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## **National News**

### **Geothermal Energy Finance Forum Concludes with Call for New Approaches to Expanding Geothermal Power Production**

Press Release (San Francisco) January 19 — Two hundred leaders from the geothermal industry, the finance community and government agencies met yesterday at the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) fourth annual Finance Forum, held at the Marriott Marquis San Francisco. The event focused discussions on the issues and opportunities in geothermal including how to accelerate the slow growth of the industry, whether Congress will extend tax incentives, how to improve project economics, and more. “While analysts projected continued growth for the industry in the US and worldwide, the industry still struggles with the overall poor economy and federal and state policies that don’t match industry development needs,” said GEA Executive Director Karl Gawell.

Keynote presenters included Karen Douglas, Commissioner, California Energy Commission (CEC); Michael Picker, Senior Advisor to the Governor for Renewable Energy Facilities, State of California; Anne Simpson, Senior Portfolio Manager for Corporate Governance, California Public Employees’ Retirement System (Calpers); industry panels featured Gevan Reeves, Director, Strategic Origination, Calpine Corporation; Luka Erceg, President and CEO, Simbol Materials; Halley Dickey, Director Geothermal Business Development, TAS Energy; Mike Ranz, President, SNC-Lavalin Thermal Power; and Jonathan Weisgall, MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company.



The GEA Finance Forum was made possible in part by Gold Level sponsor SNC Lavalin, a company with a team that has successfully completed over 60,000 MW of thermal power projects worldwide, while also committed to achieving a superior financial return for its shareholders. “The involvement of leading global companies, like SNC Lavalin, in the geothermal industry is a positive sign for its future outlook,” Gawell noted.

An overarching theme at the event was the mismatch with government policies. While California state energy goals will require significant new renewable energy production in coming years, utility procurement and transmission processes did not account for the long-lead times of geothermal projects. And, for project finance, federal tax credits expiring at the end of 2013 mean that many new power plants cannot



count on federal help. A geothermal project may have at least 4 to 8 years of lead time before the resource is on tap, and with the credit expiring in two years many new projects hang in the balance as Washington debates whether or not to extend renewable energy tax incentives, several speakers noted.

“While our technologies are not literally at their tax incentive cliff – they have until December 21, 2013 to put new projects into production -- for all practical purposes the production tax incentive is having declining effect. A utility scale project starting today would find it nearly impossible to be completed by the end of 2013. To spur continued growth in geothermal, and build on the success of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, we would urge Congress to extending tax credits through at least 2016 for geothermal,” Gawell said.

Important conversations at the GEA Finance Forum covered technological advancements, as well as challenges in siting and transmission. There was also spirited discussion of approaches to reduce industry risk, including possible new insurance schemes and feed-in tariffs.

California is a policy leader in the United States with one of the most ambitious Renewable Portfolio Standards in the country. The state’s landmark renewable energy standard legislation was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown this year, and will require California utilities to provide at least a third of their electricity from clean and safe renewable sources like geothermal by the year 2020, and the state’s climate law will require even more by 2030 and beyond.



*Panel Discussion: “Recognizing and Addressing the Realities Facing Geothermal Projects in 2012 and Beyond”: Doug Glaspey, President and COO, U.S. Geothermal; Joe Lessard, SVP Development, Gradient Resources; Dan Nastou, Power and Infrastructure, John Hancock Financial Services; John Marciano, Chadbourne & Parke LLP; and Monte Morrison, Country Manager-USA, Magma Energy Corp.*



The need for new geothermal power in California was underscored by CEC Commissioner Douglas. She explained that in the coming decades California would not just need to meet increasing RPS and climate goals, but also replace its nuclear power plants and imported coal power. She remarked: "As we move toward our long term goals, we can't think about renewable energy as all being the same, because a system that has a balanced mix of geothermal, biomass, solar thermal, PV and wind will function very differently and will be able to fill the needs we see in our infrastructure in a much different way than a system that's covered by intermittent resources alone. We need to think about how we meet the needs of our electricity that allows us to deliver reliable electricity and this is where geothermal power is our bread and butter."

"We intend to fully engage the California Energy Commission and the Governor's office to ensure the policies and programs that allow us to tap the full potential of the state's geothermal resource base to help meet the renewable goals set by the state are adopted," Gawell said. "GEA's last Industry Update identified more than 34 projects with over 1,400 MWs under development now in California, and this is only a fraction of the resource potential."

Gawell also called on California to convene a Geothermal Task Force, similar to the one recently initiated in Hawaii, to re-assess the full resource potential of the state using today's knowledge and technology. Hawaii's Task Force has recently proposed that the state set a goal of being 100% geothermal powered.

"To support moving the geothermal agenda in California forward, we intend to build on the dialogue started at the Forum and convene a geothermal policy summit in Sacramento this summer," Gawell announced. "The summit will focus on the critical issues the Forum identified and seek to find new approaches to expanding geothermal power production to help meet California's energy needs," he added.

### **Obama Seeks to Merge Agencies, Streamline Government**

Under a proposed plan, parts of the federal government would be consolidated and could save \$3 billion over 10 years, according to White House estimates. The initial focus would be on entities that deal with small business, combining the functions and staff of six trade- and commerce-related agencies and offices: the Small Business Administration; the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative; the Export-Import Bank; the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; and the Trade and Development Agency. The [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration would move](#) from the Commerce Department to the Interior Department. The plan could eliminate more than 1,000 federal jobs.



From the [White House press release](#): “We live in a 21st century economy, but we’ve still got a government organized for the 20th century. Our economy has fundamentally changed – as has the world – but the government has not. The needs of our citizens have fundamentally changed but their government has not. Instead, it has often grown more complex. Today, I am calling on Congress to reinstate the authority that past presidents have had to streamline and reform the Executive Branch. This is the same sort of authority that every business owner has to make sure that his or her company keeps pace with the times. And let me be clear: I will only use this authority for reforms that result in more efficiency, better service, and a leaner government,” said President Obama.

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## **Company News**

### **Gradient Resources: Fernley Planning Commission Approves Patua Geothermal**

The Fernley Planning Commission has voted unanimously to recommend granting a special use permit for the Patua Geothermal Project Phase II. Plans for the 60-MW geothermal plant and associated facilities include wells, well pads, geothermal fluid pipelines, a transmission line, and associated access roads. An approximate 2.3-mile 120 Kv transmission line would be constructed for interconnection with the Phase I line in Churchill County. The approved plans included 37 conditions required by city staff, some addressing concerns from local residents and requirements on roads, noise, and lighting issues, [according to rgj.com](#).

### **Nevada Geothermal Power: Company Engages Canaccord Genuity for Strategic Review**

[Press Release \[see full story\]](#) (Vancouver) January 17 -- Nevada Geothermal Power Inc. (NGP) (tsx.v:NGP) NGLPF 0.00% is pleased to announce that it has engaged Canaccord Genuity as financial advisor to NGP to determine strategic alternatives in the restructuring of its mezzanine debt and in the recapitalization of the Company.

#### *Ongoing Injection Distribution at [Blue Mountain](#) Providing Encouraging Results:*

A program to preserve generation capacity was initiated in 2011 and is nearing completion. The program objective is to shift injection away from the injection wells that return cooled geothermal fluid from the plant back to the production zone too quickly.

Three existing unused wells, 58A-15, 38-14, and 89-11, were selected to be placed into injection service following field tests and computer simulation modeling. In early November 2011, injection into well 58A-15 commenced at a rate of 600 gpm to a shallow permeable horizon that appears from tracer tests to be isolated from current production zones such that cooled fluid is not expected to return to production



wells. Well 38-14, requiring new pipeline construction, was connected and injection at a rate of 150-200 gpm commenced Dec 28, 2011 on the southern margin of the producing field. Well 58A-15 and 38-11 injection has resulted in a lessening of temperature declines at the production wells. Temperature declines at some wells (14-14, 26A-14) appear to have ceased. The third well 89-11 was cleaned out and a slotted liner was installed in November 2010; injection tests confirm that the well is a "better than expected" injector capable of taking approximately 2000 gpm. Pipeline construction to 89-11 was recently completed and injection commenced on January 12, 2012 starting at 500 gpm to be increased in stages. The further redistribution of injection into 89-11 is expected to further moderate observed temperature declines in production wells.

Reservoir simulation modeling by GeothermEx, Inc. has estimated that the re-distribution of injection into 58A-15, 38-14 and 89-11 will allow senior loan covenants to be met through the remaining 17-year life of the facility. The mezzanine debt service coverage ratios are in breach and the Company is working cooperatively with lenders and its advisor to restructure the loan.

A tax-assisted financing to monetize deductions is planned with Marathon Capital, LLC as agent, following the completion of the current injection program and confirmation of the reservoir response.

### **Ormat Technologies: BLM Approves Proposed Action at Dixie Geothermal Project**

The Bureau of Land Management has determined Ormat Technologies may move forward on work at the Dixie Meadows geothermal project northeast of Fallon, Nevada. The [Decision Record on the Environmental Assessment](#) stated the Proposed Action would not result in "significant environmental impacts," with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The proposed activities include constructing and upgrading access roads, constructing up to 20 well pads, drilling and completing temperature gradient wells, observation wells, production wells and 1-2 water wells, expanding one minerals material site and construct one new materials site, installing a temporary above-ground water distribution pipeline, and constructing a temporary personnel camp.



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## **State News**

### **Alaska: Renewable Resources Options Discussed**

Ahead of an ACEP Community Energy Lecture on “Alaska’s Stranded Renewable Resources,” Jason Meyer, Emerging Energy Technology program manager for the [Alaska Center for Energy and Power](#) told press a significant barrier to renewable energy development in Alaska is that many of the resources are either too far from population centers and transportation corridors, or local communities are too small to develop a resource. ACEP and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory collaborated on a report to identify the benefits of these resources and how they can be used. Since Alaska is considered similar to Iceland and Norway in terms of resources and economies, similar ideas such as a high-voltage direct current, successful in Norway, are part of the discussion.

### **California: Gov. Jerry Brown Targets Renewables in State of the State Address**

Gov. Jerry Brown of California gave his State of the State address this week. Part of the governor’s message was about stimulating jobs, building renewable energy and reducing pollution and greenhouse gasses. As prepared and distributed to media, [he said](#):

“Already California is leading the nation in creating jobs in renewable energy and the design and construction of more efficient buildings and new technologies. Our state keeps demanding more efficient structures, cars, machines and electric devices. We do that because we understand that fossil fuels, particularly foreign oil, create ever rising costs to our economy and to our health. It is true that the renewable energy sector is small relative to the overall economy but it pays good wages and will only grow bigger as oil prices increase and the effects of climate change become more obvious and expensive.

“I have set a goal of 20,000 megawatts of renewable energy by 2020. You have laid the foundation by adopting the requirement that one third of our electricity come from renewable sources by that date. This morning I can tell you we are on track to meet that goal and substantially exceed it. In the last two years alone, California has permitted over 16,000 megawatts of solar, wind and geothermal energy projects.

“In the beginning of the computer industry, jobs were numbered in the thousands. Now they are in the millions. The same thing will happen with green jobs. And California is positioned perfectly to reap the economic benefits that will inevitably flow.



"California also leads the nation in cleaning up the air, encouraging electric vehicles and reducing pollution and greenhouse gases. Our vehicle emissions standards — which have always set the pace — now have been adopted by the federal government for the rest of the country.

"Under AB 32, California has stepped out and crafted a bold plan to deal with climate change and foreign oil dependency. The plan will require less carbon in our fuels, more efficient technologies across a broad swath of businesses and a carefully designed cap and trade system that uses market incentives instead of prescriptive mandates.

"As a result, California is attracting billions of dollars in clean tech venture capital investments. In 2011, almost 40% of such investments were made in California, making our state not only the leader in the nation but in the world.

"My commitment is to continue these innovative programs and build on them in the coming year in every way that I can."

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## **International News**

### **Europe**

#### **EU Meets 2010 RE Target, Needs Long-Term Stable Framework**

The European Union achieved its 2010 renewable electricity target of 21% with geothermal, wind, and solar energy, according to analysis by the European Wind Energy Association. Director of Policy Justin Wilkes [stated on EWEA's Web site](#): "A long-term stable framework, underpinned by an ambitious 2030 renewable energy target, is clearly the proven way to ensure Europe meets its climate, competitiveness and energy security goals." If renewable production continues its rate of growth from 2005 to 2010, it could reach 36.4% in 2020 and 51.6% in 2030.



## Americas

### El Salvador: LaGeo to Invest in Geothermal in 2012

From Marcelo Lippmann, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; [see also Prensa Gráfica \(Spanish\)](#) -- This year, the geothermal company [LaGeo](#) will invest 41 million dollars in repairing and drilling geothermal wells, some of them exploratory. LaGeo's exploration efforts will focus on the Chinameca and San Vicente geothermal areas where presently there are no production wells; the plan includes the drilling of five wells and the stimulation of some other seven.

At the present time, the company's installed capacity at the Ahuachapán and Berlín geothermal fields is 204.4 MW, 175 MW of which are sent to the national grid. LaGeo is planning to increase production in order to supply 40% of El Salvador's electricity needs in 2021.

### Nevis and Dominica: Nations to Share Information on Geothermal Development

Dominica Minister of Public Works, Energy and Ports Mr. Rayburn Blackmoore met with Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment on Nevis Hon. Carlisle Powell last week, in agreement to move forward with an open and transparent dialogue between the nations regarding geothermal energy pursuits. "We can share our experiences to ensure therefore, that geothermal in itself is developed to its fullest potential for the benefit of our citizens and for civilization of the Caribbean on a whole," [Mr. Blackmoore was quoted](#). He added that given the financial and technical requirements of developing geothermal resources, Nevis is most advanced among the Caribbean nations in developing geothermal. Dominica is in the process of drilling test wells in Roseau Valley, he added.

## Pacific

### Australia: Geodynamics on Track with Habanero 4; Geothermal Conference in Melbourne a Success

Geodynamics Limited announced that its Innamincka Deeps Joint Venture project is in advanced planning stages as it prepares to spud the Habanero 4 well before the end of February 2012. It will take about four months to drill to 4,170 m, where the joint venture expects to access the existing fracture zone. "We remain very focused on our drilling program," Managing Director [Geoff Ward was quoted](#).

"Habanero 4 represents the first major step in an appraisal program designed to demonstrate a commercial scale energy project at the Habanero site within the next two years."



This comes on the heels of the recent 2011 [Australian Geothermal Energy Conference in Melbourne](#), which highlighted efforts and success in support of geothermal energy in Australia. Michael O'Brien, Victorian State Minister for Energy and Resources spoke to conference goers, highlighting the recently doubled \$180 million Energy Technology Innovation Strategy in Victoria, which was the source for \$25 million recently granted to Greenerth Energy's Geelong Geothermal Project. As one of the nations involved in pushing geothermal efforts forward, Australia will also host the World Geothermal Congress in 2015 in Melbourne.

Other speakers at the AGECE included Roland Horne, President of the International Geothermal Association (IGA) and Professor at Stanford University; Gunter Siddiqui, Deputy Head of Section at the Swiss Federal Office of Energy; Peter Reid, Exploration Manager at Petratherm; Alexander Richter, Director of the Canadian Geothermal Energy Association; Arno Schaaf, Business Development Director for the CSIRO's Petroleum and Geothermal Research activities; Klaus Regenauer-Lieb, Head of the Centre for Western Australian Geothermal Centre of Excellence, and Hal Gurgenci, Director for the Queensland Geothermal Energy Centre of Excellence; and entertainment from Australian cricketer, footballer, commentator and author Max Walker.

### **Indonesia: Geothermal Plant Permit Delayed**

A geothermal power plant in Baturraden, Banyumas, has been delayed until 2017 due to awaiting the operating permit from the Forestry Ministry. The Rp7-trillion project was expected to produce electricity by 2014. "The permit is still being processed," Banyumas Energy and Mineral Resources Office chief, Anton Adi Wahyono, [was quoted](#). As part of the policy requirements, the project investor, PT Sejahtera Alam Energy (SAE), will also replace the protected forest area: the project is estimated to require 50 hectares of land on Mt. Slamet, thus the company must restore 100 hectares of land.

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## **Geothermal Heat Pumps and Direct Use**

### **PSE&G Provides \$1 M Grant to New Jersey Geothermal System**

A \$1 million grant from PSE&G to Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority (CCMUA), awarded on January 9, will go toward installing a geothermal system at the CCMUA wastewater treatment plant in Camden. "The project will utilize green energy available from heat in the wastewater in order to reduce the need for conventional heating options," Freeholder Jeffery L. Nash, liaison to the CCMUA, was quoted in the press release. "Implementing this technology is expected to save the CCMUA about \$80,000 per year in energy expenses."

The installation is planned for this summer and is expected to be completed by the end of 2012. The CCMUA is also installing a 2 MW solar array at its site and working to become a zero waste facility.

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## **Notices**

### **New This Week**

#### **GRC Announces Outstanding Technical Session Presentations from 2011 Annual Meeting**

The Geothermal Resources Council (GRC) has announced the outstanding presentations from the global geothermal community, taken from each of the technical sessions at last October's GRC 2011 Annual Meeting in San Diego. The GRC has made visual aids from over 230 technical presentations available on its Web site at [geothermal.org](http://geothermal.org), and the 53 outstanding presentations are featured at [www.geothermal.org/powerpoint11\\_best.html](http://www.geothermal.org/powerpoint11_best.html). The GRC Annual Meetings were held in tandem with GEA's Geothermal Energy Expo.

### **Current Notices**

#### **Are You Developing a Geothermal Project? Contact GEA for Inclusion in the 2012 US Geothermal Power Production and Development Report**

GEA is preparing to gather information for its 2012 US Geothermal Power Production and Development Report. If your company or organization is involved in developing a geothermal project, and you would like to submit information on that project for inclusion in the 2012 report, or if you have questions about the report, please contact Dan Jennejohn at [danj@geo-energy.org](mailto:danj@geo-energy.org) or at 202.454.5261.

If a project your company is developing was included in the last industry report (April 2011), GEA still asks for confirmation from the developer regarding the current status of the project for the 2012 report. A copy of the 2011 industry report can be accessed through GEA's [Web site](#).

#### **Comments Invited on Sage Grouse EIS (February 7)**

The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service are addressing ongoing threats to the greater sage-grouse and its habitat throughout the West through a Notice of Intent for the Sage Grouse EIS, published in the Federal Register December 9. Greater sage-grouse currently use around 47 million acres of land managed by the BLM and around nine million acres of land managed by the USFS.



About 98 BLM Resource Management Plans address greater sage-grouse, while the USFS expects to evaluate conservation measures into as many as nine Land and Resource Management Plans considered high priority for the conservation of sage-grouse.

The BLM and the U.S. Forest Service are seeking comment on issues that should be addressed in evaluating greater sage-grouse conservation measures in land use plans in 10 Western states. Comments for the [Eastern Region](#) may be sent to [sageeast@blm.gov](mailto:sageeast@blm.gov). Comments for the [Western Region](#) may be sent to [sagewest@blm.gov](mailto:sagewest@blm.gov). General questions about the planning strategy should be directed to [SageQuery@blm.gov](mailto:SageQuery@blm.gov). The Bureau of Land Management will be holding scoping meetings in western states in January. See:

<http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/sagegrouse/western.html>. Comments are due February 7, though they will be accepted until the 15th.

To get on an email list for notices/newsletters send a request with your contact information to [sagewest@blm.gov](mailto:sagewest@blm.gov). Questions: [sagequery@blm.gov](mailto:sagequery@blm.gov). To follow the process on the Web site, go to [www.BLM.gov](http://www.BLM.gov) / "News and Information" (on right side) / "Federal Agencies Announce Initial Step to Incorporate Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Measures into Land Management Plans" / Under "Public Meetings," click "Western."

### **Comments Invited on Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Draft EIS for Geothermal Leasing (February 11)**

Under the recently completed Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Draft Environment Impact Statement (DEIS) for Geothermal Leasing, the Forest Service would consent to lease up to approximately 615,230 acres of National Forest System land that are administratively available for geothermal leasing. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) provides for a 45-day public comment period for a DEIS. Comments on the DEIS should be specific and address the adequacy of the document and the merits of the alternatives discussed (40 CFR 1503.3). The decision for this project will be subject to the appeal process pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR 215. Only those who provide comment on the DEIS during the comment period may participate in the 215 appeal process.

The full proposal, including maps of the proposed areas, is available online at [www.fs.usda.gov/goto/htnf/geothermal](http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/htnf/geothermal). Comments may be submitted online to: [comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe@fs.fed.us). Please include "Geothermal EIS" in the subject line. Written comments must be submitted to: Keith Whaley, Project Manager, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Bridgeport Ranger District, HC 62



Box 1000, Bridgeport, CA 93517; fax (760) 932-5899; phone (760) 932-7070; or [kwhaley@fs.fed.us](mailto:kwhaley@fs.fed.us). Comments must have an identifiable name attached or verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature may serve as verification on electronic documents.

A public open house for this project will also be held on January 20th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Forest Supervisor's Office, 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV.

### **GRC Call for 2012 Annual Meeting Papers (April 27)**

Present your paper at the Geothermal Resources Council's 2012 Annual Meeting, September 30 through October 3, 2012 in Reno, Nevada. Authors may submit an oral technical presentation and/or poster before April 27. Instructions to submit:

[http://geothermal.informz.net/geothermal/archives/archive\\_1972541.html](http://geothermal.informz.net/geothermal/archives/archive_1972541.html). Please direct all content related questions to: Frank Monastero at [monasterofc@gmail.com](mailto:monasterofc@gmail.com); Lisa Shevenell at [lisaas@unr.edu](mailto:lisaas@unr.edu). Please direct all format and general submission questions to: Anh Lay at [alay@geothermal.org](mailto:alay@geothermal.org) or (530) 758-2360 ext. 100

#### 2012 Paper Topics:

- Business Development / Finance
- Basin & Range / Cascades / Rocky Mountains
- Direct Use / Heat Pump
- Enhanced Geothermal Systems
- Exploration / Resource Assessment / Management
- Geology, Geophysics and Geochemistry
- Geothermal Energy Associated with Oil and Gas Operations
- Geothermal Project Case Studies
- International
- Power Operations / Maintenance / Production Technologies
- Regulatory / Environmental Compliance / Policy Issues
- Utility and Transmission Issues
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **Is Your Company Providing a Geothermal Internship?**

If your company working in the geothermal industry has provided internship opportunities in the past, or is interested in doing this in the future, GEA can help. Contact Alison Holm: [Alison@geo-energy.org](mailto:Alison@geo-energy.org). To see some of the work that GEA has done connecting and providing resource for students who are interested in geothermal careers, visit GEA's networking database, the Geothermal Web:

<http://geothermalweb.org/Students.aspx>



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## **Employment**

### **Employment Opportunities**

Job opportunities in or related to the geothermal energy industry are published in GEA's newsletter - the *Geothermal Energy Weekly* free of charge. Contact: [leslie@geo-energy.org](mailto:leslie@geo-energy.org).

#### **Geothermal Expert, MunichRE, Germany**

This job is with MunichRE's Entrepreneurial Risks Solutions Department, focusing on geothermal exploration risks during implementation of their internationally oriented strategy for the insurance of geological risks as well as geological risk assessment and monitoring.

- Job posting at MunichRE: <https://munichre.tms.hrdepartment.com/cgi-bin/a/highlightjob.cgi?jobid=1943>.
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.

#### **Geothermal Operator, Enel Green Power, Nevada**

Responsible for outside operations, general housekeeping, minor maintenance, maintaining equipment, taking logs of equipment, maintaining company vehicles, operating equipment, and assisting A and B operator as needed; and Performing all necessary tasks as pertained to Operations of a Binary Cycle Geothermal Power Plant, or as assigned by Plant Supervisors or Plant Manager.

- Job posting at Enel Green Power: [http://www.enelgreenpower.com/en-GB/ena/company/work/Geothermal\\_Operator/index.aspx](http://www.enelgreenpower.com/en-GB/ena/company/work/Geothermal_Operator/index.aspx).
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.

#### **Drilling Manager, Origin Energy, Indonesia**

Lead geothermal drilling projects in Indonesia, Jakarta based with domestic and international travel. As a result of Origin's continued commitment to renewable energy and sustainability this newly created position has been established to manage upcoming drilling programs in our Indonesian joint venture geothermal business – Origin Tata Power (OTP). To be successful in this role a drilling engineering and project management background is required with a minimum of 5-6 years of specific geothermal drilling experience.

Sound knowledge of petroleum engineering would also be an advantage.

- Contact: Jennifer Blake on +617 3867 0022 or email [jennifer.blake@originenergy.com.au](mailto:jennifer.blake@originenergy.com.au).
- See description at the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal, <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.



### **Theme Leader, Petroleum & Geothermal Portfolio, CSIRO, Australia**

The Theme Leader leads research activities in Gas Production and Processing and Geothermal Energy. The PGR portfolio develops and deploys R&D solutions for oil, gas and geothermal energy exploration, production and processing as well as CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage technologies, aiming at a safer, cleaner, and secure Australian energy future. The Theme Leader will have direct responsibility to the Portfolio Director for successful execution and management of the Theme, will recommend the strategic direction of the Theme, and will oversee the integration and delivery of the science. The successful applicant will also have a key role in designing and facilitating successful delivery and adoption of the science in line with the Theme goal.

- Job posting at CSIRO:

<http://csiro.nga.net.au/cp/index.cfm?event=jobs.checkJobDetailsNewApplication&returnToEvent=jobs.listJobs&jobid=1cabe750-dea2-8b05-548c-650bc15fa117&CurATC=EXT&CurBID=62afb35d-9273-4a11-8dcc-9db401354197&JobListID=8664bb62-dd2a-b70c-7ed4-5bdf68cebd3a&jobsListKey=918a8aeb-3528-4ef7-b4e4-814273e5dd8e&persistVariables=CurATC,CurBID,JobListID,jobsListKey,JobID&lid=89694670054>.

- Position details: <http://csiro.nga.net.au/publicfiles/csiro/jobs/1CABE750-DEA2-8B05-548C-650BC15FA117/Position%20Details%20WAN02346.pdf> [PDF]
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.

### **PostDoc Research Assistant, Geothermal/ Geochemistry, University of Utah, Utah**

The Energy & Geoscience Institute (EGI) at the University of Utah is seeking applicants for a postdoctoral research position in geothermal geochemistry. The successful applicant will conduct original research on water, gas and mineral interactions in geothermal systems from a variety of geologic environments. This position offers the opportunity to work with a highly skilled interdisciplinary team of scientists and engineers in the energy industry. The successful applicant must therefore have excellent oral and written communication skills.

- Job posting at the University of Utah Career Portal: <http://utah.peopleadmin.com/postings/12103>.
- Interested applicants should send resumes and the names of three references to Dr. Joseph Moore at [jmoore@egi.utah.edu](mailto:jmoore@egi.utah.edu).
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.



### Senior Project Manager, Enel Green Power, Nevada

The Sr. Project Manager will manage all activities involved in the project design lifecycle. He/She will be responsible for projects in all technologies of renewable energy production including wind, solar, hydro, geothermal and biomass. 10 yrs of related work experience is required.

- Job posting at Enel Green Power Web site: [www.enelgreenpower.com/en-GB/ena/company/work/](http://www.enelgreenpower.com/en-GB/ena/company/work/)
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.

### Drilling Engineer, Transmark Renewables, The Netherlands

Transmark Renewables is looking for a fulltime Geothermal Drilling Engineer who will work within a small team involved in developing drilling campaigns in the various license areas throughout the world. The Geothermal Drilling Engineer will report to the Drilling Manager and cooperate and liaise with the drilling and wider Transmark team.

- Job posting on Linked-in:  
[http://www.linkedin.com/jobs?viewJob=&jobId=2334449&srchIndex=2&trk=njsrch\\_hits&qoback=fjs\\_geothermal\\_\\*1\\_\\*1\\_Y\\_\\*1\\_\\*1\\_\\*1\\_1\\_R\\_true\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2\\_\\*2](http://www.linkedin.com/jobs?viewJob=&jobId=2334449&srchIndex=2&trk=njsrch_hits&qoback=fjs_geothermal_*1_*1_Y_*1_*1_*1_1_R_true_*2_*2_*2_*2_*2_*2_*2_*2)
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.

### Postdoctoral Research Associate, Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico

The Computational Earth Science group, Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) division, has an immediate opening for a creative and resourceful scientist to join their interdisciplinary team to develop and apply novel computational techniques for subsurface flow and solute transport in fractured media. A Ph.D. in Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geosciences, Applied Math, Computational Sciences, Physics or Engineering completed within the last five years or soon to be completed is required.

- Job posting at the <http://www.lanl.gov/science/postdocs/>.
- Contact: Scott Painter (spainter@lanl.gov; 505 606 1895).
- See the ThinkGeoEnergy Geothermal Job Portal at <http://jobs.thinkgeoenergy.com/>.



### **Intern, Hot Dry Rocks, Australia**

(See also: <http://geothermalweb.org/>)---Hot Dry Rocks (HDR), an Australian Geothermal Consultancy is looking for an intern starting in March 2012. This non-paid intern will work 6 to 10 hours per week at our Melbourne Office and Lab. Tasks will involve assisting the lab manager in the preparation of rock samples for analysis, data management of rock core samples and production of geothermal maps.

HDR is Australia's foremost and largest geothermal-specific exploration and development consultancy. HDR specialises in locating and characterising geothermal resources suitable to exploit for power generation. We have worked on scores of projects across Australia and in other parts of the world; in Hot Sedimentary Aquifers, Engineered Geothermal Systems (EGS), and conventional geothermal systems.

HDR's strength lies in combining expertise in crustal heat flow measurement and modelling, EGS research and development, and petroleum and mineral exploration.

HDR also supports an internal research and development program, delivering state-of-the-art tools and software for the geothermal sector. For example, HDR developed an electronic divided bar meter for rock thermal conductivity measurement—the first portable instrument of its type in the world—and operates the only commercial laboratory for rock thermal property measurement in Australia.

Through its in-house expertise and strategic partnerships, HDR offers a full range of services and advice from initial ground selection, exploration and resource characterisation; through drilling, reservoir stimulation and appraisal; to economic modelling and full-scale development. HDR is focused on the subsurface aspects of geothermal energy development.

Interested candidates should submit a letter of interest, resume and two letters of reference to Lawrence Molloy at

[lawrence.molloy@hotdryrocks.com](mailto:lawrence.molloy@hotdryrocks.com)

### **Reservoir Engineer, CALPINE, The Geysers, Middletown, CA**

Position Summary: Create and maintain reservoir-steamfield-powerplant simulation models. Monitor reservoir performance. Apply expertise to reservoir management, operational problems, and forecasting at The Geysers, the world's largest geothermal field. Calpine is North America's leading geothermal power producer. At The Geysers, about 100 miles northeast of San Francisco, Calpine harnesses naturally heated steam from the earth to create electrical power. This renewable "green" power is available to consumers throughout



California. This position reports to the Manager of Geothermal Production Analysis. Please apply online at

<http://www.calpine.com/careers/>

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Build and maintain calibrated numerical simulation models of the reservoir-pipeline-power plant system. Use the model to forecast steam flows under different operational scenarios.
2. Develop conceptual models of the reservoir. Prepare estimates of field reserves and forecasts of future production and generation. Prepares related reports as needed.
3. Provide support on forecasts of future capital improvements, generation and revenues.
4. Contribute insight to the broader team's thinking about the nature of The Geysers resource and the appropriate strategy for managing this unique asset within Calpine's stated "Next 50 Years" initiative.

**Qualifications and Experience:**

1. Education: Bachelor of Science degree and graduate degrees (MS or PhD) in GeoScience or Engineering, with background in oil/gas/geothermal reservoir engineering.
2. Geothermal Reservoir Simulation: Expertise in large-scale numerical simulation of heat and mass flows in geothermal reservoirs, including understanding of numerical modeling techniques and underlying physical principles. Ability to integrate the reservoir simulation with a steam gathering system model and turbine performance curves in order to produce valid generation forecasts.
3. Reserves and Economics: Ability to translate current reserves and production forecasts into economic projections that meet financial reporting standards.
4. Other Reservoir Engineering Skills: Deep understanding of water-steam thermodynamics. Experience with decline curve analysis, wellbore flow modeling, flow test techniques, pressure build-up testing, interference testing, and other standard reservoir engineering methods applied to geothermal reservoirs.
5. Safety Consciousness: Commitment to following safe work practices that minimize risks to people, property, and the environment.



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## **Requests for Proposals**

### **Proposal Announcements**

Proposals and other announcements in or related to the geothermal energy industry are published in GEA's newsletter - the *Geothermal Energy Weekly* free of charge. Contact: [leslie@geo-energy.org](mailto:leslie@geo-energy.org).

### **Financial JV Partner Needed, Geothermal Power Generation Project in Indonesia**

The promoters were awarded the bid to build a 65 MW Geothermal Working Area (GWA) and the mining permit (IUP) of Geothermal in West Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia, in July 2010. The IUP is valid up to 35 years, with 3 years for exploration, 2 years for feasibility study & construction, and 30 years for commercialization. Each stage could be extended by government approval.

Promoters can sell electricity to the PLN (National Electricity Grid of Indonesia) at USD 9.65 cents per kWh. The promoters have entered a long-term Power Purchase Agreement for 25 years. Promoters must conduct exploration within the next 6 months.

The recommended activities of exploration stage consist of magneto telluric, gradient temperature drilling and exploration drilling. The outcome of the exploration stage is to confirm the status of probable reserve from the hypothetical resource at 65 MW. The estimated capital expenditure for the exploration stage is US \$15 million, which is required to determine the location for drilling the exploitation wells.

After confirming the location of the exploitation wells, 5–10 production wells will be drilled to produce 50 MW steam. The steam shall be converted into electricity power by constructing the steam gathering facilities, piping, infrastructures and power plant within 2 years. A mix of equity and debt finance of the total amount of the capital expenditure will be about USD \$150 million.

Projected forecasts can be disclosed during the initial conversation with potential JVC financial and EMC partners. Yearly Projected Net Profit is estimated to be \$12 Million USD with an IRR of 16.2%. Please contact Dr. Tom Lannin at [tlannin@gmail.com](mailto:tlannin@gmail.com) to discuss details and terms. The opportunity is open for 90 days. (*Posted ~Nov. 17, 2011*)



### **Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers, NSF (February 1)**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Fundamental Research Program for Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Energy and Environment; Advanced Manufacturing; Biotechnology; Advanced Materials; and Fabrication and Process Technology. \$1.6 million expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Responses due 2/1/12. For more info, contact Rathindra DasGupta at [rdasgupt@nsf.gov](mailto:rdasgupt@nsf.gov) or go to:

[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf11570](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf11570). Refer to NSF 11-570. (Grants.gov 8/10/11)

### **Sustainable Energy Pathways, NSF (February 1)**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Sustainable Energy Pathways. This RFP will support interdisciplinary efforts by teams of researchers to address the challenges of developing efficient pathways towards a sustainable energy future. \$34 million expected to be available. Responses due 2/1/12. For more info, including agency contacts, go to:

[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf11590](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf11590). Refer to Sol# 11-590. (Grants.gov 9/22/11)

### **Environmental Engineering, Energy for Sustainability, and Environmental Sustainability, NSF (February 17)**

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for the following programs, with responses due 2/17/12. :

- **Environmental Engineering.** The goal of this program is to encourage transformative research which applies scientific principles to minimize solid, liquid, and gaseous discharges into land, inland and coastal waters, and air that result from human activity, and to evaluate adverse impacts of these discharges on human health and environmental quality. \$9.4 million expected to be available, up to 44 awards anticipated. For more info, contact Paul Bishop at [pbishop@nsf.gov](mailto:pbishop@nsf.gov) or go to:  
[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=501029](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501029). Refer to Sol# PD-12-1440. (Grants.gov 6/8/11)
- **Energy for Sustainability.** This program supports fundamental research and education in energy production, conversion, and storage and is focused on energy sources that are environmentally friendly and renewable. Sources of sustainable energy include: Sunlight, Wind/Wave, Biomass, and Geothermal. \$9.2 million expected to be available, up to 42 awards anticipated. For more info, contact Gregory Rorrer at [gorrer@nsf.gov](mailto:gorrer@nsf.gov) or go to: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=501026](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501026). Refer to Sol# PD-12-7644. (Grants.gov 6/8/11)
- **Environmental Sustainability.** This program supports engineering research with the goal of promoting sustainable engineered systems that support human well-being and that are also compatible with sustaining natural systems. \$5.4 million expected to be



available, up to 45 awards anticipated. For more info, contact Bruce Hamilton at [bhamilto@nsf.gov](mailto:bhamilto@nsf.gov) or go to:

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=501027](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501027). Refer to Sol# PD-12-7643. (Grants.gov 6/8/11)

### **For Students! Regional Energy Department Business Plan Competitions (March 2)**

*From EERE Network News*---If you're a university student interested in low-carbon technologies and entrepreneurship, then this is the premier opportunity for you to pitch your idea. The Regional Clean Energy Business Plan Competition is accepting business plan submissions until March 2, 2012.

Across the country, six regional competitions will serve as platforms for students to come up with innovative business plans to transform great clean energy ideas into great businesses. Based in California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Texas, the regional competitions span the entire nation and all U.S. territories. Each region is unique in its own right, but they all share the common goal of bringing clean technologies to the market through creative business solutions.

Some of the submission deadlines have already passed while others range to March 2, 2012. Be sure to individually check regional competitions and the corresponding deadline [here](#).

The six regional winners will each receive \$100,000 in prize money and a chance to compete for a National Grand Prize at a competition held at DOE headquarters in Washington, D.C., in the summer of 2012. See the [Energy Blog post](#).

### **Renewable Energy, Hawaiian Electric Company**

Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) RFP seeking at least 200 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy projects for Oahu. The RFP is open to any commercially viable renewable technology that can generate electricity on Oahu or on another island from where energy can reasonably be transmitted to Oahu via undersea cable system, no later than December 31, 2018. The formal RFP is expected to be released March 31, 2012. Contact: Peter Rosegg, [peter.rosegg@heco.com](mailto:peter.rosegg@heco.com) or 808-543-7780



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## **Events**

### **Happening This Week**

#### **Geothermal Lease Sale, BLM, Nevada (January 24)**

The BLM is holding a competitive oral sale of Federal lands in the State of Nevada for geothermal leasing on January 24, 2012 at the Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, Nevada. There are 34 parcels totaling 99,469 acres, with two of the parcels are in the Elko area; two in the Battle Mountain area; nine in the Carson City region; and 21 in the Winnemucca area.

Leases issue for a primary term of 10 years. Annual rental is \$2 per acre for the first year (paid to BLM), \$3 per acre for the second through tenth year, and \$5 per acre per year thereafter. Once the site is producing for commercial generation, royalty rates are 1.75% for the first 10 years of production and 3.5% thereafter. Lands that do not receive a bid are available for a two-year period beginning the first business day after the sale.

To pre-register by mail or fax, mail the bidder registration form to the above address or fax to (775) 861-6710. On the day of the sale, bidders can register from 8:00 a.m. until 8:45 a.m., and the sale starts at 9. Bring a photo ID to the sale.

Contact: Justin Abernathy, (775) 861-6504. View the parcel list and other available documents, and check back for changes at:

[http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/leasable\\_minerals/geothermal0/ggeothermal\\_leasing.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/prog/minerals/leasable_minerals/geothermal0/ggeothermal_leasing.html). The bid form for successful bidders (Form 3000-2, dated August 2007) can be found at: <https://www.blm.gov/FormsCentral/show-home.do>

### **GEA and GEA-Sponsored Events**

#### **Geothermal Track, Renewable Energy World North America Conference and Expo, Long Beach, CA (February 14–16)**

The 2012 Renewable Energy World North America Conference and Expo event will take place February 14-16 in Long Beach, California — please save the date! GEA is on the planning committee and will be exhibiting on the Expo floor. Additional participation and sponsorship opportunities are available. Register for the conference: <http://www.renewableenergyworld-events.com/index/registration-information.html>.



The Geothermal Track sessions will highlight:

- Geothermal Policy and Economics
- Geothermal Plant Systems and Technology
- Geothermal Energy and Waste Heat Recovery

Speakers from the geothermal community will include: Halley Dickey, TAS Energy; Karl Gawell, Geothermal Energy Association; Joe Lillard, Atlas Copco Mafi-Trench; John McCaull, Geothermal Energy Association; John McIlveen, Jacob Securities Inc.; Josh Nordquist, Ormat Technologies; Mike Ronzello, Pratt and Whitney Power Systems; Bruno Vanslambrouck, HOWEST, University College of West Flanders; Kelsey Walker, TAS Energy; A. Scott Weber, University of Buffalo; Harvey Wen, Bechtel Power Corp.; and Gary Zyhowski, Honeywell.

### **CPC Pre-conference Workshop on Geothermal Energy, Renewable Energy World Conference North America and Expo 2012 (February 14)**

Date: February 14; Time: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM; Room: 203C; Registration Fee: \$375.00, includes workshop materials, certificate of completion and coffee break. Register by adding this course when you register for the conference: COMPETITIVE POWER COLLEGE (CPC) PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 201 GEOTHERMAL ENERGY IN CALIFORNIA at <http://www.renewableenergyworld-events.com/index/registration-information.html>.

**Geothermal Energy 101: California and Beyond, Course Overview:** The basics of geothermal energy development will be described in the context of California's 50 years of experience with conventional hydrothermal energy production. This course discusses key aspects of geothermal energy development in California and the technologies used there and at other conventional geothermal development sites around the world. The course objective is to provide the necessary foundation for attendees interested in developing conventional geothermal energy projects, including geothermal reservoir basics, drilling and engineering technologies, economic business models, and industry specific issues. **Course Instructors:** Louis Capuano, Jr., founder and Chairman of the Board of ThermaSource, Inc.; Karl Gawell, Executive Director of the Geothermal Energy Association; John McKinsey, who chairs the robust Geothermal Energy practice at Stoel Rives, LLP; and Maria Richards, who coordinates the Southern Methodist University's Geothermal Laboratory.



## Sponsorship Opportunities for GEA Events

Your company has the opportunity for high visibility at GEA's events. In addition to providing the financial support needed for GEA to undertake successful events, GEA events feature media availabilities with sponsors which garner extensive coverage in mainstream press outlets. Events are updated at: <http://geo-energy.org/events.aspx>.

Events currently listed for 2012 are:

- January 18, 2012 GEA Geothermal Energy Finance Forum - San Francisco, CA
- February 14-16, 2012 Renewable Energy World Conference and Expo - Long Beach, CA (GEA is a supporting organization for this event)
- May 23, 2012 GEA International Geothermal Energy Showcase - Washington, DC
- August 7-8, 2012 GEA National Geothermal Summit 2012 - Sacramento, CA
- Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2012 GEA Geothermal Energy Expo® and GRC Annual Meeting - Reno, NV

## Other Events

### Two Geothermal Leases Up for Bid, BLM, Colorado (February 9)

At its quarterly oil and gas lease auction, the BLM in Colorado will offer two parcels allotted for geothermal energy development. The sale is on February 9 at the BLM State Office, 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215; Telephone 303-239-3600.

Leases issue for a primary term of 10 years. Annual rental is \$2 per acre for the first year (paid to BLM), \$3 per acre for the second through tenth year, and \$5 per acre per year thereafter. Once the site is producing for commercial generation, royalty rates are 1.75% for the first 10 years of production and 3.5% thereafter. Lands that do not receive a bid are available for a two-year period beginning the first business day after the sale.

The first geothermal parcel includes 4,587.77 acres of BLM land. The second geothermal parcel includes about 3,765.49 acres of U.S. Forest Service land. The BLM's resource management plan for Gunnison includes stipulations for geothermal leasing that protect geologic hazards, the Gunnison sage-grouse, and senior water rights.



Contacts: Ms. Sharon A. Sales, [sharon\\_sales@co.blm.gov](mailto:sharon_sales@co.blm.gov), (303) 239-3987; Mrs. Rebecca Skinner, [rebecca\\_skinner@co.blm.gov](mailto:rebecca_skinner@co.blm.gov), (303) 239-3780; or Mr. Kristian Lee, [kristian\\_lee@co.blm.gov](mailto:kristian_lee@co.blm.gov), (303) 239-3786. Additional lease sale information can be obtained online at: [www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM\\_Programs/oilandgas/leasing.html](http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/BLM_Programs/oilandgas/leasing.html), or by contacting the address above. The bid form for successful bidders (Form 3000-2, dated August 2007) can be found at: <https://www.blm.gov/FormsCentral/show-home.do>

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### GEOTHERMAL ENERGY WEEKLY

A newsletter for the geothermal industry written by Leslie Blodgett and Karl Gawell

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