



Welcome to the SMU Geothermal Lab newsletter for December. Happy Holidays! This month we have information on a funding opportunity for mineral recovery from high-temperature fluids, discounted admission to the Powering Onshore Oil & Gas Facilities 2016 conference, and an opportunity to participate in the 2016 GEA International Geothermal Showcase.

2016 SMU Geothermal Lab Power Plays Conference



Our 8th international energy conference, **Power Plays: Geothermal Energy in Oil and Gas Fields**, April 25-26, 2016 on the SMU Campus in Dallas, Texas. The focus is to advance the understanding of energy production so that companies can successfully produce emission-free energy, while extending the life of an oil or gas field. This year we will have a half-day workshop for those interested in learning the basics of geothermal energy on Monday April 25. Then the conference begins with an opening reception and poster session Monday evening, and conference presentations on Tuesday April 26.

- **Call for Abstracts** – we are looking for speakers, poster presentations and suggestions for panel discussions. Abstracts are due by Friday **February 5, 2016**. More information: <http://www.smu.edu/Dedman/Academics/Programs/GeothermalLab/Conference/CallForAbstracts>.
- **Sponsorship** is available starting at \$1,000. This is an opportunity for you to work with the SMU Geothermal Lab as we continue our mission of geothermal education and research. Contact Cathy Chickering Pace at 214-768-1510, catherine@smu.edu, or visit <http://www.smu.edu/Dedman/Academics/Programs/GeothermalLab/Conference/Sponsorship>.
- **Registration is open** for the conference and workshop on **April 25 -26, 2016** on the SMU Campus in Dallas, Texas. More information: <http://www.smu.edu/Dedman/Academics/Programs/GeothermalLab/Conference/Registration>.

SMU Geothermal Laboratory Notes

Graduate student **Andrés Ruzo**, in his role as a National Geographic Explorer, took part in the Conference of Youth (COY11) held before COP21 (Conference of Parties) Climate Talks in Paris, France. Andrés gave talks on geothermal energy and Amazonian conservation. A video of COY11 attendees' message to leaders is available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-Oekv2y6-o>.

Congratulations to **Ben Phrampus** on his successful completion of his PhD titled "Gas Hydrates as a Proxy for Contemporary Climate Change & Shallow Heat Flow on the US East Coast & North Slope of Alaska". You have been an excellent example of time-management and modeling success. Thank you!

Geothermal News and Notes

The Geothermal Lab joins the **Geothermal Energy Association** (GEA) in applauding the proposed extension of the production tax credit (PTC) for new geothermal facilities underway by the end of 2016, Section 187 of the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act of 2015. "This will help revive the industry that has languished for the past two years," commented Karl Gawell, GEA's Executive Director. "We urge Congress to continue its work on broad tax reform that extends the incentives in a manner that provides a level playing field for clean technologies," Gawell urged. GEA has supported the concept of a technology neutral approach, and hopes that future legislation will implement a tax code that gives incentives to clean power, provides longer-term certainty for investors, and does not pick winners or losers.

Under the leadership of Professor Gioia Falcone, a Working Group of the **International Geothermal Association** has been developing a **standard for reporting global geothermal resources**. More information: http://www.geothermal-energy.org/resources_and_reserves/working_groups/unfc_2009_working_group/documents/white_paper.html.

Do you know a **student graphic designer**? The U.S. Department of Energy Geothermal Technologies Office, in partnership with the Center for Advanced Energy Studies and the Idaho National Lab, invites both high school and university student teams to **design an infographic** that will illustrate how geothermal energy is clean, safe, reliable and sustainable. More information: <https://caesenergy.org/geothermaldesign/>. Pass this along to your favorite teacher or student!

Opportunity for Funding

The **Geothermal Technologies Office** released a **funding opportunity announcement** titled "Mineral Recovery Phase II: Geothermal Concepts and Approaches to Validate Extraction Technologies." The Department will provide up to **\$4 million** for approximately three research projects to assess the occurrence of rare earths and other valuable materials dissolved in geothermal or other high-temperature fluids and validate methods for extracting them. Concept papers due **6 January 2016**. More information: <http://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/eere-announces-4-million-critical-materials-recovery-geothermal-fluids>.

Geothermal Heat Pump News and Notes

Congratulations to the **Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation** (ICECF) and the **Association of Illinois Electric Cooperatives** (AIEC) for the success of their **GeoAlliance Grant Program** which funded over 40 geothermal projects in churches, community centers, hospitals, museums and retirement centers. More information and case studies: <http://aiec.coop/energy-efficiency/geo-alliance/>.

Other Event Details

Powering Onshore Oil & Gas Facilities 2016 will be held February 24-25, 2016, Houston Texas. Hear power experts from E&P companies present case studies about cost-effectively powering drilling, production, supervisory control and data acquisition, automation and remote well site operations. A 15% registration **discount** is available to friends of the SMU Geothermal Lab at PE16SMU. More information: <http://www.onshore-facilities-power.com/>.

The **Geothermal Energy Association** is holding its fifth **International Geothermal Showcase** March 17, 2016 in Washington, DC. If your company has a current geothermal development it would be interested in showcasing, contact Rani Chatrath at Rani@geo-energy.org. More information: http://geo-energy.org/2016_International_Geothermal_Showcase.aspx

Save the Date for the GRC Annual Meeting & GEA Geothermal Energy Expo, **October 23-26, 2016**, Sacramento, California. More information: <http://www.geothermal.org/meet-new.html>.

Calendar

February 16 - 19, 2016 - UT Energy Week, Austin, Texas. More information: <http://energyweek.utexas.edu/>.

February 22-24, 2016 - Stanford Geothermal Workshop, Stanford, California. More information: <https://earth.stanford.edu/researchgroups/geothermal/stanford-geothermal-workshop>.

February 24-25, 2016 - Powering Onshore Oil & Gas Facilities 2016, Houston Texas. A 15% registration discount is available to friends of the SMU Geothermal Lab at PE16SMU. More information: <http://www.onshore-facilities-power.com/>.

March 17, 2016 – Geothermal Energy Association’s International Geothermal Energy Showcase, Washington, DC. More information: http://geo-energy.org/2016_International_Geothermal_Showcase.aspx.

April 25-26, 2016 – SMU Geothermal Lab *Power Plays: Geothermal Energy in Oil and Gas Fields* conference and workshop, SMU Campus in Dallas, Texas. We are looking for [sponsors](#) and [speakers](#). More information: <http://www.smu.edu/Dedman/Academics/Programs/GeothermalLab/Conference>.