

# National Geothermal Collaborative Steering Committee

## Final Meeting Summary

December 12, 2002

Conference Call

### In Attendance:

Gordon Bloomquist – Washington State University

Paul Dunlevy – Bureau of Land Management

Karl Gawell – Geothermal Energy Association

Dennis Gilles – Geothermal Energy Association and Calpine Energy

Susan Norwood – Department of Energy

Arlene Robacado – Southern California Edison

Dan Schocet – Geothermal Resources Council and Ormat

John Snow – State of Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources, Div. of Minerals

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Jack Pigot – Calpine Energy

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### Work Group Updates

1. RPS Work Group: Mike Hughes gave an update on the work group.

Completed: scope of work was sent out and widely distributed; bids were received and reviewed; and the work group selected a contractor: Exeter. The team put forth by Exeter includes Kevin Porter as project manager, Ryan Wisner and Bob Grace.

Pending completion: the contract between Exeter and RESOLVE, Inc..

Future Actions: the work group expects to have three conference calls with Exeter over the course of the contract. Exeter will present a draft report outline to the work group on December 20, 2002.

Final Report: The final draft report will be presented to the steering committee in early spring.

Comments:

- A concern was voiced to make sure the Exeter understands what the collaborative is about.
- A National Energy Bill will not come out of the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress. The energy bill will be reintroduced in the spring.
- Dan Schocet shared that he has been in conversation with U.S. Senator Harry Reid (NV) concerning the possibility of a federal RPS. This prompted conversation about the role of the NGC insofar as influencing the shape of legislation. Concern was also expressed that a federal RPS work in concert with, (ie not preempt) existing state level RPS. Finally, the group concluded that the report that Exeter will execute in concert with the NGC will add value to any efforts the NGC puts forth to address a national RPS.

Work group members: Marilyn Semro, Dan Schocet, and Mike Hughes (Resolve).

2. Impediments Work Group: Susan Norwood and Kathleen Rutherford gave an update on the work group.

Completed: Kathleen generated a draft findings document for modification to the work group.

The work group met in DC last week to review the document and create next steps. The work group agreed the document would:

- Be constructed along two organizing principles: access impediments (legislative changes) and siting impediments (rulemaking and public perception)
- Omit economic analysis
- In considering interests advanced by the status quo, the workgroup decided to simply look at oil and gas.
- Look at case studies for BLM and USFS (Dixie Valley and Glass Mountain v. Newbury Crater)

Future Actions: The work group will restructure the document into access impediments and siting impediments and fill in any gaps (some suggested gaps were royalty questions and Indian land leasing). The next meeting for the work group will be in the third week of January. At that meeting they will review the revised findings document, and initiate planning for problem-solving workshops.

Next Steps:

- Take feedback – use track changes
- Work with Gordon to obtain more documentation on prior testimony on the Geothermal Steam Act as well as to investigate the feasibility of creating a Dixie Valley case study
- Shop for dates in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in January. It is important to have as much attendance as possible since this document will serve as the bulwark for workshops around the country; possibly coordinate with a GRC meeting around the same time, maybe San Francisco (January 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>) or GRC board meeting (January 30<sup>th</sup>)
- Communicate with Jack Pigot about Glass Mountain and Newbury Crater
- Communicate with John Snow about the background of the oil and gas struggles with access and siting
- Kathleen will have a follow up conversation with Paul and Karl
- The final draft report will be circulated to the steering committee

Comments/Discussion: A concern was raised about removing wind from the interests advanced from the status quo- through mechanisms such as special use permits, wind has easier access than does geothermal. Consider looking into the wind access issues along the Columbia River.

Work group members: Gordon Bloomquist, Paul Dunlevy, Karl Gawell, Susan Norwood, and Kathleen Rutherford (RESOLVE).

3. Research Work Group: Jody Erikson gave an update on the work group.

Completed: Jody Erikson reviewed NWCC documents and generated a draft memo listing the documents for possible adoption by the NGC. This draft memo was distributed to the workgroup.

Future Actions: The work group will refine the list of documents by January 15, 2003. The work group will edit the selected documents and present them for possible adoption at the next NGC meeting.

Work group members: Karl Gawell, Ron Lehr, and Jody Erikson (RESOLVE)

### **Budget and Duration**

We have spent approximately 25% of funds and are halfway through the contract timeline.

The NGC will develop a work plan including action items and budget. Susan and Kathleen will begin this discussion on Friday and set up an initial plan, including current work group actions. Interested members of the steering committee will then fill in the holes, including vision, goals, and actions beyond work groups. The whole steering committee will review this plan and discuss what the next hottest issues are for NGC attention.

Agreement: The group that works on this will include one member from each of the existing work groups: Dan Schocet, Dennis Gilles, Gordon Bloomquist, Susan Norwood, Karl Gawell, and Resolve staff

### **Regular Meeting Time**

The steering committee agreed to meet quarterly. The meetings will be the second Thursday, every three months [March 13<sup>th</sup>, June 12<sup>th</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup>, and December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2003]. The next meeting will be March 13, 2003. The meeting will be held in the west where much of the geothermal resources are, at a location that minimizes travel costs.

Suggestions:

- ? 1 or 2 of the meetings be face to face
- ? The next face-to-face meeting be held near a major resource/facility site, (such as the Geysers), where participants could take a field trip
- ? At an April face-to-face meeting Exeter would present the final RPS report. This meeting should be scheduled when the RPS work is complete.

### **RESOLVE Staffing**

The Resolve management team will be headed by Kathleen Rutherford. She is putting the NGC as her top priority. Mike Hughes will continue to be involved with the NGC as a consultant to Kathleen, and working with the RPS work group. The next 18 months will be important and Kathleen is looking forward to it.

## Next Issues/Next Steps

- ? The Impediments work group will look at wind issues relative to impediments
- ? The Steering Committee will discuss what issues will be addressed next, including how, when, and what would be most strategic
- ? As the Steering Committee coalesces and moves forward with work through the work groups, the National Geothermal Collaborative is being discussed in a number of venues. This presence brings with it questions of participation from interested parties outside of the Steering Committee.
- ? Beyond the Steering Committee: What will the larger Collaborative look like?
- ? When is it time to grow the Collaborative?
- ? What criteria do we institute for evaluation of a role/participation in this larger effort?
- ? How does that larger participant group function?

A request was made to send the more substantive documents out sooner, to allow enough time to show others in the fields (experts)

RESOLVE staff will prepare and disseminate materials to facilitate these conversations prior to the next full steering committee meeting.