



Association calls for COP26 to adopt geothermal as key component in a world of low carbon solutions

LONDON – 26 October – The Geothermal Energy Advancement Association (GEAA) is a not-for-profit association comprising leading universities, companies, institutes, and professional services across the energy sector. GEAA offers leadership, dialogue, and information in the energy transition debate, supporting the role of geothermal in transitioning to a world that will use significantly less fossil fuel.

GEAA advocates increased investment in geothermal energy deployment and increased awareness of this sustainable source for near zero-carbon heat and power derived from the heat which occurs naturally within the Earth's shallow crust. Our membership emphasises clean energy, innovation, education, and technological advancement as keys to building 21st-century economies. GEAA promotes sound public policies and regulations whilst fostering cooperation between public and private energy sector stakeholders, governments, and communities globally.

We respectfully request that COP26 adopts geothermal as a key component in the low carbon solutions that the world needs.

President of GEAA, Professor Jon Gluyas, Director of the Durham Energy Institute at Durham University emphasised: "we need consensus on the collective actions necessary to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement - geothermal energy can play a central part of the solution".

Geothermal sources are available globally. All countries can develop sustainable, low-carbon geothermal energy industries. Use of geothermal energy can progress the world toward net zero emissions by mid-century while limiting global temperature increases to within 1.5 degrees Celsius.

GEAA also sends our strong support for COP26 to serve as the platform for fostering the next steps to secure the required funding to assist developing countries and bring about action to use geothermal as a key component of base-load heat and power.

The moment has arrived for countries to confirm commitments to protect the global climate. GEAA requests all nations to integrate geothermal into their action plans and mobilise investment.

The Chair of the GEAA Board of Founding Members, Chris Sladen commented: "locally sourced and locally used geothermal energy can help make the difference - to not only protect and restore vital ecosystems but also make communities more secure and more resilient to the impacts of climate change".

Notes to editors

- The Association has a global reach and seeks to promote a global understanding of the potential for development of geothermal energy. The Association recently supported and partnered with the first-ever World Geothermal Energy Day on October 17th to promote global knowledge and understanding of geothermal.
- Geothermal energy can be found in many forms and at different temperatures and depths. It has many uses as a sustainable source for near zero-carbon power, heat, and hot water. There are already hundreds of proven commercial and cost-competitive projects worldwide, for example in USA, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey, New Zealand, Mexico, Italy, Kenya, and Iceland.
- Geothermal energy is poised to help resolve global climate issues. It is an abundant, constant, clean renewable energy source that is present naturally underground everywhere on planet earth from both shallow, medium, deep, and ultra-deep sources. It can be accessed via boreholes to provide a reliable, stable, 24/7, zero carbon emission energy baseload for power generation and heating, both for on-grid and off-grid standalone projects. It is totally independent of weather. With increased investment, and a wider understanding of how geothermal energy can be used, geothermal can become a key part of a global low-carbon future.
- Geothermal has a very small surface footprint, has no direct carbon emissions, and does not consume large amounts of finite mineral resources. In certain locations, high-value minerals such as lithium can potentially be extracted from geothermal fluids.
- Geothermal can also utilize the existing petroleum industry including subsurface and engineering skills, technology, trained manpower, as well as repurposing infrastructure and boreholes.
- The Association began from 14 Founding Members who are leading universities, institutes and companies involved in geothermal activities globally.

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For more information on World Geothermal Energy Day:

World Geothermal Energy Day is October 17th annually.

For the website: [Visit World Geothermal Energy Day.org](http://VisitWorldGeothermalEnergyDay.org)

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