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Geothermal Events Expected to Draw Record Crowd

Washington, DC. - What is becoming known as the largest international event for the geothermal power industry – the Geothermal Energy Association’s Trade Show -- is expected to draw record crowds this year, according to the GEA. The annual event is held in conjunction with the Geothermal Resources Council Annual Meeting, and over 1,500 participants and visitors are expected at the two events.

“Last year’s programs brought together 1,000 people, and we anticipate a 50% increase,” noted Karl Gawell, GEA’s Executive Director. The three day GEA-GRC events will be held October 1-3 at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks (Reno), Nevada.

“We have seen dramatic new interest in the geothermal industry,” noted Gawell, “and that is translating into many new geothermal projects in the US and around the world.” In May 2007, GEA issued a report that identified 74 new geothermal power projects in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. These projects, when developed, would double US geothermal power capacity to almost 6,000 MW according to GEA. Another report on the international market, which GEA released in April, identified 40 countries with geothermal power development underway and projected a 50% growth in power production worldwide by 2010. (Both reports are available free of charge at <http://www.geo-energy.org/publications/reports.asp>.)

Highlighting the opening session Monday, October 1, Governor Jim Gibbons of Nevada and Michael Yackira, CEO of Sierra Pacific Resources, will be speaking. Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary, US Department of Energy and Michael Olsen, Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Department of Interior will also be among the Keynote Speakers.

In the trade show hall, Monday’s and Tuesday’s “Lunch Time Introductions” will feature major US developers -- including Ormat, Sierra Geothermal, UTC Power, and Enel North America -- will highlight the new geothermal power projects under development in over a dozen states. To spotlight the fast-growing international market, ministry officials from several countries, including Rwanda and Chile, are also scheduled to introduce their national geothermal efforts to the Trade Show’s participants and guests.

For information about the GEA Trade Show visit www.geo-energy.org; and for information about the GRC Annual Meeting visit www.geothermal.org.

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