GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT HEATING

Dr. John W. Lund, PE Emeritus Director Geo-Heat Center Oregon Institute of Technology Klamath Falls, OR

GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT HEATING/COOLING

Geothermal resource supplying thermal energy to a group of buildings, providing:

Space heating and cooling
Domestic hot water heating
Industrial process heat
Could be a hybrid system augmented by:
Heat Pump to boost temperature
Conventional boiler for peaking



Meeting peak demand with fossil fuel

MAJOR SYSTEM COMPONENTS

- 1. Heat Production well field(s)
 - Production wells
 - Injection wells
 - Peaking station
- 2. Transmission/distribution system
 - Delivery of heat to consumers (water or steam)
- 3. Central pumping station, and in-building equipment
 - Energy or flow meters
 - Heat Exchangers
 - Circulation pumps



Major components of a geothermal district heating system

U.S. GEOTHERMAL DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEMS

- 19+ systems in the U.S.
- 138° to 218°F (59° to 103°C)
- Peak flow of 63 to 4,000 gpm (4 to 253 L/s)
- Installed capacity: 0.2 to 31 MWt
- Annual energy use: 2.0 to 75 billion Btu/yr (2.1 to 79 TJ/yr or 0.6 to 22 GWh/yr)
- Total
 - ~82 MWt
 - ~800 billion Btu/yr or 840 TJ/yr (235 GWh/yr)
 - ~45 miles (72 km) of pipelines

U.S. Geothermal District Heating Systems

- Boise Warm Springs Water District 1892
 Ketchum, Idaho 1929
- Oregon Institute of Technology 1962
- Midland, SD 1964
- Klamath Falls 1981
- Elko, NV 1982
- Remaining < 30 years old</p>
- Latest: Canby, CA 2003; Lakeview, OR 2014



CITY OF BOISE SYSTEM

- Warm Springs Avenue system installed in 1892, heating 250 large residences – still in operation.
- City geothermal district heating system began operation in 1983, using a \$6.76 million PON grant from USDOE.
- Geothermal fluid at 170°F (77°C) pumped from the reservoir under the city

CITY OF BOISE SYSTEM (2)

System now serves 81 buildings of 3.8 million ft² (353,000 m²) – 22.2 MWt max. Circulates > 190 million gallons thru 13 miles of pipelines (720 tonnes @ 21 km) In 2012 the system was extended across the Boise River to Boise State University, heating 600,000 ft² (56,000 m²) of building space at a cost of \$3.4 million – completed in 2015.



Elko, Nevada

District Heating since 1982
Serves 19 customers (residential & commercial)
80 million gallons/yr (0.3 million tonnes/yr)
178°F (81°C) fluid

- Space heating & domestic hot water heating (~300,000 ft² – 28,000 m²)
- Snow and ice melting on sidewalks
- Commercial laundry
- Sewage treatment plant digester heating
- Industrial park using return water

Elko, Nevada (2)

- Two-pipe system open loop
 - Insulated supply
 - Uninsulated return

Supply lines 8-inch (20-cm) diameter

- Some 6 and 4 inch (15 and 10 cm)
- AC (transite), epoxy-lined, polyurethane insulation and AC outer jacket
- Return line uninsulated AC
- -9,358 feet (2,850 m) of distribution line



Elko, Nevada (3)

- Disposal in 1.5 acre (0.6 ha) cooling pond, then discharged to wetlands area adjacent to river (quality good – 605 ppm)
- New industrial park uses waste water at 120 to 130°F (50 to 55°C) – floor heating and snow melting – irrigating lawn (heat dissipated under parking lot)
- \$1.4 million design & construction \$827,000 provided by USDOE – PON
- Charged \$1.50/1000 gallons (\$0.39/1000 L) ~ 2.1 cents/kWh ~ 30% of equivalent for natural gas

KLAMATH FALLS DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM

- Established in 1977 feasibility study
- USDOE PON grant
 - \$2.58 million 65% federal funds 1978
- Built 1979-1980 Operated by City of Klamath Falls
- Two wells 367/900 ft (112/274 m)
 - 219/212°F (104/100°C)
 - 720/770 gpm (45/49 L/s) max
- Supply:
 - Pipeline 4,040 ft (1,231 m) 8 in. (20 cm) preinsulated steel
 - 2 plate heat exchangers each 10 million Btu/hr (10.5 GJ/hr)
 - Secondary loop out at 180°F (82°C) in at 140°F (60°C)
 - Closed loop 12,680 ft (3,865 m) @ max. 1,200 gpm (76 L/s)
 - Injection well 1,235 ft. (376 m) deep 2,500 ft (763 m) from production wells

KLAMATH FALLS DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM (2)

- Present 24 buildings including the new County Gov't Center – 400,000 sq. ft. total
- Snow melt system 150,000 ft² (14,000 m²) 2nd HE for snow melting
- Brewery micro-brews
- Greenhouse tree seedlings 4 acres (1.6 ha)
- 8.5 MWt capacity (29 MBtu/hr 30.5 GJ/hr)
 - 3.5 MWt utilized
 - 12 million Btu/h (13 GJ/h) 60% of max. capacity
 - $\sim \Delta T 40^{\circ} F (22^{\circ} C)$ on secondary loop

KLAMATH FALLS DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM







City district heating system







IFA Nursery – 1.6 ha (4 acres) – trees seedlings

OTHER KLAMATH FALLS GEOTHERMAL USES ON THE DISTRICT HEATING SYSTEM











Klamath Falls snow melting system





NEW TRENDS

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER PLANTS

- Low temperature resources used for binary power production and cascaded for direct use
- Temperatures as low as 208°F (98°C) are being used (Chena HS at 165°F (74°C))
- Makes efficient use of the resources
- Improves economics
- Increases employment
- Oregon Inst. of Tech. and Chena Hot Springs



THANK YOU