

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY OVERVIEW

STATE-OF-THE-ART and GROWTH POTENTIAL

Prepared for a general audience



Norris Geyser Basin, Yellowstone NP WY

Hottest geothermal basin in the park. No, ***nobody is proposing geothermal development*** in Yellowstone National Park ... but it is a beautiful location where the energy is palpable!

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Electricity Generation – state-of-the-art, growth potential

Direct Heat – potential, case studies

Geothermal Heat Pumps (GHP) – state-of-the-art, vendors



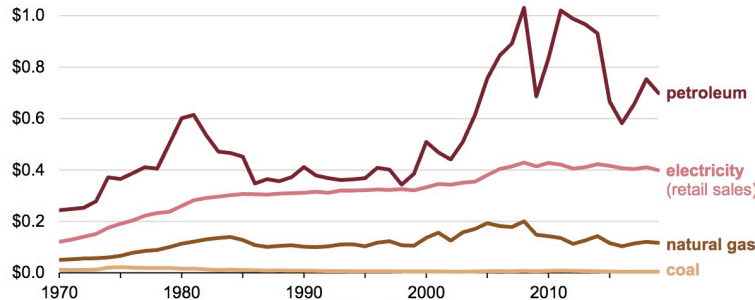
Hudson Ranch triple-flash geothermal power plant, Imperial Valley CA

GEOHERMAL IN THE DOMESTIC ENERGY MARKET

small with **upside!**

Total 2019 energy expenditure, \$1.2T, 5.7% GDP (low*)

U.S. energy expenditures by source (1970–2019)
trillion real 2019 U.S. dollars



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [State Energy Data System](#)

- 2019 electricity consumption, 3.95T kWh (2018 peak, 4.0)
- Petroleum \$699B, electricity \$399B

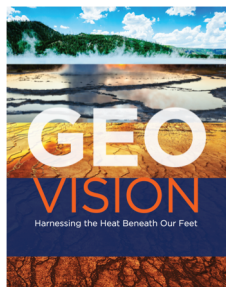
*50-year avg ~8% (range 5.5% to 13%+ in 1980)

Geothermal role in today's energy mix

- Contributes to baseload electricity output (0.4% capacity)
- Small, niche, regional (CA/NV)
- Domestic GHPs making inroads

But...

- **Geothermal non-intermittent, small surface footprint**
- **Technology improving**, especially with O&G adoption
- **Scope for increase in baseload electricity power**, prompted by Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) requirements
- **Scope for increase in direct residential/industrial heat**
- **Geothermal like wind/solar 20 years ago?**



DOE GeoVision Report (2019) *CAVEAT – written by geothermal industry enthusiasts!*

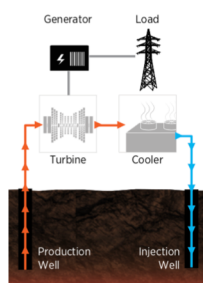
- **Roadmap to increased market share for geothermal renewable energy by 2050**
- Identifies technical/non-technical blockers and enablers to meet ambitious targets
 - ✓ 16-fold increase in electric generating capacity, to 60 GW (~5% of anticipated installed capacity)
 - ✓ District-heating installation increase from 21 to 17,500
 - ✓ 14-fold increase in Geothermal Heat Pump (GHP) installations, to 28 million households

BASELOAD ELECTRICITY GENERATION, **heat + water + permeability**

Technology evolution

Localized near subduction zones, rift volcanism, regional extension.
High geothermal gradients.

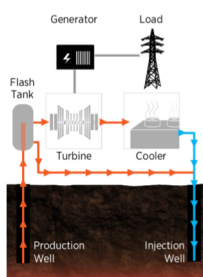
Dry steam power plants



Dry steam

- Larderello IT (1913); world's first commercial geothermal power plant(s), Tuscan hills
- Geysers CA (1960), operated by Calpine. World's largest geothermal power generating facility
- 24% of global installed capacity, dominated by Larderello/Geysers
- Older technology, depletes more rapidly

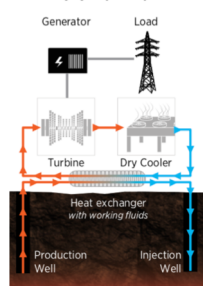
Flash steam power plants



Flash steam

- First implementation, Wairakei NZ (1958)
- 43% of installed capacity (2016), avg 28 MW; typical plant 5-6 production wells, 2-3 injection wells
- Hot fluid separated at surface to liquid + steam, cylindrical pressure vessel
- Double-flash, triple-flash variants more costly but more power output

Binary cycle power plants



Binary Power Plants

- a.k.a. Organic Rankine Cycle (ORC)
- Secondary organic fluid with lower boiling temp (pentane) drives turbines, $\leq 150^{\circ}\text{C}$ reservoirs are feasible
- Most newbuilds today
- Allows for more efficient reservoir management, closed loop with no vapor losses

USA Domestic – ~3.75 GW capacity

- Focused on CA/NV Basin-and-Range, Imperial Valley
- Ormat, Calpine, BHE/Renewable leading operators

International – 12 GW capacity

- Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey, Iceland, Italy, New Zealand, Kenya, Mexico, and others; 12 GW

Case Study – Ormat McGinness Hills

Lander Co, NV



- Phases 1/2, 2*45 MW (2012, 2015)
- Phase 3 69 MW (2021) total capacity 160 MW
- PPA Los Angeles Dep't of Water and Power, 100% for 25 years

- Largest project on BLM land; 4.3 x 1.2 km dev't footprint
- Crustal thinning, basin-and-range. Production/injection in 2 grabens, linked by intersecting faults within brittle basement (blind system).
- Binary power plant, \$600MM CAPEX for all phases
- 15 production wells, 7 injection wells; 170°C from 3 permeable fault zones; 30"/22"/16" casing strings, 9 5/8" liner to 1100 m

Case Study – Sarulla

North Sumatra, Indonesia



- Phases 1-3, 3*110 MW (2018)
- \$1.7B, \$1.6B financed by syndicate of banks, 4 year development with 16-yr repayment.
- 30-yr sales contract to state power provider PT PLN, 20-year guarantee

- World's largest single-contract GT plant, Sarulla Operations Ltd. (Medco Energi, Inpex, Itochu, Kyushu Electric Power, Ormat)
- Great Sumatran Fault, strike-slip fault system; Quaternary igneous extrusive reservoir (rhyolite-dacite), surface fumaroles
- Hybrid flash steam + binary/ORC configuration; 23 production wells, 11 injection wells

CHALLENGES ... OPPORTUNITIES, ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Technical challenges

- More local variation than 'competing' renewable energy sources wind/solar
- Exploration for geothermal resource, with no surface expression
- Reduce drilling costs, large wellbores in crystalline rock
- Maximize water recycling/re-use
- Downhole sensors, steam conformance (innovation from SAG-D heavy oil industry), very high temperature requires insulation

Non-technical challenges

- Financial hurdles, up-front drilling costs and higher risk
- Streamline regulatory approval for quicker payback and lower financing costs
- Perception of induced seismicity plagued European EGS

Outsource technical challenge to GFS ... Geothermal Field Service, if you will

Integrated solutions

- OFS (BakerHughes, SLB/Geothermex, NOV drilling solutions, HAL)

Pre-FEED technical work

- Exploration and opportunity screening
- Advances in computational techniques for EGS, fracture modeling design, reservoir geomechanics
- Subsurface simulation with emphasis on fracture permeability

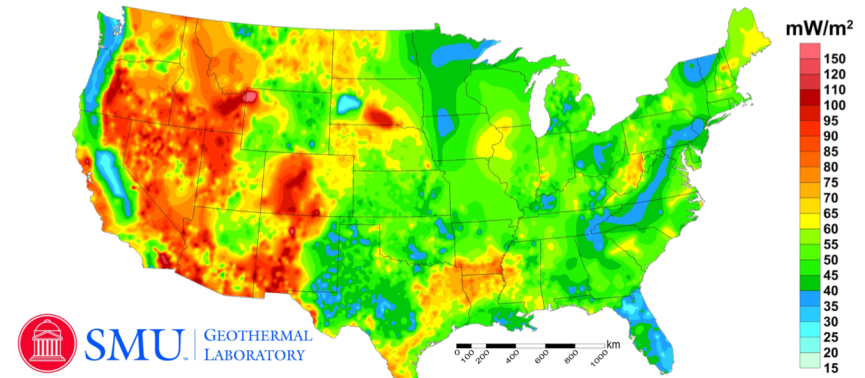
Drilling solutions

- NOV, Nabors prominent; Kenai leading contract driller

Surface equipment

- ORC units, turbines, steam scrubber, cooling towers, chillers

SMU Geothermal Laboratory Heat Flow Map of the Conterminous United States, 2011



Upside 1 – Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS)

- a.k.a. hot dry rock, much larger areas with insufficient groundwater; **induced fractures**
 - Cycle 'imported' water through induced permeability system, alternative for 'brownfield' redevelopment of existing reservoirs (Geysers NW)
 - Soultz-sous-Forêts, Rhine Graben - shut down, induced seismicity
 - FORGE DOE project, UT; drilling technology incubator, long timeline

horizontal drilling & hydraulic fracturing)
+
GCCU and/or ORC for optimal reservoir management
+
HVDC long-distance transmission

Upside 2 – Ground loops

- No induced fractures, **lengthy loops maximize reservoir contact**
 - Eavor (backed by BP, Chevron); -lite (Canada), -2 (Germany) designs. Prominent at Geothermal Rising '21 conference

Upside 3 – Supercritical water

- Higher energy density. Requires innovative technology – 374°C, 3200 psi
 - Much greater depths, 5-10 years off?

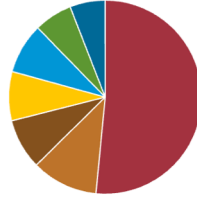
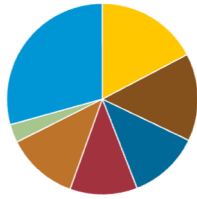
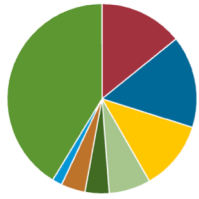
Upside 4 – Repurposed oil & gas wells

- Oil wells too narrow, not designed for volumes, durations
- Sage Geosystems targeting gas wells including shallow offshore

DIRECT HEAT USE - INDUSTRIAL AND/OR DISTRICT HEATING

Big % of US electricity consumption is heating/cooling!

$$.48 \times .38 + .3 \times .36 + .25 \times .26 = \underline{35\%}$$



space heating
space cooling
water heating
refrigerators and freezers
lighting
televisions and related equipment
computers and related equipment
all other uses

computers and office equipment
refrigeration
space cooling
ventilation
lighting
space and water heating
all other uses

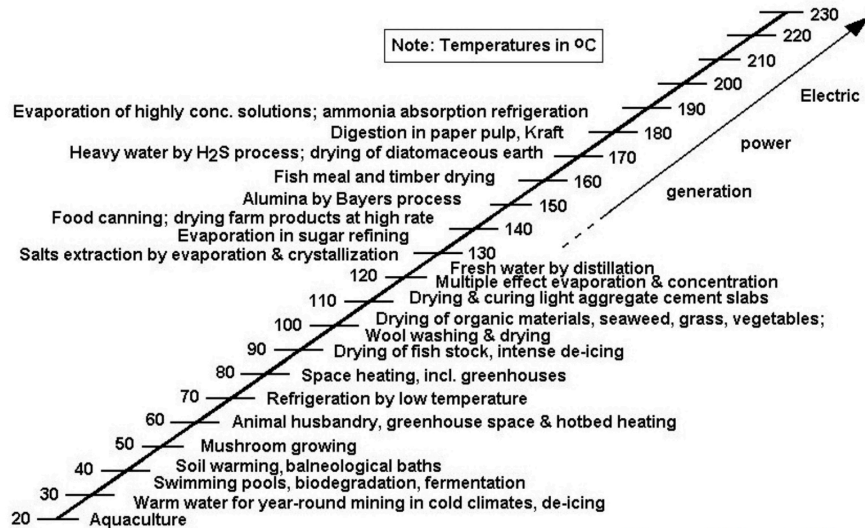
machine drive
process and boiler heating
facility heating, ventilation, air conditioning...
electrochemical processes
process cooling and refrigeration
other processes and facility uses
lighting

48% of residential demand (38%)

30% commercial demand (36%)

25% industrial demand (26%)

2019 EIA data, total US consumption 3.95T kWh
Retail sales 3.81T kWh, remainder direct use (industrial)



Source: DiPippo, 2008

Numerous uses for industrial heat, as low as 20°C

EGS, closed loop potential here too

Size of domestic market

- Currently 21 district-heating systems installed
- GeoVision predicts 17500 district heating applications by 2050
- Could satisfy demand of 45 million households

Challenge – retrofit costly, newbuild focus

- Property developers, master-planned communities
- New light municipal industrial zones
- Factory one-offs

Case Study – Reykjavik, Iceland

Easy to dismiss as special case near active volcanism; Reykjavik Energy uses lower-temperature reservoirs.

- < 150°C at 1000 m depth
- 1300 km pipeline network serves 170,000 customers
- Exporting technology worldwide



Case Study – Boise ID

Edge of Snake River Plain, older portion of Yellowstone hot spot track with widespread flood basalts

- Began 1890s, revived 1980s
- Today 92 buildings with 6M ft² CRE
- Operated by Boise public works
- 80°C water circulated in pipes

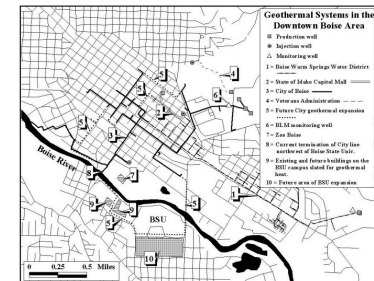
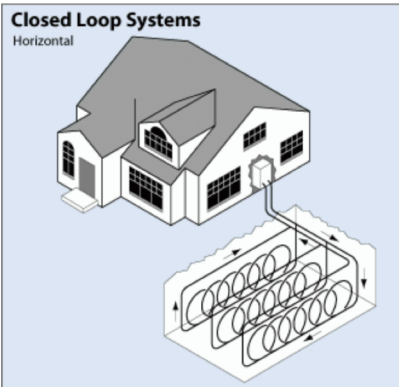


Figure 2. Map of the four geothermal district heating systems within the City of Boise (source is the City of Boise Public Works Department).

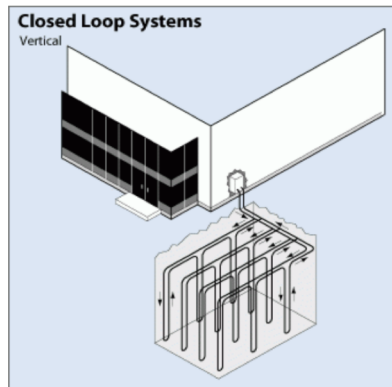
CLOSED-LOOP RESIDENTIAL HEAT PUMPS (GHP, an HVAC system)

Premise – use shallow underground ambient temperature to equilibrate surface fluctuations

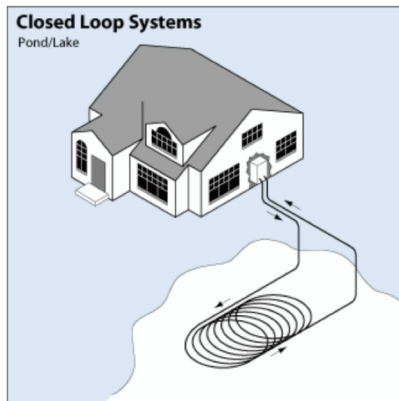
- Ubiquitous, deeper than 10m temperature near-constant near year-round
- In US, heating/cooling residential/commercial building contributes 11% of CO₂ emissions



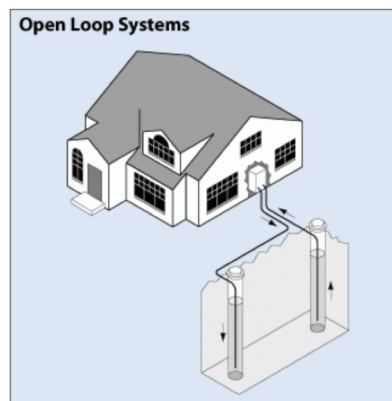
Trenches 4-6 feet deep, 'slinky' looped pipe increases length. Residential newbuilds.



Commercial buildings, schools; 4" holes drilled 20' apart to depths of 100-400'



Coiled pipe in nearby body of water (if available) at depth of 8'



Production/injection from aquifer or body of standing water

Size of market, domestic/international –

- Existing capacity 16.8 GW-thermal, equivalent to 2 million households
- Market participants –
 - Ingersoll (American Standard, Trane) – Trane Comfort Specialists
 - Bosch – Greensource Cdi, Si, i-Series
 - Carrier (original inventor of AC) – Comfort, Performance, Infinity Series
 - Dandelion Energy – pure-play GHP



Case Study – Dandelion Energy



- GoogleX spinoff, VC funding from Breakthrough Energy
- Taking aim at NE heating oil market, propane
- Cost reduced from standard \$50k to \$18-\$25k, small bores 2" diameter
- Recycled water solution in ground-loops



PROFITABILITY OF GEOTHERMAL SUB-SECTORS

Exit timing/strategy – proof-of-concept, or operating profit?

Electricity generation

Upside

- ✓ Size of market, runway from 0.4% like wind/solar 20 years ago?
- ✓ RPS standards drive adoption, coal-fired plant retirements
- ✓ Off-grid solutions

Downside

- Utilities, highly-regulated, rate-controlled, low margins
- Penalty on heat-to-electricity conversion, Carnot's law
- High visibility, resource nationalism

District heating

Upside

- ✓ Huge industrial/residential market
- ✓ ~50% of residential electricity usage for heating/cooling
- ✓ Nascent utility, early pricing power

Downside

- Costly to retrofit older buildings
- Nascent utility
- Simple process, hard to establish IP

Heat pumps

Upside

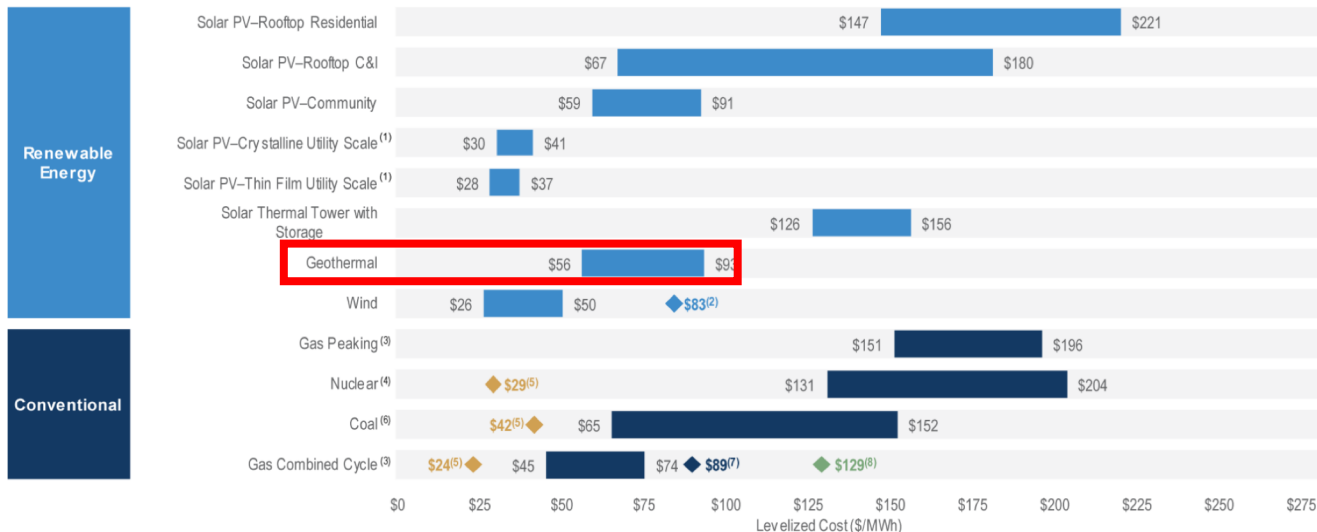
- ✓ Large market (142 million housing units in America)

Downside

- 'Commoditized' equipment
- Margin compression

Related opportunities in service sector –
subsurface, surface equipment, data, engineering advisory services

Selected renewable energy generation technologies are cost-competitive with conventional generation technologies under certain circumstances



Lazard LCOE analysis 2021

- Accepted within renewable community, questioned outside*
- Competitive with conventional and other renewable resources ... *especially when storage taken into account*
- Range \$56-93 for new projects
- non-intermittent baseload has value

* depending on audience, not a concern

GEOHERMAL ENERGY IN TEXAS

Premise – Can we repurpose oil and gas wells in TX to produce heat?

165,000 oil wells

85,000 gas wells

Abandoned wells?

- 29 MM population, fastest growing state in USA
- Industrial base
- **Biggest electricity market in the USA (421B kWh, 11%)**

Challenges –

- Geothermal low energy density, large water volumes
- Narrow wellbores/tubing, questionable durability
- Geothermal gradient relatively low in TX ... more applicable for district heating or ORC conversion?

SAGE Geosystems

Houston-based startup, \$3M Series A WFT, RDS leadership



Toolkit for sedimentary rocks

- HeatRoot™ (hot-dry-rock application)
- HeatLoop™ (interconnected laterals)
- HeatFlood™ (secondary fluid, sCO₂)
- CO₂ Sequestration

Test well in Starr Co.

Feasibility study for 3MW geothermal plant at Ellington Field

Repurposing Human Capital

Houston global energy capital ... center of excellence for technical innovation & implementation in subsurface disciplines

- ✓ Geoscience (exploration)
- ✓ Geoscience (development)
- ✓ Reservoir engineering
- ✓ Drilling/completions

... also energy finance

Already startups (Fervo Energy, Sage), consultancies

Geothermal Entrepreneurship Organization



- UT/Austin
- Annual PIVOT Conference
- Texas Geothermal Institute newly-formed academia/industry consortium

The Future of
Geothermal
in Texas



The Future of Geothermal in Texas (Q1/2022)

- Sponsored by Mitchell Foundation
- Resource Assessment
- Roadmap for TX role in GT energy transition, leveraging O&G strengths

If US geothermal to meet full potential ... center of excellence *must shift* from SoCal/Reno to TX, and utilize O&G transferable skills

TX Geothermal Energy Alliance (TxGEA) launched 1/13/2022

INVESTMENT THEMES

(ranked by NPV*, not % return)

- 1A) **Power production, EGS and/or closed-loop geothermal development.** *Maximum reservoir contact + ORC + HVDC to distant markets. Operator or non-op partner ... domestic/international.*
- 1B) **District heating** to erode electricity market share, 35% heating/cooling
- 3) **International conventional geothermal exploration/development**
- 4) **Off-grid electricity generation for local demand**, including digital mining
- 5) **Field equipment** for geothermal application – drilling/completion/monitoring (HPHT), applicable for power production and/or district heating
- 6) **FEED engineering/consulting services** – De-risk geothermal projects through application of O&G project management and tollgates. Opportunity screening and analogs.
- ??? **Lithium mining** from geothermal brine

*NPV = Net Present Value, reference to size of business opportunity (as opposed to rate of return)

How can I help (your firm) understand geothermal energy?

- Market studies (domestic/international focus)
- Competitive Intelligence (CI) assessments
- Opportunity Screening

- ✓ 20 years experience, upstream energy production
- ✓ Member relevant industry associations, active networker
 - ✓ Commercial focus