GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION

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GEA Weekly Update
May 23, 2008

National News

House Passes Bill for PTC/ITC Extension; White House Threatens Veto

The House passed HR 6049, the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Tax Act, by a vote of 263-160. The bill would extend the production tax credit for wind by one year, geothermal, biomass and hydropower would be extended three years, and the solar/fuel cell investment tax credit would be extended six years.

The bill now goes to the Senate, where the Senate Finance Committee has already proposed its version of an extenders bill, which also includes a one year extenders for the renewable tax credits.

The White House Office of Management and Budget released a "Statement of Administration Policy" on HR 6049 on May 21. In it, the Executive branch has threatened to veto the bill over its Davis Bacon provisions.

"The Administration supports the extension of the tax credit for research and experimentation (R&E) expenses, tax relief provisions for members of the military and veterans, incentives for charitable giving, subpart F active financing and look-through exceptions, and the new markets tax credit. In its FY 2009 Budget, the Administration proposed that several of these provisions be made permanent, including the R&E tax credit. However, due to other objections to the bill, should it be presented to the President in its current form, his senior advisors would recommend a veto," says the statement.

The White House statement supported extending the renewable credits, but said it preferred that the PTC be changed into a technology neutral, carbon-based, long-term tax credit.

The results of the vote are available at http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2008/roll344.xml.

Climate Change Debate Heating Up in Senate

With the US Senate scheduled to vote on climate change legislation when it returns from the Memorial Day Recess, critics and supports are all increasing their focusing on the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act, S. 3036. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, has recently introduced a substitute bill that she hopes may be able to garner the votes needed to pass.

The substitute seeks to address various issues raised by critics of the bill, including its economic impact and need for incentives for clean, renewable technologies. According to the new substitute bill summary, one section "provides $150 billion to owners or operators of facilities that deploy renewable energy technologies."

Senator Reid filed cloture on the motion to proceed to S.3036 on May 22. A vote on that cloture motion is scheduled to occur on Monday, June 2nd at 5:30 p.m. After the vote, Senator Boxer's substitute amendment will be offered and debate on that bill will begin.

The full text and a summary of the new substitute climate legislation can be viewed athttp://epw.senate.gov/public.

Geothermal Technology and Finance Workshop Announced for New York City July 23

The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) together with Ormat and Glitnir Bank will host a workshop at the Ritz-Carlton, Battery Park in New York City on July 23 to introduce geothermal energy to the NYC finance community. The event will feature leading companies and experts from the geothermal industry with the President of Iceland, Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, making keynote remarks at the event's luncheon.

The U.S. geothermal industry is experiencing a dramatic growth surge, with expectations that total power production could triple over the next few years. The industry currently produces about 16 billion kilowatt hours annually, enough power for the household needs of roughly 3 million Americans. The GEA reports that there are new geothermal power projects underway in over a dozen states which together will represent over $11 billion in new investment.

The GEA workshop entitled "Geothermal 101 – the Hottest Clean Energy Source" will include a morning session where experts present a series of talks covering the basics of geothermal energy. In the afternoon, there will be programs on the world and US market, finance, and a showcase of companies developing new projects.

Along with President Grimsson, Dan Reicher, Director of Climate Change and Energy Initiatives for Google.org will speak at the mid-day luncheon. Dan Reicher was Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy under President Clinton, and Google has announced that geothermal energy will be one of their focus areas for new investment.

Additional confirmed geothermal industry participants include:

- Paul Brophy, President EGS, Inc. and President, Geothermal Resources Council
- Arnar Hjartarson, Geothermal Reservoir Specialist, Glitnir
- Lou Capuano, President, ThermaSource
- Lucien Bronicki, Founder and Chairman, Ormat
- Dita Bronicki, CEO, Ormat
- Charles Arrigo, Director, Sustainable Energy, Glitnir Capital Corporation
- Josh Haacker, Principal, US Renewables Group
- Christopher Smith, Merrill Lynch
- Thomas Drolet, CEO, Western GeoPower, Inc.
- Subir Sanyal, President, GeothermEx
- Halley Dickey, Business Development, UTC Power
- Steve Doyon, Senior Vice President and Head of Development, Terra-Gen Power
- Brent Cook, Director/CEO, Raser Technologies
- Magnus Johannesson, CEO, Iceland America Energy
- Jonathan Weisgall, Vice President, MidAmerican Energy

For more information, a current agenda, and registration materials go to www.geo-energy.org. Registration for the day, including lunch, is $395. The morning program will be available by webcast. Registration is limited.

Company News

NCPA Boosts California's Geothermal Power With Major Agreement

Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) announced May 20th the signing of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Western GeoPower, Inc. for the supply of approximately 265,000 MWh per year of clean, renewable, baseload electricity at a levelized price of $98 per MWh for 20 years. The power will come from Western GeoPower's 35 MWe Unit 1 geothermal power plant which is scheduled to come on line in early 2010 at The Geysers Geothermal Field in Northern California. This agreement increases the amount of geothermal power used by NCPA and its customers in Northern California by approximately 30%, and will emit approximately 4 billion less pounds of CO2 compared to even the cleanest natural gas-fired plant over the life of the contract. The PPA is not subject to Regulatory approval.

"Our commitment to explore and develop innovative and effective "green power" energy programs is reflected in this agreement," said Jim Pope, general Manager of NCPA. "By securing the geothermal power from the Western GeoPower Unit 1, our member communities in Northern and Central California will continue to benefit from what we consider to be the prime source of reliable and renewable energy compared to the cleanest natural gas-fired sources. The addition of this unit to our resources now expands our geothermal production from four to five plants at The Geysers."

For more than 25 years, NCPA has been operating four geothermal power plants of 55 MWe (220 MWe total capacity) each at The Geysers, located approximately 6 miles (10 km) southeast of the Western GeoPower Unit 1 project site. NCPA also owns and operates the steam field on which the plants are situated, including 8 deep injection wells used to re-supply the geothermal reservoir with water to create additional steam.

"The execution of this PPA reflects the tremendous spirit of cooperation that has been created between Western GeoPower and NCPA and is a significant milestone in the development of our Unit 1 project," said Kenneth MacLeod, President and Chief Executive Officer of Western GeoPower. "The PPA represents approximately $26 million per year in revenue to Western GeoPower and $520 million over the 20-year term of the contract."

The Geysers geothermal field, located 75 miles north of San Francisco, California, is the largest producer of geothermal electricity in the world. Commercial geothermal power has been generated continuously at The Geysers field since 1960, the present generation level being about 900 MWe of clean, baseload electricity. Western GeoPower's Unit 1 project is situated in the southwestern region of The Geysers field in Sonoma County.

For more on Northern California Power Agency, visithttp://www.ncpa.com/.

Raser Technologies Announces Geothermal Development Commitment Letter

Press Release—May 21

Raser Technologies, Inc. (NYSE Arca: RZ) announced today that it has signed a commitment letter with Merrill Lynch for the project financing and tax equity funding for its planned 10 megawatt (MW) Thermo geothermal power plant near Beaver, Utah. The commitment letter provides for non-recourse debt financing to construct a 10 MW geothermal power plant and tax equity capital for Raser's geothermal project in Utah. Under this agreement, the tax equity capital will be provided by Merrill Lynch and/or by additional partners at Merrill Lynch's option that can utilize the many tax benefits provided by the renewable energy project.

The commitment is the second announced under an agreement signed earlier this year that provides Merrill Lynch the right to arrange or provide non-recourse project financing for up to 155 MW of Raser's geothermal power projects. Merrill Lynch's commitment is subject to market conditions, due diligence, receipt of all necessary internal approvals by both Raser and Merrill Lynch, and the satisfaction of certain other conditions. The plant, using PureCycle® geothermal technology from UTC Power, a United Technologies Corp. company, is designed to produce 10 MW of electrical power with zero emissions, and is expected to be online before the end of 2008. Raser will act as engineering, procurement and construction contractor, and will guarantee the completion of the construction of the project.

The power plant will be held in a special purpose entity. The expected useful life of Raser's geothermal power plants is approximately 35 years. The entity will be responsible for the debt service, all maintenance and operations expenses, and various fees and distributions to Raser. The finance structure is designed to distribute cash flow to Raser associated with project development fees based upon both the successful completion of the project, and attainment of ongoing operational targets and to maximize certain economic benefits to Raser. It is the intention of the parties that the power generation facilities will qualify to receive tax credits and other benefits under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Raser recently held a groundbreaking ceremony in conjunction with the construction of the Thermo geothermal plant, at which Senator Orrin Hatch said, "Raser Technologies has consistently pushed the envelope to develop and bring to market some of our nation's most advanced concepts in clean energy. I want to congratulate this Utah company for being the first out of the gate to use the latest technology to convert the earth's natural heat into the world's cleanest energy."

Roy Piskadlo, Managing Director for Merrill Lynch, said, "We are pleased with Raser's continued progress in executing on its innovative development strategy to produce and develop energy resources that are environmentally beneficial."

Brent M. Cook, Raser's CEO, commented, "We applaud the vision of Merrill Lynch and their commitment to renewable energy, and believe their financial leadership distinguishes them from the many financial players seeking to enter this market. We believe this puts us well on our way to complete the projects we are pursuing."

For news releases from Raser Technologies, visit http://www.rasertech.com/news.php.

U.S. Geothermal Announces Stock Option Grant, Forms Exploration Joint Venture in Nevada

Press Release—May 19

U.S. Geothermal Inc., a renewable energy development company focused on the production of electricity from geothermal energy, announced today that it has granted options pursuant to its Stock Option Plan to directors, employees and consultants to acquire 1,505,000 shares in capital of the company. The options are exercisable at a price of US$2.22 per share for a term of 5 years expiring May 19, 2013. The options will vest subject to the Company's Stock Option Plan.

The Stock Option Plan was approved by the shareholders of the company at an Annual General Meeting held September 8th, 2005.

Press Release—May 21

U.S. Geothermal Inc. (TSX: GTH) (AMEX: HTM) announced today that it has entered into a joint venture agreement with Gerlach Green Energy LLC of Nevada ("GGE"). The target of the joint venture is the exploration of the Gerlach geothermal system, which is located in northwestern Nevada, at the town of

Gerlach. The joint venture is located near the Company's Granite Creek leases that were recently acquired as part of the Empire geothermal power plant arrangement.

The JV agreement establishes a limited liability company named Gerlach Geothermal LLC. The agreement provides for a 60 percent U.S. Geothermal ownership interest in the joint venture by a subsidiary of the Company and a 40 percent ownership interest by GGE, with the Company expending $2,000,000 toward the project, of which $300,000 is a property contribution in the form of a BLM geothermal lease. GGE has contributed one BLM geothermal lease and one private geothermal lease. These leases have all had previous work including geophysical studies and drilling. The JV agreement gives GGE an option to maintain its 40% ownership interest as additional capital contributions are required. If GGE dilutes to below a 10 percent interest, their ownership position in the joint venture would be converted to a 10 percent net profits interest. U.S. Geothermal will serve as the JV manager for the joint venture's development activities.

The combined property totals 3,615 acres (5.6 square miles) with 3,415 acres of BLM leases and 200 acres in a private property lease that contains the Great Boiling Springs thermal feature. The geothermal system at Gerlach is well known, with an extensive database from previous studies and exploration drilling, that the Company believes has significant exploration potential. Gerlach was ranked as the No. 3 top resource in Nevada by the United States Geological Survey in Circular 726, "Assessment of Geothermal Resources of the United States; 1975", and has estimated resource temperatures from geochemical analysis of 338 degrees F to 352 degrees F (USGS Circulars 726 and 790).

"Gerlach is a great exploration target in an area of known geothermal activity that includes our producing San Emidio project 14 miles to the south, and our Granite Ranch project 5 miles to the north," said Daniel Kunz, President and CEO.

For news releases from U.S. Geothermal, visit: http://www.geopower.ca

Renewable News

CNBC Covers the State of Geothermal Investments

An article on cnbc.com reported views from industry experts that reflected rising benefits to investing in geothermal projects in the U.S. and around the world.

The article outlined specific financial activities of key companies involved in the industry, including Ormat, U.S. Geothermal, Berkshire Hathaway, UTC Power, Nevada Geothermal, MidAmerican Energy Holdings, and CalEnergy. It cited analysis from New Energy Finance and from Glitnir Bank on the types and amounts of investments in recent years. Private equity firms invested over $400 million in geothermal energy in 2007, the article stated.

Main growth drivers include climate change concerns, state-level green energy requirements, and federal tax credits, said the article, quoting GEA's Karl Gawell.

The capacity of geothermal energy is immense—another key factor. Quoting the U.S. Geological Survey, the article gave the known capacity at 150,000 MW—a number that could be doubled with technological advances.

Glitnir told the press that projects will require another $9.6 billion in investments, and another $22 billion to help develop identified resources.

For the complete article, visit http://www.cnbc.com/id/24629383/from/ET/.

Geothermal Potential Considered in Former Coal Mines

Former coal mines in Cape Breton, Canada could be transformed into a resource for heat pump–based geothermal energy, according to the *Nova Scotia Chronicle Herald*. The Cape Breton Development Corp. wants to use the hot mine water to heat schools or hospitals.

Collin Harker, a business consultant working with the company, told the press a geothermal project could be underway within a year.

For the complete article, visithttp://thechronicleherald.ca/NovaScotia/1056997.html.

Google Cofounders Attend Geothermal Presentation, Visit Ormat Plant

An article in Israel's *Haaretz* about Google's alternative energy plans focused on geothermal energy and Google's growing relationship with Ormat.

Google cofounder Sergey Brin visited Israel, where he and senior Google executives met with Ormat representatives at two alternative energy conferences, said the article. They attended a presentation on geothermal energy.

Larry Page, the other cofounder of Google, visited an Ormat geothermal plant in Desert Peak, Nevada. "Our goal is to produce one gigawatt of renewable energy capacity that is cheaper than coal. We are optimistic this can be done in years, not decades," he said.

Lucien Bronicki, Ormat chairman, told the press that meetings regarding the advancement of geothermal technology are being held with Google.

For the complete article, visit*http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/984383.html*.

Climate Change News

U.S. Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions Rose by 1.6 Percent in 2007

[Press Release—May 20]

U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels increased by 1.6 percent in 2007, from 5,888 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (MMTCO2) in 2006 to 5,984 MMTCO2 in 2007, according to preliminary estimates released today by the Energy Information Administration (EIA).

The economy, as measured by Gross Domestic Product (GDP), grew by 2.2 percent and energy demand rose by 1.7 percent indicating that energy intensity (energy use per unit of GDP) fell by 0.5 percent. Carbon dioxide intensity (carbon dioxide emissions per unit of GDP) also fell by about 0.5 percent.

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.

Total U.S. energy-related carbon dioxide emissions have grown by 19.4 percent since 1990. Energy-related carbon dioxide emissions account for over 80 percent of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

Preliminary fossil fuel consumption data indicate that:

* Carbon dioxide emissions from the residential and commercial sectors increased by 4.4 percent and 4.3 percent respectively in 2007, as heating degree-days rose by 6.7 percent and cooling degree-days rose by 2.6 percent. The commercial sector includes all non-residential, non-industrial buildings, such as stores, office buildings, schools, hospitals, and government buildings.

* Industrial carbon dioxide emissions fell by 0.1 percent in 2007, continuing a trend of falling emissions since 2004.

* Transportation-related emissions, which account for about a third of total energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, increased by 0.1 percent in 2007.

* With combined industrial and transportation emissions essentially flat, all the growth in emissions came from the residential and commercial sectors.

* Emissions from the direct use of natural gas in the residential sector grew by 8.3 percent, while growth in residential electricity use and changes in the generation mix caused emissions associated with the production of electricity used in residences to grow by 3.9 percent.

* Emissions from the direct use of natural gas in the commercial sector grew by 6.1 percent, while growth in commercial electricity use and changes in the generation mix caused emissions associated with the production of electricity used in the commercial sector to grow by 4.2 percent.

* When electric power sector emissions are considered as a whole rather than being attributed to the end-use sectors that consume electricity, they are the largest single source of U.S. carbon dioxide emissions, representing 40 percent of total emissions. In 2007, emissions from the electric power sector increased by about 71 MMTCO2 or 3 percent, while power generation increased by 2.5 percent. The increase in the emissions intensity of generation of 0.5 percent reflects, among other factors, a decline in non-fossil-fueled generation, as increased generation from wind and nuclear power of 6 and 19 billion kilowatt hours, respectively, did not offset a drop in hydro-generation of 40 billion kilowatt hours (kWh).

From 1990 to 2007, the carbon dioxide intensity of the economy fell by 26.6 percent or 1.8 percent per year. By 2006 (the latest year of data for all greenhouse gases), carbon dioxide intensity had fallen by 26.2 percent and emissions of total greenhouse gases per dollar of GDP had fallen by 27.7 percent.

EIA will continue to refine its estimates of 2007 carbon dioxide emissions as more complete energy data become available. A full inventory of 2007 emissions of all greenhouse gases to be issued in November 2008 will present revised energy data and provide a further analysis of trends.

The preliminary estimates are on Eva's web site at: http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/flash/flash.html

State News

Hawaii: Utility Standby Rates Will Help On-Site Power Systems

A ruling in a case before the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Hawaii approved making "standby energy rates" optional for consumers who install cogeneration and other forms of distributed generation power systems, according to an earthtimes.org article. This will make on-site power systems more attractive to consumers.

The results involve a negotiated settlement by Blueprint and other Intervenors with Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Ltd., and Hawaiian Electric Light Company covering all of the Hawaiian Islands except Kauai, the article said.

Guy A. Archbold, Chief Executive Officer of BluePoint Energy, told the press, "The settlement of this case will finally give large energy consumers in the Hawaiian Islands an important new choice in addressing the unique challenges the Hawaiian Islands face with respect to accessing reliable and cost efficient energy alternatives. This settlement truly presents a "win-win" for the Hawaiian energy consumer and for Hawaii's utilities."

For the complete article, visithttp://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/hawaiian-public-utilities-commission-ruling,398915.shtml.

Utah: Kick-off Meeting for Western Renewable Energy Zones Project Set for May 28 in Salt Lake City

GEA's Karl Gawell will be speaking at this event. See announcement in the **Upcoming Events** section of this newsletter).

[Press Release—May 22]

Utah Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Western Governors' Association and DOE Assistant Secretary for Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability Kevin Kolevar will kick off the first meeting of a joint initiative, the Western Renewable Energy Zones project, on May 28 in Salt Lake City. Utilizing those areas in the West with vast renewable resources to expedite the development and delivery of clean and renewable energy is the central goal of the WREZ project.

"The West has vast, untapped renewable energy resources that we need to bring online to help meet the region's demand for clean energy," Huntsman said. "This project will help WGA states reach our goal of adding 30,000 megawatts of clean and diversified energy by 2015."

The Department of Energy has consistently supported regional efforts to address generation and transmission challenges, and we welcome the opportunity to work with the WGA to identify renewable energy zones," Kolevar said. "Bolstering the growth of renewable generation capacity and the transmission necessary to transmit this energy to our cities is critical to the Bush Administration's ongoing efforts to ensure a clean, diversified and secure energy future for our Nation."

Gov. Dave Freudenthal of Wyoming, WGA's Chair, said the information generated from the process will be invaluable to decision-makers.

"At the end of this project, we should have improved data and other information to help our region make decisions on where to build transmission lines," Freudenthal said. "I encourage everyone who has an interest in this issue to participate in the process."

Steering the WREZ process are the governors, public utility commissioners and premiers from 11 states, two Canadian provinces and areas of Mexico that are part of the Western Interconnection. Officials from the U.S. Departments of Energy, Interior and Agriculture, as well as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, will serve as ex officio members of the Steering Committee.

A WREZ Technical Committee and several work groups will be formed to examine development potential, costs and environmental impacts, among other issues. That committee will hold its first meeting on May 29, beginning at 8 a.m.

For additional information about the project and to sign up to participate on a work group, visit the Web at: http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001LFifKbblvAd0-0lEzD0EsCmaOOAbp6_xL2rbp2kfsY-Z1Qu8LqjK1C5pU1-HLXTVfeH6MpE0D3MemAoGyhze48tUD_u3GLkYS-qC9ff6uDkkH2ZvyAdBRx3-ka4NilmePoBZF6Yx8oJyPu8WOt4GXOFTKwadgtYU.

Oregon: OIT to Use Geothermal for All Campus Needs

The Oregon Institute of Technology, which uses geothermal energy for heating needs, wants to expand geothermal use to take care of all campus power needs, according to an article on examiner.com.

Engineers are testing fault lines to determine a location for a 1.2-MW plant. It would cost between $5 million and $6 million; OIT has about $2 million in grants and bonds and is applying for another federal grant, Toni Boyd of the OIT Geo Heat Center told the press.

In addition, the plants could be used as a teaching laboratory for OIT students, the article stated.

For the complete article, visit http://www.examiner.com/a-1385864~Geothermal_energy_to_meet_all_campus_needs_in_Klamath_Falls.html.

International News

Fiji: Ministry Looking to Issue Licenses for Geothermal Exploration on Vanua Levu

The Ministry of Lands, Mineral Resources and Environment in Fiji has identified two sites on Vanua Levu as potential geothermal project locations, according to fijilive.com.

The Ministry, which is responsible for licensing, plans to issue licenses for exploration and production of these resources, the article said.

"The company that is undertaking such exploration activities will be conducting exploratory drilling operations by June in Savusavu and Tabia to further determine the temperature levels and sustainability of these sources," Interim Minister Netani Sukanaivalu told the press.

In the article, Sukanaivalu discussed how optimizing natural resources could aid Fiji's growing electricity needs.

For the complete article, visit http://www.fijilive.com/news_new/index.php/news/show_news/4893.

Hungary: PannErgy Working Toward Local, Foreign Geothermal Projects

PannErgy, an energy company in Hungary, is talking about constructing geothermal power plants, according to portfolio.hu. CEO Dénes Gyimóthy told the press they have been contacted by neighboring countries such as Romania as well, and production may be both local and external. Gyimóthy said the focus would be on local production.

For the complete article, visit http://www.portfolio.hu/en/cikkek.tdp?cCheck=1&k=2&i=14829.

Indonesia: IRIF 2008 to offer 200 projects worth US$19 billion

ANTARA News reports that the Indonesian Regional Investment Forum (IRIF) will offer foreign investors some 200 new projects including geothermal projects.

The press report indicates these will include, "geothermal power plant in Cisukarame, Cisolok and Tampomas, West Java, Lati Berau steam-generated power plant in Berau district of East Kalimantan and in Bau-bau district of Southeast Sulawesi."

Kenya: KenGen to Increase Geothermal Generation Capacity

Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) focusing on developing its geothermal capacity, according to *Reuter*s. Increased electricity production will help with the growing demand, Eddie Njoroge, KenGen's managing director, told the press.

KenGen wants to increase generation capacity by 500 MW by 2012, Njoroge said. He hopes for another 1,500 MW in the next five years.

The article said that Kenya gets about 10% of its electricity from geothermal.

For the complete article, visit http://uk.reuters.com/article/email/idUKL2274666520080522.

Nevis: Legislation Underway for Geothermal and Renewables

Carlisle Powell, Junior Minister with responsibility for Communications, Works, Public Utilities, Physical Planning, Posts, Natural Resources and Environment in the Nevis Island Administration (NIA), announced that the draft for geothermal energy legislation is ready for comments from stakeholders and the public, according to *Caribbean Net News*.

Powell's announcement, during a press briefing, discussed evidence that plans for geothermal energy in NIA have been thorough and cautious, and that results would benefit the economy, according to the article. The draft will be taken to Parliament. It protects geothermal and other renewable resources for the people of Nevis.

http://www.caribbeannetnews.com/article.php?news_id=7951.

Notices and Employment Opportunities

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 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)

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

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

Upcoming Events

Western Renewable Energy Zones Project Kickoff, May 28, Salt Lake City, UT

The Western Governors' Association has launched a new initiative—the Western Renewable Energy Zones project—aimed at bringing more renewable resources online within the Western Interconnection as quickly

as possible. (GEA's Karl Gawell will be speaking at this event. See press release in the **State News** section of this newsletter).

All interested parties are encouraged to attend the kickoff meeting of the WREZ Steering Committee on May 28, 1–5 p.m. at the Sheraton City Center in Salt Lake City. Steering Committee members include governors, Canadian premiers and public utility commissioners, or their representatives. Federal officials from the U.S. Departments of Energy, Interior, and Agriculture, as well as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, will serve as ex officio members.

The goal of the project is to identify renewable energy zones based on common transmission needs, developable potential, timeframes, and the cost of development. Conceptual transmission plans to priority zones will be prepared to facilitate the environmentally sensitive development of the most cost-effective renewable resources. All feasible renewable resource technologies will be evaluated.

A Technical Committee comprising representatives from the states and provinces will coordinate stakeholder participation and the development of reports for the Steering Committee to consider. Stakeholder work groups will be created to: 1) develop criteria and perform the technical analysis for zones; 2) address environmental, land use and permitting issues; and 3) consider modeling options related to generation and transmission development and coordinate stakeholder involvement.

Anyone interested in attending the meeting and/or participating on a work group may do so by going to: http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=616661.

Questions about the meeting may be e-mailed to the project manager, Rich Halvey, at rhalvey@westgov.org.

UNCON FUEL 2008, May 28–29, Houston, TX

John A. Baardson, president and CEO, Baard Energy, will lead an impressive speaker list at SYNGAS Refiner's UNCON FUEL 2008, an unconventional transportation fuel and feedstock forum to be held in Houston, May 28 & 29 at the Marriott Westchase (www.SyngasRefiner.com/UNCON).

Idaho National Laboratory and Baard conducted coal-to-fuel plant simulation studies, concluding that CO2 emissions from CTL fuels can be materially lower than emissions from traditional diesel.

Baard Energy's 50,000-b/d Ohio River Clean Fuels (ORCF) plant will use a coal/biomass feedstock to produce diesel, jet fuel and a pure CO2 stream. Baardson will discuss how CTL plant developers can profitably incorporate biomass into the production of Fisher-Tropsch diesel.

U.S.CTL production could be supplying half the U.S. military's fuel requirements by 2015 and 70% by 2045. On the other hand, China, India and South Africa appear to be the leaders in this area, building numerous plants in the nominal 80,000-b/d range, while smaller U.S.CTL plants are being designed for roughly half that capacity.

Other UNCON FUEL 2008 speakers will address coal-based methanol-to-gasoline technologies, the CENTIA gasoline process and the Synfuels International process. View the full agenda online at www.SyngasRefiner.com/UNCON.

Early registration is $997 through next Monday, April 21 and can be made online at https://www.zeusdevelopment.com/secure/uncon/register.asp.

To register over the phone or for questions, please contact us at 713-952-9500.

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@mofo.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, visithttp://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*](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/*](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