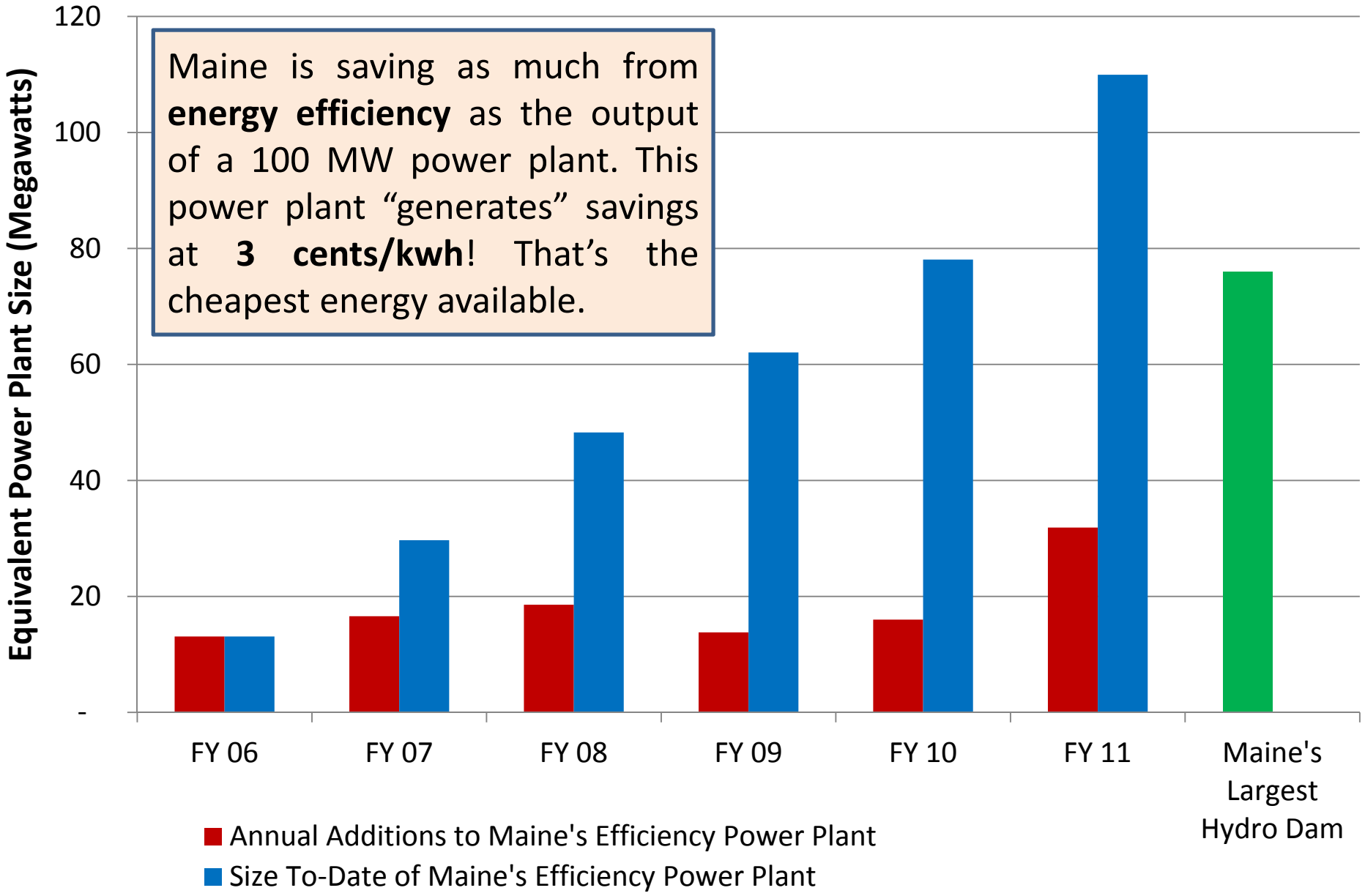
Maine's Energy Efficiency "Power Plant"



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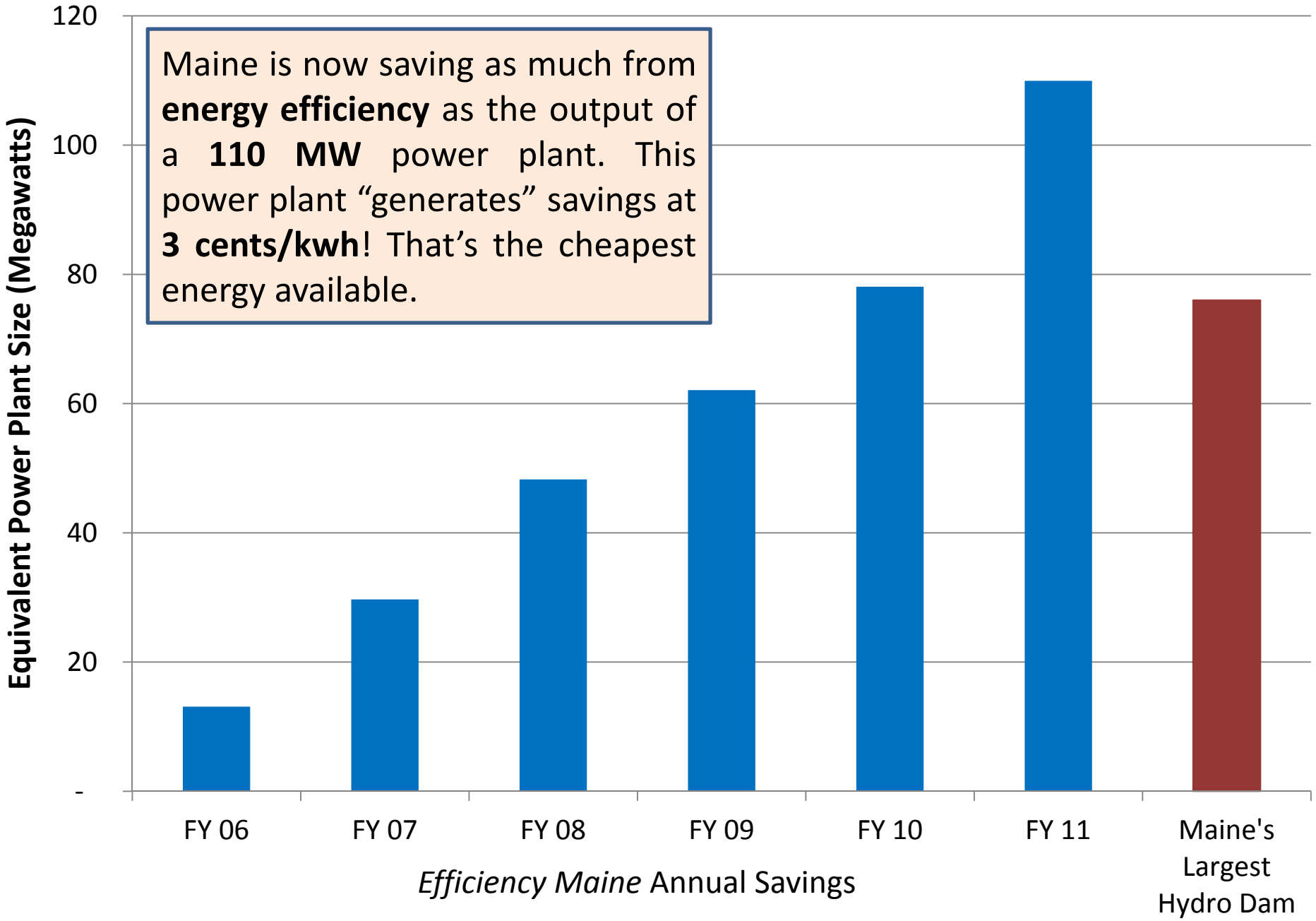

Understanding Maine's Energy Efficiency Power Plant

- Energy savings amounts come from *Efficiency Maine* annual reports. The most comprehensive metric is "lifetime savings", the total energy savings that will accrue from efficiency investments made during that year.
- In order to compare to efficiency savings to the output of a power plant that might operate steadily for 20 years, the lifetime savings from each year's *Efficiency Maine* activities were divided by 20. (In reality, the savings from efficiency investments accrue faster than that, typically over 7-15 years, depending on the measure, so this method undervalues the efficiency savings.)
- The annual savings were compared to a power plant with a capacity factor of 30%, which roughly consistent with many power sources, from wind to natural gas.
- Each year *Efficiency Maine* helps achieve additional savings, which accrue over multiple years—this is akin to increasing the size of the power plant.
- This therefore an apples-to-apples comparison between the annual output of a power plant and the annual savings from energy efficiency investments.
- Avoiding energy through efficiency investments has a cost, just like energy supply. According to Efficiency Maine Trust 2011 Annual Report, the total cost was 3 cents/kwh.