District-level heat recovery is the most innovative component of SESI. Waste heat from campus cooling is used to meet simultaneous campus heating loads. The new heat recovery plant allows Stanford to recover up to 57% of the waste heat discharged from the cooling system to meet 93% of simultaneous campus heat demand.

During SESI implementation, over 22 miles of hot water pipe were installed, along with changes to the mechanical rooms of 155 buildings. The SESI project provided the best-cost option compared to cogeneration, with a net additional $100 million capital investment projected to yield $420 million in cost savings over the next decades.

For more information, visit sesi.stanford.edu