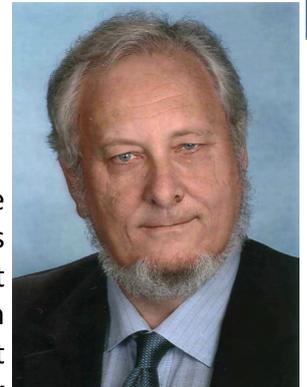


A Word from the EGEC President

Dear members of EGEC,
dear readers of this newsletter,

The Renewable Energy event of April 2013 is definitely the 4th European Conference for Renewable Heating and Cooling in Dublin, Ireland – an opportunity to discuss the draft implementation roadmaps for the different sectors, and in particular that for geothermal energy. For the upcoming financial period 2014-2020, the research program “Horizon 2020”, the public and private budgets for Research, Development and Demonstration must add up to about 4 Billion Euro (or almost 600 Mio € per year) to ensure the achievement of the targets necessary to provide our society with secure and affordable energy while reducing the burden on the environment and climate. The Strategic Research and Innovation



Agenda for Renewable Heating and Cooling, which points towards the issues that need to be tackled with that budget, is now available for download from the website of the RHC platform at this [link](#).

While the Dublin conference looks at R&D to support the future of renewable heating and cooling, some recent decisions at EU level have not helped to support renewables, in particular in the electricity sector. EGEC has often stated that investors need predictability and stability, now and beyond 2020. The EU Emissions Trading System has so far failed to give a price signal to trigger investments in renewable energy. With the European Parliament, albeit by a narrow margin, rejecting a proposal to fix the carbon price in the short-term, it appears clear that a binding 2030 renewables target is the only option to mitigate the uncertainty of development, whilst at the same time facilitating the achievement of the existing 2020 targets.

EGEC has always warned that the limited and fragmented support in place for geothermal energy may put the achievement of the 2020 targets at risk. This has been confirmed by the EU Commission in its analysis of the member states' progress reports on renewable energy. As a matter of fact, this analysis urges member states to put in place additional initiatives for geothermal, in particular for geothermal heating which is indeed “expected to have the greatest shortfall in 2012”.

Indeed, there is evidence that EU and national policy-makers have been focusing their attention only on a limited number of technologies - and geothermal was not necessarily among them. As a result, the benefits and potential of geothermal energy have often been underestimated and many barriers to the development of our technologies have not yet been overcome.

In this respect, I wish to inform you that the Commission has officially inaugurated the debate about a 2030 framework for EU climate and energy policies. A public consultation is open to all stakeholders until the 2nd of July 2013. As the 2030 debate is expected to be very heated, we need to be ready and remain united. For this reason the content of the EGEC response to this consultation will be subject of a meeting of the EGEC Advisory Working Group on Policy in Brussels on 14th May - you can find more information inside this newsletter.

And now I wish you an interesting read,
Burkhard Sanner

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Policy Update

Find out about the policy issues EGEC is involved in while promoting the Geothermal sector!

Commission issues warnings over slow implementation of the RES Directive, calls for additional initiatives for geothermal

The European Commission published its first [Renewable Energy Progress Report](#) under the framework of the 2009 Renewable Energy Directive. In this report the EU Executive assesses member states' progress in the promotion and use of renewable energy along the trajectory towards the 2020 targets and highlights how the transposition of the directive has been slower than expected. The Commission therefore urges member states to finalise its transposition into national law as soon as possible and to increase their efforts in addressing barriers to the uptake of renewable energy.

In a [Staff Working Document accompanying the progress report](#), the Commission provides a more detailed overview and highlights the lack of measures and incentives for geothermal, particularly in the heating sector: "Mid- to large-scale geothermal heating systems may all require additional initiatives in order to let them play their role in meeting the 2020 targets" reports the staff working document. Geothermal energy is indeed expected to have the greatest shortfall in 2012 (-32.1%).

EU Parliament rejects proposal to fix the carbon market

On 16th April the European Parliament - reunited in plenary session - rejected and sent back to the Environmental Committee a proposal to temporarily reform the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). The Commission's proposal – dubbed as "backloading" – would have delayed the sale of some 900 million European Union Allowances (EUAs) from 2013-2015, i.e. half of annual carbon emissions under the scheme, and revitalise the plummeting price accordingly. The proposal is also being discussed by the Member States in the Council.

The EU ETS is a cap and trade system launched in 2005. It aims to cap the overall level of emissions allowed but, within that limit, allows participants in the system to buy and sell allowances as they require. Due to a surplus of permits in the market the price has collapsed. This is clearly preventing the system from doing the job intended, i.e. to internalise the cost of emitting carbon dioxide and thereby trigger investments in low-carbon technologies.

For more information you can read the analysis on this issue by [Thomson Reuters](#).

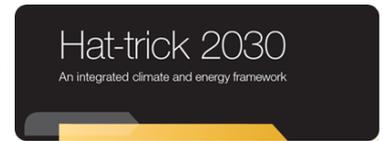
Commission launches consultation on 2030 framework for climate and energy

On 27th March 2013, the European Commission unveiled its [Green Paper on "A 2030 framework for climate and energy policies"](#). This policy document launches a public consultation open until the 2nd of July 2013. All stakeholders are invited to express their opinions on climate and energy policies in a 2030 perspective, including on policy instruments and characteristics of a 2030 target for renewable energy. All responses to this consultation will feed into the Commission's on-going work on the 2030 framework which is expected to be published by the end of 2013. EGEC, together with its umbrella organisation EREC, welcomes the Green paper which kick-starts the debate about EU climate and energy policies for the period 2020-2030 and calls for 2030 binding targets (see EREC press release [here](#)). In a joint [press release](#) issued with the Heat Coalition, EGEC also points out that "the forthcoming climate and energy policy framework must adequately address the future role of the heating and cooling sector". In this frame, we welcome the words of the EU Energy Commissioner Oettinger in favour of binding targets for renewable electricity and heating and cooling.

EREC launches report calling for ‘hat-trick’ of 2030 targets

As the EU ETS has so far failed to give any price signal to trigger investments in renewable energy (see page 2), it appears clear that a binding 2030 renewables target is the only option to decrease the costs of uncertainty. But this is not the only reason why the EU climate and energy policy should be based on targets for renewable energy, energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction.

On 18th April 2013, our umbrella organisation - the European Renewable Energy Council (EREC) - launched a publication entitled ‘Hat-trick 2030 – An integrated climate and energy framework’ where it sets out all the reasons why an integrated approach yields more benefits than a one-legged policy based on a supposedly ‘technology-neutral’ GHG-only approach. The report is available [here](#).



EGEC teams up in support for a dedicated follow-up of the IEE Programme

EGEC has teamed up with other stakeholders active in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources to express a strong support for a dedicated follow-up of the successful Intelligent Energy Europe (IEE) programme within the next **Multi-annual Financial Framework** –which is currently being discussed in the EU institutions. You can read the joint letter [here](#).

News

World Bank calls for a Global Geothermal Development Plan to bring geothermal power to millions in developing countries

Recognising that 40 countries worldwide have the potential to meet a significant proportion of their energy needs with geothermal resources, the world bank affirms its commitment to supporting the geothermal sector. The bank notes the risks inherent in the test drilling phase, and that this is one of the main barriers for geothermal energy. It has therefore launched a ‘Global Geothermal Development Plan’, focusing on the ‘exemplary drilling’ and ‘commercially-viable projects that are ready for private investment’. The plan will support the industry’s expansion in the developing world. Bringing together donors and multilateral lenders for an investment plan, the bank plans to mobilise US\$550Mio. Donors will participate by contributing to existing channels, providing bilateral assistance and identifying viable projects. In 2012, the Bank’s financing for geothermal amounted to \$336Mio, representing 10% of its renewable energy lending.

IFC-IGA Launch best practice guide

The international Finance Corporation and the Interantioal Geothermal Association launched ‘GEOHERMAL EXPLORATION BEST PRACTICES: A GUIDE TO RESOURCE DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, AND PRESENTATION FOR GEOHERMAL PROJECTS’ in Istanbul, Turkey on the 27th March. The IGA says that ‘the Guide outlines procedures and exploration techniques for geothermal projects and provides guidelines for presenting a geothermal project to funding entities and insurance companies. A focus is placed on high temperature geothermal resources for electricity generation.’

Geothermal exploration risk insurance developed in Turkey

Munich RE and the IFC are teaming up to support four pilot projects in Turkey through the exploration phase. The move is expected to mobilise \$us 420mio, leading to the installation of 140mw of capacity.

Geothermal Development halted in Cornwall, UK

Geothermal Engineering's planned GBP 50Mio project at United Downs has been put on hold due to pending government support. GBP 6Mio had been offered for the project through the regional development fund, however, the company was not able to secure matched funding from the private sector. Pending support from the government is cited as a cause for the move; "Unless the government indicates how it wants the sector to develop, the company could lose the promised funding" said Ryan Law, managing director.

Geothermal Call for tender in Algeria

Sonelgaz (CEEG.spa, La Compagnie de l'Engineering de l'Electricité et du gaz) in Algeria launched a call for tender for 'accompagnement in the realization of a geothermal power plant studies (phase of exploration, drilling, feasibility study)'. Algeria presents geothermal interest seen the geological conditions and the large number of hot springs. More details only for EGEC members.

€3000 prize available to the best student project in renewable energy

EUREC will deliver three awards to promote excellence in the study of Renewable Energy, to reward talent and to encourage Renewable Energy debate worldwide. For more information visit www.master.eurec.be

News from EGEC Members

Inauguration of the Monteverdi Marittimo (province of Pisa) District Heating system

A new DH plant in Monteverdi Marittimo, Tuscany, was inaugurated on the 4th April. The plant uses steam from an Enel Green Power well. It is now being used by 100 families but aims to reach a total of 450 users, corresponding to 250.00m³ of final heated volume. The DH Monteverdi Marittimo district heating network will have a total length of 25km, saving 1,3 million of m³ of gas consumption per year and the emission of 2.500 tons of CO₂.per year.

You can watch a video of the inauguration on the 4th April [here](#).

Work began in 2006, when CoSviG (Consortium for the development of geothermal areas) drafted a first project outline. The total investment for the construction is €7 million, coming from the agreements on the exploitation of geothermal resources (Geothermal Fund) and the Structural Funds of the Tuscany Region.

Source: Cosvig

News from EGEC Projects

Update from project GeoDH

Two more national workshops where successfully held in Ireland and Romania



Draft agendas and presentations from past national workshops are constantly uploaded in the [Events section](#) of the website.

Events



European Geothermal Congress 2013

Financial Support for ISS Short Courses available

A fellowship fund is available for European members of the scientific community under 35, covering the ISS short course fees and a contribution towards expenses. The deadline for applications is 29th April. You can find more information about the Short Courses and the application form for the fellowship on the [courses page](#).

France in the Limelight at EGC2013

The importance of the French geothermal market will be highlighted at EGC with a French pavilion at our exhibition, thanks to AFPG. We look forward to meeting with CRYOSTAR, CFG Services, GEIE Soultz, EOST, ESGéothermie, GPC IP, TERANOV SA, COFELY, and FLODIM.

The deadline for exhibition registrations is 3rd May. If you would like to take part in the exhibition, contact info@geothermalcongress2013.eu and have a look at our [exhibition page](#).

Details

Date 3 to 7 June 2013
Venue Pisa, Italy
Agenda online [See it here online](#)

[Click here to register](#)

The Geisir project's final conference

The Geisir (Geothermal Engineering Integrating Mitigation of Induced Seismicity in Reservoirs) project's final conference will be held in Napoli, from 30th- 31st May 2013, following the final project meeting.

Invited speakers include: Stephen Hickman (USGS), Bill Foxall (Lawrence Berkeley Natl. Labs), Nick Davatzes (Temple Univ., USA), Roland Gritto (ARRAY Infotec, USA), Heinz Holl (Geodynamics, Australia), Hiroshi Asanuma (Tohoku University, Japan), Luz Antonina Barrios Martinez (LaGeo, El Salvador), Chris Bromley (GNS Science, New Zealand), Albert Genter (GEIE, Soultz-sous-forêts), Steve Miller (Uni Bonn/Germany) and Serge Shapiro (FU, Berlin).

For more information, to register and to submit abstracts, [visit the website](#).

EGEC Events Calendar 2013



[International Geothermal Conference,](#)
 15-17 May 2013, Freiburg,
 Germany

ENERGY EUROPE

Copenhagen, 23 – 25 May 2013
[Energy Europe 2013,](#)
 23-25 May 2013,
 Copenhagen, Denmark



[EU Sustainable Energy Week](#)
 24-28 June 2013,
 Brussels, Belgium



[6th European Heat Pump Forum,](#)
 15 May 2013, Brussels, Belgium



[European Geothermal Congress](#)
 3-7 June 2013, Pisa, Italy

[Second Sustainable Earth Sciences Conference & Exhibition \(SES 2013\),](#)
 30 September–4 October 2013,
 Pau, France



[2nd International Conference on Enhanced Geothermal Systems](#)
 27 May 2013, Potsdam, Germany



[GEISER Final conference,](#)
 30-31 May 2013, Napoli, Italy



GeoPower Europe

[GeoPower Europe 2013,](#)
 3-4 December 2013,
 Amsterdam, Netherlands