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Geothermal Energy Association Hosts Trio of Events at Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo in Austin

Austin, TX (Date TK) – The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) will have a strong presence at the [Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo North America](#), which kicks off in Austin, Texas, on Tuesday, February 23. GEA is exhibiting at the Conference Expo Hall (booth #813) and hosting three new sessions during the Conference: Technology and Applications; Resource Development and Investment; and Markets, Trends and Policies, all under the Geothermal Track.

The conference offers a unique opportunity to highlight Texas' enormous geothermal potential, an estimated 10,000 MW of power. With such sizable thermal resources, the state is poised to reap the benefits of geothermal technology by building an environmentally and economically strong geothermal industry. Texas' subsurface temperatures, as well as extensive oil and gas development, make it uniquely well suited for geothermal electricity production.

"The projects in Texas, like dozens of others across the nation, are bringing geothermal power to regions that have vast and underutilized geothermal resources," said Karl Gawell, Executive Director, GEA. "Texas is a particularly fertile market for geothermal energy due to the extensive development of oil and gas resources. We can tap Texas' unparalleled energy-industry knowledge and experience, and, in many instances, use abandoned or in-production wells to generate clean, renewable power. This sort of smart reuse and rethinking is going to drive new investment and new jobs into Texas."

Department of Energy (DOE) funding is kick-starting the industry in Texas, recently providing funds for eight different private companies, universities, and municipalities conducting geothermal research and development in Texas. The County of El Paso, for example, received a \$5 million grant to explore geothermal resources for electricity production near Fort Bliss.

GEA hosted events at Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo North America are:

- **GEOHERMAL TECHNOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS** (paper session)
Wednesday, February 24, 9:30 – 11:30 AM

- **GEOHERMAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT** (panel discussion)
Wednesday, February 24, 1:30 – 3:30 PM
Panelists:
 - Lou Capuano, ThermaSource;
 - Halley Dickey, TAS;
 - Dennis Gilles, Calpine;
 - Dr. Frank Monastero, Magma Energy;
 - Marty Olson, SNC-Lavalin

- **GEOHERMAL MARKETS, TRENDS AND POLICIES** (panel discussion)
Thursday, February 25, 8:00 – 9:30 AM
Panelists:
 - Subir Sanyal, GeothermEx Inc.;
 - Thomas King, U.S. Renewables Group;
 - Dan Fleischmann, Ormat;
 - John A. McKinsey, Stoel Rives;
 - Karl Gawell, Geothermal Energy Association

About the Geothermal Energy Association:

The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) is a trade association composed of U.S. companies who support the expanded use of geothermal energy and are developing geothermal resources worldwide for electrical power generation and direct-heat uses. GEA advocates for public policies that will promote the development and utilization of geothermal resources, provides a forum for the industry to discuss issues and problems, encourages research and development to improve geothermal technologies, presents industry views to governmental organizations, provides assistance for the export of geothermal goods and services, compiles statistical data about the geothermal industry, and conducts education and outreach projects. For more information, please visit <http://www.geo-energy.org/>. Check out GEA's [YouTube Channel](#). Follow GEA on [Twitter](#). Become a fan on [Facebook](#).

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