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Challenges & Opportunities for Geothermal

*Surprise Valley Research
Community Meeting*

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The purpose of this project is to develop a methodology for assessing the geothermal potential in a rural setting.

The goal is to reduce cost and time for communities to obtain a sound understanding of their renewable resource base.

...part of that is funding & access to resources



Potential Partners & Resources

- Center for Geothermal Resources (UC Davis & UNR)
- CGEC
- Geothermal Resources Council
- Geothermal Energy Association
- California Energy Commission
- US Geological Survey
- California Public Utilities Commission
- Other universities



Funding Opportunities: Geothermal Resource Development Account (GRDA)

- State funds are available to promote the development of new or existing geothermal resources and technologies.
- CEC administers through competitive solicitations called Program Opportunity Notices (PONs).
- “Eligible private entities and local jurisdictions can qualify for financial assistance including:
 - geothermal technology research;
 - resource assessment, exploration and development;
 - local and regional planning;
 - and impact mitigation projects.”



Funding Opportunities: Geothermal Resource Development Account (GRDA)

- Proposed rule changes currently under CEC consideration
- Public comment period in September
- Sign up for GRDA listserv here:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/geothermal/grda.html>



Funding Opportunities: Department of Energy Solicitations

- Generally applied science
- Eligibility
 - Can partner with universities on projects
 - Cities/Counties
 - Non-profits
 - Dependent on type of solicitation

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/financing/business.html>



Funding Opportunities: National Science Foundation Solicitations

- Generally basic science (establish new information about the natural world)
- Eligibility – generally will need to partner with a research institution or university

<http://www.nsf.gov/funding/>



Cap & Trade Opportunities

- Aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by establishing an aggregate GHG allowance budget for covered entities and providing a trading mechanism for compliance instruments.
- First auction held November 2012 at \$10.06/allowance
- Last auction (May 2013) \$14.00/allowance
 - 14,522,048 sold = \$203,308,672
- http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/auctionproceeds/final_investment_plan.pdf



Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) Solicitations

- Funding for applied research and development, technology demonstration and deployment, and market facilitation for clean energy technologies and approaches for the *benefit of ratepayers of Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Edison Company.*
- First solicitation should be between now and Spring 2014

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/research/epic/>



Funding Opportunities: Others...

- This is not an exhaustive list. Check into other state and federal agencies for other opportunities...



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Comments, Questions & Answers

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