

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

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Explore geothermal energy in the new issue of *Cascadia*

Portland, Oregon: Renewable energy is hot. On May 23, 2007, passage of Senate Bill 838 in the Oregon State House of Representatives established a Renewable Energy Standard that 25 percent of Oregon's electricity come from renewable sources by 2025.

"That puts geothermal energy back in the mix as a viable energy source," says Dr. Vicki McConnell, State Geologist for the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). "Geothermal resources are available in many areas and are suitable for many different types of uses. In fact, these resources are being used for small applications across the state.

In the latest issue of *Cascadia*, DOGAMI's informative newsletter on all things geologic, you'll learn all about geothermal energy - what it is, where it comes from, how it's turned into renewable energy and what's being done in Oregon to promote geothermal development. From hot springs for soaking to geothermal exploration, find out why renewable geothermal energy is hot in the new issue of *Cascadia*. Download your free PDF copy on our website: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>

Geothermal resources available online

DOGAMI has also launched an interactive web page designed to help you pinpoint geothermal resources in the state. The Geothermal Resources Information Layer for Oregon - Release 1 (GTILO - Release 1) - is a database system that stores and manages Oregon's existing geothermal resource information. The compilation of this data is the latest effort by DOGAMI to provide visual and historical data of Oregon's geothermal systems.

The interactive GTILO map lets you view information on location, temperature, and other features of thermal springs and wells (geothermal exploration, geothermal test, and water wells) as well as known geothermal resource areas and direct-use areas.

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The city of Klamath Falls uses geothermal energy to heat their sidewalks. Is it really hot enough to fry an egg? Find out in the new issue of *Cascadia*.

Did you know? A 2003 U.S. Interior Department report identified seven sites in Oregon as among the 35 "highest potential" geothermal regions in the country. The sites include Newberry Crater near Bend — the location of past geothermal exploration — and the Klamath Falls, Lakeview, Crump Lake, Summer Lake, Malheur River, and Vale areas of southern and eastern Oregon.

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This centralized database for the geothermal data in Oregon provides a powerful tool that the geothermal industry can use to re-evaluate earlier geothermal exploration efforts and develop new approaches that may find hidden geothermal resources in the state.

Did you know? The Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT) has submitted proposals to drill a geothermal well (1525 m, or 5,000 ft) to tap the Klamath Falls known geothermal resource for a geothermal power plant for OIT. OIT's plan is to use the geothermal resource to generate OIT's own source of electricity. The plant would also function as a teaching tool for geothermal developers.



Learn more about the new geothermal interactive webpage by going online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>

All past issues of *Cascadia* are available free as downloadable PDFs online and include:

- Seeing Landslides With LIDAR**
- Our Changing Oregon Coast**
- Practical Geology**
- Water and Geology**
- Mined Land Reclamation**
- Oregon's Active Volcanoes**
- Oregon At Risk**

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State, and has a broad responsibility in developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.com>

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