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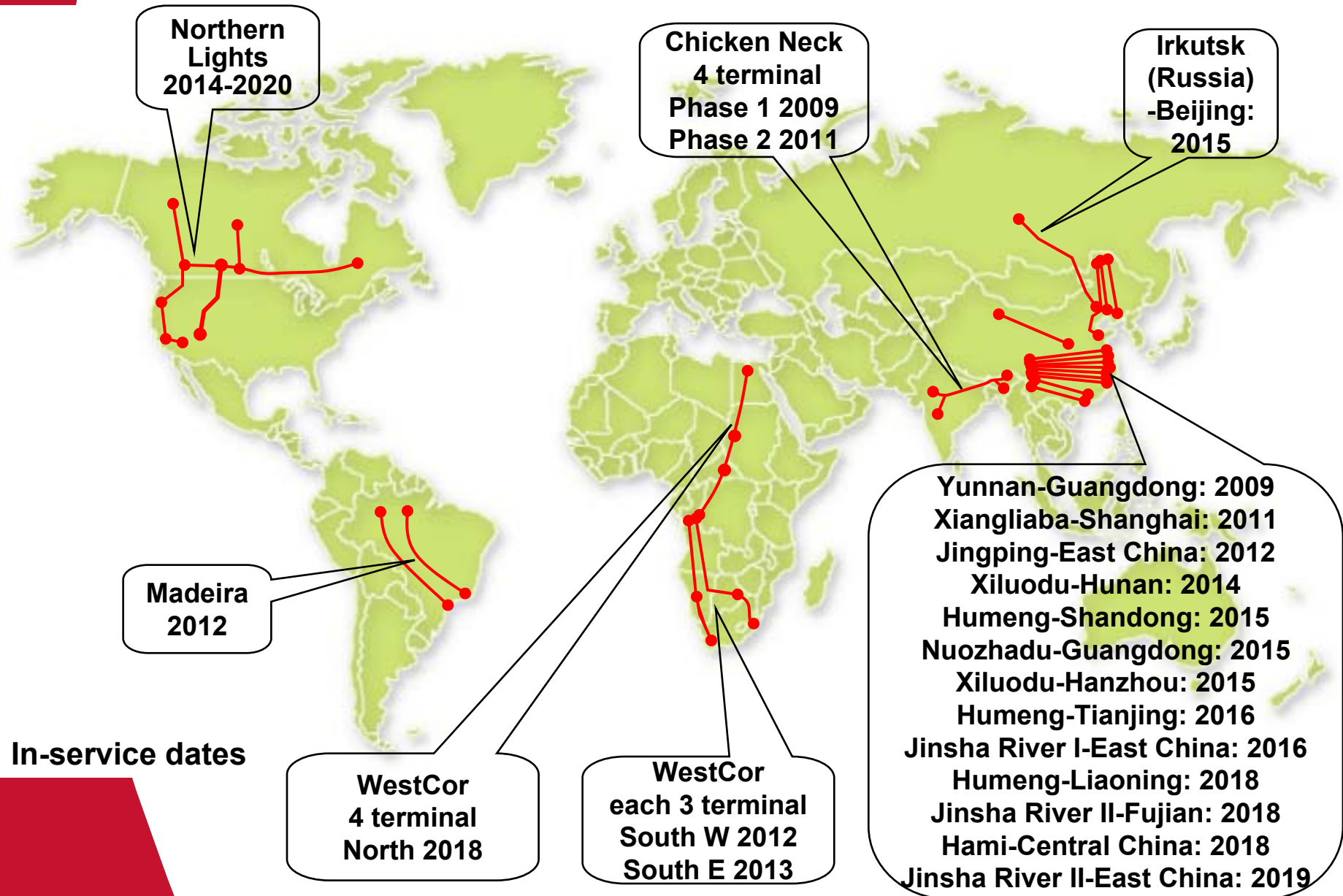
AREVA

# ***800kV DC Transmission***

***Chris Horwill***  
*Consultant FACTS*

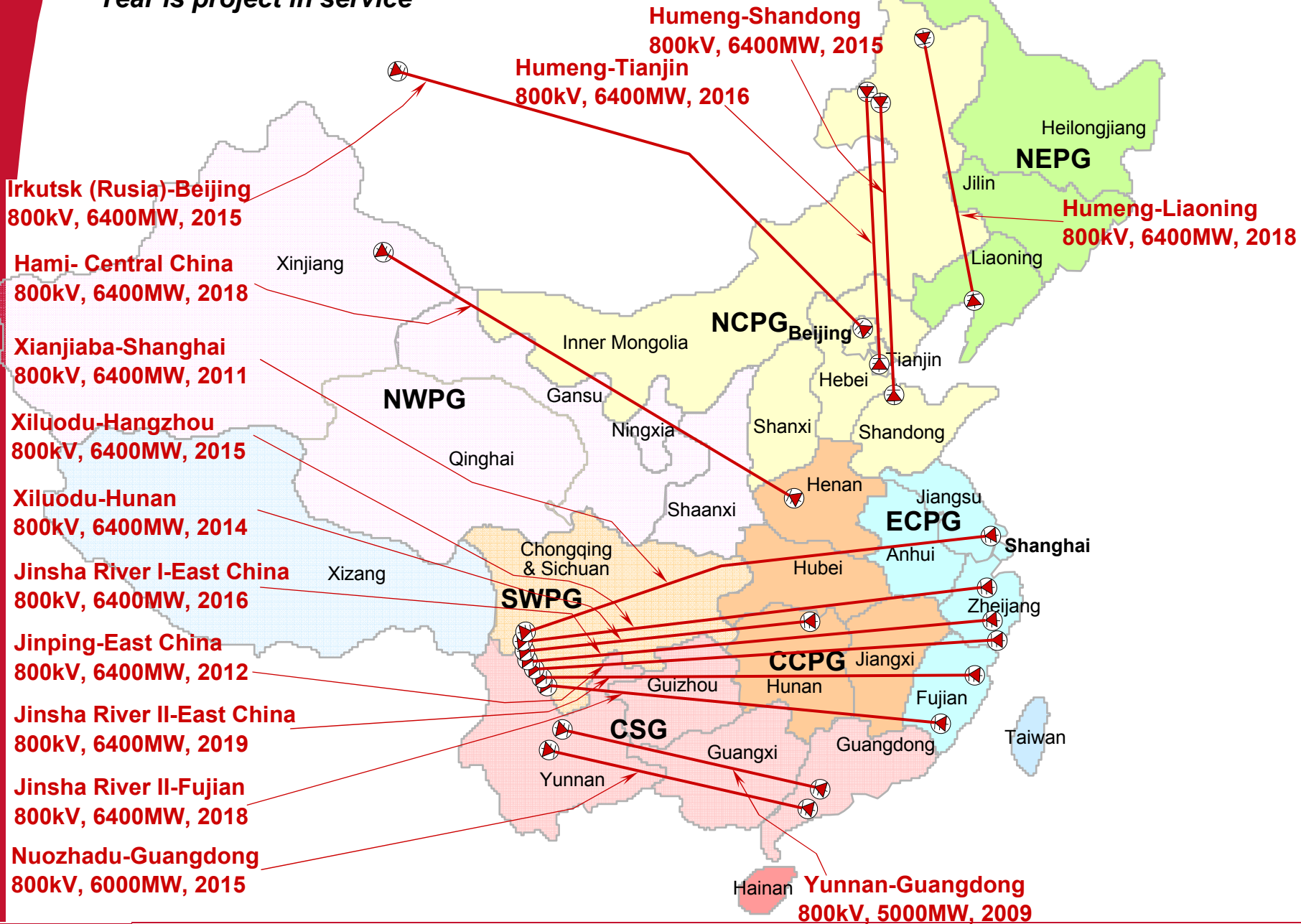
**IEEE General Meeting, Tampa FL, June 2007**

# *Potential market for 800kV DC projects*



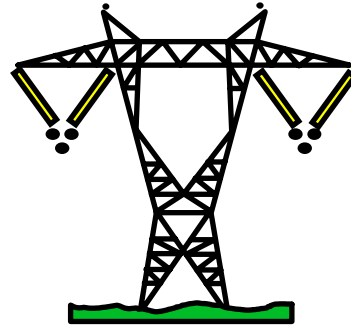
# 800kV HVDC projects planned in China 2009-2019

Year is project in service

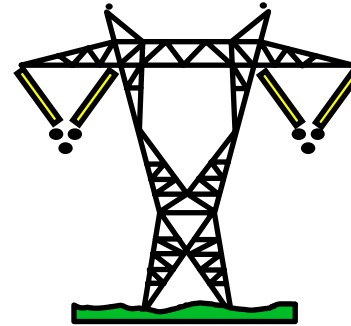
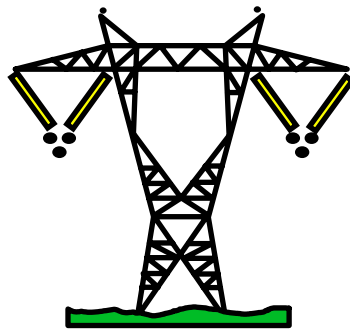


- ▶ **Large HVDC schemes, 5000MW – 6400MW are used to access hydro power resources, hence renewable energy with no CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**
- ▶ **HVDC is more economic than AC for schemes with transmission distances longer than 700km**
- ▶ **800kV DC reduces the overall transmission losses**
- ▶ **Right of way is smaller than 2 off 500kV HVDC or 5 off 500kV AC alternatives**

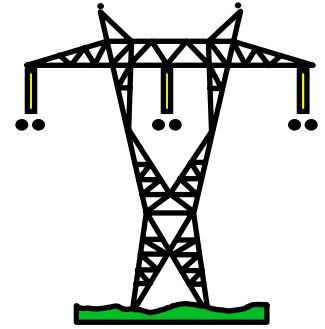
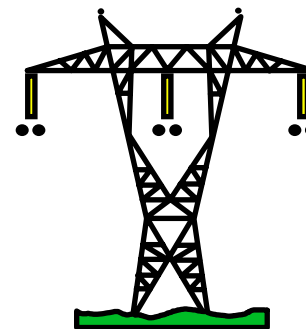
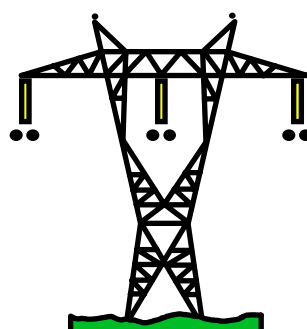
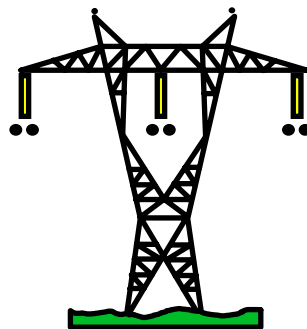
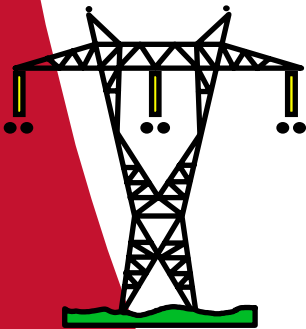
# Transmission options for up to 6400MW



1 off  $\pm 800\text{kV}$  tower



2 off  $\pm 500\text{kV}$  towers



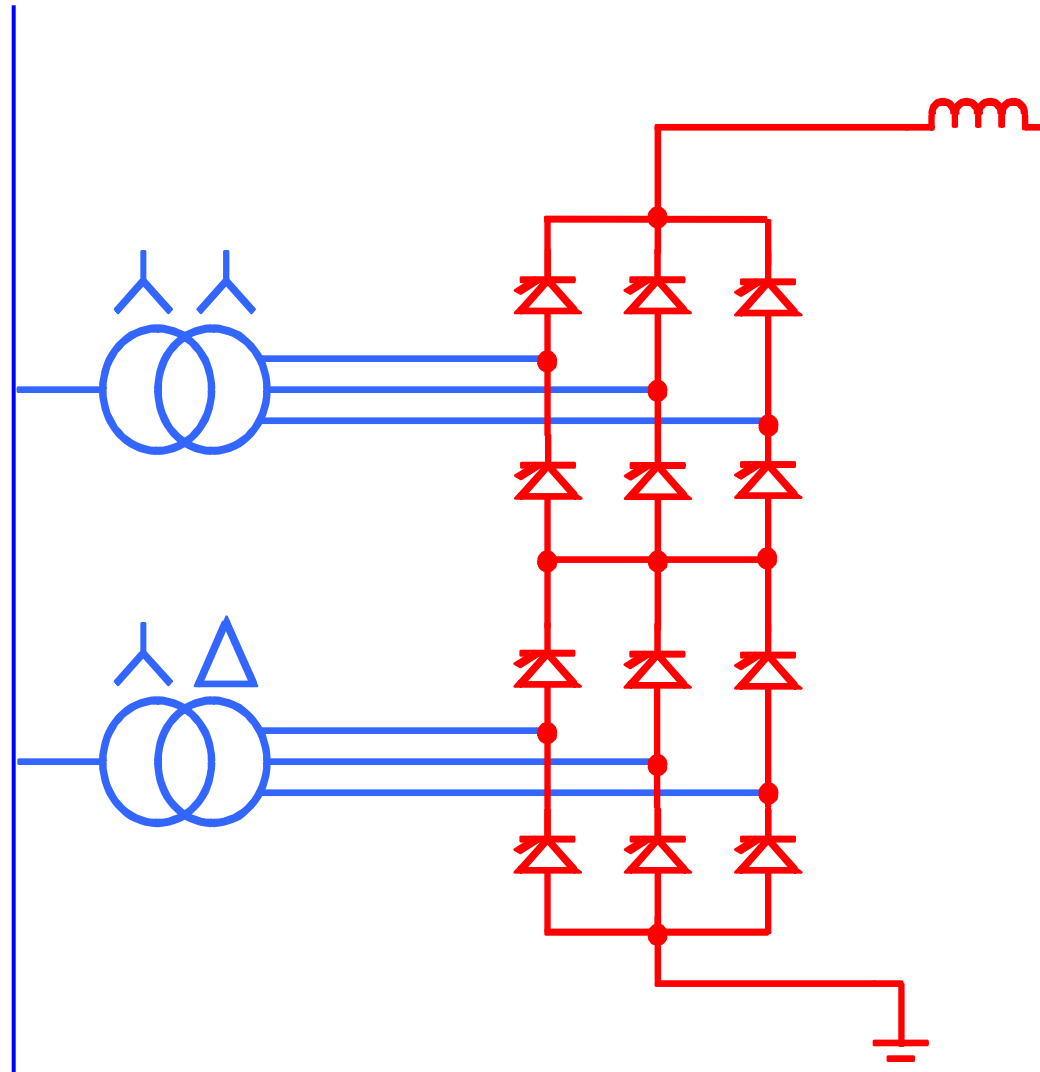
5 off 500kV AC towers

# ***Scheme Configuration***



- ▶ **6400MW**
- ▶ **+/-800kV, 4000A Bipole**
- ▶ **Single pole rating 3200MW**
- ▶ **Single phase 2 winding converter transformers**

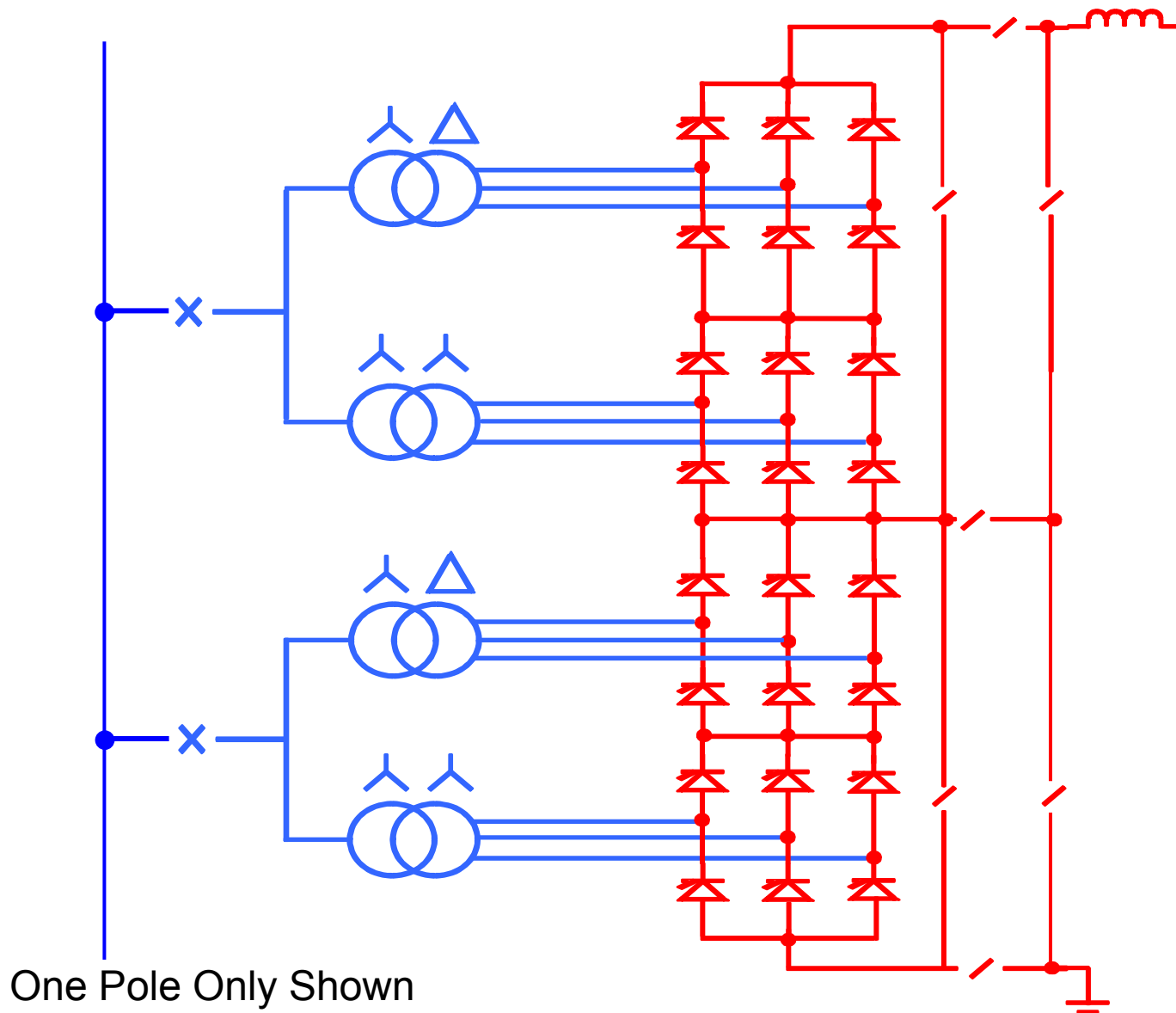
# 1 x 12 Pulse Converter Per Pole



One Pole Only Shown

- ▶ **Transformer fundamental frequency rating approximately 620MVA**
  - ◆ Unlikely this can be transported to generation end
- ▶ **Converter trip removes up to 3200MW**
  - ◆ This may be difficult for the grid to manage
  - ◆ May not be acceptable for availability reasons
- ▶ **Valve would need to be designed for much higher capacitive inrush currents at commutation**
- ▶ **No bypass switches**
- ▶ **AREVA T&D has chosen to concentrate on multiple converter options**
  - ◆ 2 x 12 pulse series connected converters per pole

# 2 x 12 Pulse Series Connected Converters



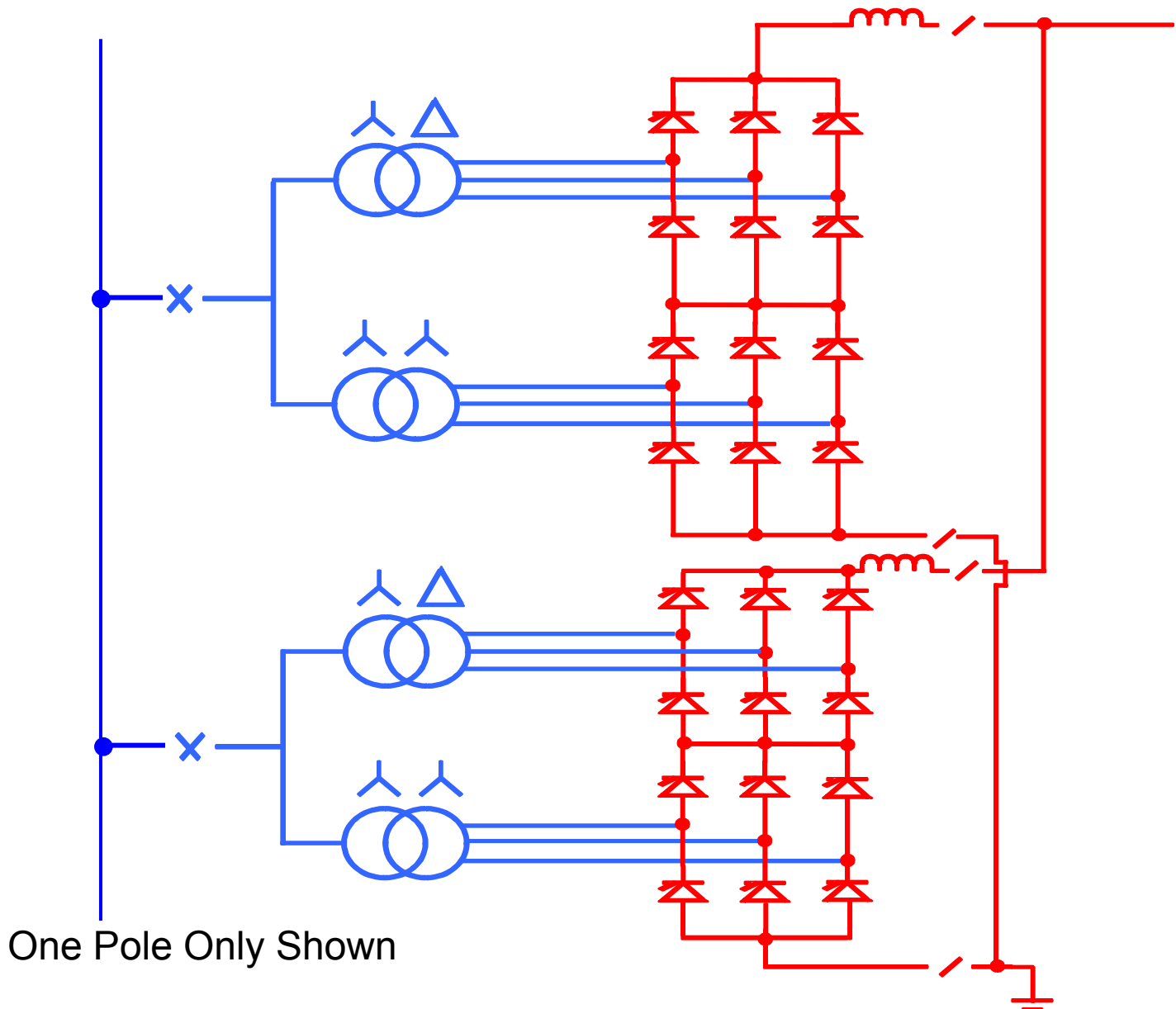
One Pole Only Shown

- ▶ **Equal sizes of switched blocks**
- ▶ **Would allow common transformer design**
  - ◆ **Would this be economic?**
  - ◆ **Would this be useful to operator?**
  - ◆ **Could have different valve winding bushings**
- ▶ **Valve design would be common and the voltage within present experience**
- ▶ **Maximum bypass switch voltage 400kV**
- ▶ **Maximum switched block 1600MW**
- ▶ **Staged build step is 400kV**

# 2 x 12 Pulse Series Connected Converters

- ▶ **Series connected converters have already been used for 600kVdc**
- ▶ **Transformer fundamental frequency rating approximately 320MVA**
  - ◆ **Should be possible to transport to generation end**
- ▶ **Converter trip removes up to 1600MW**
  - ◆ **This should be acceptable**
- ▶ **DC component or single pole line fault removes 3200MW**
  - ◆ **This would be extremely infrequent**
- ▶ **Assuming equal bridge sizes:**
  - ◆ **Valve voltage less than present maximum rating**
    - **6 pulse bridge = 200kV**
    - **Today 6 pulse bridge = 250kV**
  - ◆ **Need bypass switches of 400kV**

# 2 x 12 Pulse Parallel Connected Converters



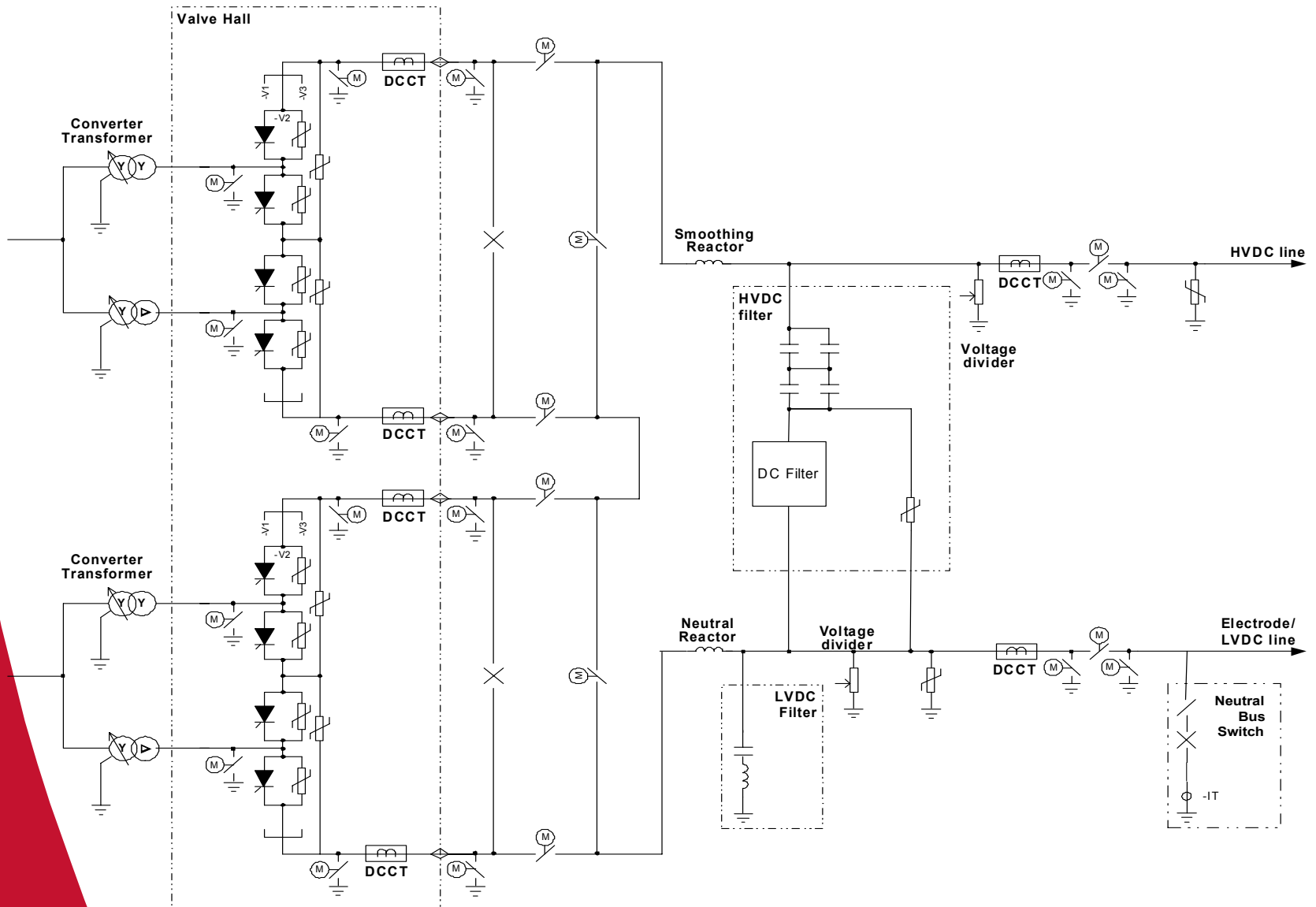
## 2 x 12 Pulse Parallel Connected Converters

- ▶ **Parallel connected converters have been used on multi-terminal schemes:**
  - ◆ SACOI (Italy – Corsica – Sardinia)
  - ◆ New England (Canada – USA)
- ▶ **Each converter needs to be 800kV as one block**
- ▶ **Transformer fundamental frequency rating approximately 320MVA**
  - ◆ Should be possible to transport to generation end
- ▶ **Converter trip removes up to 1600MW**
  - ◆ 800kVdc circuit breakers would be required to trip single converter
- ▶ **Valve would need to be designed for much higher capacitive inrush currents at commutation**
- ▶ **Do not need bypass switches**

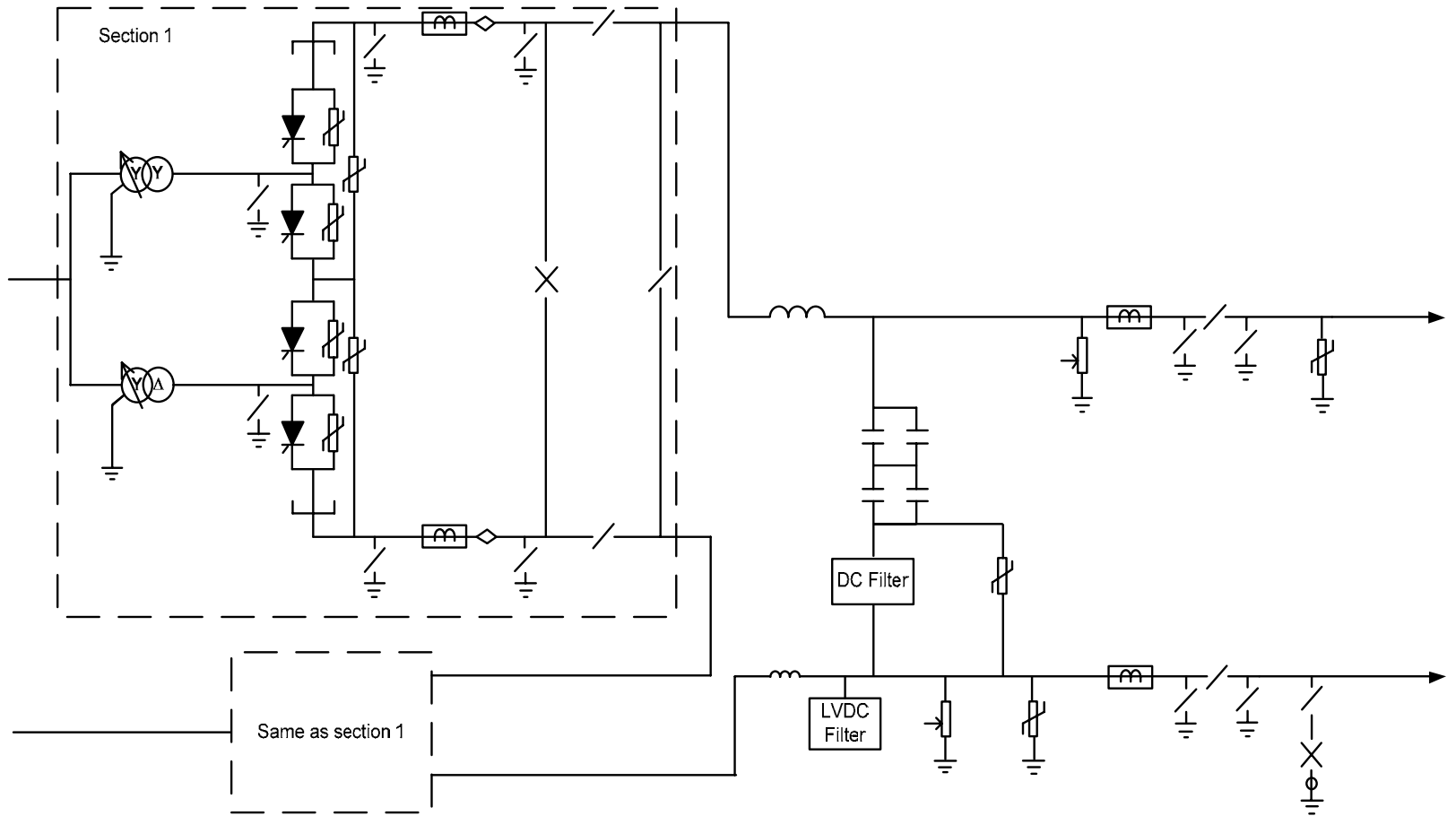


- ▶ **2 off Series connected, 12 pulse bridges per pole**
- ▶ **1 phase, 2 winding converter transformers**
- ▶ **1 valve hall per 12 pulse bridge**
- ▶ **2 hanging bi-valves per phase**
- ▶ **Indoor DC area common to both bridges**

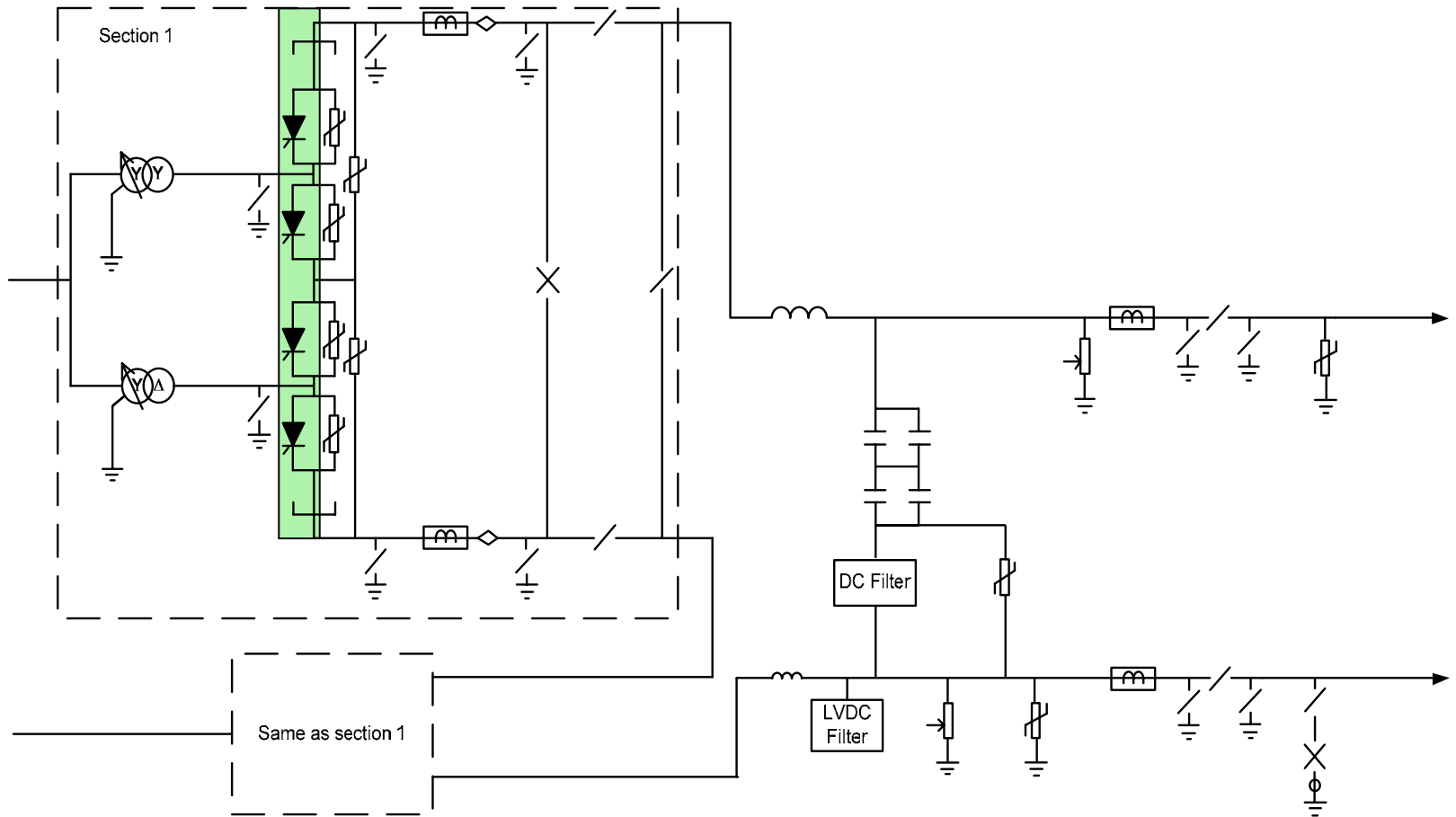
# Single Line Diagram One Pole

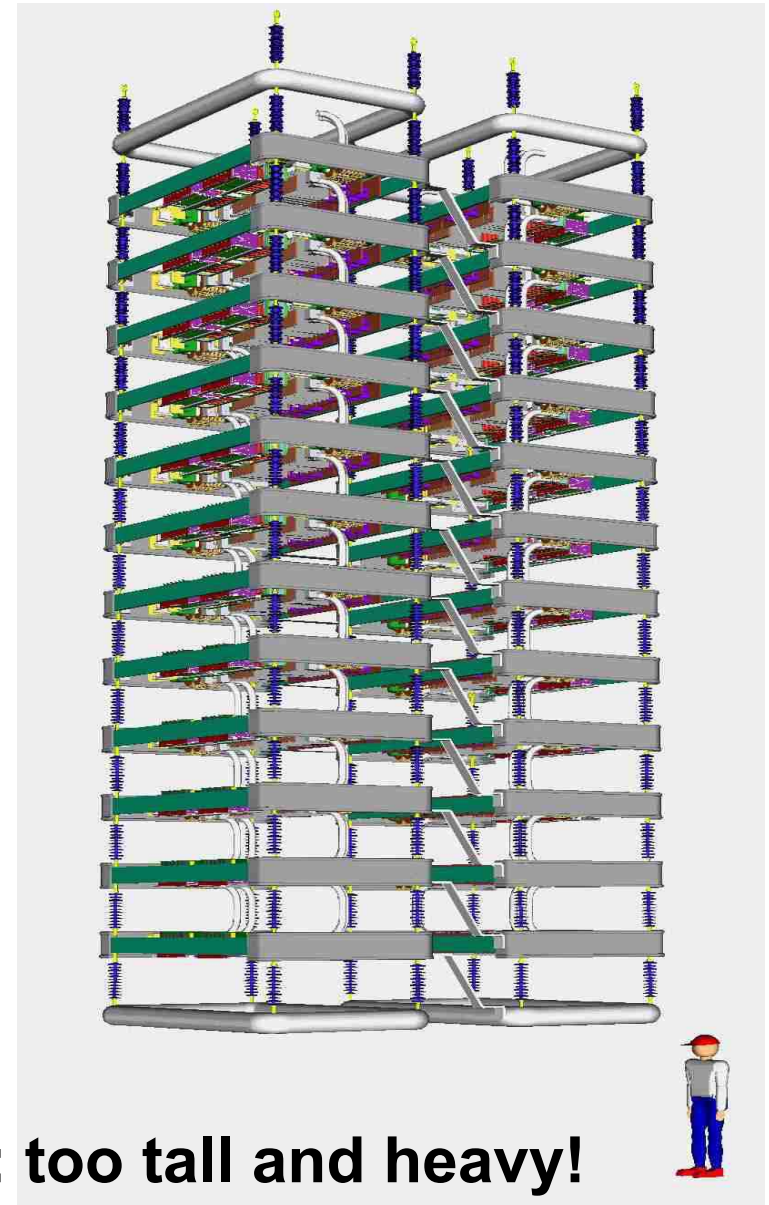
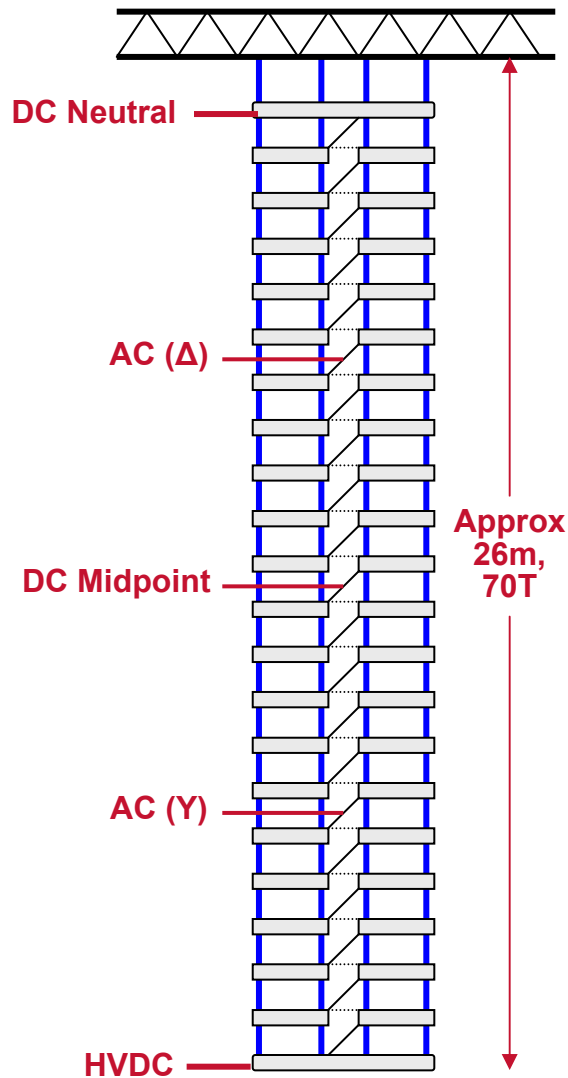


# Single line Diagram One 12 – pulse bridge

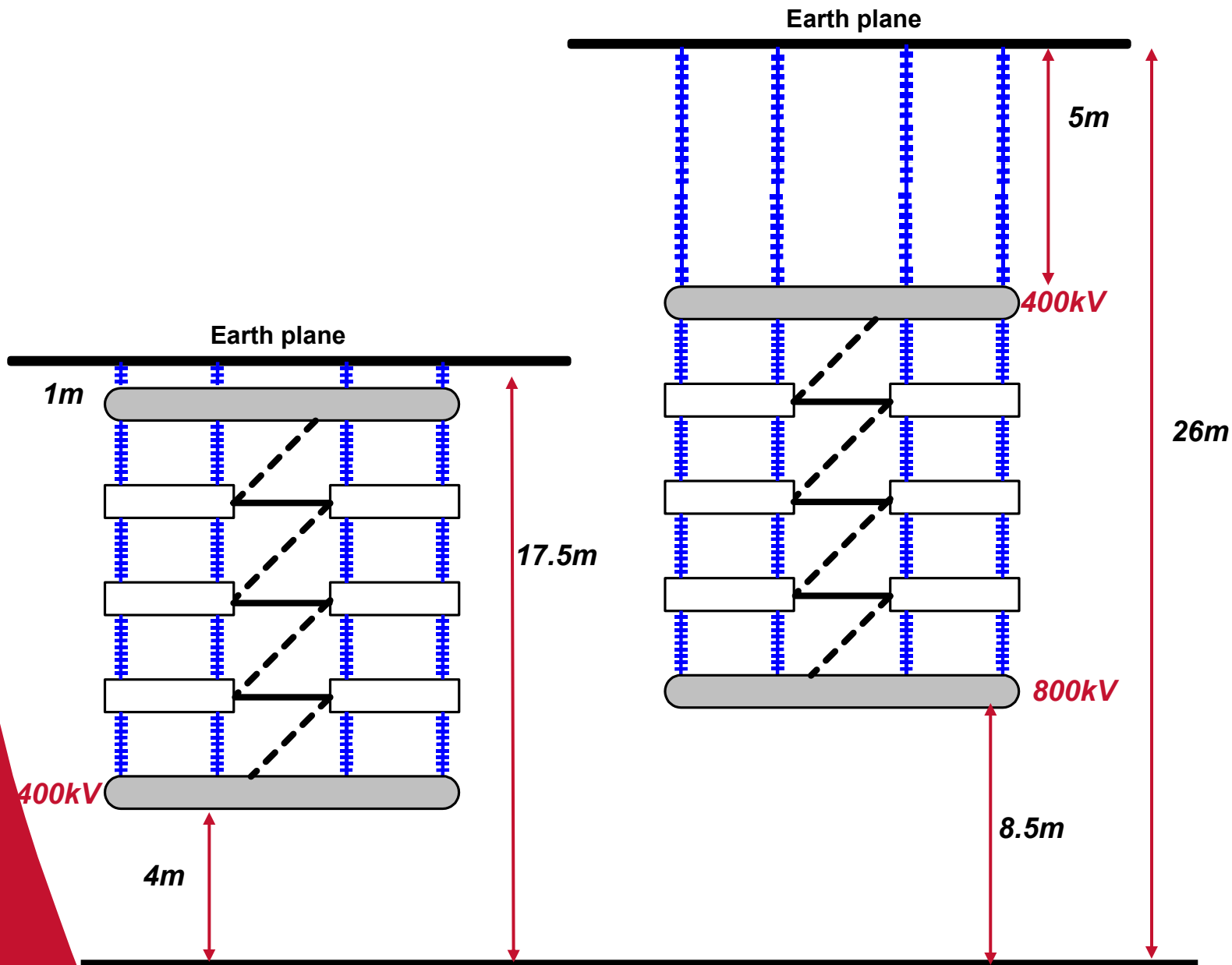


# ***Thyristor Valve***



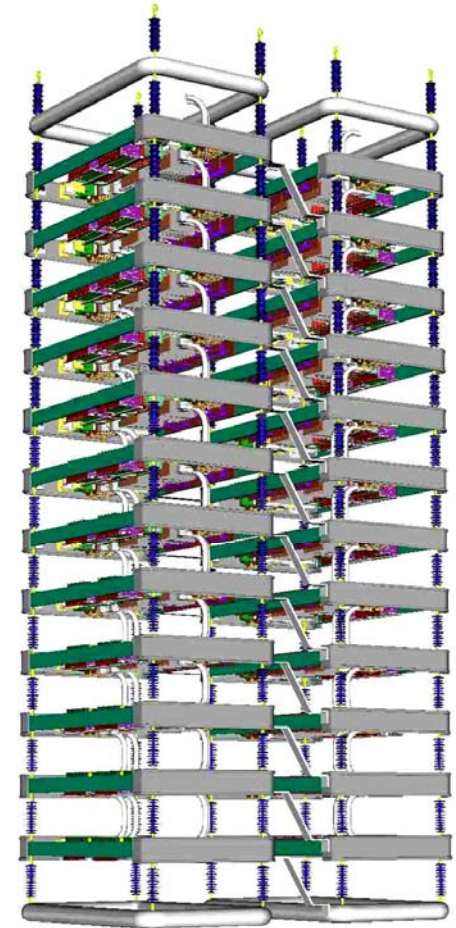


**Single suspended valve: too tall and heavy!**



## Key attributes:

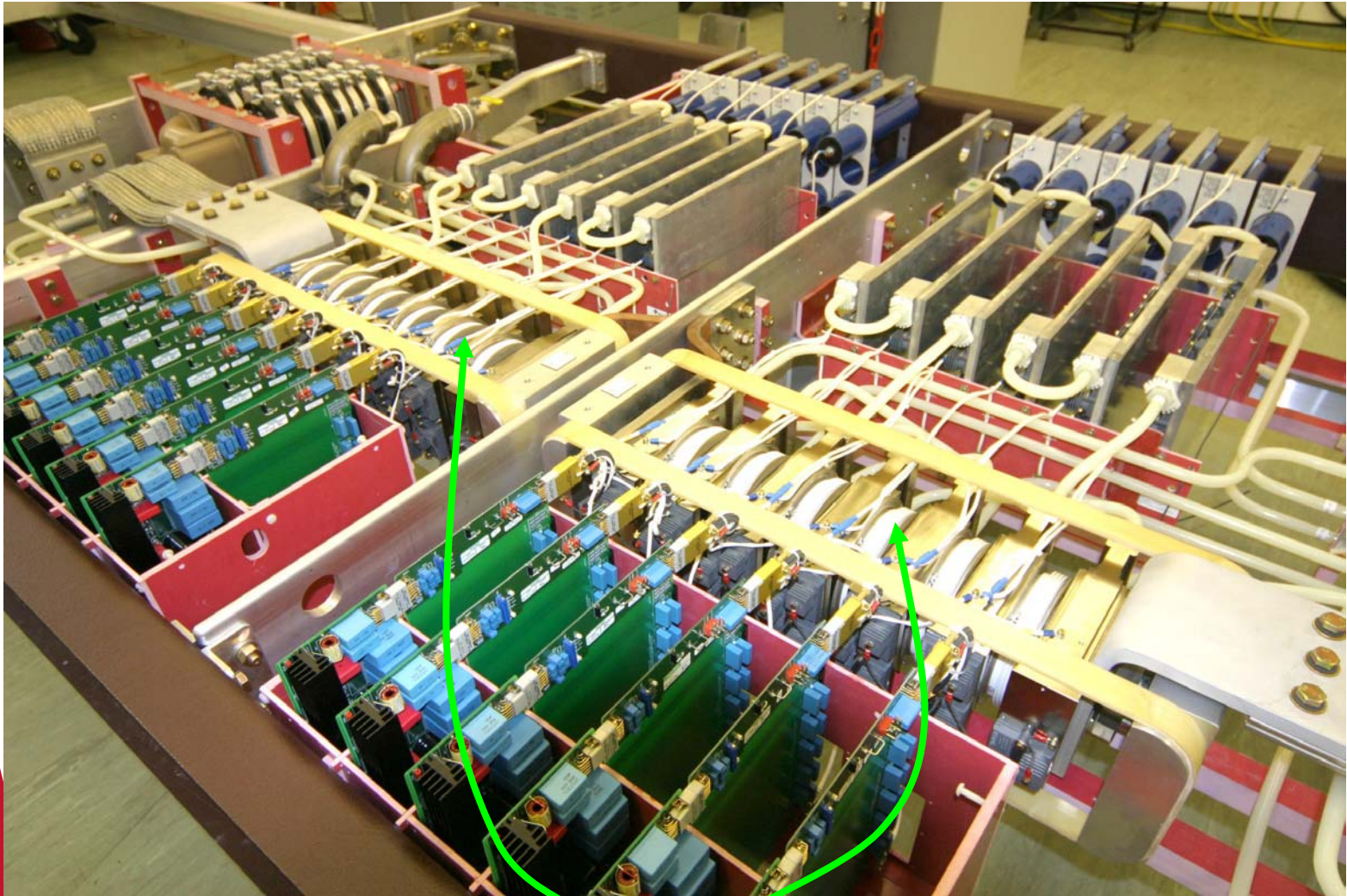
- ▶ **Enhanced capacity**
  - ◆ Up to 500kV, 4000A as single block
- ▶ **Flexible**
  - ◆ Thyristors up to 150mm diameter
- ▶ **Greater power density giving reduced space**
- ▶ **Significantly cheaper than previous valves**
- ▶ **Rapid thyristor replacement without disturbing power connections or cooling pipe-work**
  - ◆ Due to thyristor clamped assembly system
- ▶ **Direct water/glycol cooled**
- ▶ **Suspended structure to ease seismic qualification**



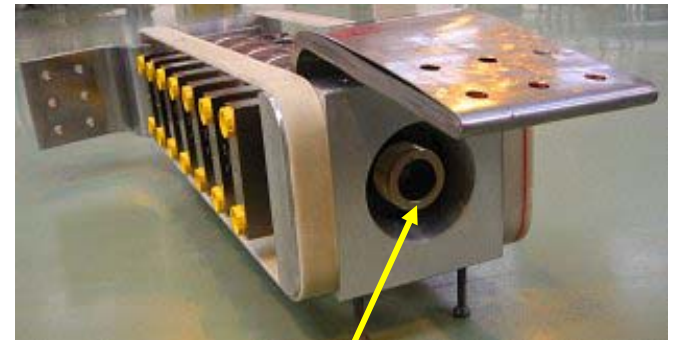
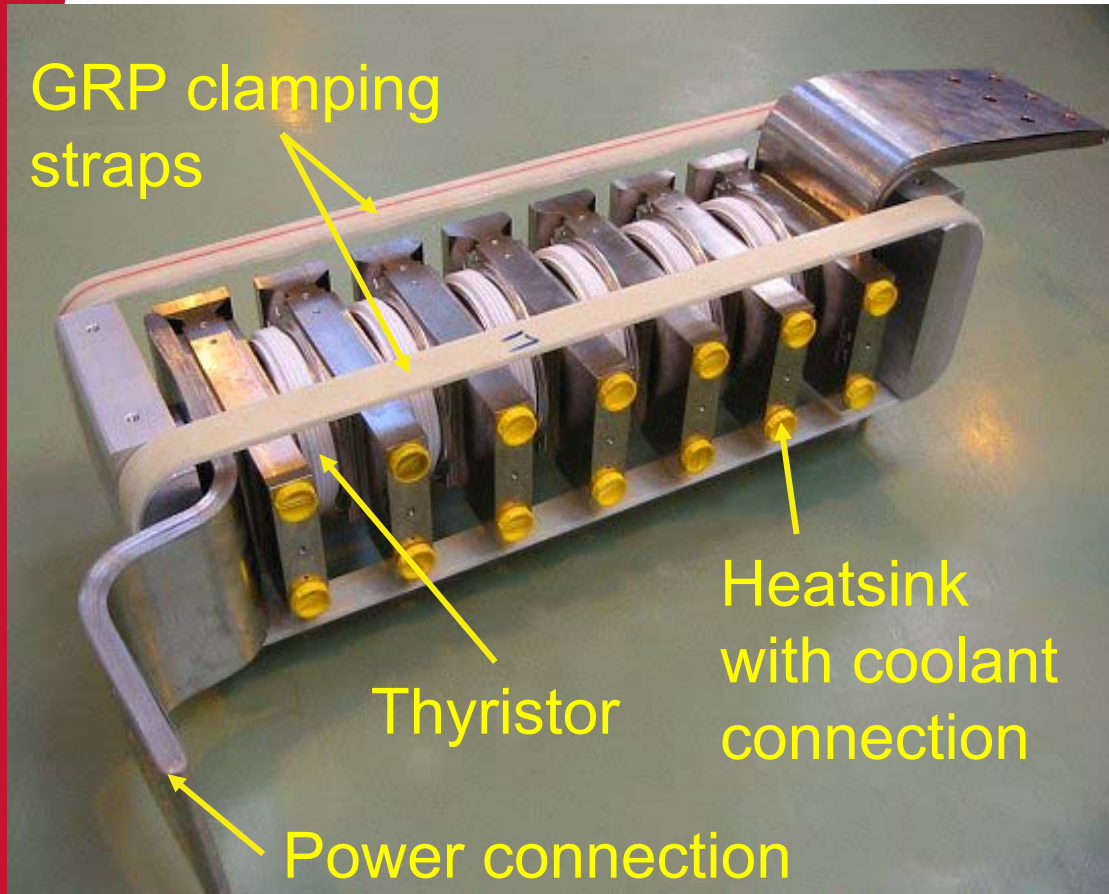
**Standardized and modularized for flexibility**



# H400 Valve Module comprising 2 valve sections Building Block



Thyristor Clamped  
Assemblies

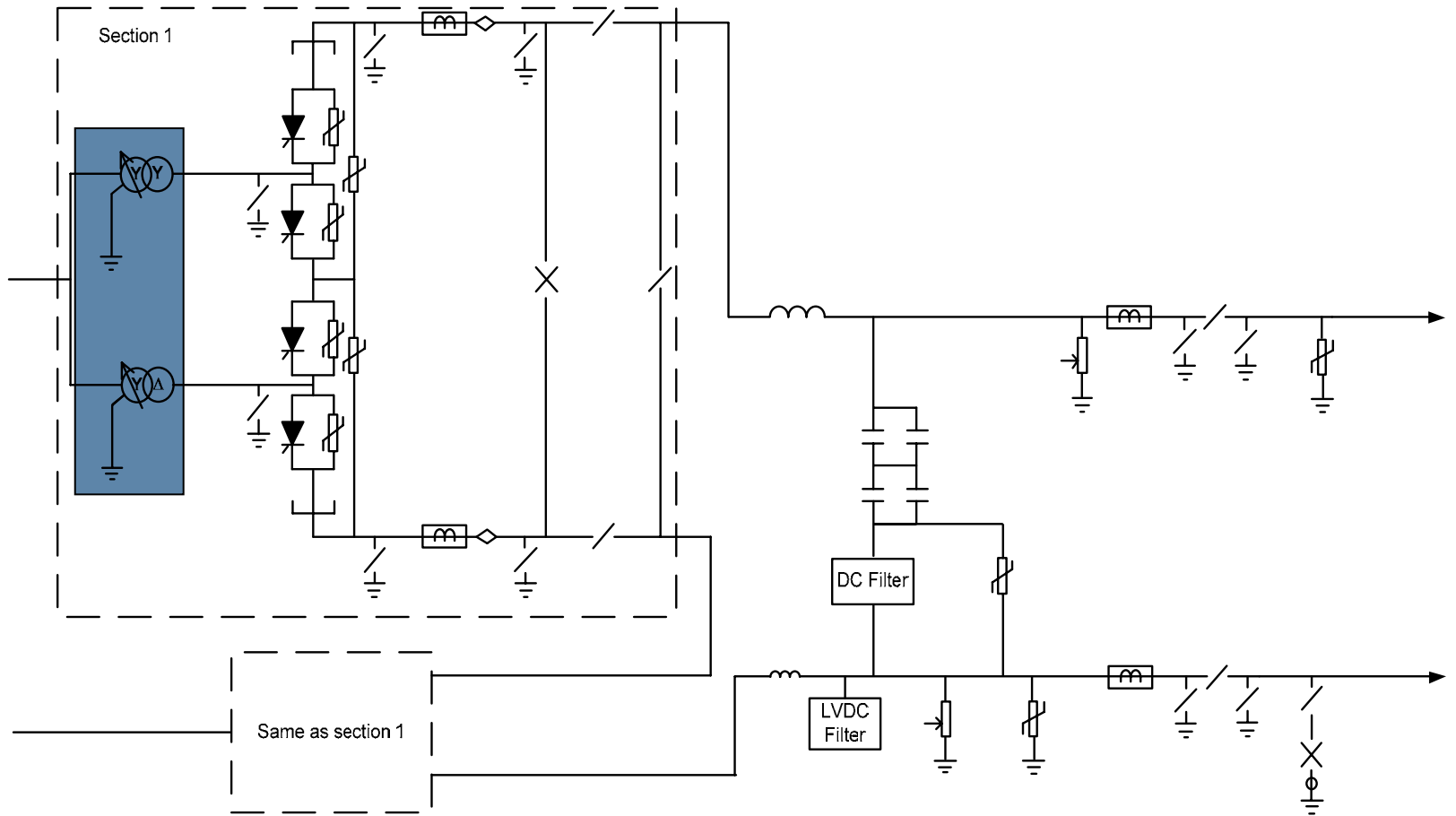


Loading adaptor for thyristor changing tool

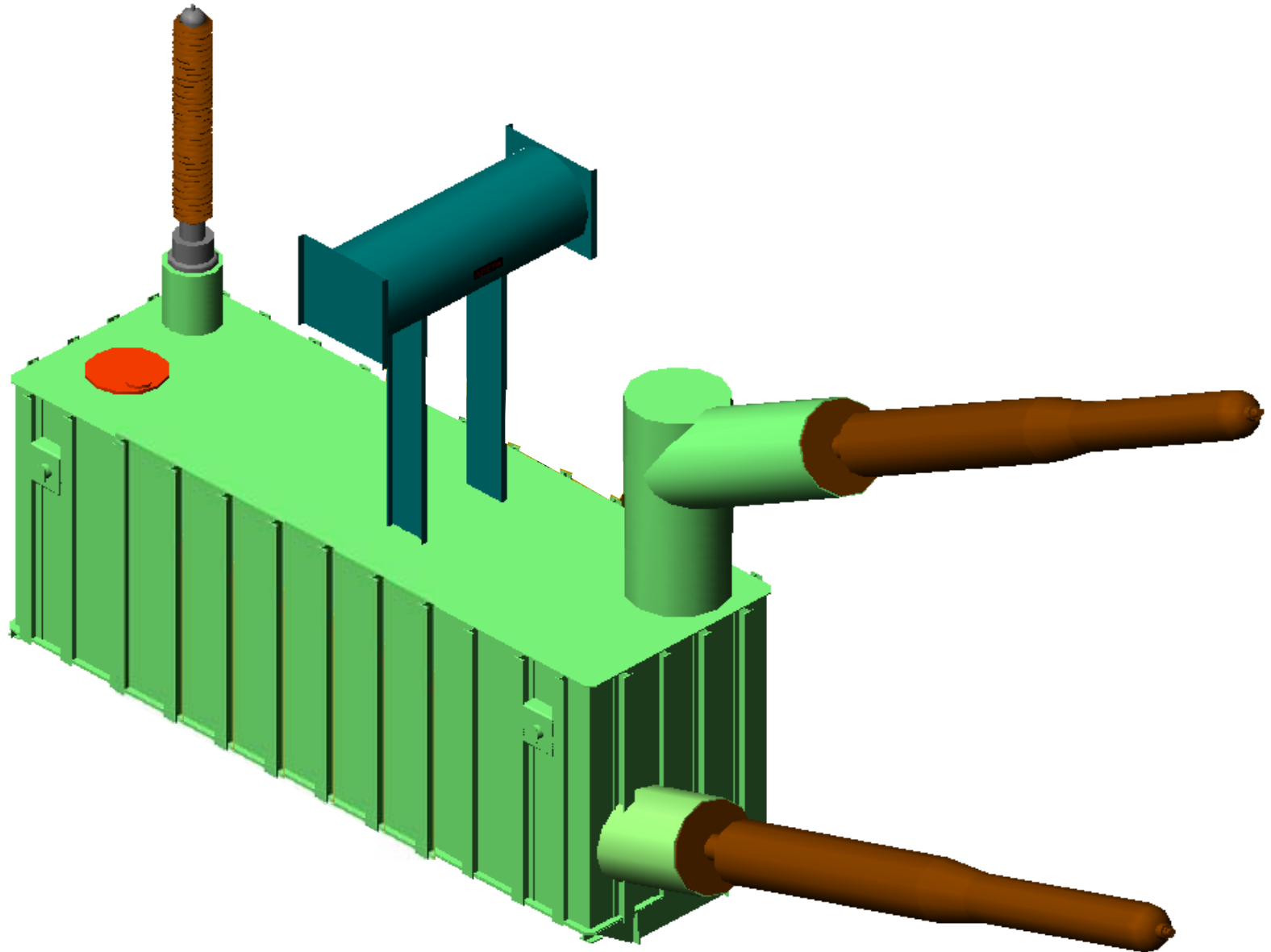
# Example of 12 pulse Thyristor Valve



# *Converter Transformer*



# Converter Transformer for 800kV Arrangement

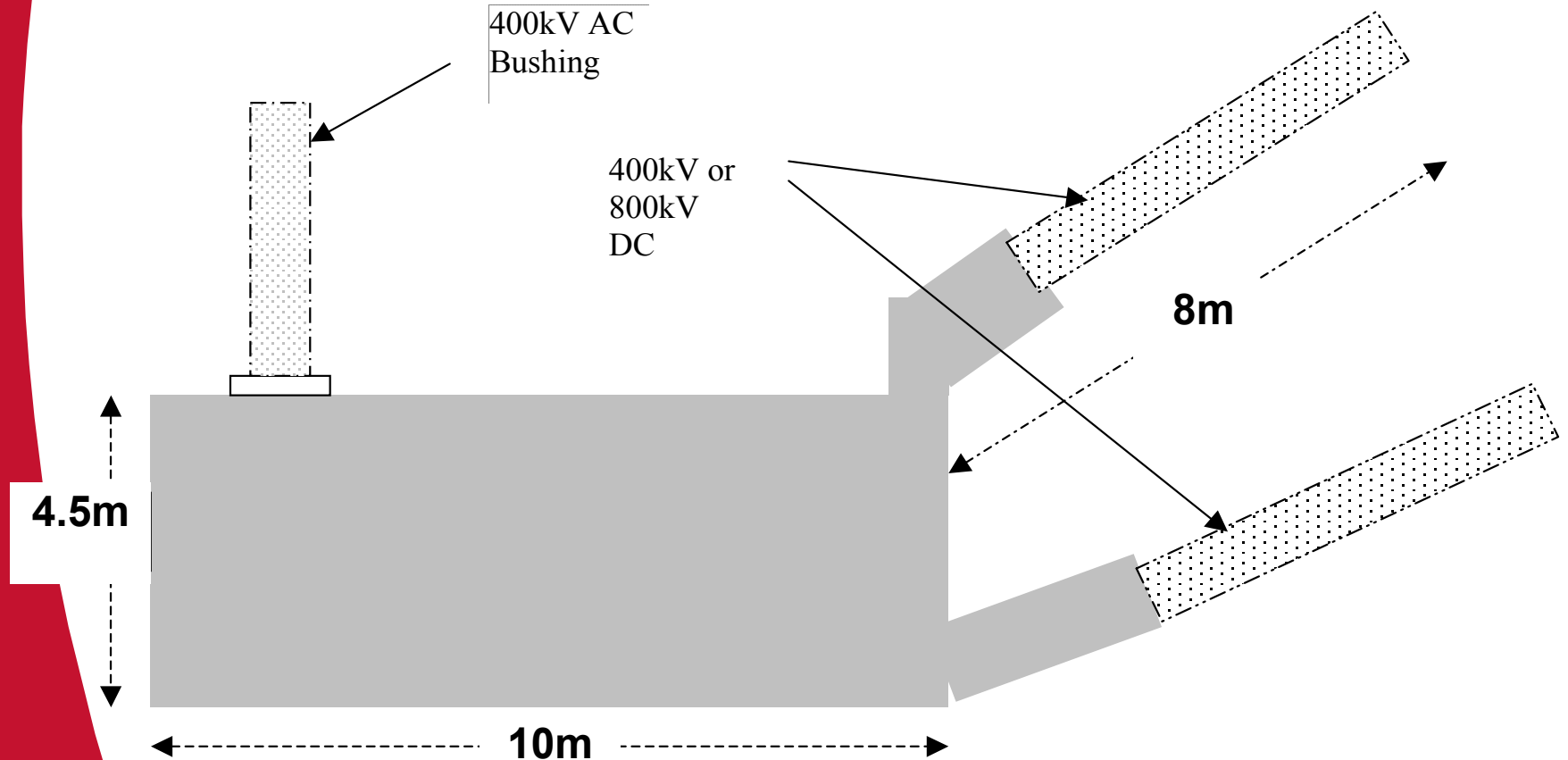


# ***Converter Transformer for 800kV Technical Challenges***

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- ▶ **DC side bushings**
- ▶ **Oil free designs required**
- ▶ **Composite insulation rather than porcelain**
- ▶ **Solid insulation/Gas insulation?**
- ▶ **Mechanical strength due to extreme length.**

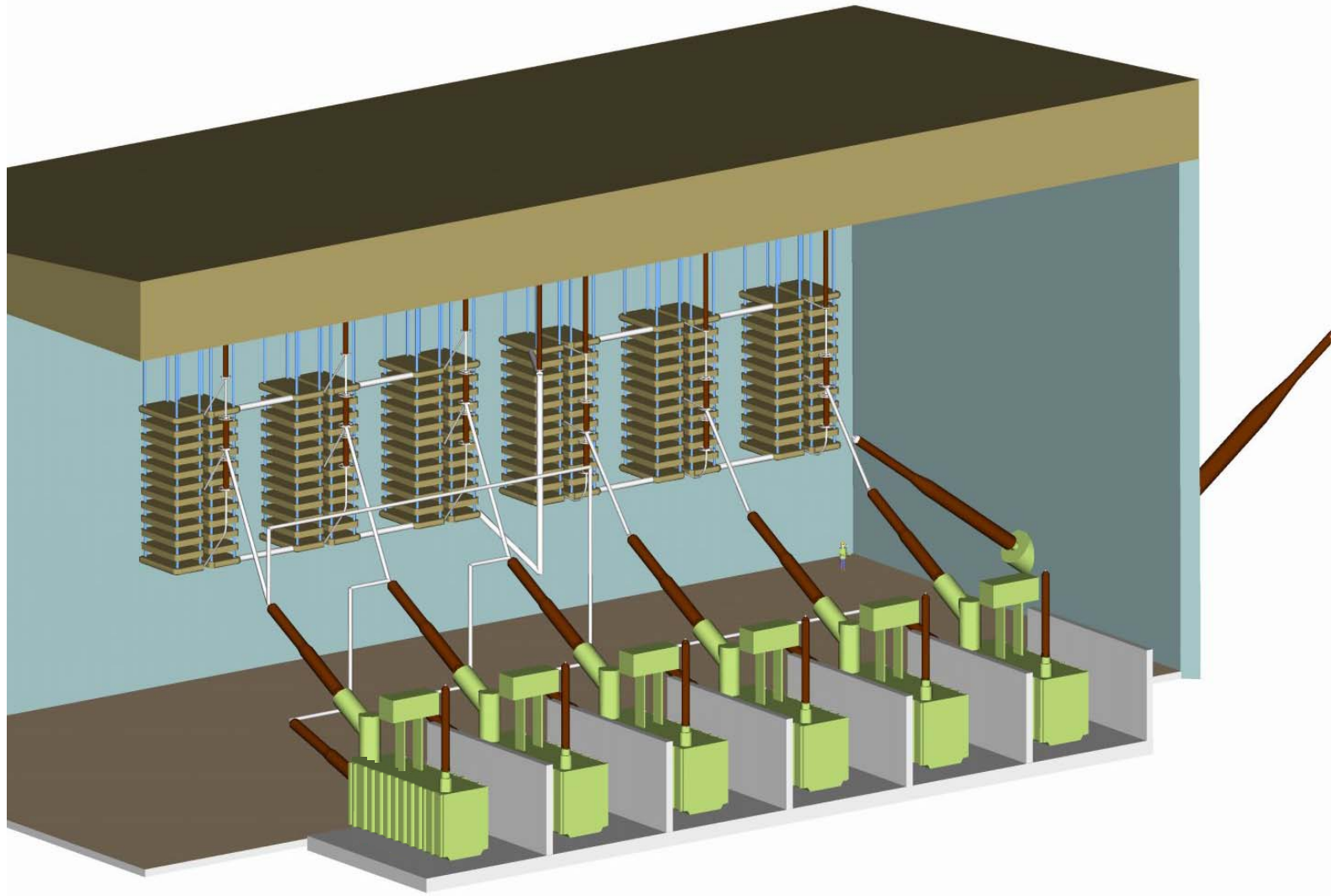
# Converter Transformer for 800kV Schematic diagram





# *Valve Hall Layout*

# Upper Voltage Block Valve Hall



400kV to 800kV

A large, bold, red letter 'A' logo. The letter is stylized with a thick stroke and a slight curve on the right side. It is positioned centrally above the word 'AREVA'.

**AREVA**