

W2016 SMU Geothermal Lab Power Plays Conference

Our 8th international energy conference, **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 speakers, posters, and 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 Geotherm

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->

