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National News

House Establishes New Committee: Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming

The House of Representatives has created a new Committee to focus exclusively on achieving energy independence and addressing global warming. In approving its administrative budget on March 8th, the House created the Select Committee on Energy Independence on Global Warming, which House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said will give these issues “the high level of visibility they deserve.”

The fifteen-member Select Committee was budgeted some \$4 million for its efforts, and while the panel will not have legislative jurisdiction, it will have subpoena power and will “conduct hearings and investigations, gather information, and develop recommendations in order to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and the greenhouse gas emissions that are causing global warming.” Speaker Pelosi announced that Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA) would Chair the Committee.

“We are facing an issue that will test the capacity of democracy to respond in time to affect the fate of the planet. We have the technology, the ingenuity, and the experience to reverse the inexorable buildup of heat-trapping greenhouse gases. I look forward to working with my colleagues to find the consensus needed to move boldly and quickly. I am honored that the Speaker has asked me to help make the response of the 110th Congress proportionate to the threat,” Markey said.

The members of the new committee will be:

Democratic Members:

Edward J. Markey (D-MA), Chair
Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)
Jay Inslee (D-WA)
John B. Larson (D-CT)
Hilda L. Solis (D-CA)
Stephanie Herseth (D-SD)
Emanuel Cleaver II (D-MO)
John Hall (D-NY)
Jerry McNerney (D-CA)

Republican Members:

F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. (R-WS), Ranking Minority Member

John Shadegg (R-AZ)

Greg Walden (R-OR)

John Sullivan (R-OK)

Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)

Candice S. Miller (R-MI)

Power Gen 2007 Brings Together Renewable Representatives From Around the World, Speakers Note the Underused Potential of Geothermal Energy

The largest all-renewables conference in the U.S. took place this past week in Las Vegas, Nevada. According to ACORE, the event's organizer, attendance this year was up nearly 75% with more than 2,000 attendees and over 170 exhibitors registered for the three-day event. The majority of exhibitors tended to be consulting firms or small businesses. Geothermal energy was represented in the exhibit hall by INEL North America, the subsidiary of the Italian company, and by Sierra Geothermal Power, a Canadian company.

During the keynote address, ACORE president Mike Eckhart spoke of the importance of geothermal energy as a contributor to the renewable energy mix, citing the need for a robust—rather than zeroed out—DOE geothermal program. Eckhart called geothermal “an immensely overlooked resource.” In separate remarks to GEA, Eckhart said, “In my opinion geothermal energy is the huge overlooked potential in renewable energy. There is no question that geothermal—the heat from the center of the earth—is sufficient to power human society for all time. Among all renewable options, it is geothermal energy that has the capacity to supply 50 percent of energy requirements in baseload, displacing coal in its entirety. Geothermal should be a billion dollar DOE program.”

During the keynote session, Nevada Governor Gibbons said, "Greater independence can only be achieved through the development of our renewable resources. I have made this a priority in my home state of Nevada and encourage leaders in other states to look at the many renewable resources that are available across the nation." Governor Gibbons spoke specifically of geothermal energy, citing the significant potential in the northern part of the state, and the partnership he'd forged with the Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy.

Other featured speakers at PGRE&F include Alex Dreyer, CEO of Horizon Wind Energy; the man referred to as the "father of ethanol," David Vander Griend, CEO of ICM Inc. in Colwich, Kansas; Dr. Dan Arvizu, director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory; and John Mizroch, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. All speakers stressed the benefits of renewables in mitigating climate change, and noted the new awareness and 'real discussion' of this subject in the United States.

The event included a geothermal session with presentations by four leading geothermal representatives (for details on presentations, see last week's update). The geothermal session was well attended, with a hundred person room filled to capacity. Presenters focused on discussion about the potential for geothermal developments on a small scale, such as through modular technology provided by Ormat, UTC power, or combined heat and power applications. They also touched upon public private partnerships. At the conclusion of the presentations, a number of topics were discussed, including the outlook for the DOE geothermal program on Capitol Hill and the outlook for greater large scale developments in geothermal power. *For more information, see RenewableEnergyAccess.com's Special Event Coverage of PGRE&F, available at <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47663>.*

House Subcommittees Focus on DOE FY08 Budget, Including Geothermal

On March 7, the House Committee on Science and Technology's Subcommittee on Energy and Environment heard testimonies from heads of five federal offices that oversee civilian energy research and development programs within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Chairman Lampson said, in part:

The DOE budget contains significant funding increases for some renewable energy technologies including hydrogen, solar and cellulosic ethanol. These initiatives are greeted enthusiastically by alternative energy advocates; however the increases come at the expense of support for other areas including efficiency programs for low-income consumers, heavy industry, vehicle manufacturers and even the federal government. Other programs short-changed in the budget include geothermal, hydropower and ocean energy – all areas that would benefit greatly from increased R&D. While the total budget for energy research and technology development has risen in recent years, it is still a fraction of the robust levels seen when the nation responded to the energy crisis of the late 1970's. According to the U.S. Government Accountability Office the Department of Energy's budget authority for energy R&D fell 85 percent from 1978 to 2005 (inflation-adjusted).

Despite growing interest in the role of wind, solar and geothermal energy technologies, the large bulk of the nation's renewable energy portfolio comes from hydropower and still comprises only 6% of total electricity generation. The Energy Information Administration (EIA) projects that electricity generation will grow from 3,900 billion kilowatt-hours in 2005 to 5,500 billion kilowatt hours in 2030. Coal will make up most of this growth and continue to provide the largest part of electricity generation for the foreseeable future. It is expected that, short of a very aggressive resurgence in nuclear capacity, new nuclear plants will only serve to replace aging existing plants in terms of overall electricity market share. ...The energy landscape has to change. We must leave no stone unturned in our efforts to ensure a clean and secure energy future for our children." The Science & Technology Committee has jurisdiction over all civilian research and development programs of the federal government. *To view the complete press release, please visit <http://science.house.gov/press/PRArticle.aspx?NewsID=1709>.*

In related news, at the March 6th Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, Rep. Ed Pastor (D-AZ) challenged Secretary Bodman about his decision to terminate the geothermal research program. Following is part of their exchange from the transcript of the hearing:

PASTOR:

I also saw geothermal is not one of your high priorities.

BODMAN:

You know, it's interesting, geothermal -- Senator Reid has written me a letter about geothermal because Nevada is so strong in the geothermal area.

Geothermal was zeroed out because we considered it to be mature technology. I mean, it was something that -- at some point in time, you've got to have the role of government, but sometimes you've got to stop doing things.

But one of the hardest things is, I think the chairman made the comment earlier, it's hard to stop things once you get them started, because you get the politics and jobs and everything sort of enter into it. And it's a problem.

Geothermal, having said that -- two or three people have both written me, and I got -- actually it was a personal visit of a former student of mine up in Boston, who were working on new research related to geothermal energy. And so, it may be -- and I talked to Andy Karsner about that, and so it may well be that we are going to be more aggressive on that front than we have been in the past.

PASTOR:

Would it mean that you would, instead of zeroing out, that you would continue some funding of it?

BODMAN:

Yes, sir.

U.S. Senator Domenici Says New Technology Key to Energy Advances

U.S. Senator Pete Domenici, ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, reiterated his belief that developing new technology was key to warding off threats to our nation's energy future, including the potential risks of climate change. At a hearing to discuss the deployment of advanced energy technology, Domenici said that he believes government should play a significant role in assisting industry to develop cutting-edge technologies that would re-invent the energy sector. Last week, the Department of Energy announced that 143 pre-applications for federal loan guarantees have been received as of the end of 2006. The guarantees requested more than \$27 billion in protection for project costs of more than \$51 billion. Domenici said, in part, "I continue to support DOE's efforts, and in fact I hope that the Department goes further to implement the loan guarantee program on the scale that was envisioned in the Energy Bill. In some cases, quick action on the loan guarantee process may make the difference between the United States gaining or losing the lead in commercializing new technologies," Domenici said.

To view the complete press release, please visit

http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=235237&Month=3&Year=2007.

GEA Executive Director on Geothermal Heat Pumps

A weekly "Ask the Experts" column at the website renewable energy access rotates through different renewable technologies, answering questions posed by real readers. Recently, Karl Gawell answered the question, "Do Geothermal Heat Pumps Have Mainstream Potential?" with the following (exert only):

"Today, geothermal heat pump (sometimes referred to as ground source, GeoExchange, earth-coupled, or water-source heat pump) installations are increasing by double digits. Before I answer your question specifically, let me tell you a little about geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) in general. GHPs represent one of three types of geothermal technology.

GHPs have definite mainstream potential. GHPs have the capability to be used anywhere in the country -- and, in fact, they're used in every U.S. state and several outside countries. Current data shows continued growth across all market sectors. Over the past few years, as oil and gas prices have soared, GHP sales have increased annually from 22 to upwards of 50 percent. Still, GHPs have significant untapped potential. The U.S. General Accounting Office estimates that if GHPs were installed nationwide, they could save several billion dollars in annual energy costs and substantially reduce pollution.

Today, GHPs could be retrofitted to almost any house or school in the country. This would go a long way toward reducing pollution -- every 100,000 homes with geothermal heat pump systems reduce foreign oil consumption by 2.15 million barrels annually and reduce electricity consumption by 799 million kilowatt hours annually. As people consider the long-term impacts of their choices -- both environmentally and financially -- I have no doubt that GHPs will become mainstream." *To view the full answer, please visit* <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/ate/story;jsessionid=77C2D750F8D7623E4DCE17508A66F7AD?id=47574>.

Company News

SCE: Once Again the Nation's Leading Renewable Energy Purchaser in 2006 – Geothermal Energy Its Leading Renewable Energy Source

ROSEMEAD, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Southern California Edison (SCE) announced today that its 2006 renewable energy purchases and deliveries to customers once again led the nation:

- SCE delivered 12.6 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable energy during 2006, 16.7% of total power deliveries under California's renewable portfolio standard guidelines.
- SCE delivered enough renewable energy to serve 1.8 million homes for the entire year.

Energy Sources	Billions of kWh Delivered
Geothermal	7.50
Wind	2.45
Small hydro	0.95
Biogas(a)	0.75
Solar	0.60
Biomass(b)	0.35
Total	12.60

(a) Gases from landfills and digesters

(b) Solids such as agricultural and wood waste

SCE: Announces its Fifth Renewable Energy Contract Solicitation for Additional Renewable Supplies

The utility also announced that Monday, March 12, 2007, it will launch its 2007 open, competitive solicitation for additional renewable power contracts, its fifth since 2002.

Previous solicitations have secured for SCE customers 25 renewable energy contracts with maximum future annual power generation of 13 billion kilowatt-hours, enough electricity to serve approximately 1.9 million average homes for a year. The actual output of renewable energy projects may be limited due to weather conditions and transmission availability.

"We are once again in the market offering long-term contracts to companies developing renewable power projects to serve our customers," said Pedro Pizarro, SCE senior vice president of power procurement. "We see renewable energy procurement as one of several ways our industry can reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

SCE will be soliciting 10-, 15-, or 20-year contracts from all interested developers of renewable energy projects - those using solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, and small-hydro energy. Proposals will be due to SCE in May 2007, and SCE expects to submit completed contracts to the CPUC for approval by December 2007. Interested parties will be able to download details of the request for offers at www.sce.com/renewrpf as of 9 a.m. Pacific, Monday, March 12, 2007. To answer bidders' questions, SCE will host a proposal conference on April 4, 2007, at a location to be announced on this Web site.

While pursuing additional renewable energy sources, SCE also is making progress developing new transmission lines to connect untapped renewable resource in areas such as Tehachapi to the utility's high-voltage power grid. The California Public Utilities Commission on March 1, 2007, approved the first leg of the utility's \$1.7-billion renewable energy transmission project. The commission has placed on its March 15, 2007, agenda a possible decision on the second leg of the project.

The project is the first major transmission project built in California specifically to tap the renewable energy available in remote areas of the state. SCE believes the Tehachapi region has the potential eventually to provide 4,500 megawatts or more of renewable projects. The utility expects to begin construction of the project later this year, with the first phase expected to begin delivering renewable energy to SCE customers in 2009.

Related Facts

- SCE purchases 1/6 of all U.S. renewable energy used to generate electricity for retail sale, including more than 90% of all the U.S. solar generation.

- SCE signed the largest wind energy contract ever completed by a U.S. utility on Dec. 21, 2006. It secures for SCE customers 1,500 MW or more of power generated by new wind projects to be built in the Tehachapi area of California. The contract envisions more than 50 square miles of wind parks in the Tehachapi region - triple the size of any existing U.S. wind farm.

- SCE continues to work toward meeting the goals of California's renewable portfolio standard. By 2010, the utility hopes to have contracts which, when fully operational, will represent 20% or more of our customers' energy needs.

An Edison International (NYSE:EIX - News) company, Southern California Edison is one of the nation's largest electric utilities, serving a population of more than 13 million via 4.7 million customer accounts in a 50,000-square-mile service area within central, coastal and Southern California.

Contact: Edison International, Corporate Communications, (626) 302-2255, www.edisonnews.com.

Ormat Technologies: to Present at the Citigroup 2007 Small and Mid-Cap Conference

RENO, Nev., March 12, 2007 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Ormat Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: ORA) announced that it will present at the Citigroup 2007 Small and Mid-Cap Conference, which will take place Tuesday, March 13th through Thursday, March 15th at the Four Seasons at Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas, NV. (Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20040422/LATH066LOGO>) Dita Bronicki, president and chief executive officer, will provide an overview of the business and financial highlights on March 14th at 12:25 p.m. ET/9:25 a.m. PT. This event will be available as a live, listen-only webcast. To access the live webcast of the event, visit the Investor Relations section of the Company's website at www.ormat.com. The presentation will also be archived for 30 days following the conference.

For more information: <http://www.ormat.com/relation.php?did=84>.

Sierra Geothermal Power: Jacob & Company Securities Inc. Announces Launch

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(CCNMatthews - March 5, 2007) - Mr. Sasha Jacob, Vice-Chairman and CEO, Jacob & Company Securities Inc., today announced the launch of Jacob & Company Securities Inc. ("Jacob & Company"), an independent investment bank providing underwriting and financial advisory services to companies in the renewable power and infrastructure sectors. The firm, which is headquartered in Toronto, will primarily service small- to mid-cap issuers in North America and around the world. Among several deals currently under way, Sierra Geothermal Power Corp. recently announced that it engaged Jacob & Company as agent in a private placement valued at \$10 million. Mr. Jacob said that more deal announcements, both private and public, are forthcoming, as well as details about industry professionals who are expected to join the firm within weeks. For more information, please visit <http://www.ccnmatthews.com/news/releases/show.jsp?action=showRelease&searchText=false&showText=all&actionFor=638675>.

Raser: Company's Geological Report Identifies Five Drilling Targets in Nevada

PROVO, Utah--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Raser Technologies, Inc. (NYSE Arca: RZ) announced today that an independent geological study has identified five target drilling areas located on portions of Raser's leased properties in Nevada that are suitable for the development of Raser's advanced binary cycle geothermal power plants.

The study focused on two separate geographic regions within Raser's leased geothermal properties in central Nevada. Geologists identified shallow resources at depths of approximately 1,500 feet with water temperatures ranging from 225°F to 275°F within the target drilling areas. The report also identified deeper resources at depths of approximately 5,000 feet with higher temperatures.

Brent Cook, Raser's CEO, stated, "We are thrilled with the findings of this report. It appears that the drilling sites identified in the study hold resources in the target temperature range for employing advanced binary cycle technology to generate electric power. The report indicates that the studied area alone could contain sufficient geothermal resources to support power projects of approximately 300 to 500 megawatts. These resources could support our goal of developing 100 megawatts per year for several years. We look forward to initiating phase one of our drilling program in the second quarter of this year. The initial production wells will provide further readings and reveal more geological data."

The independent study was conducted by Dr. Carl F. Austin and Richard R. Austin, both highly regarded in geological exploration with over 65 years of combined experience in the industry. In completing the study, the geologists conducted on-site geological assessments and analyzed geological maps and models, satellite photography, well logs, temperature and chemical analyses of existing hot springs, snow melt data and precious mineral mining activity. In the regions encompassed by the study, there are over 46 known hot springs, warm springs, seeps and wells.

The advanced binary cycle technology that Raser intends to employ in the development of geothermal power plants uses water-based geothermal resources of generally lower temperature, ranging from approximately 200 to 360 degrees F. In the advanced binary system, warm geothermal fluid is pumped to the surface and channeled into a heat exchanger. The geothermal water is then used as a source to heat another "working fluid," which then vaporizes to turn a turbine generator. After the heat transfer process is complete, the cooler water is returned to the reservoir in the Earth. The advanced binary method efficiently converts more commonly found low temperature water resources into power through the use of working fluids that have a low boiling point; the binary method also produces zero emissions. If properly managed, a geothermal resource is sustainable and renewable. *To view the press release, please visit http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070307005387&newsLang=en.*

Raser: Continues to Expand Resource Acquisition for Geothermal Power Generation Business

PROVO, Utah--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Raser Technologies, Inc. (NYSE Arca: RZ) announced today that it has secured additional geothermal rights in Nevada under the terms of two lease agreements. Over the past several months, Raser has entered into a series of geothermal lease arrangements as part of its strategy to establish a geothermal power generation business.

The properties covered by the new lease agreements are in central Nevada within the vicinity of Raser's other geothermal leases and are in the US Geological Survey's "Known Geothermal Resource Area" (KGRA). The first lease is a 50-year lease, providing Raser with the right to develop and construct geothermal power plants on 155 acres. In the second lease, the lessor assigned to Raser all of its rights under an existing geothermal lease of 240 acres with the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"). Both leases carry similar financial terms, requiring initial cash consideration, restricted shares of Raser common stock, and royalty payments based on production. The terms are similar to those of other geothermal leases Raser has secured in the area.

Brent M. Cook, CEO of Raser, stated, "Given the national mandate to diversify national energy resources away from petroleum-based products and utilize green, renewable resources, demand for geothermal resources has increased. We are pleased we were able to acquire these properties. We believe that the properties covered by these new leases provide additional geothermal opportunities and help diversify our development efforts. One of these new sites is particularly attractive to us since a geothermal well was previously drilled on the property. This existing well can assist in our documenting thermal gradient information in the area."

Renewable and Climate Change News

RPSs Now in Twenty-Three States

A recent NY Times article reports on the twenty-three states and the District of Columbia that have established renewable portfolio standards. State policies vary widely, said Robert J. Noun, the executive director for external affairs at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, part of the federal Department of Energy. "The one constant about all this is that every state takes a somewhat different approach," he said. There are also differences on what qualifies as a renewable energy source and varying interpretations of what is considered renewable. Heather F. Murphy, a spokeswoman for the Arizona Public Utility Commission, said that some states stretch the concept of renewables to include some "combined-cycle" coal plants, which use waste heat to generate more electricity. *For more information, please visit http://www.nytimes.com/2007/03/07/business/businessspecial2/07renew.html?_r=1&oref=slogin (free login required).*

US Companies Seek to Mitigate Their Global Warming Emissions

More than 60 percent of U.S. consumers hold government and big business directly accountable for global warming, according to a recent study by market research firm MindClick Group. Environmental activists note companies are more committed to fighting global warming than the U.S. government. Analysts are warning that companies will need to take an active role in addressing their global warming emissions in order to stay in the public's favor. Several prominent companies including McDonalds and Starbucks, have begun to take voluntary measures to address their impacts. *For more information, please visit <http://www.planetark.com/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/40661/story.htm>.*

Carbon Trading: Ineffective?

A recent article suggests that the expanding market of emissions trading, also called carbon trading, is not working. According to the MSNBC article, carbon trading allows polluters in the developed world to shift the burden of making cuts onto factories in the developing world. Too often factory owners use the additional profits banked from carbon credits to expand their dirty factories. The scale of the inefficiency of emissions trading was revealed in a study published in the scientific journal Nature last month. The nearly \$6 billion already spent on projects to curb emissions of HFC-23, a potent greenhouse gas, had the same impact on the environment as would \$132 million worth of equipment upgrades. Last year companies in Kyoto countries paid about \$3 billion to some of the worst carbon polluters in the developing world. Emissions trading has also failed to stimulate investment in new green technologies. While trading funnels billions of dollars of international environmental investment money into companies like Shri Bajrang, renewable-energy projects aren't receiving funding because they're more costly. Indeed, only 2 percent of the United Nations' trading projects involve renewable energy. Many experts think a carbon tax would be the better alternative. It's more straightforward and jargon-free, and would prevent much of the "gaming of the system" that's plaguing carbon trading. The problem, of course, is that new taxes are unpopular with voters. "A carbon tax would be far superior," says Yale's Esty, "but trading is a good second-best solution." *For more information, please visit <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/17435875/site/newsweek>.*

JP Morgan and Innovest Launch Global Warming Bond Index

The global financial services firm JPMorgan and Innovest Strategic Value Advisors recently launched the first bond index designed to address the risks of global warming. The JPMorgan Environmental Index-Carbon Beta, the JENI-Carbon Beta for short, is a United States high-grade corporate bond index. It enables credit investors to make decisions that systematically take into account risks and opportunities issuers face as they address climate change. The JENI-Carbon Beta is meant to serve as a benchmark for mainstream investors concerned about the financial impact of climate change and related regulation, as well as for funds mandated to seek out investments that meet particular environmental criteria. "Awareness and concern among major investors have been growing exponentially," said Innovest Chief Executive Matthew Kiernan. "What's been missing – until today – have been sophisticated investment tools and products to help them translate that concern into concrete investment decisions and actions. We expect this innovative new index to have a major, positive impact." *For more information, please visit <http://www.ens-news.com/ens/mar2007/2007-03-01-09.asp#anchor3>.*

State News

Alaska: State Legislators Discussing Bipartisan Effort to Fund Renewable Power Development

KTUU of Juneau, Alaska reports that there is a bipartisan effort underway to “move forward on renewable energy” in the state. Alaska, House Speaker John Harris and Sen. Johnny Ellis are discussing legislation to establish a fund under control of the Alaska Energy Authority to provide grants and loans for projects to provide cheaper, cleaner power. The funds would be targeted to help rural Alaskans, who often face “disproportionately high electric bills” according to the report. *For more on the story visit: <http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=6202389>.*

California: CA Climate Registry Adding Utilities from Other States

The California Climate Action Registry, a nonprofit, voluntary organization, is the only state-level climate-data registry in the U.S., but its current 232 members could be expanded if some states have their governors sign up for the multi-state organization or pass legislation to become a part of it. Salt River Project, a public-power agency serving part of the Phoenix area, is one of the newest members, having joined the group Feb. 8. Other out-of-state utility members include Sierra Pacific Resources, Seattle City Light, Southwest Gas Corp., El Paso Corp., PacifiCorp, the Platte River Power Authority of Colorado and Austin Energy of Texas. California-based utilities include Pacific Gas & Electric, San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Gas and Southern California Edison. According to a Registry official, the registry focuses on signing new members from California, but new members are solicited "wherever there are people." The addition of new members "certainly accelerated in recent months, but it's not a new trend." *For more information, please visit <http://www.energyprospects.com/>.*

California: Lawmaker Proposes to Lift Nuclear Construction Ban, North County Times Reports

According to the North County Times on March 10th, Orange County Assemblyman Chuck DeVore (R-Irvine, is proposing to lift the state's ban on new nuclear power plants as “the best strategy for attacking global warming.” California law bans new nuclear power plants until the nuclear fuel disposal issue has a permanent solution. The ban has been in effect since 1976. According to the News, “DeVore has introduced legislation ---- dubbed the California Zero Carbon Dioxide Emission Electrical Generation Act of 2007 and numbered Assembly Bill 719 ---- that would lift the 1976 ban and open the way for a new plant within 10 years.” The paper reports that according to DeVore renewable energy sources, like geothermal solar and wind, “cannot fill all the need for new power that will be triggered by the climate-change law (Assembly Bill 32).” DeVore argued that, “Nuclear can fill the gap and at an economical cost.”

Otherwise, "we will basically have to shut down the state to get to the AB 32 numbers, the Assemblyman stated."

Idaho: Ketchum Approves Geothermal Study

The city of Ketchum is planning a feasibility study to see if the city can tap into Guyer Hot Springs on the Cimino family property. Proposed uses are for recreation, snow melt on sidewalks and geothermal energy. The resolution authorizes research into the potential development and distribution of geothermal resources in the hot springs. The city will have six months to conduct exclusive studies and ponder a business plan. If the city didn't like what it saw, or deemed it too expensive to continue, it could walk away. This wouldn't be the first time geothermal resources were used in Ketchum. Carl E. Brandt, an executive with J.C. Penney Co., who once managed a J.C. Penney store in Hailey, built the Bald Mountain Hot Springs Motel in 1929. A series of wooden pipes were built to transport water three miles from Warm Springs to the "plunge" in Ketchum. The system was later used to provide hot water and heat to numerous homes in the Ketchum area. The pipes eventually deteriorated, and the pool closed in 1988. *For more information, please visit http://www.mtexpress.com/index2.php?issue_date=03-07-2007&ID=2005114397.*

Nevada: Federal Repeal of Geothermal Rents and Royalties Could Impact County

As a county with some of the largest geothermal resources in the nation, Churchill County would face losing more than \$800,000 if a portion of the proposed federal budget to repeal geothermal rents and royalties is approved, a recent local article reported. The proposed budget would repeal the 25 percent royalty shares for counties and the five-year dedication, 25 percent federal share to the Bureau of Land Management program, according to reports from Dan Schochet, executive director of the Geothermal Energy Association, in an e-mail. "As I understand it, the latter repeal would stop the BLM geothermal program in its tracks," he said. According to the Energy Policy Act of 2005, geothermal lease revenue was established to expedite geothermal leasing, said Schochet. "Twenty-five percent of geothermal bonuses, rents and royalties are authorized to be deposited to this account through 2010," he said. "The budget proposes to eliminate this fund and to provide additional funding for these purposes through increased user fees." The county received \$930,000 for fiscal year 2006 from this revenue, said Alan Kalt, county comptroller. It is projected that the county will receive approximately \$820,000 for fiscal year 2007.

The board of county commissioners worked diligently to get the geothermal revenue in place, he said. The money is split in thirds between three county funds: major capital enhancement, the building reserve fund and the road equipment replacement plan. The county receives approximately \$65,000 per month from geothermal revenue, Kalt said. "It would be a significant impact to capital enhancement if we were to lose this revenue," said Kalt. "Year to date, the county has already received \$547,255 for fiscal year 2007." Kalt said the county shares concerns with the geothermal industry. In a draft letter to U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, Churchill County officials ask the senator for his support in defeating the proposed repeal of geothermal rents and royalties. "Continued funding is necessary for us to sustain our community at a level that encourages economic development," states the draft letter. "We strongly advocate your favorable support of renewable geothermal development and payment of rents and royalties directly to those local governments where the resources are developed." Sen. Reid's office replied to questions about the proposed fiscal year 2008 budget, saying there was little support in Congress for the repeal of the geothermal rents and royalties portion of the budget plan. "This is yet another proposal by the administration to hurt the geothermal industry and the counties that would benefit from geothermal production," said Reid in a prepared statement. "It has nearly no support in Congress and I will do everything I can to prevent it from going anywhere in the Senate." *For more information, please visit <http://www.nevadaappeal.com/article/LF/20070306/News/103060024/-1/REGION>.*

Nevada: Five Western States Sign Memorandum to Reduce Emissions, Develop Cap-and-Trade Market, Nevada Absent

Washington, Oregon, New Mexico and Arizona recently joined California in creating the Western Regional Climate Change Initiative that calls for setting a regionwide greenhouse emissions-reduction goal by Aug. 26, 2007. Nevada, however, was conspicuously absent from the list of states. During a media call, California Environmental Protection Agency Secretary Linda Adams noted that Nevada acknowledged the potential issue of "leakage," or businesses leaving California for states with no GHG standard or less stringent caps. "This effort will go a long way to address this issue," she said. Cal-EPA Undersecretary Dan Skopec said that California officials had attempted to get Nevada to sign on to the MOU, but he said the state has a newly elected governor who would like to "turn over and look at the issues." Contrary to Skopec's statement, Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons was never asked to join the MOU, according to Brent Boynton, communications director for the Republican. Although he would not comment on whether the governor was irked at not being asked, Boynton did say that Gibbons recently asked Hatice Gecol, his new energy and science adviser appointed in January, to form a climate-change task force. *For more information, please visit <http://www.energyprospects.com/>.*

New Mexico: Energy Standard Renewed, Doubled

Legislation to double New Mexico's renewable energy was signed by Governor Richardson recently. The Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, SB418, was sponsored by Senator Michael Sanchez (D-Belen). SB418 will increase New Mexico's current renewable energy standard from 10% by 2011 to 20% by the year 2020 and the bill also sets the first in New Mexico renewable energy standard for all rural electric cooperatives. Under this legislation, all electric cooperatives would be required to get 10% of their electricity from renewables by 2020. The bill was supported by renewable energy advocates, conservationists, farmers, and utility companies. The Governor also signed the Renewable Energy Transmission Authority, HB188, by Jose Campos (D-Santa Rosa). HB188 requires that lines contracted by the Authority have at least 30% of their energy come from renewable energy sources. *To view the press release, please visit <http://www.uspirg.org/news-releases/new-energy-future/new-energy-future/new-mexico-energy-standard-renewed-doubled>.*

Oregon: Governor Presses Legislature to Support Renewable Energy Standard

Governor Ted Kulongoski recently urged the Legislature to support Senate Bill 373, which establishes a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) that ensures 25 percent of Oregon's electricity comes from new renewable sources by 2025. Testifying before the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee, the Governor explained that the new standard would cover 90 percent of Oregon's electricity load by focusing on utilities that serve at least 1 percent of Oregon's electric load—including Oregon's three investor-owned electric utilities and nine of Oregon's largest consumer-owned utilities. Before reaching the goal of achieving 25 percent by 2025, the plan also sets interim targets starting at 5 percent by 2010, 15 percent by 2015 and 20 percent by 2020. *For more information on SB 373: <http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/pdf/letters/rps.pdf>. To view the Governor's testimony: http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/pdf/letters/RPS_testimony.pdf.*

Texas: Austin Named #1 Cleantech City in U.S.

SustainLane Government, an online resource center that offers sustainability tips to state and local government, has ranked the five U.S. cities that are hotbeds for the influx of cleantech capital, deep R&D, and real-world opportunities for field-testing and prototyping. Austin, Texas, home to seven start-ups developing technologies like internet-controlled irrigation and wind and geothermal energy technologies, stands out as the leading city for cleantech investments, SustainLane reports. Austin features the Clean Energy Incubator, a university- and government-funded project to help clean energy companies grow, and the city also leads the field with combined venture capital, an R&D partnership through the University of

Texas, and active incubator collaboration with city-owned Austin Energy for testing new Cleantech technologies.

The other cities in SustainLane's top-five rankings are:

2. San Jose, Calif.
3. Berkeley, Calif.
4. Pasadena, Calif.
5. Greater Boston, Mass.

Runners-up cities included San Francisco, New York, Seattle, San Diego and Houston. *For more information, please visit: <http://www.sustainlane.us>*

Utah: Legislature Reauthorizes Renewable Tax Credits

On February 27, 2007, the Utah Legislature unanimously passed a comprehensive tax bill (SB 223) that included the reauthorization and some expansions of the Utah Renewable Energy System Tax Credits that are administered by the State Energy Program (SEP). SB 223 now requires Governor Huntsman's signature to become law.

Measures from the program that expired on December 31, 2006 and were reauthorized in SB 223 are as follows:

- For residential systems, tax credits of 25% of costs for a renewable energy system in a residence or residential unit, with a maximum credit for residence of \$2,000.
 - For commercial systems, tax credits of 10% of costs for a renewable energy system in a commercial building or structure, with a maximum credit of \$50,000.
 - Eligible systems for residential buildings are active solar, passive solar, biomass, direct-use geothermal, geothermal heat-pump system, wind, or hydroenergy.
 - Eligible systems for commercial buildings and structures are active solar, passive solar, geothermal electricity, direct-use geothermal, geothermal heat-pump, wind, hydroenergy, or biomass.
- These provisions apply to both corporate and individual income tax filers.

SB 223 also makes some significant changes to the tax credit program:

- Expands the list of eligible technology types for residential systems.
The new technologies are direct use geothermal, ground source heat pumps and biomass. (Note that eligible biomass systems must either produce fuel or electricity. Biomass heating systems are not eligible.)
- Expands the list of eligible technology types for commercial systems.
The new technologies are geothermal electricity, direct-use geothermal, and ground source heat-pumps.
- Creates a production tax credit for commercial wind, biomass, and geothermal systems that produce electricity and have production capacities of 660 kilowatts or greater. The credit amount is 0.35 cents per kilowatt hour of electricity produced during the first four years that a system is in operation.
There is no maximum credit amount.
- For using a percentage of costs to calculate credits, there is new language providing that costs claimed must be reasonable and giving SEP the authority to define reasonable costs through rules.
- The program will now be permanent. (Under prior authorizing legislation, the program expired after five years.)

Note that these new provisions apply only to systems installed on or after January 1, 2007. All systems installed prior to that date will continue to be governed by the statutes and regulations currently posted on the SEP website at <http://geology.utah.gov/sep/incentives/rincentives.htm#retaxcred>.

Once SB 233 has been officially enacted, the State Energy Program will begin the process of writing new rules for the implementation of all elements of the new tax credit system. SEP expects to make changes to the existing rules, therefore we may not be able to answer your detailed questions about the operation of the new system until these rules are completed. This rulemaking process will be conducted according to Utah laws requiring publication of proposed rules and public comment periods. The SEP will be seeking input from interested parties in the coming weeks and months and will provide notice of meetings, requests for

comments, and draft rules through our e-mail lists. *For more information contact Phil Pwlick, Manager, State Energy Program, Utah Geological Survey, at philippowlick@utah.gov.*

Washington: Portfolio Standard Debate Moves to Implementation

Utilities and intervenors got their first chance to shape the implementation of Washington's renewable/conservations standards, in comments filed last week with the state's Utilities and Transportation Commission. Initiative 937, which voters approved last November, requires utilities with more than 25,000 customers to meet a renewables benchmark of 3 percent of load by 2012, 9 percent by 2016 and 15 percent by 2020, and to identify and pursue available cost-effective conservation. WUTC staffer Nicholas Garcia said the commission plans an I-937 rulemaking workshop soon, to "start a serious dialogue." The initiative sets a Dec. 31, 2007 deadline for adopting implementation rules. *For more information, please visit <http://www.energyprospects.com/>.*

International News

Saint Kitts and Nevis: Newfound and Nevis Island Administration Reach New Agreement on Planned Development of Resort Land, including investigation of geothermal energy

SKNVibes reports that Newfound has reached an agreement with the Nevis Island Administration (the 'NIA') that will allow it to proceed with development of a new resort. The agreement includes agreement by Newfound to assist the NIA to "investigate the feasibility of geothermal energy on the island as a mutually beneficial energy source." *For the complete story: <http://www.sknvibes.com/News/NewsDetails.cfm/2613>.*

Southeast Asia: Immense Geothermal Potential

A recent article discusses the immense potential of geothermal energy to power Indonesia and the Philippines around the Pacific Ocean's "ring of fire", the world's most seismically active zone. The Philippines and Indonesia each have enough hot-rock sites to provide most of the extra electricity that they desperately need to boost their economic growth. Already, the two countries rank second and fourth respectively in the world league of geothermal generators (America and Mexico are first and third). Even so, they have barely begun tapping their potential. Indonesia generates a mere 850 megawatts of geothermal electricity, or about 4% of its total electricity supply. Properly exploited, geothermal sources could generate perhaps fifty times that amount. On February 23rd Indonesia's energy ministry said it would invite bids to exploit seven geothermal areas this year, yielding a modest 575MW of electricity. The Philippines hopes to boost investment in new plants through a privatization. The article cites political and economic obstacles to big new energy projects in Indonesia and the Philippines, whether geothermal or not. Investors need to be persuaded that there will be steady demand for the electricity produced, and that they will not be subjected to new price controls, predatory taxes, or any other nasty surprises. Indonesia and the Philippines find it hard to offer such guarantees, though each has been working to improve its business climate. Lack of investor confidence is one reason why the Philippines has failed repeatedly to auction off its electricity grid. In Indonesia, investors still remember how a modest boom in geothermal projects some 15 years ago was punctured by the Asian economic crisis of 1997, and how the legal rows over broken contracts dragged on for years.

The article concludes, "The huge unrealized potential for geothermal power in South-East Asia stands as a permanent reminder that, in much of the world, the development of alternative energy sources is more than a scientific challenge. It means developing the administrative competence, the political restraint and the reliable rule of law needed to make large-scale infrastructural projects of any kind predictable and, where appropriate, profitable. Compared to that, the scientific challenges may come to seem almost trivial."

For more information, please visit

http://www.economist.com/world/international/displaystory.cfm?story_id=8796551.

Turkey: Promotes Geothermal Resources for Tourism

As part of a strategy to pull in an uninterrupted flow of tourists throughout the year, Turkey's Ministry of Culture and Tourism is moving ahead to place numerous destinations with geothermal resources on the global map. Continuous investment in tourism infrastructure, along with promotion abroad of health tourism, will be key to the future success of the segment, the article reported. The central Anatolian province of Yozgat has been earmarked as a big destination, with eight geothermal springs being developed to lure Turkish and foreign travelers. Along with central Anatolia, a number of locations in the southern Marmara and southern Aegean regions have been identified by the ministry as having significant thermal potential. Already significant funds are being spent on the country's geothermal potential. A joint investment in Turkey's Denizli to develop a spa centre -- worth almost \$45 million and to be completed in seven years -- was announced in February. Several other projects are underway. With 1,600 thermal sources, Turkey has the seventh-largest thermal resources in the world, but its income from thermal tourism comprise only 1 percent of its total revenue. This is for a country, which is ranked first in Europe for its geothermal potential. *For more information, please visit <http://www.turkishweekly.net/news.php?id=43127>.*

Notices and RFPs

SCE Announces its Fifth Renewable Energy Contract Solicitation for Additional Renewable Supplies (Conference Call April 4, 2007)

SCE announced Monday, March 12, 2007, that it will launch its 2007 open, competitive solicitation for additional renewable power contracts, its fifth since 2002. (Story also under Company News above.)

Previous solicitations have secured for SCE customers 25 renewable energy contracts with maximum future annual power generation of 13 billion kilowatt-hours, enough electricity to serve approximately 1.9 million average homes for a year. The actual output of renewable energy projects may be limited due to weather conditions and transmission availability.

"We are once again in the market offering long-term contracts to companies developing renewable power projects to serve our customers," said Pedro Pizarro, SCE senior vice president of power procurement. "We see renewable energy procurement as one of several ways our industry can reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

SCE will be soliciting 10-, 15-, or 20-year contracts from all interested developers of renewable energy projects - those using solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, and small-hydro energy. Proposals will be due to SCE in May 2007, and SCE expects to submit completed contracts to the CPUC for approval by December 2007. Interested parties will be able to download details of the request for offers at www.sce.com/renewrfp as of 9 a.m. Pacific, Monday, March 12, 2007. To answer bidders' questions, SCE will host a proposal conference on April 4, 2007, at a location to be announced on this Web site.

APS Issues RFP (Informational Meeting March 14)

Arizona Public Service (APS) is requesting proposals for near- and long-term new sources of renewable energy that can be delivered to the company's electrical system. The Request for Proposal (RFP) includes solar, wind, hybrid wind and solar, biomass/biogas, landfill gas, hydropower, fuel cells that use renewable fuels and geothermal. Parties interested in the RFP are encouraged to attend the bidder's conference, which is scheduled for March 14, 2007, at APS' headquarters in Phoenix. *Additional information about the conference and the RFP is available online at www.aps.com/rfp.*

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

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>.*

GeoPowering the West State Summit Postponed Indefinitely, (was April 18-19, Denver, CO)

“Due to the continued uncertainty surrounding the Department of Energy fiscal year 2007 Geothermal Technologies/GeoPowering the West (GPW) budget, we have decided to postpone the 2007 GPW State Summit, planned for April 18-19th here in the Denver area, until further notice. “

For more information contact Curtis Framel or Sandy Glatt at 303-275-4872 or 303-275-4857 respectively.

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 Energy Development And Finance Workshop, Hyatt Regency San Francisco, Embarcadero Center, May 10, 2007

Sponsored by the Geothermal Energy Association

and

GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS:
ORMAT Technologies and
GLITNIR Bank

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

- The outlook for state renewable energy laws, federal tax incentives, and other key incentives for expanding geothermal energy production in the West.
- New avenues for financial support of geothermal projects – green power, climate credits, and other approaches.
- Geothermal investing from a variety of viewpoints, including the financing, investing, and marketing of new projects.
- Geothermal project development basics from leading project developers.
- New projects under development: what, where and by whom.
- Geothermal resources in the West – overview and key issues to address for development

PRESENTERS TO INCLUDE

Confirmed:

Dan Schochet, Vice President, ORMAT
Mr. Magnús Bjarnason, Executive Vice President, Glitnir Bank,
Asgeir Margeirsson, CEO, Geyir Green Energy
Paul Brophy, President, EGS Inc
Halley Dickey, UTC Power
Subir Sanyal, President, GeothermEx
Karl Gawell, Executive Director, GEA
Fausto Batini, Director, Geothermal Development, Enel North America, Inc.
Rick Thomas, VP Development, Calpine Corporation
John Pierce and Gary Barnum, Stoel Rives LLP
Margret Rueger, Babcock & Brown

Invited:

California Assemblyman Jared Huffman, Chairman Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety
Melanie Nutter, Deputy District Director, Rep. Nancy Pelosi
Gavin Newsom, Mayor of San Francisco
Jack Cargas, Lockwood Capital
Ryan Bennett, Green Rock Capital
Bob Bannack, Dundee Securities
V. John White, Executive Director, Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies
Sheryl Carter, Natural Resources Defense Council
The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor of California
Tom Fair, Executive, Renewable Energy, Sierra Pacific Resources

Regular Admission \$125/GEA Member Admission \$90--includes lunch, program materials, and listing in participants guide Special Non-profit Discounted Admission Available: contact Karl Gawell at 202-454-5264, or email karl@geo-energy.org. Sponsorship Opportunities Available: contact Karl Gawell at GEA, 202-454-5264, or email karl@geo-energy.org

For More Information Visit GEA's Website at: www.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.

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