

EPA Cooling Water Intake Symposium  
Washington, DC May 6-7, 2003

# AN OVERVIEW OF FLOW REDUCTION TECHNOLOGIES

Presented by: Reed Super

Senior Attorney, Riverkeeper, Inc., Garrison, NY 10524  
845-424-4149 [rsuper@riverkeeper.org](mailto:rsuper@riverkeeper.org) [www.riverkeeper.org](http://www.riverkeeper.org)

# Outline

- Why Reduce Flow?
- Flow Reduction Technologies
- Issues in Flow Reduction
- Cooling System/Flow/Impact Relationship
- Power Plant Examples and Illustrations
  - New Plant
  - Replacement Plant
  - Flow Reduction vs. AFB
  - Cooling Towers vs. Variable Speed Pumps

# Why Reduce Flow?

- Drastic reductions in I+E (~95%)
- Guaranteed reductions (no reliability issues)
- Facilitates lower velocity and better screens
- Reduces or eliminates thermal impacts
- Allows use of municipal H<sub>2</sub>O or effluent
- Allows siting away from wetlands, coasts

# Flow Reduction Technologies

- Once-Through to Closed-Cycle Wet (96%)
- Closed-Cycle Wet to Dry Cooling (97-100%)
- Repowering (add Combustion Turbine) (33%)
- Variable Speed Pumps (% varies; note baseline)
- Changing Source Water (100%)
- Seasonal Outages (% varies)
- Combination of the Above

# Issues in Flow Reduction

- Level of Reduction in Flow (and I+E)
- Relative Effectiveness
- Technical Feasibility
- Effect on Plant Efficiency (Energy Penalty)
- Cost to Plant Owner and Rate-Payer

# Flow/Impingement Relationship

$$\text{Great Lakes: } I = 1.7023V^{1.778}$$

Pisces (2002) using data from Kelso (1979)

$$\text{Other Fresh Water: } I = 6 \times 10^{-8}V^{3.1444}$$

Pisces (2002)

$$\text{Ocean and Estuary: } I = 0.1704V^{1.5943}$$

Pisces (2002)

$$\text{All Waters: } I = 0.4719V^{1.8699}$$

Pisces (2002)

**I** is # of fish impinged/yr

**V** is volume in cu/ft per sec

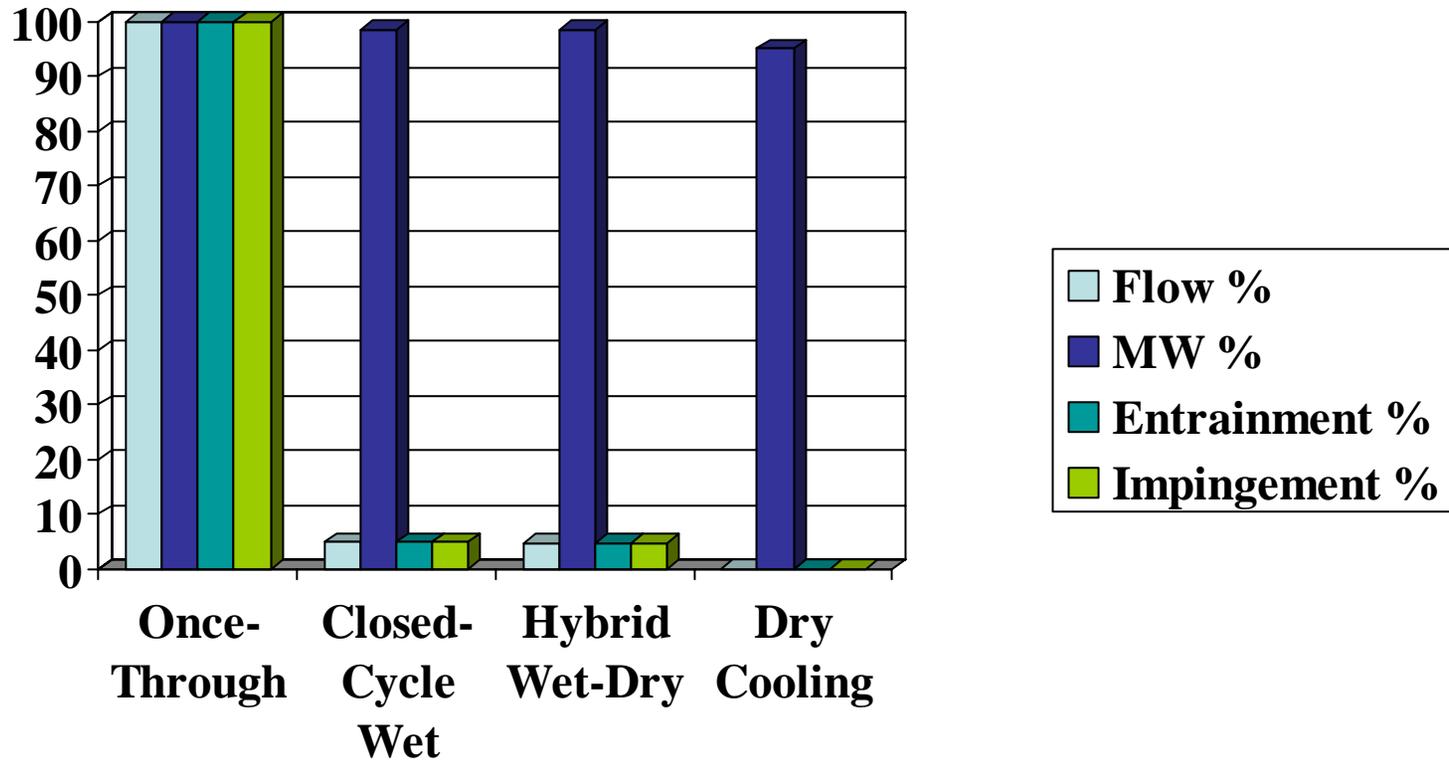
# Flow/Entrainment Relationship

Fresh Water:  $En = 2E + 07V^{0.1924}$   
Pisces (2002)

Ocean and Estuary:  $En = 457475V^{1.1405}$   
Pisces (2002)

**En** is # of fish entrained/yr      **V** is volume in cu/ft per sec

# Cooling Systems, Flow, and E+I



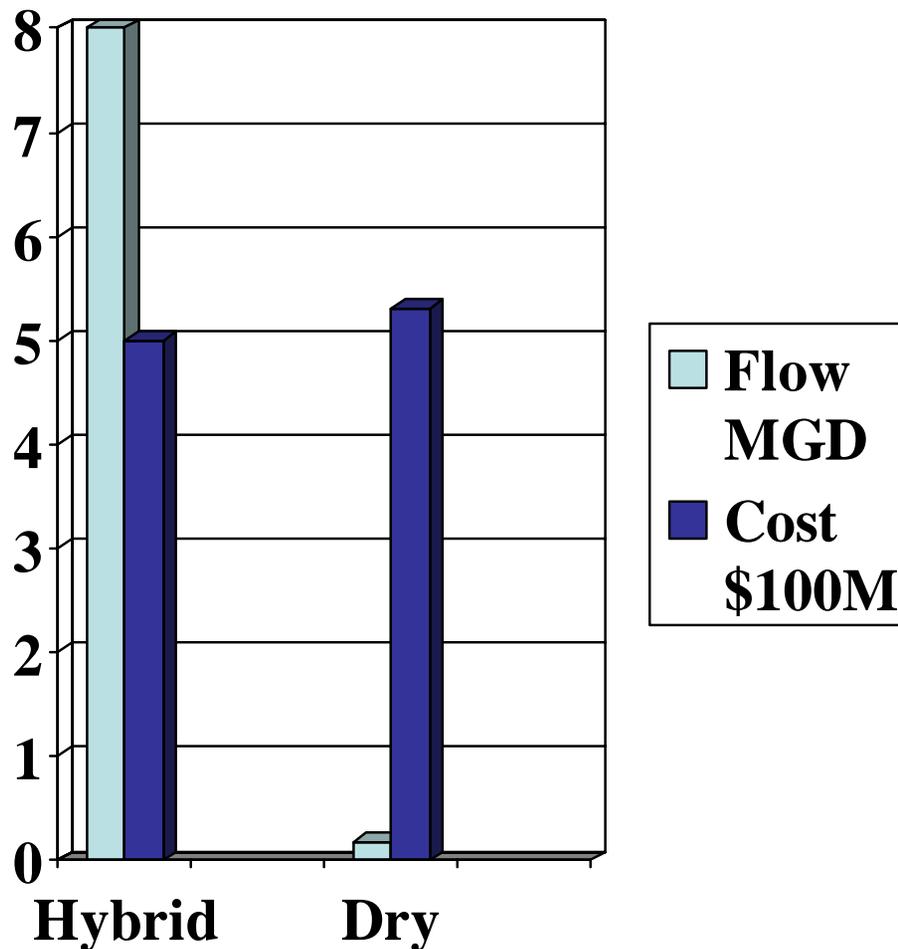
# Flow Reduction at New Plant Hybrid Cooling vs. Dry Cooling (Athens, NY)

## PROPOSED

- Hybrid Cooling
- 4.53-8 MGD

## APPROVED / BUILT

- Dry Cooling
- 0.18 MGD



# Flow Reduction at Replacement Plant (Morro Bay, CA)

Existing 1954 plant: 1000 MW, gas, 707 (387) MGD

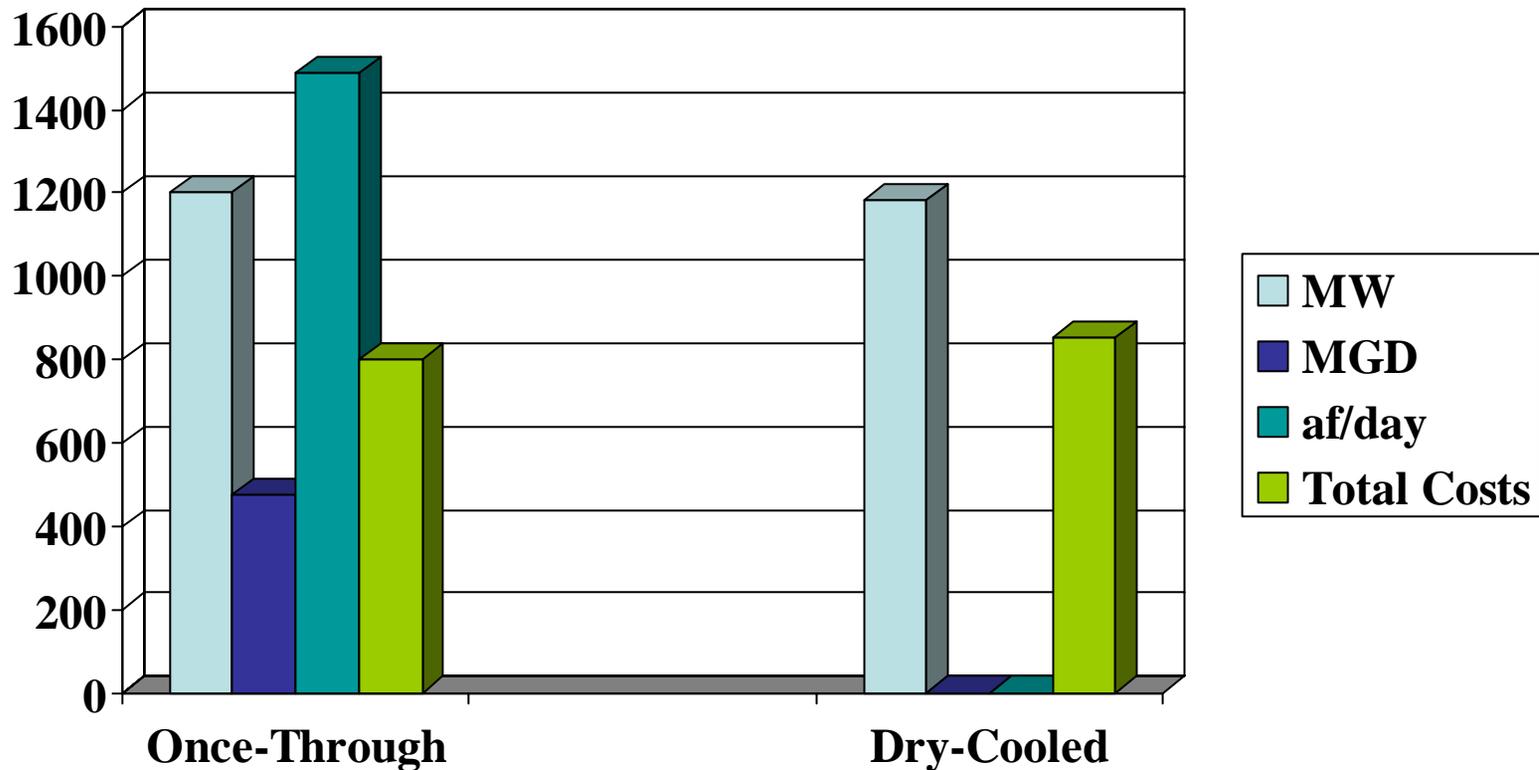
## ONCE-THROUGH

- 1200 MW
- 475 MGD
- 1489 af/day (62%)
- CMR 17-33% 20-37%
- Cost: \$800M

## DRY-COOLED

- 1200 MW
- 0 MGD (muni source)
- 0 af/day (0%)
- CMR 0%
- Cost: \$852M
- Energy Penalty: 1.5%

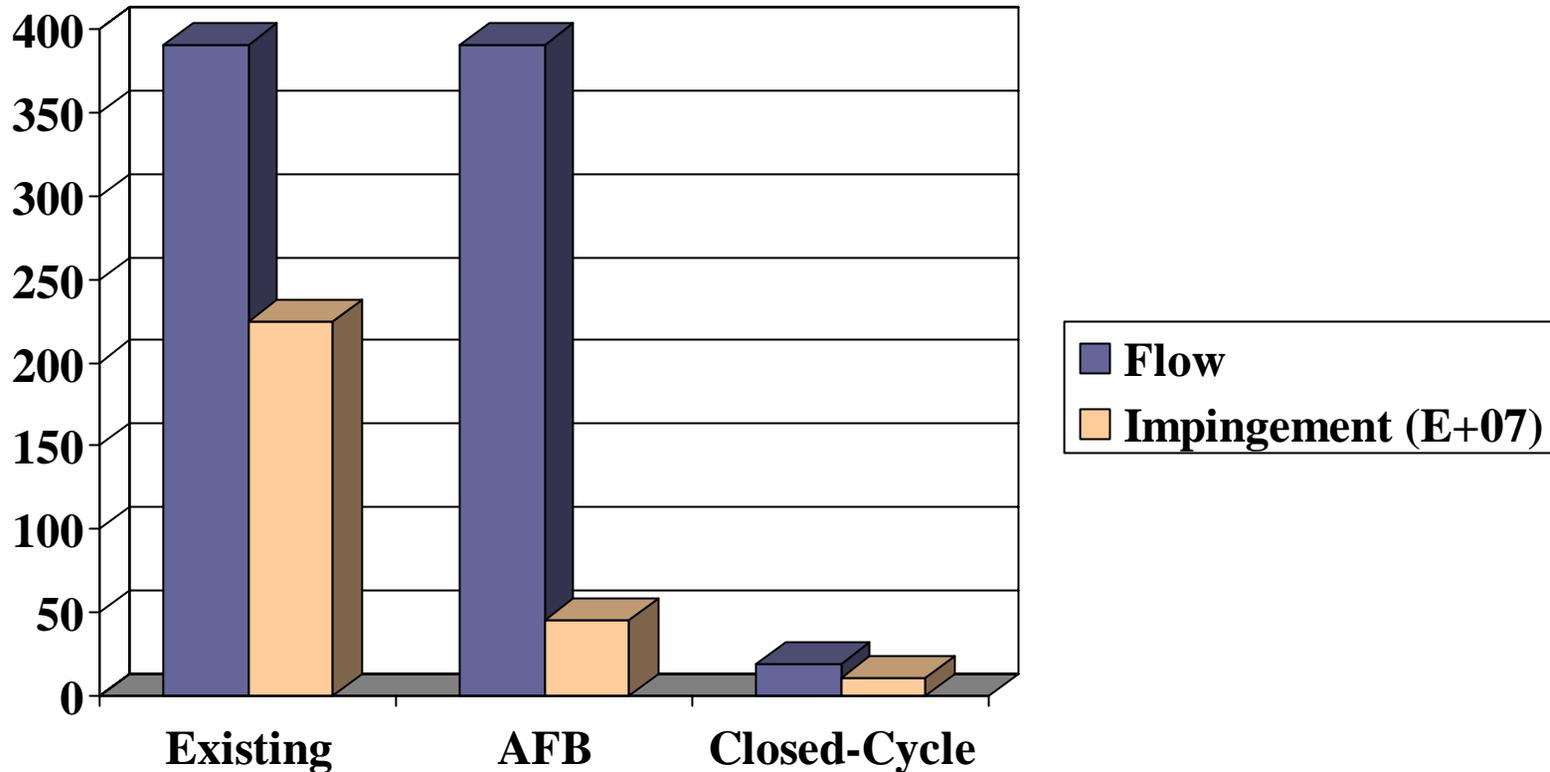
# Flow Reduction at Replacement Plant Once-Through vs. Dry Cooling (Morro Bay, CA)



# Comparison of Technology Types

## Flow Reduction vs. Barrier Filters

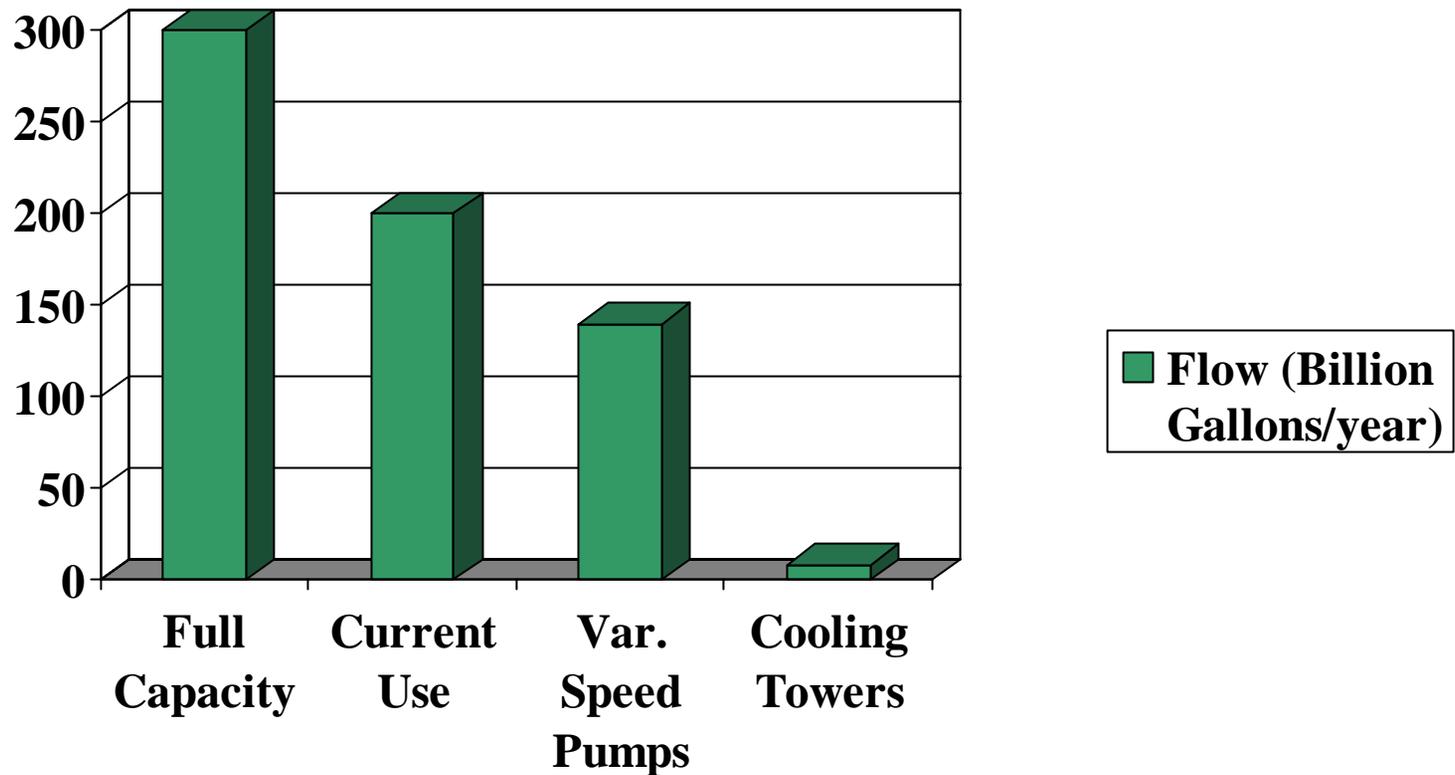
### An Illustration



# Comparison of Flow Reduction Methods

## Variable Speed Pumps vs. Cooling Towers

### An Illustration (Current Use as Baseline)



# **A Symposium on Cooling Water Intake Technologies to Protect Aquatic Organisms**