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National News

U.S. Senate Debates Climate Change Legislation, Votes to Invoke Cloture Motion

Partisan lines were drawn quickly as the Senate took up S. 3036, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008. What Democrats called historic, bipartisan legislation toward meeting the challenge of climate change, the Senate Republicans tagged as the “climate tax” bill.

The White House says President George W. Bush would veto the bill in its current form, saying that it would cost the American economy \$6 trillion, while U.S. Senator Boxer says that the Bush administration is trying to protect Big Oil.

The Environmental Defense Fund pointed out that White House claims—such as arguments that economic output would be reduced by 7%— are at the very extreme end of all available analysis; most reliable studies have put the impact at 1% or less over 20 years.

The Senate agreed to the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to Consider S.3036 by a good margin, 74-12. But, this motion simply allows the Senate to begin debate and consideration of amendments to the bill. Another cloture vote will be likely before the Senate can close debate and vote on final passage of S.3036, and most observers believe that the next cloture vote will be more difficult to achieve.

Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chair of the Senate Environment Committee, said: "This gets us off to a strong start. Members are no longer saying in great numbers that global warming is not an issue. The real work on the Senate floor now begins, as we seek to strengthen this bill, not weaken it."

Senate Vote on the Cloture Motion of the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008 (Grouped By Vote Position):

YEAs—74

Akaka (D-HI)	Durbin (D-IL)	Murray (D-WA)
Alexander (R-TN)	Ensign (R-NV)	Nelson (D-FL)
Bayh (D-IN)	Feingold (D-WI)	Nelson (D-NE)
Bennett (R-UT)	Feinstein (D-CA)	Pryor (D-AR)
Bingaman (D-NM)	Graham (R-SC)	Reed (D-RI)
Bond (R-MO)	Grassley (R-IA)	Reid (D-NV)
Boxer (D-CA)	Gregg (R-NH)	Roberts (R-KS)
Brown (D-OH)	Hagel (R-NE)	Rockefeller (D-WV)
Brownback (R-KS)	Harkin (D-IA)	Salazar (D-CO)
Cantwell (D-WA)	Hutchison (R-TX)	Sanders (I-VT)
Cardin (D-MD)	Inouye (D-HI)	Schumer (D-NY)
Carper (D-DE)	Isakson (R-GA)	Smith (R-OR)
Casey (D-PA)	Johnson (D-SD)	Snowe (R-ME)
Chambliss (R-GA)	Kerry (D-MA)	Specter (R-PA)
Cochran (R-MS)	Klobuchar (D-MN)	Stabenow (D-MI)
Coleman (R-MN)	Kohl (D-WI)	Stevens (R-AK)
Collins (R-ME)	Leahy (D-VT)	Sununu (R-NH)
Conrad (D-ND)	Levin (D-MI)	Tester (D-MT)
Corker (R-TN)	Lieberman (ID-CT)	Thune (R-SD)
Cornyn (R-TX)	Lincoln (D-AR)	Vitter (R-LA)

Crapo (R-ID)
Dodd (D-CT)
Dole (R-NC)
Domenici (R-NM)
Dorgan (D-ND)

Lugar (R-IN)
Martinez (R-FL)
McCaskill (D-MO)
Menendez (D-NJ)
Mikulski (D-MD)

Voinovich (R-OH)
Warner (R-VA)
Webb (D-VA)
Whitehouse (D-RI)

NAYs—14

Allard (R-CO)
Barrasso (R-WY)
Bunning (R-KY)
Byrd (D-WV)
Coburn (R-OK)

Craig (R-ID)
DeMint (R-SC)
Enzi (R-WY)
Hatch (R-UT)
Inhofe (R-OK)

Kyl (R-AZ)
McConnell (R-KY)
Sessions (R-AL)
Shelby (R-AL)

Not Voting—12

Baucus (D-MT)
Biden (D-DE)
Burr (R-NC)
Clinton (D-NY)

Kennedy (D-MA)
Landrieu (D-LA)
Lautenberg (D-NJ)
McCain (R-AZ)

Murkowski (R-AK)
Obama (D-IL)
Wicker (R-MS)
Wyden (D-OR)

The Senate Democratic Policy Committee has released a Legislative Summary on the Boxer Substitute Amendment to S. 3036, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008: [The Boxer Substitute Amendment to S. 3036, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008](#).

Visit these links:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSWAT009579>

<http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Majority>

<http://www.edf.org/pressrelease.cfm?contentID=7949>

http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Minority.Blogs&ContentRecord_id=4aa64456-802a-23ad-4892-fc20c8d348a3

New House Bill Follows Science and Consumer Interest for Global Warming Issues

Highlights from Press Release—May 28, [Markey Announces Revolutionary Global Warming Bill: “Cap-and-Invest” System Follows Science, Invests in Clean Energy Future](#)

Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) introduced a revolutionary new global warming bill today that would reduce global warming pollution according to scientific targets, reinvest any revenue back to American workers and technology, and would re-establish America as a leader in solving the globe’s greatest challenge, climate change.

At a speech at the Center for American Progress this morning, Rep. Markey, who is Chairman of the House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, and a senior member of the Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources Committees, laid out his science- and consumer-based vision for climate legislation.

“I am here today because the chorus for change is deafening. The time for action is now,” said Rep. Markey in his prepared remarks. “We must cap pollution, we must invest in consumers, jobs and the technology of tomorrow, and America must lead the world in solving our greatest challenges, and we must start now.”

The bill is called the Investing in Climate Action and Protection Act, or iCAP for short, the small “i” a tip of the cap to the technological potential of clean energy. The bill also proffers a new paradigm in global warming legislation: the Cap-and-Invest system. The bill caps pollution at 85% below 2005 levels by 2050. It then uses an auction system that sets a price on carbon, and allows companies to compete for reductions, or buy or trade credits within the system.

It then takes the expected \$8 trillion in revenues expected from polluters over the length of the bill, and reinvests that money back to American families and workers and into promoting a clean energy economy. More than half of the funds from the bill goes directly back to low- and middle-income American families to offset any increases in energy costs from the transition of the economy to low- or zero-carbon energy.

The bill will be introduced next week when Congress is back in session. More information on the bill, is available on [Rep. Markey's website](#) and more information on global warming is available on the [Select Committee website](#).

Western Governors Launch New Renewable Initiative

The Western Governors Association (WGA) launched a new initiative which will identify and map the leading areas for renewable energy development and production in the 11 Western states, Mexico and two Canadian provinces. At a meeting in Salt Lake City May 28th, the "Western Renewable Energy Zone" (WREZ) project was officially launched, and groups ranging from the Sierra Club to the Geothermal Energy Association agreed to actively support and engage with the effort.

"Geothermal energy is prepared to contribute to the West's energy needs," noted GEA's Executive Director, Karl Gawell. "With continued support we believe we could triple production by 2015, which would meet 20% of the WGA's goal for new renewable power production," he pointed out.

The WREZ initiative is a follow-on to the WGA's well-regarded Clean and Diversified Energy Initiative. The WREZ effort is intended to promote a regional view of renewable development and pave the way for interstate collaboration on transmission and potentially assisting states in complying with their renewable portfolio standards, Rich Halvey of the WGA explained. The project could provide a foundation for new approaches to solving transmission problems, he told the group.

The project is on a fast-track, and hopes to build upon efforts already underway in several states. Representatives of state efforts to identify renewable energy zones in Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, California and Arizona also updated the meeting attendees about their efforts. The WGA project has set an initial deadline of having renewable energy zones identified across the west by July 30th.

"Geothermal companies should be aware of, and engaged in the individual state processes and the WGA effort," commented John McCaull, GEA's Western States Representative. The Geothermal Energy Association will be participating in the process by serving on the REZ Criteria and Technical Analysis Work Group and the Environment, Land Use and Permitting Work Group, and the industry is well-represented on the WREZ Technical Committee by Dan Schochet of Ormat Technologies.

For more information about the WGA effort, visit www.westgov.org.
For information about state efforts, go to:

Nevada:

- The Renewable Energy Transmission Advisory Committee final report is posted on <http://gov.state.nv.us/Energy/FinalReport.htm>
- Nevada Renewable Interactive map can be accessed via the web site: <http://minerals.state.nv.gov/> in the Quick Links click on Renewable Energy Planning- Interactive Map
- The Great Basin Center for Renewable Energy Web site is: <http://www.unr.edu/geothermal/index.html>

Arizona:

- http://www.bv.com/resources/energy_brochures/renweables/rsrc_AZ_RenewableEnergyAssessmnt.pdf

California:

- <http://www.energy.ca.gov/reti/index.html>

Colorado:

- http://www.colorado.gov/energy/in/uploaded_pdf/ConnectingColoradoResources.pdf

New Mexico:

- <http://nmreta.org>

To be involved in GEA's efforts respecting the WGA or individual state efforts, contact John McCaull at john@geo-energy.org.

DOE to Invest in Western Renewable Energy Zones Project

DOE Press Release—May 28, DOE to Invest up to \$2.3 Million to Identify Renewable Energy Zones in Western States

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Kevin Kolevar today announced the Department's plans to contribute up to \$2.3 million over three years, subject to annual appropriations, to identify areas in the Western United States with vast renewable energy resources, and expedite the development and delivery of those resources to meet regional energy needs. The Western Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ) project, launched by the Western Governors' Association in cooperation with DOE, furthers the Department's ongoing efforts to address generation and transmission challenges through a regional approach.

“The importance of this initiative is two-fold; not only does it highlight the areas in the West that are able to provide clean, reliable, and abundant sources of energy, it also stresses the importance of regional electricity planning to prevent the balkanization of new renewable sources and develop the infrastructure necessary to carry this power to consumers,” Assistant Secretary Kolevar said. “The Bush Administration is committed to diversifying our nation's energy generation mix, and renewables will play a major role in this effort as we try to advance the viability, sustainability, and security of our energy infrastructure.”

DOE will carry out the study under a cooperative agreement with WGA. The project will involve four phases: 1) identification of Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) in the Western Interconnection; 2) development of regional transmission plans to enhance access to renewable resources located in these zones; 3) development of a transparent process for bringing together buyers and sellers of electricity generated from renewable energy sources; and 4) building interstate cooperation to address permitting and multi-state cost-allocation issues.

“Unprecedented challenges face the West in meeting the growing demand for electricity, while achieving local and global environmental goals,” said Utah Governor Jon Huntsman. “The WREZ project will help us tap our vast renewable resources and develop transmission that considers communities, environmental impacts, and costs.”

By identifying concentrations of viable renewable resources both within and outside of zones throughout the Western Interconnection, load-serving entities, transmission providers, renewable energy developers, and state regulators will be able to make better-informed decisions regarding both the costs of renewable power, as well as the development and siting of infrastructure to access areas with renewable sources of energy.

DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability leads the Bush Administration's national effort to modernize the electric grid; enhance security and reliability of the United States' energy infrastructure; and facilitate recovery from disruptions to energy supply. For more information, visit the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.

GEA Updating U.S. Geothermal Power Production and Development Report

GEA has published periodic updates on U.S. Geothermal Power Production and Development and is planning to have a new report available later this summer. GEA hopes to release the new report at its July 23rd New York City Geothermal 101 Workshop. (For information on the workshop, go to: http://geo-energy.org/financeWorkshop/work_shop.asp.)

Companies with new geothermal projects at any stage of development can contact GEA to update their information, or make sure their new projects are included. If you have additions, corrections, or comments on the January update that should be incorporated into the next version, please contact Karl Gawell: karl@geo-energy.org or 202-454-5264.

The most recent Production and Development Update was released in January and is available at http://www.geo-energy.org/publications/reports/Geothermal_Production_and_Development_Update_January_16_2008.pdf.

BLM Programmatic Geothermal Leasing EIS Delayed?

The Bureau of Land Management is still working towards releasing a draft Programmatic EIS (PEIS) for geothermal leasing across the west, and it hopes to release it this month. GEA will report on the release of the draft and scheduled public hearings as soon as the information is available. The PEIS process is considered critical for new leasing on public lands in the West for power or direct use geothermal purposes.

You can also keep track of events related to the PEIS by visiting http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/energy/geothermal/geothermal_nationwide.html.

Company News

Davenport Power: Expecting Newberry Crater Results by Year's End

Davenport Power's efforts at Newberry Crater in Oregon were featured in an article in *The Oregonian*. Davenport began exploratory drilling near the crater in April and should have results by the end of the year.

The article discussed possible concerns from environmental groups about drilling near the volcano and also said Davenport is taking a financial risk, but stressed that the risks are minimal and that the "community generally supports the projects," quoting Doug Perry, Davenport's president.

The electricity generated at the project would be shipped to California.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregonian/index.ssf?/base/news/1212035131177450.xml&coll=7>.

ThermaSource: Reaping Benefits of a Growing Industry

An *Energy Current* article featured the role of ThermaSource in the geothermal industry. ThermaSource is a drilling, engineering, and consulting company; it is the "largest geothermal drilling outfit in the world and one of the fastest-growing private companies in Northern California," stated the article.

Louis Capuano Jr., CEO of ThermaSource, provided the magazine with insight into ThermaSource's position. "Geothermal development is a vital part of the energy mix. There's not enough rigs to go around and do jobs, so we're trying to fill that gap," Capuano said.

ThermaSource runs its own rigs and works with investors to raise capital for potential projects. The company has raised \$93 million over the past two years.

The article mentioned current projects that ThermaSource is exploring, and the company's own growth in employment.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=10874>.

Renewable News

U.S. Wind Power Market is Fastest Growing in World, Says Berkeley Lab Report

The U.S. Department of Energy and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory have released the 2007 edition of the "Annual Report on U.S. Wind Power Installation, Cost, and Performance Trends," according to Berkeley Lab's Environmental Energy Technologies Division online news.

"Drawing from a variety of sources, this report—the second in an ongoing annual series—analyzes trends in wind power capacity growth, turbine size, turbine prices, installed project costs, project performance, wind power prices, and how wind prices compare to the price of conventional generation. It also describes developer consolidation trends, current ownership and financing structures, and trends among major wind power purchasers. Finally, the report examines other factors impacting the domestic wind power market, including grid integration costs, transmission issues, and policy drivers," stated the article.

The report found that the U.S. wind power market is the fastest growing in the world and that U.S. wind power capacity increased by 46% in 2007. Wind projects made up 35% of new electric generating capacity in the U.S. in 2007.

For the complete article, visit <http://bleer.lbl.gov/?p=152>.

The report, "Annual Report on U.S. Wind Power Installation, Cost, and Performance Trends: 2007", is available at <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/ems/re-pubs.html>. A PowerPoint presentation summarizing key findings from the report is available at <http://eetd.lbl.gov/ea/ems/emp-ppt.html>.

Climate Change News

CCSP Reports on Effects of Climate Change

Highlights from Press Release—May 27, [U.S. Climate Change Science Program Releases Report on the Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land, and Water Resources and Biodiversity](#)

The U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) today released "Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3 (SAP 4.3): The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity in the United States." The CCSP integrates the federal research efforts of 13 agencies on climate and global change. Today's report is one of the most extensive examinations of climate impacts on U.S. ecosystems. USDA is the lead agency for this report and coordinated its production as part of its commitment to CCSP.

The report was written by 38 authors from the universities, national laboratories, non-governmental organizations, and federal service. The report underwent expert peer review by 14 scientists through a Federal Advisory Committee formed by the USDA. The National Center for Atmospheric Research also coordinated in the production of the report. It is posted on the CCSP Web site at: <http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/sap/sap4-3/default.php>.

The report finds that climate change is already affecting U.S. water resources, agriculture, land resources, and biodiversity, and will continue to do so. Specific findings include:

- Grain and oilseed crops will mature more rapidly, but increasing temperatures will increase the risk of crop failures, particularly if precipitation decreases or becomes more variable.
- Higher temperatures will negatively affect livestock. Warmer winters will reduce mortality but this will be more than offset by greater mortality in hotter summers. Hotter temperatures will also result in reduced productivity of livestock and dairy animals.
- Forests in the interior West, the Southwest, and Alaska are already being affected by climate change with increases in the size and frequency of forest fires, insect outbreaks and tree mortality. These changes are expected to continue.
- Much of the United States has experienced higher precipitation and streamflow, with decreased drought severity and duration, over the 20th century. The West and Southwest, however, are notable exceptions, and increased drought conditions have occurred in these regions.
- Weeds grow more rapidly under elevated atmospheric CO₂. Under projections reported in the assessment, weeds migrate northward and are less sensitive to herbicide applications.
- There is a trend toward reduced mountain snowpack and earlier spring snowmelt runoff in the Western United States.

USDA agencies are responding to the risks of climate change. For example, the Forest Service is incorporating climate change risks into National Forest Management Plans and is providing guidance to forest managers on how to respond and adapt to climate change. The Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Services Agency are encouraging actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration through conservation programs. USDA's Risk Management Agency has prepared tools to manage drought risks and is conducting an assessment of the risks of climate change on the crop insurance program.

For more information, please visit http://www.usda.gov/oce/global_change/, <http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap4-3/default.php>, or <http://www.sap43.ucar.edu/>.

U.S. Vehicle Miles Traveled Reaches Sharpest Yearly Drop in FHWA History

Highlights from Press Release—May 23: [Americans Driving At Historic Lows: Eleven Billion Fewer Vehicle Miles Traveled in March 2008 Over Previous March](#)

Americans drove less in March 2008, continuing a trend that began last November, according to estimates released today from the Federal Highway Administration. The FHWA's "Traffic Volume Trends" report, produced monthly since 1942, shows that estimated vehicle miles traveled (VMT) on all U.S. public roads for March 2008 fell 4.3% as compared with March 2007 travel. This is the first time estimated March travel on public roads fell since 1979. At 11 billion miles less in March 2008 than in the previous March, this is the sharpest yearly drop for any month in FHWA history.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Transportation estimated that greenhouse gas emissions fell by an estimated 9 million metric tons for the first quarter of 2008.

The estimated data show that VMT on all U.S. public roads have dropped since 2006. The FHWA's Traffic Monitoring Analysis System (TMAS) computes VMT for all types of motor vehicles (motorcycles, cars, buses and trucks) on the nation's public roads. These data are collected through over 4,000 automatic traffic recorders operated round-the-clock by state highway agencies. More comprehensive data are published in the FHWA's "Highway Statistics" at the end of each year.

To review the FHWA's "Traffic Volume Trends" reports, visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/ohim/tvtw/tvtpage.htm>. For "Highway Statistics 2006," visit <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policy/ohim/hs06/index.htm>.

Climate Change Shifting Thousands of Natural Systems

Reported by The Environmental and Energy Study Institute:

On May 14, Nature published a study on the effects of climate change on almost 30,000 biological and physical phenomena, reporting that man-made climate change is altering the behavior of plants, animals, rivers and more. The study, by an international research team featuring many members of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is a statistical analysis of observations of natural systems over time. It concluded that these systems—such as glacier and permafrost melting, earlier spring-time, coastal erosion and animal migrations—are driven in response to rising global temperatures.

The study found that 95% of the observed physical changes and 90% of the biological changes are consistent with warming temperatures. Cynthia Rosenzweig, lead author of the study and a scientist at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York, said, "This provides up-to-the-minute impetus that climate change is changing how the world works. We need to get our act together, both for adaptation to these changes that are happening now, and for mitigation to reduce long-term risk."

For more information see <http://www.nature.com/news/2008/080514/full/news.2008.823.html>, <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7399162.stm>, http://www.usatoday.com/weather/climate/globalwarming/2008-05-14-climate-study_N.htm, and http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/32133/title/Just_aint_natural.

U.S. Energy-Related CO₂ Emissions Rise 1.6 Percent in 2007

Reported by The Environmental and Energy Study Institute:

On May 20, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) released a report saying US carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from burning fossil fuels increased by 1.6% in 2007—from 5,888 million metric tons in 2006 to 5,984 million metric tons in 2007—and have increased 19.4% from 1990 to 2007. According to the report, from 2006–2007 the economy, as measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP), grew by 2.2% and energy demand rose by 1.7%—indicating that energy intensity (energy use per unit of GDP) fell by 0.5% and CO₂ intensity (CO₂ emissions per unit of GDP) fell by about 0.5%. The report says factors that drove the emissions increase included weather conditions that increased the demand for heating and cooling services and a higher carbon intensity of electricity supply.

For more information, see <http://www.eia.doe.gov/neic/press/press298.html> and <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/flash/flash.html>.

State News

Alaska: Unalaska to Develop Geothermal Power

Petroleum News reports that the City of Unalaska is seeking proposals for geothermal drilling services. The city is looking to develop near the Makushin Volcano on Unalaska Island in Alaska.

Visit <http://www.petroleumnews.com/pntruncate/156568830.shtml>.

Oregon: Ready for Geothermal Development with Support from State

Oregon is ready for geothermal development and several projects are underway, according to information presented in an OregonLive.com article. The article shows the wide possibilities in different parts of the state, which does not currently have any generating plants.

Current projects in Oregon include:

- Drilling by Davenport Power at the Newberry Crater
- Drilling by U.S. Geothermal at the Neal Hot Springs Project
- Construction by Raser Technologies at Klamath Falls

Renewable portfolio standards have helped renew interest in geothermal, the article said, and Gov. Ted Kulongoski helped form a geothermal working group to examine Oregon's opportunities.

<http://www.oregonlive.com/newsflash/regional/index.ssf?/base/business-1/1211578167296200.xml&storylist=orlocal>.

International News

Australia: First Project at SA Heat Flow Anomaly Expected This Year

Geodynamics Unlimited's Innamincka power plant should be complete by the end of the year, according to the *Sydney Morning Herald*. The plant will start off with only 1 KW of generation, but will be expanded.

This project is the first in the South Australian Heat Flow Anomaly, an area with enormous potential generation capacity. The Cooper Basin, where Innamincka is located, could "meet Australia's total electricity demand for 450 years," stated the article.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.smh.com.au/articles/2008/05/29/1211654221566.html>

Canada: Western GeoPower Testing at Meager Creek

Western GeoPower wants to build the first geothermal power plant in Canada at Meager Creek hot springs, according to Canadian Business online. The company is testing this summer and looking at financing.

Western GeoPower is also looking at projects in California and in Chile.

Visit

http://www.canadianbusiness.com/columnists/joe_castaldo/article.jsp?content=20080527_160748_6316

Germany: Unterhaching Plant to Begin Production

Spiegel reported on a geothermal plant in Unterhaching, outside of Munich, which will begin supplying power in mid June. Germany has shown great interest in developing geothermal power, despite the fact that its geology is not as obvious a resource as some other countries—a tribute to Germany's dedication to alternative energy.

The Unterhaching project is only the second in the world to use the Kalina system, according to the article. It uses a combination of water and ammonia. Benefits of the plant, as cited in the article, include surplus heat that can be used in local communities as well as lower prices that will come as consumers switch to centrally-produced geothermal power.

Germany has an estimated 150 geothermal projects underway, stated the article.

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/business/0,1518,557125,00.html>.

Indonesia: World Bank Approves Support for Geothermal Development Project

The World Bank has approved a \$4 million GEF (Global Environment Facility) Trust Fund Grant that will go toward a geothermal power generation development project in Indonesia, according to *Antara News*. There are four components to the project:

1. Policy framework—to help the Indonesian government develop policies to cover regulations, risk mitigation, and economic incentives
2. Transactions management—to assist the energy and mineral resources ministry in plans and industry transactions
3. Technical capacity building—to address the limits of domestic technical capacity and support long-term development prospects
4. Project management assistance—to provide technical consultant support

Visit <http://www.antara.co.id/en/arc/2008/6/3/wb-approves-u4-million-grant-for-geothermal-project-in-indonesia/>.

Nevis: Premier Parry Includes Geothermal in Government Progress Report

On May 26, Premier of Nevis Joseph Parry reported about government activities to the people of Nevis at the studio of Nevis Television, according to *sknvibes.com*

“On the subject of geothermal energy, Premier Parry said that he was informed by West Indies Power that the first well in the Springhill area is a productive well and has the capacity to provide 34 MW of power. That plant will be able to supply an abundance of electricity that will be cheaper, and will significantly impact the cost of living in Nevis,” stated the article.

For the complete article, visit <http://www.sknvibes.com/Politics/NewsDetails.cfm/5358>.

Nicaragua: Pensa to Expand Geothermal Plant from 10 to 34 MW

Polaris Energy Nicaragua S.A., known as Pensa, said it has signed a contract to increase capacity of the San Jacinto-Tizate project, northwest of Managua, from 10 to 34 MW, according to *IP Communications*. Brazilian construction company Queiroz Galvão will be working on the project.

Four wells are already under construction, according to the article. The expansion, planned for completion in 2009, has an investment of \$96 million and will create 600 new jobs.

Visit <http://ipcommunications.tmcnet.com/news/2008/05/26/3465574.htm>.

Northern Marianas: Proposals will Aid Saipan Energy Crisis; U.S. Approves Grant

About half a dozen firms have submitted proposals to establish renewal energy projections in the Northern Marianas; their proposals will be reviewed by a Commonwealth Utilities Corporation committee, according to *Pacific Magazine*. Saipan’s outdated diesel electric generators have become a problem, and the city does not have another energy source.

In related news from the Northern Marianas, the U.S. government has approved \$220,000 for the commonwealth's geothermal power plant project as part of \$700,000 in federal grants from the U.S. Interior Department's Office of Insular Affairs.

Visit <http://www.pacificmagazine.net/news/2008/06/03/firms-submit-proposal-for-renewal-energy-generation> and <http://www.pacificmagazine.net/news/2008/06/02/interior-dept-approves-700000-for-saipan>.

Philippines: PNOC-EDC Plant Temporarily Down

The *Philippine Star Business* reported a temporary shutdown of the PNOC-Energy Development Corp. geothermal power plant in Bago City, Negros Occidental because of insufficient steam caused by calcite clogging in its wells.

The shutdown is expected to last about 9 months.

Visit <http://www.philstar.com/index.php?Business&p=49&type=2&sec=27&aid=2008052911> and <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/static/bac/2008/05/31/news/geothermal.closes.for.cleaning.html>.

Russia: Icelandic Experts Visit Potential Geothermal Sites

ITAR-TASS.com published an article saying that Russia and Iceland could work together on geothermal energy. Russia has potential for development of geothermal springs, and Iceland could contribute experience and knowledge, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland Ingibjoerg Solrun Gisladottir told ITAR-TASS.

Kamchatka and the Krasnodar Territory in Russia have potential development sites, which were recently visited by Icelandic experts, the article said.

Visit <http://www.itar-tass.com/eng/level2.html?NewsID=12737679&PageNum=0>.

Notices and Employment Opportunities

Engineering Manager—Western GeoPower, Inc.

Western GeoPower, Inc. (WGPI) has an immediate opening for a full time Engineering Manager to be located in our Healdsburg, CA office. WGPI is looking for a flexible and entrepreneurial person who can assist in a variety of tasks to grow WGPI into world class renewable power developer/operator. The ideal candidate will possess 5+ years of technical design, project engineering and operational support in the geothermal power industry. Must have geothermal power and experience working in the Geysers and Salton Sea or similar geothermal field. H2S abatement strategies, steam quality, production/injection systems and plant operations are all a plus.

The Engineering Manager will report to the Operations Manager and be responsible for the following key tasks:

- Technical support for Project Permitting
- Technical oversight of the Detailed Engineering Contract (power plant and gathering system)
- Evaluation of Value Engineering and Technical Betterment Projects
- Technical support for Project Construction issues (technical support for WGP's Construction Manager)
- Technical support for New Development Projects
- Technical support for future Plant Operations, Reporting, Plant Optimization, Environmental Compliance, Safety and Training

To apply for the position, please send a Word formatted resume to Redfish Technology Chris@redfishtech.com

BLM Planning Geothermal Lease Sales in Several Western States

The Bureau of Land Management is planning sales for geothermal leases on lands in several Western states. Oregon and Washington will be having a lease sale on July 24, with details included in the **Upcoming Events** section of this newsletter. Plans are currently underway for a California/Nevada lease sale that could occur as early as July. A Utah sale is in the works for November 18, with nominations due June 1.

GEA has not received further notices on these sales, but check for updates on state BLM Web sites, or visit <http://www.blm.gov/or/energy/geothermal/>.

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 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)

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/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/933104E42D0185E58525742100694C78?OpenDocument>. Refer to Sol# DE-PS02-08ER15944. (Grants.gov 4/4/08)

Upcoming Events

Geothermal Technologies Workshops, Western Area Power Administration, June 10-11 (Westminster, CO) and August 11-12 (Everett, WA)

Western Area Power Administration (Western) is hosting two Geothermal Technologies workshops. Their theme is “Electric Utilities’ Roles in Promoting Geothermal Energy Technologies.” They are cosponsored by the American Public Power Association (APPA), the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), and the Utility Geothermal Working Group (UGWG).

The target audiences for these workshops are utility staff who are interested in learning about geothermal technologies—including geothermal heat pumps (GHP) and geothermal power production—who want to compare them with other resource options, or who want to learn how to improve on existing programs. Through class presentations, case histories, and demonstrations, attendees will learn about

Cost effectiveness tests of GHP from the utility and customer perspectives
Case histories of GHP systems energy savings over conventional HVAC systems
How GHP programs qualify as energy efficiency programs
New drilling and installation techniques
Cost comparisons of geothermal power and other resource options

Georg Shultz the Director, Electric Staff Division for the USDA's Rural Utility Services (RUS), will give an update on the RUS's work with cooperatives on promoting Geothermal technologies in rural areas. Additional agenda details and other information are on the following pages. Both workshops are similar in structure and content.

Workshop fees are \$90 for one day and \$125 for both days. Reduced fees for APPA, NRECA, NWPPA, and State Working Group members and Western Customers are \$60 and \$90. If you wish to attend, please fill out the registration form on the following page and send a check to made payable to Utility Forum Connection and mail to:

Utility Forum Connection
PO Box 255
Lincoln City, OR 97367

Questions? Contact Guy Nelson, energyguy@utilityforum.com or (541) 994-4670.

Cleantech Investment Briefing, June 11, McLean, VA

Morrison & Foerster LLP, supported by the Baltimore/Washington DC Chapter of the MIT Enterprise Forum, invite you to a panel of Cleantech company executives, investors, industry experts and legal practitioners—including the Corporate, Energy, Land Use and Intellectual Property/Patent practice groups. Together these leaders in the field will address the opportunities for Cleantech investment.

The discussion will focus on five of the fastest-moving Cleantech investment areas—carbon sequestration, cellulosic and algae-based biofuels, solar, water, and energy efficiency versus energy intelligence.

The event will be held Wednesday, June 11, 8:00–10:00 a.m. at Morrison & Foerster, 1650 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 400, McLean, Virginia, 22102. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. Breakfast is provided.

For additional questions, please contact vaevents@mof.com or 703-760-7797.

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.

The renewable energy landscape in California is rapidly changing. Meeting the approaching RPS goals will be a daunting challenge. Also, the AB 32 greenhouse gas reduction mandates provide additional opportunities and issues for all renewables. Geothermal energy and the statewide California Geothermal Collaborative have exciting opportunities to develop a new and expanded role. The 2008 California Geothermal Summit will focus on these opportunities, on what the future holds for research and development within the geothermal community, and how geothermal can more effectively partner with other technologies.

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.

For more information, the draft agenda, and registration information, visit
<http://ciee.ucop.edu/geothermal/documents/2008CGECSummitFlyer.pdf>.

GEA “Geothermal 101” Workshop, July 23, Ritz-Carlton (Battery Park) New York City

The Geothermal Energy 101- Finance and Development Workshop will consider geothermal energy from a variety of viewpoints, including a Geothermal Basics Tutorial, US and World Market Review, Financial Issues and Perspectives and a Geothermal project showcase that will span projects in development and new technologies. An all star series of presentations is planned for the day by many of the leading companies involved in US geothermal development including, ThermaSource, EGS, Inc. MidAmerican Energy, Ormat, Glitnir, US Renewables Group, GeothermEx, UTC Power, Terra-Gen Power, and many more.

We are also proud to announce as lunchtime keynote speakers, the President of Iceland, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson and Director for Climate Change and Energy Initiative for Google.org, Dan Reicher.

Come hear leading experts discuss a fast growing renewable energy industry considered to have massive untapped energy potential. Space is limited, reserve your spot today!

To view the full agenda, or to register, go to http://geo-energy.org/financeWorkshop/work_shop.asp.

Oregon and Washington Geothermal Lease Sale, BLM, July 24

Note: This sale has been postponed from June 12, and nominations are still being accepted.

The Bureau of Land Management's Oregon/Washington State Office had proposed to hold a geothermal resources lease sale on June 12, 2008. We received nominations for several parcels, and contacted the Forest Service and our District Offices.

The Forest Service responded that more environmental studies must be done in the Newberry Volcanic Area before a sale could be held. The Forest Service estimates that they will have leasing consent decisions by October 2008 at the earliest.

The new proposed sale date for parcels located in the Glass Butte area (Lake and Harney Counties) is July 24, 2008. The new date will allow the district to review sage grouse lek data to meet the required environmental review.

We are still accepting nominations for future sales. Nominations are not automatically placed on a sale when received, and BLM cannot guarantee that the nominated lands will always be included on a particular sale notice. The parcels must be reviewed for availability and for environmental and cultural concerns prior to being placed on a sale. Sale parcels will normally be configured as requested; however, BLM reserves the right to adjust the parcel size and configuration as needed.

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.

Sale notices, results lists, and Form 32031 will be posted on our website at:
<http://www.blm.gov/or/energy/geothermal/index.php>

If you have questions regarding this notice, please call Donna Kauffman at 503-808-6162; write to the attention of OR936.2 at the address on this letterhead; or send electronic mail to Donna_Kauffman@or.blm.gov.

For updates on geothermal developments from the BLM, visit <http://www.blm.gov/or/energy/geothermal/>.

Renewable Energy Philippines 2008, August 28–30, Manila, Philippines

This is the First International Exhibition & Conference on Renewable Energy in the Philippines.

Renewable energy is getting more and more attention because of global warming. Renewable Energy Philippines 2008 is a link to enable the U.S. Renewable Energy providers, manufacturers, and researchers to go overseas and encourage other countries to invest in environment friendly energy sources.

Asian Development Bank & World Bank will speak on Future Carbon Fund, Carbon Finance Program, and support of CDM Projects.

August 28–30, Hall 3, SMX Convention Center
Metro Manila, Philippines

The exhibition provide a one-stop B2B and technology exchange platform for equipment manufacturers and suppliers, project operators, financing institutions, oil & gas producing companies, state-owned companies and relevant Government Agencies to meet and do business under one roof and venue. Exhibition profile includes all equipment, technology applications and projects available for investment to the following fields of interest:

- Alternative Fuels
- Gas Energy
- Geothermal Energy
- Hydro Energy
- Ocean Energy
- Solar Energy
- Wind Energy
- Others—Battery, Energy Bank, Energy Saving Products, etc.

For more information, contact: TDC EVENTS INTERNATIONAL INC., 1504 FRANCISCO STREET BERKELEY, CA 94703

USA Contact: Maria Gomez, Tel: +1 305 4365751, Fax: +1 305 4365352, Cel: +1 305 7722549, e-mail: maria@andinalink.com

Latin America Contact: Andrea Valencia, Tel: +571 4821717, Fax: +571 3128782, e-mail: andrea@andinalink.com

Web site: www.dp-link.com

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>.

XVI Annual Congress of the Mexican Geothermal Association, November 14, Morelia, Mexico

The XVI Annual Congress of the Mexican Geothermal Association (AGM: Asociación Geotérmica Mexicana) will take place in the city of Morelia, Mexico, on November 14.

The AGM is calling for papers related to geothermics. Please send abstracts to Luis Gutiérrez-Negrín (luis.gutierrez@geotermia.org.mx) before July 25. Ten to twelve papers will be selected for oral presentation during the congress. Papers and presentations can be in Spanish or English.

The AGM is the Mexican association affiliated to the International Geothermal Association (IGA) It holds an annual technical congress and a general assembly, restricted to its membership, usually in a city of Mexico related to geothermics. The events are cosponsored by the geothermal division of the Comisión Federal de Electricidad, whose headquarters is in Morelia.

For more information, please visit the AGM website (<http://www.geotermia.org.mx>), and/or send a message to Luis Gutiérrez-Negrín.

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