

Subject: Abstract for 2018 SMU Power Plays Conference, 10-11 January 2018

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Organization: Good Earth Mechanics, LLC

Title: Converting Geopressured-Geothermal Reservoirs into Renewable Energy Systems

Format: Prefer oral presentation

Presenter:



George Nitschke has 23 years' experience in the aerospace industry and 12 years' experience drilling oil, gas, and geothermal wells in the U.S. and abroad. Nitschke holds patents in Geopressured-Geothermal (GPGT) systems and was a principal contributor to the U.S. Department of Energy's GPGT consortium. Nitschke formed Good Earth Mechanics in 2007 to promote the optimal conversion of the GPGT resource into Salinity Gradient Solar Pond (SGSP) systems to help solve the integrated water and energy challenges in the U.S and abroad.

Abstract:

Geopressured-Geothermal (GPGT) brine reservoirs have an immense energy potential: heat exchange, gas and pressure recovery are available from the hot, high-pressure, gas-cut brine waters. According to U.S. Geological Survey estimates, there are 5,700 quads of recoverable gas and 11,000 quads of available thermal energy in the Gulf Coast GPGT basin alone; for comparison, the U.S. *total annual energy consumption* is ~100 quads. Disposal of the spent GPGT brine water, after energy recovery, is a limitation to high-rate production and recovery of the GPGT energy resource. Good Earth Mechanics, LLC (GEM) is developing a solution to this limitation: utilizing the GPGT end-brine for large-scale construction of Salinity Gradient Solar Ponds (SGSP) versus, for example, down-hole reinjection. The SGSP systems produce fully dispatchable, cost-competitive energy in perpetuity, effectively converting the GPGT resource into a true renewable energy solution. The talk will review GEM's GPGT-SGSP conversion technology and provide a progress-update on the efforts to commercialize that technology.



Converting Geopressured -Geothermal Brine Reservoirs
into Fully -Dispatchable Renewable Energy Systems

2018 SMU Power Plays Conference

11 January 2018

Overview

Presentation Outline

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The GPGT Resource

Geopressured Geothermal (GPGT) energy is an immense energy resource that remains virtually untapped throughout the world

‡ High pressure, high temperature, gas cut, brine reservoirs

± wellhead pressure: 1000-1000 psi

± brine temperature: 250-400 °F

± GPGT brines contain 200 scf/bbl natural gas

± normally found at depths greater than 10,000 feet

± can be produced at high flow rates: 20,000,000 bbl/day (vertical borehole)

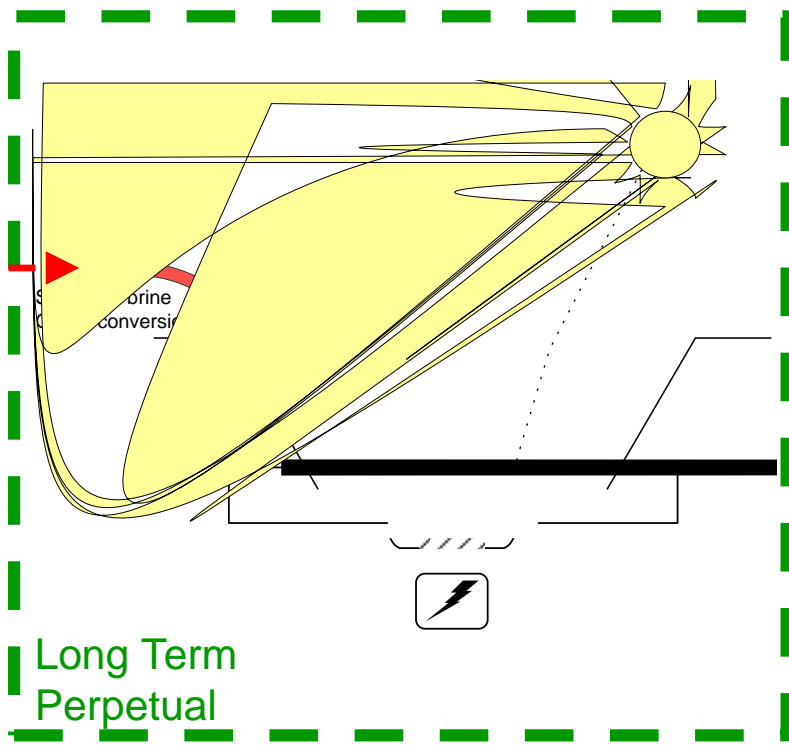
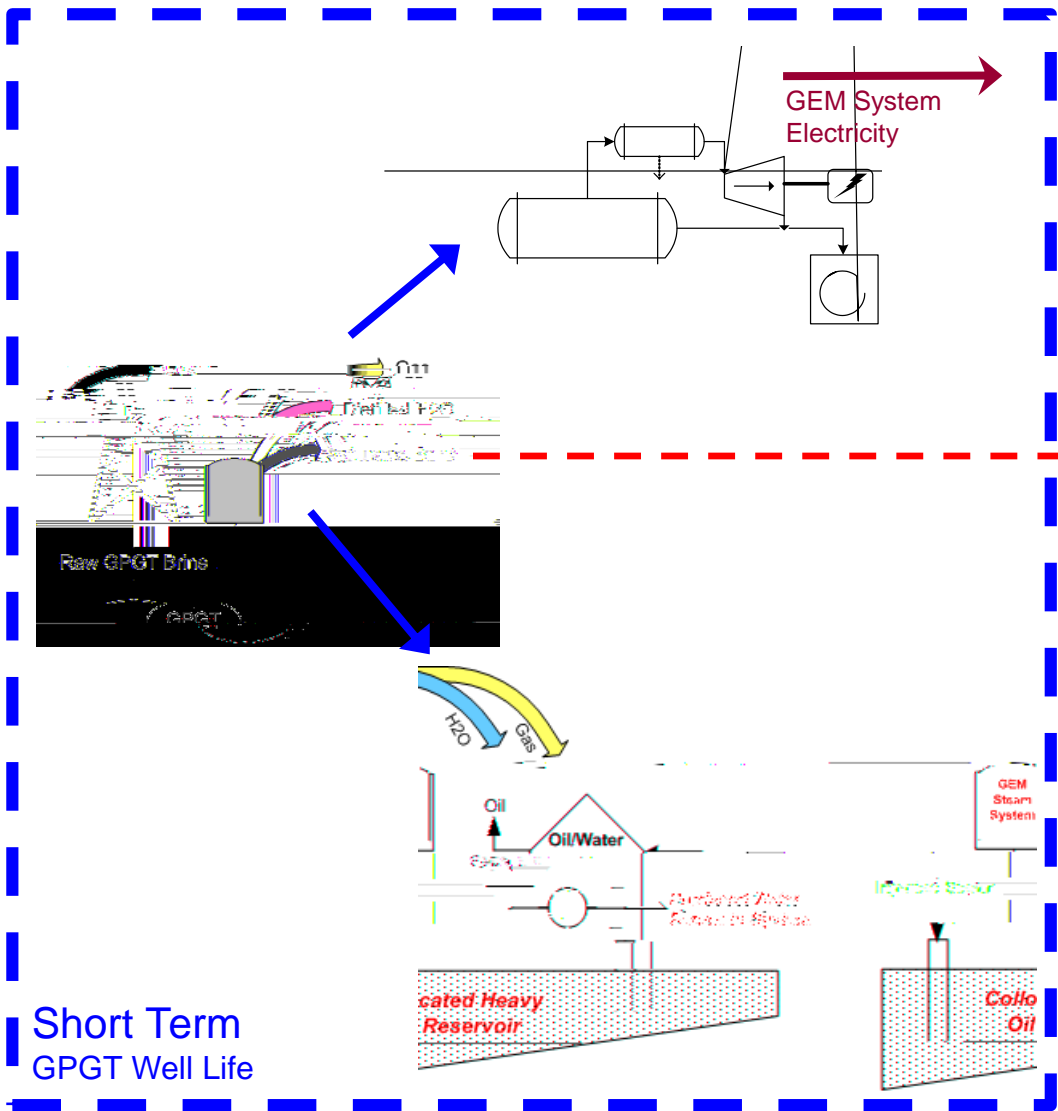
± outstanding flow longevity (Dept. of Energy flow tests, Gulf Coast region)

± GPGT brines contain 15,000,000 ppm dissolved solids, typically 85% NaCl

± USGS: 5,700 quads of gas and 11,000 quads of thermal energy in the Gulf Coast GPGT

The GPGT Resource

Overall GEM GPWT Conversion



Long Term Perpetual

Two Patents pending, U.S. and Foreign

U.S. Patents 7,845,406 B2 and 8,707,697 B2

Salinity Gradient Solar Ponds: Discovered Natural Phenomena Engineered to Maximize Heat Collection & Storage

Solar energy is absorbed at the pond bottom, heating the adjacent fluid, which is prevented from buoying to the surface and releasing the heat to the ambient due to density stratification

- ‡Collector / storage / delivery all in one
- ‡Robust, large
- ‡Baseload or on-demand renewable energy



The nearboiling hot brine of the bottom layer is circulated through an off-the-shelf heat engine that uses the thermal energy to

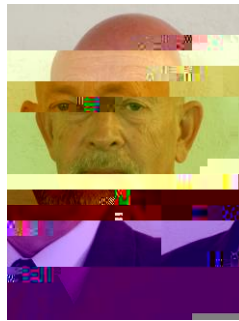
The GEM Salinity Gradient Solar Pond Team: World Recognized SGSP Leadership



George Nitschke
President & Founder



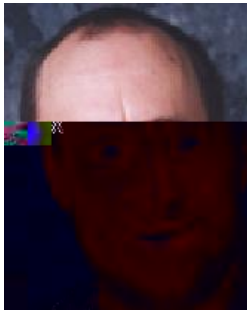
Peter Gross
Business Development



Dennis Duke
Field Operations



Huanmin Lu
Chief SGSP Scientist



John Walton
SGSP Environmental



Andrew Swift
SGSP & Wind Energy



Herbert Hein, Jr.
SGSP Project Mngmnt

- ‡ 16+ years SGSP development at the University of Texas El Paso (UTEP)
- ‡ Engineering data & models
- ‡ Proprietary practices & processes
- ‡ Patent pending methods & components
- ‡ Key vendor relationships

Evaluated by NREL Commercialization Assistance Program favorable review

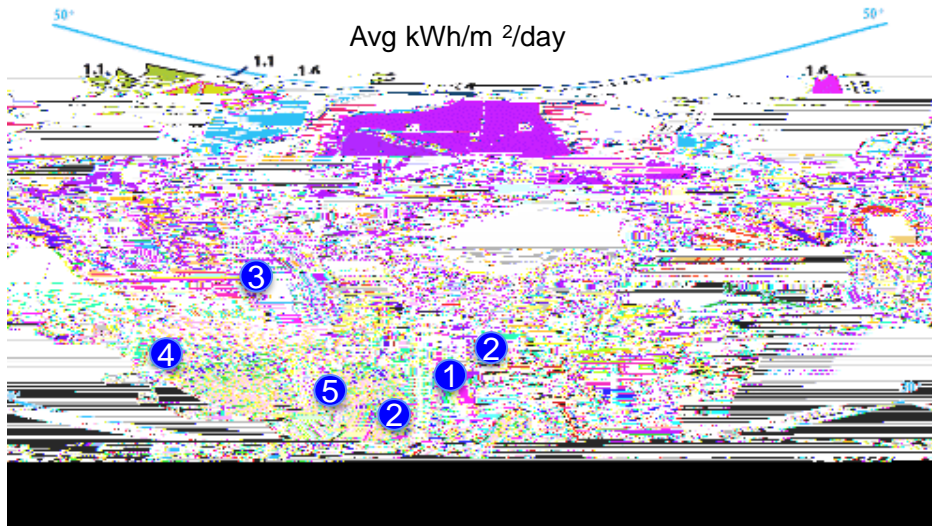
<http://www.goodearthmechanics.com/pdfs/JSEE%20Paper%20Lu%20SP.pdf>

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Designed for Optimal Performance



cutaway of typical berm

Large Global Potential for SGSP



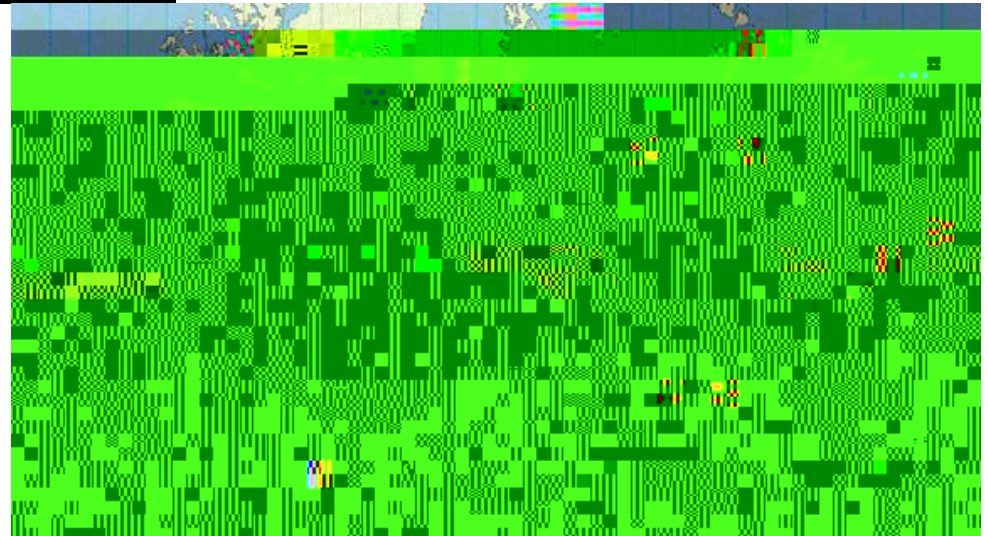
GEM U.S. SGSP Project Launch Sites

1. TX/OK River Basins
2. TX/OK E&P Recycling
3. Delta, UT
4. Salton Sea, CA
5. White Sands, NM

Govt-sponsored engineering analyses support SGSP for all these regions

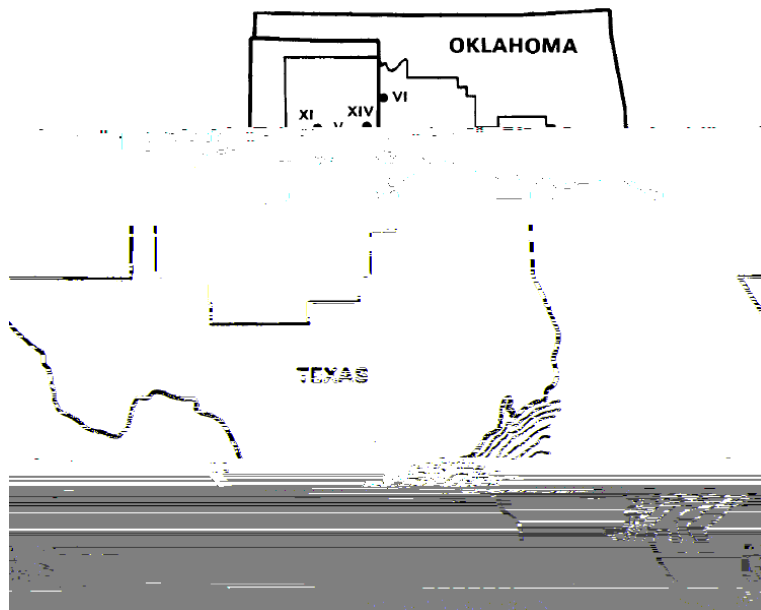
Good SGSP Conditions

General Location	+/- 40 latitude
Solar Insolation	!3.3 kWh/sm/day
Landprint	60-90 acres/MW (baseload)
Salt	Readily available
Water	Seawater/Brackish OK

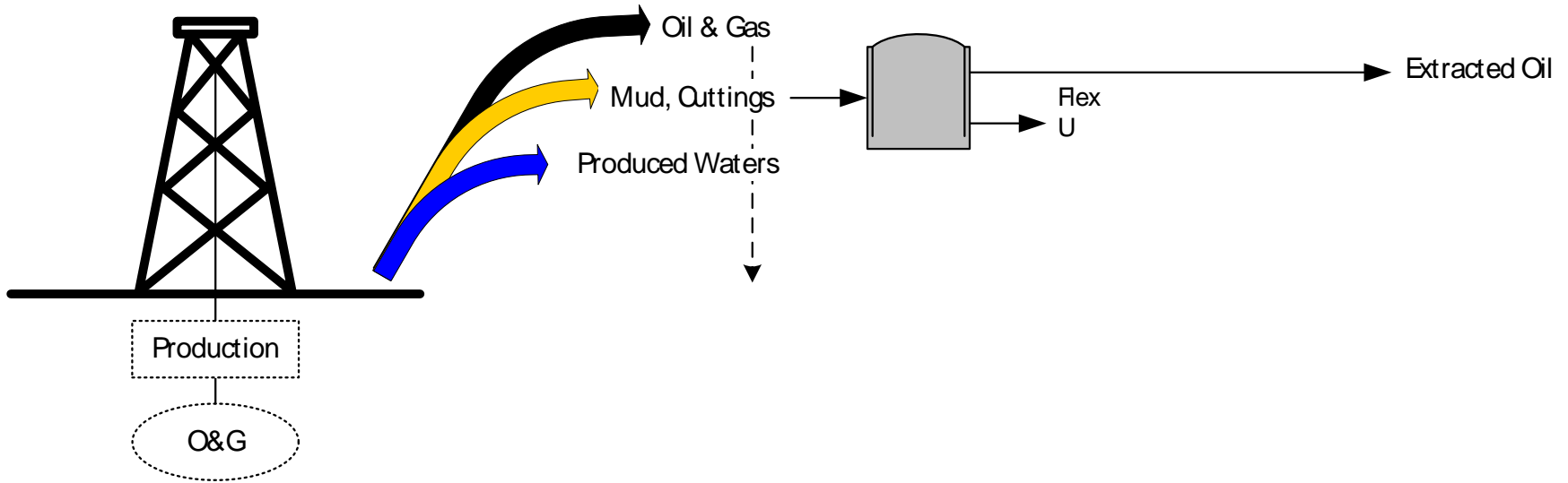


Chloride Control on the Red & Brazos Rivers

Regional Deployment in TX & OK



Deep River Group Integrated Approach: E&P Waste Recycle



- ‡Utilize all E&P waste streams
- ‡Negate induced seismicity
- ‡Distributed power for E&P
- ‡Longterm solution
- ‡Representative example

Produced Water Flow Rate	150,000	bpd
Produced Water TDS	120,000	ppm
Concentration Ratio (for 10 ppg brine)	2.49	
Recovered H2O	89,759	bpd
Required Wellhead Gas	3,129	Mcf/day

SGSP MW Build Rate (base-load equiv.)	6.40	MW/yr
SGSP Land Requirement (per MW)	90	acres/MW
SGSP Land Requirement (per yr)	576	acres/yr

DeepRiver Group <http://www.deeprivergrp.com/>

Summary: GEM Renewable Technologies

GPGT Conversion & SGSP Systems

Zero

U.S. Energy Flow in Quadrillion BTUs (thanks to Lawrence Livermore)

