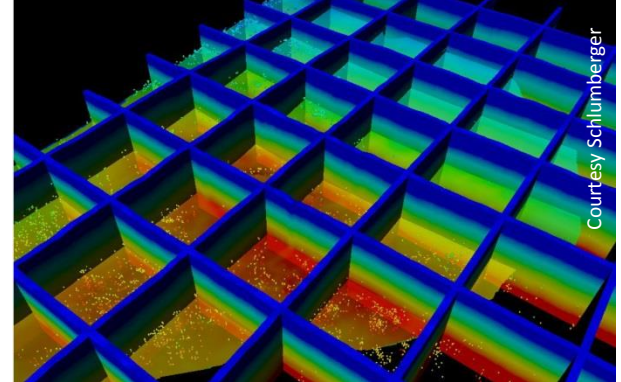


# Geothermal Technologies Office Update

Geothermal Resources Council | September 29, 2014 | Portland, Oregon



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

**Douglas Hollett, Director**

# GTO Major Initiatives



## New Geothermal Opportunities

- “Play Fairway” FOA
- Pathway to next-step drilling validation

## Accelerating EGS

- Build upon R&D and demonstration project successes
- EGS R&D FOA
- Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy (FORGE) FOA kicked off

## Tackling Deployment Barriers

- Regulatory Roadmap: Streamlining
- National Geothermal Data System: leveraging access to data

## Additive Value

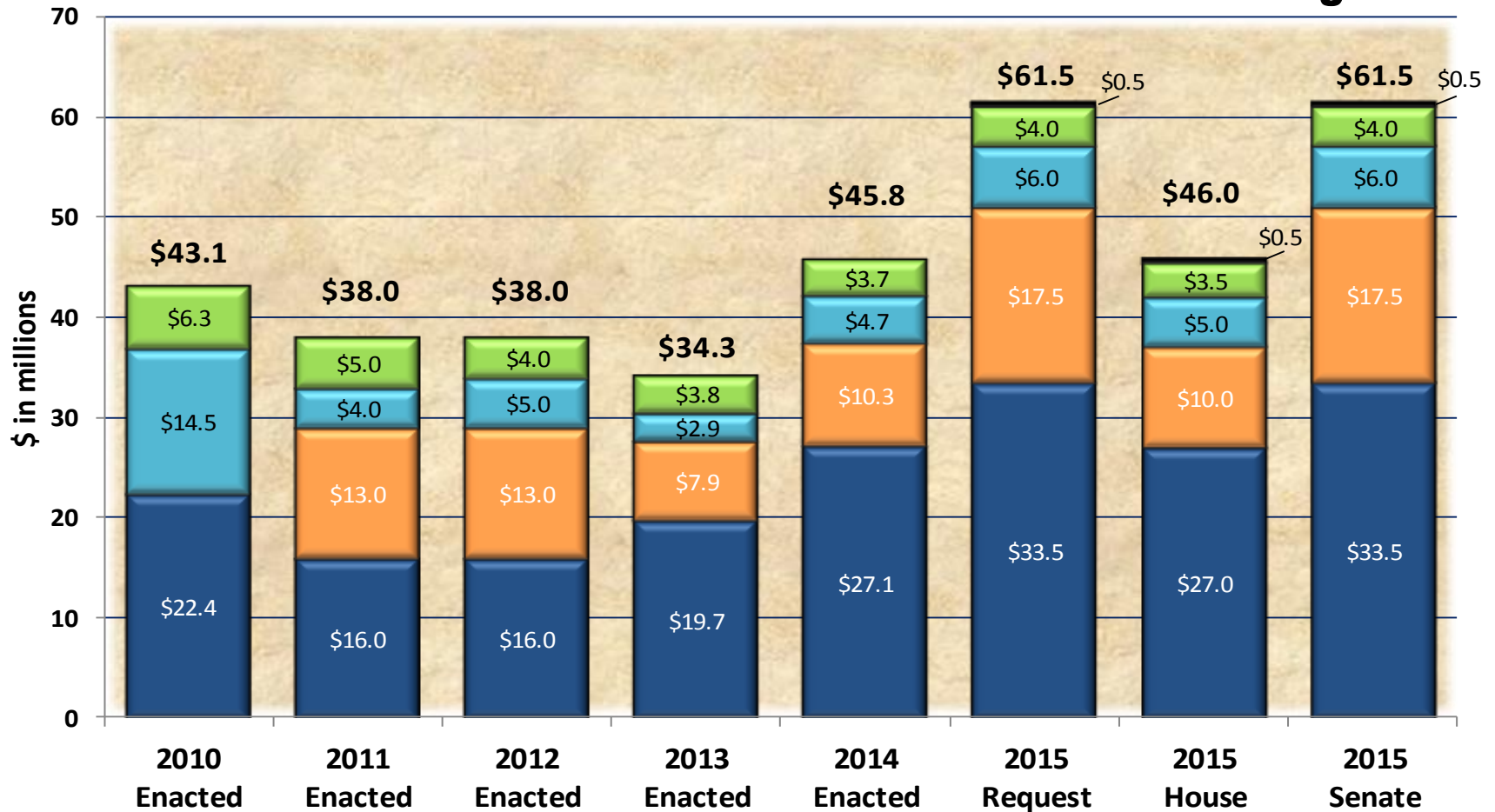
- Low Temp Mineral Recovery FOA
- Hybrid systems

## NEW: Subsurface Engineering Crosscut

- SubTER - Intra- and inter-agency effort to address common subsurface challenges and better leverage DOE R&D

# GTO Budget – FY 2010 to present

## FY 2015 Budget



■ Enhanced Geothermal Systems 
 ■ Hydrothermal/Innovative Exploration Tech 
 ■ Low Temp/Co-produced 
 ■ Systems Analysis 
 ■ NREL Site Wide

# New Selectees for GTO 2014 Funding Opportunities

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDING: **\$18 M** | **32** SELECTIONS

## Play Fairway Analysis

FEDERAL FUNDING: **\$4 M**  
 COSTSHARE: **\$ 0.6 M**  
 TOTAL PROJECTS: **11**

## Integrated EGS R&D

FEDERAL FUNDING: **\$9.7 M**  
 COSTSHARE: **\$1.5 M**  
 TOTAL PROJECTS: **12**

## Mineral Recovery

FEDERAL FUNDING: **\$4 M**  
 COSTSHARE: **\$1 M**  
 TOTAL PROJECTS: **9**



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**



Pacific Northwest  
 NATIONAL LABORATORY



Tusaar Corp

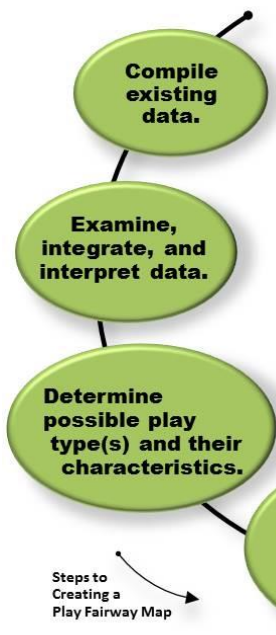
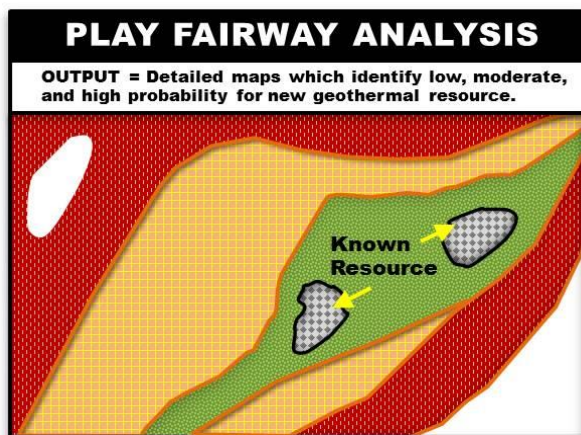
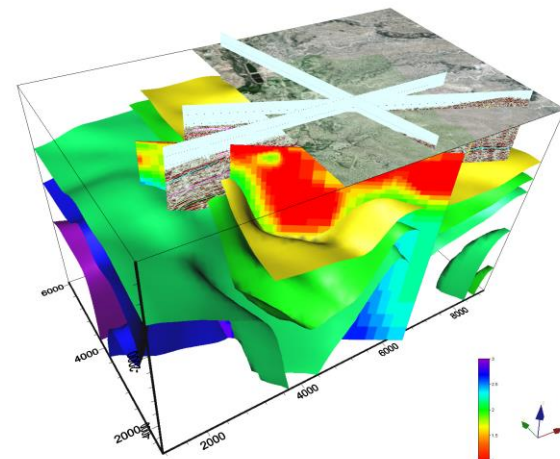
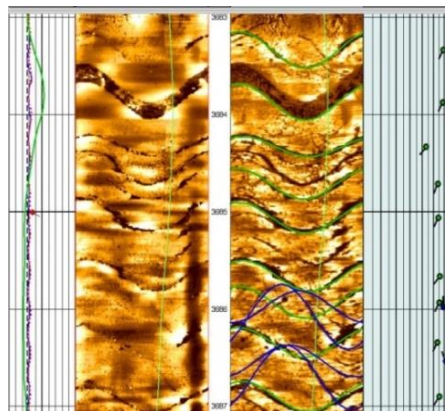


SOUTHERN RESEARCH  
 INSTITUTE

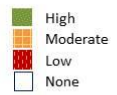
# What's Next for Hydrothermal?

*Tools, Maps, Analysis, "Plays"*

- **Advance Key Innovative Exploration Technologies (IET)**
  - Targeted drilling and geophysical techniques
- **Execute Play Fairway Analysis**
  - Observational, analytical integration, interpretation, basin and systems evolution



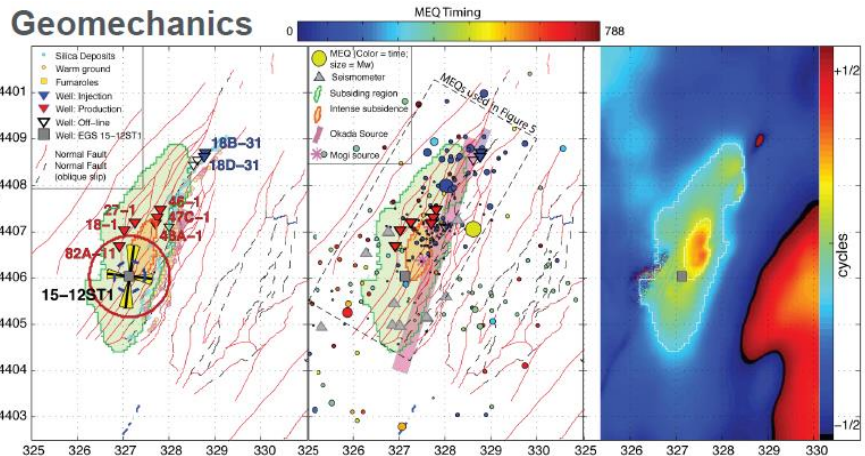
Likelihood of encountering similar fields or prospects



# What's Next for EGS?

## *In-Field Stimulations, Horizontal Wells, Replicability*

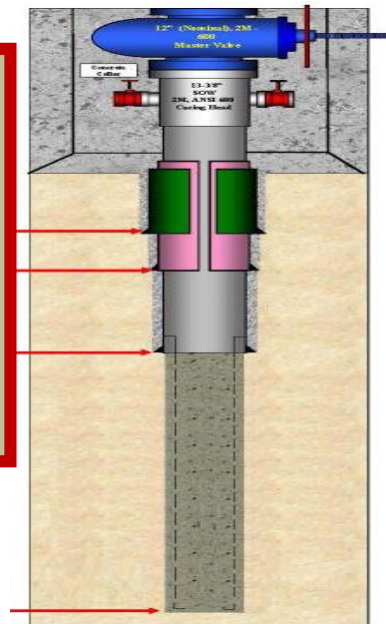
- Continue to grow **existing fields (through in-field EGS)** using thermal and multi-stage vertical-well stimulations, high-temperature thermally-degradable packers
- **Integrated EGS R&D:** Advance high-fidelity subsurface characterization via an integrated technical approach to EGS R&D
- **EGS Field Observatory (FORGE):** Data availability and the validation and testing of replicable EGS development methodologies.



### Re-completion of the well at Desert Peak

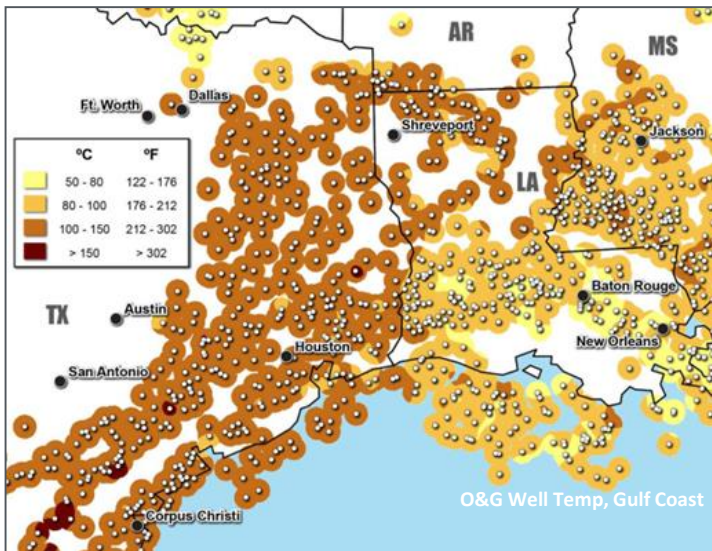
- 175-fold increase in well productivity
- additional 1.7 MW
- increased power output by nearly 40%.

graphics courtesy of Ormat Technologies.

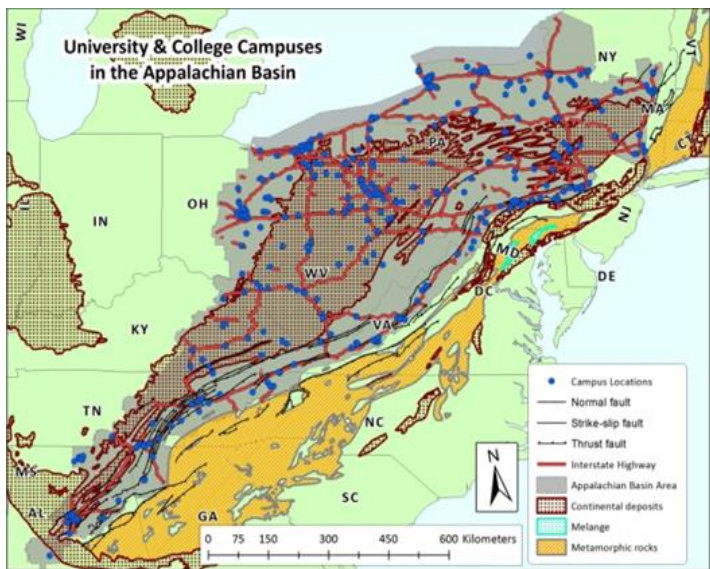


# What's Next for Low Temp?

## Materials Extraction, Direct-Use, Hybrid Systems



- **Low-Temperature Mineral Extraction** - Resource assessment and feasibility (additive value)
- Large-scale **Direct Use**: where does it make technical and commercial sense?
  - Use geothermal hot fluids for heating and cooling
  - Potential displacement of “traditional” baseload generation on site-by-site basis



# FORGE Funding Opportunity Announcement

*\$31 M for Initial Phases*



<b>FOA Issue Date:</b>	<b>7/17/2014</b>
<b>FOA Informational Webinar:</b>	<b>8/05/2014</b>
<b>Submission Deadline for Applications:</b>	<b>11/12/2014</b>
<b>Submission Deadline for Replies to Reviewer Comments:</b>	<b>1/16/2015</b>
<b>Expected Date for EERE Selection Notifications:</b>	<b>3/30/2015</b>

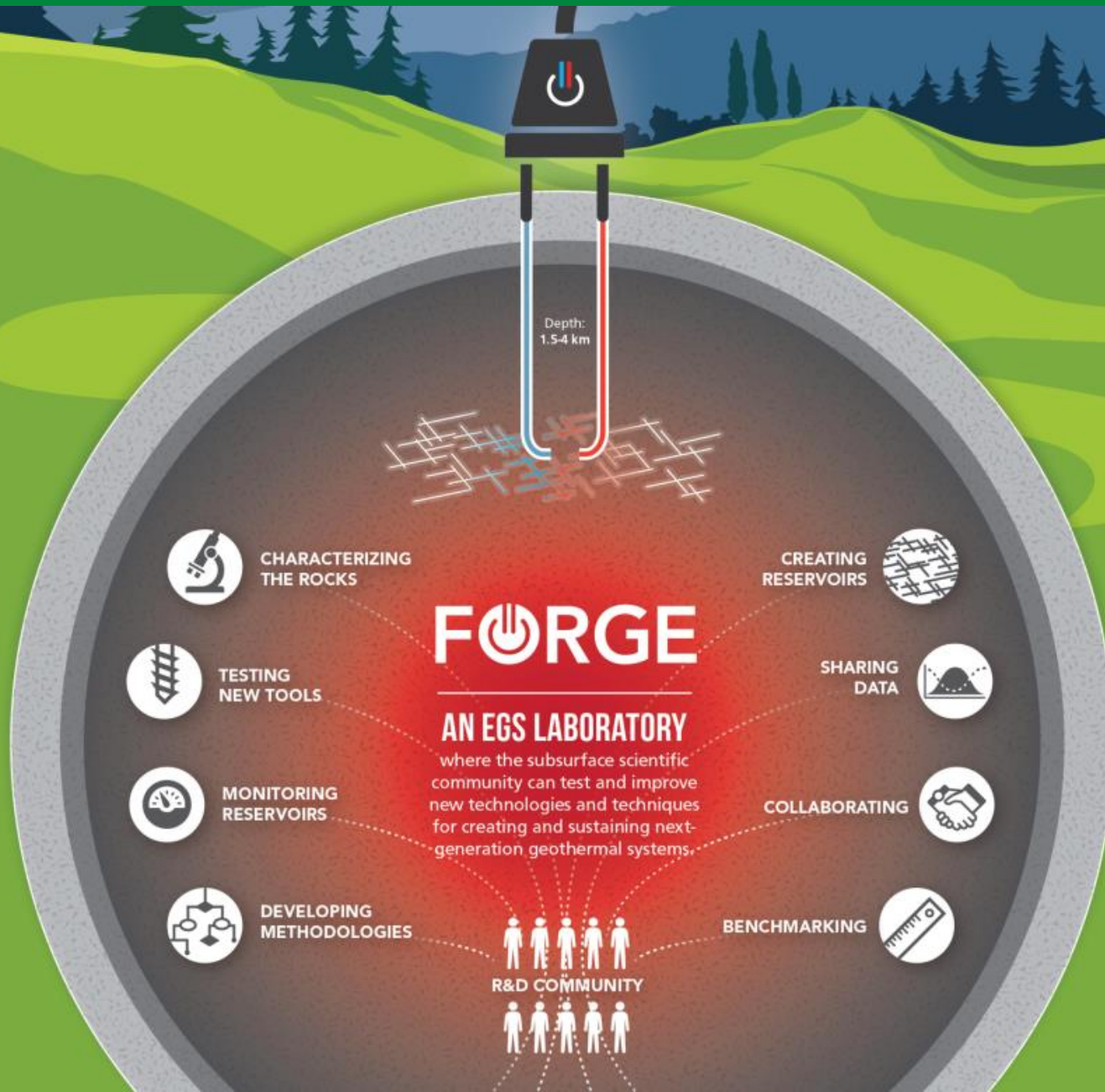
FORGE Project Website: [energy.gov/forge](http://energy.gov/forge)

Questions?

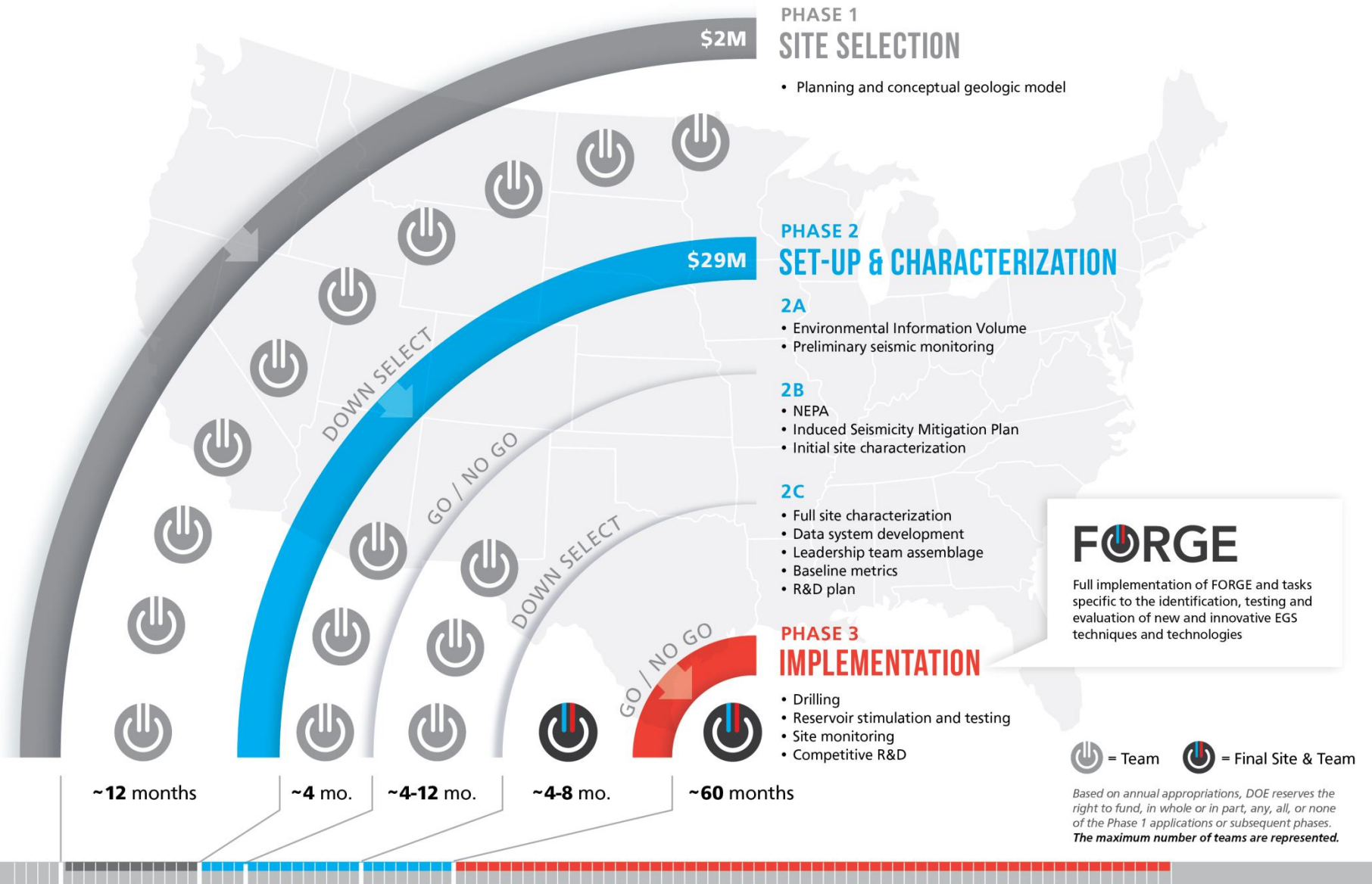
Email: [DE-FOA-0000890-FORGE@netl.doe.gov](mailto:DE-FOA-0000890-FORGE@netl.doe.gov)



# FORGE Overview



# FORGE Structure – Phased Approach

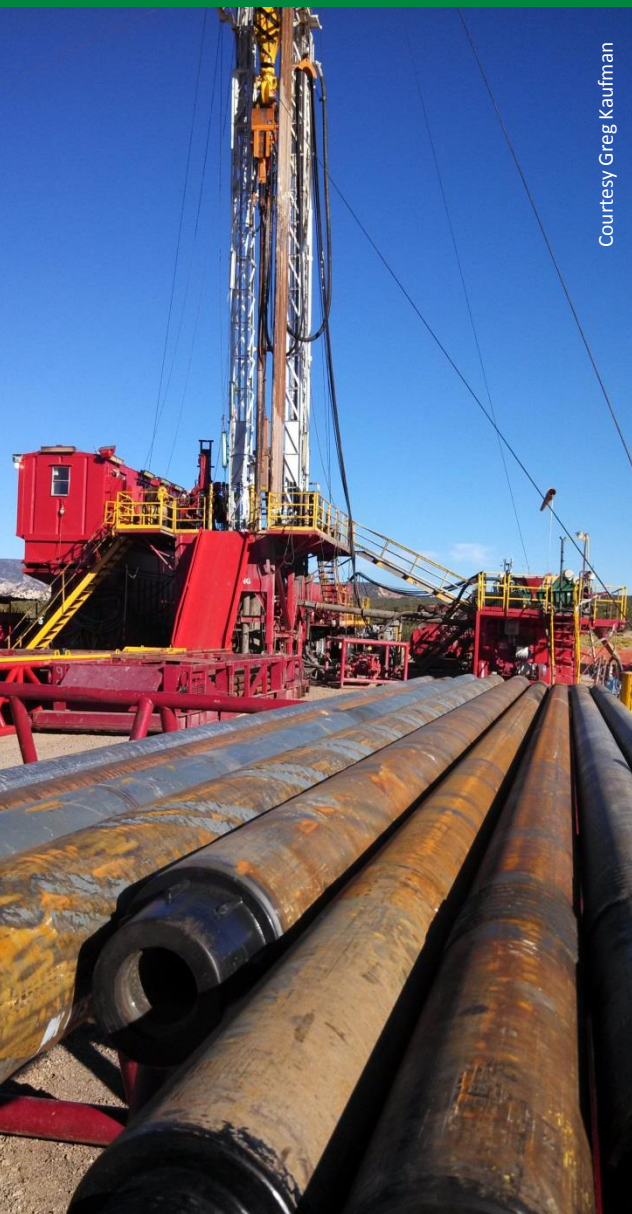


# Launch of the National Geothermal Data System

- “Best-in-class” data collection and usability effort
- Addresses a significant obstacle to geothermal development: **lack of quantifiable data**
- Nine million interoperable GIS data points in 340 separate web feature and map services
- Complies with the Administration’s **Open Data Policy**
- Supports the Energy Department’s efforts to **reduce cost and risks associated with widespread adoption of geothermal energy**

The screenshot shows the NGDS website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Sign Up, Login, and Help. The main header includes the NGDS logo and the tagline "YOUR PORTAL TO GEOTHERMAL DATA". Below this, there are four main sections: MAP (Find data for a specific geographic area), LIBRARY (Look up data, images, publications & more), RESOURCES (Discover tools and models for geothermal exploration and development), and CONTENT (View Harvested Sources). A central banner features a "Featured Partner" section with a video player showing a geothermal landscape, titled "USGS Energy Resources Program Geothermal". Below the banner, there is a "DATA UPDATES" section with a search bar and a "Go" button. A "Newest Submissions" callout points to the search bar. A "Featured Node" callout points to the video player. A "Training" callout points to a video player showing a map of the United States. A "Free software for data providers" callout points to a section titled "Data Providers & Web Developers" which includes the text "Learn how to host your data and contribute to the NGDS. Try Version 1 of the NGDS CKAN Node installation." The footer contains links for "Who We Are" (About the NGDS, Our partners, Getting started) and "Find & Use Data" (Map, Library, Resources, Help). The copyright notice at the bottom reads "© U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY".

# Key Results on Funded Projects 2014



Courtesy Greg Kaufman

**Oregon Institute of Technology:** Commissioned **1.5 MW** of newly-installed geothermal power on campus, from a \$1 million GTO award with \$4 million match by Johnson Controls.

**Pagosa Verde:** GTO's \$3.9 million **geothermal exploration project in Colorado** is being matched by a \$1.98 million state bond, with a bill signed by Colorado Gov. Hickenlooper in May 2014.

**Stillwater Hybrid Geothermal-Solar:** **First-in-the-world hybrid geothermal-solar** facility in Fallon, Nevada produces 33 MW geothermal and 26 MW photo voltaic. An additional 2 MW Concentrated Solar Power project is under construction. GTO, with Idaho National Lab and National Renewable Energy Lab, entered into agreement with Enel Green Power to explore potential and quantify the benefits of integrating geo energy with solar.

**FastCAP:** GTO's \$2.2 million investment has succeeded in **development and commercialization** of a cutting-edge power system for geothermal exploration in high vibration, extreme drilling environments.

**Surprise Valley Electrification Corp:**\* a non-profit rural cooperative, plans to go online with a low-temperature, **3 MW geothermal power plant** in the near future, funded with \$2M in GTO Recovery Act funds, matched by a \$3M Oregon Department of Energy Business tax credit. **Waste heat from the plant will be used for aquaculture, green house farming, and district heating.**

\* Expected

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# Key Results on Funded Projects 2014, *CONT'D*



**SNL Drilling:** Developed and licensed a **first-of-a-kind, high-temperature** (480°F), elastomer-free drilling motor for use with pneumatic down-the-hole-hammers, for drilling in high temperature geothermal formations.

**Raft River (Idaho) EGS Demonstration Project:\*** Will complete two phases of thermal stimulation that commenced in FY 2013 and will complete a **large injection volume hydraulic stimulation** of an existing sub-commercial well. Through this combination of wellbore thermal conditioning and hydraulic stimulation, this is targeted to become a commercial production/injection well.

**Bradys (Nevada) EGS Demonstration Project:\*** Will have completed **final stimulation stages** by the end of FY.

**AltaRock EGS Demonstration Project:\*** in Oregon will accomplish **re-stimulation of an existing well** and completing a production well into the stimulated reservoir.

\* Expected

# SubTER: Summary and Overview Review of Roles

## Energy Policy & Systems Analysis

- Advisement: Secretary of Energy
- Policy: low-carbon and secure energy economy
- Technical assistance: States and local entities

## Nuclear Energy

- Policy and technology: **disposition of used nuclear fuel and waste**
- R&D: deep borehole disposal concept

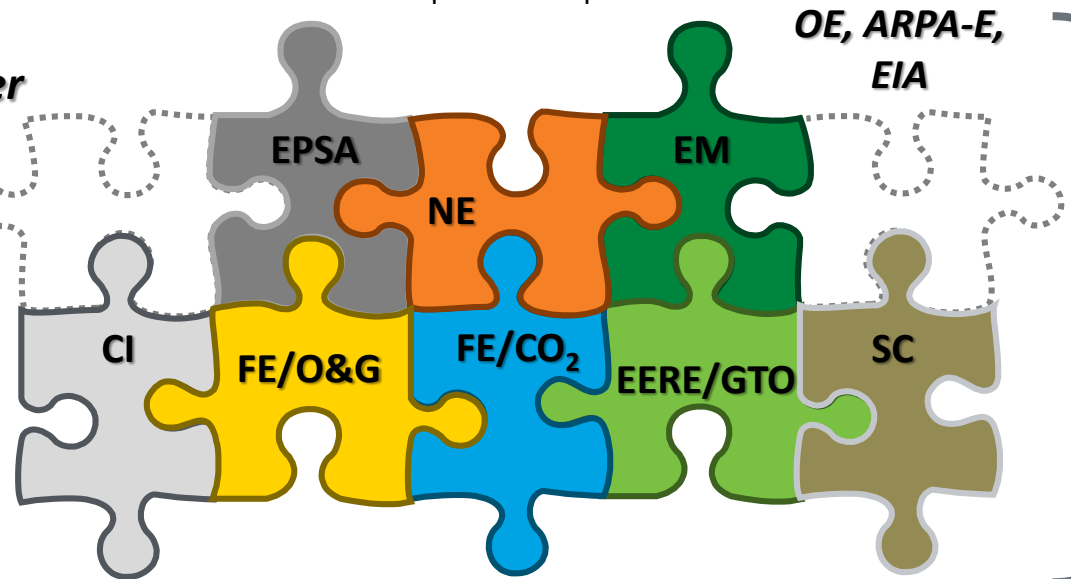
## Environmental Management

- Modeling and tools: **subsurface evaluation and characterization**
- Cleanup: nuclear weapons legacy

## **External Stakeholder Groups**

## Congressional & Inter-governmental Affairs

- Interactions: elected officials, regulators, and stakeholders
- Information access for change agents



## **OE, ARPA-E, EIA**

## SubTER Tech Team

- Encompasses relevant offices
- Reports to Under Secretary for Energy and Science
- Identifies and facilitates crosscutting subsurface R&D and policy priorities for DOE
- Develops collaborative FY15 spend plan and FY16 funding scenarios

## Fossil Energy/Oil & Gas

- R&D and access: clean, affordable traditional fuel sources
- R&D: **drilling, well construction and integrity, and hydraulic fracturing technologies**

## Fossil Energy/Carbon Storage

- Policy and technology: challenges of CO<sub>2</sub> storage to inform regulators, industry, and the public
- R&D: **CO<sub>2</sub> offshore and onshore storage**

## Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy/Geothermal Technologies Office

- R&D: **locate, access, and develop geothermal resources**
- R&D: **access, create, and sustain enhanced geothermal systems (EGS)**

## Science

- Basic research: geology, geophysics, and biogeochemistry
- Expertise: **subsurface chemistry, complex fluid flow**

# SubTER Crosscut: Pillars and Themes

## *Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow*

### Intelligent Wellbores

Materials: adaptive cements, muds, casing

Real time, in-situ data acquisition and transmission system

Diagnostics tools, remediation tools and techniques

Quantification of material/seal fatigue and failure

Advanced drilling and completion tools (e.g., anticipative drilling & centralizers)

Well abandonment analysis/ R&D

### Subsurface Stress & Induced Seismicity

Stress state beyond the borehole

Signal acquisition and processing and inversion

Localized manipulation of subsurface stress

Risk assessment

### Permeability Manipulation

Physicochemical rock physics, including fluid-rock interactions

New approaches to remotely characterize in-situ fractures and to monitor fracture initiation/branching and fluid flow

Manipulating (enhancing, reducing and eliminating) flow paths

Novel stimulation methods

### New Subsurface Signals

Diagnostic signatures of system behavior and critical thresholds

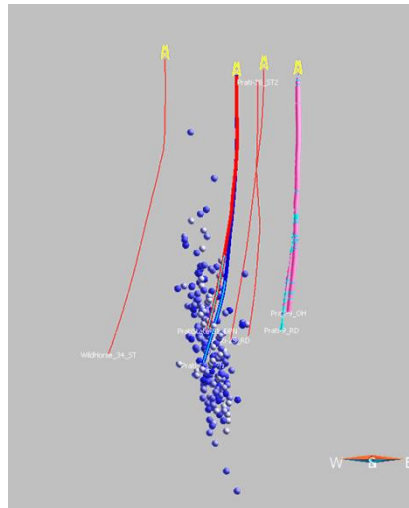
Autonomous acquisition, processing and assimilation approaches

Integration of different measurements collected over different scales to quantify critical parameters and improve spatial and temporal resolutions

**Energy Field Observatories: (Wells, Ops and Logistics)**

# Criticality of Core SubTER Themes

## Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity



Induced Seismicity at The Geysers Geothermal Field (Calpine)

### Approach to Date:

- Geothermal sector has proactively developed its own induced seismicity management protocol
- JASON Letter Report on *State of Stress in Engineered Subsurface Systems*, September 2014

“ JASON recommends that DOE take a leadership role in the science and technology for improved measurement, characterization, and understanding of the state of stress of engineered subsurface systems.”

Increasing societal relevance of induced seismicity as EGS deployment grows, akin to oil and gas today

### Experts Eye Oil and Gas Industry as Quakes Shake Oklahoma

- New York Times, Dec. 12, 2013



### Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity Program:

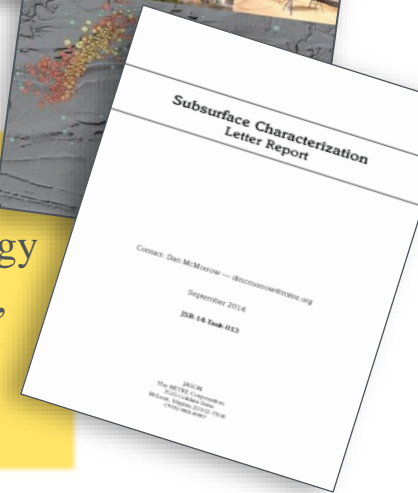
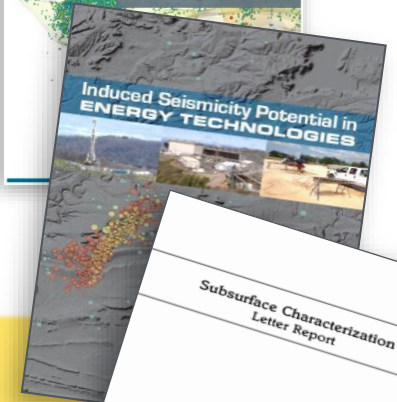
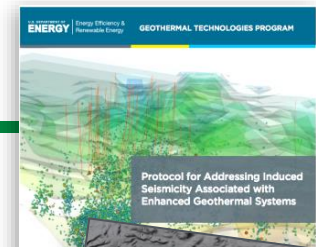
- Improved stress measurements
- Broader data acquisition and sharing
- Advanced risk assessment tools

### Outcomes:

- Improved understanding of the subsurface
- Mitigation and reduced risk
- Improved resource identification and development
- Safe scale up

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# Energy Department Announces Student Competition Winners!

*GTO sponsored two Student competitions in 2014 to engage and inspire College & university students in geothermal research.*

## **Winners in this year's GeoEnergy is Beautiful competition:**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Place:**

*Truckee Meadows Community College*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** *University of Texas – Pan American*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** *University of Mississippi*

## **Winners in this year's Case Study Challenge:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** *Colorado School of Mines*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** *University of North Dakota*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** *University of North Dakota*

**VOTE** for your favorite!  
**People's Choice Award Ballots** available in the GRC lobby and at **Booth 445-447!**



# What's Next for GTO



- ***Stop by our Booth at the GEA Expo: #445-447***
- Check out our **Play Fairway** project at **Tuesday's Poster Session, 4-6 pm**
- **Meet the students at Tuesday's Poster Session, 4-6 pm**
- ***Watch for Upcoming Events !***
- **Peer Review**, May 11-15 at the Westminster Westin, Denver
- Energy Department **Geothermal Vision Study**
- **Crosscutting Subsurface Initiative Town Hall** at the **American Geophysical Union**, 12/15-19, San Francisco