



GEO THERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION

209 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003

Phone: (202) 454-5261 Fax: (202) 454-5265

Web Site: www.geo-energy.org

GEA Weekly Update February 11, 2008

National News.....	2
Stimulus Package With PTC Extension Fails by One Vote in Senate.....	2
DOE Budget 2009 Increases Geothermal Funding.....	3
EPA Budget FY 2009 Cuts Over \$300 Million.....	4
Budget Cuts EERE Funding by 27%.....	4
Company News.....	5
Calpine Opens New York Stock Exchange.....	5
Power-Gen Renewables Conference to Feature Three Geothermal Panels.....	5
Terra-Gen Announces New CEO.....	6
Western GeoPower Terminates Agreement With PG&E.....	7
Ormat Technologies Confirmed for Clean Tech & Renewables Conference.....	7
Renewable News.....	7
Google Pledges to Aid Solar, Wind, Geothermal.....	7
Portland Conference Outlines Energy Advancements.....	8
Climate Change News.....	9
CERA Analyzes Clean Energy Investment.....	9
Ten States Seek Fraud Protection for Carbon Offset Market.....	10
Banks Set Emissions Standards for Coal Lending.....	11
Study Warns Against Ethanol Development.....	11
State News.....	11
California: RETI Develops Plans for RPS Requirements.....	11
California: Sempra Unit Adds Geothermal Power.....	13
Nevada: G3 Plan Will Utilize Geothermal Power.....	13
Washington: Senators Introduce Geothermal Assessment Legislation.....	14
International News.....	14
Australia: Geodynamics Achieves Deep-Well Milestone.....	14
Germany: Ability Contracts for Geothermal Company.....	14
Nicaragua: Polaris Completes Geothermal Well.....	15
Philippines: Albay Plans P6.6 Billion Geothermal Project.....	15
Poland: Optimistic About Geothermal Potential.....	16
Notices and Employment Opportunities.....	16
Employment Opportunity—Terra-Gen Operating Company.....	16
Employment Opportunities—Mighty River Power.....	17
Employment Opportunity—Nevada Geothermal Power Inc.....	18
Employment Opportunity—NREL Management (Due March 5).....	19
Requests for Proposals (RFPs).....	19
RFP Alternative Energy Projects—Alaska (Due February 12).....	19
RFP Energy Cost Reduction Projects—Alaska (Due February 12).....	19
CEC RFP for International Energy Fund (Due February 13).....	19
RFP for All-Source Generation—Washington (Due February 29).....	19
SMUD to Release 2008 Renewable Energy RFO (Due April 2008).....	20
RFP Climate Change and Sustainability Conferences (Due June 5 and December 9 2008).....	20
Upcoming Events.....	21

POWER-GEN Renewable Energy & Fuels 2008, February 19–21, Las Vegas, Nevada.....	21
WIREC International Renewable Energy Conference, March 4–6, Washington, DC	21
4th International Geothermal Conference, April 24, Freiburg, Germany.....	21
SMU Geothermal Conference, June 17–18.....	21

National News

Stimulus Package With PTC Extension Fails by One Vote in Senate

The Senate failed to close debate on an economic stimulus package approved by the Senate Finance Committee on a bipartisan basis, which included extensions of renewable energy and energy efficiency tax provisions set to expire at the end of 2008. The vote on the amendment was 59 in favor, 40 against, but at the last minute, Senator Reid (D-NV) switched his vote to “no” in order to have an opportunity to ask for a second vote on the amendment.

However, the following legislative day the Senate proceeded to the Senate Finance package in a piecemeal fashion. Senators offered different provisions from the package, and only those that were not objected to be the Republican leadership were added to the final package. The renewable tax credits were offered, but drew objections from the Republican leadership and thus failed.

In the coming week, the House may take up an energy tax package. The House schedule currently includes consideration of the “Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008” which has yet to be reported by Chairman Rangel and the House Ways and Means Committee. House action on a renewable tax package before the February District Work Period, next week, is possible, but will take a concerted effort by the House Leadership to succeed given their crowded schedule for this week.

While the outlines of a House package are expected soon, any energy package is expected to raise additional issues because House rules will require it to be paid for offsetting revenue-raising measures. In December, the offset proposed to a similar measure drew strong Republican opposition. That offset was a repeal of the 2% income tax rate reduction afforded major oil and gas companies as part of legislation enacted in 2004 intended to promote U.S. exports. Opposition to repealing this tax break resulted in the defeat of the energy tax package in the Senate in December 2007.

The final cloture vote on the Senate Finance Committee’s Economic Stimulus Package is below. Note Senator Reid switched his vote to “no” from “yes” for procedural reasons:

Yeas—58

Akaka (D-HI)	Durbin (D-IL)	Murray (D-WA)
Baucus (D-MT)	Feingold (D-WI)	Nelson (D-FL)
Bayh (D-IN)	Feinstein (D-CA)	Nelson (D-NE)
Biden (D-DE)	Grassley (R-IA)	Obama (D-IL)
Bingaman (D-NM)	Harkin (D-IA)	Pryor (D-AR)
Boxer (D-CA)	Inouye (D-HI)	Reed (D-RI)
Brown (D-OH)	Johnson (D-SD)	Rockefeller (D-WV)
Byrd (D-WV)	Kennedy (D-MA)	Salazar (D-CO)
Cantwell (D-WA)	Kerry (D-MA)	Sanders (I-VT)
Cardin (D-MD)	Klobuchar (D-MN)	Schumer (D-NY)
Carper (D-DE)	Kohl (D-WI)	Smith (R-OR)
Casey (D-PA)	Landrieu (D-LA)	Snowe (R-ME)
Clinton (D-NY)	Lautenberg (D-NJ)	Specter (R-PA)
Coleman (R-MN)	Leahy (D-VT)	Stabenow (D-MI)
Collins (R-ME)	Levin (D-MI)	Tester (D-MT)
Conrad (D-ND)	Lieberman (I-CT)	Webb (D-VA)
Dodd (D-CT)	Lincoln (D-AR)	Whitehouse (D-RI)
Dole (R-NC)	McCaskill (D-MO)	Wyden (D-OR)

Domenici (R-NM)
Dorgan (D-ND)

Menendez (D-NJ)
Mikulski (D-MD)

Nays—41

Alexander (R-TN)
Allard (R-CO)
Barrasso (R-WY)
Bennett (R-UT)
Bond (R-MO)
Brownback (R-KS)
Bunning (R-KY)
Burr (R-NC)
Chambliss (R-GA)
Coburn (R-OK)
Cochran (R-MS)
Corker (R-TN)
Cornyn (R-TX)
Craig (R-ID)

Crapo (R-ID)
DeMint (R-SC)
Ensign (R-NV)
Enzi (R-WY)
Graham (R-SC)
Gregg (R-NH)
Hagel (R-NE)
Hatch (R-UT)
Hutchison (R-TX)
Inhofe (R-OK)
Isakson (R-GA)
Kyl (R-AZ)
Lugar (R-IN)
Martinez (R-FL)

McConnell (R-KY)
Murkowski (R-AK)
Reid (D-NV)
Roberts (R-KS)
Sessions (R-AL)
Shelby (R-AL)
Stevens (R-AK)
Sununu (R-NH)
Thune (R-SD)
Vitter (R-LA)
Voinovich (R-OH)
Warner (R-VA)
Wicker (R-MS)

Not Voting—1

McCain (R-AZ)

Immediately following the vote, the Sierra Club issued a press release asking "Where was Senator McCain on Clean Energy?" Their press release said: "Last night one vote prevented the Senate from advancing an economic stimulus package that included important clean energy incentives--a key addition to the package passed by the House last week. Despite being in Washington, John McCain was the only Senator who missed the vote, thus insuring its defeat. This latest move against more clean energy comes at a time when McCain's speeches are full of pledges to increase America's use of clean energy to fight global warming."

"The Sierra Club is launching a grassroots campaign today to urge citizens to call Senator McCain and tell him to be sure to show up and vote yes next time," their statement indicated.

For the full text of the Sierra Club release, go to <http://www.sierraclub.org/pressroom/releases/pr2008-02-07.asp>.

DOE Budget 2009 Increases Geothermal Funding

President George W. Bush revealed his proposed federal budget for fiscal year (FY) 2009 including \$25 billion for the Department of Energy (DOE) on Feb. 4, reported the *EERE Network News*.

Bush requested \$1.255 billion for DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. The budgeted amount is essentially the same as Bush's budget request for FY 2008 funding but about 18% lower than the actual FY 2008 funding.

The proposed funding for U.S. geothermal energy development efforts will increase by \$10.2 million to \$30 million in FY 2009 versus \$19.8 million budgeted for FY 2008. The increase is to provide for field demonstrations of enhanced geothermal systems technologies.

There is a 13.5% increase for research and development programs in biomass and refinery systems, efficient building technologies, the Federal Energy Management Program, vehicle technologies, industrial technologies, and wind energy, among other initiatives.

Hydrogen and fuel cell funding is cut by 69%. Research in hydrogen production will instead focus on hydrogen storage and fuel cell technologies to develop a practical fuel cell vehicle by 2015.

Funding for state energy programs is increased by 13% and proposes \$7.5 million in new funding for the Asia Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. It eliminates funding for Weatherization Assistance Grants and the Renewable Energy Production Incentive.

The President's Advanced Energy Initiative proposes \$3.2 billion, a 28% increase, and \$225 million for the President's Solar America Initiative (\$156 million for EERE and \$69 million for DOE's Office of Science).

It requests \$19.9 million for administrative expenses of DOE's new loan guarantee program and requests extension of authorization to issue loans through FY 2010 and FY 2011.

For more information, visit <http://www.eere.energy.gov/news/enn.cfm>. The budget proposal is available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2009/budget.html>.

EPA Budget FY 2009 Cuts Over \$300 Million

On February 4, Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, commented on President Bush's proposed 2009 budget for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

"The EPA's job is to protect the health of our families, but with this budget the President is once again sending a clear message that cleaning up our environment is not a priority for the Bush Administration," Sen. Boxer said.

The President has proposed to reduce EPA's budget by \$330 million (a 4.4% cut). The budget request eliminates funding for the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Registry, a \$3.4 million cut, which would undermine the government's ability to track global warming pollution. The request also cuts \$7 million (38%) from programs that seek to use science and technology to address global warming.

"If nothing else, the President is consistent when it comes to the EPA budget," said Rep. John D. Dingell (D-MI), Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. "His assault on important environmental programs continues with the lowest funding request for EPA in eight years."

For more information, visit http://epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Majority.PressReleases&ContentRecord_id=ea044afc-802a-23ad-4948-389d74b36b6b&Designation=Majority, http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_110/110nr191.shtml, and http://eesi.org/publications/Press%20Releases/2008/epa_fy09budget.htm.

Budget Cuts EERE Funding by 27%

The President's fiscal year (FY) 2009 budget request for the Department of Energy (DOE)'s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) programs is \$1.26 billion (5% of the DOE budget)—essentially flat with the FY 2008 budget request and 27% below FY 2008 appropriations.

Although there is a significant increase for geothermal and increases for biomass and building technology, the funding for DOE's energy efficiency and renewable energy technology investments includes significant cuts in hydropower technology and tribal energy activities and zeroes out investments in weatherization assistance program grants and the Renewable Energy Production Incentive (REPI).

Carol Werner, Executive Director of the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) said, "The funding priorities reflected in the President's FY 2009 budget appear in conflict with the goals of expanding renewable energy development and making the economy more energy efficient."

For more information, visit

http://eesi.org/publications/Press%20Releases/2008/doe_eere_fy09budget.htm and
http://www1.eere.energy.gov/ba/pba/budget_09.html

Company News

Calpine Opens New York Stock Exchange

Calpine Corporation emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings on Jan. 31 and is now moving forward. The Calpine management team rang the bell to open the New York Stock Exchange on Feb. 8, celebrating its return to Wall Street, reported Mercury News.

The company came out of a two-year bankruptcy after cutting workforce, selling plants, closing offices, and trimming debt.

Calpine operates 80 power plants and is back on track for future growth.

For more information, visit www.calpine.com and
http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_8208056.

Power-Gen Renewables Conference to Feature Three Geothermal Panels

Power-Gen will hold their fifth Renewable Energy & Fuels (PGREF) conference on Feb. 19–21 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The program includes three panel sessions on geothermal energy.

The conference unites solar, biomass and alternative fuels, hydro, and geothermal sectors to cover the most important trends and issues impacting the industry. Focuses will be on renewable energy's role in global warming, energy security, and the nation's electricity and will involve technical, strategic, regulatory, structural, and economic issues. GEA has been a supporter of the Conference, and helped organize the following geothermal panels:

PGREF Session: FINANCING GEOTHERMAL POWER: EXPLORATION TO OPERATION – PANEL DISCUSSION

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008

Time: 9:30–11:30 AM

Chair: Thomas King, US Renewable Group

Co-chair: John McCaull, Geothermal Energy Association

Session Description: This panel will address the unique risks and opportunities associated with investment in geothermal power, as well as the techniques, structures and market participants that have been created to increase the flow of capital to the sector.

- Charles Arrigo, Glitnir Capital Corp.
- Thomas King, US Renewables Group
- Phil Mintun, Capstar Partners Capital LLC
- Kevin Bolin, EnerTech Environmental Inc. (invited)
- Robert Banack, Dundee Securities

PGREF Session: NEW TRENDS IN THE GEOTHERMAL MARKETPLACE

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2008

Time: 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Chair: Karl Gawell, Geothermal Energy Association

Co-chair: John McCaull, Geothermal Energy Association

Session Description: In the past few years, geothermal projects have developed at a rapid pace, with nearly 70 projects under some phase of development in 11 states throughout the United States. When all new geothermal capacity is brought online, it will double current output. This session will discuss the issues, challenges and opportunities faced by geothermal companies. The panel will discuss some of the factors currently contributing to geothermal development, along with factors expected to result in expanded geothermal development in the future, such as the west-wide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for geothermal energy.

It's Hot! National Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Geothermal Leasing
David Batts and John King, EMPS Inc.; Jack Peterson, Bureau of Land Management; Tracy Parker, USDA Forest Service

Assessment of Power Generation Capacity of the Western GeoPower Leasehold at the Geysers Geothermal Field, California
Kenneth MacLeod, Western GeoPower Corp.; Dr. Christopher Klein, Dr. James McNitt, Roger Henneberger and Dr. Subir Sanyal, GeothermEx Inc.

The Geysers: A New Era of Exploration
Dennis Gilles, Calpine Corp.

The Potential Impact on Geothermal Development in Nevada of the Recommendations of Governor Jim Gibbons' Renewable Energy Transmission Access Advisory Committee
Dan Schochet, Ormat

PGREF Session: NEW TRENDS IN GEOTHERMAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2008

Time: 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Chair: Curt Robinson, Geothermal Resources Council

Session Description: In this multidisciplinary session, experts will review the advances that have occurred in recent years for the geothermal industry. New trends will bring experts from the field to discuss mitigating risk, resource exploration, drilling, and power plant development.

Low-Temperature Geothermal Power Generation with HVAC Hardware
Halley Dickey, UTC Power

Integrating Renewable and Fossil Fuel Technologies at the Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center (RMOTC) – An Overview and Demonstration Projects
Lyle Johnson and Dr. Jim States, Rocky Mountain Oilfield Testing Center

Is EGS Commercially Feasible?
Dr. Subir K. Sanyal, James W. Morrow, Steven J. Butler and Ann Robertson-Tait, GeothermEx Inc.

California's Upcoming Geothermal Energy Research and Development Roadmap
Kenneth Koyama, California Energy Commission

The event will take place at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas.

For more information, please visit

<http://pgre08.events.pennnet.com/fl/content.cfm?NavId=6137&Language=Engl>.

Terra-Gen Announces New CEO

Terra-Gen Power, LLC named James Pagano as its new Chief Executive Officer, according to the PR Newswire. Pagano is coming to Terra-Gen from LS Power Development, where he was the company president. His over 20 years of renewable energy experience also includes positions at Caithness Energy and Cogentrix Energy Inc.

Pagano told the press, "Terra-Gen's outstanding renewable assets and seasoned management team combine to create a strong foundation for future growth and success." He added, "The Company's relationship with ArcLight will help to facilitate and finance the expansion of the business to capitalize on the exciting renewable energy opportunities available domestically."

Terra-Gen owns interests in twenty geothermal, wind, and solar generating plants located throughout the United States.

For more information, visit

http://www.prnewswire.com/news/index_mail.shtml?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/02-05-2008/0004749390&EDATE.

Western GeoPower Terminates Agreement With PG&E

Western GeoPower Corp., a renewable energy development company, today announced that it has exercised its right to terminate the Power Purchase Agreement dated May 9, 2007 between its wholly-owned subsidiary Western GeoPower, Inc. and Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) of San Francisco for the supply of electricity from the proposed Western GeoPower Unit 1 at Geysers Geothermal Field in California.

California Public Utilities Commission approval was not received within the time-frame stipulated in the Power Purchase Agreement. "The termination of the Power Purchase Agreement will not affect the projected start of commercial operations in early 2010 for the Western GeoPower Unit 1 power plant," said Kenneth MacLeod, President and CEO of Western GeoPower.

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

For more information, visit <http://www.geopower.ca/news%202008/08feb2008.htm>.

Ormat Technologies Confirmed for Clean Tech & Renewables Conference

Ormat Technologies, Inc. today announced that Yoram Bronicki, president and chief operating officer, will present at the Piper Jaffray 2008 Clean Tech & Renewables Conference in New York City.

Mr. Bronicki will provide an overview of the business and financial highlights at 10:30 a.m. EST on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2008 during a live listen-only webcast. To access the live event, visit the company's Web site at www.ormat.com and click on "Event Calendar" under the Investor Relations heading or visit the conference Web site directly at <http://www.piperjaffray.com/conferences>. The presentation will be archived for up to 30 days following the conference.

Renewable News

Google Pledges to Aid Solar, Wind, Geothermal

Google Inc. is taking a greater initiative in alternative energy investments, reported *Reuters*. The Internet search company has already committed \$20 million to solar-thermal and wind power research and development. Dan Reicher, director of climate and energy initiatives for Google.org is now looking at investing in a geothermal systems firm.

Sources at Google had previously told the press it planned to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to help drive the cost of electricity made from renewable sources below the price of power generated from coal plants.

The company has pledged \$10 million to eSolar Inc. to support solar thermal power and \$10 million in Makani Power Inc. for high-altitude wind technologies.

Google is interested in enhanced geothermal systems (EGS), which pumps water into hot rocks rather than harvesting hot water already there.

Reicher said Google.org was looking "very carefully at a couple of investment opportunities in companies" with EGS technology.

For more information, visit <http://www.reuters.com/article/ousivMolt/idUSN0630565920080206>.

Portland Conference Outlines Energy Advancements

Portland's eighth annual Harvesting Clean Energy conference in January attracted over 600 people, according to harvestcleanenergy.org.

Barry Bushue, Oregon Farm Bureau president, outlined advances in renewable technology in Oregon. He told attendees that "whether to refer to it as renewable, clean or green, energy and energy policy is taking on things that weren't even conceived of 50 years ago." He discussed the importance of collaboration and mutual benefit.

Participants announced advancements in many facets of renewable energy.

The U.S. Department of Energy announced the first cellulosic ethanol demonstration plant in the Northwest. The plant will be co-located at the site of Pacific Ethanol's existing ethanol facility in Boardman.

Sandra Walden, a developer with Commercial Solar Ventures in Portland, announced an 870-kilowatt roof-mounted solar system in Portland to be completed by October.

David Chen, chair of the Oregon Innovation Council and founder of Equilibrium Capital Group, said it's an incredibly exciting time for renewable energies such as solar, wind, biofuel, geothermal, and others, and there is a lot of money going toward building clean energy infrastructure. He said now is the time for farmers to get involved in sessions at conferences, talk to universities and experts, and influence politicians.

"There's a sense out there it's a gold rush," he said. "The caution I would have is this is a marathon, don't get caught up in a gold rush."

Chen said it is essential to have the tax credits to help renewable energy projects.

For more information, visit

<http://www.eastoregonian.info/main.asp?SectionID=13&SubSectionID=48&ArticleID=72769&TM=900.294>

Climate Change News

CERA Analyzes Clean Energy Investment

The Cambridge Energy Research Associates (CERA) released an analysis that addresses the public's interest in clean energy and the resulting push in public policy and private investment, according to *MSN Money*. Worldwide clean energy investment could surpass \$7 trillion by 2030, according to the report.

Entitled *Crossing the Divide: The Future of Clean Energy*, the report "provides an integrated framework for understanding the current and future role of renewables and clean energy technologies, and the implications for company strategies and the competitive landscape," says the CERA Web site.

The report outlined different players in the coming years of energy growth. Internationally, several places are taking the lead: Brazil in biofuels, Germany in photovoltaic (PV) technology, and Spain in wind technologies. Renewable power technologies will see substantial growth. Government policy will continue to drive advancements, with the challenge to provide subsidies and help technologies become commercially viable on their own.

Crossing the Divide identified the main drivers in clean energy technological development and its commercial success:

- Oil and natural gas prices
- Government policy
- Pace of technology innovation
- Economic growth
- The Big Three: The United States, the European Union, and China have the most impact on energy consumption.

Using scenarios, CERA suggested risks and opportunities among clean energy technologies. Those that can provide energy at the least risk and greatest ease included biofuels, renewable power technologies, carbon capture and storage, nuclear, and hydropower.

The Launch Pad scenario combines strong energy prices, public pressure to control CO₂ emissions, and a stable investment to drive a wide range of technologies. In the CERA findings, renewable power capacity grows from 3 to 16% of global capacity and biofuels grow from less than 2% to 16% of the total road transportation fuels market by 2030.

The Global Fissures scenario combined weaker global economic growth with increasing global tensions and political insecurity. Findings show renewable power capacity growing to 7% of the global power mix, nuclear power having little growth, and carbon capture and storage technology failing to develop commercially by 2030.

The Asian Phoenix scenario expands Asia's role as consumer and exporter of clean energy technologies. Findings show inconsistent government support, with inconsistent private investment flows, limiting technological and commercial breakthroughs. Renewable power grows to 10% of global capacity, and biofuels capture 7% of the market for road transportation fuels by 2030.

The study went on to highlight expectations for each facet of energy technologies, encouraging a reality check for each of the following:

- Biofuels, which have two constraints: competition for land with food crops and relatively high production costs. However, development is rapidly growing, and more petroleum could be displaced if next generation technology is developed that converts more plentiful nonfood biomass into fuel and expands the useable crop base.

- Wind, with the key being a movement to low-speed onshore sites and offshore wind development. It has relatively low cost compared with other renewable power alternatives.
- Biomass, which needs cost-effective, dedicated biomass crops.
- Geothermal power; enhanced geothermal systems were named as the greatest potential for expanding the role of geothermal. Current trends indicate that new geothermal power projects should increase installed capacity by 50% or more in the next five years as the number of countries with geothermal power operations doubles to over 40.
- Solar PV; the downfall is that it costs significantly more than conventional power generation. However, its versatility and falling manufacturing costs make solar PV attractive to the investment community.
- Concentrating solar power (CSP), which is less expensive than solar PV and also better sized for utility production. However, they still require subsidies in order to compete in the marketplace.
- Ocean; these technologies are still in early stages, making them unlikely to offer significant advances despite the enormous energy potential. However, successful projects could have an impact on a local level.
- Carbon capture and storage (CCS); capturing and effectively storing CO₂ before it reaches the atmosphere is at least two decades away from large-scale deployment. Associated political, regulatory, and legal issues still need to be worked out.
- Nuclear; challenges include policy, capital costs, waste management, and public opinion. Risks include a major safety incident or a successful terrorist attack. However, it is an important part of the world's current electricity mix, providing 15% of global power generation.
- Hydropower; concerns include social and environmental impact from large-scale dams and reservoirs. However, it currently provides 16% of global power generation and is undergoing experimentation by many developing economies and power systems.

For more information, visit

<http://news.moneycentral.msn.com/ticker/article.aspx?Feed=BW&Date=20080205&ID=8139069&Symbol=IHS>. The report is available at <http://www.cera.com/asp/cda/client/knowledgeArea/serviceDescription.aspx?KID=199>.

Ten States Seek Fraud Protection for Carbon Offset Market

On Jan. 25, California Attorney General Edmund Brown Jr., along with nine other state attorneys general, sent a letter to the Federal Trade Commission recommending tighter guidelines for businesses that sell carbon emission offset credits. These credits represent environmental projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions elsewhere in the environment, allowing businesses to purchase these credits to offset their own emissions.

Brown and other attorneys general are requesting that the FTC set a clearer definition of what qualifies as a carbon offset, as well as conduct more thorough research into consumers' understanding of the offset market. "Currently, the market for these offsets is volatile, largely unregulated, and has serious potential for fraud," Brown said.

With the market for carbon offsets expected to reach \$100 million annually in the United States within the next four years, the FTC recently requested public comments by Jan. 25. The letter sent in response by Brown and attorneys general from Vermont, Arkansas, Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Illinois, Connecticut and New Hampshire outlined potential problems in the market and makes recommendations to protect potential consumers.

"The Federal Trade Commission must set clear guidelines for the sale of carbon offset credits," Brown said. "As more Americans try to offset their carbon emissions, the danger grows that some individuals will attempt to manipulate the system. Consumers must feel confident that they actually get what they pay for—real carbon reduction offsets."

For more information, visit <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/jan2008/2008-01-25-091.asp>.

Banks Set Emissions Standards for Coal Lending

On Feb. 4, three banks announced they would be setting new standards that factor in environmental risks when lending to power companies seeking to build coal-fired power plants. Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase & Co, and Morgan Stanley plan to release "The Carbon Principles," a set of guidelines for advisers and lenders to power plants in the United States.

The banks have concluded that some form of emissions cap on greenhouse gases is inevitable in the next few years, and those companies that exceed their emissions allowances will have to purchase additional permits. "What is earthshakingly different between now and two years ago is the focus on CO₂," said Eric Fornell, vice chairman of JP Morgan's natural resources banking division.

The principles developed by the banks are intended to be industry-wide, and several other financial institutions are expected to follow their lead. "I think there will be several other banks that will join in over the next few weeks," said Jeffrey Holzschuh, vice chairman of institutional securities at Morgan Stanley.

For more information, visit <http://www.reuters.com/article/etfNews/idUSWNAS913620080204> and <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB120209079624339759.html>.

Study Warns Against Ethanol Development

Researchers affiliated with Princeton University and other institutions released a study published in *Science* magazine that challenges the use of ethanol from corn.

The widespread use of ethanol from corn would cause land use changes that could result in nearly twice the greenhouse gas emissions as gasoline. Under economic pressure to produce biofuels, farmers would "plow up more forest or grasslands," releasing much of the carbon formerly stored in plants and soils through decomposition or fires, the study said.

Congress and the White House have been very supportive of ethanol, seeing it as the answer to imported oil and a key in the fight against global warming. But the study says previous positive reports had neglected to consider the realistic effects of a switch.

"Using good cropland to expand biofuels will probably exacerbate global warming," concludes the study.

For more information, visit <http://www.time.com/time/health/article/0,8599,1711184,00.html>. The study is available at <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/311/5760/506>.

State News

California: RETI Develops Plans for RPS Requirements

Contributed by John McCaull, GEA Western States Representative

California's Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) is mapping a plan to meet California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requirements.

In 2002, California established its RPS Program. The goal was to increase the percentage of renewable energy in the state's electricity mix to 20% by 2017. The Energy Commission's 2003 Integrated Energy Policy Report (http://www.energy.ca.gov/2003_energy_policy/index.html) recommended accelerating that goal to 2010, and the 2004 Energy Report Update

(http://www.energy.ca.gov/2004_policy_update/index.html) further recommended increasing the target to 33% by 2020. The state's Energy Action Plan (http://www.energy.ca.gov/energy_action_plan/index.html) supported this goal.

The California Energy Commission is charged with implementing portions of California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) established under Senate Bill 1078. Under the requirements of this legislation, retail sellers of electricity must increase the amount of renewable energy they procure each year by at least 1% so that 20% of their retail sales are served with renewable electricity by Dec. 31, 2010. The Energy Commission certifies eligible renewable energy resources that satisfy RPS procurement requirements and develops an accounting system to verify retail sellers' compliance with the RPS. Renewable energy resources eligible to satisfy RPS procurement requirements may also qualify for funding under the other elements of the Renewable Energy Program.

Implementation of these RPS policies will require extensive improvements to California's electric transmission infrastructure. RETI is a new statewide planning process that has been initiated to identify the transmission projects needed to accommodate these renewable energy goals. The purpose of RETI is to bring together all of the renewable transmission and generation stakeholders in the state of California to participate in a consensus-based process to identify, plan, and establish a rigorous analytical basis for regulatory approvals of the next major transmission projects needed to access renewable resources in California and adjacent areas.

The RETI will try to identify and assess what it is calling "competitive renewable energy zones" (CREZs) in California and in neighboring states that can provide significant electricity to California consumers by the year 2020. The RETI process hinges upon trying to identify those CREZs that can be developed in the most cost effective and environmentally benign manner and will prepare detailed transmission plans for those CREZs identified for development.

The analytical aspect of RETI is critical to its success. RETI must provide agreed-upon analytical bases to compare CREZ and associated major transmission projects against each other so that decision makers are informed about the choices they are being asked to make. The California ISO interconnection queue currently contains over 40,000 MW of renewable generation projects. Meanwhile, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is being asked to approve multi-billion dollar transmission projects with few assurances that the generation proposed to use those facilities will actually be constructed, and with little information to compare whether development of one resource area might be more economic than another. Given that California ratepayers are expected to pay for both transmission investment and generation costs, California decision makers are sorely in need of information that supports them in making decisions in the best interests of those ratepayers. A major purpose of RETI is to provide this necessary information to decision makers.

The RETI effort will be supervised by a coordinating committee comprised of California entities responsible for ensuring the implementation of the state's renewable energy policies and development of electric infrastructure, namely:

- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- California Energy Commission (Energy Commission)
- California Independent System Operator (California ISO)
- Publicly-Owned Utilities (SCPPA, SMUD, and NCPA)

Through a stakeholder steering committee, RETI will:

- Operate as a stakeholder planning collaborative and will involve a broad range of participants, first to gather information and advice, and then to build active and consensus support for specific plans for renewable energy and related transmission development;
- Work within the existing planning processes at the California ISO, including any modifications to that planning process resulting from compliance with Order No. 890 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

- Support Energy Commission energy policy development, transmission planning, transmission corridor designation, and power plant siting to help facilitate and coordinate the planning and permitting of renewable energy related transmission and generation and minimize duplication of efforts; and
- Work with the publicly-owned utilities (POUs), investor-owned utilities (IOUs), and developers.
- Among other things, the RETI process will help tie together the renewable procurement process with the development of generation and transmission so that one does not lag behind the others.

RETI's work plan is as follows:

1. Identify Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) having densities of developable resources that best justify building transmission to them (Phase 1),
2. Rank CREZ on the basis of environmental considerations, development certainty and schedule, and cost and value to California consumers (Phase 1),
3. Develop conceptual transmission plans to the highest-ranking CREZ (Phase 2),
4. Support the California Independent System Operator Corporation (California ISO), Investor-Owned Utilities (IOUs) and Publicly-Owned Utilities (POUs) in developing detailed plans of service for commercially viable transmission projects (Phase 3), and
5. Provide detailed analysis regarding comparative costs and benefits to help establish the basis for regulatory approvals of specific transmission projects (starts in Phase 1 but is revised based on new information developed in Phases 2 and 3).

GEA is represented through this process by its Western States Representative John McCaull. He will provide regular updates on this process for member companies. Please contact him by email at john@geo-energy.org or phone at 707-935-6885 or visit the RETI website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/reti/index.html>.

California: Sempra Unit Adds Geothermal Power

San Diego Gas & Electric, a unit of Sempra Energy, announced a deal to use more geothermal power, reported cleantech.com.

The purchase agreement, signed with Esmeralda Truckhaven Geothermal of California, will add 40 MW of steam power, bringing their total geothermal supply to 60 MW.

San Diego Gas & Electric said renewable resources supply 5% of its energy. This additional purchase would power 26,000 homes.

For more information, visit <http://media.cleantech.com/2410/sempra-unit-adds-geothermal-power>.

Nevada: G3 Plan Will Utilize Geothermal Power

Vulcan Power Company has announced the G3 Power Plan, which will provide power from geothermal steam zones in northwest Nevada, according to *Fox Business*.

Dr. Lisa Shevenell at the Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy at University Nevada Reno released a statement that estimates 2,500 MW of geothermal natural steam exists in northern Nevada. This could generate power for 2.5 million people.

The G3 Plan deals with green grid transmission upgrades, which are needed in order for Nevada steamfields deliver a "green gigawatt" (1,000 MW) of clean geothermal power each to Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

"G3 Plan transmission economics are very compelling," Vulcan board member Richard Rodgers told the press. "Geothermal is a bargain for California, particularly when compared to new gas fired power, believed to cost \$0.096 per kWh. The first 1,000 MW of new geothermal could justify building about \$4 billion worth of grid upgrades and doubling that output justifies \$8 billion in upgrades."

The plan is expected to have economic and environmental benefits for all parties.

For more information, visit www.G3Plan.com and http://www.foxbusiness.com/article/g3-power-plan-new-green-power-25-million-americans-geothermal-steam-boom_467588_1.html.

Washington: Senators Introduce Geothermal Assessment Legislation

State Senators Kline, Pridemore, Rockefeller, and Jacobsen have introduced legislation in the Washington State Senate providing for an assessment of the state's geothermal resources. Senate Bill 6897 would establish a geothermal resource assessment committee to "conduct a comprehensive assessment of the geothermal resources in the state and their potential for environmentally responsible development for power production purposes."

The legislation would direct completion of the assessment by Dec. 1, 2008.

To access the bill, visit <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/summary.aspx?bill=6897&year=2008>.

International News

Australia: Geodynamics Achieves Deep-Well Milestone

Geodynamics has completed drilling on the largest and deepest onshore well in Australia, reported the *Herald Sun*.

The Australian concept of circulating water through a deep artificial reservoir of hot granite is different from more shallow geothermal plants, and this event marks success in an experimental area. The hole is over 4.2 km, tapping into an underground reservoir at 250°C.

Managing director Gerry Grove-White told the press that open circulation testing would begin within a couple weeks. He added that the completion of the well was a world milestone, providing data to geothermal developers in the U.S., Europe, and Japan.

"Today, we have proven a hot fractured rock production well of this depth can be successfully drilled," he said.

Geodynamics will drill three more deep wells this year.

For more information, visit <http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,23166123-664,00.html>.

Germany: Ability Contracts for Geothermal Company

Ability Drilling ASA signed a drilling rig contract valued at US\$74.1 million with Geoenergie Bayern GmbH (GEB), a private German geothermal energy company, according to ability-drilling.no.

Based in Norway, Ability Drilling will provide drilling rigs to GEB by August or September of this year. The contract is set at five years, with an automatic 12-month extension unless voluntarily terminated.

Ability CEO Hans Petter Eikeland told the press, "We expect that our contract partner in Germany will develop into a long-term and large player in the geothermal market, utilizing multiple rigs from Ability Drilling." He added, "We feel that the outlook for our drilling rig fleet is more than promising."

For more information, visit <http://www.ability-drilling.no/News/tabid/78/Default.aspx>.

Nicaragua: Polaris Completes Geothermal Well

Polaris Geothermal Inc. announced the completion of its well SJ9-2 at its San Jacinto–Tizate Geothermal Project in Nicaragua, according to polarisgeothermal.com.

Along with SJ9-1, the other new production well at the site, SJ9-2 will undergo well production testing. Results from the two wells are expected in late February and mid March, respectively. For more information, visit <http://www.polarisgeothermal.com/eng/news20080207.html>.

Philippines: Albay Plans P6.6 Billion Geothermal Project

A P6.6 billion milestone geothermal project that will soon rise in Albay would place the province among the mainstream geothermal energy provider in the country.

This according to Albay governor Joey Sarte Salceda with the approval of Albay Provincial Development Council (APDC) of the Philippine National Oil Corporation (PNOC-EDC) proposal to develop a P6.6 billion geothermal project in Manito, a fourth class coastal town in Albay rich in geothermal resources. Governor Salceda said the geothermal project dubbed as "Kayabon Energy Project" in Manito town is expected to produce some 40 MW of geothermal energy.

Salceda said this energy project is the largest single investment in the history of Albay, indicating that Albay will soon be at the economic helm of developing provinces.

"The project will also make Albay energy sufficient aside from the energy resources of the 325 MW National Power Corporation (NPC) geothermal power plant in Tiwi town," Salceda said.

He said the Kayabon Geothermal Project is consistent with the energy development plan of the government and is compliant with the "Climate Change" policy of the province.

At the APDC meeting, PNOC president Paul Aquino presented the project plan, which has three components: exploration of up to 6 wells worth P220 million per well in the villages of Nagotgot and Pawa in Manito starting May this year, steam production, and setting up of a power plant.

Aquino said the geothermal project was endorsed by the councils of the two villages covered by the project and the local government of Manito and was subsequently approved by the APDC.

The project would employ some 2,200 workers who would earn some P915 million income benefits, while the province, the town of Manito, and the two villages would get some P34 million in yearly real property taxes (P27 million) and royalty taxes (P7 million).

Salceda in an interview said unlike the previous BacMan (Bacon-Manito) geothermal project, the province share has 13% against the 87% share received by Sorsogon.

He said, "with this project, Albay will get 100% revenues arising from royalty, real property taxes, employment, and road network."

For more information, visit

<http://www.pia.gov.ph/default.asp?m=12&r=&y=&mo=&fi=p080211.htm&no=37>.

Poland: Optimistic About Geothermal Potential

The European Commission has taken action against Poland for banning the sale of genetically modified plants. Poland also has the largest coal deposits in Europe. In light of these scenarios, polskieradio.com recently featured a letter about geothermal energy in the country. “Letter from Poland” by Anna Piwowarska described Poland’s potential for geothermal energy and showed a different side to energy potential in the country.

Piwowarska said that geothermal energy is becoming popular in Zakopane and the surrounding Podhale region, with the Tatra Mountains a perfect location for production.

The Polish Academy of Studies built their first experimental geothermal plant at Bańska Niżna hot springs in the early nineties. The National Fund for the Protection of the Environment and Water Balance was formed in 1993, a milestone for geothermal energy development in the country.

Piwowarska described the eco-friendly desires of the Polish and surmised that with help from EU and other foreign subventions, Poland’s raw materials can be tapped with extremely positive results. She noted that in Zakopane, where 90% of hotels and around a quarter of a million private households utilize this form of energy, there is an 80% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions.

Currently, 10% of renewable energy in Poland is geothermal.

For more information, visit http://www.polskieradio.pl/zagranica/news/artykul75113_Eco_Poland.html.

Notices and Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunity—Terra-Gen Operating Company

Terra-Gen Operating Company is a newly formed independent power producer operating clean and reliable energy projects located in several western states. Current renewable projects include wind, geothermal, and solar. Terra-Gen is currently seeking...

Geothermal Resource Manager:

Manage/develop the geothermal resource company wide. Maintain departmental budget. Direct/support geological/resource needs i.e., on-going geologic model, temperature model, reservoir and well performance evaluation. Evaluate geothermal reservoirs, provides recommendations for well field operations. Target drilling for production and injection wells. Provide technical support for well maintenance i.e., workovers, acid jobs, caustic jobs, surveys, etc. Desired qualification: Relevant BS from 4 yr college or university; or 10 yrs related exp and/or training; or equal education and experience. Geological and temperature modeling knowledge.

Environmental Manager:

Supervise the Environmental Compliance Dept personnel. Oversee departmental budget integrated into plant budgets. Document, review and track department activities, reports, compliance documents, audits, and investigations. Ensure company operations comply with environmental permit requirements and federal, state and county/district regulations. Maintain an effective relationship with regulatory agencies. Prepare and update company programs, policies, and procedures for safety and environmental compliance.

Organize, develop, implement and administer the company's safety program. Desired qualifications:- Bachelor's Degree from a 4 yr college or university; and 8+ yrs related experience and/or training; or equal education and experience. Environmental & safety regulation knowledge.

To apply for either position, send a resume to Terra-Gen Operating Company, Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 1690, Inyokern, CA 93527, fax to 760-764-1318, or email to djackson@tgpny.com. Terra-Gen Operating Company is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Employment Opportunities—Mighty River Power

Mighty River Power's diverse generation portfolio helps New Zealand ensure its ability to meet future energy needs. Mighty River Power is an integrated energy generation and retail business with a diverse and expanding portfolio of generation assets throughout the North Island of New Zealand. That portfolio includes rapidly growing geothermal interests including those at Mokai, Rotokawa, Kawerau, and throughout the Taupo Volcanic Region. Mighty River Power's geothermal team performs to world class standards and is focused on implementing cutting-edge technology to the development of these renewable and greenhouse friendly energy resources. Rapid growth in our geothermal business has increased their need for engineers to join the geothermal team. They're looking for motivated engineers with good written and verbal English skill. They offer a stimulating environment for those who want to apply their geothermal expertise, whilst enjoying New Zealand's extensive lifestyle opportunities.

Reservoir Engineer:

As a reservoir engineer you will:

- Design and supervise well tests, and collect and interpret results
- Propose and oversee field monitoring projects
- Characterize resource behavior using sophisticated computer modeling software.
- Provide valuable technical support to high-dollar energy resource projects.

An engineering, hydrology or applied maths degree are relevant qualifications. An interest in real-world applications in a mixed office and outdoor environment is essential, as well as interests in geology, civil engineering, hydrology and computer modeling. Specialized knowledge and skills in geothermal field management, resource monitoring and well testing will be developed over time. This position reports to the Geoscience Manager and is located in Hamilton.

Senior Mechanical Engineer:

As a senior mechanical engineer you will:

- provide vital strategic support to both operations and new generation development
- provide engineering and economic evaluation for enhancement opportunities of existing assets and new developments
- oversee and provide leadership for a multi-disciplined team of engineers.
- ensure that the company's strategic goals are achieved through assurance of plant performance in consideration of life cycle costs

The ideal person for this role will hold a relevant engineering qualification and have more than ten years experience in geothermal projects. This position reports to the Geothermal Engineering Manager and is located in Hamilton.

Plant Chemical Engineer:

As plant chemical engineer you will:

- be responsible for determining appropriate treatment processes throughout the different geothermal power generation cycles
- oversee various specialist service providers
- review industry trends to ensure best practice principles are being applied
- specify and review the design of new installations
- supervise investigations

The ideal person for this role will hold a relevant engineering qualification and have more than five years experience in geothermal power plant operation. This position reports to the Operations Manager and is located in Taupo.

Maintenance Manager:

As maintenance manager, responsible for a portfolio of power generation plant currently totaling 150MW and expanding to 500MW in the near future, you will:

- proactively improve and implement systems to enhance plant availability
- oversee and provide leadership for a multi-disciplined team of engineers.
- remain aware and trained on all technical advancements in the area of responsibility
- manage plant level capital projects in conjunction with the engineering team

This role will require a relevant engineering qualification and have more than ten years experience in geothermal power plant operation, including demonstrated line management skills. This position reports to the Operations Manager and is located in Taupo.

Drilling Engineer:

As a drilling engineer you will:

- Write drilling programs and monitor drilling progress
- Assist the onsite drilling supervisor with implementation of high profile drilling operations
- Review operations for process improvements
- Provide technical support to field managers and reservoir groups for well maintenance.

An engineering degree with computer skills and good written and spoken English communications skills are required. Specialized knowledge and skills in geothermal drilling are important and additional experienced can be developed over time where needed. This position reports to the Drilling Manager - Geothermal and is located in Hamilton.

If you would like more information about Mighty River Power please see the company Web site at www.mightyriver.co.nz. If you would like more information about any of these vacancies or wish to apply then email careers@mightyriver.co.nz, or phone +64 9 5803612, or post your application to Human Resources, Private Bag 92008, Auckland Mail Centre.

Employment Opportunity—Nevada Geothermal Power Inc.

Nevada Geothermal Power Inc. is seeking an experienced Geothermal Resource Exploration and Development Manager. Nevada Geothermal Power's 30 MW geothermal power development at Blue Mountain near Winnemucca is financed to production (\$120 million). This dynamic company seeks to significantly expand the resource base at Blue Mountain and is actively developing other geothermal power projects to meet the increasing demand for clean energy. The Company is well financed and expects significant growth through the next decade.

Geothermal Resource Exploration and Development Manager:

This is a senior management position that requires a MS in Geological Sciences, Geological Engineering or Hydrology with 10+ years experience with geothermal field development. The successful candidate will plan and implement exploration and geothermal reservoir evaluation programs using a multi-disciplined approach involving geology, geochemistry, geophysics, and drilling up to and including large scale development wells, helping to achieve the Company's objective for growth. The position is based in Reno and/or Winnemucca and will involve supervision of resource technical staff and consultants. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are required as is a familiarity with budgets and cost controls.

The Company offers excellent health benefits, competitive remuneration, opportunities for career advancement in an exciting field.

To apply, fax resumes to 604-688-5926 or email resumes to careers@nevadageothermal.com.

Employment Opportunity—NREL Management (Due March 5)

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for the selection of a Management and Operating prime contractor to lead the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), a premier renewable energy and energy efficiency research, development, demonstration, and deployment institution. Responses due 3/5/08.

For more information, contact Mary Hartford at Mary.Hartford@go.doe.gov or go to <https://e-center.doe.gov/tips/busopor.nsf/UNID/761A911053622FE3852572F20078F2CE?OpenDocument>.

Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

RFP Alternative Energy Projects—Alaska (Due February 12)

The Denali Commission, in concert with the Alaska Energy Authority, request proposals for Alaska Alternative Energy Projects for cost-effective alternative energy projects in Alaska. Up to \$4 million expected to be available for projects that service rural Alaska, up to \$1 million for projects implemented anywhere in Alaska. Responses due 2/12/08.

For more information, contact Rebecca Garrett at (907) 771-3000 or go to <http://notes5.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf/cc52605f7c156e7a8925672a0060a91b/6f907a091d49359e892573aa007f0bd2?OpenDocument>.

RFP Energy Cost Reduction Projects—Alaska (Due February 12)

The Denali Commission, in concert with the Alaska Energy Authority, request proposals for Rural Alaska Energy Cost Reduction Projects. Areas of interest include: The upgrade of existing energy supply projects or systems for greater efficiency; energy conservation projects; heat recovery projects; and transmission lines that result in energy supply efficiency. \$4.4 million expected to be available. Responses due 2/12/08.

For more information, contact Rebecca Garrett at (907) 771-3000 or go to <http://notes5.state.ak.us/pn/pubnotic.nsf/cc52605f7c156e7a8925672a0060a91b/36f30e1a1143d206892573aa007c5ccd?OpenDocument>.

CEC RFP for International Energy Fund (Due February 13)

The California Energy Commission requests proposals for the International Energy Fund, for projects that assist California firms in performing project development activities leading to exports of technology and services for power generation and energy-related projects in foreign nations. Project development activities may include, but are not limited to: Foreign buyer orientation visits, formation of consortia, data collection, environmental and/or economic policy analyses, and recommendations regarding existing energy development. \$250K expected to be available, individual awards NTE \$25K. Responses due 2/13/08.

For more information, contact Brenda Sturdivant at bsturdiv@energy.state.ca.us or go to <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/export.html>.

RFP for All-Source Generation—Washington (Due February 29)

Puget Sound Energy announces its intent to seek over 2,000 MW of all-source generation, including efficiency. Final RFP scheduled for release 1/12/08, with responses due 2/29/08.

For more information, contact Roger Garratt at Roger.Garratt@pse.com or go to <http://www.pse.com/energyEnvironment/pse2008RFP.aspx>.

SMUD to Release 2008 Renewable Energy RFO (Due April 2008)

On January 4, 2008, The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) will release a Request for Offers (RFO) of renewable energy for power purchase agreements (PPA). Proposals will be due early April 2008.

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

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

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

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

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

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

RFP Climate Change and Sustainability Conferences (Due June 5 and December 9 2008)

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)

Upcoming Events

POWER-GEN Renewable Energy & Fuels 2008, February 19–21, Las Vegas, Nevada

2008 marks the 5th year of this premier all-renewables conference and exhibition covering the most important trends and issues impacting the industry. Bringing the wind, solar, biomass and alternative fuels, hydro and geothermal sectors together for three days of information exchange and fast-track networking, POWER-GEN Renewable Energy & Fuels attracts the biggest names in renewables to discuss technical, strategic, regulatory, structural and economic issues. The event will take place at the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino Las Vegas, NV.

For more information, please visit

<http://pgre08.events.pennnet.com/fl/content.cfm?NavId=6137&Language=Engl>.

See story above under “Company News” for more details on Power-Gen and the three geothermal panels planned for the conference.

WIREC International Renewable Energy Conference, March 4–6, Washington, DC

The United States Government, in cooperation with the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) and several leading renewable energy trade associations, will host the Washington International Renewable Energy Conference March 4–6, 2008, at the Washington Convention Center. GEA is a member of the Coordinating Committee and will be preparing a geothermal program track.

For more information about the Conference visit <http://www.americanrenewables.org> or for information about the geothermal track and events contact Karl Gawell at research@geo-energy.org, or 202-454-5261.

4th International Geothermal Conference, April 24, Freiburg, Germany

The International Geothermal Conference takes place in Freiburg, Germany in April 2008 for the fourth time. The event provides information about Technology, Financing and Insurance of geothermal projects and ideal conditions to network with international business partners.

For application and more information please visit www.geothermiekonferenz.de.

SMU Geothermal Conference, June 17–18

Southern Methodist University will put on a Geothermal Conference covering geothermal oil and gas wells June 17–18, 2008. More information will be provided when it becomes available.



GEA Weekly 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