What’s the difference between capacity and energy?

**What is Capacity?**
The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) refers to capacity as the *maximum output of electricity that a generator can produce* under ideal conditions. Capacity levels are normally determined as a result of performance tests and allow utilities to project the maximum electricity load that a generator can support. Capacity is generally measured in megawatts (MW) or kilowatts (kW).

J.B. Sims Generating Station has a net capacity of approximately 70 MW.

**What is Energy?**
Energy is the *amount of electricity that is produced and consumed over time*. Energy is measured in megawatt-hours (MWh). Each of us consumes or uses energy. When you turn on a light, plug in a computer or cool a home, you consume energy.

J.B. Sims Generating Station produced approximately **273,300 MWh** of energy in 2017.

**Capacity Markets**
GHBLP’s local generation and remote renewable energy entitlements provide adequate installed capacity to meet the necessary reserve requirements of the regional Independent System Operator (ISO) and to sell a small amount of excess capacity to others in the regional market.

**Future Power Supply Planning**
In its 5-year Strategic Plan, the BLP has committed to transition to a “more sustainable, economical, and diversified power supply portfolio,” to ensure we meet the energy and capacity needs of our community.