GEOTHERMAL PIPELINE

Progress and Development Update
Geothermal Progress Monitor

MEETINGS

Elko Nevada One-Day Geothermal Seminar

The Nevada Water Resources Association (NWRA) and the Geo-Heat Center will be co-sponsoring a one-day seminar on geothermal issues in Elko, NV on October 25, 2001. The seminar will include presentations on geothermal resources, regulatory aspects, electric power generation and direct use. A tour of the Elko County School District and Elko Heat Company district heating systems is included along with a panel discussion on the state and federal regulatory issues.

The NWRA is the association for groundwater related professionals in the state of Nevada and as a service to its members and the public, it regularly sponsors seminars around the state on issues of interest in the area of groundwater. The seminar will be held at the Elko Convention Center from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM on October 25th. The meeting is open to the public for a registration fee of $65 before October 19th and $75 after that date. For more information contact Donna Bloom of NWRA at 775-626-6389 or donna30@sprynet.com, or Kevin Rafferty of the Geo-Heat Center at raffertk@oit.edu or 541-885-1750.

The 23rd New Zealand Geothermal Workshop

The Geothermal Institute and the New Zealand Geothermal Association will host the 23rd NZ Geothermal Workshop at the University of Auckland on 7, 8 and 9 November 2001. The meeting will be forum to exchange information on all aspects of exploration, development and use of geothermal resources worldwide. Contact: Mike Dunstall, Geothermal Institute: Fax. 64-9-373 7436 or email: geo.wshop@auckland.ac.nz.

CALIFORNIA

Middletown - Calpine Corp. Opens Geysers Geothermal Visitor Center

On May 11, Calpine Corp. dedicated its new Geothermal Visitor Center at a Grand Opening ceremony in Middletown, CA. Citizens concerned about the energy crisis can now see first-hand how electricity if made using geothermal steam. The center offers free admission, parking, and tours led by knowledgeable guides in air-conditioned minibuses to one of Calpine's operating geothermal power plants at The Geysers--the world's largest geothermal project.

The newly completed, 6,500-square-foot visitor center uses state-of-the-art energy efficiency technology and geothermal heat pump to heat and cool the building. The heat pump installation, designed by Robert Anderson, Architect, consists of 20 vertical bore holes each 250 feet deep using a closed loop system to operate 5 units in the building for a total of 22 tons (264,000 Btu/hr cooling capacity). The Water Furnace units can be viewed through a glass door in the visitor center. The installation cost about $76,000.

Regular operating hours for the visitor center are 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Thursday-Monday. Free bus tours are offered at 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM. Tour reservations are required. The center is located just north of the famous Napa Valley wine country at the intersection of Highway 29 and Central Park Road in Middletown, just south of Highway 175. For more information, contact the Calpine Geothermal Visitor Center, 15500 Central Park Road, Middletown, Ca 95461. Phone: 866 GEYSERS; website: www.geysers.com.

IDAHO

GEA/GRC Award Honors Geothermal Boise

A highlight of the U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Geothermal Energy Stakeholders Workshop on May 31 was the presentation of a 2001 GEA/GRC Geothermal Excellence Award to the city of Boise, Idaho. Accepting the award from GRC Executive Direct Ted Clutter and Geothermal Energy Association Executive Director Karl Gawell was Boise Public Works Department Director William J. Ancell. Boise provides a showcase of geothermal development, a valuable history of geothermal operating experience, and a clear demonstration of the longevity of a properly managed geothermal resources. The Warm Springs Water District, the country's first geothermal district heating system was established here in 1892. This project was later joined by three additional systems, serving the Veterans Administration complex, downtown Boise and the Capitol Mall. Today, these systems have an installed capacity of 40 MWt and supply 170 billion Btu of heat energy annually. (Source: *GRC Bulletin,* 30/3).

ITALY

IGA Geothermal Calendar 2002

The International Geothermal Association, based on the success of their geothermal 2000 calendar, are soliciting all amateur geothermal photographers to submit photographs for the 2001 calendar. Color photos are preferred and they would appreciate photographs that highlight the inherent beauty of geothermal areas, by showing how environmentally-friendly we are, or the unusual applications of geothermal energy. Photos can be sent by mail or email to IGA Secretariat, c/o Erga Grouppo Enel, 120 Via A. Pisano, 56122 Pisa, Italy or email: igasec@enel.it.

UNITED KINGDOM

Queen's Award Honors District Heating System

On June 5, the Queen's Award for Enterprise for Sustainable Development 2001 was awarded to the district energy heating system in Southampton, England. Marking the occasion, the Queen's Award flag was raised at the Heat Station, which lies at the center of the United Kingdom's most commercially successful and technologically innovative district energy development. According to news sources, "The system takes an element of its energy from a geothermal heat source through a well in the city center that extracts sea water from a mile underground that was trapped there in prehistoric times."

In partnership with Southampton Geothermal Heating Co., Ltd. (a member of the Utilicom Group), the city's "world-class" development was 14 years in the making. It provides hot water (for heating and domestic use) and chilled water (for air conditioning) to commercial and residential consumers, including four hotels, a hospital, colleges, television and radio studios, civic buildings and a major new retail development, WestQuay.

Geothermal heat sources are not widespread in the United Kingdom, being either too small or low in temperature for commercial exploitation. The principal energy component for the Southampton district heating system is waste heat produced by conventional power plants, which are "the cornerstone of the England's sustainability and carbon emission policy." (Source: *GRC Bulletin,* 30/3)