



**„Innovative Solutions for  
bulk power transmission“**

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## HVDC example from China: Hydro power via an 800kV HVDC link

- With conventional AC power transmission the hydro power could not be used:  
5000 MW over 1400 km.
- World's first 800kV HVDC
- Commissioned 06/2010

CO<sub>2</sub> abatement:  
30 Mt p.a.

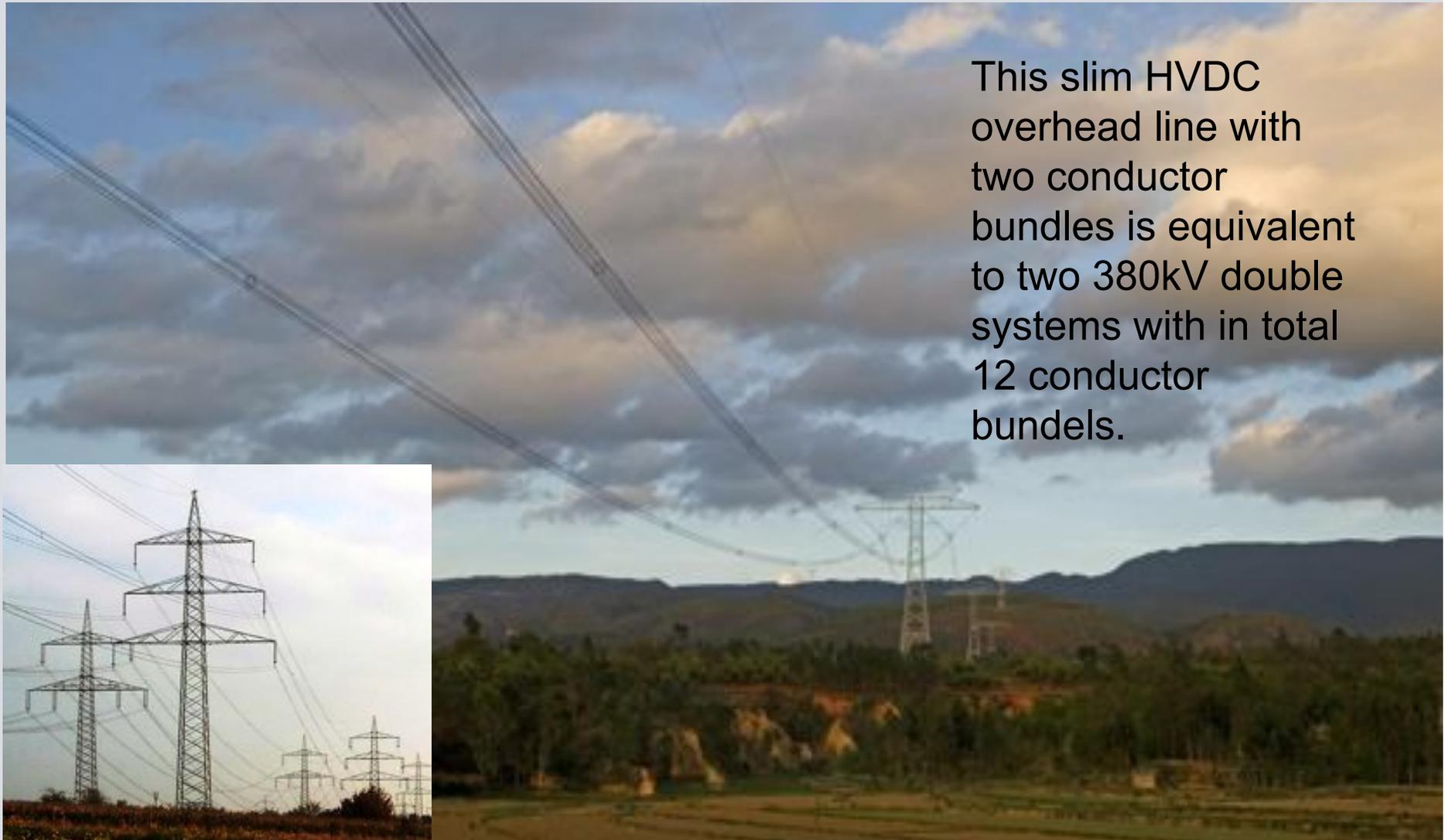


**Station Chuxiong**



# Green towers: 800 kV DC overheadline in China:

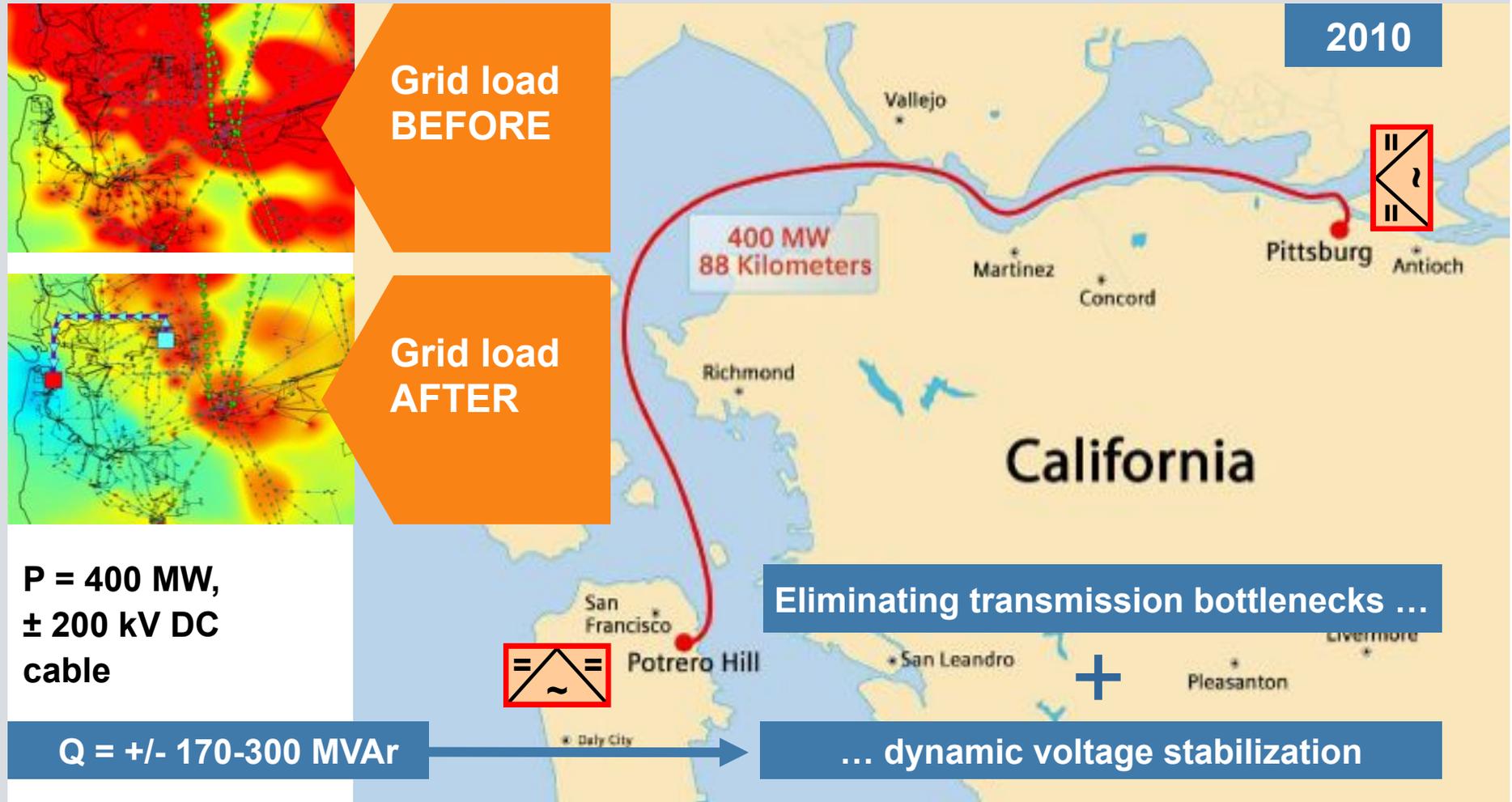
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This slim HVDC overhead line with two conductor bundles is equivalent to two 380kV double systems with in total 12 conductor bundels.

# Project „Trans Bay Cable“, USA Secure the power supply of San Francisco

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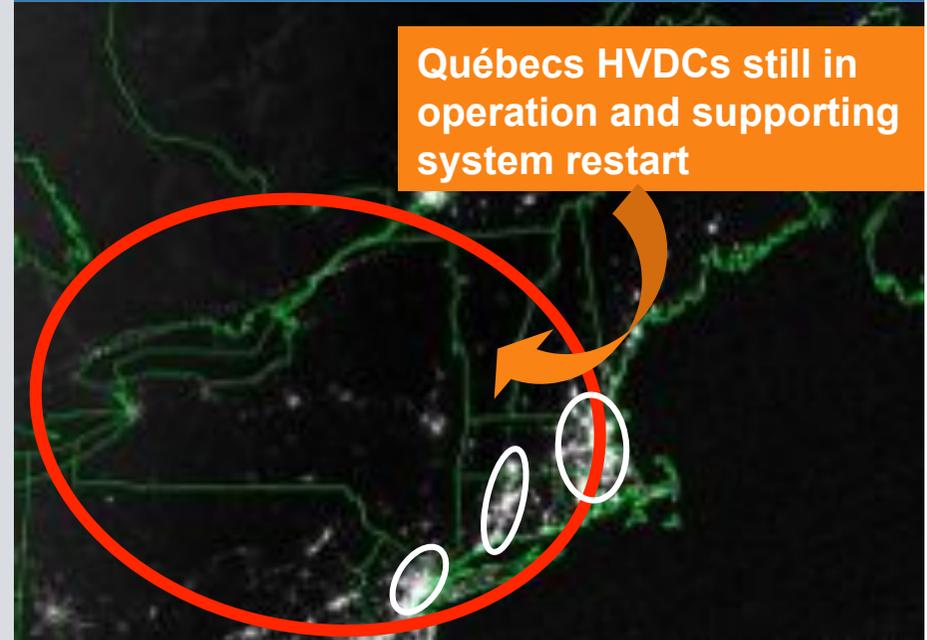
# Security of supply: HVDC as a firewall during the US blackout 2003



Before blackout



Blackout: huge area without power



**Overhead lines, cables, AC and DC ...  
... there is a third option commercially available!**

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GIL – Technical data	
Rated voltage	245 to 550 kV
Rated current	up to 4000 A
Rated short-time current	63 kA/3s
Insulating gas	N <sub>2</sub> and SF <sub>6</sub> gas mixture
System length	from 100 m to 100 km

**Gas  
Insulated  
Lines  
(GIL)**

## GIL - Reference: Kelsterbach, Germany

**Customer:** Amprion  
**Country:** Germany  
**Date:** 2011



### Requirements

- Replacements of a 380 kV OHL by an underground transmission solution with gas insulated lines (GIL)
- Creation of space for a new runway at the airport Frankfurt
- Low environmental impact (safety, EMI, small width of route)
- Worldwide first pilot for directly earth buried GIL in this voltage level

### Products

- Gas insulated line (GIL) for 400kV
- Two systems with 1.800 MVA transmission power each

### Customer benefit

- Transmission of high power under ground
- Least possible width of route
- Low losses without need of tunnel works
- Environment friendly integration in to the landscape

# 500kV GIL Project 'Jinping I'

## Location



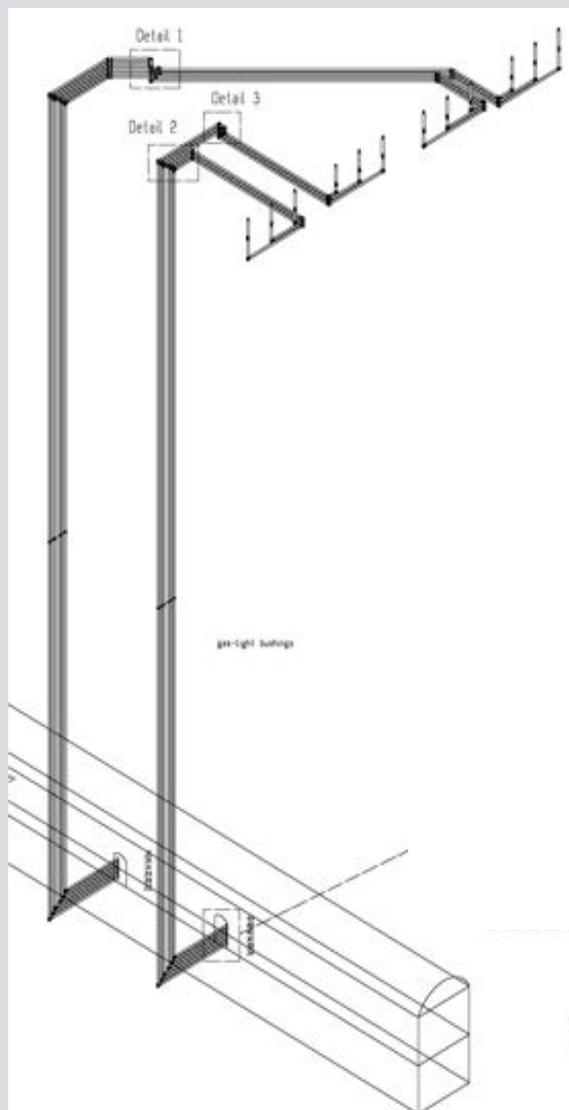
- Hydropower Plant at Yalong River in Sichuan Province (Southwest China).
- Energy for the Megacities in the East
- height of arch dam: 300 m
- 3600 MW rated power generation capacity
- six turbines 600 MW each
- commencement of commercial operation: 2012



# 'GIL Jinping I'

## Project Overview

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**End User: ERTAN Hydropower Development Co. Ltd.**

### Project Highlights:

- First Siemens GIL in China
- First vertical and welded Installation of 2nd Generation GIL
- 3 GIL Systems, approx. 350 m each

### Technical Data

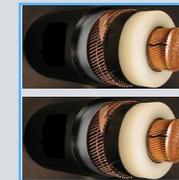
Rated Power:	3500 MVA
Rated Voltage:	550 kV
Rated Current:	4,000 A
Insulation Gas:	100% SF <sub>6</sub>
Contract Award:	25.07.2008
Commercial Operation (planned):	01.08.2011

## Dead End Tower



**Outdoor terminations  
for GIL connection**

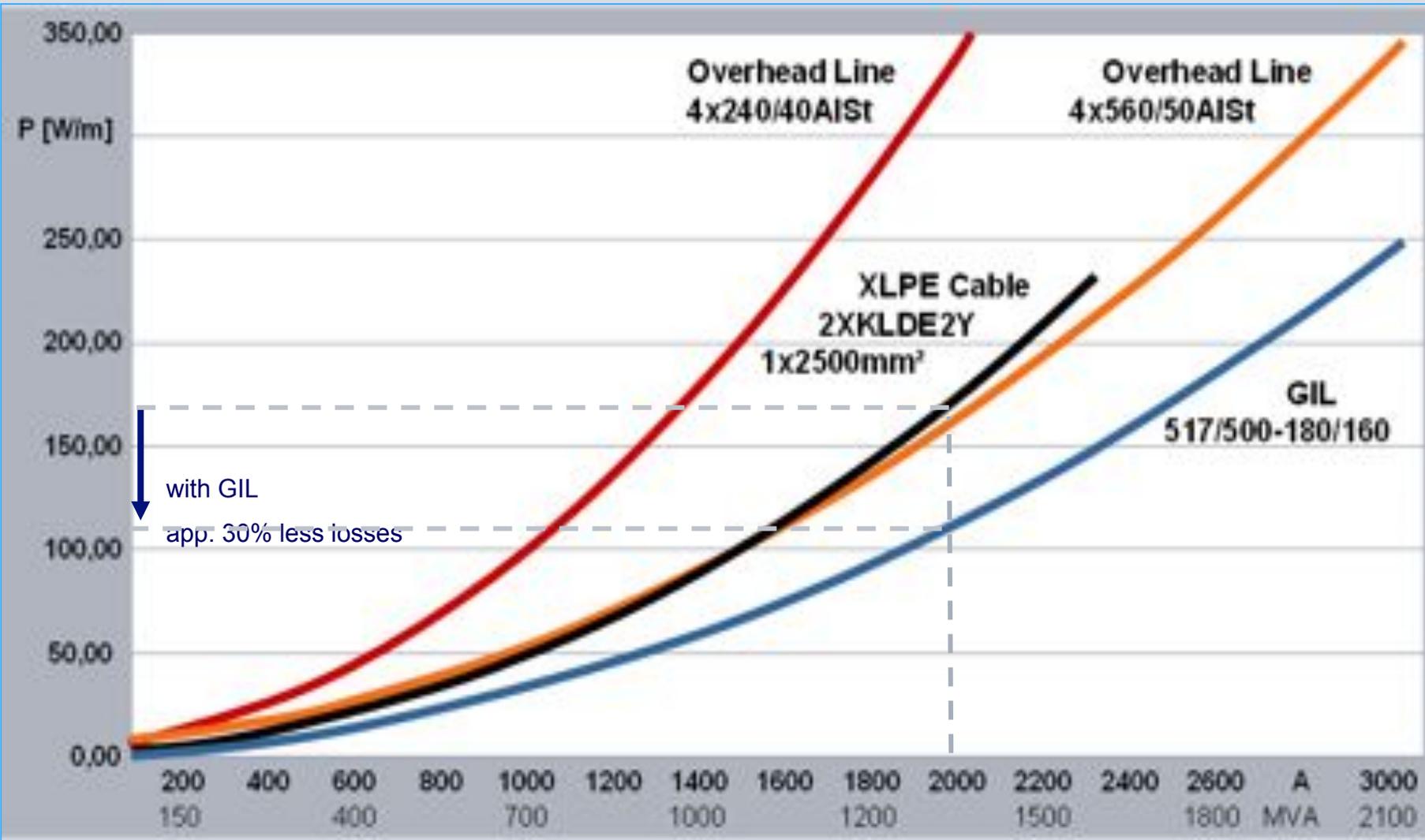
## Guidelines/trends for transmission technology selection



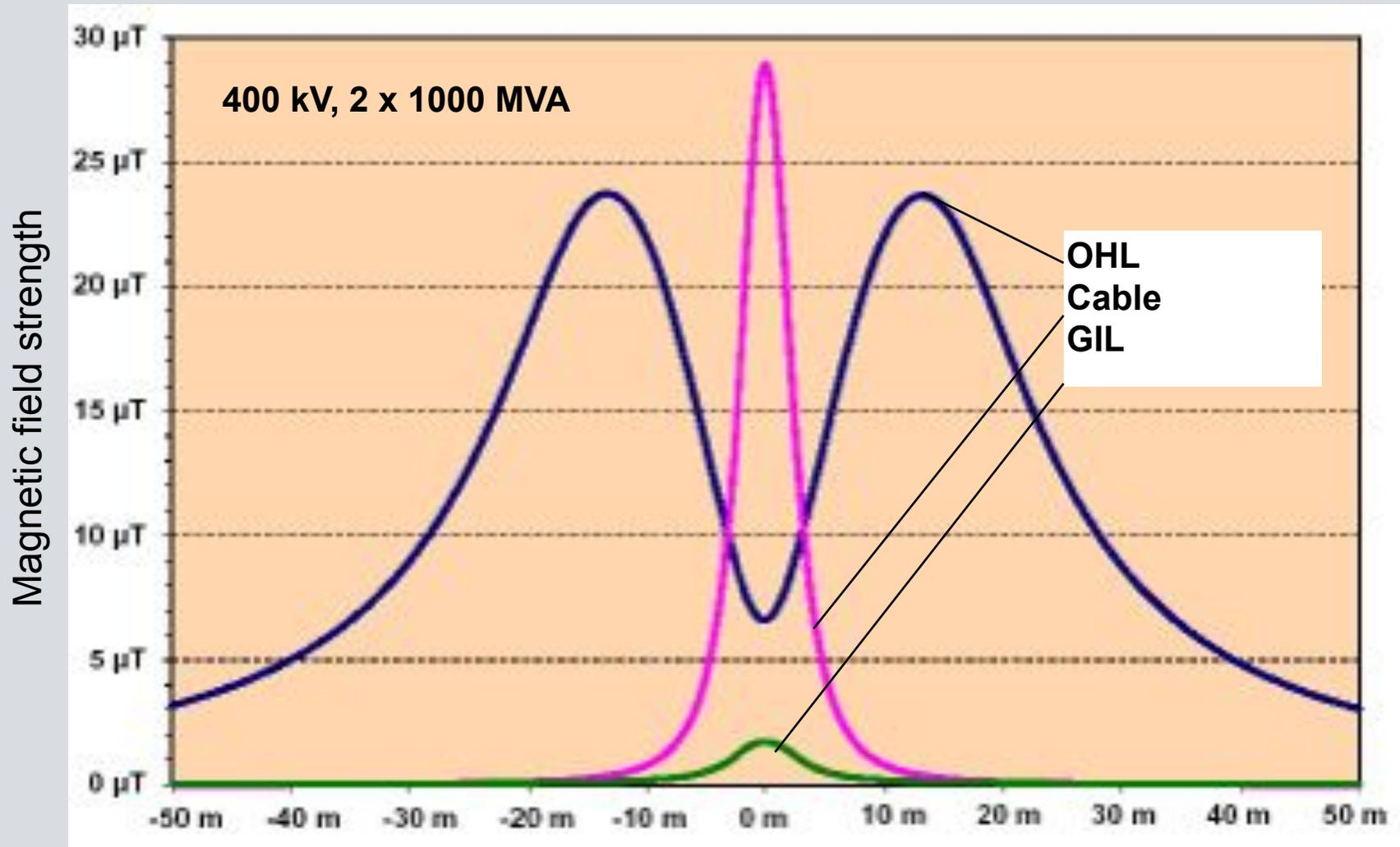
Equipment	OHL	GIL	Cable
Standard lines in rural area	X		
Lines with special constraints, requiring underground solutions (e.g. close to airports, through cities or villages, in space-restricted areas etc.)		X	X
Lines with transmission power < ~ 1,500MVA	X	(X)	X
Lines with transmission power > ~ 1,500MVA	X	X	May need double cable system
Special requirements concerning EMF		X	
Special requirements concerning fire protection and/or explosion protection		X	

***Details are extremely dependent upon project conditions!***

# Lifecycle considerations: Ohmic losses



**EMC considerations: Magnetic fields**



## Safety and Security of Supply Considerations: Auto Reclosure on GIL

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**View inside the GIL:**

**Test Conditions: 63 kA, 500ms**

**Scenario:** - fault detection by protection system  
- line drop-off and arc extinguishing

**Auto Reclosure:**

- gas insulation is self-recovering
- in case of successful auto re-closure by-products are collected in the particle trap
- in case of unsuccessful auto re-closure no impact or fire outside the GIL

**No external impact, no fire risk due to non inflammable materials**

## Cost comparison of 400kV transmission systems

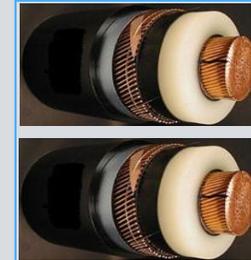


Table is for 2,000MVA

Equipment	OHL	GIL	Cable
Number of necessary systems	1	1	x2 (if double system needed)
Installation cost	1	Circa x10	Circa x10 (double system)
Operation losses	1	lower	lower
Maintenance costs	1	lower	lower
Replacement needed	Circa 100yrs	Expect 50+yrs	Circa 30+yrs

***Details are extremely dependent upon project conditions!***

## Technical Features and Commercial Aspect

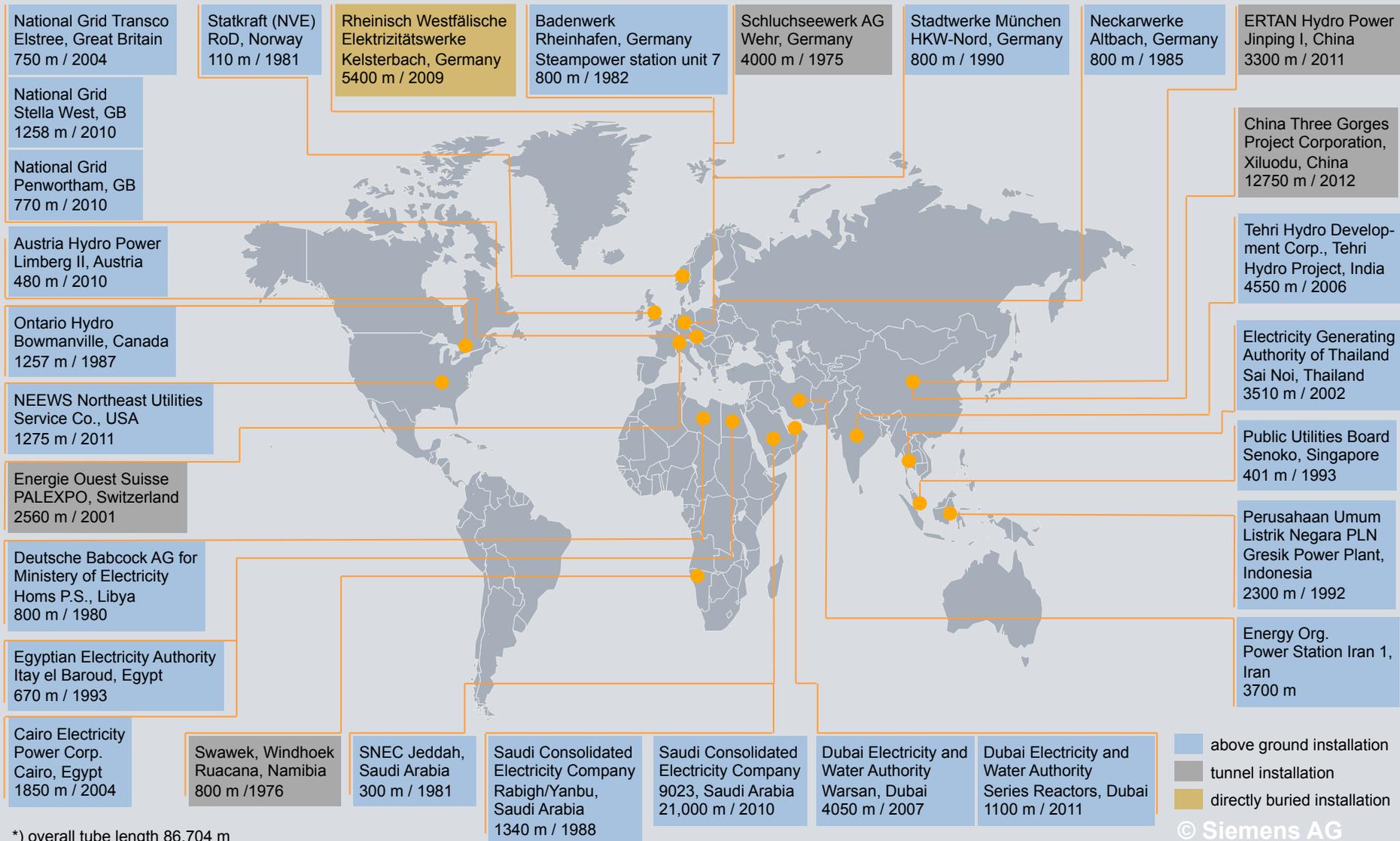
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- **High transmission power** → **Low expenses for right of way**
- **High reliability** → **Low invest for redundancy**
- **Sealed for lifetime** → **Low maintenance cost**
- **Low losses** → **Low operation cost**
- **No ageing of insulating gas & Long lifetime through particle trap** → **No cost for replacement**
- **Low capacitance** → **No expensive reactors**
- **Automatic reclosure functionality** → **No invest for new protection**
- **Low external electromagnetic fields** → **Optimised short routing possible**
- **High safety (no fire hazard)** → **No invest for fire protection needed,  
Possibility to share civil cost with other utilities**

**Thank you for your attention!**

# References

## Gas-Insulated Transmission Lines, Status Oct 2010\*



\*) overall tube length 86,704 m

Oct, 2010

Energy Sector – E T HS

