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National News

Briefing on Cutting Edge Geothermal Developments

The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) and the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) hosted on March 1 a briefing about the latest developments in geothermal energy and what they could mean for the country's energy future. The event highlighted cutting edge reports and technological innovations that have made - and continue to make - geothermal a renewable success story. Growing rapidly, geothermal capacity is estimated to double in the United States over the next five years, with hundreds of thousands more megawatts of potential to be tapped.

Speaking at the event was Dr. Jeff Tester, Chairman of the recent MIT study on geothermal energy; Dr. Roy Mink, a Director of US Geothermal and former DOE Geothermal Research Program Director; Paul Thomsen, Director of Public Policy for Ormat Nevada, a leading geothermal developer in the US and around the world; Bernie Karl, Owner of Chena Hot Springs in Alaska -- site of the state's first geothermal power facility; and, Karl Gawell the Executive Director of GEA.

To view the briefing notice and the speakers’ power point presentations visit www.eesi.org.

The Jackson Hole Star Tribune report on the briefing with the a story headlined: “Geothermal Energy a Clean, Renewable Resource with Immense Potential Largely Ignored.”

The paper highlighted that all five speakers discussed the under-use of geothermal energy in the United States. Jeff Tester of MIT cited an 18-member panel assembled by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that recently evaluated whether geothermal energy could become a major energy source for the United States. Geothermal energy “represents a large, indigenous resource that can provide base-load electric power and heat at a level that can have a major impact on the United States, while incurring

minimal environmental impacts,” the MIT report found. But the report said the geothermal option has been “largely ignored.”

Karl Gawell, Executive Director of the Geothermal Energy Association, said Americans have a real misunderstanding of geothermal resource. Gawell said the United States could triple its geothermal capacity in the next decade, but only if states and the federal government provide support for it. “We’re not the silver bullet, but we’re part of the mix,” Gawell said.

Roy Mink, now with the Idaho-based U.S. Geothermal Inc., was formerly the DOE geothermal program director. He said he tried to push support for geothermal energy while at the department but was told that the technology was already mature so didn’t need funding and that it was a regional technology that would only work in the West. He disagreed. “I was not given a reason I could believe in, and as a result I’m not with the government any more,” he said. Geothermal technology did not develop in recent decades because the low prices of natural gas meant more investment went to that energy source, Mink said. But with current high energy prices and the emphasis on clean energy sources and energy independence, geothermal has become competitive, he added.

While immense potential remains unused, two presenters, Bernie Karl of Chena Hot Springs and Paul Thomsen of Ormat, spoke of their successful use of geothermal technology. Ormat, a successful and expanding publically traded company, produces nearly zero emissions geothermal power plants throughout the United States and around the world. Karl’s Chena Hot Springs uses low temperature geothermal resources to produce power for his resort. This revolutionary new application could dramatically expand the way in which geothermal resources can be used to produce power. Both Ormat and Chena Hot Springs have received awards for their innovative technology and their clean, renewable energy use.

For the full story visit

<http://www.jacksonholestartrib.com/articles/2007/03/02/news/wyoming/0273b385e7d9bf2a8725729200063ec7.txt>

GEA Board Adopts Goals and Priorities for 2007

The GEA Board of Directors met on February 27th, and adopted its statement of national goals and priorities for this year. The final resolution as adopted by the GEA Board reads:

Achieving a 20% National Geothermal Goal

The United States, as the world's largest producer of geothermal electricity, generates an average of 16 billion kilowatt hours of energy per year, but still only a fraction of the known potential. Today, roughly sixty new geothermal energy projects are under development in the over a dozen states that will double current geothermal power production. With effective federal and state support, recent reports indicate that as much as 20% of US power needs could be met by geothermal energy sources by 2030.

To achieve this, the Administration and Congress should adopt the following *National Geothermal Goals* for federal agencies: Characterize the entire hydrothermal resource base by 2010; sustain double digit annual growth in geothermal power, direct use and heat pump applications; demonstrate state-of-the-art energy production from the full range of geothermal resources; achieve new power or commercial heat production in at least 25 states; and, develop the tools and techniques to build an engineered geothermal system (EGS) power plant by 2015.

To support these goals and accelerate the production and development of energy from our geothermal resources, the following priority actions are needed:

Revise the Section 45 Production Tax Credit (PTC) to support sustained geothermal power development. The PTC timeframe is too short for most geothermal projects to be completed by the current placed in service deadline. To achieve sustained geothermal development, Congress should immediately amend the

law to allow facilities under construction by the placed in service date of the law to qualify, and extend the placed in service deadline by at least 5 years, to January 1, 2014, before its expiration.

Fund a strong and effective DOE Geothermal Research Program that prioritizes the discovery and definition of geothermal resources; expands GRED funding; develops new exploration technologies; supports state-based programs to expand knowledge of the resource base and its potential applications; improves drilling technology; demonstrates geothermal applications in presently non-commercial settings; and develops and demonstrates of Enhanced Geothermal Systems techniques. DOE's geothermal program should be expanded to meet today's challenges and funded at \$75 million annually.

Provide incentives for geothermal exploration through renewed DOE cost-shared funding and other measures. Ninety percent of geothermal resources are hidden, having no surface manifestations. Exploration is therefore essential to expand production, but exploration is expensive and risky. Cost-shared support for exploration drilling has been provided through DOE's Geothermal Resource Exploration and Definition (GRED) program. GRED should be continued and expanded, with at least one-half of DOE's effort supporting exploration, and an exploration tax credit should be established.

Expand and accelerate geothermal initiatives on the public lands. USGS should conduct a comprehensive nationwide geothermal resource assessment that examines the full range of geothermal resources and technologies; USGS should collect and make available to the public geologic and geophysical data to support exploration activities; BLM's Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) should be completed as a top priority; planning, leasing and permitting activities on BLM and National Forest lands should be adequately funded and conducted promptly. Appropriations (and dedicated funding) of \$25 million annually should be provided for these agency efforts.

Consumer Groups call for More Oversight of Energy Regulation

Consumer advocacy groups are pushing Democrats to step up oversight of a federal energy panel that oversees electricity markets and to take a fresh look at electricity-deregulation policies that they argue have raised consumer prices, a recent article reported. Deregulation critics sponsored a Washington conference recently on the health of wholesale power markets that included officials in deregulated states where prices have jumped significantly. On Capitol Hill, these critics have asked the new Democratic chairmen of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources and the House Energy and Commerce committees, Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico and Rep. John Dingell of Michigan, to hold hearings on how effective the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is in overseeing wholesale power markets. Tyson Slocum, who directs Public Citizen's energy program, said deregulation has not led to competition in wholesale markets and that FERC has done a poor job of ensuring consumer rates are "just and reasonable." *For more information, please visit* <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story;jsessionid=AF88B715403A007475C9C0DABE9353A0?id=47608>.

Congress Urged to Invest More in Alternative Energy

A coalition of 400 farm, conservation and energy groups pressed Congress on Wednesday to embrace a new plan that could lead to America getting 25 percent of its energy from clean, renewable sources by 2025. Currently, only 6 percent of the nation's energy comes from renewable resources, and most of that is provided by hydropower generation. A plan unveiled by the 25X'25 Coalition calls on the federal government to spend an additional \$12.6 billion a year for the next five years to significantly increase energy conservation and the production of wind, solar, geothermal and biofuel energy.

The money, which the group says is roughly 5 percent of what Americans spent on imported oil in 2006, would be spent on things such as research, loan guarantees and tax incentives to spur the production and distribution of more renewable energy. *For more information, please visit* <http://www.argusleader.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007703010323>.

CO2 Sequestration Projects Underway in Australia and the United States

Commonly referred to as carbon capture and storage (CCS), or geosequestration, the burying of carbon dioxide emissions (CO₂) may play a central role in nations around the world in efforts to combat climate change. The governments of Australia, Canada and the United States have already allocated large amounts of federal funding to master CCS technologies. On February 15, the largest carbon burial experiment in the world began in the Otway Basin on the coast of southern Australia. The project, which consists of an approximately 7000 foot well to inject liquefied CO₂ into the earth, has promised the most comprehensive monitoring for leaks to date. A similar project in Utah, the first large-scale CCS project in the United States, has also begun drilling a 7000 foot well and is expected to be operational by March. A large Canadian oil and gas company known as EnCana has been employing CCS technology as a means to extract more oil and is the largest working example of successful CCS technology in the world. However, two obstacles surrounding the future of CCS technologies still remain. One is whether or not the CO₂ can be stored in underground rock formations for thousands of years without leaking, and the second is what effect the new, expensive technologies will have on energy prices. *For more information, please visit http://www.christian-aid.org.uk/indepth/0702_climate/index.htm.*

Geothermal Featured in Session at All-Renewables Conference This Week in Las Vegas

On March 7th, GEA will moderate a geothermal panel featured a renowned group of speakers. The session will take place as part of the all-renewables conference held this year in Las Vegas, NV. The event brings renewable organizations, companies, individuals, and government representatives from across the country. This year's geothermal session will feature the following:

- Geothermal's Status Today – brief remarks by panel moderator Alyssa Kagel of GEA
- New Geothermal Developments and Better Assessment of Known Geothermal Areas Through Public/Private Partnerships in the Great Basin - Lisa Shevenell, Great Basin Center
- Low-temperature Geothermal Power Generation with HVAC Hardware – Chena, Alaska - Halley Dickey, United Technologies Research Center
- Technology and Market Forces; The Drivers of Geothermal Development - Paul Thomsen, Ormat
- Examples of Combined Heat and Power Plants Using Geothermal Energy - Andrew Chiasson, GeoHeat Center

For more information, please contact Alyssa at research@geo-energy.org.

Energy Secretary Bodman Speaks at National Governors Association Winter Meeting

Selected remarks below:

“...In order to maintain America's strong economic growth and preserve our national security we must all make enhancing our energy security a top priority. ...We are at a pivotal point in American history. Globalization is forcing changes to the American economy.

President Bush has made increasing America's energy security a priority since his early days in office. Since 2001, the Bush Administration has invested \$15 billion in clean energy technologies, and we've enacted sound policies to help us diversify America's energy portfolio, protect our environment and maintain strong economic growth. ...These three programs– the “20 in 10” plan, the American Competitiveness Initiative and the Advanced Energy Initiative are providing a comprehensive approach to our energy challenges.

...As I mentioned, we at the federal level are investing heavily to advance clean energy technologies like nuclear, solar and wind energy. But, to truly take advantage of this expansion, the states and the federal government must pursue the same interests. ...Our transmission grid was not originally designed to move

large quantities of power across long distances to population centers. States and regional organizations have a critical role in promoting and implementing innovative transmission solutions to access these resources. We are currently investigating National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors, increasing coordination among federal permitting agencies, and conducting research on transmission technologies to reduce cost and increase capacity. I ask you to join with us in integrated planning activities to lay the groundwork for a more robust national electric system, and to provide a cleaner environment for the American people by bringing about a new system of clean energy superhighways.

But the real message here is that government cannot do it all. And, in my view, it shouldn't. We certainly can... and do... provide substantial funding for basic research.

To view the complete remarks, please visit <http://www.energy.gov/news/4822.htm>.

Company News

Polaris Geothermal Receives Notice From Nicaraguan Attorney General Advising of its Intention to Annul Concession Rights Held by Polaris in the San Jacinto-Tizate Geothermal Project

Polaris Geothermal Inc. advises that its Nicaraguan subsidiary Polaris Energy Nicaragua S.A. ("PENSA") received, after the close of the market on February 23, 2007, a copy of Resolution PGR/HE-05-2007 dated February 23, 2007 which was issued by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic of Nicaragua. The Resolution stated that the Office of the Attorney General would be moving to annul the assignment of the concession in respect of the San Jacinto-Tizate geothermal project. The Resolution does not operate to annul PENSA's interests in the concession, however it indicates the intention of the Nicaraguan government to review PENSA's right of ownership, which may include seeking the annulment of such rights.

Polaris is extremely surprised by these actions, as the manner in which PENSA originally acquired the concession rights to the San Jacinto Project had previously been reviewed and completely resolved by the Attorney General's Office in 2004. At that time, a complaint had been received by the Attorney General's Office alleging that the original holder of the concession, Intergeoterm S.A., had improperly assigned its rights in the concession to PENSA. The matter was fully investigated and, pursuant to a legal opinion dated April 26, 2004, the Office of the Attorney General stated that the assignment of the concession from Intergeoterm, S.A. to PENSA was authorized by the Nicaraguan Energy Institute, was made in strict compliance with applicable laws and was assigned in a valid and legal manner, all in accordance with the Nicaraguan General Law for the Exploration and Exploitation of Natural Resources.

Polaris will proceed to make arrangements to immediately meet with representatives of the newly elected Sandinista government of Daniel Ortega to seek clarification of the government's intended actions and will take all steps necessary to defend its rights so as to ensure that its property rights are respected. *For more information, please visit <http://www.sys-con.com/read/341725.htm>.*

Climate Change News

Five Western Governors Announce Regional Greenhouse Gas Reduction Agreement

The Governors of Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington announced the formation of the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative to implement a joint strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. An agreement signed by governors of all five states directs their respective states to, within the next six months, develop a regional target for reducing greenhouse gases. During the next 18 months, they will devise a market-based program, such as a load-based cap and trade program to reach the target. The five states also have agreed to participate in a multi-state registry to track and manage greenhouse gas emissions in their region.

The Western Regional Climate Action Initiative builds on existing greenhouse gas reduction efforts in the individual states as well as two existing regional efforts. In 2003, California, Oregon and Washington created the West Coast Global Warming Initiative, and in 2006, Arizona and New Mexico launched the Southwest Climate Change Initiative. Although this development symbolizes another large step forward for US states, the agreement stops short of declaring specific emissions reduction levels. However, these target levels are expected to be set in the next six months and the group will work out the details of establishing a cap-and-trade system over the next year and a half. This proposed system will allow companies in all five states to trade emissions amongst themselves. This new climate initiative is a compliment to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) encompassing nine Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states, though no mention has been made as to whether the two programs would be linked together. For more information, please visit <http://www.governor.wa.gov/>.

GAO: US DOE Energy R&D Insufficient to Deal with Climate Change

In his February 28 Testimony before the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, House Committee on Appropriations, Jim Wells, US Government Accountability Office (GAO) Director of Natural Resources and Environment said, "In the wake of increasing energy costs with the attendant threat to national security and the growing recognition that fossil fuel consumption is contributing to global climate change, the nation is once again assessing how best to stimulate the deployment of advanced energy technologies. However, it is unlikely that DOE's current level of R&D funding or the nation's current energy policies will be sufficient to deploy advanced energy technologies in the next 25 years."

"Without sustained high energy prices or concerted, high-profile federal government leadership, U.S. consumers are unlikely to change their energy-use patterns, and the United States will continue to rely upon its current energy portfolio. Specifically, government leadership is needed to overcome technological and market barriers to deploying advanced energy technologies that would reduce the nation's vulnerability to oil supply disruptions and adverse environmental effects of burning fossil fuels." For more information, please visit <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07550t.pdf>.

Science Panel Outlines Roadmap for Reducing Risks from Climate Change

The United Nations Foundation (UN Foundation) and Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society, released "Confronting Climate Change: Avoiding the Unmanageable and Managing the Unavoidable," the final report of the Scientific Expert Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development. The report, prepared as input for the upcoming meeting of the UN's Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), outlines a roadmap for preventing unmanageable climate changes and adapting to the degree of change that can no longer be avoided. Two years in the making, the report was written by a panel of eminent scientists from around the world. "Two starkly different futures diverge from this time forward," the report cautions. "Society's current path leads to increasingly serious climate-change impacts... The other path ... will reduce dangerous emissions, create economic opportunity, help to reduce global poverty, reduce degradation and carbon emissions from ecosystems, and contribute to sustainability. Humanity must act collectively and urgently to change course through leadership at all levels of society. There is no more time for delay."

The report finds that exceeding global average temperature increases above 2-2.5°C above the 1750 pre-industrial level would entail "sharply increasing risk of intolerable impacts." A two-pronged strategy is needed: avoid the unmanageable (mitigation) and manage the unavoidable (adaptation). A full copy of the report can be downloaded at www.confrontingclimatechange.org.

Dingell/Boucher Solicit Recommendations on Climate

On February 28, Representative John Dingell (D-MI), Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Representative Rick Boucher (D-VA), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, sent separate letters relating to climate change policy to various leaders of the energy industry and

the environmental community. The letters request these distinguished organizations to provide policy recommendations on a series of questions focusing on details relating to cap-and-trade frameworks as well as other strategies to address greenhouse gas emissions. Recipients will have until March 19 to submit their recommendations. *For more information, please visit http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_110/110nr9.shtml.*

New Study of Polar Secrets in Global Warming Fight

Thousands of scientists from across the globe have joined forces to investigate the effects of global warming on the Arctic and Antarctic ice sheets. The project, known as the International Polar Year (IPY), will run from March 2007 to March 2009 and will involve 50,000 people from 63 nations in 228 projects. This IPY – actually the fourth IPY, following those in 1882-3, 1932-3, and 1957-8 – will focus on changes in snow and ice, effects of polar changes on Northern communities, and global linkages between ice sheets and the Earth's oceans, among many other more specialized projects.

These studies will be instrumental in helping scientists understand the effects of global warming at the Earth's poles as well as the effects of melting ice sheets on global sea levels. One estimate suggests global sea levels would rise seven meters if the Greenland ice sheet were to disappear, while sea levels could rise 200 meters if all of the Antarctic ice sheet were to melt. These massive ice sheets hold a significant portion of the world's fresh water and also play crucial, yet not fully understood, roles in the circulation of the Earth's ocean currents and therefore to planetary air circulation. Martin Siegart of Edinburgh University said, "The reality is we know so little. The difference is that we know how important it is." Reported by EESI. *For more information, please visit http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=scienceNews&storyid=2007-02-26T140105Z_01_L26680162_RTRUKOC_0_US-CLIMATE-POLAR.xml.*

Ontario Greenhouse Gas Emissions Now Below 1990 Levels

Ontario's global warming greenhouse gas emissions have been cut 29 percent in the past three years and are now less than 1990 levels, the Ontario Ministry of Energy announced recently. From 2003 to 2006, power generation from coal plants has fallen 32 percent, cutting greenhouse gas emissions, the ministry said. The emissions cut is the amount that would be produced by 2 million cars. Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty in June 2005 announced plans to retire all coal-fired generation and replace it with other generation sources by 2009, but that date may be pushed back if reliable delivery of power is not assured. Coal makes up about 16 percent of the power generated for Ontario, down from a 25 percent share in 2003, "as conservation, nuclear power and renewable energy increasingly contribute to the province's total supply." *For more information, please visit <http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/40393/story.htm>.*

Top British Companies Underreporting CO2 Emissions: Report

The charity Christian Aid released a report on February 19 claiming top companies throughout Britain have been significantly underreporting their carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. The report, entitled Coming Clean, calculates that approximately 200 million metric tons of CO2 emissions - equivalent to one third of the country's annual domestic total - are not included in the annual accounts of Britain's 100 leading companies. Andrew Pendleton, the leading climate change analyst for Christian Aid and author of the report, said of the missing emissions, "The calculations we have made relate to basics, like office lighting," adding, "the figures that companies currently declare are such a mess that it is impossible to calculate their total emissions." The report also suggests that these companies are not including emissions from other operations scattered all over the world. The report specifically states, "While only 2.13% of the world's CO2 emissions emanate from [Britain's] domestic economy, through the process of globalization, CO2 emitted around the world on Britain's behalf" equals somewhere between 12 - 15 percent of total global emissions. *Reported by EESI.*

Vice President Dick Cheney on Global Warming

In an interview February 23, ABC's Jonathan Karl asked Vice President Dick Cheney about the topic of global warming, a subject Mr. Cheney has rarely addressed in the past. The vice president agreed that the earth is warming but, like President Bush, maintained there is debate over whether humans or natural cycles are the cause-- a position that puts the administration at odds with the vast majority of climate scientists. Here is a portion of the transcript from Jonathan Karl's conversation with Vice President Cheney:

JONATHAN KARL: But what's your sense, where is the science on this? Is global warming a fact? And is it human activity that is causing global warming?

THE VICE PRESIDENT: Those are the two key questions. I think there's an emerging consensus that we do have global warming. You can look at the data on that, and I think clearly we're in a period of warming. Where there does not appear to be a consensus, where it begins to break down, is the extent to which that's part of a normal cycle versus the extent to which it's caused by man, greenhouse gases, et cetera.

Cheney's statement is in contrast to the recent IPCC Working Group One Summary for Policymakers, which states, "Most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations," where "very likely" denotes greater than 90 percent certainty. *Reported by EESI.*

State News

Alaska: Matanuska Electric Association Slow to Consider New Renewables

While Matanuska Electric Association continues to try to build coal- and gas-powered electric generators in the next seven years, two decades will pass before the co-op first considers new renewables in its energy portfolio, a recent article reported. MEA wants to have its own power production on line by 2015, when its power-supply contract ends with Chugach Electric Association.

Alaska has massive amounts of renewable resources, including considerable geothermal resources. For example, the volcanic Mount Spurr has 50 megawatts of estimated renewable geothermal power. That's enough to power 50,000 homes, said Chris Rose, executive director of Renewable Energy Alaska Project. MEA's long-term plan also calls for "an additional 5 megawatts of power from renewable resources, such as wind, geothermal, tidal or small hydropower," according to MEA's Web site. However, the co-op's 10-page executive summary shows the electric association will not add these types of renewables until 2026.

Alaska Energy Authority and Renewable Energy Alaska Project recently released their "Renewable Energy Atlas of Alaska," a 24-page estimate of Alaska's hydro, wind, biomass, solar and geothermal energy resources. The atlas, filled with large maps and understandable text, can be downloaded from AEA's Web site at www.aidea.org/aea/. Wind, geothermal, hydro and biodiesel projects will be discussed at the Rural Energy Conference in Fairbanks, April 23-24. *For more information, please visit <http://www.frontiersman.com/articles/2007/02/25/news/news2.txt>.*

Idaho: Geothermal Direct Use Applications Planned for Warm Springs Village

The city of Warm Springs Village has been in talks with Sun Valley Co., The Water Co.—which owns a major geothermal resource—and the Sun Valley Ski Education Foundation to collaborate on the execution of a new vision for the economically depressed area. Included in that vision is tapping into geothermal resources for energy and aesthetics. The revamped area will be served by geothermal energy, both as a utility and as an amenity, according to preliminary plans outlined in the mayor's statement. The Cimino family established an agreement with the city—through its majority-owned firm, The Water Co.—to tap into the major geothermal resource on family property in Warm Springs. Warm Springs Village will become a demonstration site for how to use geothermal energy, according to the mayor's statement.

The city since last summer has been looking for ways to use geothermal resources for energy and recreation. Public access to heated pools will be one of the highlights of the enhanced and expanded village, Hall said. Geothermal sources could also heat sidewalks, the plaza and streets, and might provide water for hot-water fountains. *For more information, please visit http://www.mtexpress.com/index2.php?issue_date=02-23-2007&ID=2005114271.*

Montana: Significant Geothermal Potential

A Montana newspaper began an article citing geothermal's considerable potential to provide a significant share of Montana's and the country's energy needs, but only if state and federal policies begin supporting it, advocates of the clean, renewable technology said Thursday. Karl Gawell, executive director of the Geothermal Energy Association, said the U.S. could triple its geothermal capacity in the next decade but only if research and development funding levels and government incentives put it on a level to compete with other emerging energy technologies. Geothermal energy would help reduce dependence on foreign oil and provide continuous power with minimal environmental impact, Gawell said at a briefing on Capitol Hill sponsored by the association and the Environmental and Energy Study Institute. The association's Daniel Fleischmann wrote a report in January for the Department of Energy that summarized the status of geothermal development in Western states. The department and the state of Montana joined to organize a database of geothermal resources and locations, the report said." *For more information, please visit <http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2007/03/02/news/state/68-push.txt>.*

Nevada: State Public Utilities Commission Approves Nevada Geothermal Power's Power Purchase Agreement for the Faulkner 1 Power Plant for Geothermal Energy

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA -- (MARKET WIRE) -- March 05, 2007 -- Nevada Geothermal Power Inc. (NGP) (TSX VENTURE: NGP) (OTCBB: NGLPF) today announced that the Nevada Public Utilities Commission has approved on February 8, 2007, the 20-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Nevada Power Company, a subsidiary of Sierra Pacific Resources. Under the contract, the 'Faulkner 1 Power Plant' at Blue Mountain will supply between 18.75 MW and 31.25 MW (net) of electrical power; expected to come on line in 2009.

The contract is for the purchase of electrical power and Renewable Energy Credits by Nevada Power Company to meet the requirement of the Nevada's Renewable Portfolio Standard (20 percent of renewable energy to supply their customers by 2015).

"With the approval of Nevada Geothermal Power's PPA for geothermal energy for the "Faulkner 1" geothermal project, this is a significant step forward for the company. We are proud to be part of the solution to provide green energy to Nevada, a leader in the development of renewable resources, " stated Mr. Fairbank, CEO & President.

http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release_html_b1?release_id=222827

Texas: TXU Bought by Private Investors, 11 Proposed Coal Plants Might not be Pursued

A top business story recently is that private investors plan to buy TXU Corp., the biggest utility in Texas. Dallas-based TXU has attracted a lot of attention lately because of its controversial plan to build 11 new coal-fired plants that would use less efficient technologies in lieu of newer, more climate-friendly technologies. The private investors have indicated that they will rethink these plans. A concern among lawmakers is that TXU was rushing to build these plants, in part to lay claim that their new greenhouse gas emissions should be "grandfathered" once a climate change bill is enacted. Congress is not likely to go along with such a strategy, a recent Bingaman press release reported. Senate Energy Committee Chair Jeff Bingaman and Senate Environment Committee Chair Barbara Boxer made that clear in a joint op-ed

published last month in The Dallas Morning News. *To view the press release, please visit http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=235224&Month=2&Year=2007&Party=0*.

Transmission Plan Proposed for Texan Renewable Energy Zones

Electric Transmission Texas LLC (ETT), a proposed joint venture between subsidiaries of American Electric Power (AEP) and MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company, filed a transmission proposal with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) for the construction of approximately 1,000 miles of transmission lines to support development of the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) in Texas. The first two stages of the proposal focus on ensuring sufficient transmission capability to meet anticipated renewable energy needs. Stage One would reinforce the ERCOT transmission grid, providing access for up to eight gigawatts (GW) of existing and planned renewable energy projects in north and central West Texas. Stage Two would support an additional two GW of renewable energy projects. The combined cost of these two stages is estimated to be approximately \$3 billion, with completion of Stage One anticipated by 2012 and Stage Two by 2015, based upon AEP's experience with past transmission projects in Texas.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story.jsessionid=AF88B715403A007475C9C0DABE9353A0?id=47608>.

Wyoming: Plans for Oilfield Geothermal Development, Immense Potential Exists

A new geothermal project at the Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center near Casper will use the hot water brought up during oil field production to generate commercial electricity for use at the site, Ormat announced at the recent geothermal briefing on Capitol hill. Ormat and the U.S. Department of Energy will jointly carry out the project, the company said. Ormat will supply the power unit at its own expense, while the department will install and operate it for a year. Ormat will chip in about two-thirds of the \$1 million total investment, it said.

Ormat and others at the recent briefing talked about the potential for the clean, renewable energy source in Wyoming and across the United States. The association's Daniel Fleischmann wrote a report in January for the Department of Energy that summarized the current status of geothermal development in Western states. Outside of Yellowstone National Park, which no one wants to develop, researchers indicate that Wyoming has "a substantial geothermal resource base," the report said. "They just haven't found many ways to use it," it added. Wyoming agricultural facilities, spas and resorts can utilize the resource at a number of locations, the report said. In addition, interest is building in other areas of the state for projects at oil and gas wells like the one at RMOTC. "If successful, these projects could rekindle interest about geothermal potential in Wyoming and spark new investment," the report said. *For more information, please visit <http://www.jacksonholestartrib.com/articles/2007/03/02/news/wyoming/0273b385e7d9bf2a8725729200063ec7.txt>*.

International News

Australia: Search is on for More Geothermal Energy in Queensland

The search is on for new geothermal energy resources to provide Queenslanders with a greener source of energy for power generation. Explorers can use geothermal exploration data from the Department of Mines and Energy to assess the potential of ten new areas that have been opened up for exploration. Mines and Energy Minister Geoff Wilson said the State Government had released the land in a call for tenders late last year.

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Energy Minister Geoff Wilson said the State Government had released the land in a call for tenders late last year. Landholders, local government, native title bodies for the land and those holding a mining interest in the land can also have their say. Minister Wilson said Queensland had the bulk of Australia's potential high-temperature and hot-water geothermal energy resources. Initial estimates indicate the hot dry rocks beneath the Eromanga and Cooper basins could meet all of Australia's energy needs for many years into the future, if all of that hot rock could be exploited, an official said. "The geothermal industry will have a future in Queensland because it can produce more base load energy than any other renewable energy source and the land has the right geological environment to develop commercial projects," the official said. *To view the press release, please visit http://media-newswire.com/release_1044580.html.*

Australia: Geodynamics Buys \$32m U.S. Rig

Geodynamics has bought a \$32 million drilling rig in a bid to get its geothermal energy project in the state's Far North well under way by the end of the year. The Brisbane-based company said the Lightning rig had been bought from Texas-based LeTourneau Technologies and should arrive in Australia mid year. Once it arrives it would immediately start drilling Habanero-3 - the company's third geothermal well. Once Habanero-3 is finished, the company would attempt to run a circulation test between that well and Habanero-1 in a bid to get firm data on the geothermal potential of the Cooper Basin site. Geodynamics also recently announced it had completed a \$12 million share placement, issued at \$1 per share. Geodynamics shares closed 7.5c higher at \$1.24. *For more information, please visit <http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,21265428-913,00.html>.*

Australia: Torrens Energy to raise \$6m for Geothermal Exploration

West Perth-based geothermal energy exploration company Torrens Energy Ltd has announced plans to raise \$6 million through its initial public offer, using the money to assess its exploration portfolio. A \$6 million Initial Public Offering (IPO) for Australian geothermal exploration company Torrens Energy Limited, opened Tuesday, 27 February 2007. The capital raised from the IPO will be applied to the initial exploration of the Company's large GEL land position in South Australia. The Company plans to identify geothermal targets for development, to become a dominant player in efficient, reliable electricity generation in Australia, using sustainable, renewable, emissions-free geothermal energy. What sets Torrens apart is its proximity to infrastructure and markets, being the first Company to recognize the geothermal potential which exists just kilometres north of Adelaide, on the National Power Grid. Torrens has already completed work that has confirmed the prospectivity of its license areas; drill hole temperature data and rock thermal property measurements completed and independently verified, show temperatures of 200oC modeled to 5000m depth, on all of the Company's tenements in South Australia. *For more information, please visit <http://www.wabusinessnews.com.au/en-story/1/49340/Torrens-Energy-to-raise-6m-in-IPO>.*

Australia: Adelaide Firm Joins Hot-Rocks Search

Another company has joined the hunt for subterranean energy, with Adelaide's Geothermal Resources announcing a drilling program recently. The company will soon start a three-hole drilling program on its Frome tenement in South Australia, 120km west of Broken Hill. Company chairman Bob Johnson said the first round of drilling would involve holes being drilled to about 500m to test the temperature at that depth. The company will drill the lower sections using a diamond drill, which Dr Johnson said would be useful as it would give the company rock cores that could be used to do thermal conductivity measurements. *To view the press release, please visit <http://www.geothermal-resources.com.au/announcements.html>.*

China: Geothermal Recharging Tests First Done in Shandong Province

In order to keep sustainable development of geothermal resources, Shandong Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources recently conducted geothermal recharging tests for the first time. The tests were respectively carried out in Decheng District of Dezhou City and Huancui District of Weihai City. In Dezhou City, the tests primarily adopted a method of back pressure and recharge in the same layer of

double wells to recharge the layered pore geothermal reservoirs; in Weihai City, the Baoquantang geothermal field took a method of automatically outflowing and pressing in different layers and another method of automatically outflowing and pressing in the same layer to recharge the belted fissure geothermal reservoirs. The tests have obtained related reference data. *For more information, please visit <http://www.cigem.gov.cn/ReadNews.asp?NewsID=10127>.*

Indonesia: Plans to Tender Geothermal Areas This Year

Indonesia, Asia Pacific's only OPEC member, is tapping alternative sources of energy to meet rising power demand and cut consumption of expensive crude oil as its own reserves dwindle. Indonesia has the potential to produce an estimated 27,000 MW of electricity from geothermal sources, a recent article reported. However, the vast potential remains largely untapped because the high cost of geothermal energy makes the price of electricity generated this way expensive. Mines and Energy Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro said Indonesia generates 850 MW electricity from geothermal energy and plans to increase that to 9,500 MW in 2025. Chevron Corp., through its local unit, operates a geothermal plant in West Java province with a capacity of 522 MW and state oil firm Pertamina operates geothermal energy of around 350 MW. Indonesian state electricity firm PT Perusahaan Listrik Negara (PLN) has a monopoly over power supply in Indonesia and operates 24,000 megawatts of capacity, but most of its plants are ageing, so daily output is far below capacity. Some 30 percent of the plants use oil products such as diesel and fuel oil. PLN is trying to increase electricity supply to avoid shortages in Indonesia, the world's fourth-most populous country, where power demand is estimated to be growing around 10 percent a year. *For more information, please visit <http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/40515/story.htm>.*

New Zealand: Climate Change Minister Discusses ways to “Transform the Power Sector”

The Hon David Parker, Minister of Energy, Minister responsible for Climate Change issues, recently released his address at the 9th Annual National Power New Zealand Conference, in which he spoke about “Transforming the power sector.” About geothermal energy Parker said:

“In the debate over the increasing use of renewable sources, geothermal energy hasn’t always received the attention that it deserves – and in my view, its bright future deserves more recognition. Geothermal energy is an environmentally responsible alternative to energy derived from fossil fuels, because it is a low carbon-emitting source relative to fossil fuels. Carbon dioxide emissions could be significantly reduced if the potential of geothermal energy was to be fully exploited, and thereby assist New Zealand in meeting its commitments under the Kyoto Protocol. Geothermal energy is renewable, requires no external fuel, and in some instances may cost less than other types of renewable electricity. It also operates at high load factors.

Our geothermal resource base is large, and is currently the second largest renewable energy source contributing to the national energy supply. About 6 percent of total electricity generation, and 34 percent of primary renewable energy supply, is derived from this source. One of the considerable advantages of geothermal energy is that supply is not dependent on wind or rain. It therefore has a very important role to play in providing diversity of secure energy supply during dry or calm periods in our weather patterns. Its importance has, received more recognition recently. In the last year or so, Tuaropaki Power’s Mokai extensions have been opened; Contact Energy has commissioned a new steam supply for kiln drying at the Tennon site on the Tauhara field; the Ngawha and Kawerau resource consent appeals have been settled with Mighty River Power starting construction of the Kawerau station and Top Energy gearing up for expansion at Ngawha, and of course Contact made major announcements last Friday about its plans. Graphs in the draft NZES, for typical new electricity generation costs, suggest that around 1,000 MW of available geothermal resources could be brought on line at or less than the price of modern gas-fired power stations, excluding any cost of carbon.” *To view the entire speech, please visit <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA0702/S00491.htm>.*

New Zealand: Contact Calls Geothermal “Best Replacement” for Carbon Producing Sources

Contact's investment plans in renewable generation could play a significant role in helping advance a more sustainable and climate-friendly energy generation sector. Contact believes geothermal is the best replacement for carbon producing gas and coal stations because it is more reliable than wind. But it has been frustrated by the six-year process it has taken to get resource consent to upgrade the Wairakei station, still months away. To ensure security of power supply and achieve the Government goal of carbon neutrality, the consenting process needed to be changed, the company said. Contact plans to build up to 260MW of new geothermal generation, with two new power stations planned for the Taupo region. The four wind generation projects at undisclosed sites could generate a total of 700MW. The development of any two of these sites would cost up to \$1 billion. Prime Minister Helen Clark reopening Parliament this month set a goal for New Zealand to be carbon neutral and to define New Zealand as environmentally sustainable.

New Zealand: NZ Geothermal Association Executive Director Speaks of Geothermal Potential

The Executive Officer of the New Zealand Geothermal Association, Brian White says he is confident that there are substantial quantities of undeveloped or under-developed geothermal resources that could be readily tapped in New Zealand at competitive prices. He was responding to recently announced plans by both Mighty River Power and Contact Energy to invest in geothermal electricity generation over the next few years, and to the Minister of Energy's speech at the National Power Conference in Auckland. He noted that the Government's draft New Zealand Energy Strategy to 2050 showed that there is about 1000 MWe of geothermal electricity generation possible at prices less than that of (or competitive with) fossil fuel generation. He thought any investment in low emission renewables like geothermal energy, where the decision was based on hard economics rather than a policy twist, was a positive step forward. The Government also recognised benefits in terms of reduced emissions and is now looking at policy settings to further encourage investments in geothermal energy and other renewables. Brian noted that there is potential for direct use of geothermal energy, as well as use for electricity generation. *For more information, please visit <http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/SC0703/S00001.htm>.*

Turkey: Injunction for the Tender Regarding the Transfer of MTA's Geothermal Fields

The Ankara 15th Administrative Court halted the execution of the tender regarding the transfer of the utilization rights of 11 geothermal fields and three geothermal wells of the Mineral Research and Exploration Institute (MTA), a recent article reported. The first stage of the lawsuit filed by the TMMOB for the cancellation and injunction of the announcement concerning the “Tender for the Transfer of Utilization Rights of Geothermal Fields/Wells” published in the Official Gazette on October 11, 2006, and the supplementary insurance regarding the correction of this tender published in the Official Gazette on November 22, 2006, has been completed. The Ankara 15th Administrative Court halted the execution unanimously. In the decision, it was noted that without completing the legal regulations regarding the principles and rules about the transfer and operation of the geothermal resources and fields, the transfer of these fields and resources would be against the law and public interests.

For more information, including quotes from the ruling, please visit <http://www.thenewatolian.com/tna-23660.html>.

Notices and RFPs

GEA Seeking Input on Update of World Geothermal Power Developments Since 2005

The US Geothermal Energy Association is working on an update of developments in the world geothermal power industry. Our last assessment was prepared and released in early 2005, and is now out of date. GEA Research Associate Griffin Greenberg is reviewing GEA Updates and other publications to identify new projects and other key market developments around the world for this update, but YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED. If you can provide GEA with information about new projects of major policy developments that should be included in the update, or leads that we should follow regarding new developments, call or email Griffin at 202-454-5241, info@geo-energy.org. Thanks!

Dingell/Boucher Solicit Recommendations On Climate Change in Preparation of Legislation

Representative John D. Dingell (D-MI), Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and Representative Rick Boucher, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, today sent a letter inviting leaders from the energy industry and environmental community to provide recommendations as to which issues should be addressed in climate change legislation currently being developed by the Committee. The letter included a series of questions that focus on the ramifications of greenhouse gas emissions and cap-and-trade policy. Recipients will have until March 19, 2007, to submit recommendations. Dingell sent similar fact gathering letters while working on the Clean Air Act amendments during the 1990s. *To view the press release, please visit http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_110/110nr9.shtml.*

Australia: Council Seeks “Innovative Geothermal Bore System”

Glenelg council is searching the globe for innovative geothermal bore systems for Portland, a recent article reported. The Henty geothermal bore provided heating for a number of buildings in the town, before it was decommissioned last year. Mayor Gilbert Wilson says council is hoping any replacement bore will be the first of its kind in Australia. Councillor Wilson says it is in ratepayers' best interests to use geothermal energy. "We did do the figures a couple of years ago and over a 20 year lifespan the savings for the community would be in the millions," he said. *To view the article, please visit <http://www.abc.net.au/news/items/200703/1860513.htm?ballarat>.*

GHG Reduction and Pollution Prevention - Region 10 (Due March 9)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10, seeks proposals for the Regional Geographic Initiative (RGI). RGI supports projects that use integrated, collaborative, or community-based approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or prevent pollution by promoting the availability of energy efficiency, renewable energy, or carbon sequestration. Project implementation must take place in Region 10 which includes AK, ID, OR and WA. \$400K expected to be available, up to 4 awards anticipated. Responses due 3/9/07. *For more info, please visit <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppId=12229>. Refer to Sol# EPA-R10-RGI-2007. (Grants.gov 1/11/07)*

Sustainable Development Technology Canada seeks Clean Energy Technologies (Due March 14)

Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC), a Government of Canada foundation that finances and supports the development and development of clean technologies is accepting Statements of Interest (SOI) for its eleventh round of funding. Projects will be considered for technology solutions designed to improve sustainability for all Canadian economic sectors including energy exploration and production, power generation, energy utilization, transportation, agriculture, forestry and waste management. SDTC actively seeks applications for technology innovations that deliver clean water, clean soil, clean air, and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The deadline for proposals is March 14, 2007. *For more information, please email applications@sdtc.ca or call www.sdtc.ca.*

Sustainable Development Technology Canada seeks Clean Energy and Transportation Technologies (Due March 15)

Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC), a Government of Canada foundation that finances and supports the development and development of clean technologies is accepting Statements of Interest (SOI) for its eleventh round of funding. Projects will be considered for technology solutions designed to improve sustainability for all Canadian economic sectors including energy exploration and production, power generation, energy utilization, transportation, agriculture, forestry and waste management. SDTC actively seeks applications for technology innovations that deliver clean water, clean soil, clean air, and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. The deadline for proposals is March 14, 2007. *Please visit www.sdtc.ca for more information.*

Update on PG&E Renewable RFO (Notice of Intent to Bid Due March 19)

The CPUC is expected to vote on the proposed decision on February 15, 2007. PG&E will file an updated Solicitation Protocol on March 2, 2007. Pending this decision, the tentative schedule for the RFO is as follows:

2007 Renewables RFO Schedule (tentative)

Event	Date
PG&E Issues RFO	March 12
Notice of Intent to Bid Due	March 19
Bidders Conference	Week of March 19th
Deadline for Submission of Bids	May 18
PG&E selects Shortlist	June 29
Execution of final Agreements	Q3-Q4 2007

The key differences between the 2007 RPS Solicitation and the 2006 Solicitation are as follows:

- Updated time of delivery (TOD) factors will be applied.
- The power purchase agreements (PPAs) will include an expanded Dispatch Down Period to ensure inclusion of all situations where curtailment is necessary due to, including but not limited to: California Independent System Operator (CAISO) orders, CAISO System Emergencies, anticipated System Emergencies, CAISO-defined over-generation, forecasts of over-generation, and orders by Participating Transmission Owners.
- Collateral requirements will be reduced during project development.
- Participants whose projects have delivery points that are outside of the CAISO-controlled grid are requested to provide two separate prices: one for delivery onto the CAISO-controlled grid and one for delivery outside the CAISO-controlled grid.

- Terms will be conformed to changes in the RPS statute pursuant to Senate Bill (SB) 107, which became effective on January 1, 2007.
- The two forms of As-Available PPA (one with EIRP and one without) will be combined into one.
- Redundancy in evaluation protocols will be eliminated.

For continued updated information regarding PG&E's 2007 Renewables RFO please save the following link:

http://www.pge.com/suppliers_purchasing/wholesale_electric_supplier_solicitation/renewables2007.html

California Energy Commission Request for Proposals (Due March 28)

The purpose of this RFP is to support the Commission's PIER Program Energy Systems Integration area by developing Advanced Power Electronic Interface technologies to facilitate the expanded use and reduced cost of distributed energy resources. Through this RFP, the Commission is implementing a collaborative initiative with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to develop standardized, highly integrated, and modularized power electronics-based interconnection technologies that will allow DER systems to "plug and play" with the electric power system. Request for Proposals # 500-06-504 solicitation files are now online. Deadline to submit proposals are March 28, 2007, no later than 5 p.m. *For more information on funding solicitations go to:* <http://www.repartners.org/grants.htm>.

Rural Business Opportunity Grant (Due March 30)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for Rural Business Opportunity Grants. This program promotes sustainable economic development in rural communities with exceptional needs through support of economic planning for rural communities, technical assistance for rural businesses, and training for rural entrepreneurs or economic development officials. \$1.5 million expected to be available, average grant \$50K. Responses due 3/30/07. *For more info, go to:*

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbog.htm>. Refer to Sol# RBS-RBOG2007. (Grants.gov 12/18/06)

LADWP Calls for Renewable Energy Developers to Bid (Proposals Due April 10)

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is seeking proposals for 2,200 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of energy per year from renewable energy resources. The RFP is aimed at boosting the City of Los Angeles' renewable energy sales to 20% of the energy supplied to customers by 2010. The additional 2,200 GWh of renewable energy would increase L.A.'s total renewables to 15% from its current 6%. Proposals are due April 10 at 2 p.m. A pre-proposal conference for prospective bidders is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 9 a.m. at LADWP's John Ferraro Building headquarters, A-Level Auditorium, 111 N. Hope St., Los Angeles. *For further information:* <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp001370.jsp>.

Truckhaven Geothermal Leasing Area DEIS Available for Comment (Comment Period Ends April 17)

The Bureau of Land Management-El Centro Field Office recently released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) covering the Truckhaven Geothermal Leasing Area in Imperial County, California. The document will be available on the BLM website for general review. The document is available for a 60 day public comment period, ending on April 17, 2007. *To view the DEIS, please visit*

http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/fed_reg_archives/2007/february/Truckhaven_DEIS_available.print.html,

Nominations Sought for Individual “Shaping the Future of the Utility Landscape” (Due May 31)

The Knowledge2007 Utility CIO of the Year award program will recognize a CIO who has demonstrated exceptionally innovative leadership through effective use of technology in support of the strategic initiatives of his/her organization. Nominate a deserving leader who is shaping the future of the utility landscape. Submit your abstract TODAY and help shape the program. Award nominations must be submitted no later than May 31, 2007. Winners will be announced November 14, 2007 at Knowledge2007 in Austin, Texas.

Nominations are being accepted in two award categories

- Large Utilities (those with more than one million customers)
- Small Utilities (those with less than one million customers)

The individual or organization making the nomination may be a peer, superior or subordinate of the nominee and does not have to be a member of the information technology department.

For more information, please visit www.knowledge2007.com.

Upcoming Events

Power-Gen Renewables Conference, March 6 – 8, Las Vegas, Nevada

With the passing of the Energy Bill coupled with critical initiatives to reduce our dependence on oil imports, one thing is clear - the future of renewable energy is NOW. In its 4th year of partnership, PennWell Corp. and the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) present the industry's premier event covering the most important trends and issues impact the industry's progress. Bringing the wind, solar, biomass and fuels, hydro and geothermal sectors together for three days of information exchange and fast-track networking, POWER-GEN Renewable Energy & Fuels attracts the biggest names in renewables to discuss technical, strategic, regulatory, structural and economic issues. *For more information, please visit <http://pgre07.events.pennnet.com/fl/index.cfm>.*

GeoExchange Conference and Trade Show, March 7-9, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada

GeoExchangeBC is pleased to announce confirmation of the 2nd Biennial International GeoExchange Conference and Trade Show. Scheduled for March 7-9, 2007 at the Hilton Vancouver Metrotown in Burnaby, British Columbia, this event will feature regional and international speakers, an expanded trade show, informative site tours and a proposed geexchange system designer training course coinciding with the conference. *Call for papers now being accepted. Check back for regular updates:* <http://www.geoexchangebc.ca/announcement.aspx>

Utah Geothermal Working Group Meeting, March 14-15, Salt Lake City, UT

The event will include topics such as Geothermal Development Activity in Utah, New Federal Rules for Geothermal Leasing and Permitting, Utah State Legislative Update – New incentives for renewable energy development, Review of Activities of the Geothermal Utility Working Group, Renaissance Geothermal Project, Blundell Geothermal Plant Expansion, and Raft River Geothermal Project, among others. *For more information and to RSVP, contact Jason Berry at Utah Department of Natural Resources, State Energy Program – jasonberry@utah.gov, (801) 538-5413, or Robert Blackett, Utah Geological Survey – robertblackett@utah.gov, (435) 865-9035.*

Energy Markets and Regulation, Mar 15- 16, Washington, DC

Law Seminars International presents a conference on energy markets and regulation that provides basic and updated information for professionals. *For more information, please visit <http://www.lsinews.com/07endccentral.htm>.*

Renewable Energy Options: The Role of Extension Agents in the 21st Century Economy, March 19-20, Denver CO

Colorado State University is sponsoring a national renewable energy conference next month for cooperative extension agents and is seeking vendors interested in exhibiting. "Renewable Energy Options: The Role of Extension Agents in the 21st Century Economy" will be held in Denver March 19-20. The two-day conference will educate extension agents about the renewable energy options available in rural areas and ways they can help develop those businesses in their communities. Vendors will be able to speak directly with agents who know what farmers, ranchers and communities have to offer, as well as the obstacles that may prevent them from making proactive business decisions. *For more information, please visit <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/WR/energy.htm>.*

Wall Street Green Trading Summit VI , Apr 16 - 17, New York City

Speakers from investment banking, hedge funds, venture capital, insurance, and the brokerage community will present on the trading opportunities in alternative energy, project finance, carbon market developments, REC trading and demand response programs at this annual event in New York. Attend either in person or via webcast. *For more information, please visit <http://www.hedgeconnection.com/wsgts>.*

Accelerating Development/Deployment of Asia Pacific Clean Technologies, Apr 17-18, Melbourne, Australia

The AustralAsian Cleantech Forum in Melbourne is the premier international platform for knowledge exchange and commercial interaction for the full range of investors, companies and government involved in the Cleantech market in the Asia Pacific. The 3rd AustralAsian Cleantech Forum will provide unparalleled networking with key decision makers that are leading the growth of the Cleantech industry. *For more information, please visit <http://www.cleantechforum.com/index.php?page=Home>.*

RENEXPO Central & South East Europe, Apr 19 - 21, Budapest, Hungary

The event will highlight present renewable energy technologies and products as well as the latest developments in energy efficient construction and renovation. The exhibition serves to provide a platform at which major players from the renewable energy and energy efficient construction and renovation sectors can convene, network, and exchange knowledge. Target countries include Hungary, Bulgaria, Austria, Slovakia, Romania, Ukraine, Croatia, and Slovenia to name a few. *For more information, please visit <http://www.renexpo-budapest.com>.*

RENEXPO India 2007, Apr 25 - 26, New Delhi

Over 500 business leaders and CEOs, representing non-conventional energy sources will once again convene to explore possibilities for the transfer of technologies. The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), together with the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and the Government of India, have invited delegates from India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The event, presented by REECO India, will be held at the Hotel Le Méridien. *For more information, please visit <http://www.renexpo-india.com/>.*

Geothermal Resource and Finance Workshop, May 10, San Francisco, CA

GEA announces plans for a workshop bringing together professionals in the geothermal community to discuss the issues and strategies involved in identifying and developing geothermal resources in the United States and to discuss approaches and considerations for financing geothermal projects. The event is scheduled for May 10th at the Hyatt Regency (Embarcadero). *Those interested in being sponsors for the event or making presentations, please contact Karl Gawell at 202-454-5264 or email karl@geo-energy.org.*

SMU Geothermal Conference: “Geothermal Energy Utilization Associated with Oil & Gas Development,” June 12-13, 2007, Dallas Texas

In the 1970's and 1980's Oil and Gas companies diversified into geothermal exploration because of the similarities in the industries. Most of these companies left geothermal when the price of oil dropped in the late 1980's or because of failed exploration projects. Today, the Oil and Gas Industry can use a known producing field and not have high exploration costs to expand their portfolio into geothermal. Plus they benefit from the additional years of experience by the Geothermal Industry. To facilitate this happening, the first ever conference titled Geothermal Energy Generation in Oil and Gas Settings was held on March 13-14, 2006 at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. *For more information about this event, please contact Maria Richards, SMU Geothermal Lab, mrichard@smu.edu, or 214-768-1975. You can also visit the website at <http://www.smu.edu/geothermal>.*

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

REGISTRATION FOR THE GEA TRADE SHOW IS NOW OPEN. The 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.

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.

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