



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

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National News

New Report Documents Status of Geothermal Energy Technologies

Washington, DC - The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) today released Part II of a report documenting the status of technologies used to produce energy from geothermal resources. The newly released report, The State of Geothermal Technology Part II: Surface Technology, examines everything from power plant basics and their efficiency to advanced technologies for enhanced geothermal systems. In November 2007 GEA released Part I of the report on subsurface technology.

According to Alyssa Kagel, author of the report, “advances in technology will play an increasingly important role in ensuring expanded development of geothermal resources.”

“When power plant technology in the 1980s was developed to take advantage of lower temperature geothermal resources, the geothermal industry was revolutionized,” notes Kagel. “So-called binary power plants are now the fastest growing types of geothermal power plants, and in the future continued advances to improve resource utilization, reliability, and economics are needed,” she added.

The report details a variety of new and under-used technologies—a few that could revolutionize the industry as binary technology did decades ago. While many new surface technologies would bring about small-scale changes, these are equally important.

According to the report, “incremental technology improvements...might prove most valuable in the near term. ... Incremental improvements can be commercially implemented more quickly than larger, more revolutionary advances, and can be incorporated into existing designs with comparatively lower risk.”

The report discusses new technologies such as mass-produced power plant components, recovery of sought-after minerals from geothermal fluids, and the development of new materials for plant parts that resist wear and tear.

The report features a section on “non-traditional systems” such as hybrids, geopressed resources, and enhanced geothermal systems, and includes a brief overview of two other geothermal applications—direct uses and heat pumps.

Both reports on geothermal technology, Part I on Subsurface Technology and Part II on Surface Technology, are available at the GEA web site: www.geo-energy.org (click on “GEA Publications”). Interested parties can download a PDF version of each report free of charge.

World of Renewables Spotlights Geothermal Energy

A recent article featured in “World of Renewables” characterizes geothermal energy as, “as clean as energy comes, and a well-managed field churns up a steady stream of steam power day in and day out for decades at a time.” The article goes on, “It probably won’t lower heat and electricity prices for consumers in the short term, but investments being made in the U.S. now should in the long run drive innovation and broaden competition in our energy market.” The article mentions other benefits of geothermal energy, including its status as a domestic, renewable resource. Uses beyond electricity are mentioned such as snow removal, air conditioning, heated pools, fish farms and fish drying, and fruit and vegetable drying. The article discusses both The Geysers in California and Iceland’s use of geothermal resources, including Iceland’s expanded interest in U.S. markets. *For more information, please visit <http://www.worldofrenewables.com/index.php?do=viewarticle&artid=861&title=what-geothermal-energy-could-do-for-consumers>.*

Energy Underground: Geothermal Systems Get the EPA's Praise for Efficiency but Struggle to Compete

An article in a North Carolina newspaper discusses geothermal heat pumps, calling them, “one of the most efficient ways to cool and heat a home or office.” Heat pumps are not widely installed in part because they are not well known, by homeowners or government officials. Several other reasons cited include lack of skilled personnel, high upfront costs, and competition with other better-known alternatives such as solar. The energy bill signed by President Bush recently represented another missed opportunity. During debate on the bill, Congress dropped a \$21 billion provision that had included a \$300 tax credit for homeowners who install geothermal heat pumps. The current incentive expires Dec. 31.

Still, geothermal backers hope that rising energy costs and global-warming concerns will raise the profile of the low-maintenance, noiseless technology that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has called the most energy-efficient and environmentally clean way to cool and heat a home. Higher efficiency means a heat pump is cleaner and less expensive than traditional heating systems. *For more information, please visit <http://www.builderonline.com/industry-news.asp?sectionID=26&articleID=629866>.*

US Energy Demand Seen Rising More Slowly

Higher energy prices and slower economic growth will reduce the country's energy-consumption growth rate through 2030, the government said in a report recently. But despite the rapid growth expected for renewable sources and an increase in nuclear power, the annual energy outlook from the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration said oil, coal and natural gas will dominate the U.S. energy market with roughly an 84 percent share in 2030, compared with about 86 percent last year. Total energy demand is anticipated to grow 0.9 percent annually between now and 2030, which is down from last year's projection of 1.1 percent growth. Oil prices are expected to fall from present levels by 2016 as new investments lead to a boost in supplies, EIA said, but still will reach \$113 a barrel in nominal dollars by 2030. Carbon dioxide emissions from energy generation are expected to grow 25 percent between 2006 and 2030, according to the EIA report. *For more information, please visit http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/071212/eia_energy_outlook.html?.v=1.*

Clean Energy Investments Increase

Investment in clean energy worldwide rose by a third last year to \$117 billion, boosted by widespread concerns over global warming, researchers New Energy Finance reported recently. This is up 35 percent from \$86.5 billion in 2006, said the company, which defines new investment as public and private funding of clean energy companies and assets. *For more information, please visit*

<http://www.reuters.com/article/fundsFundsNews/idUSL0228047120080102>.

In related news, a recent report from Thomas Weisel Partners, *Alternative Energy: 2008 Outlook*, said investor interest in the sector remains extremely high. Over the past six months there's been a pronounced shift in the types of investors inquiring about stocks that Thomas Weisel covers, with portfolio managers appearing to be building a cleantech theme for part of their portfolios. *For more information, please visit*

<http://media.cleantech.com/2241/a-good-year-for-renewable-energy>

Candidates Urged To Commit America to A Clean Energy Future

Environment America released a new report recently entitled, *Clean Energy for America: Why the 44th President Must Put America on the Clean Energy Path*. The new report documents the enormous potential for clean energy solutions such as developing homegrown energy resources. The report provides a “top ten” list of the most important policies that the next president should champion to bring greater energy independence and more jobs to the United States, solve global warming, and put America back in the lead in technological innovation. *For more information, please visit* <http://www.environmentamerica.org/news-releases/new-energy-future/new-energy-future/candidates-urged-to-commit-america-to-a-clean-energy-future>.

Chairman Jeff Bingaman on Oil Reaching Record High

Senator Jeff Bingaman recently released remarks on record high oil prices: “As we begin 2008, this is a sobering reminder of the critical importance of bolstering our nation’s energy security. In some respects, our nation’s vulnerabilities in this area are a matter of geology – the United States has only about 3 percent of the world’s oil reserves. Some of our vulnerabilities stem from years of neglect in important policy areas – it was only last month that Congress finally required an increase in vehicle fuel economy standards, for the first time in 30 years.

“We’ve made substantial progress towards addressing our energy vulnerabilities in both the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, but much more needs to be done. We need to be sure that energy markets are functioning well and are not driven by manipulation or excessive speculation. We need to have a more sophisticated approach towards managing our national’s Strategic Petroleum Reserve. And we need to make sure that we strike the right long-term balance between effective environmental protection and robust domestic energy production, whether the latter is from traditional sources of oil and gas or from new alternatives such as biofuels.” *For more information, please visit* http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=235426&Month=1&Year=2008&Party=0.

Company News

Altarock Geothermal: Exploring Enhanced Geothermal

A recent article interviews Susan Petty, President of the start-up Altarock, a company formed to develop “enhanced geothermal” generating stations using new technology primarily coming from the oil drilling industry. When asked how much more geothermal energy is out there, and how much of it can be economically tapped, Petty was quick to point out this entire resource cannot be accessed - but she agreed with the MIT study that somewhere between 2,300 and 23,000 gigawatts could be commercially tapped in the USA, depending on the level of research and funding enhanced geothermal technologies receive. 1,000

gigawatt-years is equivalent to 30 quadrillion BTUs. The article concludes with a discussion of some of the challenges facing the geothermal industry. *For more information, please visit <http://www.ecoworld.com/blog/2008/01/02/altarocks-geothermal/>.*

Calpine: Announces Warrant Distribution as Part of Plan of Reorganization

SAN JOSE, Calif. and HOUSTON, Dec 21, 2007 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Calpine Corporation (OTC Pink Sheets: CPNLQ) announced today that as part of its Sixth Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan"), it will issue warrants to purchase approximately 50 million shares of its new common stock, or about 10 percent of the common stock to be issued pursuant to the Plan, to holders of its currently outstanding common stock. Each warrant will represent the right to purchase a single share of Calpine's new common stock. The exercise price per share has not yet been determined, but it is expected to be based on a stipulated reorganized equity value of \$11.942 billion. For illustrative purposes, assuming the issuance of 500 million shares on the effective date, the exercise price would be \$23.88 per share. The expiration date of the warrants will be Aug. 25, 2008 or the date that is six months after the effective date of the Plan, whichever is later. No fractional warrants will be issued and no cash in lieu of fractional warrants will be distributed. The warrants will be transferable, but they will not be listed on any exchange.

The specific number of warrants to be issued, the exercise price and expiration date have not yet been determined. In addition, the exercise price, when issued, is intended to be "out-of-the-money," although the extent to which it is or is not "out-of-the-money" will depend on the market price of the new Calpine common stock, which can not be known at this time. There can be no assurance that the warrants will be "in-the-money" at any time prior to their expiration date.

The currently outstanding shares of common stock will be cancelled on the effective date of the Plan and will no longer represent an interest in Calpine Corporation. *For more information, please visit http://www.nationmedia.com/dailynation/nmgcontententry.asp?category_id=3&newsid=113013.*

Calpine: Seen Well Positioned After Bankruptcy, According to Reuters Article

According to a Reuters article, "the future looks bright for bankrupt power company Calpine Corp. ...After it exits bankruptcy protection, Calpine will be the nation's largest independent power producer, having nearly 24,000 megawatts of generating capacity, mainly fired by natural gas, which makes Calpine an attractive investment, analysts say. Also, many of Calpine's power plants are well-located in the power markets of California and Texas. It will also be the market leader in geothermal generation."

According to representatives with Dalman Rose (an investment bank) and Lehman Brothers, Calpine stock is expected to increase soon after it re-enters the market. *For more information, please visit <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN024273220080102>.*

Polaris Geothermal Inc: Appointment of James B. Randle as Vice-President, Project Development

TORONTO, ONTARIO--(MARKET WIRE)--Dec 27, 2007 -- Tom Ogryzlo, President and Chief Executive Officer of Polaris Geothermal Inc. ("Polaris Geothermal" or the "Company") (Toronto:GEO.TO - News) a renewable energy geothermal power producer based in Toronto, Canada, is pleased to announce the appointment of Jim Randle to the position of Vice-President, Project Development.

Jim has 25 years of experience in the development of geothermal projects worldwide, having worked for New Zealand Electricity, Design Power NZ Ltd. and as a Principal of Sinclair Knight Merz Ltd. (previously KRTA Ltd. and Kingston Morrison Ltd. of New Zealand which was acquired by SKM), one of the world's foremost geoscientific and engineering consultants in the geothermal field). He originally trained as a nuclear submarine propulsion engineer in the British Royal Navy and is a Chartered Engineer,

a Fellow of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers (England) and a Member of the Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand. *For more information, please visit <http://biz.yahoo.com/iw/071227/0343542.html>.*

U.S. Geothermal: Completes Construction at Raft River

BOISE, IDAHO--(Marketwire - Dec. 28, 2007) - U.S. Geothermal Inc. ("U.S. Geothermal") (TSX:GTH)(OTCBB:UGTH), a renewable energy company focused on the production of electricity from geothermal energy, announced a progress update on the company's Unit One geothermal power plant at Raft River, Idaho.

Construction activities associated with the Unit One plant were completed this month when the power plant contractor, Ormat Nevada, achieved substantial completion under the terms of the engineering, construction and procurement contract. The plant operated under a test phase of power production from October 18 to 23. After a number of start-up mechanical issues were successfully addressed, the plant was restarted on November 22 and is continuing operations. Plant operations are dependent upon maintaining a sufficient pressure regime in the production wells. The operating staff continues to learn about each well's capabilities and the relationship of injection pressure to production. The test phase is ongoing to allow for a fuller understanding of the geothermal resource capability. The net electrical power output of the plant is currently between 8 and 9 megawatts. With four production wells in operation, the maximum and minimum gross electrical output achieved by the plant to date was 14.4 and 9.5 megawatts respectively. The maximum and minimum net electrical output achieved by the plant to date was 9.4 and 7.1 megawatts respectively. The output of the plant is being sold to Idaho Power Company and sales are limited to 10 megawatts average per month under the terms of the existing power purchase agreement. The plant is designed to produce an annual average net output of 13 megawatts.

Test power sold during this period is being purchased by Idaho Power Company under the terms of a 10-megawatt Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act ("PURPA") contract. Full energy prices will be paid when the plant achieves commercial operations. Delays caused by mechanical issues have extended the date when commercial operation will be achieved to within the next fifteen days. Pending approval by the Idaho Public Utility Commission, a recently executed full-output contract is expected to take effect and replace the existing 10-megawatt PURPA contract. Currently, four production wells and three injection wells are in service to the power plant. To achieve full output under the pending new contract, a number of technical issues are being addressed including installation of the fifth production well, evaluation of total injection well capacity and modeling of the resource pressure and temperature regime. *For more information, please visit <http://www.usgeothermal.com/NewsReleases/28Dec2007.pdf>.*

U.S. Geothermal: Featured as One of Top Five “Model RE Projects” by *Power Magazine*

A recent article in *Power Magazine* begins, “geothermal power is a unique renewable energy because it has the best potential capacity factor and is perhaps the only option for baseload power generation.” The article goes on to highlight U.S. Geothermal’s Raft River project, which “may well determine the future of geothermal energy production in Idaho.”

The article discusses the history of the site, including DOE’s early involvement and U.S. Geothermal’s eventual securing of the resource. It also discusses Ormat, the company that supplied U.S. geothermal with their power conversion technology. U.S. geothermal upgraded all wells. The company owns or leases the geothermal rights to approximately 10.8 square miles. The final 2.6 square mile parcel was leased from the Bureau of Land Management in June. The company estimates that, subject to successful drilling results, 110 MW of continuous geothermal power resources may now be available. USG wants to complete Phase Two, a 26-MW unit, by early 2009. If those plans are successful, Phase Three could add another 50 MW by the end of 2012. The article concludes with a discussion of financing, and projected economics of the plant. *For more information, please visit <http://www.powermag.com/OtherDisplay.aspx?PageID=14>.*

U.S. Geothermal: Full Steam Ahead for Geothermal Energy

A recent segment on a local television station featured interviews with two leaders at U.S. Geothermal and one at Eugene and Water Electric.

Chris Harriman, who oversaw construction of U.S. Geothermal's Raft River Project, discussed the site: "It's tremendous energy and vast amounts. At peak, we'll be circulating 7,000 gallons a minute through the plant." According to Harriman, the plant will light about 10,000 homes.

Expansions are already in the works. Eugene Water and Electric (EWEB) is particularly interested in geothermal energy because, according to Lance Robertson, company spokesman, "One of the attractions of geothermal over something like wind is that it is a fairly steady supply. Wind of course doesn't always blow. With geothermal it's more like hydropower in the sense that it keeps putting out that power 24/7."

According to the COO, Doug Glaspey, public policy and market forces are converging to lift the geothermal industry out of a long period of dormancy. "There's lots of good opportunity for geothermal. Oregon and Washington both we think have great potential." The article concludes that U.S. Geothermal is working on a second project at Neal Springs in Eastern Oregon. *For more information, please visit <http://kuow.org/DefaultProgram.asp?ID=14021>.*

Climate Change News

Climate Change Already Impacting Water Supplies in the Western U.S.

Climate change is already impacting water supplies in the western United States and is likely to reduce carbon sequestration by regional ecosystems, reports research presented at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco. A study led by researchers at Scripps Institution of Oceanography reports that "trends in snowpack, river runoff, and air temperatures — three fundamental indicators of the status of the West's hydrological cycle — point to a decline in the region's most valuable natural resource, water, as population and demand grows in the West."

The scientists, led by marine physicist Tim Barnett, say that observed changes are correlated to the climate impacts of human activity. The models "portend a crisis," said Barnett. "After the performance on the last 50 years of observations, we can put high confidence in their general predictions for the next 20 years, at least in the western United States."

Meanwhile a second study by NASA scientists warns that warming air temperatures forecast under future climate scenarios, show that ecosystems in the Western United States could "experience large carbon losses to the atmosphere and tree growth decline." The losses are expected to be widespread. *For more information, please visit <http://news.mongabay.com/2007/1211-west.html>.*

Climate Change Linked to Deaths, New Study Reports

Hundreds more people in the United States will die each year from air pollution as temperatures increase from carbon dioxide, the greenhouse gas blamed for global warming, according to a new Stanford University study. The study by Mark Z. Jacobson, a professor of civil and environmental engineering, is considered the first to directly link increased carbon dioxide, or CO₂, in the air to human deaths. It will be published in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*. The study also shows that the deadly effects of carbon dioxide intensify in areas like many major cities that already suffer from poor air quality. Jacobson said his research, based upon a state-of-the-art computer model of the atmosphere that incorporates scores of physical and chemical environmental processes, shows that carbon dioxide can directly affect human health.

The research predicts that carbon dioxide may increase annual U.S. air pollution deaths by about 1,000, although it could range from 350 to 1,800, and cancers by 20 to 30 for every 1-degree Celsius increase in temperature caused by gas. Globally, deaths could increase by about 21,600 a year, ranging from 7,400 to 39,000, the study said. *For more information, please visit http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_7869766?source=most_emailed&nclick_check=1.*

Saharan Dust Has Chilling Effect on North Atlantic

NASA satellites have provided evidence that the chilling effect of dust blowing off of the Saharan desert was responsible for one-third of the drop in North Atlantic sea surface temperatures between June 2005 and 2006, possibly contributing to the difference in hurricane activity between the two seasons. Heat from warm ocean surfaces is known to fuel hurricanes, leading to stronger and more frequent storms. During the hurricane season of 2006, however, sea surface temperatures in the North Atlantic remained relatively cool and the season saw only five hurricanes, compared to 15 hurricanes in 2005 when the ocean surface was warmer.

NASA researchers showed that airborne Saharan dust over the Atlantic was likely responsible for much of the temperature drop, effectively blocking sunlight from reaching the ocean's surface. According to their research dust accounted for 30 to 40 percent of the drop in sea surface temperature between June 2005 and 2006, as reported in the December issue of the American Geophysical Union's Geophysical Research Letters. The finding provides the first quantitative estimate of dust's role in cooling the entire North Atlantic and brings attention to dust as a potentially important influence on hurricane activities. *Reported by EESI. For more information, please visit <http://modis.gsfc.nasa.gov/>.*

Scientists Hope Frozen Mammoth will Shed Light on Climate Change

The frozen carcass of a 37,500-year-old baby mammoth undergoing tests in Japan could shed light on the history of global climate change, scientists said recently. The calf — unearthed in May by a reindeer herder in northern Siberia's remote Yamal-Nenets autonomous region — is virtually intact and even has some fur, though its tail and ear were apparently bitten off. Scientists believe mammoths lived from 4.8 million years ago to around 4,000 years ago, and researchers have debated whether their demise was due to climate change or over-hunting by early humans. The frozen mammoth has already triggered global interest. Scientists from Japan, the United States, Canada, Russia and other European countries are slated to take part in the research. Preliminary results were expected in October. *For more information, please visit <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/01/04/asia/AS-GEN-Japan-Baby-Mammoth.php>.*

Survey of Candidates Positions on Climate Change

On December 18, the League of Conservation Voters (LCV), a nonpartisan environmental group, released its 2008 Presidential Primaries Voter Guide. The report and related Web site are based on the contenders' responses to an environmental questionnaire — and also whether they've made public a plan to address climate change. According to the survey, the top Democratic presidential candidates and Republican John McCain (R-AZ) are leading on the issue of energy security and climate change. LCV's president, Gene Karpinski, said it is important that candidates articulate their positions on global warming on the campaign trail, "so whoever gets elected and goes into the White House in 2009 will have a clear mandate from the voters to take action --immediately upon taking office." *For more information, please visit <http://www.lcv.org/voterguide/>.*

Agreement Reached at Bali Climate Talks

On December 15, delegates from nearly 190 nations announced that a compromise had been made regarding a Bali “roadmap” which will guide further UN-sponsored climate change negotiations through 2009. Despite heated debate and several setbacks in the negotiating process, members of the conference ultimately adopted a plan which creates a new pact to address climate change that would succeed the Kyoto Protocol, set to expire in 2012. Some of the key elements of the agreement include a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from developed nations that are “measurable, reportable, and verifiable,” which may or may not include quantified, binding targets. Additionally, developing nations agreed to “measurable, reportable, and verifiable” actions to reduce emissions with the technological and financial help of industrialized nations. This represented a breakthrough in the position of the United States as well as rapidly developing nations like China, India and Brazil. Among other elements of the Bali roadmap are pledges to address deforestation and adaptation measures, especially as they pertain to developing nations. *Reported by EESI. For more information, please visit http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/12/15/AR2007121500471_2.html?sid=ST2007121500591.*

State News

Alaska: Seeks Comments on Geothermal Tracts

Alaska's Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil and Gas is seeking public comment on the preliminary best interest finding it has issued for a proposed Mt. Spurr geothermal exploration area within the Kenai Peninsula Borough, about 40 miles (64 km) west of the village of Tyonek. The state is proposing to offer geothermal exploration on approximately 16 tracts of state-owned land of up to 2,560 acres each, or approximately 36,057 acres in total. The proposed area is located northwest of Trading Bay along the southern flank of Mt. Spurr, including the east end of Chakachamna Lake and part of the Chakachatna River. Only lands for which the state owns the subsurface estate will be offered for exploration. The division expects the commissioner to make a final decision around March of this year. Comments must be received on or before Jan. 28 to be considered in the final best interest finding. *For more information, please visit <http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=7823>.*

Hawaii: Renewable Energy Use Increases

Hawaii's use of renewable energy rose by 9.8 percent last year, putting the state on track to become more energy efficient as local residents pay among the highest energy costs in the nation, according to a new report. The latest statistics, released recently by the state Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, show that the state's primary energy consumption in 2006 dropped 1.8 percent compared to 2005, while petroleum use fell 2.7 percent during the period. More than \$12.5 million in state and federal funds have gone to support mainly electric power and renewable energy programs. *For more information, please visit <http://starbulletin.com/2007/12/29/business/story03.html>.*

Oregon: Middle School Robot Team Uses Geothermal Energy

Oregon middle school students used their energy and brains to come up with a top robot design and project during a regional robotics tournament, a local newspaper reported. The youths were among 21 teams from northeastern Oregon competing recently at Eastern Oregon University in La Grande. The Monument team drew attention with an inventive geothermal project, earning championship runner-up honors. *For more information, please visit <http://www.eastoregonian.info/main.asp?SectionID=13&SubSectionID=48&ArticleID=71125&TM=639.246>.*

Washington State: Sitting on a Hot Energy Source (Op-Ed)

A recent op-ed in a Washington newspaper discusses the significant potential of geothermal energy in the state. The article quotes Susan Petty, referenced as one of the world's leading geothermal reservoir engineers: Washington state has zero megawatts of geothermal, and "has zero planned, proposed or within the plant-approval process, even though we have excellent potential." Petty, who is based in Seattle, points out there is no current hard data on the exact nature of the state's geothermal resources. But, working off 25-year-old geologic studies, it's reasonable to say Washington is among the top-10 states.

The article concludes, "If geothermal is done correctly and respectfully — no development on sacred sites or in wilderness areas and national parks — we can bring hundreds of megawatts online in Washington state. The discussion needs to begin now with the tribes, utilities, environmentalists and state agencies. It is time for Washington state to recognize the great potential for what is being called "the forgotten renewable." The underground windmills are waiting." *For more information, please visit http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/opinion/2004106208_geothermal04.html.*

International News

Australia: New Areas Opened for Hot Rocks Exploration

Thirteen new areas have been opened up for tender for geothermal exploration across Queensland, Mines and Energy Minister Geoff Wilson announced recently. Mr Wilson said the Government was helping to pave the way for new explorers to kick start the search for more geothermal energy. Mr Wilson said thirteen new areas had been opened up for tender for Geothermal Exploration Permits across the state. The release of the 13 areas follows previous calls for geothermal tenders in 2005 and 2006 in Queensland. Mr Wilson said geothermal energy had the potential to generate one fifth of Australia's total electricity needs over the next 25 years without producing any carbon dioxide emissions. In September, Premier Anna Bligh announced the State Government would provide \$15 million over the next five years to establish a Queensland Geothermal Energy Centre of Excellence. *For more information, please visit http://mediawire.com/release_1059109.html.*

Canada: Considerable Geothermal Potential

A recent press release out of the University of British Columbia highlights development in a number of areas, including geothermal energy. According to the release, a report, *Tapping into the Heat Beneath Our Feet* by John A. Meech, Mory Ghomshei, UBC Centre for Environmental Research in Minerals, Metals, & Materials, "virtually all of Canada's high-temperature geothermal resources are under British Columbia" details Canada's geothermal potential. Geothermal energy "could supply 30 per cent of B.C.'s power. Combined with the adoption of low-temperature geothermal for heating Canadian homes, this could meet 50 per cent of our Kyoto Accord obligations," the press release concludes. *For more information, please visit <http://www.publicaffairs.ubc.ca/media/releases/2007/mr-07-116.html>.*

Canada: Yellowknife Looks to Old Gold Mine for Geothermal Energy

Yellowknife is considering using geothermal energy to warm its buildings on cold Arctic nights, a recent article reports. Early in 2008, Yellowknife will begin studying what could eventually become Canada's first large-scale geothermal heat plant. "We've got heat resources below our community," said Mark Henry, the city's energy co-coordinator. "We just have to come up with a way to move it." Henry says the project has excited plenty of interest in Yellowknife. The feasibility study will be awarded early in the new year. If all goes well, Henry said it's "not unrealistic" that Yellowknife could be drawing heat from the same hole it used to draw gold within four or five years. Yellowknife is ideally positioned to take advantage of geothermal energy, said Mory Ghomshei, a University of British Columbia engineering professor who's been pushing the idea since 1988. *For more information, please visit <http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5i9c09QP9ubYQJLkbPZdOVbVjRs9w>.*

Canada: Geothermal Underdeveloped

A recent article in a Canadian paper discusses Canada's underused geothermal resources. According to the article, Canada remains the only country in the Pacific Rim not to generate electricity from geothermal resources. Further, "the federal government remains somewhat ignorant and uninterested in the potential." One company, Western GeoPower, is working to bring a 100-megawatt project online in British Columbia, "but operating alone without federal support hasn't been an easy endeavor."

The article goes on to discuss the three-decade old Canadian Geothermal Energy Association, which has an immediate goal to lobby the federal government to reinstate its geothermal program and start collecting up-to-date data, through the Geological Survey of Canada, on geothermal hotspots and potential across the country. The article concludes with a discussion of the variety of ways geothermal energy could be harnessed and tapped in Canada. *For more information, please visit*

<http://www.thestar.com/columnists/article/288357>.

India: Andhra Pradesh to Increase Geothermal Power Generation to Meet Demand

The Andhra Pradesh government is planning to increase geothermal power to meet the growing energy requirements of the state by adopting state-of-the-art technology, a recent article reported. An ongoing survey, conducted by National Geophysics Research Institute, discovered a thick and contiguous layer of granite about one to two km below the earth's surface. The layer, maintaining a temperature of 300°C, would be ideal to generate 1000 MW of power, according to State Non-Conventional Energy Development Corporation of Andhra Pradesh (NEDCAP) Managing Director Lingaraj Panigrahi. Stating that the survey was almost complete and the government was working out a project report, he added it would take seven to eight years to start generating power. Geo-Syndicate, a private enterprise in collaboration with IIT, Mumbai, which had successfully commissioned a 20-MW plant in Australia recently using the heat below the earth's surface, has estimated that a capacity of over 2,000 MW could be created in the granite belt in the state. *For more information, please visit*

<http://www.newkerala.com/one.php?action=fullnews&id=8221>.

Kenya: WB Supports Revamping of Olkaria Geothermal Plant

The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA), a World Bank group member, says it has provided political risk coverage for a power plant designed to alleviate power shortages in Kenya and offset greenhouse gas emission at the same time, a recent article reported. The guarantee valued at at least 5.7 billion shillings will support investments into a geothermal power plant with a combined capacity of 48 megawatts in the Olkaria geothermal fields in Rift Valley, 50 kilometers northwest of Nairobi. Electricity generated by the plant will be sold under a 20-year power purchase agreement with the national power transmission and distribution utility, Kenya Power and Lighting Company Limited.

According to MIGA, the project would not only reduce Kenya's exposure to fossil fuel price fluctuations, but also lower its dependence on imported thermal energy and help the country diversify from the use of hydropower for electricity generation. MIGA's guarantees are protecting the investments of the foreign investor against the risks of transfer restriction, war and civil disturbance, expropriation, and breach of contract. *For more information, please visit* <http://www.kbc.co.ke/story.asp?ID=47286>.

New Zealand: Government Fast Tracks Geothermal

The New Zealand government set targets to have 90 percent of its electricity generated from renewable sources by 2025. New Zealand environment minister Trevor Mallard announced plans to speed up the application process for two renewable energy projects in the country, a proposed 225 megawatt geothermal plant and a planned 102 MW wind farm. David Baldwin, CEO of Wellington, New Zealand-based Contact Energy, which is developing the geothermal project, welcomed the news. "The government's intention to call in the resource consent application for this project under the RMA will streamline the process and

avoid unnecessary delays, increasing confidence that the plant could be generating electricity by 2011," he said. The two renewable energy projects are expected to generate enough electricity to power more than 235,000 homes. *For more information, please visit <http://media.cleantech.com/2231/new-zealand-fast-tracks-geothermal-wind-project>.*

Philippines: First Gen buys Out Partner in PNOC-EDC

First Gen Corp. said it had bought out its Dutch partner Spalmare Holding BV in Red Vulcan Holdings Corp., the consortium that has acquired 60 percent of the formerly government-owned geothermal power producer PNOC Energy Development Corp. (PNOC-EDC), a recent article reported. The transaction, done through wholly owned subsidiary Prime Terracota Holdings Corp., made First Gen the 100-percent direct and indirect owner of Red Vulcan, First Gen assistant corporate secretary Rachel Hernandez told the stock exchange.

In an earlier interview, First Gen president and chief operating officer Federico Lopez said the company aimed to make PNOC-EDC an even bigger geothermal energy company in the coming years. "PNOC-EDC is the second largest geothermal energy producer in the world," Lopez said. "We intend to make it even bigger under First Gen."

First Gen vice chairman and chief executive Peter Garrucho said the purchase of the controlling stake in PNOC-EDC for P58.5 billion was a "transformational moment" in First Gen's nine-year history. With the acquisition of PNOC-EDC, First Gen now has control of 16 percent of the country's total installed power generation capacity and 60 percent of the total installed geothermal energy capacity.

The company said, "The PNOC-EDC acquisition certainly makes First Gen one of the biggest clean and green energy producers in the world, with over 90 percent of its total installed capacity portfolio utilizing clean technology." Edited by INQUIRER.net *For more information, please visit http://business.inquirer.net/money/topstories/view_article.php?article_id=110009.*

Philippines: PSALM Looks to Sell Geothermal Property

Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. is looking at selling the property of the decommissioned Manila geothermal power plant by February after postponing its sale on Dec. 19 to give way to the privatization of the 192.5-megawatt Palinpinon geothermal and the 146.5-Panay diesel-fed power plants. PSALM vice president Froilan Tampinco said the agency had decided to auction the power plant, including its property ahead of the Palinpinon-Panay power package to give the Joint Congressional Power Commission more time to address issues surrounding geothermal sales contract. *For more information, please visit http://www.manilastandardtoday.com/?page=business2_dec28_2007.*

Turkey: Geothermal Power Cited as "New Target"

Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Hilmi Güler has said the government's new target after wind power is geothermal power and that the necessary preliminary work in this field was on track. Güler added they would follow a process similar to the one for wind power licenses. He said Turkey had recognized its renewable energy potential very recently and had begun to initiate new projects to make use of it. He said Turkey will focus on geothermal power more next year and that Turkey was the first in Europe and seventh in the world in terms of geothermal potential. Güler emphasized plans are in the works to prepare maps for Turkey's geothermal resources as had previously been completed for wind power and that the licensing process will be similar to that of wind power plants. He also said Turkey will increase its inventory of drilling equipment. "I held a meeting with 19 drilling equipment producers," he said, adding they were going to use geothermal power in greenhouses, thermal tourism and central heating. *For more information, please visit <http://www.todayszaman.com/tz-web/detaylar.do?load=detay&link=130256>.*

UK: Ministers Ordered to Assess Climate Cost of All Decisions

UK Ministers have been instructed to factor into their calculations a notional "carbon price" when making all policy and investment decisions covering transport, construction, housing, planning and energy, a recent article reported. That price - which will increase annually - is intended to frame all day-to-day policy and investment decisions for the next 30 years. As a result carbon-free or clean technologies have been given a significant boost as they will now become relatively less expensive than polluting technologies. The "shadow price for carbon", representing the cost to society of the environmental damage, has already been agreed for every year up to 2050 by government economists. It will be set at £25.50 a carbon tonne for 2007, rising annually to £59.60 a tonne by 2050. *For more information, please visit <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2007/dec/22/climatechange.carbonemissions>.*

Notices and Employment Opportunities

GEA Updating 2007 US Power Production and Development Survey: Input Requested

GEA is updating its assessment of US geothermal power production and development. The last survey of US geothermal power activity was released in May of 2007. This new survey will be released on January 16, in conjunction with GEA's Geothermal Finance and Development Workshop in Las Vegas.

This report will include basic data regarding new project under development and currently operating power plants. The previous version can be seen at:

If your company has new projects, or wishes to update its information from the May 2007 Survey, please contact Mark Taylor at 202.454.5241, or email him at info@geo-energy.org. We hope to complete work on the new update this week, so to add, modify or correct information please contact us **no later than Wednesday, January 9th**!

GEA Surface Technology Report Available

The Geothermal Energy Association released a new report January 4 assessing the state of geothermal "surface" technology. The report, entitled *The State of Geothermal Technology, Part II: Surface Technology*, examines the power plant technology used to convert geothermal resources into electricity. The report includes information about promising new surface technologies based on research and expert interviews. Part I of the report, released in November 2007, covers subsurface technology. *Both reports are available from the GEA website at: <http://www.geo-energy.org/publications/reports.asp>.*

Invitation: Washington International Renewable Energy Conference Side Event (Applications Due Jan 11)

The Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC 2008) will bring together government, civil society and private business leaders to address the benefits and costs of a major and rapid scale-up in the global deployment of renewable energy technology. WIREC 2008 Official Side Events offer a unique chance for the world community to discuss the opportunities and challenges of a major, rapid, global scale-up of renewable energy and advance the goals of energy security, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development. The Washington International Renewable Energy Conference consists of three co-located events: WIREC 2008 Ministerial-Level Meeting, Business Conference & Trade Show at WIREC 2008, and WIREC 2008 Official Side Events. WIREC 2008 Official Side Events are a forum for non-governmental, governmental, and/or inter-governmental partners to showcase their projects/programs in front of a high level public and private sector audience. *For more information of WIREC 2008 Official Side Events please visit www.wirec2008.gov or contact Ms. María H. Rivera-Ramírez; maria@energyandsecurity.com, +1 703-689-4670 x115.*

Employment Opportunity: Geothermal Resource Exploration & Development Manager with 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 inter-personal 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 info, contact Mary Hartford at Mary.Hartford@go.doe.gov or go to: <https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/busopor.nsf/UNID/761A911053622FE3852572F20078F2CE?OpenDocument>.

Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

RFP: Climate Change and Sustainability Conferences (Due Jan 7, 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 info, 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 Renewable Energy - San Diego (Due January 9)

The San Diego Gas & Electric Company requests short term offers from eligible renewable energy providers to expand its renewable portfolio and to meet the California Renewable Portfolio Standard requirements. Responses due 1/9/08. For more info, contact renewablerfo@semprautilities.com or go to: <http://www.sdge.com/2007shorttermRPSRFO/>.

RFP Renewables - S. California (Due January 9)

The Southern California Public Power Authority seek up to 315 MW of renewable energy, through facility ownership or power purchase agreement with an early buyout option, in one or more renewable energy facilities. Responses due 1/9/08. For more info, contact Bill Carnaha bcarnahan@scppa.org or go to: <http://www.scppa.org/Downloads/RFP/SCPPA%20RFPforRenewableEnergyProjects2008.pdf>.

RFP – US EPA Regional Priorities - Region 8 (Due Jan 18)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8, requests proposals for the Regional Priorities Grant Program. Through this initiative, EPA seeks projects that achieve measurable environmental and public health results within the following priority areas: Energy and climate change, agriculture, mercury, and enhancement of state or tribal capacity to provide public health and environmental protection. Activities must take place in Region 8 which includes CO, WY, UT, MT, ND, and SD. \$653 million expected to be available, individual awards generally NTE \$75K. For more info, contact r8cfp@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/region8/grants/>. Refer to Sol# EPA-R8-2008-001. (Grants.gov 11/20/07)

Electricity Research RFP – California (Due Jan 31)

The California Energy Commission requests proposals for the Energy Innovations Small Grant Program - Electricity Program. This program supports research that establishes the feasibility of new, innovative energy concepts. Up to \$95K is available for individual hardware projects and \$50K for modeling projects. Projects must address a CA energy problem and provide a potential benefit to CA electric ratepayers. In addition, projects must target one of the following areas: Industrial/agriculture/water end-use efficiency; building end-use efficiency; environmentally preferred advanced generation; renewable generation; energy-related environmental research; and energy systems integration. Responses due 1/31/08. For more info, contact eisgp@energy.state.ca.us or go to: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/contracts/smallgrant/index.html>.

RFP Tribal Air and Energy - Region 7 (Due February 4)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for the Tribal Air Grants, for projects designed to address ambient air quality issues throughout Indian Country in Region 7. Energy projects which support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions are encouraged. Energy projects may include, but are not limited to, promoting Energy Star campaigns such as “Change a Light, Change the World” and looking for opportunities to integrate distributed renewable energy into the tribe’s energy supply. \$200K expected to be available, up to 4 awards anticipated. Responses due 2/4/08. *For more info, contact Robert Fenemore at Fenemore.Robert@epa.gov or go to:* http://www.epa.gov/region7/economics/r7_grant_opportunities.htm.

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 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 info, 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 info, 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 info, 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 info, 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 percent 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.

Upcoming Events

FTC to Host Public Workshop on Carbon Offsets and Renewable Energy Certificates, January 8, Washington DC

As part of its review of its environmental marketing guidelines, also known as the Green Guides, the Federal Trade Commission will host a public workshop on carbon offsets and renewable energy certificates (RECs) on Tuesday, January 8, 2008, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the agency's satellite building in Washington, DC. Carbon offsets fund projects designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in one place in order to counterbalance or "offset" emissions that occur elsewhere. RECs are created when renewable power generators sell their electricity as conventional electricity and then sell the environmental attributes of their power separately through a certificate. At the workshop, FTC staff will explore advertising claims related to these products, as well as issues of consumer perception, substantiation, and self-regulation.

WHAT: Workshop on Carbon Offsets and Renewable Energy Certificates

WHERE: FTC Conference Center – Satellite Building
601 New Jersey Ave, N.W.
Washington, DC 20001

WHEN: Tuesday, January 8, 2008; 9 am - 5:00 pm (check-in starts at 8:15 am)

AGENDA: Posted at: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/workshops/carbonoffsets/index.shtml>

FTC Office of Public Affairs

PRESS CONTACT: 202-326-2180

Webcast Information

Reporters interested in this event, but who are unable to attend, can view a live Webcast of the workshop by connecting to a link on the following site:

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/workshops/carbonoffsets/index.shtml>.

Conference on Geothermal Surface Features, January 10 - 13, Yellowstone National Park

Over 100 scientists and educators will be gathering from January 10th until January 13th at Yellowstone National Park to share their findings on the unique biology and chemistry of geysers, hot springs, mud pots and steam vents found in the nation's oldest national park. The conference will be held at Mammoth Hotel and will focus on Yellowstone's geothermal systems and will also include discussions on the sun-heated salt lakes of Egypt, salt mats in the Mexican state of Baja California Sur and the microbes that dominate Russian hot springs. *For more information, please visit*

<http://www.montana.edu/cpa/news/nwview.php?article=5462>.

GEA Geothermal Development and Finance Workshop, January 16, Bally's, Las Vegas, Nevada

Come to this one day event, and learn about our dynamic and fast expanding market! This workshop will bring together experts from all different facets of geothermal energy.

Here is the Preliminary Agenda for the Workshop:

PRELIMINARY AGENDA: SUBJECT TO REVISION

**The Geothermal Energy Association's
Geothermal Development and Finance Workshop
January 16, 2008
Bally's Hotel and Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada**

**Sponsored By:
Glitnir Bank
Ormat Technologies
Nevada Power
Enel North America**

Co-sponsored By: Western Area Power Administration, the Geothermal Resources Council, and the Geothermal Education Office

- 7:00 Registration Open/Light Breakfast Served

Program Moderators: Karl Gawell, Executive Director, GEA
John McCaull, Western States Representative, GEA
- 8:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks:
Tom Fair, Nevada Power
- 8:15 Geothermal Energy and Nevada's Future:
Governor Jim Gibbons or his representative
Senator Randolph Townsend
Representative of Senator Harry Reid
Speaker Barbara Buckley, Nevada Assembly*
Rep. Shelley Berkeley or her representative*
Rep. Jon Porter or his representative*
Rep. Dean Heller of his representative*
- 8:35 Doing Geothermal Business in Nevada
Kyle Davis, Policy Director, Nevada Conservation League,
Paul McKenzie, Building and Construction Trades Council of Northern Nevada,
Christy Morris, Nevada Division of Minerals
- 9:00 Our Evolving Knowledge of Nevada's Geothermal Resource Potential
Lisa Shevenell, PhD
Director, Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy, and
Faculty, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology
- 9:25 Break
- 9:40 Status Report on Geothermal Projects in Nevada and the West
Karl Gawell, Executive Director, GEA
- 10:00 Case Study of a Successful Geothermal Project
Dallas Peavey, Director of Business Development, Ormat
- 10:25 Developing Geothermal Projects in the North American Market: Some Lessons Learned
Fausto Batini, Enel North America
- 10:50 The Challenges Facing New Projects in Nevada and the West
Panel II:
Brent Cook, Raser Technologies
Halley Dickey, UTC Power

Magnus Johanesson, Iceland America Energy
Asegir Margeirsson, Geysir Green Energy

Panel II:
Ken MacLeod President & CEO, Western GeoPower
Brian Fairbank, Nevada Geothermal
Gary Thompson, Sierra Geothermal Power Corporation
Joe Greco, Terra-Gen Power, LLC

12:00 Lunch Served

Luncheon Address: Congress and the White House: Outlook for 2008
Jonathan Weisgall, VP Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, MidAmerican Energy Holdings; and, President, Geothermal Energy Association

1:00 Federal Regulations, Leasing and Unitization
Kermit Whiterbee, BLM Geothermal Program Director
Richard Hoops, BLM Nevada
Marc Gottschalk, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Jennie Bricker, Stoel Rives LLP

1:30 The Governor of Nevada's Renewable Energy Transmission Advisory Commission Report: A Geothermal Overview (to be issued December 2007)
Dan Schochet, Advisory Committee Chair (and Ormat, Nevada)

1:45 Preview of the Draft Programmatic EIS (Scheduled Public Release of Draft April 2008): Geothermal Potential on Public Lands in the Western States
Jack Peterson, BLM Idaho

2:00 Financing, Incentives, and Other Approaches to Influencing the Bottom Line
John McIlveen, Jacob and Company Securities,
Robert Banack, Dundee Securities
John Pierce and Greg Broome, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Kevin Pearson, Stoel Rives LLP
Tom King, US Renewables Group
Bill Lemon, EverGreen Pacific Capital, LLC

2:50 Break

3:05 Power Purchase Agreements (PPA's)
Ed Feo, Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy
Kevin McSpadden, Vulcan Power
Paul Zavesov, Ormat

4:00 Roundtable: Lender Perspectives on Financing Geothermal Development
Moderator: Rick Rodgers, Montgomery Street Financial
Charles J. Arrigo II, Glitmir Capital Corporation
John Eber, JP Morgan
(Speakers from 2pm Panel will join the roundtable discussion)

4:45 Summation and Closing Remarks

5:30-7:00 Reception- Sky View Room

* INVITED

The event will be held at Bally's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. For details, or to register, please contact Kathy Kent at 202.454.5263 or kathy@geo-energy.org, or visit our website at www.geo-energy.org.

Harvesting Clean Energy 2008 Conference, Jan 27-29, Portland, Oregon

Registration for the 2008 Harvesting Clean Energy Conference, which will take place January 27-29 in Portland, Oregon, is now open. The Harvesting Clean Energy Conference is the Northwest's premiere gathering for agriculture and energy interests working to advance new opportunities for agriculture producers and rural communities in clean energy production. Visit clean energy facilities in the Portland area, and network with other attendees prior to the conference during three free tours on Sunday, January

27 from 1-5pm. Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities are still available. *For more information, please visit <http://www.harvestcleanenergy.org/conference/>.*

33rd Stanford Geothermal Workshop, January 28-30, Stanford, California

The workshop seeks to:

- Bring together Engineers, Scientists and Managers involved in geothermal reservoir studies and developments
- Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on the exploration, development and use of geothermal resources
- Enable prompt and open reporting of progress

All scientists and engineers involved in geothermal reservoir technology are encouraged by organizers to attend the workshop. Papers will be presented on recent research relating to geothermal reservoirs including:

- Case Studies: reservoir response to production, effects of injection, scaling characteristics
- Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS): current and future activities
- Engineering Techniques: reservoir simulation, empirical methods, well tests, tracers
- Field Management: strategies for exploitation, injection, scale inhibition
- Exploration: geophysics, geochemistry, geology, heat flow studies, outflows
- Drilling and Well Bore Flows: well stimulation, bore flow modeling, hydro-fracturing, scaling
- Low Enthalpy Systems: applications of heat pumps, hot dry rock technology
- Geosciences: application of geophysics, geochemistry, thermodynamics and fluid mechanics.

For more information, please visit

<http://pangea.stanford.edu/ERE/research/geoth/conference/workshop.html>.

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>.

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 Alyssa Kagel at research@geo-energy.org, or 202-454-5261.

2008 SMU Geothermal Energy Utilization Conference, June 11-12, 2008, Dallas, Texas

Please save the date. More information will be shared when it becomes available. *Visit SMU online at <http://www.smu.edu/geothermal/>.*



GEA Update

A newsletter for GEA Members written by Alyssa Kagel and Karl Gawell.
For more information contact GEA at: 209 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Phone: 202-454-5261; Fax: 202-454-5265; E-mail: research@geo-energy.org