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April 13, 2012

Dear California ISO,

The Geothermal Energy Association has recently completed its annual review of geothermal power projects across the United States in its *April 2012 Annual US Geothermal Power Production and Development Report* (available at: <http://geo-energy.org/reports.aspx>). We believe that the results of this annual report present a fair and accurate view of the relative state of development of geothermal power projects and their total power potential. We hope it provides California ISO with fundamental information needed for the transmission planning needed to facilitate projects wishing to sell to the California market.

Nevada, California and Oregon all had substantial geothermal power resources reported under development. Nevada, California and Oregon were the top three states out of the 15 reporting projects under development. As noted in the table below, Nevada had 59 projects under development with over 2,000MW of power potential. California was the second highest with 31 projects also roughly 2000MW of power potential, and Oregon was third with 16 projects and over 300MW of power potential.

State	Total Projects	Overall Total (MW)
California	31	1860-2009
Nevada	59	2030-2250
Oregon	16	320-365

As this year's report shows, geothermal power under development could continue to provide a substantial portion of California's renewable power needs. While the report does not present a market forecast, we are aware from discussions with the many project developers that whether and when these projects, and others yet to be developed, will be brought on-line will depend significantly on government policies, and in many cases transmission capacity.

As the California ISO considers future transmission needs, we hope it will refer to the GEA document as a primary source of information regarding future geothermal power generation. On background, the GEA report is based upon a published set of criteria which were developed through months of consultation and review. In May 2010, GEA formed and began consulting with a committee of industry experts, as well as its own Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, and began the process of drafting and adopting a set of *New Geothermal Terms and Definitions*. The final document was published in November of 2010 and is the basis for our annual industry reporting since that date (also available at: <http://geo-energy.org/reports.aspx>).

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The geothermal power industry in California and the West is robust, and the resources identified by specific companies as now under development are not the limit of geothermal energy's contribution. However, we are aware from discussions with geothermal developers that utility information requests and regulatory processes do not always reflect their needs and the full potential of the resources.

GEA wishes to express its willingness to work with the California ISO to help support the information needs of the agency about geothermal energy. Please let us know how we should follow up to make sure the information needed is included in your planning process. Also, feel free to contact us for additional information about the 2012 Update or other matters that might be appropriate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl Gawell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karl" being more prominent and the last name "Gawell" following in a similar style.

Karl Gawell, Executive Director
Dan Jennejohn, Industry Analyst

cc: Cheryl Closson, California Energy Commission
Billie Blanchard, CPUC
Stacey Crowley, Nevada Energy Office
Michael Picker, Office of the Governor
Stephen Metague, PG&E