

EE-101  
**Çankaya University**  
Engineering Faculty  
Electrical Electronics Engineering Department

week 10



**Topic Outline :**  
**Fundamentals of Distribution Systems**

# 1. Fundamentals of Distribution Systems

we introduce the basic configurations and characteristics of distribution including primary and secondary distribution

# Ancient Discoveries and Early Theories

**1. Ancient Times:** The earliest understanding of electricity dates back to ancient civilizations. The Greeks discovered that rubbing amber with fur produced static electricity.



*The word **Electricity** comes from the Greek and Latin words for “amber [kehribar]”.*

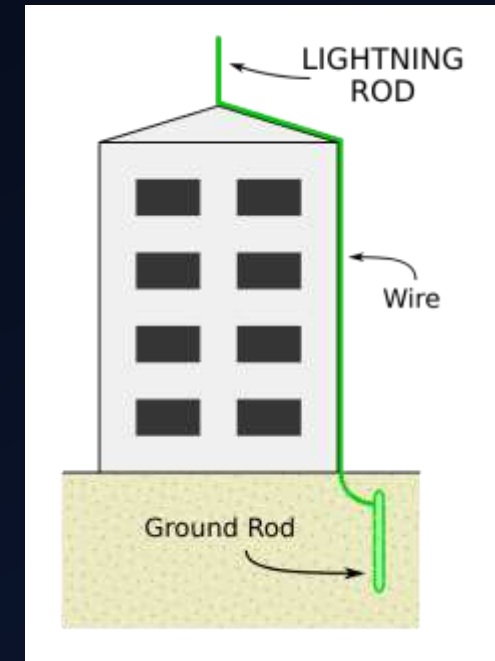
**2. 1600s:** In the early modern era, William Gilbert, an English scientist, coined the term "electricity" and distinguished between magnetism and static electricity.



# The Age of Enlightenment and Early Experimentation

**3. 1700s:** The 18th century, scientists Benjamin Franklin discovered that lightning and thunder are the results of charges, invented the lightning rod.

- His desire to protect buildings from lightning strikes, cause fires and damage.
- a method to safely direct the electrical energy of a lightning strike away from structures.
- **Concept and Design**
- **Principle of Operation:** Franklin proposed that lightning was essentially a large-scale electrical discharge and could be attracted to a conductive rod placed on top of a building. The rod would conduct the electrical charge safely into the ground, thereby preventing damage to the structure.
- **Structure:** The lightning rod is a metal rod (typically made of copper or iron) that is mounted on the highest point of a building or structure. It is connected to the ground via a wire, which allows the electrical charge from a lightning strike to be safely dissipated into the earth.



# 2 Kinds of Electric Charge

- Both were named by Ben Franklin

1. Positive charge (+)

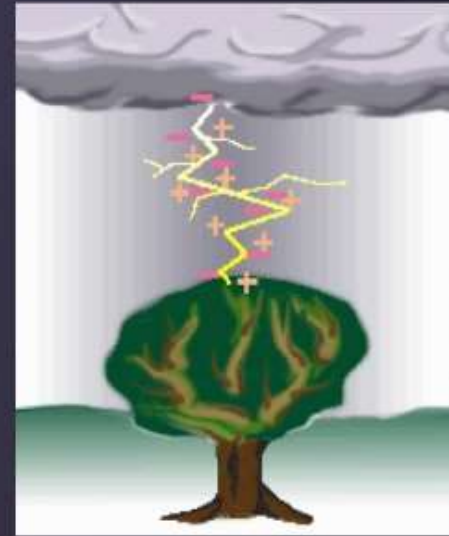
2. Negative Charge (-)

→ Like charges repel

→ Opposite charges attract



2 like charges repel



#### 4. 1800s: The 19th century was a period of rapid advancement in electrical science and technology:

- **Alessandro Volta (1800):** Invented the voltaic pile, the first chemical battery, which provided a steady current of electricity. This was the first practical source of electric power
- alternating disks of zinc and copper sandwiching a pasteboard or leather moistened with brine or vinegar.
- The disks were placed on a wooden base and supported by three glass rods.
- Each three-disk unit functioned as a single electric cell that produced a current due to an **electrochemical reaction in which zinc loses electrons and copper gains them.**



- **Changing Magnetic Field:** Faraday discovered that a constant magnetic field did not induce a current; only a changing magnetic field did.
- **Induced Voltage:** He also found that the magnitude of the induced current depended on **how quickly the magnetic field changed**, not just on the strength of the field.
- **Faraday's Law of Induction:** Faraday's work led to the formulation of Faraday's Law of Electromagnetic Induction, which states that the electromotive force (EMF) induced in a circuit is proportional to the rate of change of the magnetic flux through the circuit

$$\varepsilon = -N \frac{\Delta\phi_M}{\Delta t}$$

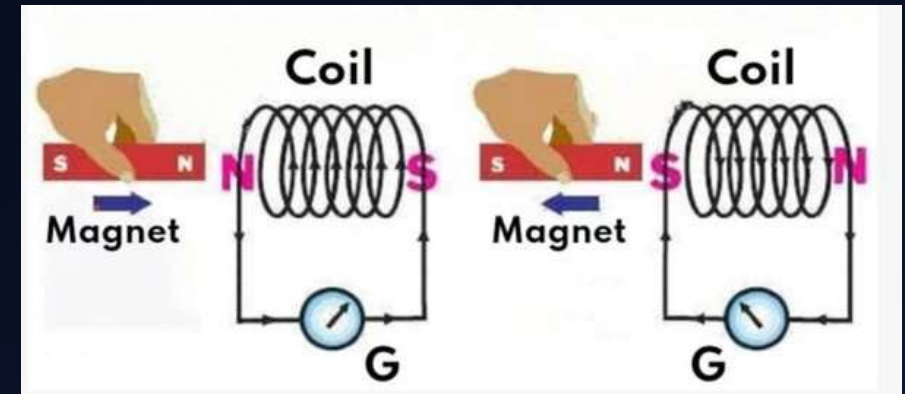
**Faraday's Law**

$N$  = number of loops

$\Delta\phi_M$  = change in magnetic flux

$\Delta t$  = change in time

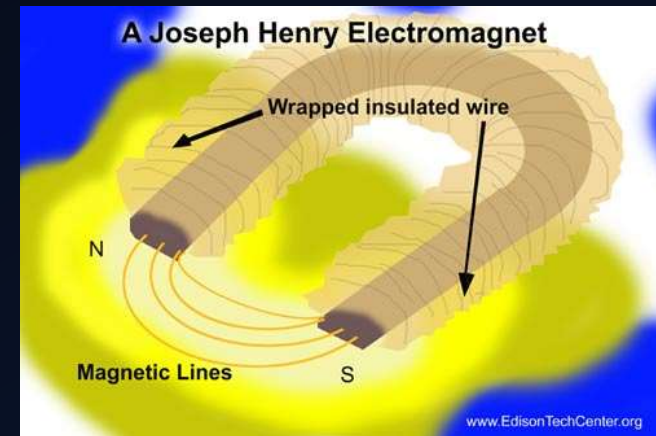
$\varepsilon$  = induced voltage (also known as emf)







- **Joseph Henry (1830s-1840s):** His work on electromagnetism and self-induction contributed to the development of the electric transformer and other technologies.



# The Birth of the Electric Power Industry

**5. 1870s-1880s:** The practical application of electric power began to take shape.

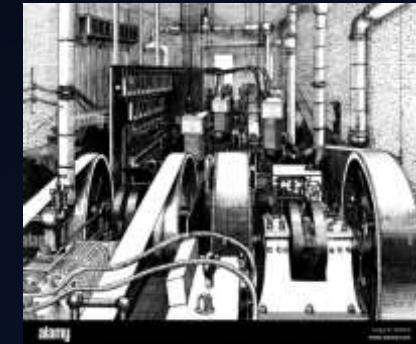
Edison's direct current (DC) system was an early method of electricity distribution.



**6. 1890s:** The "War of Currents" between Edison's DC system and Nikola Tesla and George Westinghouse's alternating current (AC) system was a pivotal moment.

AC power, being more efficient for long-distance transmission, eventually won out.

Tesla's AC system allowed for the development of a nationwide power grid.



# Expansion and Technological Advancements

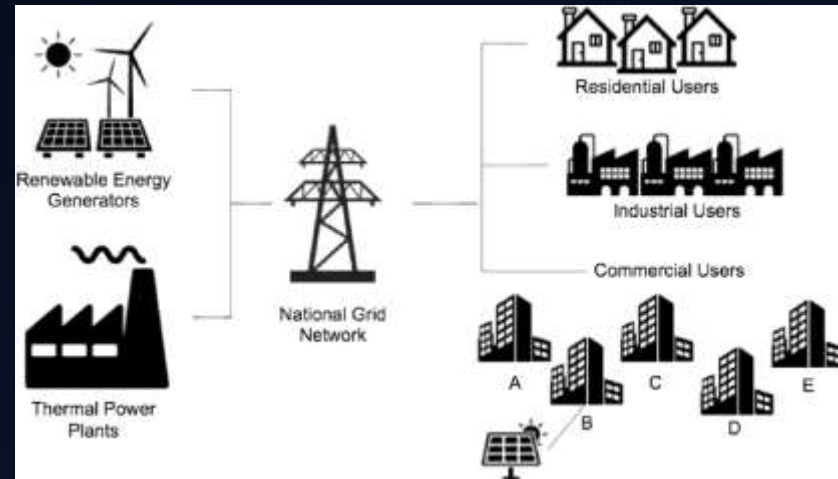
**7. Early 20th Century:** The electric power industry expanded rapidly with the development of large-scale power plants and the establishment of a national electrical grid. Hydroelectric power became a significant source of electricity, with large projects like the Hoover Dam harnessing the power of water for energy.



Hoover Dam



The first commercial nuclear power plant





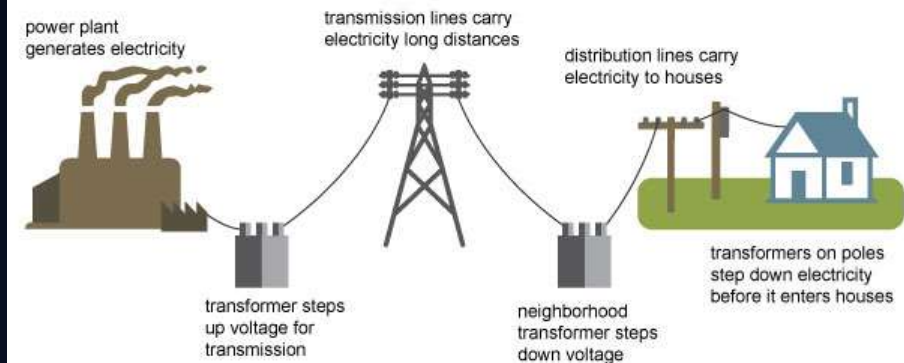
# The History of Electric Power Transmission

# Transmission vs. Distribution

- **Transmission:** High-voltage lines transport electricity over long distances from power plants to substations. The high voltage reduces energy loss during transit.
- **Distribution:** After electricity reaches substations, it is stepped down to lower voltages suitable for end users through distribution networks.



## Electricity generation, transmission, and distribution



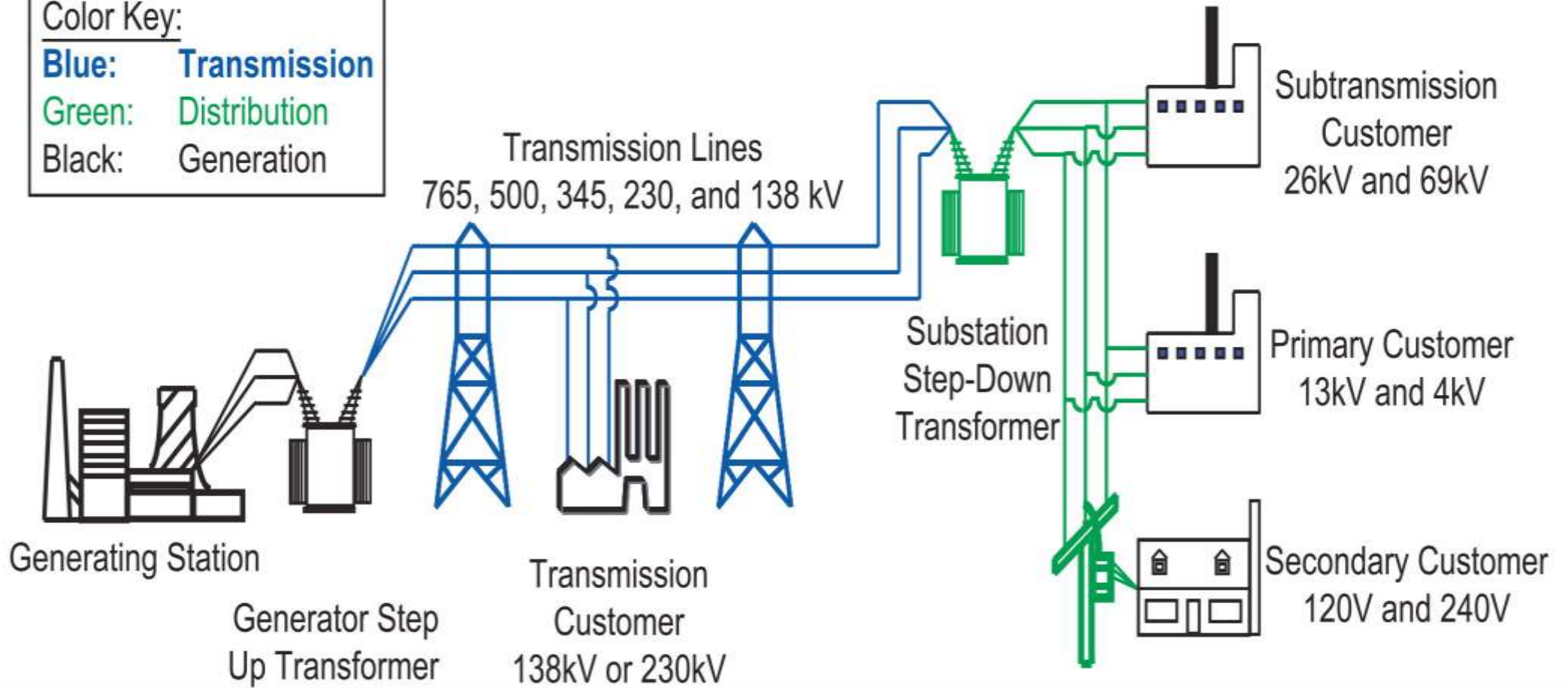
Source: Adapted from National Energy Education Development Project (public domain)

Color Key:

Blue: Transmission

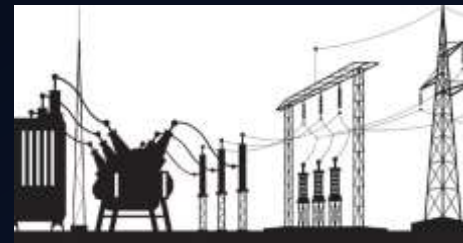
Green: Distribution

Black: Generation



## a. Substations

- Substations are critical facilities where high-voltage electricity is converted to lower voltages suitable for distribution.
- They house transformers, circuit breakers, and other equipment to manage the flow of electricity.



## b. Transformers

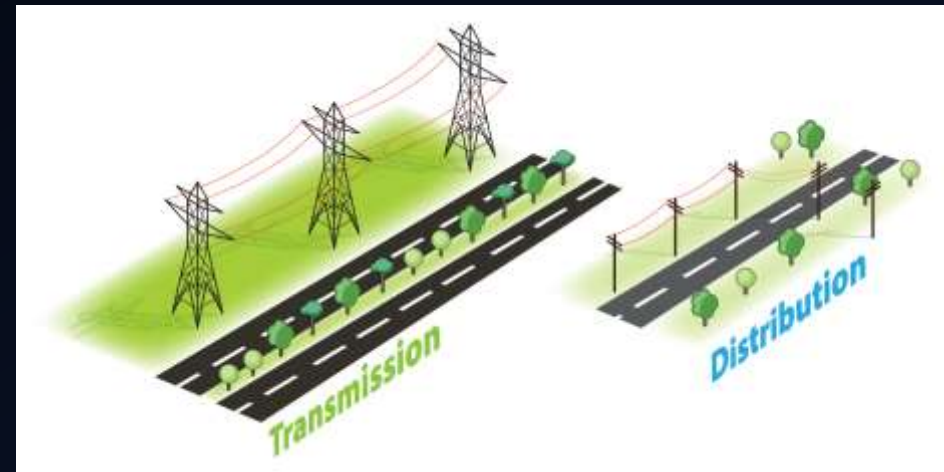
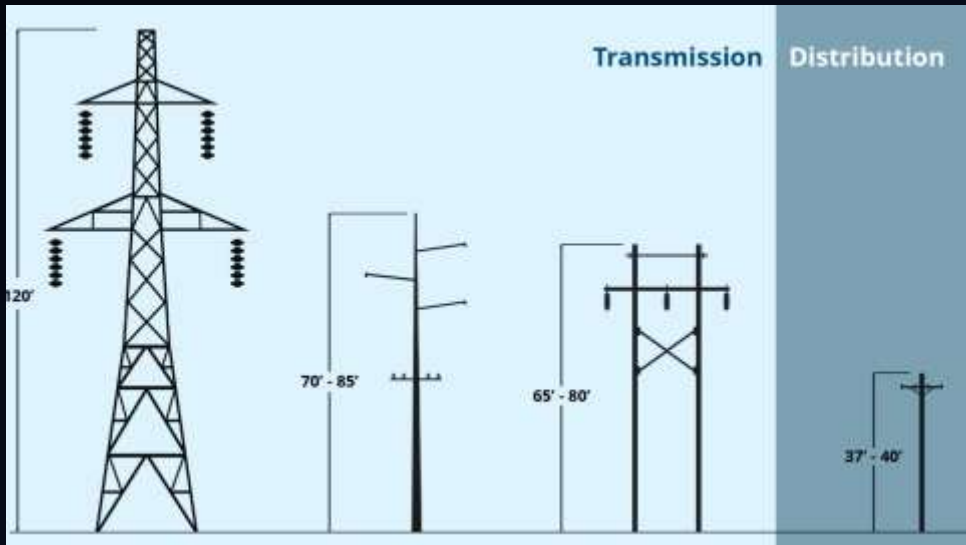
- Transformers are devices used to change the voltage level of electricity. They step down high voltages from transmission lines to lower voltages used in distribution networks.





## c. Distribution Lines

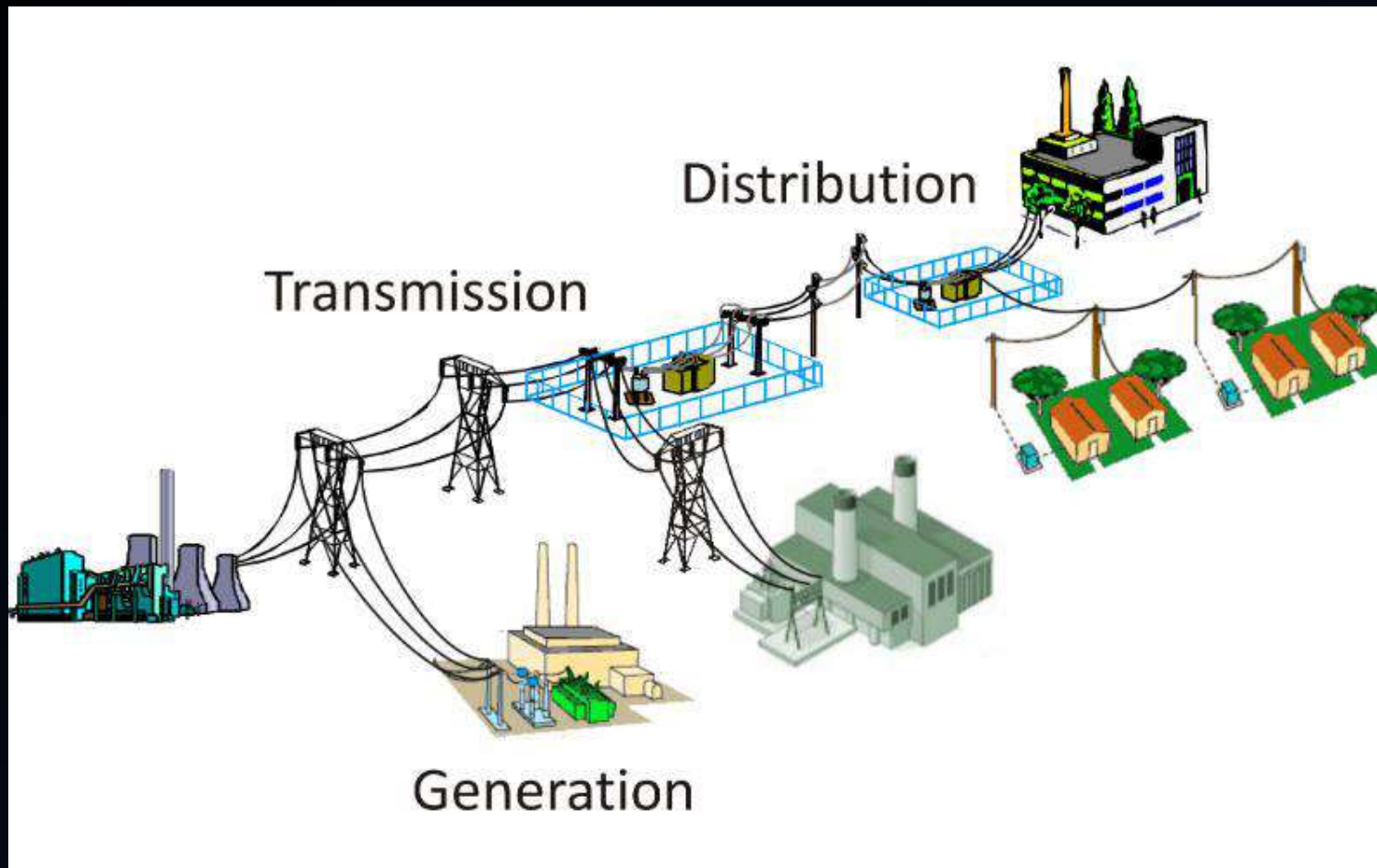
- These are the lower-voltage lines that carry electricity from substations to consumers. They can be divided into:
- **Primary Distribution Lines:** Carry electricity at voltages typically ranging from 4kV to 35kV.
- **Secondary Distribution Lines:** Distribute electricity at lower voltages (typically 120V to 480V) to homes and businesses.



## d. Circuit Breakers and Switches

- These devices control and protect the distribution system by interrupting the flow of electricity in case of faults or maintenance needs.
- They help isolate problems and ensure reliable operation.





Electrical power system has three major sections

- generation: source of power
- transmission and distribution : transmits power
- end user/load: consumes power

# Generation



Solar Power



Wind Power



Hydro Power



Fuel Cell Power



Geothermal Power



Biomass Power

# Transmission



Transmission Lines



Substation

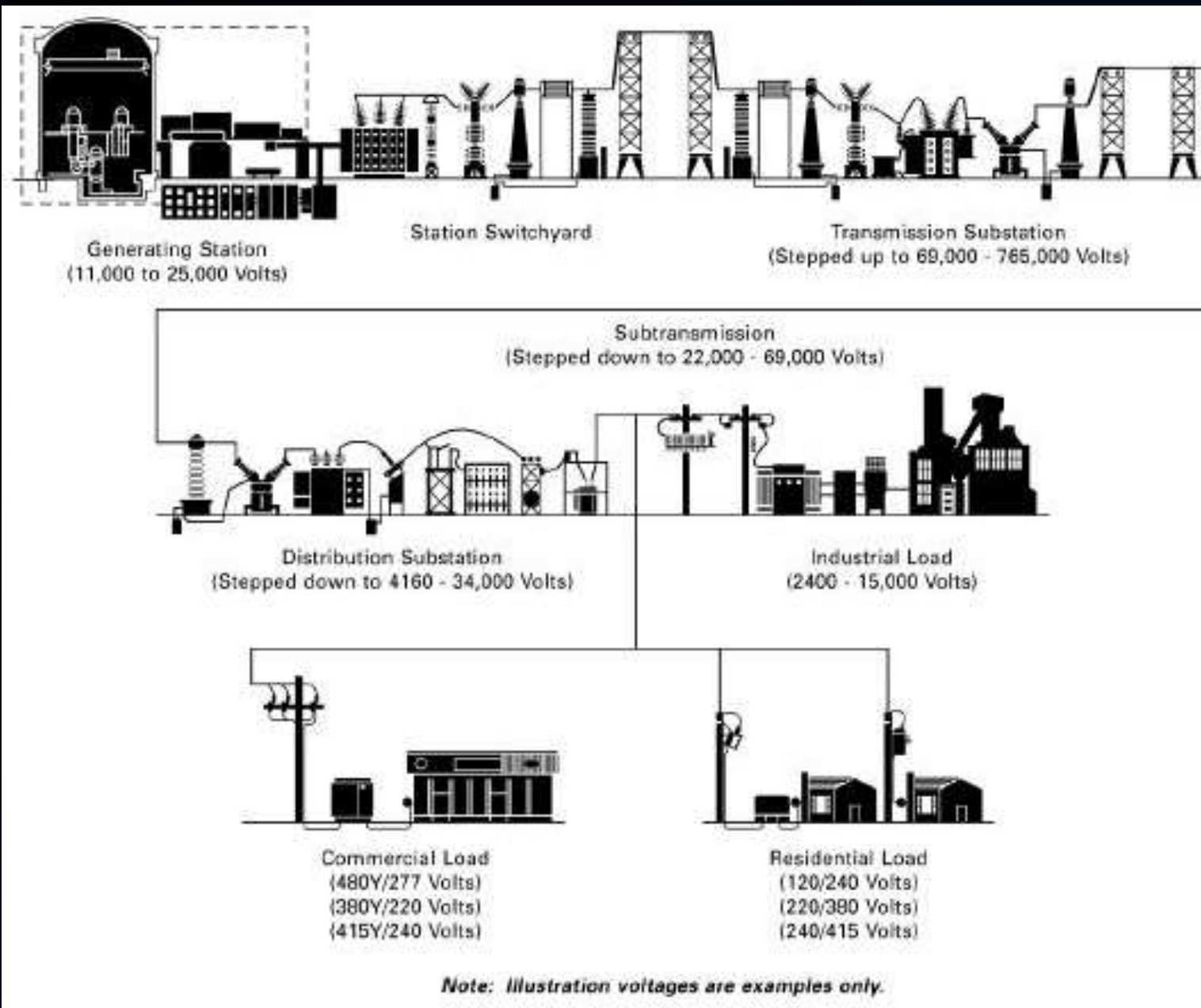
# Distribution




Overhead Lines



Underground Cables



## SIMPLE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM




STEP 1: The flow of electricity begins at the utility company where it is created at the **generating station**.

STEP 2: The **voltage** is then stepped up (increased) by a **generator transformer**. This is done to minimize the cable size and electrical losses.

STEP 3: The **Transmission Substation**, increases the voltage by a *step-up transformer*. The voltage increase depends on the distance it will go and the type of facilities it will ultimately supply. The power is then distributed in multiple directions to the proper **subtransmission station**.

STEP 4: The subtransmission station is located closer to its end customer and as a result the voltage is decreased by a *step-down transformer*.





STEP 5: The electricity is then sent to the **Distribution Substation** where the voltage is stepped down by the Step-Down Transformers to useful voltages. The power is then distributed to homes and facilities.

STEP 6: At or near each home and facility there are transformers that adjust the voltages down to the proper level for use. For example a large industrial plant will receive voltage level from 2400 – 15,000 volts.

