



GEO THERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION

209 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003
Phone: (202) 454-5261 Fax: (202) 454-5265
www.geo-energy.org

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National News

DOE Seeking Input for \$10 Billion Renewable, Efficiency Loan Guarantees

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability have issued a Request for Information on Loan Guarantee Solicitations, due May 2 (see the **Requests For Proposals (RFPs)** section of this GEA Weekly Update).

This is a great opportunity for members in geothermal and related fields to make suggestions before DOE devises their solicitation. DOE wants input from the trade leaders who know the needs of the industry. To help plan for the solicitation, DOE held a meeting on April 23 for parties that would potentially benefit from these loan guarantees.

The solicitation will be put out in June. It offers up to \$10 billion in loan guarantees for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electric transmission projects.

At the meeting, David Frantz, Director of the Loan Guarantee Office, made it clear that these loans will be for projects that are in their advanced stages.

The bulk of the meeting was devoted to questions, comments, and discussion from attendees. DOE representatives consistently pushed for participants to also submit their suggestions in writing. Afterward, they said the discussion was very helpful and brought out issues of relevance and that all points would be considered before writing the final solicitation. “The more ideas that come in, the more we’re able to apply,” said Steve Chalk, U.S. DOE Deputy Assistant Secretary.

Industry members expressed their concern and interest in areas from how to define “new” technology and other terminology to what ownership requirements would be set.

DOE said that there is no cap or limit on project size, and that one entity could potentially submit separate applications for different projects. They clarified that the total amount is already authorized and won’t need to be further defended. They said that they projected timeline on the amounts will be 3–6 months after applications are received, with applications expected to be submitted in late fall.

DOE will hold another session in Palo Alto, California, on May 8.

Information on the Loan Guarantee Program can be found at <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/>.

The FY 2008 Implementation Plan is available at http://www.energy.gov/media/Loan_Guarantee_Program-Implementation_Plan_April_2008.pdf.

Geothermal Community and DOE Encourage Key Technologies and Focus on Industry Collaboration at Pre-Solicitation Meeting

The Geothermal Technology Program Pre-Solicitation Meeting in Houston, Texas on April 25 was attended by members of the geothermal community and representatives from oil and gas and the academia world. The U.S. Department of Energy held the meeting to seek input from these industry members as they are in the process of developing two Enhanced Geothermal System (EGS) Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) and a Request for Information (RFI) (see listings in our **Requests for Proposals (RFPs)** section of the *GEA Weekly Update*).

The FOAs will be a major resource for the geothermal industry as its members explore new technologies and ways to increase awareness and development of opportunities. The amount of funding offered will be \$40 million for EGS Technologies, \$50 for EGS Reservoir Stimulation, and \$4 million for Geothermal Institutional Barriers. The amounts will be spread over several fiscal years.

Representatives from the DOE were pleased at the progress being made for geothermal. “A year ago, this meeting wouldn’t have happened,” Allan Jelacic, Acting Program Manager of the DOE Geothermal Technologies Program pointed out to the gathered meeting attendees.

“It may not be enough money, but it’s enough to start, and you’re helping us with that,” added Curtis Framel, DOE Geothermal Project Officer.

The first FOA, which covers Enhanced Geothermal Systems Research, Development, and Reservoir Stimulation, will cover two key topic areas: EGS Technologies and EGS Reservoir Stimulation. As mentioned above, these will be considered separately in terms of funding allotment. The meeting attendees were polled to see which of seven technology subtopics were considered most important by the group. The group chose downhole pumps, zonal isolation, and image fluid flow as the most important current areas of focus.

The second FOA covers Geothermal Institutional Barriers. The DOE is discussing three topic areas for this FOA: a geothermal professional education program, studies of current geothermal international RD&D efforts, and a geothermal data center. Attendees discussed the need for education and training for geothermal employment in both higher education and on the level of vocational or community schools.

The FOAs can be found at www.grants.gov:

- Click “Find Grant Opportunities” and follow links to FOAs under the DOE
- Click on “Link to Full Announcement” in the Synopsis
- Submit the application through grants.gov
- Registration process at www.grants.gov/getstarted may take 14 days
- Upon current implementation of a new electronic procurement system, STRIPES, organizations must register with both the Central Contractor Registration and with FedConnect; see “CCR and FedConnect Registrations” at www.eere-pmc.energy.gov/Forms.aspx.

Additional discussion from the meeting will be posted at <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/>.

U.S. DOE to Invest \$50 Million in Selected Projects for Energy Grid Improvements

Highlights from news release:

[U.S. Department of Energy Selects Projects for up to \\$50 Million of Federal Funding to Modernize the Nation’s Electricity Grid \[Press Release—April 21\]](#)

Demonstration Projects Aim at 15 Percent Reduction of U.S. Peak Load Electricity Demand

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Kevin Kolevar today announced the Department's plans to invest up to \$50 million over five years (Fiscal Years 2008–2012), subject to appropriations from Congress, in nine demonstration projects competitively selected to increase efficiency in the nation's electricity grid. The Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration (RDSI) technologies demonstrated in these projects aim to reduce peak load electricity demand by at least 15% at distribution feeders—the power lines delivering electricity to consumers—and are part of the Bush Administration's ongoing efforts to enhance the efficiency and reliability of our nation's energy infrastructure to ensure a reliable supply of energy to all Americans.

“Cutting-edge technologies that enhance the efficiency and dependability of the nation's electricity grid are critical to the Bush Administration's overarching goal of ensuring an affordable and reliable supply of electricity to the American people,” Assistant Secretary Kolevar said. “These proposals will help to increase reliability in our electricity grid by defraying both the cost and effort associated with upgrading distribution lines or adding new generation capacity to meet peak electrical load, furthering our ongoing efforts to increase national economic and energy security.”

The projects were selected in response to DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) April 2007 Funding Opportunity Announcement seeking applications for research and development activities to improve the security of controls systems for energy delivery and increase the use of distributed generation during peak load periods. Negotiations between selected applicants and OE will begin immediately to determine final project plans and funding levels. Selected projects include:

- Allegheny Power will develop the “West Virginia Super Circuit” in conjunction with partners. They will improve distribution system performance, reliability, and security of electric supply through the integration of distributed resources and advanced technologies. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$5.4 million federal/4 million non-federal)
- ATK Launch Systems, along with partners, will demonstrate load reduction through an integrated network of diverse renewable generation technologies and intelligent automation. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$1.6 million federal/\$2 million non-federal)
- Chevron Energy Solutions will collaborate with partners to significantly reduce peak load and measurably improve power reliability at the Santa Rita Jail. The project will integrate solar energy, fuel cell, energy storage and control systems. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$7 million non-federal)
- The City of Fort Collins, in cooperation with partners, will research, develop, and demonstrate a 3.5 MW coordinated and integrated system of Mixed Distributed Resources in Fort Collins to achieve a 20-30% peak load reduction on multiple distribution feeders. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$6.3 million federal/\$4.9 million non-federal)
- Consolidated Edison Co. of New York, Inc., along with partners, will develop and demonstrate methodologies to achieve true interoperability between a delivery company and end-use retail electric customers, enhancing the reliability of the distribution grid and the efficiency of its operations. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$6.8 million federal/6.2 million non-federal)
- The Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) will collaborate with others to develop and demonstrate a system that will achieve “perfect power” at the main campus of IIT through the implementation of distributed resources, advanced sensing, switching, feeder reconfiguration, and controls. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$5.2 million non-federal)
- San Diego Gas and Electric will develop a dispatch-ready distribution feeder for peak load reduction and wind-farming in conjunction with partners. The project aims to prove the effectiveness of integrating multiple distributed energy resources with advanced controls and communication systems to improve stability and reduce peak loads on feeders/substations. (Duration: 3 years; Cost \$6.9 million federal/\$4 million non-federal)
- The University of Hawaii, in cooperation with partners, will explore the management of distribution system resources for improved service quality and reliability, transmission congestion

- relief, and grid support functions. (Duration: 3 years; Cost: \$7 million federal/\$8 million non-federal)
- The University of Nevada will collaborate with partners to address the construction of energy efficient homes that overcome electricity grid integration, control, and communications issues by building integrated photovoltaic systems, battery energy storage, and consumer products linked to advanced meters that enable and facilitate an efficient response to consumer energy demands. (Duration: 5 years; Cost: \$6.9 million federal/\$13.9 million non-federal)

RDSI focuses on integrating renewable energy, distributed generation, energy storage, thermally activated technologies, and demand response into the electric distribution and transmission system. This integration is aimed toward managing peak loads, offering new value-added services such as differentiated power quality to meet individual user needs, and enhancing asset use.

For news releases from the Department of Energy, visit http://www.energy.gov/news/press_releases.htm.

President Bush and State Governors Note Nation's Climate Change Needs

An article found at *EERE Network News* covers President Bush's announcement to stop the growth in U.S. greenhouse gas emissions by 2025.

The President called for electric utilities to slow greenhouse gas emissions so that they peak within 10–15 years and decline thereafter, the article said. Since this requires new technology and incentives, he also indicated support for new policies investing in technologies and long-term incentives.

State governors are also reacting to climate change, the article said. Five governors gathered at Yale University to sign the "Governor's Declaration on Climate Change." It calls for a state and federal partnership, as well as for continued support of state-based climate action plans, programs, and incentives.

For the complete article, visit http://www.eere.energy.gov/news/enn.cfm#id_11725.

The President's speech is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2008/04/20080416-6.html>.

The governors' declaration is available at <http://yale.edu/opa/media/pdf/Gov-Declaration-20080418.pdf>

Chena's Bernie Karl Spotlitged on Today Show

NBC's Today Show traveled to Chena Hot Springs in Alaska and aired pictures and interviews with Bernie Karl, explaining how the resort has benefitted from switching to geothermal energy.

The 4.5-minute clip gave an overview on how geothermal energy works and how Chena was able to harness the energy from its hot springs.

Bernie Karl, proprietor of Chena Hot Springs, told the Today Show how Chena was one of the first to really break away from oil, and how today, they have become a model for others.

"The more dependent we get on oil, the better it looks here," Karl said. "When I first bought this place, oil was like 76 cents a gallon. Now it's \$3.59 with no tax."

The show mentioned the high potential for geothermal resource in Alaska and how Chena's success pushes other Alaska communities to use geothermal or other renewable energies.

"For all this, Bernie Karl has become both the hottest and the coolest thing in the geothermal world," the narrator said.

For more information about Chena Hot Springs, visit <http://www.chenahotsprings.com/>.

Senate Finance Committee Holds Hearing on Tax Implications of Climate Change Legislation, Preview of Upcoming Senate Floor Debate

On April 24, the Senate Finance Committee held a hearing to examine the economic and tax implications of climate change legislation. Witnesses from the Congress Budget Office, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and International Emissions Trading Association all testified. With the Senate expected to take up climate change legislation in early June, the hearing was viewed as a preview of some of the issues and arguments that will be heard on the Senate floor.

The opening statements of Senators Baucus (D-MT) and Grassley (R-IA) as well as the testimony presented by the witnesses at the hearing are available at: <http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/hearing042408.htm>. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has stated that the Senate will consider climate change legislation the week of June 2nd.

Company News

Nevada Geothermal Power: Blue Mountain Project Update Available

Highlights from the press release:

[GeothermEx Report Supports Increased Mega-Watt Capacity For the Initial Blue Mountain Geothermal Power Plant \[Press Release— April 24, 2008\]](#)

Nevada Geothermal Power Inc. today announced that the Status Report of Resource Development at the Blue Mountain Geothermal Project, Humboldt, County Nevada dated April 21, 2008 has been released by GeothermEx, Inc. The report gives a new estimate of the MW capacity of the resource, results of production well testing, and the review of the proposed injection strategy for the project.

The MW capacity of the Blue Mountain resource is now estimated to have a minimum value of 40 MW net (90% probability) and a most-likely value of 57 MW net. The analysis indicates sufficient heat in place to support NGP's larger development of the 49.5 MW gross (38.8 MW net) geothermal power plant.

"Resource drilling at Blue Mountain has indicated a larger and more prolific resource than originally anticipated. Consequently, the Blue Mountain project has been increased in size from 37.5 MW (gross) to 49.5 MW (gross). The larger plant will result in increased revenues to NGP.

The GeothermEx report provides documentation about the Blue Mountain geothermal resource in support of the construction financing for the project. The Morgan Stanley/Glitrir project financing, expected to close shortly, has been increased from US\$100 million to US\$140 million. Consequently, NGP is required to contribute additional equity funds in order to maintain its portion of contributed equity and to cover contingencies," stated Brian Fairbank, President & CEO of Nevada Geothermal Power Inc.

The full report has been posted on Sedar at www.sedar.com and NGP's website: http://www.nevadageothermal.com/i/pdf/GeothermExBlueMtResourceReport_21Apr08_rev2.pdf

For news releases from Nevada Geothermal Power, visit <http://www.nevadageothermal.com/s/News.asp>.

U.S. Geothermal: Units Sold Under Private Placement

Highlights from the news release:

U.S. Geothermal Closes C\$15 Million Underwritten Private Placement Financing [Press Release—April 28]

U.S. Geothermal Inc. announced today that it has completed the previously announced underwritten private placement of 4,260,000 units of the Company (each, a "Unit"), each Unit comprising one common share of the Company (each, "Common Share") and one half of one Common Share purchase warrant (each whole Common Share purchase warrant, a "Warrant"), at a price of CDN \$2.35 per Unit. Each Warrant will entitle the holder thereof to acquire one additional Common Share of the Company prior to April 29, 2010 for US\$3.00 per Common Share. In addition, the Underwriters exercised their option to purchase an additional 2,122,500 Units at the issue price of the offering, resulting in the issuance of a total of 6,382,500 Units for aggregate gross proceeds of CDN \$14,998,875.

The Underwriters have been paid a cash fee of CDN \$899,932.50, representing 6% of the aggregate gross proceeds from the offering, and have been issued broker warrants to purchase up to 191,475 Common Shares of the Company at US \$2.34 prior to April 29, 2010.

The Company has agreed to file a resale registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission as soon as practicable and to use commercially reasonable efforts to cause it to become effective no later than five months following closing and to remain effective for two years. In the event the registration statement is not effective within 5 months following closing, the purchasers are entitled to receive an additional 0.10 of a Common Share for each Unit purchased.

For news releases from U.S. Geothermal, visit <http://www.usgeothermal.com/NewsReleases.aspx>.

Western GeoPower: Rig Test Completed at Geysers Project

Highlights from press release:

Geysers "Rig Test" Indicates Commercial Well [News Release—April 24]

Western GeoPower Corp., a renewable energy development company, today announced that the "rig testing" carried out by independent consultants GeothermEx, Inc. on the WGP-1 well at the Western GeoPower Unit 1 project at The Geysers Geothermal Field in Northern California indicates that the well is a strong producer with an initial steam flow rate of 140,000 lb/hr (63,500 kg/hr) at a wellhead pressure of 137 psia, with a static reservoir pressure of at least 279 psia. Drilling of the well continues and flow testing will occur on completion of the well.

The WGP-1 well has to date been drilled to a depth of 7,060 feet (2,150 m) out of a projected target depth of 11,000 feet (3,350 m). Production casing was set to a depth of 5,000 feet (1,520 m). Several steam zones were encountered between 5,400 feet (1,650 m) and 7,030 feet (2,140 m); additional productive zones may be encountered as the well is deepened further.

"The GeothermEx team is very pleased that the results from this initial well have exceeded our earlier projections as detailed in our feasibility report of October 2006," said Dr. Subir Sanyal, President of GeothermEx. "In particular, the static reservoir pressure has been shown to be at least 279 psia, compared to 250 psia assumed in the above-mentioned report; therefore, the average stabilized well productivity should be higher than the 70,000 lb/hr estimated earlier. The results also provide encouragement that future wells may continue to reflect similar high productivity characteristics in this region of The Geysers field that has been shut-in for twenty years."

"We are very satisfied with the high degree of expertise and foresight that GeothermEx has demonstrated throughout the planning and execution of this successful first well," said Kenneth MacLeod, President and Chief Executive Officer of Western GeoPower. "The high productivity of the well suggests significant cost

savings may be realized through the drilling of fewer wells than anticipated if a similar successful outcome is repeated in future wells.”

The Western GeoPower Unit 1 plant is projected to start commercial operations in early 2010. Previous estimates by GeothermEx suggested a requirement for nine or ten wells at an average of 3.66 MW per well, however, the number will be revised downwards should future well capacities continue to exceed expectations.

For news releases from Western GeoPower, visit <http://www.geopower.ca/newspl.htm>.

Renewable and Climate Change News

Senator Baucus Regarding Cap-and-Trade Program: Action May Have Costs, but Inaction Will Have Greater Costs

Hearing Statement of U.S. Senator Max Baucus (D-MT) Regarding the Tax Aspects of a Cap-and-Trade Program [Release—April 24]

In May 1791, Thomas Jefferson wrote his daughter Martha: “When we consider how much climate contributes to the happiness of our condition . . . we have reason to value highly the accident of birth in . . . Virginia.”

I would have to quibble that I much prefer the climate of Montana to that of Virginia — particularly in the summer. But no one would quibble with the sentiment that “we have reason to value highly the accident of birth in” America.

And in the years since Jefferson’s time, we have learned how very much “climate contributes to . . . our condition.” It is much more than even Jefferson could have guessed.

And in the years since Jefferson’s time, we have also learned how human activity is changing our climate.

Jefferson also wrote to his granddaughter Cornelia: “Never put off to tomorrow what you can do to-day. Never trouble another with what you can do yourself.”

And it is in that spirit that more and more Americans are coming to view today as the time to address the problem of climate change. More and more Americans are coming to view addressing climate change as something that we can do ourselves, rather than leaving it to our children and grandchildren.

As attractive as the climate is in Montana, my home state is already seeing the effects of climate change. Over the last 40 years, annual snowfall has decreased by six to 22 inches across the state. And over the last 40 years, wildfires of more than a thousand acres have increased six-fold.

Less snowpack means less water for irrigation. And that can mean lower crop yields. Some of our farmers are barely hanging on.

We need to address the problem of climate change. But it matters how we address climate change.

We must protect our way of life. We must protect our economy. And we must protect both our global competitiveness and our environment.

Majority Leader Reid has put addressing climate change on the Senate schedule. In June, the Senate will consider a cap-and-trade program for emitters of greenhouse gases.

It's likely that much of the Senate debate this June will focus on the effect that a cap-and-trade program would have on our economy.

The Environmental Protection Agency recently analyzed the cap-and-trade proposal that the Senate will consider. The EPA found that under that program, from 2010 to 2030, America's economy would grow by 80%. That's one percentage point less growth than without the proposal.

That's good news. As with any analysis, there are uncertainties. But we need to move ahead with the best information we have.

It's possible that action may have costs. But it's highly likely that inaction will have much greater costs.

We have asked our witnesses today to share with us their analysis of the effects of a cap-and-trade program on the economy. And we have also asked them for their thoughts on the best way to design such a system.

We'll also want to ask: How would the tax code treat the allowances allocated to emitters under a cap-and-trade program? And how should they be treated?

What about the revenues generated from the auction of allowances?

How can we cushion the effect of increased energy costs that could result from a cap-and-trade program? And how can we minimize those effects on our economy and consumers?

And so, let us consider how addressing climate change may contribute to changes in our nation's condition. Let us not put off to tomorrow the analysis that we can do today.

And let us do all that we can to ensure that our children and grandchildren will continue to have every reason to value highly the accident of birth in America.

See <http://finance.senate.gov/hearings/statements/042408mb.pdf>.

Three House Members Announce “Principles for Global Warming Legislation”

Chairman Henry A. Waxman, Chairman Ed Markey and Rep. Jay Inslee have released “Principles for Global Warming Legislation,” according to the 110th Congress Committee on Government Oversight and Reform. The Congressional leaders laid out principles for effective legislative solution to the challenge of global warming.

Congress is working on legislation for a program to cut global warming emissions, and the three representatives are looking for additional support to Speaker Nancy Pelosi's efforts on enacting legislation, according to an article on the Committee's Web site.

“The dangers of global warming are too large to ignore,” said Chairman Waxman, according to the article. “We must listen to the science and start making major reductions in CO₂ emissions. Our principles lay out a just and effective approach to fight global warming and build a clean energy economy.”

“These are legislative principles, and they are planetary principles as well,” added Chairman Markey. “Any solution to global warming must cut pollution, help people, and encourage profits from a clean energy economy. These climate tenets give Congress a roadmap for an economy-wide solution to our climate challenge.”

“Last week, the president outlined a can't-do policy for a can-do people,” said Rep. Inslee. “Our principles lay the groundwork for a bold climate policy that is consistent with our nation's need for aggressive emissions reductions and our technological capabilities.”

The article outlined four key goals from the principles released by the representatives:

- Reduce emissions
- Transition America to a clean energy economy
- Recognize and minimize economic impacts from global warming legislation
- Aid communities and ecosystems vulnerable to harm from global warming

For more information, visit <http://oversight.house.gov/story.asp?ID=1893> and <http://www.eesi.org/publications/Newsletters/CCNews/4.25.08%20CCNews.htm>

State News

California: Transmission Lines Could Connect Geothermal Fields

San Diego Gas & Electric is holding public hearings on May 12 regarding a proposed power line that would facilitate solar and geothermal fields in the Imperial Valley to the San Diego area, according to the San Diego *Union Tribune*.

Three of the five commissioners of the California Public Utilities Commission will attend public participation hearings in Borrego Springs on May 12 and tour areas where the proposed 500-kilovolt transmission line could be built, said the article.

“This is so the commissioners can see the impact of proposed and alternate routes of the project,” said PUC spokesman Tom Hall.

Commissioners Dian Grueneich, John Bohn and PUC President Michael Peevey are the commissioners who are tentatively scheduled to attend, the article said. Grueneich attended previous hearings and is assigned to the project, called Sunrise Powerlink.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20080423-9999-1m23sunrise.html>.

Utah: Geological Survey Representative Discusses Geothermal in the State

KCPW News in Utah did a piece that focused on geothermal use in the state and spoke to Bob Blackett of the Utah Geological Survey.

Blackett talked about the potential resource known in Utah—about 600–800 MW—and the role geothermal could play for the state’s economy.

"It is a domestic resource; it's a resource we already have. We don't have to import anything to use it. And we ought to be taking advantage of it," Blackett told the news agency. "It is relatively benign environmentally and it ought to be included in the environmental mix of the future."

According to Blackett, geothermal heats the Utah State Prison and other large facilities.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.kcpw.org/article/5830>.

International News

Australia: Government Issues Additional Geothermal Permits in Victoria

According to Australia's *The Age*, the Australian government has issued permits for exploration of 19 new areas.

The new areas are mainly in northern Victoria and will cover 154,000 km².

Greenearth Energy, Geogen Victoria, Granite Power, Hot Rock and Torrens are companies that have licenses and can bid for further areas.

According to Australia's ABC news, Dr. Mark Elliot, general manager of geothermal company Hot Rock, his company is talking to a drilling company to begin drilling once they select a site.

For more information, visit <http://business.theage.com.au/move-to-let-off-steam/20080426-28nf.html> and <http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/200804/s2227352.htm>.

Ethiopia: Iceland to Assist Geothermal Development

Iceland is set to follow agreements made to study the geothermal potential in Ethiopia, where current geothermal use is at 17 MW, according to *allafrica.com*. Iceland's Minister for Industry, Energy and Tourism Osur Scarper Dinson (PhD) visited Prime Minister Meles Zenawi on April 11 to discuss technical support.

According to Ambassador Svavar Gestsson, special envoy to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "Ethiopia has an estimated potential of 1000mw of power from geothermal energy located in the rift region," said the article. The exact potential would be figured in the study.

"If the project starts as scheduled, it would be completed in three years as the country is using fast-track approach," Alemayehu Tegenu, Minister of Mines and Energy (MoME), told *Fortune*, according to the article. He added that the experts from Iceland will maintain obsolete drilling plants and give other technical assistance.

The government of the United Nations and the government of Iceland recently sent 23 Ethiopian engineers to Iceland for a 6-month training on geothermal exploration and sustainable development, said the article.

For the complete article, visit <http://allafrica.com/stories/200804220681.html>.

Iceland: UK Article Quotes Quick Facts About Geothermal Leader

An article on the UK *Guardian* online outlined Iceland's geothermal history and their transformation from "oil dependence to a world leader in harnessing renewable energy."

Some geothermal facts about Iceland cited in the article:

- The glaciers and rivers of the interior of the country are harnessed to generate 80% of the country's electricity needs through hydropower, while the geothermal fields provide up to 20% of the country's electricity needs.
- Geothermal water is used to heat around 90% of Iceland's homes
- Exploiting geothermal energy for space heating alone saves Iceland \$100 million in imported fossil fuels each year and means less CO₂ emissions—cut by nearly 40%.

The article quoted Albert Albertsson, the deputy chief executive officer at Iceland's Resource Park which includes the Blue Lagoon hot springs. He told the *Guardian* that Iceland could possibly meet all the energy needs of the northern hemisphere.

For the complete article, visit

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/apr/22/renewableenergy.alternativeenergy?gusrc=rss&feed=technology>.

Philippines: Psalm Attaches Power Supply Contract to Geothermal Plant Sale

Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (Psalm) of the Philippines, is auctioning the 747-MW Tiwi-Makban geothermal power plant in June and has added a power supply contract to the deal, according to Morningstar.com

The deal includes over 400 MW of power supply contracts, the article said. The buyer would immediately be able to provide for a market.

For the complete article, visit

http://news.morningstar.com/newsnet/ViewNews.aspx?article=/DJ/200804272342DOWJONESDJONLINE000371_univ.xml.

Rwanda: World Bank Study Offers High Hopes for Geothermal Energy

The World Bank released a study supporting evidence that geothermal potential in Rwanda could solve its current energy crisis, according to the Rwanda News Agency.

The study is called 'Building Science, Technology, and Innovation Capacity in Rwanda: Developing Practical Solutions to Practical Problems and was presented to government, development partners, and the private sector, according to the article.

The World Bank experts caution against a "narrow focus on geothermal capacities because commercial viability of geothermal resources is yet unproven," says the article. Mapping of hot springs, fumaroles, and other geothermal surface manifestations has not been carried out in a systematic, comprehensive manner - although some previous studies show great potential, the experts say.

The article cites a 1999 preliminary report by the U.S. Geological Energy Association which shows that Rwanda's geothermal resources could provide 100% of the country's electricity needs.

The World Bank proposes a two-track approach:

Track 1—urgent—supporters should develop geothermal resources in Rwanda to generate 2–5 MW within three years.

Track 2—long term—building for improved oversight and management of mining, hydrological and geothermal operations. Universities and regional governments would be involved, the study suggests, according to the article.

For the complete article, visit <http://allafrica.com/stories/200804220642.html>.

Slovakia: Minister of Economy Wants Geothermal Plant

On April 17, eTrend listed in their English News Summary that the Minister of Economy, Lubomir Jahnatek, wants a geothermal plant to be built in Slovakia during this election period (see english.etrend.sk). According to the listing, Branislav Zvara, a Ministry spokesman, spoke to the SITA press agency about the plans. According to Zvara, the plant would be built in Eastern Slovakia, possibly in

the Kosice region where geothermal springs are located. Minister Jahnatek made a visit to Iceland in which he made a statement about the potential of geothermal energy in his country.

<http://english.etrend.sk/132692/news-summaries/english-news-summary-april-15-april-21>

Notices and Employment Opportunities

Partnership Opportunity—Denver Federal Center Well Logging Calibration Facility

The United States Geological Survey's (USGS) Central Regional Resources Office manages facilities and is responsible for the Bureau's overall environmental compliance. USGS is required to remove a scientific feature, a set of well logging calibration silos, from the Denver Federal Center property to allow for the transfer of title of such property as necessary for the Denver Regional Transportation District to complete its West Corridor Light Rail System. Specially configured rock within the silos with a known geophysical response can be removed and relocated in new calibration units. USGS is proposing to use the Technology Transfer Authority 15 USC 3710 a as amended, to relocate this capability to a new institutional home with the ability to construct or integrate this capability into a silo system that can utilize the granite formations contained in the current silos. A draft Statement of Work outlining the major steps necessary to accomplish the collaborative effort has been prepared and is attached to this notice. USGS estimates that a partner or partners will need to provide funds and or services with an estimated value of \$250,000 to \$300,000.

This is not a procurement; the partner in a Technology Transfer effort contributes funds, equipment and /or in-kind services to the research effort.

*For more information on the science effort contact Marshall Fischer, 303-236-9338; email mpfischer@usgs.gov. For information on Technology Transfer mechanisms contact Julia M. Giller, Technology Transfer Office, (352) 399-2133 or jgiller@usgs.gov. Contracting Office Address: U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, MANAGEMENT SERVICES BRANCH, P.O. BOX 25046, MS 205, DENVER, CO 80225 Appendix A *

Illustrative Statement of Work

1. Plan, design and construct a geophysical tool calibration facility which incorporates the granite material provided by USGS as part of its design and operation at a location identified and under the management control of the Collaborator.
2. Transport granite material from the Denver Federal Center to Collaborator's designated calibration site for installation. The parties recognize that it may be necessary to utilize construction staging areas for interim periods between phased construction of the calibration facilities.
3. Provide a project schedule for identifying benchmarks or milestones related to the completion of the reestablished calibration facility and commencement of its operations as a scientific venture.
4. Provide a calibration facility operations plan which articulates relevant operations information about the facility including, but not limited to:
 - a. Illustrative examples of the anticipated users of the facility as well as illustrative examples of the types of organizations expected to access this resource,
 - b. Anticipated conditions, requirements, restrictions, etc. deemed necessary to safeguard the facility's integrity as a scientific unit and protect the operational environment, and
 - c. Policy and procedure to ensure reasonable and generally open access to qualified users of the calibration facilities.

USGS recognizes that facility user fees may be necessary to provide for the sustained operations of the facility. However, the Bureau anticipates that fee decisions will fully consider the opportunity to maximize the scientific benefits of this facility and consequently provide, as might be necessary, reduced fees for small businesses, government entities, and non profit organizations. As indicated in the text of the Agreement, for two years following the date of execution of this Agreement, no fees will be assessed for U.S. Government Agencies or Departments to access the reestablished calibration facility.

*Contracting Office Address:
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, APS BLDG 53 DFCMS 205 DENVER CO 80225*

Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

RFO for Renewable Energy—Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Due April)

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) request for offers of renewable energy for power purchase agreements (PPA). Proposals will be due early April.

SMUD has a goal to meet 23% of its retail electricity sales with renewable energy by 2011 and beyond. The utility's need for renewable energy continues to increase due to its commitment to expand the amount of power from renewable sources in its power mix and a need to replace current contracts that expire in the coming years.

The 2008 solicitation is for PPA offers of California RPS eligible conventional renewables, which include resources such as wind, geothermal, small hydroelectric, landfill gas, biomass and biodiesel. A separate RFO for emerging renewable technologies is planned for mid-2008.

Interested parties can download the RFO documents from SMUD's Electronic Bid Solicitation System (EBSS) Web site at www.bids.smud.org when it becomes available. Registration to the EBSS site is required to access the documents.

SMUD recommends that those interested in this and future solicitations list their company name in the "Renewable Power" category as well as in one or more of the following Renewable Power subcategories: Generation Energy, Geothermal Power, Landfill Gas Power, Renewable Power-Other, Small Hydro Power, and Wind Power.

Registered individuals will also receive updated information regarding this RFO and will also receive notification of future solicitations for purchase of renewable energy resources.

For additional information, contact Cesar J. Beltran at (916) 732-6925 or cbeltra@smud.org.

RFO for Supply of Renewable Energy Resources—San Diego Gas & Electric (Due April 30)

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) today announced it has issued a competitive solicitation seeking supply of renewable-energy resources to help the utility meet California's mandate to derive 20% of its energy from renewable sources starting in 2010. This latest solicitation, also known as a "request for offers" (RFO), will help to further increase SDG&E's supplies of clean, renewable power for the region's energy portfolio.

"For the last five years, SDG&E has aggressively pursued renewable energy from developers whose projects deliver clean energy to our customers in San Diego and South Orange Counties," said Matt Burkhardt, vice president electric and gas procurement for SDG&E. "For this year's solicitation, SDG&E seeks both long-term and short-term contracts that will build on our existing clean, 'green' energy resources and will aid us in our effort to secure 20% of our energy from renewables by 2010."

Through the bidding process, or RFO, SDG&E is seeking energy that comes from solar, wind, geothermal, biomass and any other clean, renewable resource that qualifies under the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard program. The plants that produce the power can be inside or outside the SDG&E service territory. Bids are due April 30, 2008.

The evaluation and selection of offers includes active participation by SDG&E's Procurement Review Group, comprised of California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) staff, consumer advocates and other

non-market participants, as well as an independent evaluator. These entities are involved at all stages of the process, including the preparation of the RFO, bid evaluation and determination of the final "short list" of bidders. Once the evaluation process is completed, all proposed contracts are subject to CPUC review and approval.

More information about this latest RFO for renewable energy is available at <http://www.sdge.com/renewablerfo2008>.

RFI for Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Transmission Projects—Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (Due May 2)

Request For Information DE-PS36-08GO38004

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) requests information for the Development of Solicitations for Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Transmission Projects under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. This RFI is issued to encourage specific input from a broad-based cross-section of stakeholders, such as energy project developers, equipment vendors, engineers, investors, bankers, inventors and the like. This RFI is targeted to stakeholders directly involved in the promotion and development of energy efficiency, renewable energy and transmission technologies that employ new or significantly improved energy efficiency, renewable energy and transmission technologies addressing the production, consumption or transportation of energy that also achieve substantial environmental benefits. Through this RFI, the Department of Energy (DOE) is requesting input from these stakeholders in order to formulate and draft a solicitation for applications under a \$10,000,000,000 loan guarantee authority that meets the goals established by Congress under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Request for Information Guidelines:

The purpose of this RFI is solely to obtain input from DOE stakeholders on the scope of a solicitation for loan guarantees to encourage commercial development in the United States of new or significantly improved renewable energy, energy efficiency and related transmission technologies that offer the potential to create more affordable and diversified energy sources and greater productivity and efficiency in energy utilization. This RFI is not intended to solicit applications for loan guarantees from the public prior to issuing a solicitation.

DOE will not pay for information provided under this RFI, and respondents under this RFI will not receive any additional consideration in the current or forthcoming solicitations for loan guarantees.

The recommended response to this RFI should address the areas of interest set forth in this RFI, and it is suggested that responses be no longer than five (5) pages in length with 1-inch margins, single-spaced and a minimum 11 point font. Please send your response (one attachment only) via e-mail, with the title, "EERE RFI Response."

RESPONSES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL. DO NOT PROVIDE CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION IN YOUR RESPONSE.

Also please provide contact information for the submitting organization: address, phone number, email and type of business or institution (not included in the suggested five pages). In addition, please include your organization's technology focus (if any) in the e-mail and at the beginning of the RFI response.

Responses should be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF to eerefinance@hq.doe.gov by 6:00 PM Mountain Time on May 2, 2008.

Background to the RFI:

Pursuant to Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2008 and the accompanying Committee Report, DOE's Loan Guarantee Program Office (LGPO) has been allotted to undertake the authorization of \$10,000,000,000 in federal loan guarantees for renewable and energy efficient systems and manufacturing and distributed energy generation, transmission and distribution. On behalf of the LGPO, EERE is seeking information to support drafting and developing a solicitation for the Loan Guarantee Program to implement this authority.

This information is desired in order to assure that the loan guarantee solicitation will encourage commercial development in the United States of new or significantly improved technologies in energy projects that reduce, avoid or sequester greenhouse gases or air pollutants and offer the potential to create more

affordable and diversified energy sources and greater productivity and efficiency in energy utilization. Furthermore, EERE is interested in supporting the development of large-scale projects that integrate multiple efficiency, renewable and transmission technologies to benefit regions or sectors of the United States.

Title XVII and the Loan Guarantee Program:

A principal purpose of the Title XVII and the Loan Guarantee Program is to encourage early commercial use in the United States of innovative and new or significantly improved technologies in energy projects.

The Program objectives are to issue loan guarantees to eligible projects that:

- Avoid, reduce or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases;
- Provide a reasonable assurance of repayment; and
- Employ new or significantly improved technologies as compared to technologies in service in the United States at the time the guarantee is issued.

Other elements of an eligible project for loan guarantee are:

- The project must be deemed to have a “reasonable prospect” of repayment before a loan guarantee is issued;
- A guarantee shall not exceed 80% of the total project cost;
- DOE will have a superior lien on all project assets, pledged as collateral;
- LGPO must charge and collect fees sufficient to cover applicable administrative expenses; and
- The borrower will pay a “credit subsidy” fee to cover the risk of the obligation.

For further information on Title XVII and the Loan Guarantee Program and implementing regulations, go to <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/>.

Areas of Interest for DOE:

EERE seeks comments on the following areas of interest. Respondents need only comment on those areas that are of importance to them.

1. Describe the technology or project concept for which you would like to seek a loan guarantee from DOE. Project concepts can include, but are not limited to, freestanding energy efficiency, supply-side energy production, transportation projects, transportation and consumer systems, and equipment manufacturing facilities. Also of particular interest are integrated project proposals that incorporate multiple technologies that utilize transmission and electronic control systems on a utility or distributed generation scale.

2. Explain how your technology or project concept complies with the requirements established by the LGPO, the final regulations published in October, 2007 and Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Without revealing proprietary information, describe how the technology or project is innovative.*

3. Describe the principal obstacles your company, technology or project face in obtaining commercial financing, attracting equity capital or developing the underlying project or technology to a commercial level. Describe what is needed to mitigate such obstacles and how the loan guarantee may or may not be an important mitigating force. Note that DOE’s Loan Guarantee Program is designed to support commercially viable projects that have been successfully demonstrated at both the pilot and demonstration scale, but have not yet been widely deployed in the U.S.

4. How would you rate your company’s interest in responding to this solicitation: (a) very high, probable that we will apply; (b) interested, but would need more information or technology development before we applied, or (c) not interested, not likely that we will apply.

5. Suggest what criteria DOE should consider to evaluate and score energy efficiency, renewable energy and transmission related applications. Relevant criteria can include timing, scope, cost effectiveness, eligible technologies and other criteria that will enable DOE to attain the goals established in Title XVII. *Note that to qualify for a loan guarantee the technology must have been successfully demonstrated both at the pilot and demonstration scale and be ready for commercialization. In addition, the final regulations limit support to technologies that are installed in no more than three commercial projects in the United States and that have been in operation in each such commercial project for no more than a period of five years.

6. Any other suggestions, recommendations or observations relevant to DOE in developing the energy efficiency, renewable energy and transmission portion of the solicitation.

Questions:

Any questions concerning this RFI must be submitted through the “Submit Question” feature under DE-PS36-08GO38004 on DOE’s Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at <https://e-center.doe.gov>.

RFP for Renewable Power Projects—Southern California Edison (Due May)

Southern California Edison is looking for both short-term and long-term contracts for projects that produce solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal energy, according to a release. All proposals are welcome, but the company is especially interested in the Tehachapi area of Kern County.

Proposals are due in May 2008. SCE hopes to submit completed contracts to the California Public Utilities Commission by December.

Contact vanessa.mcgrady@sce.com. Visit the Southern California Edison Web site at <http://www.sce.com/>.

RFP for Energy Innovations Grants—California (Due May 2)

The California Energy Commission requests proposals for the Energy Innovations Small Grant (EISG) Program. EISG supports research that establishes the feasibility of new, innovative energy concepts.

Projects must address a CA energy problem and provide a potential benefit to CA electric and natural gas ratepayers, and target one of the following areas: Industrial/agriculture/water end-use efficiency; building end-use efficiency; environmentally preferred advanced generation; renewable generation; energy-related environmental research; and energy systems integration. Individual hardware projects NTE \$95K, modeling projects NTE \$50K.

Pre-proposal abstracts are optional and are due 5/2/08, final proposals due 6/10/08. For more info, contact eisg@projects.sdsu.edu or go to: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/index.html>.

Renewables Purchase—Michigan (Due May 2)

DTE Energy seeks up to 150,000 MWh of Michigan-based eligible renewable energy resources or Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) for the Green Currents program.

Responses due 5/2/08. For more info, contact Paul Marshall at marshallp@dteenergy.com or go to: <http://dteenergy.com/supplyChain/rfp.html>. (Green Power Network 4/16/08)

Energy Analysis and Technical Assistance—U.S. Department of Energy (Due May 5)

The U.S. Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory seeks proposal for energy related analysis and technical assistance in support of NREL’s ongoing energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. The overall objective of this solicitation is to establish task ordering agreements with multiple organizations to provide analysis and technical assistance as needed by NREL. Area of interest include: Technology, systems and applications analysis market analysis; policy and benefits analysis; and program analysis and evaluation. Responses due 5/5/08.

For more info, contact Laura Hughes at laura_hughes@nrel.gov or go to: http://www.nrel.gov/business_opportunities/solicitations_rfps.html. Refer to Sol# RCX-8-88280. (FBO 4/16/08)

Seeking Renewable Energy Certificates for EPA and DHS (Due May 5)

The Defense Energy Support Center seeks 280,936,000 kWh of Renewable Energy Certificates (REC), for ultimate transfer to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Responses due 5/5/08. For more info, contact Cynthia Ralph at cynthia.ralph@dla.mil or go to: <https://www.fbo.gov/?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=3a427ec6474f696fd4f92f0408ffa62a&tab=core&cvview=0>.

(FBO 4/20/08)

RFI for Enhanced Geothermal Systems Technologies Validation Site(s) —U.S. Department of Energy (Due May 30)

Information on the U.S. Department of Energy's Geothermal Technologies Program Pre-Solicitation Meeting, which will discuss this announcement, is available in the **Upcoming Events** section of this newsletter.

[Request for Information DE-PS36-08GO38003: Enhanced Geothermal Systems Technologies Validation Site\(s\)](#)

The Department of Energy is seeking information from the geothermal community to assist in the development of a possible Funding Opportunity Announcement, acquisition, or other procurement option in regard to establishing Enhanced Geothermal Systems Technologies Validation Site(s). This will facilitate high risk technology development, validation, and deployment by participating organizations that would not otherwise take place at a commercial geothermal field. The information gathered from this RFI will be used by DOE for internal planning and decision making purposes, and will not be released to the general public.

The RFI will be listed at <http://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/Solicitation%20By%20Program%20Office?OpenView&Start=1&Count=30&Expand=3#3> for comment. Comments in response to this RFI must be provided to the DOE Golden Field Office as an attachment to an e-mail message to RFI-08GO38003@go.doe.gov. Comments must be provided no later than 8 p.m. EDT, on May 30, 2008.

Renewables Purchase—Virginia, W. Virginia and Tennessee (Due May 30)

American Electric Power Service Corporation seeks up to 100 MW of long-term supply from new renewable energy resources on behalf of Appalachian Power Company.

Responses due 5/30/08. For more info, contact Peggy Simmons at pisimmons@aep.com or go to: <http://www.appalachianpower.com/go/rfp/>.

(Green Power Network 4/11/08)

RFP Climate Change and Sustainability Conferences (Due June 5 and December 9)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued a Broad Agency Announcement for Conferences, Workshops, and/or Meetings. EPA seeks applicants for the planning, arranging, administering and/or conducting of conferences and workshops in areas including, but not limited to: Economics and

sustainability; air and global climate change; and technology. \$500K expected to be available, up to 15 awards anticipated. Proposals due 1/7/08, 6/5/08 and 12/9/08.

For more information, contact Bernice Smith at smith.bernicel@epa.gov or go to http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2008/2008_baa.html. Refer to Sol# EPA-C2008-BAA. (Grants.gov 12/6/07)

RFP for Energy Frontier Research Centers—U.S. Department of Energy (Due October 1)

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRCs) to accelerate the rate of scientific breakthroughs needed to create advanced energy technologies for the 21st century. The EFRCs will pursue the fundamental understanding necessary to meet the global need for abundant, clean, and economical energy. Through this initiative, DOE seeks to bring together the skills and talents of multiple investigators to enable fundamental research of a scope and complexity that would not be possible with the standard individual investigator or small group research project. \$500 million expected to be available, up to 50 awards anticipated.

Responses due 10/1/08. For more info, contact Emiela Bradford at emiela.bradford@ch.doe.gov or go to: <https://e-center.doe.gov/ips/faopor.nsf/UNID/933104E42D0185E58525742100694C78?OpenDocument>. Refer to Sol# DE-PS02-08ER15944. (Grants.gov 4/4/08)

Upcoming Events

Galena 3 Power Plant Dedication, Ormat, May 5, Reno, NV

The Galena 3 power plant is the culmination of more than two decades of geothermal development, providing clean, emission free, base load power to the residents of northern Nevada. With the addition of the 17-MW Galena 3 power plant, the geothermal complex at Steamboat provides enough power to Sierra Pacific Resources to serve the entire residential load of the city of Reno.

Date: May 5th, 2008

Time: 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Location: Galena 3 power plant, 1010 Power Plant Dr., Reno, Nevada

Contact Celeste Eisenberg, 775-815-9625, ceisenberg@ormat.com, or visit www.ormat.com/dedication.

Department of Energy Loan Guarantee Discussion Meeting, May 8, Palo Alto, CA

Check <http://www.lgprogram.energy.gov/> for more information.

Geothermal Energy Working Group Meeting, May 13, Santa Fe, NM

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Location: Porter Hall, Wendell Chino Building, 1220 South Saint Francis, Santa Fe, NM

Time: 8:00am–4:30pm

Meeting Overview:

This meeting will provide a forum on the exchange of information concerning the development of geothermal energy projects in New Mexico. Topics include but are not limited to: Ground Source Heat Pump Technology, Direct Use, District Heating Applications and Electricity Production.

Specific Goals of the Meeting Include:

- Updates on Strategic Planning action items for the working group
- Status of geothermal projects in NM
- Identify and discuss challenges concerning geothermal development in NM
- Sustainability of GSHP systems
- Discussion of drilling techniques and costs

Tentative Schedule:

8:00am—Sign in, Welcome

8:30am–Noon—Presentations

Noon–1:30pm—Lunch on your own

1:30–2:30pm—Presentations

2:30–4:00pm—Round Table Topics

4:00–4:30pm—Action Items, Adjourn

For information, contact Steve Lucero at 505.476.3324 or stephen.lucero@state.nm.us.

Oregon/Washington Geothermal Lease Sale, June 12

BLM Seeks Nominations for Geothermal Lease Sale

Portland, OR – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Oregon/Washington State Office has announced that it will be accepting nominations of lands, in Oregon and Washington, for a competitive geothermal lease sale. The geothermal lease sale is tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2008.

In order to be considered for the June 2008 geothermal lease sale, the BLM must receive nominations by 4:30 pm., Monday, March 3, 2008. Nominations received after March 3, 2008, will be processed for future sales.

The BLM is the agency responsible for managing geothermal leases on all Federal lands. Not all Federal lands are open to geothermal leasing. Public lands are available for leasing only after they have been evaluated through BLM's multiple-use planning process (National Environmental Policy Act and Federal Land Policy and Management Act). Stipulations may be placed on leases to protect other resources through mitigation or restrictions on surface use. Nominations are not automatically placed on a sale when received, and the BLM cannot guarantee that the nominated lands will always be included on a particular sale notice. Each nomination must be submitted with a nonrefundable filing fee of \$100 per nomination plus \$0.10 per acre of lands nominated. If a land parcel consists of fractional acreage, please round the land acres up to the nearest whole acre. Nominations will need to be submitted to:

Bureau of Land Management – Oregon/Washington State Office Attn: Ms. Donna Kauffman
P.O. Box 2965 Portland, OR 97208.

*Additional information regarding geothermal issues can be found on the internet at:
<http://www.blm.gov/or/energy/geothermal/index.php>.*

SMU Geothermal Conference, June 17–18, Dallas, TX

Southern Methodist University will put on a Geothermal Conference June 17–18. This international conference specializes in the enhancement of existing oil & gas wells for electrical production. According to SMU, “Geothermal energy can be extracted from the well fluids using newly designed compact turbines with binary fluids. These systems are now sized to fit single wells or multiple wells with an approximate fluid temperature differential of 120°F+ between produced and cooling temperatures. Thus, in the Gulf Coast, temperatures of 225°F or higher are eligible. This electrical production (geothermal energy) is renewable and considered a baseload source and is capable of producing 24 hours a day. This capability

gives new life to low yield producers with high water volume and a reason to keep them pumping. Undesirable high water flow geopressure wells become an immediate revenue path if converted to electrical production. With a system installed in Chena Hot Springs, Alaska and another installation going into the Wyoming Rocky Mountain Oil Field Testing Center, the ability to use low temperature fluids is no longer just a concept, rather it's a reality. New technology, data, and economics will be presented to assist you in developing your company's renewable energy portfolio using existing wells.

Topics Presented To Include:

- Power Generation Technology Advancements
- Geothermal Resource Exploration and Assessment
- Reservoir Engineering
- Fracturing
- Geopressure Development
- Tight Gas Sands Development
- Well Longevity—Corrosion and Scaling Management
- Enhanced Geothermal Systems – International
- Green Power for Utilities (RECs)
- Economics and Business Plan
- Transmission needs
- Regulations and Leasing
- Financing
- Demonstration Sites

For more information and to read the Call for Papers, visit

http://smu.edu/geothermal/Oil&Gas/2008/Geothermal_Energy_Utilization.htm.

2008 California Geothermal Summit, June 25, 2008, Davis, CA

The California Geothermal Energy Collaborative will be holding the 2008 California Geothermal Summit at the UC Davis Alumni and Visitors Center in Davis, California on Wednesday, June 25, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sessions will cover the Energy Commission's new integrated approach to renewables with the formation of the California Renewables Energy Collaboratives, an update on the CGEC Development Plan with a major focus on the next two years, status report on the California RETI transmission task force as it relates to geothermal development, California State Policies and Incentives to Promote Geothermal Energy, a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) presentation on the Draft of the Western Geothermal Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), and other topics under development.

More information on registration, accommodations and a draft agenda will be provided by the end of April on the CGEC web site and distributed by email.

Immediately following the Summit, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., and at the same location, BLM is planning to hold its California-wide Public Meeting for the Draft of the Western Geothermal PEIS. BLM indicated that the California Geothermal Energy Collaborative draws together the broadest interests from across the state, which will provide an excellent opportunity for soliciting comments and maximizing exposure of the Draft.

GEA “Geothermal 101” Workshop, July 23, New York City

GEA is planning a workshop in New York City on July 23rd to introduce the City's finance and media communities to the geothermal industry. For those interested in supporting or sponsoring the day-long event, please contact Kathy Kent at 202-454-5263, or by email at kathy@geo-energy.org.

GEA Trade Show/GRC Annual Meeting, October 5–8, Reno, NV

The GEA Trade Show and GRC Annual Meeting will take place October 5-8 Peppermill in Reno, Nevada. Annually, Geothermal Energy Association hosts a wide range of companies working in the U.S. and abroad within the geothermal power industry at its Trade Show. Last year in Reno/Sparks, Nevada, 71 booths were visited by over 1000 visitors. With dramatic growth underway in geothermal power projects in the U.S. and internationally, we expect the 2008 trade show in Reno to be our largest event yet!

*For more information about the GEA Trade Show, visit http://www.geo-energy.org/2008_ts/index.htm.
For information about the GRC Annual Meeting, go to <http://www.geothermal.org>.*

2nd African Rift Geothermal Conference, November 25–29, Entebbe, Uganda

The second International Geothermal Conference on the African Rift will be held in Entebbe, Uganda. The conference is designed as a forum for the exchange of information on the African Rift Geothermal Resources and for discussion of the current state of scientific knowledge and understanding of all aspects of exploration and development of geothermal resources, including exploration, field and conversion technology, design and construction, environmental considerations, financial, marketing, and operational aspects.

Scientific Program

The Scientific Program of the conference consists of Plenary Lectures, Poster presentations, Workshop and Field Trips. The structure and the list of sessions below are preliminary.

A number of Keynote addresses will be given by eminent scientists, on subjects relevant to the main themes of the conference (as indicated in this circular). Lectures will be open to all participants and will take place in a large conference hall.

Sessions

The following will be the themes for oral and poster sessions:

- Session 1: Exploration: Geology, Geophysics, Geochemistry, and Hydrology
- Session 2: Drilling and well design: Shallow and deep, Production and Injection
- Session 3: Field development, Production Technology, Power generation & Operation.
- Session 4: Reservoir Engineering: Well Testing, Injection, and Modeling
- Session 5: Case Histories
- Session 6: Economics and Financing
- Session 7: Environmental, Social, Legal and Institutional Aspects
- Session 8: Direct Use: Agri- and aquaculture, Mineral extraction, Manufacturing, Air conditioning etc.

Contributions

The organizers of ARGeoC2 welcome submission of titles/extended abstracts for oral and poster presentations from all geoscientists, engineers and others involved in geothermal resources exploration and development. Authors may submit papers for publication only, or for presentation and publication in “The Conference Proceedings”. Papers may be selected for presentation in a technical session, or poster session. Selection of papers for presentation will be based on subject material suitability, professional standards of writing, and quality of the illustrations. Time allotted for oral presentations will be 15 minutes each, with an additional 5 minutes for discussion. Oral presentations will be illustrated with LCD Projector in PowerPoint.

For more information and to register, contact Department of Geological Survey and Mines, Plot 21–29, Johnstone Road, P.O Box 9, Entebbe, Uganda. Phone: +256 712 812231, +256 712 835843, +256 773 129941. Fax: +256 414 320364. E-mail: argeoC2@minerals.go.ug or bahati@minerals.go.ug.



GEA Update

A newsletter for GEA Members written by Leslie Blodgett 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