

Thursday, May 27 at 12:00pm (noon) Pacific Time

Dr. William Glassley, UC Davis & Maria Richards, SMU

“How to Transition Oil & Gas Fields to Generate Geothermal Energy”

As the US evolves from fossil fuels to other options, there will be increasing motivation to diversify the uses for oil and gas fields. One option that is gaining intense interest is transitioning oil and gas fields to geothermal energy production. The benefits of doing so are significant, and include landscape improvement, sustainable and emissions-free energy production, district heating and cooling, support for local, small-scale agriculture, desalination, hydrogen production, and many more. However, not all oil and gas fields are suited for this type of development. In this presentation we will discuss the current state-of-the-art science for identifying and assessing geothermal resources and how to calculate temperatures at depth (heat flow, thermal conductivity, corrections of BHT, radiogenic heat production). We will share examples from analyses we've done for oilfields in the Los Angeles Basin and in Texas.

Speakers: William Glassley



William Glassley received his Ph.D. from the University of Washington in Geology. He has worked with the California Energy Commission as technical lead for geothermal energy, and was the executive director of the California Geothermal Energy Collaborative. He is a researcher in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at U.C. Davis and a guest researcher in the Center for Earth System Petrology, Department of Geoscience, Aarhus University, Denmark.

Maria Richards



Maria Richards is the Geothermal Laboratory Coordinator at Southern Methodist University (SMU). She was President of the Board of the Geothermal Resources Council (GRC) and a Named Director of the Board for the Texas Renewable Energy Industries Alliance (TREIA). She has testified for the US Congress House and the Texas Legislature on geothermal opportunities in sedimentary basins. Her research is focused on expansion of geothermal energy utilization into sedimentary basins. Maria holds a Master of Science degree in Physical Geography from University of Tennessee and a B.S. in Environmental Geography from Michigan State University.

May 27, 2021

Presentation w/ Q&A: 12:00pm—1:00pm Pacific Time

Sign in early after 11:30am to meet presenters

Open Group Discussion: 1:00—2:00pm Pacific Time

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