



GEO THERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION

209 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003

Phone: (202) 454-5261 Fax: (202) 454-5265

Web Site: www.geo-energy.org

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National News

Senate Appropriations Committee to Take Action on Geothermal Research Funding for FY 2008

The Senate Energy and Water Subcommittee will be voting on whether or not to fund the DOE Geothermal Research Program tomorrow, June 26, at 3pm eastern. GEA Executive Director Karl Gawell has sent to Subcommittee Chairman Byron Dorgan (D-ND) the following letter:

“As you develop the fiscal year 2008 Energy and Water Appropriations bill, we ask that you support restoration of the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Geothermal Energy Research Program. Continued geothermal research by the Department of Energy is urgently needed and clearly justified.

“The National Research Council’s review of the DOE renewable energy programs found that the geothermal research program was undervalued (*Renewable Power Pathways, 2000*). According to that report, the resource has significant potential to contribute to our nation’s energy needs. It states, “Many analysts believe that a substantial fraction of US baseload power could potentially be supplied by a variety of geothermal resources.”

“The Geothermal Task Force Report prepared for the Western Governor’s Association’s Clean and Diversified Energy Advisory Committee has recently made similar recommendations. The Task Force’s January, 2006 Report recommends that “geothermal research by the US Department of Energy should be increased, particularly into technologies that can reduce risk, reduce costs, or expand the accessible resource base.”

“More recently, reports by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have highlighted the potential pay-off for continued research and development of geothermal energy. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory’s (NREL) Technical Report published in November 2006, *Geothermal –The Energy Under Our Feet*, examines what it terms the “enormous potential of geothermal resources.” The NREL report points to at least three areas where geothermal resources might contribute 100,000 MW of more to domestic energy supplies with continued research and technology development.

“A Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)-led study released in January 2007, *The Future of Geothermal Energy*, found “that mining the huge amounts of heat that reside as stored thermal energy in the Earth’s hard rock crust could supply a substantial portion of the electricity the United States will need in the future, probably at competitive prices and with minimal environmental impact.” The MIT report calls for a re-energized DOE geothermal research program to achieve the enormous potential of Engineered Geothermal Systems (EGS)

technology, which the study estimated could reach an additional 100,000 MW by 2050, if not sooner.

“The Administration’s proposal to close out the geothermal research program would set back research in this area for decades, threatens US technological leadership in this important renewable technology, and would jeopardize development of the technology needed to access the largely untapped geothermal resource base of the United States.

“We urge the Subcommittee to consider funding the following program direction and funding for FY 2008:

“The DOE **Geothermal Technologies Program** should support and seek to achieve 100,000 of MW geothermal power production from the full range of geothermal resources in the US. The GTP should address both the near-term need to expand domestic geothermal energy production and the longer-term need to find the breakthroughs needed to achieve this full potential of the resource. In particular, the GTP should prioritize research and development of technologies needed to reduce the risk and cost of finding and developing geothermal resources, including those needed to achieve engineered geothermal systems.

“For FY 2008 we urge you to provide the DOE Geothermal Technologies Program funding for the following activities:

- Advanced Geothermal Resource Characterization
- Industry-Coupled Drilling
- High Temperature Subsurface System Development
- Geothermal Reservoir Engineering
- Expansion and Development of Enhanced (or engineered) Geothermal Systems (EGS)
- Oil and Gas Co-production Demonstration
- Geopressured Cost Share Demonstration
- GeoPowering the West
- New Concept Initiatives

“While we have estimated that this effort could easily justify a FY 2008 budget of between \$80 and \$110 million, we recognize that the Subcommittee has many competing priorities. Therefore, we urge the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee to consider funding DOE’s Geothermal Research Program in FY 2008 at least at the House mark of \$44.3 million.”

The Members of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee are:

Democratic Subcommittee Members:

- [Senator Byron Dorgan \(ND\) \(Chairman\)](#)
- [Senator Robert C. Byrd \(WV\)](#)
- [Senator Patty Murray \(WA\)](#)
- [Senator Dianne Feinstein \(CA\)](#)
- [Senator Tim Johnson \(SD\)](#)
- [Senator Mary Landrieu \(LA\)](#)
- [Senator Daniel Inouye \(HA\)](#)
- [Senator Jack Reed \(RI\)](#)
- [Senator Frank Lautenberg \(NJ\)](#)

Republican Subcommittee Members:

- [Senator Pete Domenici \(Ranking Member\) \(NM\)](#)

- [Senator Thad Cochran \(MS\)](#)
- [Senator Mitch McConnell \(KY\)](#)
- [Senator Robert Bennett \(UT\)](#)
- [Senator Larry Craig \(ID\)](#)
- [Senator Christopher Bond \(MO\)](#)
- [Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison \(TX\)](#)
- [Senator Wayne Allard \(CO\)](#)

BLM to Study More Geothermal Leasing

In response to the increased national demand for clean renewable energy, the Bureau of Land Management announced it will prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement (PEIS) analyzing areas with high potential for geothermal energy development. According to a notice published in the June 15, 2007, Federal Register, the PEIS will examine the environmental impacts of boosting geothermal leasing in areas with high potential for near-term exploration and development of geothermal resources. If deemed appropriate by the PEIS, the BLM will amend the land use plans in those areas to allow for expanded leasing. “The BLM is sitting on the largest supply of geothermal energy in this country, and it is time to launch an aggressive program to develop those resources,” said BLM Acting Director Jim Hughes. “This proceeding will help us determine which areas to concentrate our geothermal leasing efforts on.”

The PEIS will focus on areas with high geothermal potential in 11 western states and Alaska. These areas will include those identified by the BLM, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey, as well as by the public and other stakeholders. The entire west is being considered, including areas in northwestern Nevada, northeastern California, and the Raft River Basin in Oregon. “The Forest Service looks forward to working in concert with BLM on these geothermal projects,” said Forest Service Chief Gail Kimbell. “Enhancing our nation's energy needs through safe and clean energy is an important focus of the Department of Agriculture and a proper use of our public lands.”

The announced locations and dates for scoping meetings are:

City (State)	Date (2007)	Location
Anchorage (AK)	Wednesday, July 25	Alaska Energy Authority (Lobby) 813 W Northern Lights Boulevard Anchorage, AK 99503
Boise (ID)	Tuesday, July 10	Boise Public Library (Auditorium) 715 S. Capitol Boulevard Boise, ID 83702
Denver (CO)	Monday, July 9	PPA Event Center 2105 Decatur Street Denver, CO 80211
Missoula (MT)	Monday, July 30	Russell/Lewis Room Doubletree Hotel 100 Madison Missoula, MT 59802
Phoenix (AZ)	Wednesday, July 11	Burton Barr Central Library (Lecture Room) 1221 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85004
Portland (OR)	Monday, July 23	Lipman Wolfe B Room Hotel Monaco 506 S.W. Washington Street Portland, OR 97204

Reno (NV)	Tuesday, July 17	Jot Travis Student Union (Manzanita Room) University of Nevada, Reno N. Virginia Street Reno, NV 89511
Sacramento (CA)	Wednesday, July 18	California Energy Commission (Hearing Room A) 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814
Salt Lake City (UT)	Monday, July 16	Main Library 210 East 400 South Salt Lake City, UT 84111
Santa Fe (NM)	Thursday, July 12	Main Building (Jemez Room 1) Santa Fe Community College 6401 Richards Avenue Santa Fe, NM 87508

For more information, please visit <http://www.elynews.com/articles/2007/06/20/news/news05.txt> or view the BLM listing at http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/geothermal/geothermal_nationwide.html.

Senate Passes Energy Legislation

This week, the Senate made key decisions that impact all renewables and geothermal in particular:

The amendment of Senator Tester, et al, for a National Geothermal Initiative was blocked by Senator Coburn (R-OK), who objected to its inclusion in the bill. It's not clear what his objection was about, whether it was on behalf of DOE or the Administration, or whether he actually had a problem. But, either way, he killed the amendment so it was not included in the manager's package of amendments adopted that was offered at the end of the debate.

The Senate also failed to get the 60 votes needed to add its package of energy tax provisions to the energy bill. It seems likely the Senate will pass out an energy bill without tax provisions or a Renewable Energy Standard. Here's how they voted on the Senate Finance tax package: (Senator Reid voted "no" in order to be able to make a motion to reconsider the vote in the future, it's a necessary maneuver under Senate rules.)

YEAs ---57

Akaka (D-HI)	Feingold (D-WI)	Nelson (D-FL)
Baucus (D-MT)	Feinstein (D-CA)	Nelson (D-NE)
Bayh (D-IN)	Grassley (R-IA)	Obama (D-IL)
Biden (D-DE)	Harkin (D-IA)	Pryor (D-AR)
Bingaman (D-NM)	Inouye (D-HI)	Reed (D-RI)
Brown (D-OH)	Kennedy (D-MA)	Roberts (R-KS)
Byrd (D-WV)	Kerry (D-MA)	Rockefeller (D-WV)
Cantwell (D-WA)	Klobuchar (D-MN)	Salazar (D-CO)
Cardin (D-MD)	Kohl (D-WI)	Sanders (I-VT)
Carper (D-DE)	Lautenberg (D-NJ)	Schumer (D-NY)
Casey (D-PA)	Leahy (D-VT)	Smith (R-OR)
Clinton (D-NY)	Levin (D-MI)	Snowe (R-ME)
Coleman (R-MN)	Lieberman (ID-CT)	Specter (R-PA)
Collins (R-ME)	Lincoln (D-AR)	Stabenow (D-MI)
Conrad (D-ND)	Lugar (R-IN)	Tester (D-MT)
Crapo (R-ID)	McCaskill (D-MO)	Thune (R-SD)
Dodd (D-CT)	Menendez (D-NJ)	Webb (D-VA)

Dorgan (D-ND)
Durbín (D-IL)

Mikulski (D-MD)
Murray (D-WA)

Whitehouse (D-RI)
Wyden (D-OR)

NAYs ---36

Alexander (R-TN)
Allard (R-CO)
Bennett (R-UT)
Bond (R-MO)
Bunning (R-KY)
Burr (R-NC)
Chambliss (R-GA)
Cochran (R-MS)
Corker (R-TN)
Cornyn (R-TX)
Craig (R-ID)
DeMint (R-SC)

Dole (R-NC)
Domenici (R-NM)
Ensign (R-NV)
Enzi (R-WY)
Graham (R-SC)
Gregg (R-NH)
Hagel (R-NE)
Hatch (R-UT)
Hutchison (R-TX)
Inhofe (R-OK)
Isakson (R-GA)
Kyl (R-AZ)

Landrieu (D-LA)
Lott (R-MS)
Martinez (R-FL)
McConnell (R-KY)
Murkowski (R-AK)
Reid (D-NV)
Shelby (R-AL)
Stevens (R-AK)
Sununu (R-NH)
Vitter (R-LA)
Voinovich (R-OH)
Warner (R-VA)

Not Voting - 6

Boxer (D-CA)
Brownback (R-KS)

Coburn (R-OK)
Johnson (D-SD)

McCain (R-AZ)
Sessions (R-AL)

Groups Urge Full Assessment of Geothermal Potential

A group of national organizations have written Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Chair of the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, urging the USGS be funded to complete a review of the “full potential” of the resource. The letter was signed by the GEA, Environmental and Energy Study Institute, Union of Concerned Scientists, Greenpeace US, The Sun Day Campaign, and others.

The letter stated in part:

“Recent reports from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology point to significant geothermal potential nationwide. Yet, most analysis and modeling do not include consideration of anywhere near the same geographic range or potential energy contribution from geothermal energy resources as these new studies indicate is possible. This is in part due to the lack of federal support for geothermal resource assessment. The federal government has not produced a detailed geothermal energy resource assessment since 1979.

“While the Energy Policy Act of 2005 directed the USGS to update their 1979 assessment, we understand that the USGS is largely focusing their efforts on only part of the geothermal resource base – shallow hydrothermal resources. If the report is to be so severely limited, it will not provide the range or depth of information needed to support future policy decisions.

“USGS should examine and provide an updated assessment for the full range of potential energy contributions from geothermal resources. This would be similar to the way in which they conducted their 1979 report. That report examined the full range of potential energy resources recognized at that time.

“In November 2006, NREL published results of a contemporary workshop on geothermal energy potential. This report -- Technical Report, NREL/TP-840-40665 -- shows the extent of geothermal energy’s potential contributions today. We urge the USGS to provide an assessment of potential energy contributions from each of the categories included in the 2006 NREL document: identified shallow hydrothermal, unidentified shall hydrothermal, coproduced resources, geopressured resources, deep geothermal or enhanced geothermal systems, direct uses, and geothermal heat pumps.

“We would also like to see the Department of Energy, NREL and state energy offices involved in implementing and guiding this assessment. They should not only provide technical assistance and support for the USGS, but should be consulted to ensure that the assessment is conducted in a manner that will support future energy analysis and modeling efforts at both the state and national level.”

The Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee has not announced when it will take action on the FY2008 funding bill. The Administration’s budget assumes a budget of roughly \$500,000 for the current assessment effort.

Geothermal Bill Would Establish Research Sites

A recent article discussed U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney’s Geothermal energy bill. McNerney said, "There's a high probability for a research center in Northern California. One reason is that the demand for the energy that is created is relatively close by. ...It may be wrapped up in a bill with other energy-related questions, but I think it could be signed by the president before the end of this year." The article also quoted Jeff Tester, who said, "This is definitely one of the arsenal of tools that will be needed in the future. I think we will need both solar, wind and geothermal energy." Karen Wayland, legislative director at the National Resources Defense Council, said “I think the bill has pretty good chances. It will probably be part of the energy package that Speaker (Nancy) Pelosi will bring to the floor in July." Her group supports the increased use of geothermal energy. "Our only concern is that it doesn't alter the geography of places like Yellowstone (National Park)," she said. "Proper protection and adequate safeguards are always needed." *For more information, please visit <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2007/06/18/BUGGGQG6L21.DTL>.*

Inhofe Introduces Bill to Encourage Use of Geothermal Heat Pumps in Federal Buildings

Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.), Ranking Member of the Environment and Public Works Committee, introduced legislation that encourages the federal government to use geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) for the heating and cooling of federal buildings. One of the leading manufacturers of GHPs, Climate Master Inc, is located in Oklahoma City and has been focused on enhancing business and home environments around the world for the past fifty years. Senator Inhofe is working with Senate leadership to include this bill, the "Federal Buildings Energy Conservation Act," as an amendment to HR 6, the energy bill currently being considered by the Senate.

“Geothermal heat pumps are a proven, effective, and efficient technology that can meet the General Services Administration’s (GSA) heating and cooling needs while simultaneously saving taxpayer dollars and conserving energy,” Senator Inhofe said. “I am proud to introduce legislation today that encourages the GSA to use GHP technology, when feasible, that could reduce energy costs at each site by up to 40%, and substantially reduce energy demands and pollution resulting from the operation of federal buildings. “I look forward to working with my colleagues to incorporate this important legislation into the energy bill.” *For more information, please visit http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=2ff1ede0-802a-23ad-4321-f735036caac4&Region_id=&Issue_id=.*

Utilities Rank Renewables at Top of List

Electric utilities expect the encouragement of renewables to be the most important development in power markets over the next five years, according to a survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers. The role of renewables has jumped from sixth place in 2004 to top position this year, marking a significant shift in thinking in the sector, the consulting firm explains in its ‘Energy & Efficiency: Utilities Global Survey 2007.’ It is the ninth annual survey of utilities, polling 119 senior executives across 44 countries.

“When it comes to the specific impact of technological advances on GHG emissions, companies again single out the trio of nuclear power, renewables and energy efficiency as having the biggest effect,” the report explains. “Nuclear is ranked above renewable generation, even though much of the latter is already in the process of being developed. ..Renewable energy and energy efficiency have been moving up the list of key issues for the industry; together with continuing concerns about security of energy supply, they now head the list,” it states. “Indeed, renewable energy leads the agenda of major developments identified by utility companies in all three of the major power markets – North America, Europe and Asia Pacific.”

“It is clear that the climate of thinking and action around cleaner power, renewables and energy efficiency is shifting fast,” it concludes. “Improved supply and distribution efficiency; fuel switching from coal to gas; nuclear power; renewable heat and power (hydropower, solar, wind, geothermal and bioenergy); combined heat and power; and early applications of carbon capture and storage all feature, to a greater or lesser extent, in the strategies of the power utility sector.” *For more information, please visit [http://www.pwc.com/extweb/pwcpublishings.nsf/docid/01834727CE72FBAD852572F8007175EC/\\$File/energy-and-efficiency_utilities_global_survey_2007.pdf](http://www.pwc.com/extweb/pwcpublishings.nsf/docid/01834727CE72FBAD852572F8007175EC/$File/energy-and-efficiency_utilities_global_survey_2007.pdf).*

GEA Executive Director Interviewed on International Radio Program

Geothermal energy has been described as the great untapped energy source - a limitless supply of power right under our feet. It's being exploited in countries from Indonesia to Iceland, but the world's biggest user, the United States, has cut research funding to zero. Richard Hollingham asks why and investigates whether geothermal energy could meet the world's energy needs. *To listen to the interview with GEA's Executive Director Karl Gawell, please visit http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/programmes/one_planet.shtml.*

Western Governors Call for Putting Carbon Sequestration Technology on a Fast Track

Western Governors at their Annual Meeting said they will work with Congress and the Administration to put carbon sequestration technology on a fast track. They called for tax credits and the necessary funding to expedite large-scale projects, identify and develop the pipeline infrastructure needed and resolve issues related to risk and liability. The governors also released a report detailing the progress states have made on the clean-energy front in just over two years. “The potential for the West is astounding,” a representative said. “We have seven of the top 10 wind producing states, nearly 100 percent of the nation’s geothermal generation, and abundant solar, biomass and coal resources to power the West well into the future.” *To view the press release, please visit <http://www.westgov.org/wga/press/am07-1.htm>.*

Going Green: Architect Says, “Look at Geothermal”

When asked which energy-efficient features he would include in his dream house, without hesitation architect Tad Latuszek told a local news source that a geothermal heating and cooling system would be at the top of his list. “If you do one thing, I would say look seriously at geothermal. The savings will be the equivalent of taking two cars off of the road for each year of use. It’s kind of a win-win situation for the homeowner.” *For more information, please visit http://www.gaylordheraldtimes.com/articles/2007/06/22/news/top_stories/doc467c3003c8d42396654680.txt.*

Company News

Petratherm: New Conventional Geothermal Project in Spain - Tenerife in the Canary Islands

Petratherm announced the acquisition of an exploration license for a new geothermal project in the Canary Islands. The new project is on Tenerife, the largest of the seven islands in this Spanish archipelago located off the west coast of North Africa. The new conventional Tenerife project brings Petratherm's portfolio of projects under Spanish jurisdiction to three, including the Madrid and Barcelona projects previously announced in February 2007. *For more information, please visit <http://www.petratherm.com.au/asx/downloads/20June468240.pdf>.*

Raser Secures Five New Geothermal Leases in Utah

PROVO, Utah--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Raser Technologies, Inc. (NYSE Arca: RZ) announced today that it has secured additional geothermal rights in Utah under the terms of five lease agreements.

Raser has secured the rights to the geothermal resources on 9,370 acres located in two counties in Southern Utah. The lease terms are up to ten years and are renewable for additional periods based on development activity or upon the payment of minimum rental payments. The financial terms of the leases are undisclosed. These leases bring the total land Raser has under lease in Utah alone for geothermal development to over 37,000 acres.

"We have established what we believe to be one of the most attractive undeveloped geothermal resource portfolios in the U.S.," stated Brent M. Cook, Raser's CEO, "and we plan to continue expanding our portfolio as we identify new, attractive properties to ensure that we have the geothermal resources sufficient to meet our goals in the development of renewable power plants." *For more information, please visit www.rasertech.com.*

U.S. Geothermal Inc.: Expands Energy Rights at Its Raft River Geothermal Property

BOISE, Idaho, June 22 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- (OTC Bulletin Board: UGTH; TSX.V: GTH), U.S. Geothermal Inc. ("U.S. Geothermal"), a renewable energy development company focused on the production of electricity from geothermal energy, announced today that it has acquired additional geothermal energy rights in the area of their Raft River geothermal development project located in southeastern Idaho.

On June 20, 2007, the U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Land Management conducted its first geothermal lease auction under the new federal leasing rules under the Energy Policy Act of 2005. U.S. Geothermal was the successful bidder on one parcel adjoining its Raft River project in Southern Idaho.

"This parcel adds 1,685 acres (2.6 square miles) of energy rights in an area that hosts good exploration potential and fills in a core area of our current holdings," said Daniel Kunz, U.S. Geothermal's President and Chief Executive Officer. With this lease, U.S. Geothermal has increased the total Raft River project holdings by 31.7% to 6,933 acres (10.8 square miles). *To view the press release, please visit http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/news_press_release,127318.shtml.*

Climate Change News

Consumers Don't Trust Corporations, Gov't on Climate Change

Only 10 percent of consumers in the United States and the U.K. believe efforts by governments and companies to inform them about climate change, according to a new study from AccountAbility. The report, "What Assures Consumers on Climate Change?" finds that rather than trust institutions and corporations, most people in the two countries instead trust information from friends, family and environmental groups. Even though 54 percent said they were willing to make personal sacrifices to fight climate change, three-quarters of respondents still feel unable to take action. Two-thirds of the people surveyed said they wanted tougher action from governments and companies on products that contribute to climate change. Most respondents believe that companies and governments alike need to embrace and enforce independent third-party verification of any claims that a product or service is climate-friendly. Interim results of the joint poll by AccountAbility and Consumers International of 2,734 people also revealed that more than 50 percent believe governments need to make sure that products that are damaging to the environment are removed from stores. *For more information, please visit http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=35315.*

China Now No. 1 in CO2 Emissions; USA in Second Position

China's 2006 CO2 emissions surpassed those of the USA by 8%. This includes CO2 emissions from industrial processes (cement production). With this, China tops the list of CO2 emitting countries for the first time. In 2005, CO2 emissions from China were still 2% below those of the USA. These figures are based on a preliminary estimate by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (MNP), using recently published BP (British Petroleum) energy data and cement production data. *For more information, please visit <http://www.mnp.nl/en/service/pressreleases/2007/20070619Chinanowno1inCO2emissionsUSAinsecondposition.html>.*

United Nations Links Climate Change, Darfur

Climate change is partly to blame for the conflict in Sudan's Darfur region, where droughts have provoked fighting over water sources, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in a June 17 editorial. "Almost invariably, we discuss Darfur in a convenient military and political shorthand -- an ethnic conflict pitting Arab militias against black rebels and farmers," Ban wrote in The Washington Post. "Look to its roots, though, and you discover a more complex dynamic. Amid the diverse social and political causes, the Darfur conflict began as an ecological crisis." Rainfall in Sudan began declining two decades ago, a phenomenon due "to some degree, from man-made global warming," Ban said.

"It is no accident that the violence in Darfur erupted during the drought. Until then, Arab nomadic herders had lived amicably with settled farmers... Any peace in Darfur must be built on solutions that go to the root causes of the conflict. We can hope for the return of more than 2 million refugees. We can safeguard villages and help rebuild homes. But what to do about the essential dilemma -- the fact that there's no longer enough good land to go around?" *Reported by EESI. For more information, please visit <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/06/15/AR2007061501857.html>.*

Americans Believe Global Warming is Occurring and Are Willing to Change Their Behavior, Poll Shows

A recent survey by ABC News, The Washington Post, and Stanford University found that the vast majority of Americans (some 84%) now believe that global warming has been occurring, while almost all Americans (94%) say they are willing to change some of the things they do to help the environment. In the same survey, one of every three Americans cited climate change as the biggest environmental problem

facing the world, up dramatically from just one year earlier. Climate change was the most frequently cited problem in answers to this question, by a large margin. This survey also indicates that large numbers of Americans would like government to be devoting substantial attention to addressing climate change. And surveys like this one have indicated that large numbers of Americans favor a range of policies whereby government could encourage or require businesses to change their practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. But those survey questions did not explicitly describe a specific price that Americans would pay for each policy, nor did the questions describe specifically how much greenhouse gas reduction people could expect to be produced by any particular policy. *To view details of the survey results, please visit http://media.newscientist.com/data/images/ns/av/global_warming_poll_stanford.pdf.*

Nuclear Power Can't Curb Global Warming - Report

Nuclear power would only curb climate change by expanding worldwide at the rate it grew from 1981 to 1990, its busiest decade, and keep up that rate for half a century, a report said on Thursday. Specifically, that would require adding on average 14 plants each year for the next 50 years, all the while building an average of 7.4 plants to replace those that will be retired, the report by environmental leaders, industry executives and academics said. Currently, the United States, the world's top nuclear power producer, has 104 plants that generate 20 percent of the country's electricity.

While the report also supported storing US nuclear waste at power plants until the long-stalled Yucca Mountain repository opens, 10 dumps the size of Yucca Mountain would be needed to store the extra generated waste by the needed nuclear generation boom. That outlook was too optimistic in light of how many new nuclear plants are currently on the drawing board, the report said.

Some individuals differed, though, on how much the industry will expand, and said it could still make some type of impact. Twenty-seven individuals from organizations spanning a broad ideological spectrum, including the Natural Resources Defense Council and GE Energy, spent nine months on the report, called "The Nuclear Power Joint Fact-Finding." *For more information, please visit <http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/42653/story.htm>.*

Environment Minister: UK Must Cut Emissions First

UK Secretary of State for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs David Miliband said that the UK must act first to cut CO2 emissions. "It's massively in our interest, both economically and environmentally, to change our own ways," Mr. Miliband said. Asked about China's impact on the environment, he said, "The Chinese are industrializing very fast but it will be beyond 2025 before the amount of pollution that they create is anything like that which has been created by the United States or the UK over the last 100 years." *For more information, please visit http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/6221640.stm.*

Climate Change Scorecard Released

In a scorecard released June 19, the nonprofit organization Climate Counts ranked 56 consumer companies, grouped by industry, on how they measure greenhouse gas emissions, their plans to reduce them, their support or opposition to regulation and -- most important, says Wood Turner, the group's executive director -- how fully they disclose those activities. The group hopes that the scorecard will help consumers who want to base purchasing decisions on companies' climate records. "If the information is not in the consumers' hands, they can't make informed choices," Mr. Turner said. "It is time for consumers to look at broad-based strategies on climate change, rather than just the environmental impacts of specific products," said Adam Markham, executive director of the nonprofit group Clean Air-Cool Planet and a member of the Climate Counts board.

No company achieved a perfect score of 100. Six companies scored zero, and only four -- Canon, Nike, Unilever and IBM -- scored 70 or better. Even Stonyfield Farm, which provided \$500,000 in seed money for Climate Counts, managed only a 63, and its parent company, Groupe Danone, scored 50. Climate

Counts put the scores on its website (climatecounts.org) and consumers will also be able to use wireless devices like cell phones to call up a company's score while they are shopping. *Reported by EESI. For more information, please visit <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/19/business/19green.html?ref=business>.*

State News

California: San Diego Gas & Electric Receives Bids for 5,000 MW of Renewables

Every year since 2002, San Diego Gas & Electric has solicited supply bids for green power to meet California's mandate of sourcing 20% of its energy portfolio by 2010 from wind, solar, biomass and geothermal. The most recent renewable RFO ended May 30. The proposed 5,000 MW represents a mixture of 2,000 MW from wind, 2,700 MW from solar and 300 MW from geothermal, biomass and landfill gas. Several of the submissions would require addition of new transmission infrastructure to deliver the electricity to customers in San Diego. SDG&E says it is more than half-way toward meeting its 2010 goal with 12% of its future energy under contract to be delivered from renewables. It has signed a supply contract with Envirepel Energy for biomass power that will be online by this October.

SDG&E's final selection of the renewable energy bids will be based on least-cost, best-fit procurement criteria, and will be reviewed by the Procurement Review Group, comprised of CPUC staff, consumer advocates and other non-market participants. It will also undergo an independent evaluator prior to being submitted to CPUC for final approval. SDG&E serves 3.4 million consumers through 1.4 million electric meters and 830,000 natural gas meters. The utility's service area covers 4,100 square miles and serves customers in 125 communities from Southern Orange County to the Mexican border.

For more information, please visit

http://public.sempra.com/newsreleases/viewpr.cfm?PR_ID=2175&Co_Short_Nm=SDGE.

California: Faces Challenges to Meet Emissions Goals

Nearly one year after California passed landmark legislation to cut carbon-dioxide emissions 25 percent in 13 years, the state already risks failure, a recent article reports. Among the challenges cited:

- California's utilities, required by law to ensure that 20 percent of their power is renewable by 2010, are struggling to reach that target because there is not enough energy from solar, wind and other low-carbon sources -- and no certainty that will change in three years.
- The federal government is blocking a key part of the state's plan to dramatically cut vehicle emissions.
- Despite the focus on new carbon-free sources of energy, the state is still approving carbon-dioxide-spewing natural gas plants.
- And the most promising new energy sources are more expensive than natural gas and coal.

"There needs to be an energy revolution," said Dan Skopec, undersecretary for the California Environmental Protection Agency.

California's new law, Assembly Bill 32, which took effect in January, sets a series of benchmarks for cutting carbon emissions starting in 2010, then 2020. The state also has separate goals for 2050. Most experts say the 2010 goals should be relatively easy to meet, with already established changes such as a low-carbon fuel program passed in January. Reducing emissions from power plants and automobiles is the fastest way to work towards achieving these goals, the article concludes. *For more information, please visit*

<http://www6.lexisnexis.com/publisher/EndUser?Action=UserDisplayFullDocument&orgId=1925&topicId=100002042&docId=1:627745498&start=10&dateId=20070617>.

Utah: BLM Geothermal Lease Sale Nets Over \$3.5 Million

In Utah's first competitive geothermal lease sale, the Bureau of Land Management sold three parcels on over 6,000 acres for a total of \$3,685,986. All three parcels are located on the Fishlake National Forest in

the Cove Fort-Sulphurdale area. This was the first sale under the new regulations of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The highest bid was from Enel Cove Fort II, LLC, located in Andover, Mass. at \$850 per acre on parcel number one for a total of \$2,196,586. Bids ranged from \$20 to \$850 per acre. All bonus bid, rental and royalty monies collected are shared equally with the State of Utah.

Five parcels in Idaho were also offered at the Utah sale. The highest bid for an Idaho parcel was from Agua Caliente LLC, located in Englewood, Colorado at \$875 per acre for a total sale of \$2,033,016. Bids on these parcels ranged from \$130 to \$875. Total revenue from the Idaho parcels was \$5,726,208. Geothermal energy accounts for 8.5 percent of renewable electricity generation, and 0.3 percent of total U.S. electricity supply. Almost 50% of the nation's production of geothermal energy is on federal land. Utah's current geothermal production is in primarily in Beaver County where two plants produce 24 megawatts per year.

The Bureau of Land Management administers 29 geothermal power plants, using federal resources in California, Nevada and Utah. The power plants have a total capacity of 1250 megawatts and supply the needs of 1.2 million homes. Geothermal energy uses steam and hot water generated by heat from the earth. Some geothermal power plants use steam or hot water from a natural underground reservoir to power generators for electricity generation. Others use hot water to provide direct heat for residential and other buildings, and for other applications. *For more information, contact the BLM Utah Information Access Center at 539-4001 or see www.ut.blm.gov.*

Utah Geothermal Lease Sale Results

Bid per acre	Acres	Total Revenue
\$850	2,578	\$2,196,586
\$600	2,437	\$1,467,204
\$20	1,003	\$22,196
		Total \$3,685,986

Idaho Geothermal Lease Sale Results

Bid per acre	Acres	Total Revenue
\$875	2,318	\$2,033,016
\$600	1,686	\$1,015,102
\$130	1,080	\$ 142,690
\$525	2,080	\$1,096,290
\$825	1,740	\$1,439,110
		Total \$5,726,208

Totals include bonus bids, first year's rental and processing fees. *To view the press release, please visit http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/info/newsroom/2007/06/620_2007.html.*

International News

Canada: Analysts Suggest Geothermal is a Smart Investment

Five of the seven public North American geothermal firms trade on Canadian exchanges, and those five have offices in Canada. But there is really only one serious geothermal power exploration site in Canada - in south-central British Columbia. The companies are based in Canada, analysts say, because several went public through reverse takeovers of TSX Venture Exchange-based mining firms, and because the Canadian junior markets are a good place to raise capital for what are essentially natural resource exploration firms.

Western GeoPower Corp., based in Vancouver and traded on the TSX Venture Exchange, is the only one of the group that has a Canadian project in the works. Other geothermal companies listed on the TSX Venture Exchange include Nevada Geothermal Power Inc., which is drilling test wells in northern Nevada, U.S. Geothermal Inc., working on projects in Idaho and Oregon, and Sierra Geothermal Power Corp., which is exploring sites in Nevada and California. The one company with a listing on the TSX senior exchange is Polaris Geothermal Inc., which has offices in Toronto although most of its operations are in Nicaragua. According to this article, substantial gains can be expected for those who "hold" their geothermal shares for several years. *For more information, please visit* http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070618.RGEO_THERMAL18/TPStory/Business.

Australia: Geothermal Company Looks at Desalination

A geothermal energy company hopes to desalinate water from Spencer Gulf in South Australia using hot rocks. Torrens Energy has an exploration license to look for potential geothermal energy projects in the Port Augusta area at the northern end of the Gulf. Chief executive Chris Matthews says the site is close to power stations and infrastructure which would make it easy to connect to the national power grid. Mr Matthews says research shows that geothermal heat can be used in desalination. "Using geothermal heat to effectively what we call flash desalinate sea water which means effectively boiling it and distilling off the water in that way," he explained. "We believe that there is good potential for geothermal energy and therefore direct geothermal desalination of sea water." *For more information, please visit* <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2007/06/25/1961204.htm?site=northandwest>.

England: Geothermal Center Study Approved

Plans to create a £10m geothermal research institute in County Durham have been boosted with the launch of a feasibility study. Easington Council has agreed to contribute £35,000 towards the plans, which could lead to the GREAT (Geothermal Research Education and Training) institute being built at Hawthorn Business Park. The centre would look at the potential of harnessing heat stored within the Earth, and could create 300 jobs. It follows a feasibility study in 2006 which found that the district's unique geology combined with expertise from Newcastle and Northumbria Universities made Easington an ideal site. The new study is expected to cost up to £250,000 with additional funding from English Partnerships, Newcastle University and One NorthEast.

Peter Coe, the council's head of regeneration and partnerships, said: "Some locations lend themselves more readily than others to this type of technology. We need to demonstrate why the facility would be most appropriately located in Easington and nowhere else and, hopefully, the feasibility study will do that." The study will be accompanied by a public consultation exercise. If eventually approved, GREAT could be up and running within five years, according to the council. Further information on the GREAT Institute can be found at www.ncl.ac.uk/environment/research/HEROGREATInstitute.htm. *For more information, please visit* <http://www.bdaily.info/story/view/4577>.

Italy: Geothermal Used in Food, Energy Production

A recent article discusses ENEL, Italy's largest electric power utility, obtaining 28% of all the electricity consumed in Tuscany from this area. The nine small municipalities which are located there decided to make more rational use of the resource. In 1988, with financial support from Tuscan institutions, particularly the Tuscany Regional Authority, COSVIG (Consortium for the Development of Geothermal Areas) was set up to coordinate efforts and promote a wider focus on geothermal energy. The article goes on to discuss geothermal's use at lower temperatures in agricultural and food production, particularly cheese production. *For more information, please visit* <http://sloweb.slowfood.com/sloweb/eng/dettaglio.lasso?cod=3E6E345B0f2ff1E72BtHm10A5D15>.

Kenya: KenGen's Carbon Credits from Geothermal Projects to Fund New Geothermal Projects

KenGen CEO Eddy Njoroge and Energy assistant minister Mwangi Kiunjuri²⁰ said that Kenya's electricity generator KenGen will channel earnings from the carbon credit market towards realizing the full potential of the country's geothermal energy resources in addressing growing demand for power. The geothermal potential is estimated at 3,000 megawatts (MW), but only 130 Megawatts, about 4.5 per cent of national capacity, is exploited. KenGen will now earn Sh436 million every year from the sales of 661,000 tonnes of carbon credits at Sh660 per tonne to the World Bank, the chief executive officer, Mr Eddy Njoroge, told the Business Daily.

Last year, KenGen and the World Bank signed an agreement for sale of 9,000 tonnes of carbon generated from six projects that include Eburu, Ol Karia 2, Kipevu combined cycle, Kiambere and Sondu Miriu. The bulk of this money will be used to increase geothermal exploration and development while 10 percent will be used in community projects within geothermal generating areas. According to the World Bank, developing nations could earn as much as Sh6.6 trillion annually by 2050 from selling carbon credits. Currently, the trade is dominated by China, India and Brazil.

KenGen has also proposed to the Government, the formation of the Geothermal Development Company to accelerate the geothermal resource assessment, development and subsequent sale to electricity generators. The Geothermal Development Company, to be wholly owned by the Government, is set to be established once a consultant hired to advise on its formation and operation completes a feasibility study. In its current power development plan, the Government identifies geothermal as the least cost option for power generation over the next 20 years. The potential of geothermal in the whole of Rift Valley is 7,000 megawatts and Kenya has 40 per cent of this, according to KenGen data. *For more information, please visit http://www.bdafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1529&Itemid=5040.*

Kenya: KenGen Drills New Geothermal Wells

Kenya's main power producer, KenGen, has started drilling a well for its fourth geothermal plant in the Rift Valley. "An estimated potential energy of 70 megawatts (MW) will be produced by this fourth geothermal (site), which will span over 80 sq km (31 sq miles)," said KenGen Managing Director, Mr Eddy Njoroge. Officials estimate it will take 12 months to complete the construction of Olkaria IV. Energy assistant minister, Mr Mwangi Kiunjuri, said the government had increased funding for geothermal exploration and expected to increase geothermal output by 70MW every two years. He said the government hoped to produce 400 MW of geothermal energy by 2020. KenGen produces about 80 per cent of Kenya's total power capacity of some 1,089MW. Kiunjuri added that the current installed capacity is low and needs to be expanded. *For more information, please visit <http://allafrica.com/stories/200706191033.html>.*

Philippines: Country's Leading Geothermal Company Trains Sights on Africa

PNOC-Energy Development Corp., the publicly-listed geothermal development arm of state-run Philippine National Oil Co., is looking at Africa as a new market for its services. Paul Aquino, PNOC-EDC president and CEO, said they are considering Africa as a potential market for the company's geothermal development-related services aside from Southeast Asia, Papua New Guinea and the Middle East.

"We are looking at providing scientific services in the exploration and exploitation of geothermal resources in other countries, as well as develop other local renewable sources and bio-fuels in our geothermal sites," Aquino said. He said the company will continue to offer its services to other potential customers abroad. PNOC-EDC will expand the capacity of Nasulo by 20 MW. The project is expected to be completed by 2010. For Mindanao II, the company will add 50 MW the grid's capacity by 2011. Aquino said for the Southern Leyte geothermal project, an incremental 100 MW capacity by 2013 could be generated. For Tanawon, Rangas and Kayabon, the company will add a total of 120 MW or about 40 MW each. The

projects are expected to be completed from 2015 to 2018. *For more information, please visit <http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/storypage.aspx?StoryId=81317>.*

Turkey: Geothermal Tourism Pushed

The geothermal potential of Turkey is being highlighted as a new source of tourism and foreign interest, helping boost the value of local property markets while raising the environmental status of the country at large. Turkish culture and tourism ministry undersecretary Mustafa Buyuk highlighted the growth potential of geothermal tourism, maintaining that natural resources are becoming increasingly prevalent on an international standing.

"Turkey ranks seventh in the world and first in Europe in terms of geothermal potential as it is home to more than 1,500 geothermal resources with chemically rich thermal waters," it was explained, according to AME Info. In light of these developments Turkey aims to become the world's leading geothermal destination by 2023. To date Turkey has 1,500 geothermal resources and chemically rich thermal waters, underlining its status as Europe's premier location with respect to geothermal potential. *For more information, please visit <http://www.nirvanainternational.com/news/tourism/18186493>.*

Notices and RFPs

SRP Seeks Proposals for Research of Geothermal Energy Potential in Arizona (Due June 29)

Phoenix-based Salt River Project is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to assess the potential for geothermal development in Arizona. The solicitations are an attempt to study the availability and viability of geothermal resources in Arizona for the purpose of electric generation. SRP is seeking to retain a consultant that will identify and assess – from geological information already existing in the public domain, held by the consultant or commercially available – the potential of geothermal as a resource in Arizona and locations in the state that may be suitable for the development of geothermal-based electric generation. In order to participate in the RFP process, bidders need to submit a signed Nondisclosure Agreement (NDA) to SRP by June 29, 2007. *To request a copy of the NDA, please contact Bob Kostyk at (602) 236-6918 or Bob.Kostyk@srpnet.com.*

Energy Institute Accepted Entries for Organizations that Set New Standards of Excellence and Innovation (Deadline June 29)

For the last seven years, the Energy Institute has recognized individuals and organizations in the global energy industry for setting new standards of excellence and innovation. The 8 categories cover a broad range of areas which enables companies and projects of all sizes, across the wide energy spectrum to compete against each other.

The eight categories are:

- Communication sponsored by AMEC
- Community Initiative
- Environment sponsored by Total
- Innovation sponsored by ExxonMobil
- International Platinum sponsored by TNK-BP
- Outstanding Individual Achievement Award sponsored by Norman Broadbent
- Safety sponsored by Shell
- Technology sponsored by BG Group

Full details of all the criteria as well as an entry form are available at www.eiawards.com.

DOE Loan Guarantee Program - Comments Due July 2

DOE has released its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the loan Guarantee Program. It is available at <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/LGP-NOPR.pdf>. Comments are due by July 2, 2007.

Applications for CREBs Sought by July 13, 2007

IRS Notice 2007-26 solicits applications for the allocation of the available clean renewable energy bond national limitation under Section 54 of the Internal Revenue Code and provides other guidance with respect to the issuance and post-issuance compliance of clean renewable energy bonds. This notice was published in Internal Revenue Bulletin 2007-14, dated April 2, 2007 and the due date is July 13, 2007. *For more information, please visit: http://www.irs.gov/irb/2007-14_IRB/ar17.html#d0e2321.*

RFP – EPA Climate Workshops (Due July 23)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Climate Economic Workshops. Through this initiative, EPA seeks to provide a neutral forum for climate economics dialogue; the workshops will bring together climate economists, modelers, and other climate change professionals to discuss and debate relevant climate economics topics. \$500K expected to be available, up to 3 awards anticipated. Responses due 7/23/07. For more info, contact Christa Clapp at clapp.christa@epa.gov or go to: http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#0706.

DOE Funding Opportunity: Electric Power Generation Using Geothermal Energy Co-Produced with Oil and/or Gas Wells (Due July 31)

The Department of Energy's (DOE's) Geothermal Technologies Program released a new funding opportunity announcement entitled "Electric Power Generation Using Geothermal Fluid Coproduced from Oil and/or Gas Wells" on June 13, 2007.

In summary, DOE's objective in offering this funding opportunity is to demonstrate the technical feasibility and economics of generating electricity from the naturally occurring geothermal fluids that are coproduced from oil and/or gas wells. To accomplish this, DOE would like to collaborate with leaseholders, developers, owners, operators, and/or other partners on projects to install, operate, and report on the performance of geothermal power generation projects operating on the hot water cut that is coproduced at oil and/or gas fields. Specifically, DOE is interested in providing financial assistance to several projects comprised of the following phases:

Phase I - Engineering, Procurement, Construction (EPC) The objectives of Phase I are to engineer, procure equipment for, and construct the geothermal power plant and associated above-ground geothermal fluid supply/disposal system at an operating oil and/or gas field.

Phase II - Operation & Maintenance (O&M) The objectives of Phase II are to operate the power plant and fluid supply/disposal system for a period of two years and to report on their economic, performance, and operating characteristics. *To view the solicitation, please visit <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?oppId=14434&mode=VIEW>.*

RFP for State Energy Activities Related to Clean Energy & Air (Due August 7)

The U.S. Department of Energy requests applications for State Energy Activities in Clean Energy and Air Quality Integration -For state and multi-state initiatives that demonstrate and quantify air quality benefits achieved through energy efficiency and renewables. \$500K expected to be available, up to 7 awards anticipated. State and Territorial Energy Offices must be the lead on these awards though partnership opportunities may exist. Responses for both program areas due 8/7/07. *For more info, go to: [17](https://e-</i></p></div><div data-bbox=)*

center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/0ba000b968a07c9885256c3f0067b90d/328173c5634f77c1852572f8007e8040?OpenDocument.

RFP Renewables – Arizona (Due September 4)

Tucson Electric Power Company and UNS Electric Inc. seek renewable energy and associated credits through power purchase agreements and/or the ownership of generation assets. Responses due 9/4/07. For more info, contact Michael Bowling at (520)745-7124 or go to: <http://www.uesaz.com/Wholesale/>.

Upcoming Events

Power Gen Europe and Related Events, June 26 – 28, Madrid, Spain

The POWER-GEN Europe conference program addresses challenges faced by the electricity sector as a whole, both strategic and technical. It is an information platform to provide the latest technologies and best industry practices to support decision-making processes. In addition to POWER-GEN Europe conference sessions, delegates can attend those for Renewable Energy Europe and POWERGRID Europe. The three conferences bring together three key elements of power production and delivery today, conventional power generation, renewable power generation, and transmission and distribution. Renewable Energy Europe conference is the first large-scale renewables event tailor made for Europe's power industry. POWERGRID Europe aims to be the primary forum where European utility professionals can come together and examine, in-depth, the challenges facing the transmission and distribution arms of the power industry. For more information, please visit <http://pge07.events.pennnet.com/fl/index.cfm>.

GEA Trade Show/GRC Annual Meeting, September 30-October 3, Reno, Nevada

The GEA 2007 Trade Show will be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel & Casino in Reno, Nevada, September 30 - October 3, 2007. To see the floor plan, sponsorship opportunities, or register for an exhibit space go to: <http://www.geo-energy.org/tradeShow/invitation.asp>

For more information about the GEA Trade Show contact Daniela Stratulat at 202-454-5263 or email Daniela@geo-energy.org.

First European Geothermal Review Meeting, Oct 29 – 31, Mainz, Germany

A review meeting called "First European Geothermal Review Meeting" will be a conference/workshop on the development/demonstration of engineered geothermal systems (EGS). The drive comes from the fact that engineering in the underground is necessary to develop the hydrothermal resources. This will be a conference with a slight difference, in that the participants will be able to see a demonstration of an engineered geothermal plant producing power and providing heat to the town of Landau. *The information on the meeting and the registration can be obtained on <http://www.bestec-for-nature.com/feqr2007/>.*

The Trade Show is held concurrently with the Geothermal Resources Council's (GRC) Annual Meeting. For information about the GRC Annual Meeting contact GRC at 530-758-2360 or email grclub@geothermal.org.



GEA Update

A newsletter for GEA Members written by Alyssa Kagel and Karl Gawell. For more information contact GEA at: 209 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone: 202-454-5261; Fax: 202-454-5265; E-mail: research@geo-energy.org

