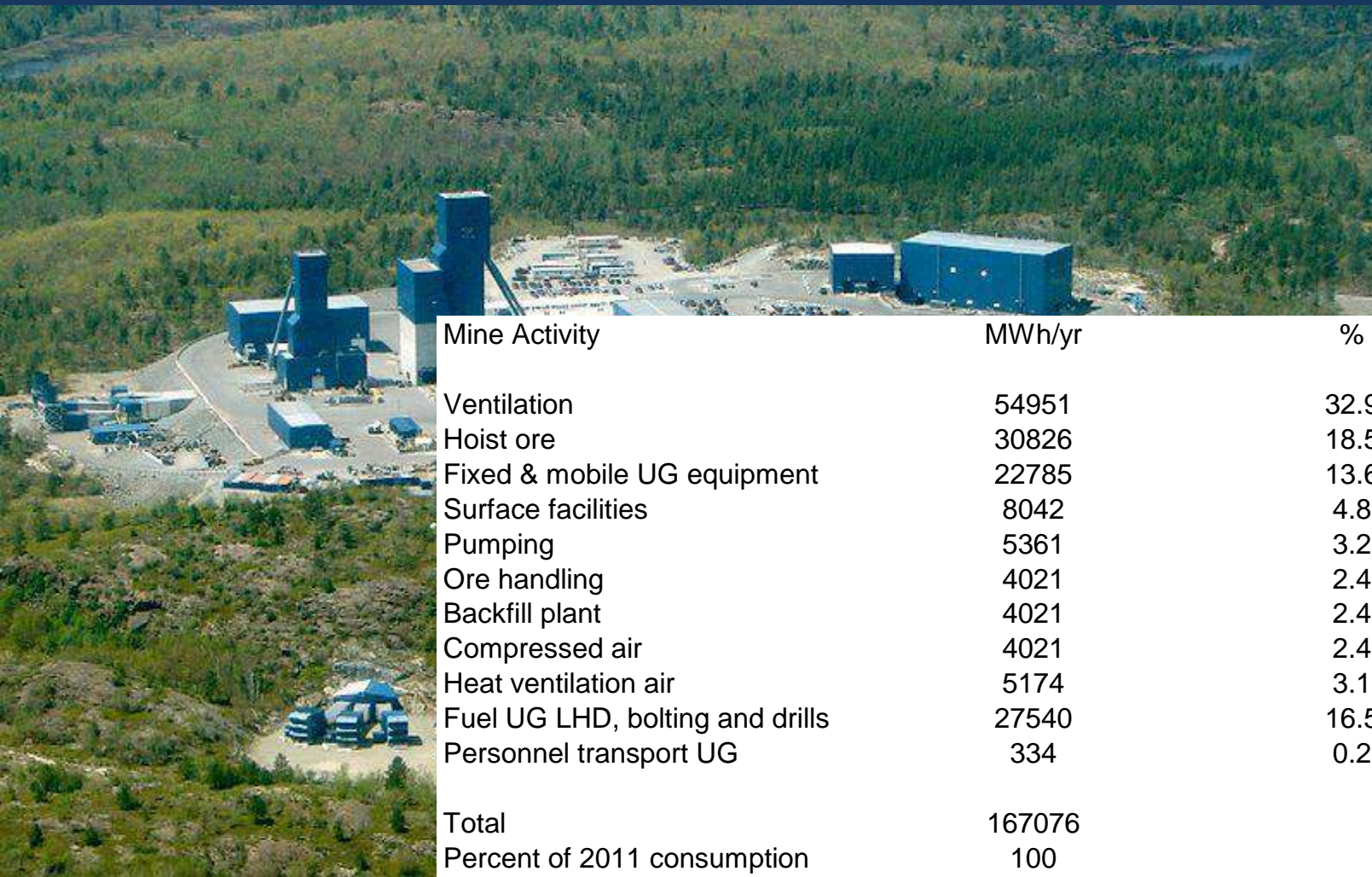
No!

Example 2: A mine consuming 40% of the energy it does today, in 2040



Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

In a new mine, some of the 'easy wins', such as VOD, are already employed, with the result that ventilation energy is already lower



Energy Type

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Electricity

Natural Gas

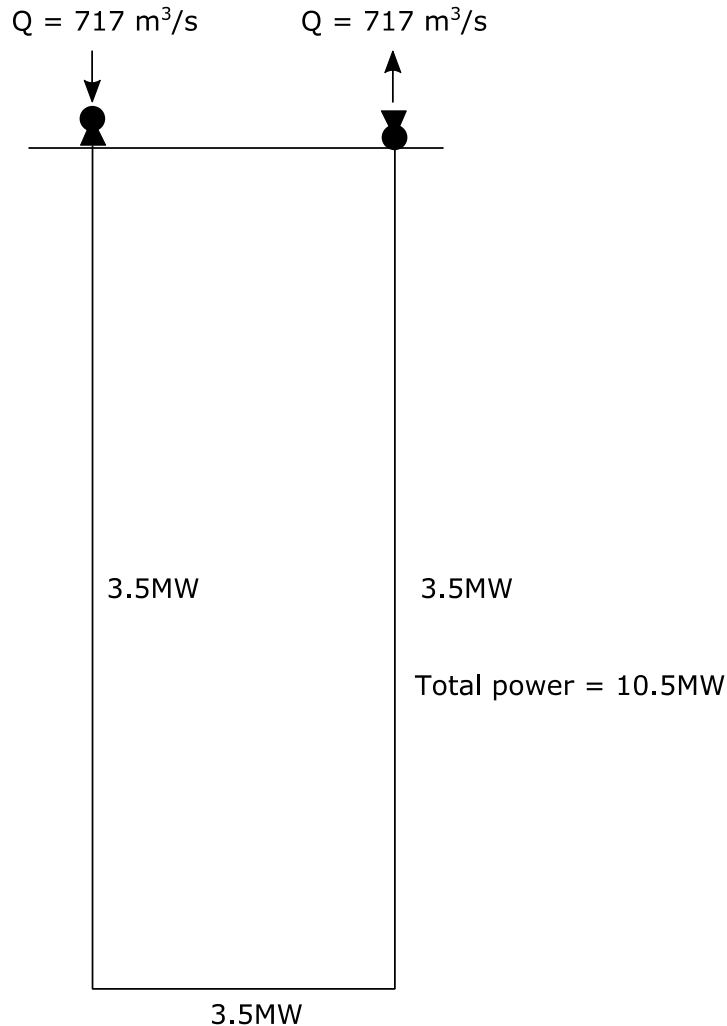
Diesel

Gasoline

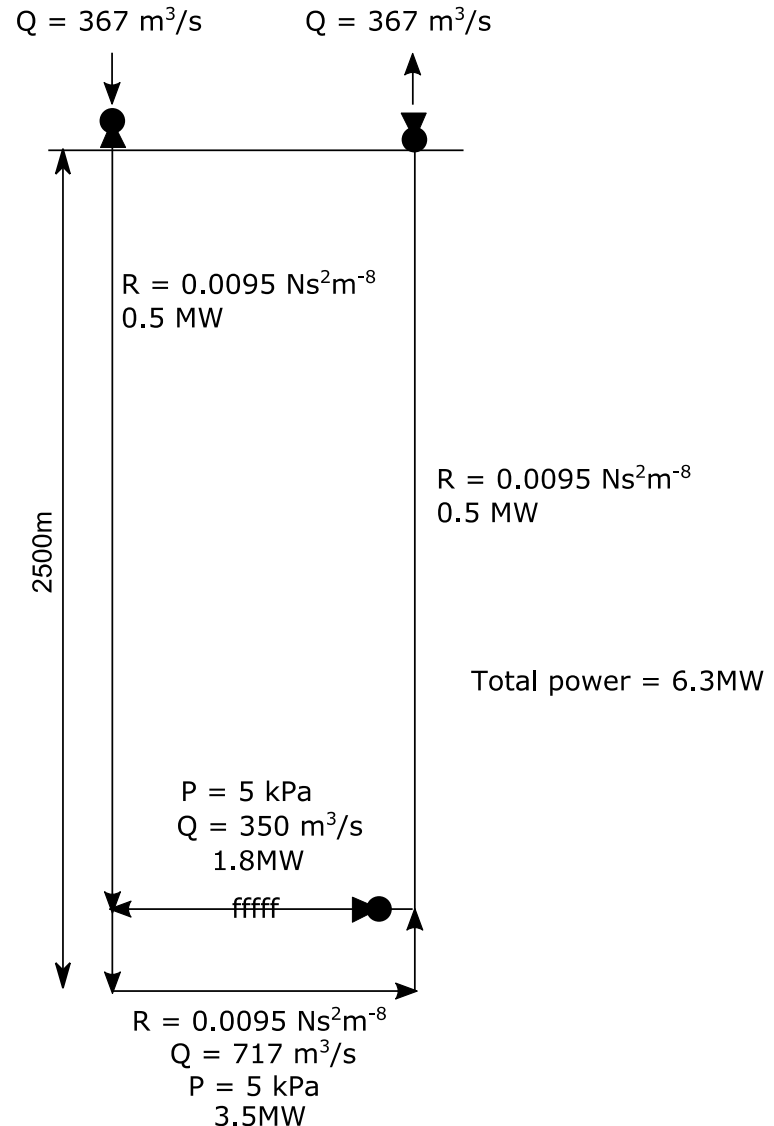
Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

Substantial savings could be obtained by recycling mine air (TRL = 5)

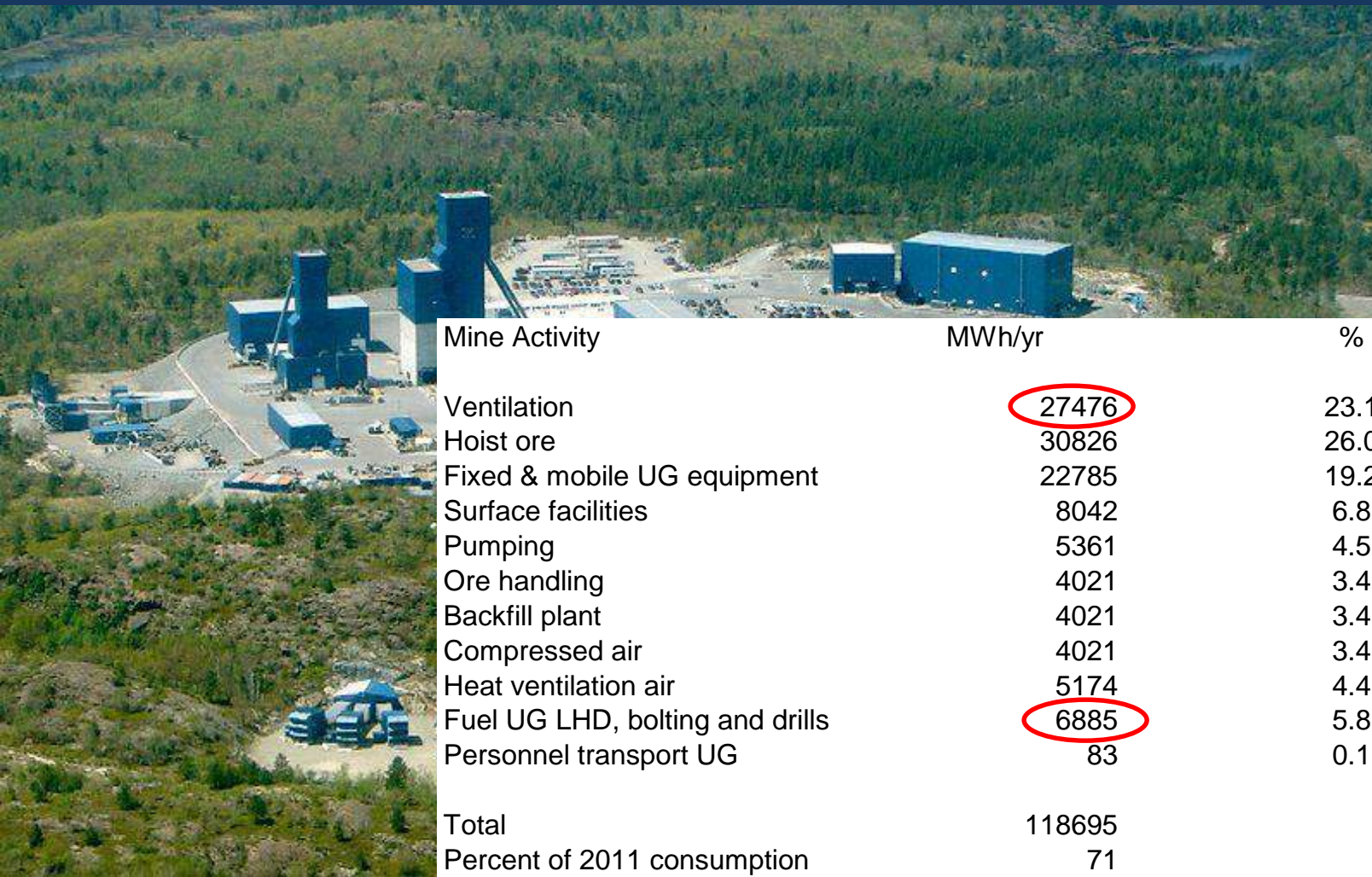
BAU:



With recirculation, filtration & scrubbing:



The most significant impact of use of electric vehicles on the energy budget is reduced consumption for ventilation

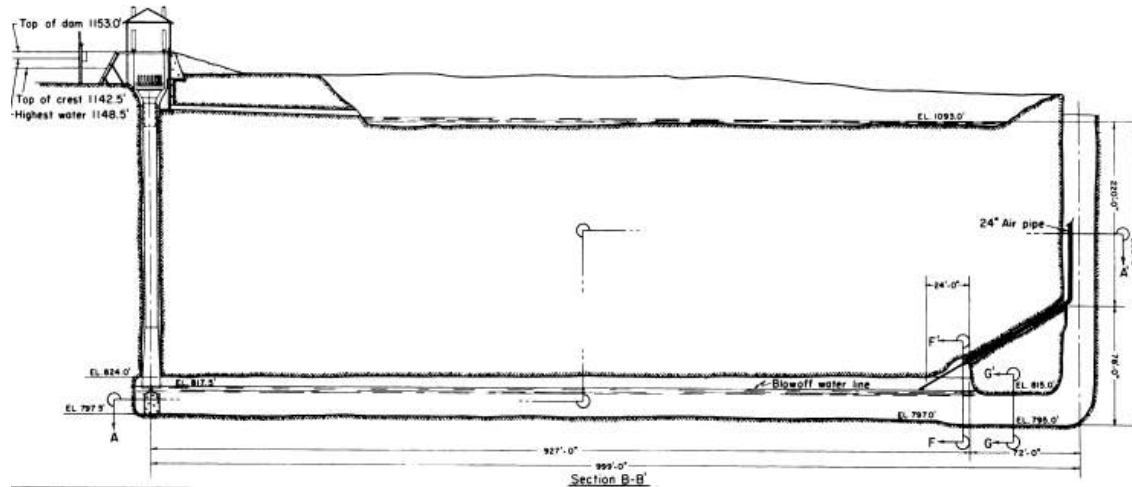


Mine Activity	MWh/yr	%	Energy Type
Ventilation	27476	23.1	Electricity
Hoist ore	30826	26.0	Electricity
Fixed & mobile UG equipment	22785	19.2	Electricity
Surface facilities	8042	6.8	Electricity
Pumping	5361	4.5	Electricity
Ore handling	4021	3.4	Electricity
Backfill plant	4021	3.4	Electricity
Compressed air	4021	3.4	Electricity
Heat ventilation air	5174	4.4	Natural Gas
Fuel UG LHD, bolting and drills	6885	5.8	Electricity
Personnel transport UG	83	0.1	Electricity
Total	118695		
Percent of 2011 consumption	71		

Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

Clean, green, cheap compressed air can be produced efficiently and re-newably by modernization of a 19th century technology (TRL = 9 / 7)

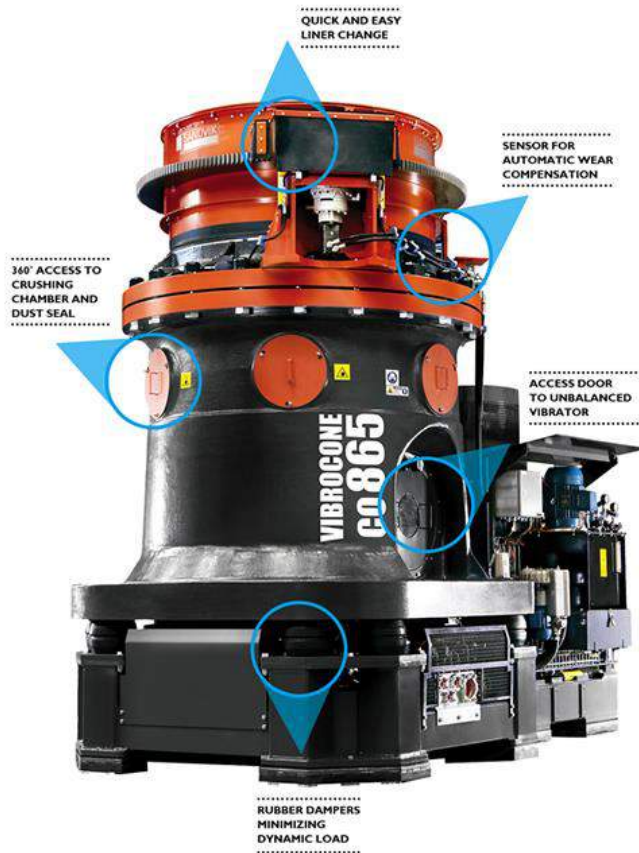
Charles Havelock Taylor & Family



- The hydraulic air compressor has no moving parts
- After commissioning, the Ragged Chutes HAC operated for 70 years, only being stopped twice for repairs to the intake heads
- Operated using falling water from Montreal river
- Produced air for ~29 silver mines in Cobalt, 20 km distant



Bringing comminution plant into the sub-surface will present new opportunities for transporting ore material to surface



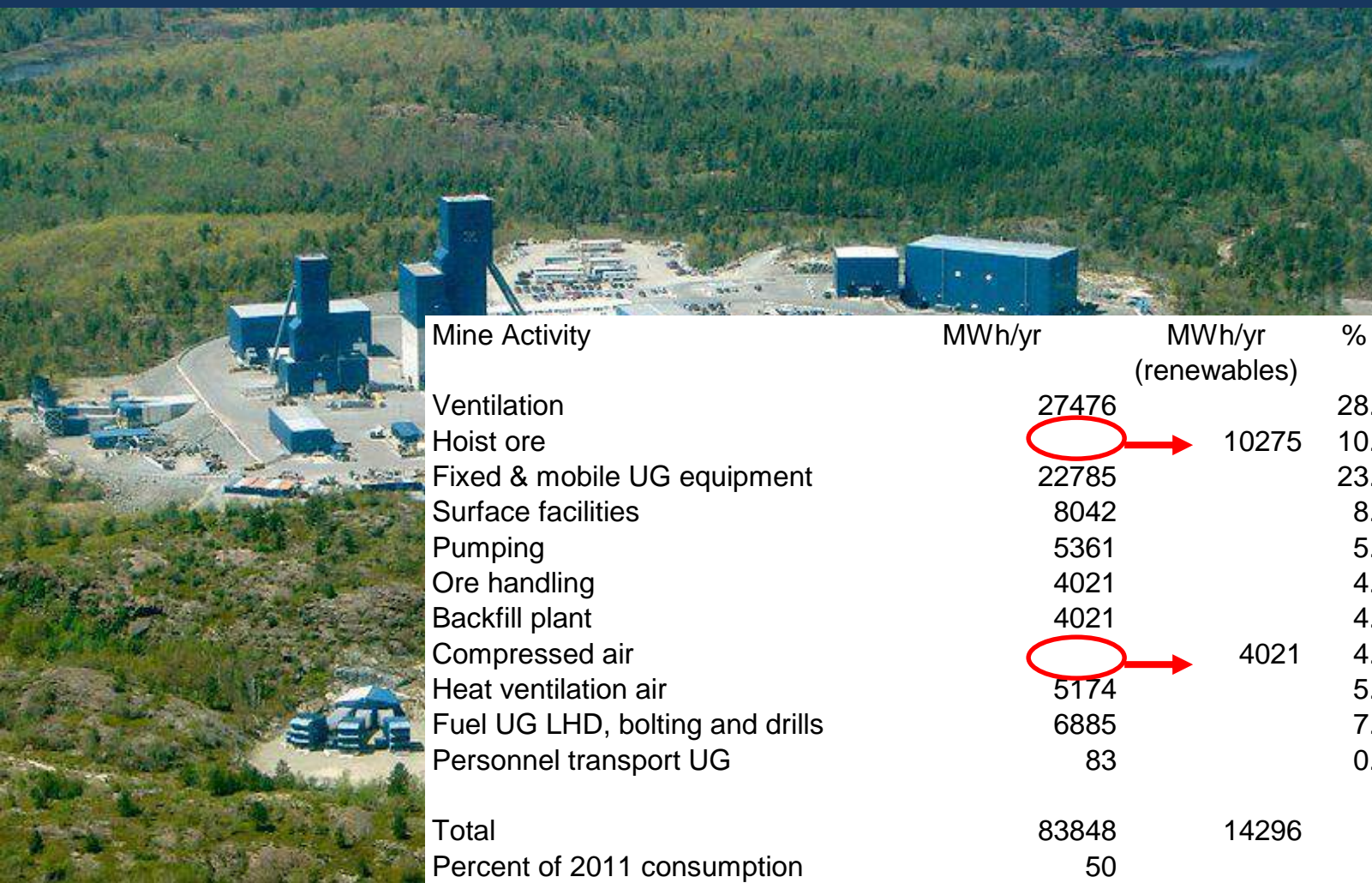
A new generation of rock crusher uses 30% less energy to reduce size to ~3mm (Sandvik, 2012)
TRL = 9

A semi-autogeneous grinding mill underground (TRL = 9)



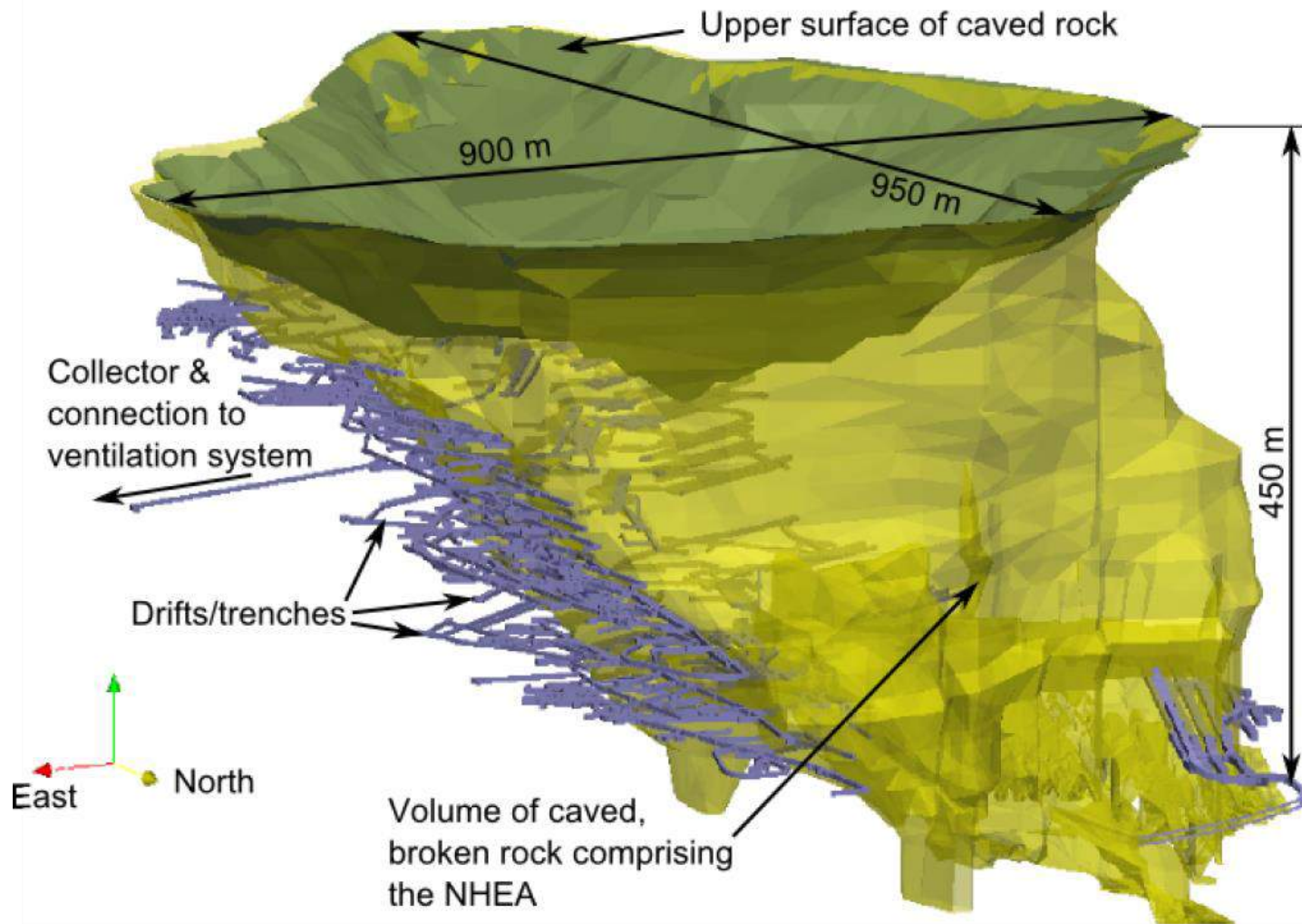
Compressed air / froth / bubble lift
(TRL = 5)

Substantially more energy than the fundamental potential energy is used to lift 1.25 million tonnes of ore to surface

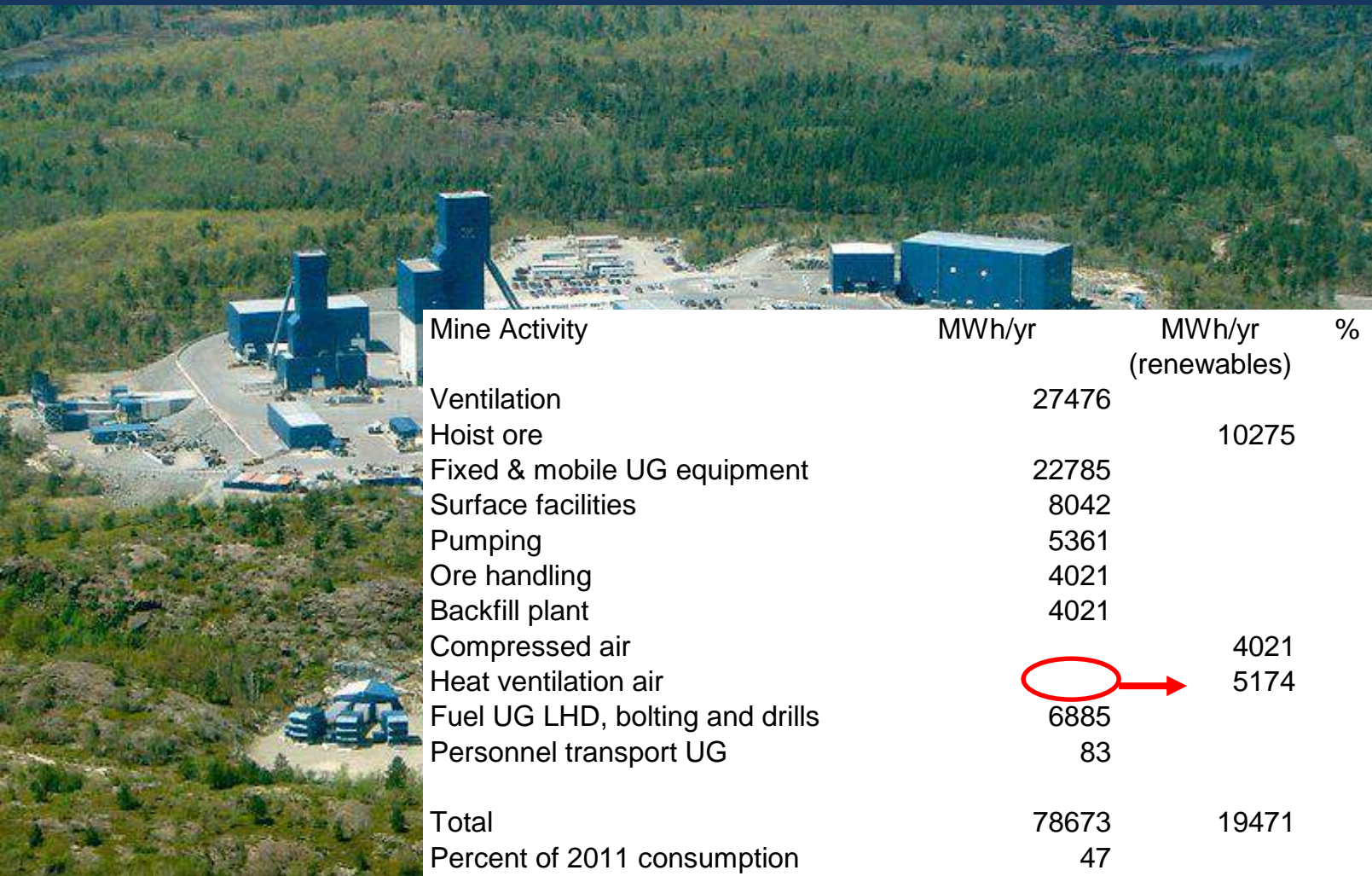


Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

Cold winter mine air is warmed by heat captured from the warm summer air, and stored in a massive body of broken rock (TRL = 9)



Upcast air heat recovery systems, ice stopes, heat exchange areas, or combinations could eliminate natural gas consumption



Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

EXISTING FLOATING PV PROJECTS: 2007 - 2014

2007

Aichi, JAPAN,
National Institute of Advanced
Industrial Science & Technology
- 20kW



2008

Far Niente Wineries,
CALIFORNIA (US),
SPG Solar - 175kW



Gandlach Bunshu Wineries,
CALIFORNIA (US),
SPG Solar - 30kW



2009

Bubano, ITALY,
Bryo - 500kW



Agost, SPAIN
CELEMM ENERGY & Polytechnic
University of Valencia - 24kW



Solarolo, ITALY,
D.A.I.E.T. - 20kW



2010

Petra Winery, ITALY,
Terra Moretti Holding
- 200kW



Agost, SPAIN (Expansion)
CELEMM ENERGY & Polytechnic
University of Valencia - 300kW



2011

Lake Colignola, ITALY,
Scienza Industria
Technologia - 30kW



Avesana, ITALY,
D.A.I.E.T. - 20kW



Piolanc, FRANCE,
Ciel et Terre - 14kW



Petaluma, CALIFORNIA (US),
SPG Solar - 350kW



Vendée, FRANCE,
Osesol - 4kW



Canoe Brook Water Treatment
Facility, NEW JERSEY (US),
ENERActive - 112kW



Cheongju, SOUTH KOREA,
Techwin - 20kW



2012

Hapcheon Dam,
SOUTH KOREA,
K-Water - 500kW



Pommerehne - sur - Sevre,
FRANCE,
Osesol - 100kW



Bishan Park, SINGAPORE,
Phoenix Solar - 5kW



Sudbury, CANADA,
MIRARCO - 0.5kW



Okegawa, JAPAN,
Ciel et Terre - 1,157kW



2014

Having learnt a great deal ourselves through testing a small scale flexible, direct contact prototype in a calm pond in Sudbury, we are deploying a 20kW_p demonstrator in the Mediterranean Sea, off the coast of Malta





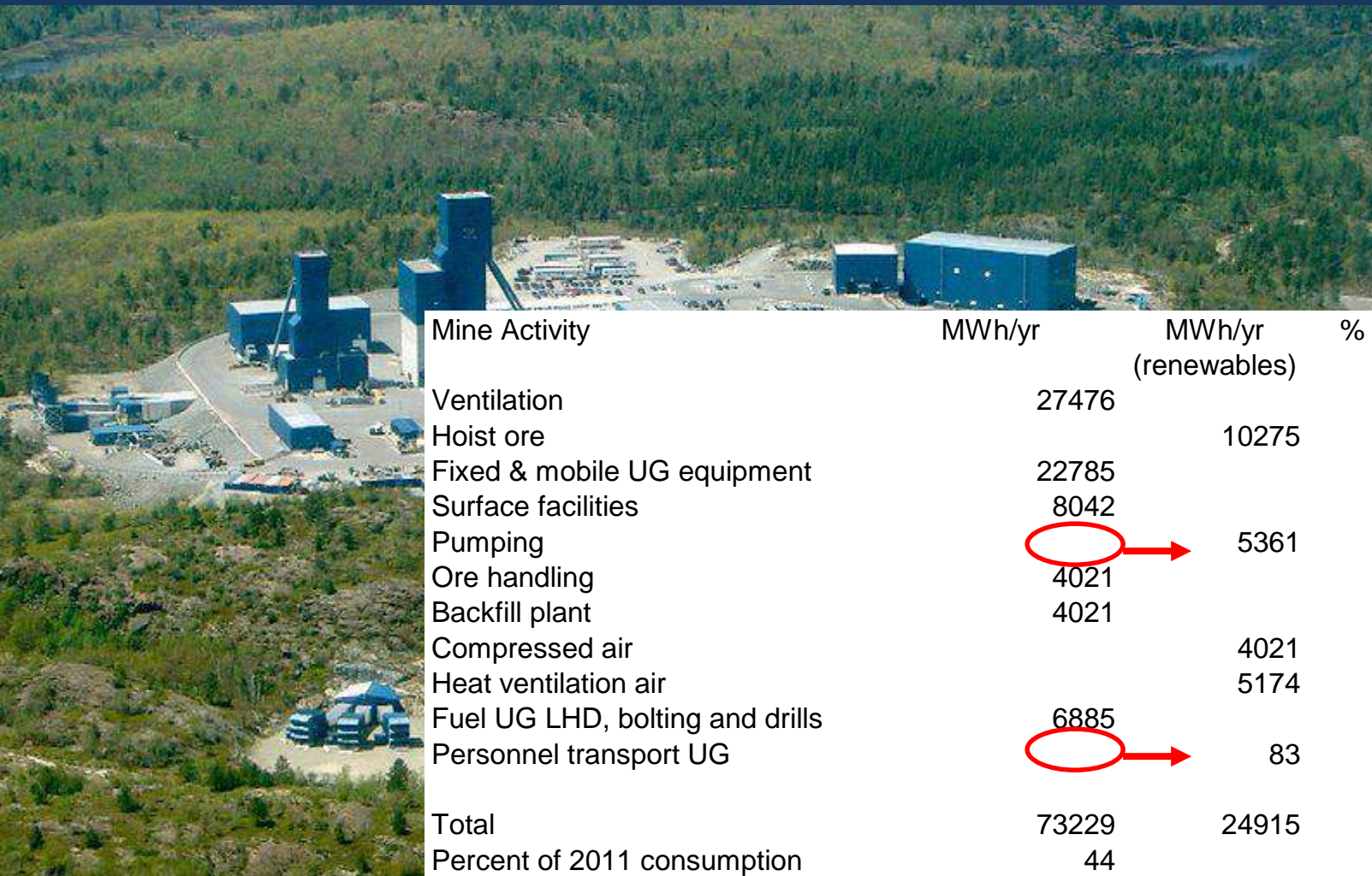
Victor Mine
Courtesy De Beers Canada



3 MW_p

Victor Mine
Courtesy De Beers Canada

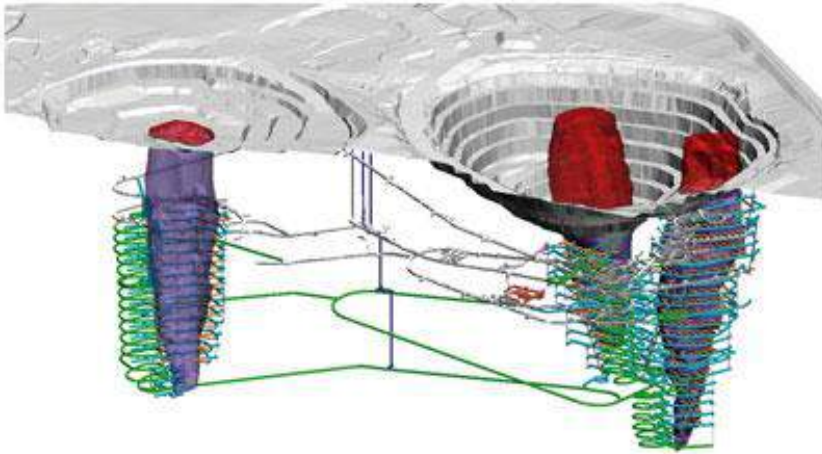
A 3MW_p flexible, floating, photovoltaic array could offset dispatchable electrical loads, such as dewatering pumps



Mine Activity	MWh/yr	MWh/yr (renewables)	%	Energy Type
Ventilation	27476			Electricity
Hoist ore		10275		Air lift
Fixed & mobile UG equipment	22785			Electricity
Surface facilities	8042			Electricity
Pumping	4021	5361		PV Electricity
Ore handling	4021			Electricity
Backfill plant	4021			Electricity
Compressed air		4021		HAC Hydropower
Heat ventilation air		5174		Ice stope
Fuel UG LHD, bolting and drills	6885			Electricity
Personnel transport UG		83		PV Electricity
Total	73229	24915		
Percent of 2011 consumption	44			

Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

As mines are worked deeper, specific energy consumption (kWh/tonne) rises, and reliance on electricity increases



After 3 years of operations, the yield from the turbines is ~10% higher than planned (CF=0.25)

Diavik Diamond Mine:

- 50 million litres of diesel / year
- Annual fuel cost of \$70 million
- 2012: Transition to underground mining

Solution: Diavik wind farm

- 4 x Enercon (Germany) E70 turbines
- \$33 million investment
- 9.2 MW installed capacity
- 10% reduction in diesel consumption
- 6% reduction in CO₂ footprint
- Fitted with innovative blade de-icing technology, operation to temperatures of -40°C
- 28th Sept 2012 – Wind farm operational

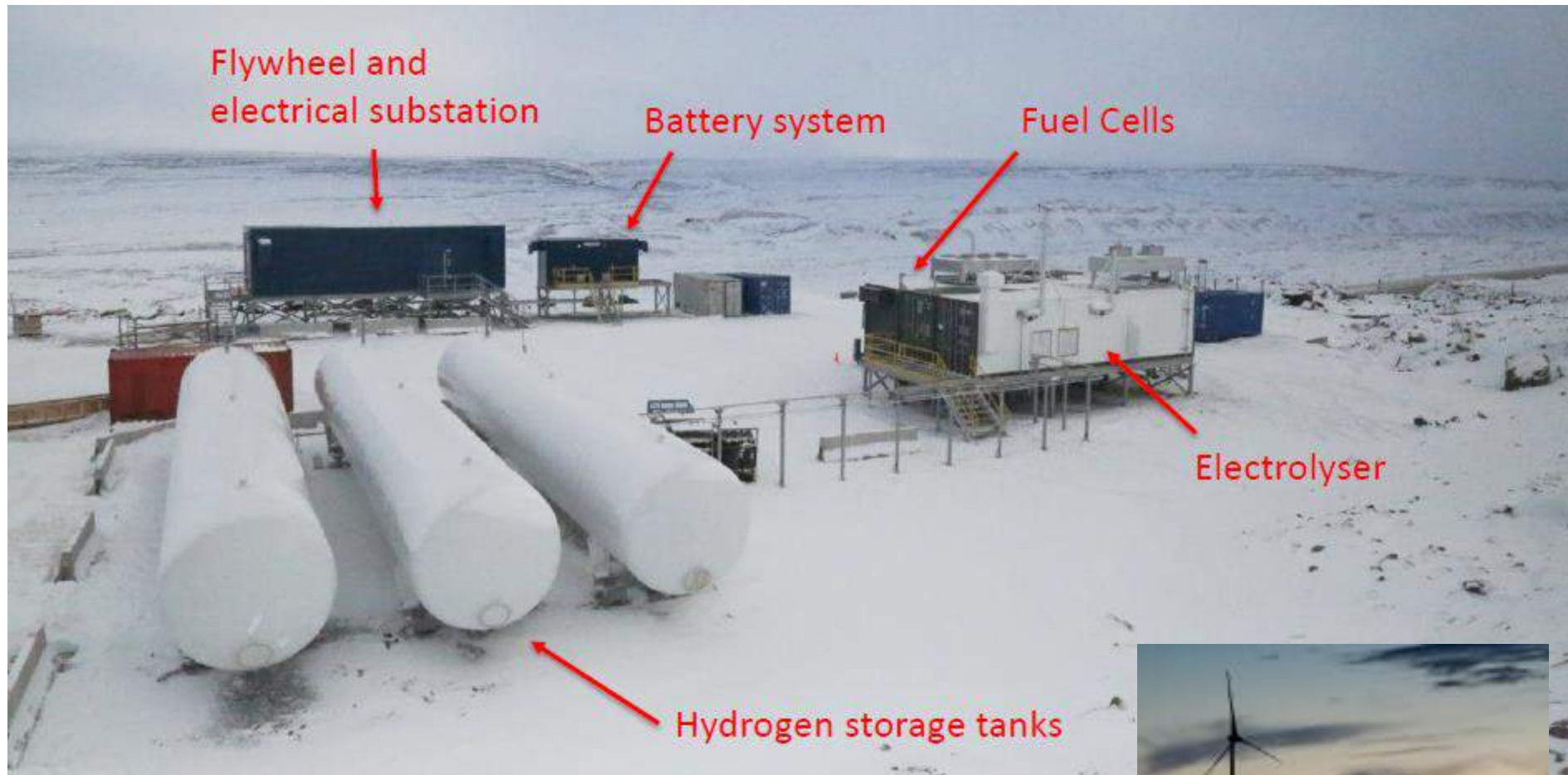


Liezl van Wyk

Rio Tinto

Wind energy
pioneer

A key priority of renewable energy in mines is firmness of supply. Power quality is important too.

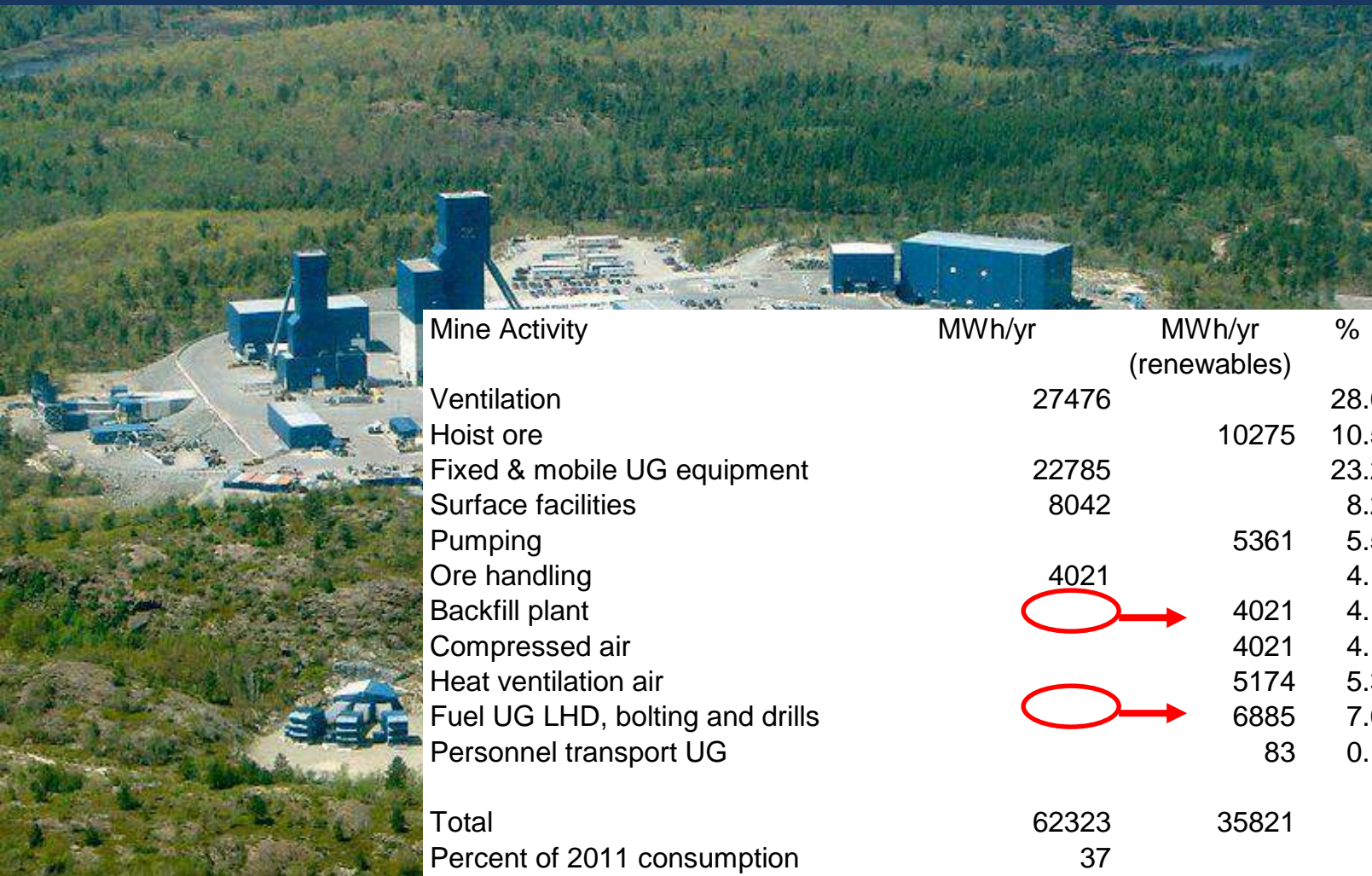


Wind energy storage system, Raglan Mine, Northern Quebec

Source: Tuglig Energy Co. & HATCH, Energy & Mines, Toronto, Oct 2015



Electricity from wind turbines could displace electricity supplied for batch processes and charge battery powered equipment



Picture credit: Xstrata Nickel

A 40% Mine vision is not unrealistic at all

- TRL 8/9 technologies are 'out there' at reasonable cost
- Different mines have different, and dynamic, energy flow maps, and so what works in one mine may not work in another...
- ...but a portfolio of technology options exists so that 40% Mine solutions can be formulated for most mines
- 60% reduction in energy:
 - <60% reduction in energy cost
 - >60% reduction in emissions
- Not necessarily a 'green' solution, but definitely an integrated solution
- The mining industry is already on the journey

3rd equation:

Energy + Mining =



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