

# Exploration Best Practices & The OpenEl Knowledge Exchange



**Geothermal Technologies Program Webinar** 

Katherine R. Young Timothy Reber Kermit Witherbee

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# **PROJECT GOALS**



### **PROJECT ACTIVITIES**



#### 1. Set Up Exploration Knowledge Structure

- Develop OpenEI mock-ups, templates, relationships
- Work conducted by: Kate Young, Jon Weers, Teresa Wong, KC Hallett, Graham Hill

#### 2. Delineate Exploration Regions

 Work conducted by: Kermit Witherbee, Kate Young, with input from Hidda Thorsteinsson, Mack Kennedy, Colin Williams

#### 3. Conduct Literature Survey

- Work conducted by: Kate Young, Tim Reber
- Reviewed approximately 2000 documents
- Cataloged over 1,300 exploration activities from over 230 documents

#### 4. Interview Industry Experts

- Interviewees included developers, consultants, national laboratory and university personnel from geothermal and oil and gas industry
- Interviewed 11 experts (~75% of those contacted provided feedback)
- Conducted via phone and in person from prepared list of questions, and with follow up questions in subsequent phone calls
- Additional information, beyond the questions asked, was often provided by the interviewee

#### 5. Populate OpenEI Knowledge Exchange

- Import data into OpenEI
- Populate pages with additional information
- Develop more complex templates, forms

#### OPENEI FACILITATES THE DESIRED EXCHANGE

http://en.openei.org

### **History**

- Gives public access a collaborative, knowledge-sharing platform
- Provides free and open access to energy-related data, models, tools, and information
- Developed in 2009 by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy in support of the White House's Open Government Initiative

# OpenEl Statistics \*

Content Pages 55,674
Downloadable Datasets: 798
Languages Used: English, Spanish
Registered Users: 3,231
Unique Visitors/Week: over 8,000
Visits Last Year: 359,195
Countries Visiting Site: 212

\*per Google Analytics as of January 25, 2012

#### Wiki Platform

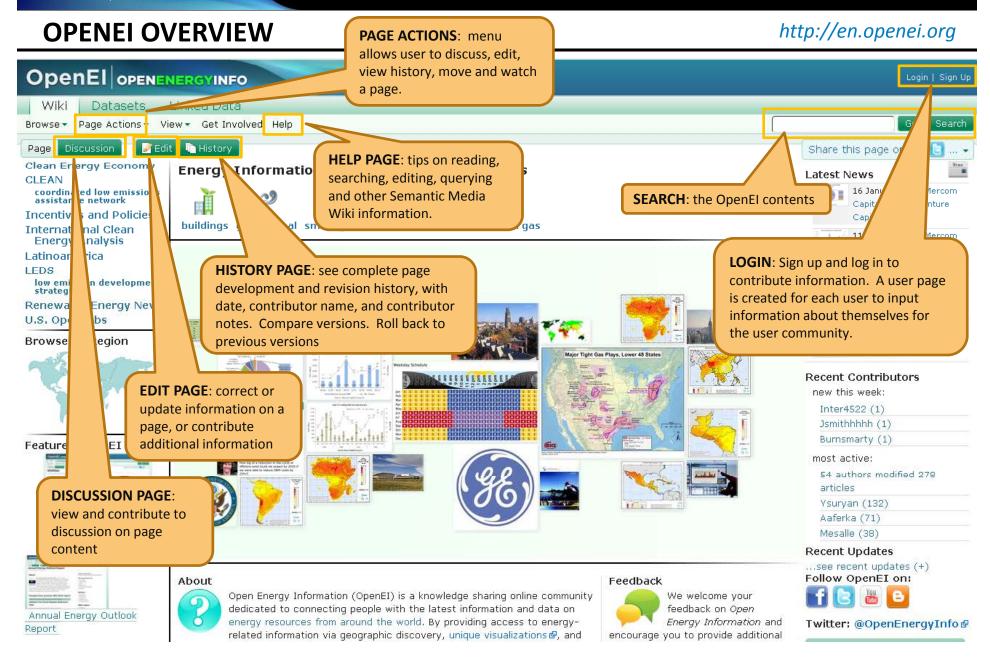
- Utilizes same underlying technology as Wikipedia
- Enables users to view, edit, add and download, data all for free
- Allows the assignment of queryable properties via semantic links
- Creates relationships automatically between pages
- Permits querying and exporting of data, similar to a database, in universal formats such as RDF and CSV
- Includes a variety of data display formats including maps, charts, graphs, and timelines

# **Data Quality**

- Forms often requires references be cited
- Pages can be "watched" for changes, updates
- User community can help expand the data and increase accuracy

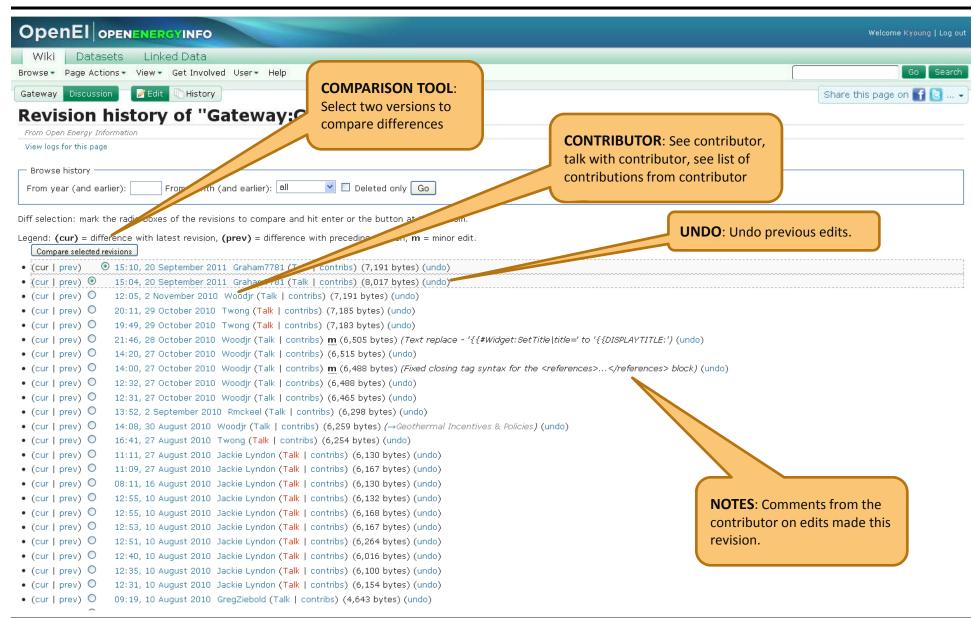
OpenEI OPENENERGYINFO

# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEI Knowledge Exchange



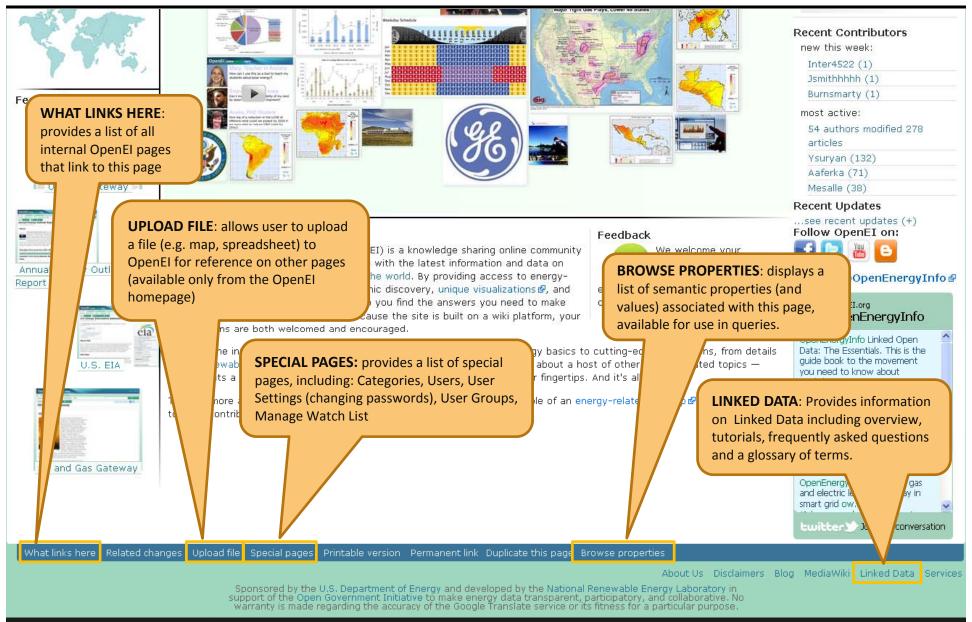
# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEI Knowledge Exchange

### **EXAMPLE HISTORY PAGE**



# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEI Knowledge Exchange

## **OPENEI OVERVIEW**



#### GEOTHERMAL STRUCTURE ON OPENEI

http://en.openei.org

#### Location

#### Power Plants/Projects →

Blundell 1 Power Plant



Photo Credit: http://www.pacificorp.com/es/re/blundell.html

# Geothermal Area →

Roosevelt Hot Springs



# **Geothermal Region**

Northern Basin & Range



# **Exploration Techniques**

Category

Remote Sensing

(can use any number of subcategories in OpenEI)

Subcategory

**Active Sensors** 

Subcategory → Radar

**Technique InSAR** 

#### **Activities**

Source

**Geothermal Area** 

Dixie Valley Area

**Exploration Technique** 

Water Sampling

# References

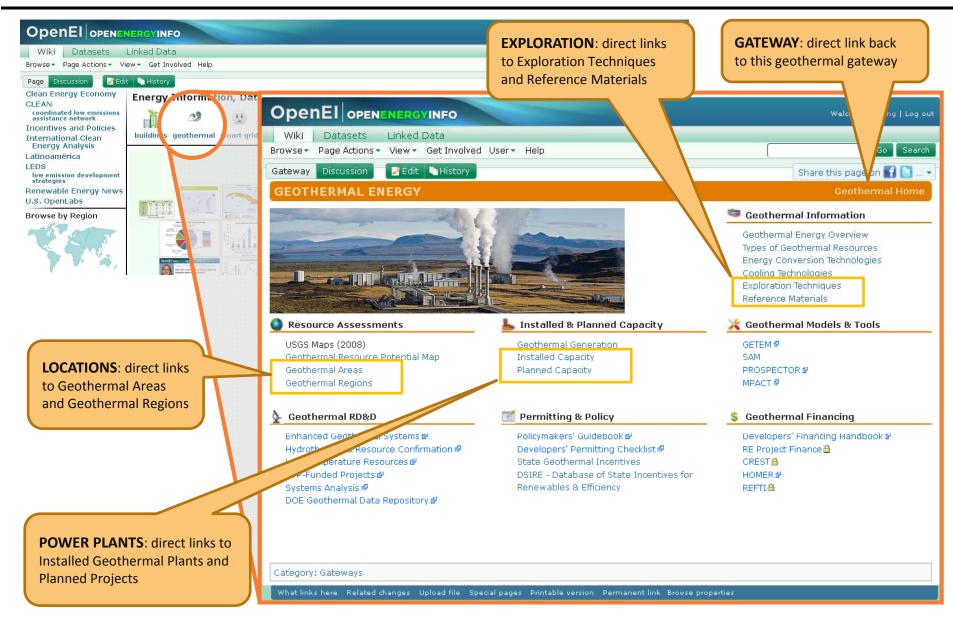
**Info included:** Title, Author(s), Publisher, Date, Abstract – can also upload files

Reference (Kennedy &

Van Soest, 2006)

# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEl Knowledge Exchange

### **GEOTHERMAL GATEWAY**



# **GEOTHERMAL PLANTS & PROJECTS**

http://en.openei.org



NREL Photo

#### **Category: Energy Generation Facilities**

- Listed on OpenEI for all renewable energy technologies
- Specific geothermal properties created for geothermal facilities (e.g. Geothermal Area in which the plant is located, average well depth, and average temperature of geofluid into the plant)
- Properties allow for data input and queries.
- Not all information and data in OpenEI have been populated; additional data could be added by industry or through additional industry surveys.

# **Category: Geothermal Projects**

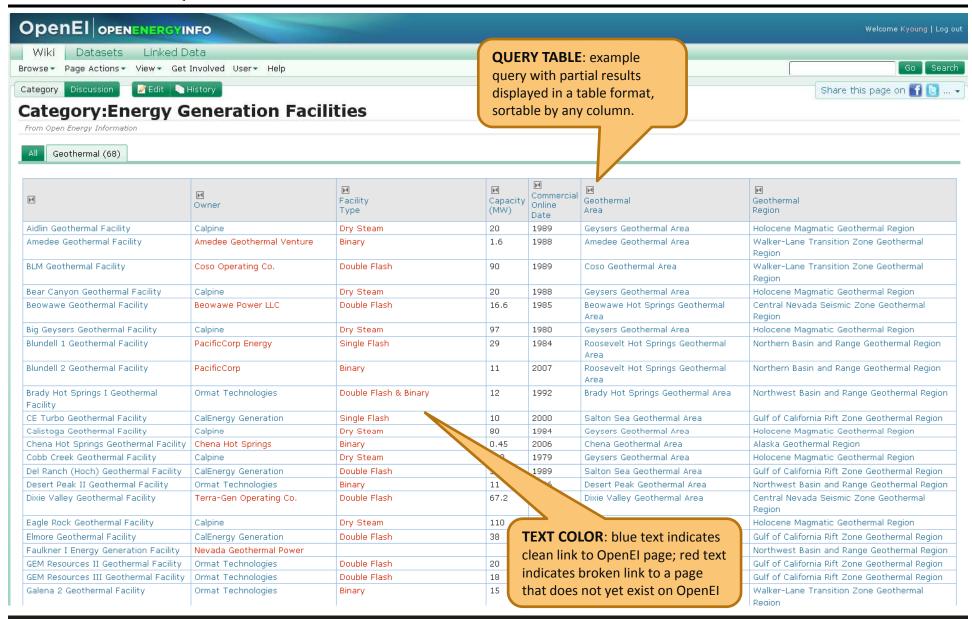
- Listed in OpenEI, by geothermal area and region.
- Projects and associated data properties adapted from Geothermal Energy Association's (GEA) 2011 U.S.
   Geothermal Power Production and Development Update (Jennejohn, 2011).
- Properties include location (county, geothermal area if known, geothermal region), developer, project type, development phase, and capacity estimate.

Annual U.S. Geothermal Power Production and Development Report



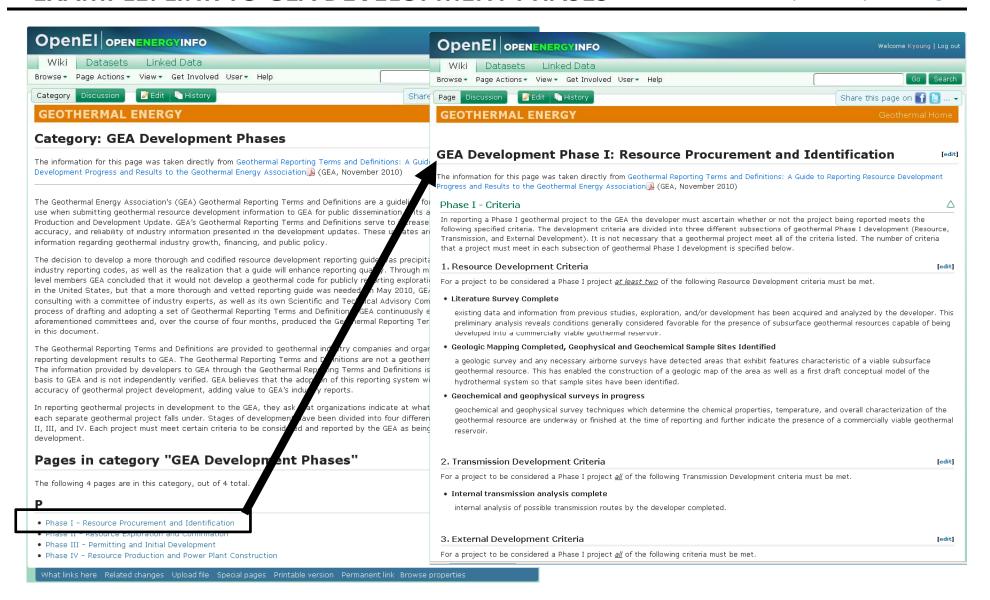


# **EXAMPLE: QUERY RESULTS TABLE PAGE**



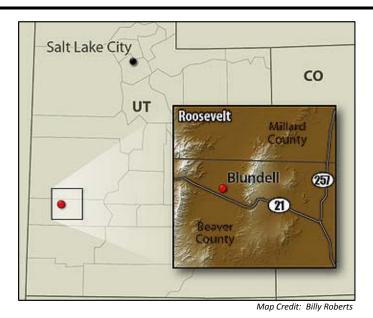
# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEI Knowledge Exchange

#### **EXAMPLE: LINK TO GEA DEVELOPMENT PHASES**



# **GEOTHERMAL AREAS & REGIONS**

http://en.openei.org

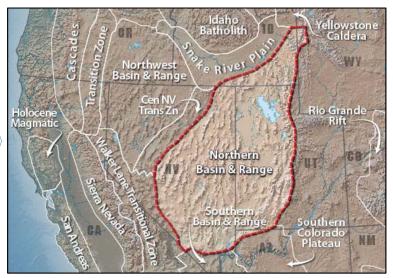


#### **Category: Geothermal Areas**

- Geothermal areas are specific locations of geothermal potential (e.g., Coso Geothermal Area).
- Base set of geothermal areas used came from the 253 geothermal areas identified by the USGS Resource Assessment (Williams et al., 2008).
- Additional areas added based on the literature search and projects listed in the GTP's database of funded projects.

# **Category: Geothermal Regions**

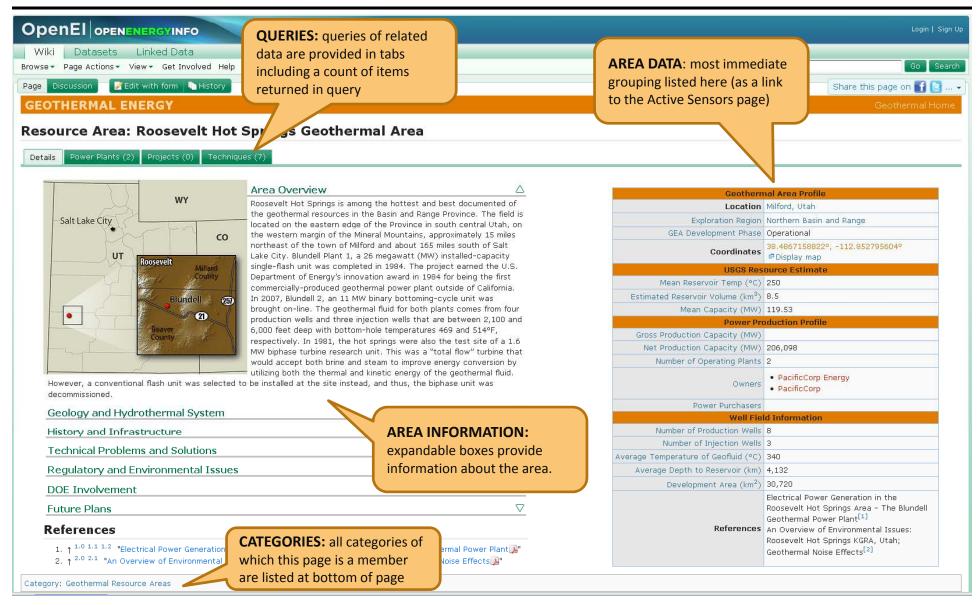
- 21 Regions were outlined for the western United States (including Alaska and Hawaii)
- Regions were developed based on the USGS physiographic regions
- Boundaries adjusted to fit geothermal parameters such as differences in geologic regime, structure, heat source, surface effects (weather, vegetation patterns, groundwater flow), and other relevant factors.



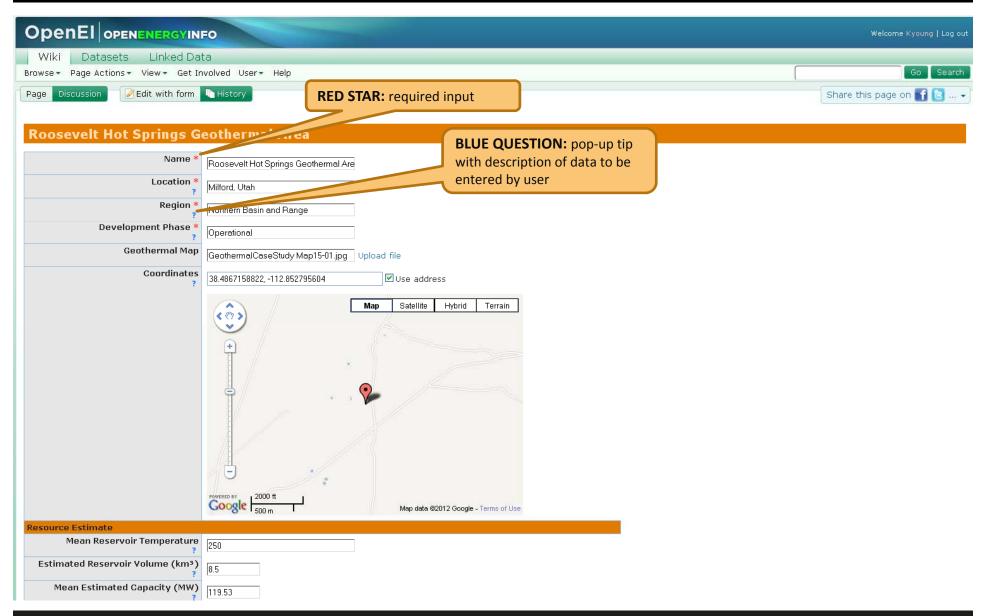
Map Credit: Billy Roberts

# Exploration Best Practices and the OpenEI Knowledge Exchange

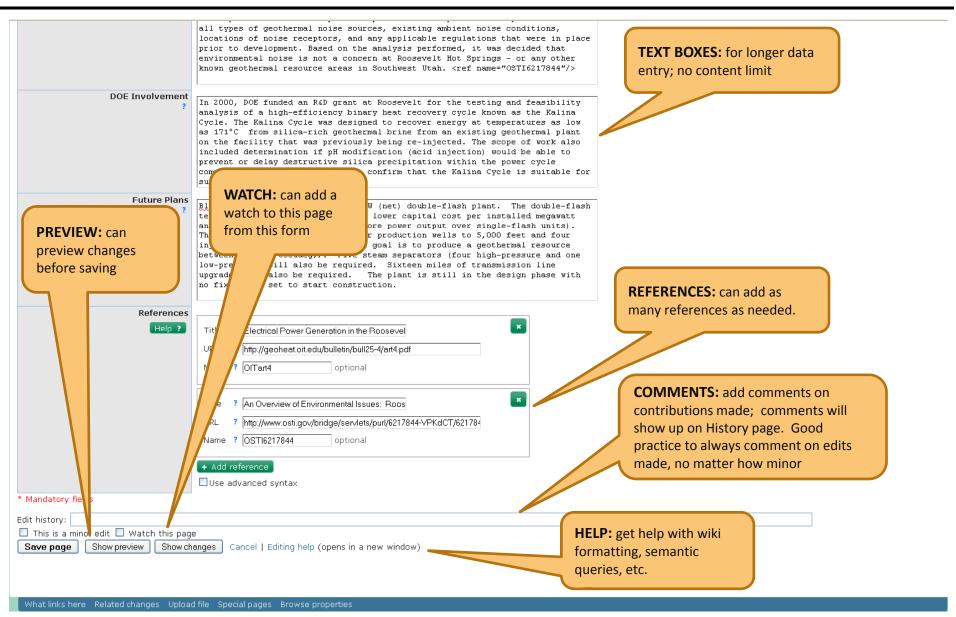
# **EXAMPLE: GEOTHERMAL AREA PAGE**



# **EXAMPLE: EDIT WITH FORM**



# **EXAMPLE: EDIT WITH FORM**



#### **GEOTHERMAL REGIONS**

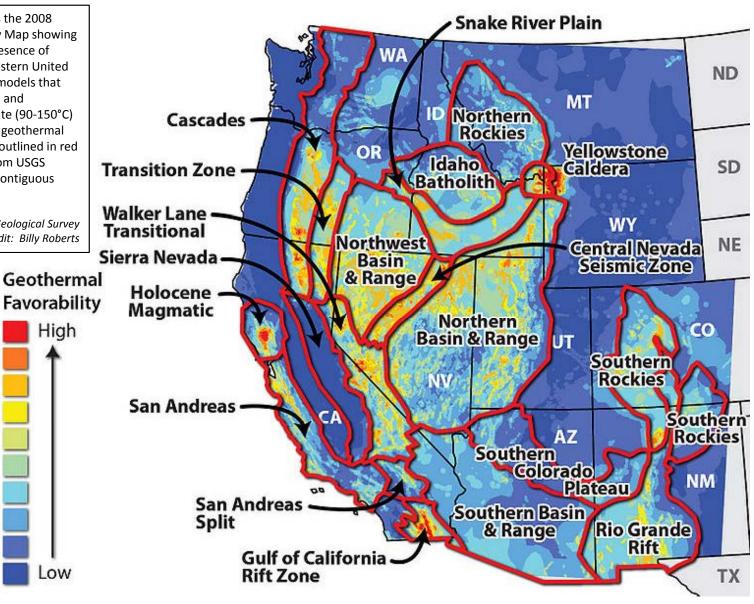
http://en.openei.org

The base map for this figure is the 2008 USGS Geothermal Favorability Map showing relative favorability for the presence of geothermal systems in the western United States. It is an average of 12 models that correlates different geological and geophysical factors of moderate (90-150°C) to high (>150°C) temperature geothermal systems. Exploration regions outlined in red were derived for this study from USGS physiographic regions of the contiguous states.

Data source: United States Geological Survey Map Credit: Billy Roberts

High

.ow



# **GEOTHERMAL REGIONS**

|                       |                                   |                | Installed Capacity<br>(GEA website) |                             | Planned Capacity<br>(GEA, 2011) |  |   | Resource Estimate<br>(USGS, 2008) |                               |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Exploration<br>Region |                                   | Region<br>Size | Installed<br>Capacity               | # of<br>Plants<br>Installed | Planned<br>Capacity             | # of Planned Plants with Capacity Estimate | # of Planned<br>Plants with<br>Unknown<br>Capacity<br>Estimates | Identified<br>Capacity            | Un-<br>discovered<br>Capacity |
|                       |                                   |                | MWe                                 |                             | MWe                             |  |   | MWe                               | MWe                           |
| 1                     | BR: Central Nevada Seismic Zone   | 28,863         | 97                                  | 3                           | 100                             | 2  | 15  | 378                               | 744                           |
| 2                     | BR: Northern Basin & Range        | 327,187        | 68.8                                | 5                           | 134                             | 6  | 18  | 358                               | 3,741                         |
| 3                     | BR: NW Basin & Range              | 137,091        | 214.36                              | 9                           | 161                             | 6  | 9   | 1,044                             | 2,238                         |
| 4                     | BR: Southern Basin & Range        | 217,012        | 0                                   | 0                           | 100                             | 2  | 2   | 9                                 | 830                           |
| 5                     | BR: Walker-Lane Transition Zone   | 81,265         | 431.1                               | 16                          | 244                             | 7  | 9   | 763                               | 1,130                         |
| 6                     | Cascades                          | 124,543        | 0.28                                | 1                           | 30                              | 1  | 2   | 608                               | 1,057                         |
| 7                     | Gulf of California Rift Zone      | 20,044         | 658                                 | 21                          | 388.6                           | 8  | 0   | 3,147                             | 8,790                         |
| 8                     | Holocene Magmatic                 | 25,977         | 1,587                               | 19                          | 26                              | 1  | 3   | 1,128                             | 316                           |
| 9                     | Idaho Batholith                   | 72,883         | 0                                   | 0                           | 49                              | 2  | 2   | 218                               | 500                           |
| 10                    | Northern Rockies                  | 101,604        | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 71                                | 415                           |
| 11                    | Rio Grande Rift                   | 130,309        | 0.24                                | 1                           | 15                              | 1  | 1   | 227                               | 1,137                         |
| 12                    | San Andreas                       | 69,192         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 17                                | 480                           |
| 13                    | San Andreas Split                 | 18,246         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 7                                 | 101                           |
| 14                    | Sierra Nevada                     | 58,554         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 0                                 | 26                            |
| 15                    | Snake River Plain                 | 61,320         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 1   | 130                               | 778                           |
| 16                    | Southern Colorado Plateau         | 92,142         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 0                                 | 274                           |
| 17                    | Transition Zone                   | 40,705         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 2   | 53                                | 693                           |
| 18                    | Yellowstone Caldera               | 11,842         | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 44                                | 210                           |
| 19                    | Southern Rocky Mountains          | 128,454        | 0                                   | 0                           | 0                               | 0  | 0   | 0                                 | 1,010                         |
| 20                    | Alaska                            | 1,717,854      | 0.73                                | 1                           | 25                              | 3  | 1   | 677                               | 1,788                         |
| 21                    | Hawaii                            | 28,311         | 35                                  | 1                           | 0                               | 0  | 1   | 181                               | 2,435                         |
|                       | Other (outside region boundaries) |                | 0.25                                | 1                           |                                 |  |   | 0                                 | 1,341                         |
|                       | Table Totals                      | 3,493,398      | 3,093                               | 78                          | 1,273                           | 39   | 66  | 9,060                             | 30,033                        |

# **EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES & ANALYSES**

http://en.openei.org

# **Exploration Techniques**

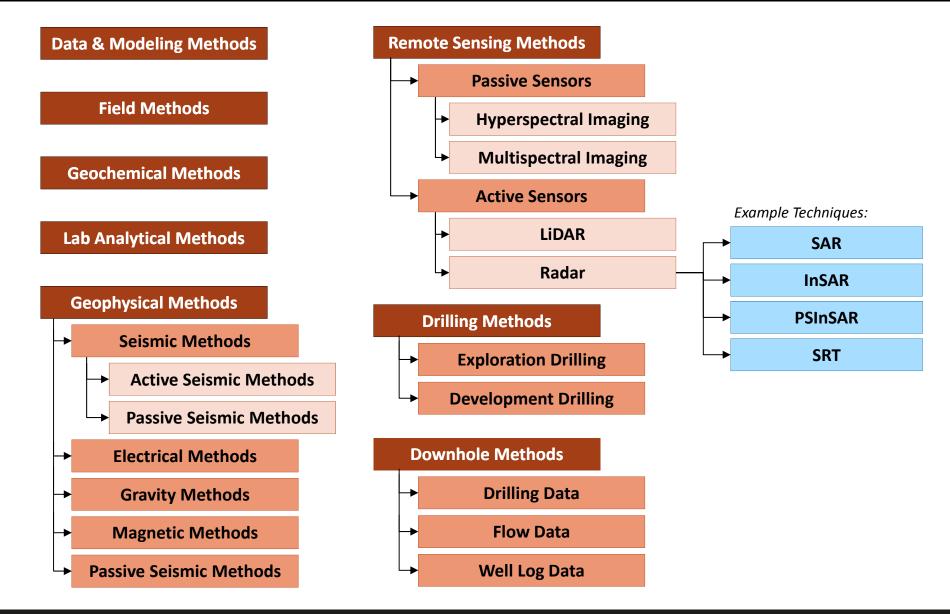
- Because information in this study was destined for the knowledge exchange, a structure was needed to categorize exploration techniques.
- Exploration techniques were categorized into exploration groups, such as field methods, geochemistry, geophysics, and remote sensing (see next slide for structure)

# **Exploration Analyses**

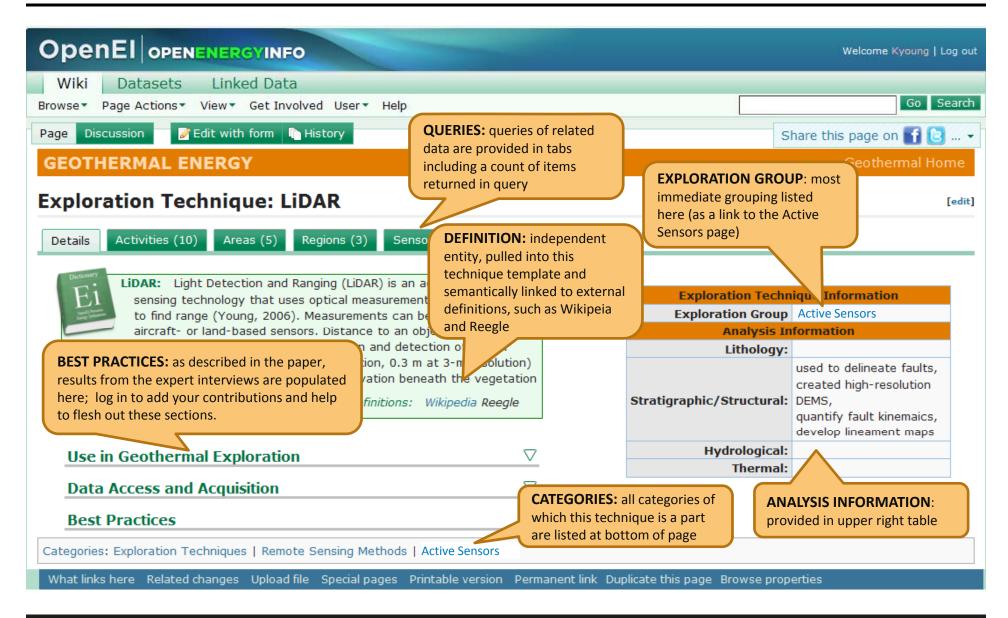
- Four different types of exploration analyses were identified:
  - Lithology
  - Stratigraphic/structural
  - Hydrological
  - Thermal
- Each technique can be described in terms of the data it could provides for each type of analysis.
- See the data on OpenEI for a full listing of exploration techniques and the data that could be provided for each analysis.

| _                            | Exploration Analysis   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Example<br>Technique         | Lithology              | Stratigraphic /structural                              | Hydrological   | Thermal   |  |  |  |  |
| Field<br>Mapping             | Map surface<br>geology | Map fault and fracture patterns, kinematic information | Map surface<br>manifestations of<br>geothermal<br>systems  | Map surface<br>temperature                              |  |  |  |  |
| Trace<br>Element<br>Sampling |                        |  | Map permeable structures connected to geothermal reservoir |   |  |  |  |  |
| Geo-<br>thermo-<br>metry     |                        |  |  | Estimate<br>temperature of<br>hydrothermal<br>reservoir |  |  |  |  |

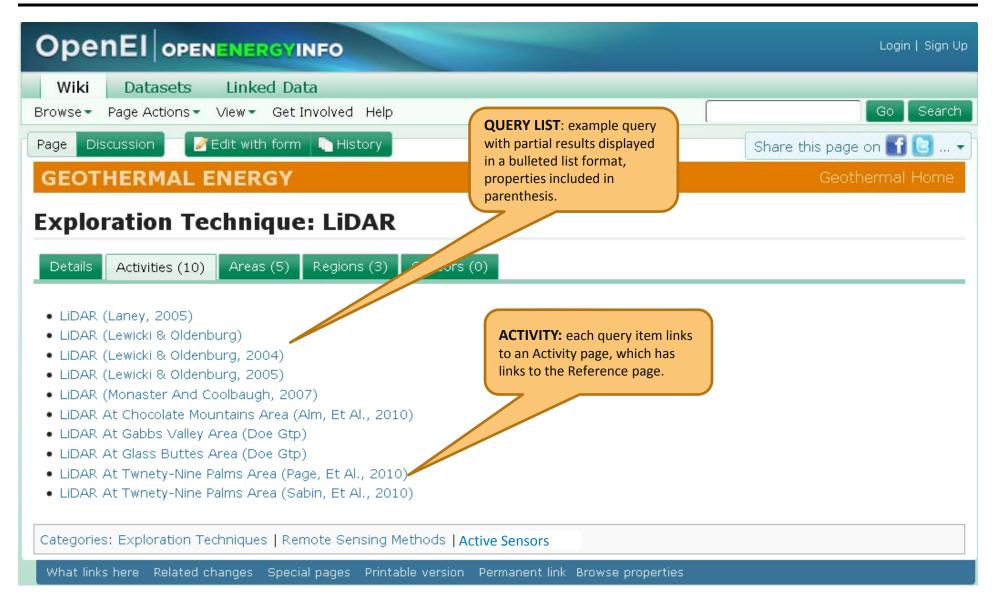
# **EXPLORATION TECHNIQUES CATEGORIES**



# **EXAMPLE: EXPLORATION TECHNIQUE PAGE**



# **EXAMPLE: QUERY RESULTS LIST PAGE**



#### **FUTURE POTENTIAL**

http://en.openei.org

#### **Planned**

- Adding exploration Case Studies (as category)
- Adding geothermal Models (as category, can be assigned to Areas)
- Geothermal Developers' Permitting Checklist (federal, state)

#### **Potential Future Features**

- Navigation add tools, links, pages and forms that increase navigability of geothermal sites
- Search increase search functionality
- Add graphical features (e.g. interactive maps, graphs, timelines)
- Additional Data, for example:
  - Pull data from EIA for power plants and graph historical data
  - o Pull news feeds link to Projects, Areas, etc.
  - Link to other available served data



NREL Photo



# **Thank You!**









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#### Katherine R. Young

katherine.young@nrel.gov 303-384-7402

#### **Timothy Reber**

tr255@cornell.edu 630-740-1075

#### **Kermit Witherbee**

kermit.witherbee@nrel.gov 303-275-3882