Low Temperature Geothermal Energy

Geothermal Technologies Program

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David Blackwell SMU Geothermal Laboratory





Electrical Energy Basics

Texas RPS is based on installed capacity, not produced MW Load Factor is % of installed capacity delivered on say an annual basis

- 5,000 MW installed wind capacity at 30% load factor is 1,500 MW
- 5,000 MW installed at 3% load factor is 150 MW
- Wind Power is in West Texas, requires power lines to be built, the cost will be \$5,000,000,000
- \$5,000,000,000 will build 1,500 to 2,500 MW Geothermal installed
- \$5,000,000,000 translates to 1,350 to 2,250 MW at 90 % load factor

Scenarios for Low Temperature Development (<150°C)

oproduced fluids

Geopressure fluids

Sedimentary FEL States

(Basement EGS)





Energy Efficiency &

Geothermal Technologies Program



Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America

SMU Geothermal Lab - Windows Internet Explorer



SMU Web site: http://smu.edu/geothermal



Geothermal Laboratory

"Bringing The Earth's Energy Into Your Community"

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Site Map

plus signs for subcategories or words to link)

- + SMU Geothermal Databases
- + Geothermal Heat Pumps
- + Geothermal Resources
- + Informative Links
- + Oil & Gas
- + Publications
- + SMU Geothermal Degree
- + Teacher Educational Materials
- + Temperature Logs
- + Texas Geothermal Outreach and Networking Program

Conference News

Geothermal Energy Utilization Associated with Oil & Gas Development

June 17-18, 2008

Conference Details

Previous Conferences

Texas Renewables '07 Conference Presentations Abilene; November 13-14 2007

Geothermal talks: <u>Geothermal Energy (GSHP)</u>, Shawn Beard - *Energy America Geothermal*; <u>A Ground Source Heat Pump Initiative in the</u>

A Ground Source Heat Pump Initiative in the Blue Skyways Collaborative, James Yarbrough - U.S. EPA

Hot Topics

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Recent Press

Google to Invest in Geothermal New York Times <u>8/19/08</u>

Google.org announcement 8/19/08

Free to be Green DFW Chanel 33 News 7/25/08

In the Push for Alternative Energy, What Happened to Geothermal? US News and World Report 7/21/08

Oil, Gas and Geothermal Energy SMU Press Release 6/19/08

The Future of Geothermal Energy

Impact of Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) on the United States in the 21st Century

THE EGS SYSTEM Introduction of water into rock of limited permeability (either tight sediment or basement) in a controlled fracture setting so that this water can be withdrawn in other wells for heat extraction, i.e. heat mining

Massachuset Bistliute of Technology







All data sites for US heat flow map including sites of wells with BHT data in the AAPG data base. BHT symbols are based on depth and temperature. The named wells are the BHT calibration points.



Heat flow, and Shale Gas Plays









Blackwell, Richards, and Stepp, 2010, Texas SECO



Depth Range Feet	Number of Wells	Average Uncorrected Temperature °F	Average Corrected Temperature °F	Maximum Corrected Temperature °F
12,000 - 13,000	879	263	299	363
13,000 - 14,000	628	283	320	430
14,000 - 15,000	330	304	340	423
15,000 - 16,000	159	306	349	420
16,000 - 17,000	107	319	361	422
17,000 - 18,000	60	319	358	454
18,000 - 24,000	46	362	402	544

GEOPRESSURED GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

- A Geopressured Geothermal resource is an over-pressured body of hot water, saturated with methane gas, which flows to the surface and can be re-injected under its own power
- The resource has two sources of energy geothermal heat and natural gas. Both can be separated from the water and converted into usable energy using a hybrid Geothermal plant
- Each Geopressured Well/installation is capable of producing 2-5MW. These individual wells can be part of a cluster capable of producing 20-50MW each. Hundreds of oil and gas fields with requisite formation pressure, temperature and thousand of previously drilled wells exist in Texas alone
- The power potential of a Geopressured Geothermal resource has been successfully demonstrated by the DoE at a commercial pilot scale: a 1MW Hybrid Plant was operated on a Geopressured Well at Pleasant Bayou in Texas between 1989-90
- A recent evaluation of this technology (Griggs et al, 2004) concluded that "the commercial production of Geopressuzied Geothermal aquifers is now feasible under reasonable assumptions of natural gas and electricity prices" (i.e. natural gas prices of \$4.50 Mscf and wholesale electricity prices of \$0.03 kWh). The current price of natural gas is approximately \$9.89 Mscf and wholesale electricity prices of \$0.058 kWh





Schematic cross section, central Texas Gulf Coast, showing relationship among major growth faults, expansion of section, sand depocenters, and top of geopressure (after Bebout and others, 1982).

Gulf Coast Geology and Geopressure Geothermal Resource Setting: USGS (1979) estimates 70 to 170 MW resource potential (gas & heat)



•Pleasant Bayou, Brazoria, Texas 1989-1990

SEDIMENTARY ENGINEERED GEOTHERMAL SYSTEMS (EGS)

- Sedimentary EGS targets hot, tight sedimentary rock with limited permeability. Controlled fracturing is applied such that heat can be transferred to water which is withdrawn for heat extraction.
- Sedimentary EGS can be developed as a "field" and can produce 25-250MW of power per field
- East and West Texas, N. Louisiana, Montana, N. Dakota, Colorado and Utah have favorable areas where low permeability tight formations with temperatures as high as 400 F are currently being exploited as tight gas systems
- The Grosse Schönebeck project near Potsdam is a typical sedimentary EGS project and is now successfully being tested
- The major advantages of Sedimentary EGS in Oil and Gas Setting are:
 - Many wells with BHT's over 300 F at 15,000 ft or less and reservoir is already fractured
 - Water is easily available from well or adjoining wells in fields
 - In-place infrastructure of power lines, roads, pipelines, etc.
 - Possible continued stripping of O&G in otherwise non-economic wells



CO-PRODUCED GEOFLUIDS

- Hot water is a co-product of Oil and Gas development– where it is considered a 'waste product' and typically passed to a central collection facility (for hydrocarbon separation and water cooling/ disposal).
- In mature fields, the Water/Oil cut can be as high as 95%-98% (e.g., 97% in Texas)
- It is feasible to 'piggyback' a small-scale Geothermal Plant onto existing infrastructure to recover energy from this 'waste water' stream. There are minimal plant development costs (no drilling or well development) and recent innovations in low temperature Binary Plant technology (e.g., UTC Purecycle) have led to a significant reduction in capital equipment costs (e.g., Chena Hot Springs Resort in Alaska)
- Estimates for the Geothermal resource from existing Hydrocarbon production facilities in Texas alone range from 420MW-2,300 MW (depending on inlet temperature and production flow rates)

Co-Produced Energy Potential Across Selected States





Chena Resort, AL

DOE Stimulus Funding: Geothermal \$338,000,000

2) Coproduced, Geopressured, and Low Temperature Projects

Universal GeoPower LLC	\$1,499,288	Liberty County	тх	Universal GeoPower LLC will utilize a modular low temperature binary unit to produce power from oil and gas wells in Liberty County, Texas.
University of North Dakota	\$1,733,864	Williston Basin, (Bowman County)	ND	The University of North Dakota will utilize a low temperature binary unit to produce power from oil and gas wells in Bowman County, North Dakota.
Louisiana Tank, Inc.	\$5,000,000	Cameron Parish	LA	Louisiana Tank, Inc. will demonstrate the feasibility of a geopressured power plant in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.
University of North Dakota	\$1,733,864	Williston Basin, (Bowman County)	ND	The University of North Dakota will construct a low temperature power plant in Bowman County, ND.

•Bull Creek:\$ 91,390,497•Pyron Farm:\$121,903,906•Penascal:\$114,071,646•Barton Chapel:\$ 72,573,627

Geothermal Energy from Oil and Gas Fields

- Base Load
- Green, no emissions
- Located in industrialized areas
- Financing by long term loans
- Lowers cost of production
- Multibillion dollar market in Texas alone
- Large scale gas resources developed with geopressure
- PTS and Severance Tax Avoidance

Economics of EGS in Oil Fields

- Scenario 1 Wells of opportunity assumptions
 - Depleted oil field with 1000 psi overpressure
 - Wells 12,000 ft deep with 5" completion
 - Temperature 300 F
 - Build 50 MW plant -\$110,000,000
 - Need 117 wells!
 - Competed above primary hot water reservoir
 - Pumped with 700 HP motor
 - Maximum flow rate 450 gpm
 - Cost of Power 8.91 ¢/kWh

Susan Petty & Bill Livesay

Economics of EGS in Oil Fields

- Scenario 2 Drill new wells assumptions
 - Dry holes in area of soft geopressure ~1000 psi overpressure
 - Wells 12,000 ft deep with 9 5/8" completion
 - Temperature 300 F
 - Build 200 MW capacity 30 wells for \$190,000,000
 - 200 MW binary plant for \$220,000,000
 - Drill and complete with screen and gravel pre-pack
 - Stimulate to achieve higher flow rates
 - Pumped with 700 HP motor
 - Maximum flow rate 1500 gpm
 - Cost of Power 8.07 ¢/kWh

Susan Petty & Bill Livesay

Reality Check EGS What would need to happen to make EGS a reality?

- Reduce the cost of power through technology improvement and learning by doing
 - Increase flow rate per producer by improving stimulation methods
 - Reduce drilling cost by reducing number of casing intervals, improving rate of penetration and reducing risk
 - Improve conversion efficiency
- Identify high temperature oil fields with potential for high volume water production
- Develop a commercial project with DOE/industry in at least two areas with different geology

Reaching the Goal

- To get 1000 MW of EGS power on line we need:
 - 1 well in 3 months, average 5 MW per well
 - 16 rigs drilling for three years
 - 4 sites with 250 MW potential
 - Identify fields with declining production and large numbers of wells that can be recompleted.
 - Identify large areas of uniform hot rock at reasonable depth from O&G drilling data
 - Use hot oil/gas fields to get data and starting points for projects



From Hot Water to Hydrogen Bringing Geothermal Power to Alaska











Presented by: Bernie Karl SMU Geothermal Conference June 12th, 2007



Chena Mobile Power System



Denbury Resources - Gulf Coast Green Energy



N Dembury Onshore, LLC. ,C. SFU #22 Summerland Field Sec. 3, T9N, R14W Jones County, MS API # 23-067-00373 EMERGENCY PHOTOCOL TRUMALENT 5



RPSEA.org Demonstration Project Mississippi Summerland Field 190 F current surface temperature Raser Thermo, Utah 12.5 MW Geothermal Development-Cascaded UTC 250kW Units





A panorama from the day of the ribbion cutting ceremony.

GeoDynamics Ltd South Australia Project



15 https://003.2018.02_25 Nov-2000.03157.96_04 Carc/2008.20187.20_13-Carc/2003.13.16.44



Geothermal Incentives and Financing

Texas H.B. 4433 Hydrocarbon Tax Exemption from Geothermal Wells (effective September 1, 2009)

"Exempts from severance taxes oil and gas incidentally produced in

association with the production of geothermal energy."

Severance Taxes *Exemption* if produced with Geothermal Energy Gas (7.5%) Oil (4.6%)



ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR DEVELOPMENT



If Life Gives You Hot Water



Make Ice!