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National News

With Debt Deal Reached, Majority Leader Reid Looks to Clean Energy Jobs After August Recess

Congress last week passed a debt deal that promises \$917 billion in cuts over the next 10 years, and could add decreases of up to \$1.5 trillion more. Democrats agreed to forego tax increases, while Republicans compromised by cutting out a future second vote to raise the debt ceiling next winter.

While any program could take cuts, vulnerable energy programs include advanced research projects, energy grants, loan guarantees, and tax credits. A 12-member panel is [expected to recommend a plan](#) by December 23.

The conversation is now turning to what will be on the floor when the chamber returns from recess in September. "Clean energy jobs -- they're changing the face of this nation," [Senator Harry Reid said on the Senate floor](#) following the passing of the debt compromise. He has said that the chamber will take up energy legislation as part of a jobs package discussion. "I'm optimistic and hopeful that the spirit of compromise that has taken root in Washington over the last several days will endure," he added. Republicans have also advocated a jobs agenda.

Legislation on clean energy jobs could come from bills introduced by the Energy and natural Resources Committee this year, or could be completely new. Other items that will be on the Senate jobs agenda are patent reform legislation and a surface transportation reauthorization bill for an expiring highway program as part of the jobs agenda.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.) [told press he will review bills the committee has approved](#) to determine which ones will fit best in the agenda. The panel has approved 14 energy-related bills: "Most of those are clean-energy-type legislation which will create jobs," he said.

House Introduces Geothermal Production Expansion Act; Senate Holds Hearing on Companion Bill

Last week, Rep. Mike Simpson introduced H.R. 2776, Geothermal Production Expansion Act of 2011, with 4 co-sponsors: Reps. Inslee, Walden, Blumenauer and DeFazio.

This legislation is very similar to a bill introduced in the Senate, S. 1149. Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests held a hearing last week on S. 1149. Bob Abbey, BLM Director, testified in support of the bill as well as Scott Nichols of US Geothermal. Abbey said: "[The BLM] supports the goal of enhancing geothermal



exploration and development by ensuring that valid discoveries can be responsibly developed,” Abbey said. “Accordingly, the BLM generally supports S. 1149, and believes that the bill’s provision that the Secretary of the Interior establish regulatory procedures for determining fair market values of adjoining lands is the most effective way to ensure a fair return to American taxpayers.” Abbey added that BLM suggests removing the provision of S. 1149 that sets a minimum price on how much the Secretary may determine the fair market value to be.

Scott Nichols of U.S. Geothermal Inc. represented his company and geothermal developers in providing testimony for S. 1149 to the Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests last week. “S. 1149 addresses a vexing problem as the private sector ramps up to develop this proven, renewable resource,” he said. “A large portion of the potential geothermal resources in the United States are located on federally administered lands in the West. Oftentimes these federal resources are mixed with private and state land, which reduces a developer’s interest in leasing and working to develop a geothermal resource.”

Nichols outlined the following benefits to geothermal developers in his testimony:

- Developers that have invested substantial capital and made high risk investments would be allowed to secure a documented discovery.
- Development of the geothermal resource would accelerate the creation of jobs.
- The financing capabilities of geothermal projects would increase.
- All non-competitive leaseholders would be required to pay a market average “bonus” fee and thereby increase the short term fees paid to the federal government.
- Increased development will provide higher revenue to the federal government with the payment of production royalties over decades.

The GEA sent the following letter in support of S. 1149 to Senator Ron Wyden, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests:

On behalf of the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA), I am writing to express our strong support for S. 1149. This is important legislation to ensure the timely development of new geothermal prospects in the Western US.

In 2005 Congress enacted sweeping changes in the federal geothermal leasing laws, and we believe those changes, while generally positive, need some correction to reflect the uncertainties inherent in

geothermal power development and encourage successful production from federal leases.

We believe S. 1149 will do this. By allowing for limited negotiated lease sales in circumstances where new discoveries have been made, this legislation will give developers more assurance that they will be able to bring the lease into production given the geologic and economic difficulties geothermal power faces. This should enhance, and



not detract, from both the overall competitive leasing system and the values received by the federal government for its leases, and by making production more likely should increase the overall royalty returns from federal leases to the benefit of county, state and federal governments.

We urge the Subcommittee to support this important legislation which will help modify federal rules to better support substantial growth in geothermal power production.

Karl Gawell, Executive Director

For more on S. 1149 and last week's hearing, visit

http://energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=Hearings.Hearing&Hearing_ID=4cd68e08-0108-3687-05db-85fae7ec5215.

EIA Completes Study on Energy Subsidies; Thoroughness of Report Challenged

The report titled "Direct Federal Financial Interventions and Subsidies in Energy in Fiscal Year 2010" was prepared by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) at the request of Representatives Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), and Roscoe G. Bartlett (R-MD). The report seeks to update one in 2007 requested by US Senator Lamar Alexander, but sources have said it is not an accurate representation of government's monetary influence on energy markets.

The EIA "underreported direct and indirect federal subsidies to the nuclear and fossil fuel industries, creating an inflated view of the subsidies that benefit renewable energy and efficiency programs," [according to the Union of Concerned Scientists](#). The EIA report does acknowledge that its methodology failed to account for all subsidies that benefit conventional energy sources; [an article from The Hill explains](#) that the original request for the report, from the House Representatives to the EIA, did not require a complete view of the industry subsidies.

One complaint is that the report only takes into account data from the year 2010. The American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) said: "Analyzing only a single year of energy incentives is a poor way to judge the support afforded by the U.S. government to many kinds of energy sources for decades," in a [statement titled](#) "EIA studies on energy incentives distort value of spending on wind energy."

"The steady and significant government support provided over the past 50 or more years has allowed generation from sources like nuclear, coal and even hydro to flourish and become major electricity sources for the U.S.," AWEA further explained. "The majority of generation produced from these sources in the year 2007 actually comes from capacity installed many decades prior. The EIA report does not account for any of the federal incentives provided during actual installation of these power plants."

Others would seek to get rid of all subsidies. In a [Heritage Foundation article](#) titled, "No More Energy Subsidies: Prevent the New, Repeal the Old," the author says: "Energy industries should be freed from all government



subsidies and special policy treatment that benefit certain industries at the expense of others. This would allow companies to rely on innovation and efficiency, not American taxpayers, to remain competitive and thrive in a system of free enterprise.”

The EIA report shows the following energy-specific subsidies and other direct financial support in 2010. The 2007 figures are given as well:

Biofuels: \$6.64bn 2010, \$3.99bn 2007.

Wind: \$4.98bn in 2010 \$476m 2007.

Solar: \$1.11bn 2010, \$179m 2007

Biomass \$1.11bn 2010, \$61m 2007

Geothermal: \$273m 2010, \$14m 2007

Hydro: \$216m 2010, \$170m 2007.

Other renewables: \$302m 2010, \$224m 2007.

Oil and gas: \$2.82bn 2010, \$2.01bn 2007,

Coal: \$1.35bn 2010, \$1.94bn 2007

Nuclear: \$2.49bn 2010, \$1.71bn 2007

Company News

GEA: Comments Submitted on Geothermal Blue Ribbon Panel Report

Last week, the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) offered comments on the Department of Energy’s published document entitled the Geothermal Blue Ribbon Panel Report. Comments follow:

In general, the geothermal power industry would place a high priority on efforts to assist in the discovery of new resources, which includes DOE support for both technology development and cost-shared drilling. This is consistent with proposals set forth in the Geothermal Blue Ribbon Panel report, and we applaud that recommendation. GEA also supports the long-term goal of EGS technology development and deployment.

GEA supports a broad-based geothermal program which seeks to expand the utilization of the enormous and largely untapped heat resources of

the earth through both near-term and sustained long-term efforts. We believe that DOE has historically underemphasized geothermal in its research portfolio, and only recently has this changed. The Advanced Geothermal Research and Development Act of 2007, together with funding allocated to geothermal research in the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act have laid the foundation for a new and impressive program. DOE should continue to build upon these legislative initiatives.

Further, we note that there does not appear to be



any analysis of supporting activities essential for the expansion of geothermal energy that the Department undertakes for other technologies. The solar and wind programs, for example, recognize the significant need for support activities and deployment-related efforts. In FY 2011 the DOE solar program is spending \$23 million on "market transformation" activities and the wind program is spending \$13 million on "outreach and education." Together, these expenditures almost equal the total geothermal program budget! There is a strong need to support efforts addressing a range of similar barriers to geothermal deployment – from public education to workforce training – and these efforts should be part of the DOE geothermal program. Surprisingly, the report makes recommendations to

the contrary which appear unsupported and unjustified.

In conclusion, while we support the priorities identified in the report specifically as noted above, we suggest that DOE examine more thoroughly how its efforts across the full range of authorized activities – research, development, demonstration, commercialization and deployment – can help achieve the expanded use of geothermal energy in the US and around the world.

These comments are submitted on behalf of the GEA Board of Directors, which has approved them for transmittal.

Ormat Technologies: First Commercial Evaporative Cooling System in a Geothermal Power Plant Completed

[Press Release](#) — Reno, Nev., August 1 -- Ormat Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: ORA) announced today that it has completed the modification of the 20MW Burdette (Galena1) power plant into an Evaporative Cooling configuration.

This modification is another step in a multiyear research and development (R&D) program that tested different methods to implement evaporative cooling as well as the associated water treatment solutions.

Evaporative cooling allows increasing power generation from air cooled facilities by as much as 30% during the hot hours of the day.

The implementation of this system in the moderate to dry climates, especially in the High Desert, generates more energy per year than water cooled systems with a fraction of the water and chemical consumption of a traditional water cooled system.

From the consumer's side the implementation of this system further increase the value of geothermal energy as it increases the available energy to the grid at "Summer Peak", the hours of high demand, while maintaining it smooth and predictable dispatch curve which is not affected by temporary cloud coverage or changes to the wind regime.



Ormat currently operates approximately 180 MW in suitable climates and expects to add another 60MW in the near future. Ormat plans to implement the learning from the operation of the Burdette plant both in its existing fleet and in future installations.

Ormat Technologies: Second Quarter Review Results Announced

Press Release ([Full story](#)), RENO, Nev., August 3, -- Ormat Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: ORA) today announced financial results for the second quarter of 2011.

Quarterly highlights:

- 18 percent increase in electricity revenues;
- 11 percent increase in electricity generation; and
- the largest product order which led to a record high backlog.

Commenting on the results, Dita Bronicki, Chief Executive Officer of Ormat, stated, "The second quarter was highlighted by strength in electricity operations. The good performance of most of our plants translated into growth in generation and in revenues from electricity, which increased to \$81.2 million.

"We successfully secured new contracts for the supply of geothermal power plants and other power generating units. During the quarter we received a supply and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract from New Zealand, which has a collective value of approximately \$130 million. This represents the largest product order in our company's 46-year history, and, as a result, the product backlog increased to approximately \$225 million.

"During the quarter, we also have made additional progress toward diversifying our future development portfolio by entering into a build, operate and transfer (BOT) agreement with Tikitere Geothermal Power Limited (TGL) to explore, develop, supply, construct, own and operate a 45 MW geothermal power plant in New Zealand."

Schlumberger: New High-Temp Electrical Pump Introduced

[Press Release](#), Houston, August 4 — Schlumberger announced today the release of its third-generation REDA* HotlineSA3* high-temperature electric submersible pump (ESP) system for steam-assisted recovery operations and geothermal applications. This latest release enables operators to further improve economics through increased recovery factors and early production while reducing downtime and intervention costs.

"The REDA HotlineSA3 system can reliably produce from wells with bottomhole temperatures of up to 250 degC," said Gus Melbourne, president, Schlumberger Artificial Lift. "This enables the installation of the ESP at the earliest stages of the development of the steam-assisted gravity drainage (SAGD) chamber, when pressure and temperature are highest. The ability to monitor winding temperature directly, and in real time, gives operators control of the REDA HotlineSA3 system during unexpected production instabilities without increasing the risks of



exceeding system capabilities.”

Building on years of development and lessons learned from the REDA Hotline550* ESP system, the HotlineSA3 system incorporates an integrated design that extends the ESP operating envelope and run life. Integrated surveillance and control through reliable fluid pressure, temperature and internal motor temperature measurements help reduce sub-cool and Steam Oil Ratio (SOR).

The REDA HotlineSA3 system has passed extensive testing while running at maximum-rated temperatures. This includes strict third-party qualification requirements at C-FER Technology laboratories in Canada, with collaboration and sponsorship by major heavy oil operator ConocoPhillips. The system has undergone extensive field testing in SAGD fields in Canada and steam flood fields in Oman. Criteria set for field testing—logging in excess of 2,000 combined cumulative running days for eight different operators—has been surpassed. Individual units have passed 250 days at the highest possible well temperatures to date.

The system includes a multifunction integrated motor unit, thermally compensated pumps, downhole monitoring gauges for pressure and temperature, power cables and a surface controller. The purpose-designed plug-in, high-temperature motor lead extension has a dual elastomeric seal and the motor electrical port connection has a positive pressure system that works to prevent fluids from escaping or entering the motor during connection.

The integrated motor uses special, high-temperature materials rated to 300 degC and is factory filled with specially treated, ultra-dehydrated dielectric oil. All parts of the ESP system are extensively tested to accommodate all aspects of differential thermal expansion.

State News

Nevada: BLM Approves Access Road for Tuscarora Geothermal Plant

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has [approved an access road](#) in an Elko District decision for the planned Tuscarora Geothermal plant. The construction is expected to employ about 100 people. BLM’s July 15 environmental assessment of the project considered both the impact of the project and of the accompanying transmission line, which will take power from the plant about 24.5 miles to Nevada Energy’s Humboldt Substation.

The project is scheduled for completion in 2012. The finding of no significant impact can be found at www.blm.gov/rv5c/.



International News

Africa

Kenya: Country Plans for 140 MW of Emergency Power; Geothermal Project Sees Delays

Energy need amidst construction delays on several power plants in Kenya means the country will look to 140 MW in emergency power from diesel generators. "The proposal is to put in 140 MW, then rationing for industrial customers will disappear. We should be able to do it fairly fast before the drought strikes. The dams are going down fairly fast and if you don't move fast, you can get into a very devastating rationing," [Patrick Nyoike, permanent secretary in the energy ministry told press.](#)

Nyoike said delays on diesel, geothermal and wind projects were due to declined government guarantees. "That is why there was a delay of power plants which would be up and running with a combined capacity of 252 MW," he said. Two geothermal projects are expected to begin generating 280 MW in 2013.

Meanwhile, a plan to invest \$90 million in 14 small, low-cost geothermal wells, which would have added 5-10 MW of electricity each into the power grid, has run into delays as power generator KenGen works with Norwegian firm Green Energy Group at Olkaria. For one thing, the new turbines that Green Energy obtained failed after running for only a few minutes. "Due to a production error in one turbine and a transportation accident with the other turbine, both turbines had to be balanced," [according to Stig Torvund, managing director](#) of Green Energy Group. Torvund also said the company will be getting future turbines from a different source. The previous turbines came from Hindustan Turbine Manufacturers; the new supplier will be Max Watt, also of India.

Pacific/Asia

Australia: Drilling Grant Program Closed, New Renewable Energy Grants Launched

As Australia moves forward with geothermal energy projects, one geothermal company, Geodynamics, will [receive a grant from a second round of a \\$50 million drilling program](#) for a Hunter Valley project. But other geothermal companies have had to give up government grants from the drilling program after failing to attract matching funds from the private sector.

In response, the government closed the program which gave \$7 million drilling grants and has launched A\$126 million (\$131 million) for renewable energy projects, with at least [A\\$42 million in government funding is expected to go to geothermal companies.](#) Carnegie Wave Energy Ltd. (CWE), Panax Geothermal Ltd. (PAX) and Petratherm Ltd. (PTR) are among companies planning to apply for the funds.



Terry Kallis, managing director of Petratherm told press the company will seek as much as A\$5 million in funds, and is targeting its Heliotherm project, which aims to combine geothermal, solar and natural gas technologies.

Kerry Parker, managing director of Brisbane-based Panax Geothermal, said the company will seek as much contribution as they can get. "Our main challenge is funding," said Parker. "The clear message from investors over the last six to 12 months is that they want to see a far greater portion of the costs contributed by the government."

Meanwhile in Australian geothermal development, Green Rock Energy and Pacific Hydro have [signed an agreement for developments in the North Perth Basin and the Great Artesian Basin](#). Green Rock has released invitations for Expressions of Interest on the projects. Green Rock managing director Richard Beresford said: "We believe that working together in this way to provide full capability and experience from geothermal exploration through to power plant operation on extensive and highly prospective conventional geothermal basins should be very attractive to potential upstream investors. We anticipate drilling the first well in one or both basins next year."

China: Cap on Carbon Likely

China is [set to begin limiting the absolute amount of greenhouse gas](#), in an effort to decrease unnecessary use and development. Sun Zhen, an official with the National Development and Reform Commission, told press: "Throughout the country, we have adopted a plan for reducing releases of carbon: to substantially cut our carbon emissions for each unit of economic output. But when it comes to actually reducing the emissions of certain business, that calls for limiting the absolute quantity of emissions."

Indonesia: New Funding Announced Amid Overall Investment Struggles

Indonesia has four geothermal project areas up for bidding this year — Simbolon Samosir, (North Sumatra), Way Ratai (South Lampung), Candi Umbul Telomoyo (Central Java), and Bora Pulu in Sigi. But [sources have said attracting investment on geothermal projects has been a struggle](#).

But, Indonesia's geothermal sector got a boost as the [World Bank approved US\\$300 million in loans for Pertamina Geothermal Energy \(PGE\) on geothermal fields capable of producing 150 MW in Ulubelu, South Sumatra and Lahendong, North Sulawesi](#).

And Vancouver-based [Molten Power plans to provide \\$10 million in funding](#) to Panax Geothermal for its Indonesian projects. Panax managing director Kerry Parker said both companies will look out for commercially attractive geothermal projects in Indonesia. "It's a significant portion of funding that can be applied directly to develop our projects in Indonesia, and provides funding certainty for Panax as we grow our international investments," he said.



Northern Marianas: Bid Out for Geothermal on Saipan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has [put out a bid to investigate the viability of tapping geothermal power](#) on Saipan. The Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs will pay up to \$1.2 million of the cost. The Gualo Rai project is backed by a recent \$1.26-million Interior grant.

"We in the CNMI are at a critical point in time for power system planning because the base load diesel plant at Lower Base has about seven years of life remaining. That means we have to start planning very soon to replace that plant. The parallel path of development with diesel is geothermal," CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae told press.

If the project is successful it may help reduce the cost of electricity to less than 10 cents per kwh, compared to the current rate of 43 cents/kwh for commercial customers, according to Thomas J. Camacho of the CNMI Energy Task Force under the Office of the Governor.

Americas

Canada: CanGEA Provides Details on Conference and Investment Forum

Press Release ([Full story](#)) — August 2, Calgary, Alberta — Increasing interest for geothermal energy in Canada to be highlighted by the Canadian geothermal energy event of the year, CanGEA's 4th Annual Conference and Investment Forum, in Toronto/ Ontario, September 14-15, 2011.

A recent report by the Geological Survey of Canada and a team of leading scientists in the field of geothermal energy highlights the "enormous geothermal energy resources that could supply Canada with a renewable and clean source of power". It also states that with the high capacity factor it provides a "particularly attractive renewable base load energy supply" for Canada.

In July, the province of British Columbia, received a record price of more than \$200,000 in a public tender for Crown Geothermal Rights Permits and there are several projects on the way that will bring geothermal power to Canada.

These are signs that the geothermal energy industry finds itself on an upward trend. While in the past Canadian companies have predominantly been active outside of Canada, representing a large share in U.S. geothermal development, development in Canada is happening and could be increasing over the next few years.

To present the industry and showcase activities by its members and the industry, CanGEA is now proud to invite you to CanGEA's 4th Annual Conference and Investment Forum to take place at the One King West Hotel & Residence in Toronto, Ontario, September 14-15, 2011. We have been able to attract high-level speakers from



Canada, the United States, Iceland, Switzerland, Indonesia, Argentina to present their companies and activities. Details & registration: www.cangeaevents.ca/toronto

Costa Rica: Ormat Announces Inauguration of the Las Pailas Geothermal Power Plant

[Press Release](#) — Reno, Nev., August 2 — Ormat Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: ORA) announces that a second Ormat designed and manufactured geothermal power plant was inaugurated last week in Las Pailas, Costa Rica.

Under a contract with Banco Centroamericano de Integracion Economica “BCIE”, Ormat supplied all the power equipment, supervised the installation and conducted the testing and start-up of the 42 MW plant. The field development and the construction were executed by the Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (“ICE”), the Costa Rican National Electricity and Telecommunications Company which will operate the plant.

The inauguration by BCIE and ICE was attended by H.E Laura Chinchilla Miranda President of Costa Rica, Mr. Teofilo de La Torre, former Minister of Energy and recently nominated Executive President of ICE – Costa Rica’s national power utility company, other members of the government, Dr. Nick Rischbieth President of BCIE and many distinguished dignitaries.

The Las Pailas is the second geothermal power plant supplied to Costa Rica using Ormat Binary Technology.

Ormat’s Chairman, Lucien Y. Bronicki commented: “We are very pleased to continue our collaboration with ICE which started with the 18 MW Miravalles Unit 5 in 2004. The Las Pailas plant demonstrates the trust that ICE and BCIE have in Ormat and its Binary Technology”.



<http://www.geo-energy.org/updates.aspx>

Notices

New This Week

Call for Geothermal Abstracts, American Association of Petroleum Geologists (September 22)

The Energy and Minerals Division of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists will hold a Geothermal Session at the 2012 annual meeting to be held in Long Beach, California on April 22-25. The Geothermal Session will be hosted under Theme 7: Alternative Energy and will be chaired by W.C. “Rusty” Riese of Rice University and Stephen Testa of the California State Mining & Geology Board. The Geothermal Session Chair will be Richard Erdlac.



Abstracts are requested related to the exploration, development and production, and economics of geothermal energy especially as associated to production from SEDIMENTARY ROCK. These abstracts could discuss geothermal in sedimentary basins or in any region where sedimentary rock has provided the trapping mechanism for geothermal resources. Of special importance would be papers that indicate how in-place oil/gas well assets can be converted to producing hot water for geothermal energy.

Submissions at <http://www.aapg.org/longbeach2012/guidelines.cfm>. The closing date for Abstract submission is September 22, 2011.

Current Notices

EIS Received for Salt Wells Energy Projects (Comments due August 22)

The EPA has received a final EIS (Doc. No. 20110231) regarding the Salt Wells Energy Projects and a proposal to implement three separate geothermal energy and transmission projects in Churchill County. Copies of the Salt Wells Energy Projects Final EIS are available on line at: www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/carson_city_field.html

Publication of a notice of availability of the EIS in the Federal Register on July 22, 2011, initiated a 30-day review period that will conclude August 22, 2011. Members of the public may submit written comments to the BLM, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Attn: Colleen Sievers, Carson City, NV 89701; or by email to: saltwells_eis@blm.gov.

Contact Colleen Sievers at 775/885-6168. For other environmental impact statements received by the EPA visit: <http://www.utilityproducts.com/news/2011/07/1466980106/epa-receives-eiss-for-soil-restoration-geothermal-energy.html>

NOI/NOP Available, Public Scoping Meetings in August, Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan

The Federal and State Renewable Energy Action Team (REAT – California Energy Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) has launched the joint environmental review for the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP), aimed at streamlining permitting of renewable energy facilities in the California desert.

The REAT is preparing a joint Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the DRECP, and the Bureau of Land Management's proposed amendment to the California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the Federal Register at <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-07->



[29/pdf/2011-19175.pdf](#).

Three public scoping meetings are planned in August:

- August 16, 2011, 7–9 p.m., Doubletree Ontario Hotel, Lake Gregory Ballroom, 222 N Vineyard Ave., Ontario, CA 91764
- August 24, 2011, 2–4 p.m., California Energy Commission; Hearing Room A; 1516 Ninth St.; Sacramento, CA 95814
- August 24, 2011, 7–9 p.m.; California Energy Commission; Hearing Room A; 1516 Ninth St.; Sacramento, CA 95814

For questions regarding this DRECP, or the NOP, please contact Kristy Chew, Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, CA Energy Commission916/654-4818kchew@energy.state.ca.us. For information about the DRECP, please see www.drecp.org.

GEA to Hold Annual Meeting and Board Elections (August 16)

The Geothermal Energy Association plans to hold its annual members meeting and elections for the GEA Board of Directors at the upcoming GEA Annual Meeting, which will take place from 3:00pm to 4:45pm, August 16 in Reno, NV at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino. The GEA Annual Meeting will immediately precede the Geothermal Summit and will feature a presentation by GEA's Executive Director and staff on highlights of 2011 and outlook for 2012. Nominated for election to the Board are: Domenic Falcone (Falcone Associates), John W. Pritchett (SAIC), John McKinsey (Stoel Rives), and Mike Long (Ram Power). The meeting is open to the public.

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the West Chocolate Mountains (September 29)

BLM's California Desert District Office, working with Ecology and Environment, Inc. has prepared an environmental impact statement (EIS) addressing solar and wind energy ROWs and geothermal leasing in the West Chocolate Mountains Renewable Energy Project Area in Imperial County. The BLM must receive written comments on the Draft CDCA Plan Amendment and Draft EIS within 90 days following the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes its Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS in the Federal Register. (Notice posted July 1, 2011).

Comments related to the West Chocolate Mountains Renewable Energy Evaluation Area may be submitted by any of the following methods:

* E-mail: wcm_comments@blm.gov. Show citation box

* Fax: (951) 697-5299. Show citation box

* Mail: Bureau of Land Management, California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos,



Moreno Valley, California 92533-9046, Attn: Peter Godfrey. Show citation box

For more information visit: [prepared an environmental impact statement \(EIS\)](#)

Click here to read the draft EIS: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/wcm.html>

Employment

Employment Opportunities

Research Geologist/Geophysicist, United States Geological Survey

The USGS in Menlo Park, California, has an opening for a Research Geologist/Geophysicist to conduct research in support of geothermal energy assessments, with a focus on the structural, geomechanical, thermal, and hydrologic properties of fault-hosted hydrothermal systems. Detailed information on the position can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/USGSGeothermalJob>. Individuals must apply online at <http://www.usajobs.gov/> to receive consideration. For more information about the USGS, visit: <http://www.usgs.gov/ohr/great.html>.

Tenure-line Position, Energy Resources Engineering, Stanford University

The Department of Energy Resources Engineering at Stanford University [invites applications for a tenure-line faculty appointment](#). The position is at the assistant professor level. It is desired that the selected candidate be able to start by January 2012.

The Department of Energy Resources Engineering focuses on a wide range of activities related to the recovery of the Earth's energy resources (e.g., hydrocarbons, geothermal, and renewables). The Department also has active research programs on carbon sequestration and clean energy conversions. ERE offers degrees in both energy resources engineering (B.S., M.S., Ph.D.) and petroleum engineering (M.S., Ph.D.). The ideal candidate should have research and teaching interests beyond traditional petroleum engineering disciplines.

We seek scholars with a Ph.D. in a relevant field with novel and innovative research interests in energy resources, such as in one or more of the following areas:

1. Energy systems modeling and optimization, for example integration of energy recovery and carbon sequestration
2. Engineering of enhanced geothermal systems
3. Recovery of unconventional energy resources, such as coalbed gas, shale gas or gas hydrates
4. Renewable energy resources

Please apply online at <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/685/> in electronic format (pdf only) with the following application material:



- cover letter
- curriculum vitae
- a statement outlining research and teaching interests
- the names of three references including e-mail addresses
- copies of up to five selected papers published in refereed journals over the past three years

We will begin reviewing applications on April 15, 2011 and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified.

Reservoir Engineering Manager – Geothermal, Chevron, Jakarta, Indonesia

Chevron Asia Pacific Exploration and Production is accepting online applications for the position of Reservoir Engineering Manager located in Jakarta, Indonesia. To learn more about this exciting position and to apply visit www.chevron.apply2jobs.com and search by requisition 081116435. All applicants must apply via the Chevron online application process.

Consultant, Geothermal Market in Turkey, EBRD

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is considering a wide range of renewable energy proposals in Turkey, some of which are in the geothermal sector, and as such requires a consultant to provide an assessment of the Geothermal Market in Turkey. See <http://www.ebrd.com/pages/homepage.shtml> and <http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=91332>

NREL Seeking Applicants for Geothermal Analysis Group

NREL seeking applicants with geothermal or related technical backgrounds that have strong analytical skills and good writing/communication skills. Apply for the positions online at http://www.nrel.gov/employment/job_openings.html.

Requests for Proposals

Proposal Announcements

Subcontractors for Geothermal Heat Pump Systems, DOE (August 15)

GEO has published three Requests for Proposal for subcontractors to perform tasks as part of the U.S. Department of Energy project to create a national certification standard for all primary personnel involved in the design and installation of geothermal heat pump systems.

RFP 07-08-2011 #1 - Market Research on Personnel Certification Standards

RFP 07-08-2011 #2 - Update of State Regulations Governing Geothermal Heat pump Systems

RFP 07-08-2011 #3 - Development of Job Descriptions of Personnel Involved in Geothermal Heat Pump Systems



Please visit [Request for Proposals](#) on the GHP National Certification Standard project website to review details of each of these opportunities. The deadline for submittal of proposals by prospective contractors is August 15, 2011.

Call for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site Proposals, NSF (August 24)

Currently, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has an open call for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site proposals. The Geothermal Technologies Program (GTP) and NSF REU program are collaborating on this program as a means to expand undergraduate research opportunities in the area of geothermal energy. The goal is to introduce more undergraduate students to renewable energy research and the many opportunities in science and engineering related to geothermal energy.

About REU: The Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation. REU projects involve students in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the REU program.

This solicitation supports of student research through REU Sites. These sites are based on independent proposals to initiate and conduct projects that engage a number of students in research. REU Sites may be based in a single discipline or academic department, or on interdisciplinary or multi-department research opportunities with a coherent intellectual theme. Proposals with an international dimension are welcome.

The deadline for REU Site proposals is August 24, 2011. For further details and how to apply, please visit: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5517&from=fund. If you have any questions, please contact the REU program manager, Esther Bolding at ebolding@nsf.gov or (703)292-5342.

RE&EE Awards, State Energy Program, DOE

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for the State Energy Program. This program provides formula grants to State and Territorial energy offices to design and carry out renewable energy and energy efficiency priorities. \$39 million expected to be available, up to 56 awards anticipated. Due dates based on state/territorial program years. For more info, contact Sheldon Funk at sheldon.funk@netl.doe.gov or go to: <https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect/?doc=DE-FOA-0000507&agency=DOE>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000507. (Grants.gov 6/23/11)



Innovative Manufacturing Initiative for Clean Energy, DOE (August 25)

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for the Innovative Manufacturing Initiative. This RFP will support manufacturing processes and materials to advance the clean energy economy. \$120 million expected to be available, up to 50 awards anticipated. Letters of Intent are required, and are due 8/1/11, final proposals due 8/25/11. For more info, contact IMIFOA@go.doe.gov or go to: <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000560. (Grants.gov 6/24/11)

Request for Information on Geothermal Energy Expansion, HELCO, Big Island, Hawaii (August 31)

In a request for information (RFI), Hawaii Electric Light Company [seeks information on expanding geothermal energy on Hawaii](#) Island from stakeholders including potential geothermal developers and interested landowners on next steps that take into account the renewable energy goals and clean energy policy of Hawaii within the state's unique community, cultural, historical, and environmental context. The full RFI is available at <http://GeothermalRFI.heco.com>. Responses requested by August 31.

Alaska Native Fund (October 15)

The Alaska Conservation Foundation requests proposals for the Alaska Native Fund. The Fund seeks to advance Alaska Native priorities for protecting land and sustaining ways of life. The 2011 priority issues include: Climate Change, Food Security, Sustainable Economies, Energy, and Holistic Wellness. \$100K expected to be available, individual awards NTE \$20K. Letters of Inquiry are required, and are due 7/25/11, final proposals due 10/15/11. For more info, go to: <http://alaskaconservation.org/grant-opportunities/alaska-native-fund/>. (Tribal Climate Change Newsletter 6/2011)

Environmental Engineering, Energy for Sustainability, and Environmental Sustainability, NSF (February 17, 2012)

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 or go to: 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 grorrer@nsf.gov or go to: 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 or go to: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501027. Refer to Sol# PD-12-7643. (Grants.gov 6/8/11)

Events

Happening This Week

National Geothermal Academy, University of Nevada, Reno (June 20 to August 12)

This summer the [National Geothermal Academy will hold its inaugural summer session at the University of Nevada, Reno](#). Forty students will be involved in an 8-week geothermal energy education program. Cornell University, Stanford University, Southern Methodist University, West Virginia University, the Oregon Institute of Technology, the University of Utah and Dartmouth will all participate. The Department of Energy awarded UNR a \$995,000 grant for the academy. "Indonesia, New Zealand and Iceland have held similar academies, but this academy is the first in our country," Wendy Calvin, coordinator of the academy and director of the University of Nevada Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy, said in a statement. "Nevada has great local resources for the academy. The consortium selected our school because of its proximity to drilling sites, power plants and heat sources, as well as for its leadership in multidisciplinary research that has led to discovering new technologies for exploration, production and development of geothermal resources." For more information go to <http://www.unr.edu/geothermal/NGA.htm>.

New This Week

Public Meetings, Geysers EGS Project, US DOE and Calpine Corp. (August and November)

The Department of Energy and Calpine Corp. plan to hold public meetings on the EGS demonstration projects underway at the Geysers. The venture will present progress reports at two meetings: 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, and 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 4. For more information on the program, visit www.geothermal.energy.gov.

The meetings will be held at:

The Calpine Geothermal Visitors Center
15500 Central Park Road, Middletown.
707-987-4270



Soultz Geothermal Conference, Soultz-sous-Forets, France (October 5-6)

The first Soultz Geothermal Conference is scheduled for October 5-6, 2011. The conference will give an overview of the geothermal activity in the Upper Rhine Valley and will focus on various technical and scientific challenges. The status of those geothermal projects will be presented in terms of design, concept, exploration, drilling, exploitation, monitoring, field testing, laboratory experiments and various modeling. Scope of the conference and all the details are presented at: www.geothermie-soultz.fr

GEA Events

GEA's First-Ever National Geothermal Summit in Reno, Nevada (August 16–17)

GEA is thrilled to announce the first ever National Geothermal Summit to be held Tuesday, August 16th and Wednesday, August 17th, 2011 at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, NV. "The City of Reno is proud to have 100 megawatts of geothermal power, enough to supply the entire residential load, permitted and being produced within the city limits. We are excited that experts from around the country and world are coming to Reno to learn more about geothermal development," said Reno Mayor Bob Cashell, who will address the geothermal industry at the event.

The Summit will kick off Tuesday, August 16th at 3pm with a GEA Members Meeting and Elections where GEA staff will present 2011 accomplishments and plans for 2012 and beyond and have Board elections. Following the GEA Members Meeting will be Keynote Presentations by high level invitees and a delicious networking dinner where GEA will give out the first Annual GEA Honors Awards. This will be a great evening commencing a great event. Wednesday, the 17th will be a chock full day with Keynote Presentations, two plenary sessions, an Expo, Job Fair, breakout sessions, and end of day closing reception.

Topics for the Summit include Outlooks for Washington and the Western States, Building New Transmission Projects in the Western States, New Renewable Energy Policy Developments in CA, and Moving Geothermal Forward on Public Lands. An Expo Hall will feature government agencies, universities and leading geothermal developers from the growing geothermal industry. To see the floor plan for the Summit please visit:

<http://www.geo-energy.org/nationalgeothermalsummit/FloorPlan.aspx>.

As part of GEA's National Geothermal Summit (August 16-17, Reno NV) we will focus on jobs in the industry. Companies are invited to provide information relevant to jobs, host a jobs booth rather than a typical Expo booth, and join dialogue and interviews to be recorded to the GEA Web site as a tool for students and job seekers. Please consider sending an HR or other appropriate representative from your company to this event to focus on jobs in the industry — contact Leslie, leslie@geo-energy.org with questions, suggestions, and interest.

For details on attendee registration, event agenda, and floor plan visit <http://www.geo->



energy.org/nationalgeothermalsummit/main.aspx. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kathy Kent at 202.454.5263 or kathy@geo-energy.org. Requests for media credentials should be directed to Adam Daley, The Rosen Group, at 646 695 7043 or adam@rosengrouppr.com.

Geothermal Energy Expo® and GRC Annual Meeting 2011, San Diego, CA (October 23–26)

The GEA Geothermal Energy Expo is the world's largest gathering of vendors providing support for geothermal resource exploration, characterization, development, production and management. It provides a unique opportunity for exhibitors to showcase their projects, equipment, services and state of the art technology to the geothermal community.

“The 2011 Expo is certain to be the largest-ever gathering of the geothermal community,” said GEA Marketing and Events Director Kathy Kent. “Each year the growing geothermal industry comes together for this event and it has become the most vital gathering for companies and leaders developing geothermal resources around the world.” The 2010 Expo in Sacramento featured more than 2,500 attendees from 42 different states and 13 different countries. The sold out Expo Hall featured 162 exhibitors coming from 34 different states and 10 different countries. Please contact Kathy Kent, Kathy@geo-energy.org for information, registration, sponsorship opportunities, etc.

Exhibitor Registration Open for GEA Geothermal Expo

Washington, DC (March 11, 2011) – Registration for exhibitors at the 2011 GEA Geothermal Expo in San Diego, Calif. from Oct 23-26 has opened at <http://www.geothermalenergy2011.com/>.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available for GEA Events

Your company has the opportunity for high visibility at GEA’s 2011 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. Sponsorship details are posted online: <http://www.geo-energy.org/images/GEA2011SponsorshipOpps9.pdf>.

Other Events

Gradient Resources Announces Patua Project Ground Breaking Event (August 16)

The Ground Breaking at the Gradient Resources Patua Geothermal Project will take place Tuesday, August 16, 2011. Contact Christa Wicks 775-284-2468, or christa.wicks@gradient.com

Bonding Workshop and Geothermal Unit Training, BLM (August 23–25)

There will be a geothermal bonding workshop at the BLM Nevada State Office to discuss potential changes to the bonding requirements (agenda will follow soon) on August 23rd (8 am- 4:30 pm) and 24th (8 am-12 pm). Also,



the BLM Nevada State Office will be holding a geothermal unit training for industry on August 24th (1 pm -4:30 pm) and 25th (8 am-4:30, dependent upon questions). If you are interested in attending either the bonding workshop and/or unit training, please be sure to specify which event(s) you will be attending. Please let Sheila Mallory (sheila_mallory@blm.gov) know by July 8th, 2011.

Geothermal Operations and Plant Optimization Conference, San Jose, California (September 15–16)

Opportunities include:

- Key note presentations from Alterra US and Iceland, Ram Power, Pacific Gas and Electric and the Geothermal Program Office - US Navy
- Exclusive power plant maintenance and reservoir management workshop
- The latest solutions from PowerChemTech, GE Global Research and Baker Hughes
- Technology updates from Potter Drilling, Veizades & Associates and Global Power Solutions

To register - visit www.geothermalinsider.com/operations or phone US toll free: 1 800 814 3459 ext 7565

RETECH 2011, The Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition, Washington DC (September 20–22)

This year, RETECH will be held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington DC. For information and to register, visit <http://www.retech2011.com>.

XIX Annual Congress of the Mexican Geothermal Association (September 22–23)

XIX Annual Congress of the Mexican Geothermal Association (AGM)

Los Humeros, Pue., Mexico, 22-23 September 2011

<http://www.geotermia.org.mx>

CanGEA Events (September and November)

For registration and more information on CanGEA events go to: <http://www.cangeaevents.ca>

- CanGEA's 4th Annual Conference and Investment Forum in Toronto, Ontario, September 14-15, 2011. The event will showcase Canadian development, activities of Canadian and international companies, and plug in a comprehensive finance and investment element as part of its Investment Forum. The event also features two workshops on geothermal energy and the Canadian Geothermal Code for Public Reporting on September 13, 2011. Details about the event and workshops can be found at: www.cangeaevents.ca/toronto
- CanGEA's Annual Geothermal Power Forum in Calgary, November 4, 2011. CanGEA takes part in the upcoming Global Clean Energy Congress in Calgary November 1-3, 2011 (<http://globalcleanenergycongress.com>) through a geothermal panel, and will hold its Annual Power Forum in the city on November 4, 2011. Details at: www.cangeaevents.ca/calgary



U.S.-Mexico Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy Roundtable, U.S. DOC, Mexico City, Mexico (September 26–27)

From DOC: Join a senior U.S. Department of Commerce official in Mexico City for a U.S.-Mexico Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy Roundtable. The forum will help create a policy environment in Mexico capable of attracting renewable energy and energy efficiency (RE&EE) investment from the United States, address restrictions to U.S. RE&EE exports, and introduce U.S. companies to senior-level Mexican officials. In addition, participating U.S. companies can present their products or services at a technical seminar organized at the Green Expo.

The Government of Mexico has set an ambitious goal of 15% renewable energy production by 2020; this is coupled with a significant interest in energy efficiency improvements. To accomplish these goals, significant investment over the next decade is needed – providing export opportunities for U.S. companies.

Participants in the two-day event will:

- Accompany a senior-level Department of Commerce official to meetings with the Government of Mexico on renewable energy and energy efficiency policy;
- Receive an invitation to an Ambassador's reception to network with Mexican officials and companies;
- Participate in a closed-door U.S.-Mexico Roundtable on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy;
- Be invited to showcase products or services at the Green Expo's technical seminar; and
- Receive in-depth market information from the International Trade Administration on opportunities in the Mexican RE&EE market.

Cost is \$500; Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. **Deadline for registration is August 15.** To register for the policy roundtable email: ryan.mulholland@trade.gov or aliza.totayo@trade.gov.

Turkey Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Trade Mission, U.S. DOC, Ankara-Istanbul-Izmir (December 5–9)

Why Turkey? Why Now?

- _ Turkey's renewable energy investments will exceed US\$ 20 billion during the next 5 years;
- _ Large Wind Energy Potential Project Developments: 10,000 MW by 2015 and 20,000 MW by 2023.
- _ Large hydroelectric power plant development potential: 5000 MW by 2015
- _ Number 2 geothermal energy development potential in Europe and 5th in the world;
- _ Number 2 in Europe in Solar Energy Potential
- _ A new Renewable Energy Law passed on December 12, 2010 and increased guaranteed prices for different renewable energy resources;
- _ Additional incentives provided for parts to be manufactured locally;



- _ 10 years Power Purchase Guarantee;
- _ Energy Efficiency Law in place;
- _ Turkish Government is encouraging U.S. ESCOs to cooperate with Turkish ESCOs;
- _ U.S. Department of Energy is leading a pilot project to develop 20 Energy Efficiency Projects in Izmir Ataturk Industrial Zone

What can you gain by participating in this TM?

- _ A senior U.S. Department of Commerce executive will lead the mission and facilitate valuable introductions to key Turkish energy industry decision-makers;
- _ A U.S. Export-Import Bank representative will travel with the delegation in all three cities and advise the participants on trade finance solutions;
- _ 10-15 pre-scheduled meetings with potential partners, distributors, end users, or local industry contacts;
- _ Meetings with key government decision makers and private sector firms;
- _ Pre-travel webinars on subjects ranging from industry briefings to business practices in Turkey;
- _ Meetings with CS Turkey's energy specialists in Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir, Turkey;
- _ Transportation to all mission-organized meetings inside Turkey (all air transportation within Turkey is the responsibility of the mission participant);
- _ The Trade Mission visit will provide visibility for participating American firms at networking receptions at the U.S. Ambassador's residence and U.S. Embassy press releases;
- _ Cost for small and medium size firms: \$3.285; large companies: \$4.055.

Who should participate: U.S. renewable energy equipment and systems manufacturers, RE project developers, engineering firms, energy efficiency systems and equipment suppliers, project finance companies, and any other RE & EE companies. To apply, go to: <http://export.gov/california/kern/trademissions/>.

For more information please contact:

Glen Roberts, Director, Bakersfield & Fresno U.S. Export Assistance Centers
2100 Chester Ave., Ste. 110, Bakersfield, CA 93301
Tel: 661 637-0136
Glen.Roberts@trade.gov
www.buyusa.gov/kern

Serdar Cetinkaya, Renewable Energy Specialist, American Embassy - Ankara, Turkey
Dir. Tel. +90-312-457-7203
Cell: +90-532-311-6885
Serdar.Cetinkaya@trade.gov



Renewable Energy World North America Conference and Expo, Long Beach, CA (February 14–16, 2012)

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 looks forward to highlighting geothermal energy at the event. If you have attended this in the past and would like to discuss next year's event or offer suggestions for the planning committee please contact Leslie, leslie@geo-energy.org (other questions/comment also welcome).

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY WEEKLY

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

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

Phone 202-454-5261 Fax 202-454-5265

leslie@geo-energy.org

