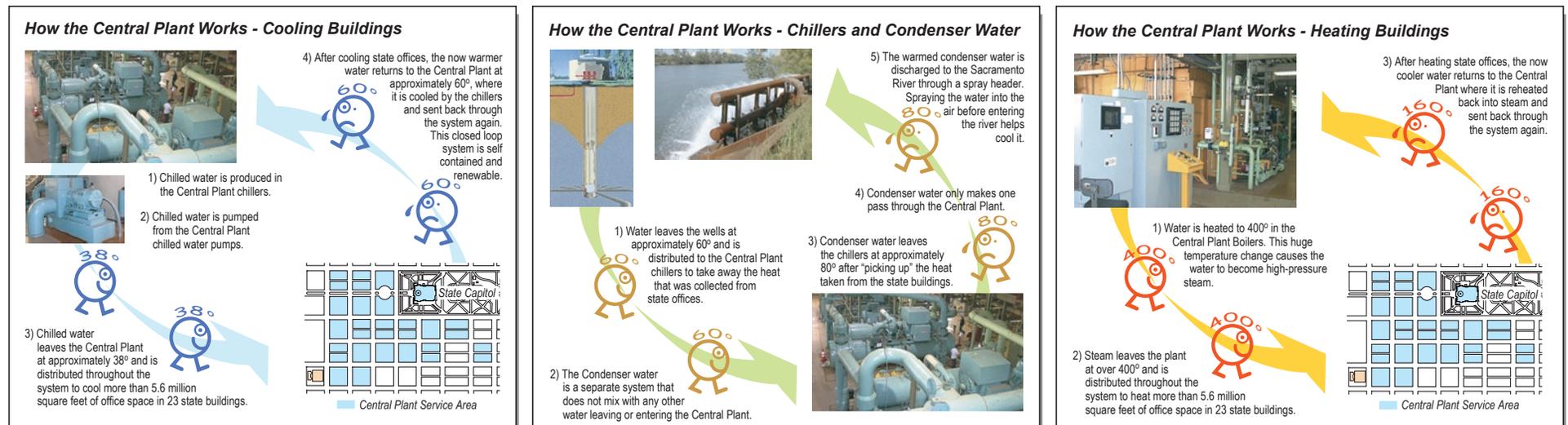


The **Central Plant**, built by the state in 1968, is a "district" heating and cooling plant. It is operated by the state to provide centralized heating and cooling to 23 state office buildings in downtown Sacramento.

The **Central Plant is made of:**

- **Chillers** - refrigeration machines that provide chilled water to cool the buildings
- **Boilers** - gas fired industrial water boilers that provide steam to heat the buildings
- **Condenser Water System** - water is pumped from ground water wells to dissipate heat in the chillers, then the warmed water is discharged through a diffuser to the Sacramento River
- **Controls** - a computerized energy management system at the Central Plant controls and monitors the heating and cooling for the 23 buildings connected to the system
- **Distribution** - a system of underground pipes distributes chilled water, steam, and compressed air from the Central Plant
- **Utilities** - Utilities include both electricity (from SMUD) and gas (from PG&E)



THE CENTRAL PLANT AND HOW IT WORKS