

NZGA Special Interest Groups – Update February 2014

SGGG Special Interest Group – Irene Wallis

2013 was the second year of special sessions at the NZGW for structural geology and geomechanics. A highlight this year was the keynote by Colleen Barton, Senior Technical Advisor and co-Founder of GeoMechanics International Inc. Colleen was one of the early innovators in image log interpretation and understanding the mechanisms of fracture permeability in deep wells, and now works on a number of geothermal projects (both natural and EGS). For the workshop she presented on the geomechanically coupled simulation of flow in fractured reservoirs. Other SGGG papers were presented by both students, industry and academic professionals on topics as wide ranging as analogue and material studies, thermal stimulation, geologic models and borehole geophysics. It was great to see everyone there! In the coming year we would like to get the community together around a topic of common interest for a mini-workshop. If you have any burning suggestions, please contact us.

Generation and Industrial use – Chris Mann

The Generation and Industrial Group met during the Geothermal Workshop in November. This meeting confirmed interest from a significant group. Common interests may eventually lead to a union with the Small Scale Direct Heat Group. A wide range of activities have been suggested for the group. The group has been active in preparing papers for the World Geothermal Congress and will be a sounding board for relevant discussions and submissions. It is hoped that the group can stimulate cooperation on health and safety aspects of the industry.

Tourism – Trudy Stuart

The New Zealand Geothermal Utilisation Map is well on the way to completion. The interactive web map shows the utilisation of New Zealand's abundant geothermal resources by use type. Geothermal Tourism is one of the main categories and it includes both commercial operations and non-commercial sites. The next step is to include, for each geothermal tourism site, information on use characterisation (primary/secondary), when the operation started, source of fluid and source temperature. Once completed we will then start contacting potential members to be a part of the New Zealand Geothermal Tourism Group. If you would like to check out the map/database please go to <http://data.gns.cri.nz/geothermal/> we welcome your feedback and comments. *If you have any feedback or suggestions regarding the NZ Geothermal Utilisation Map please contact Trudy Stuart - t.stuart@gns.cri.nz.*

Geothermal Reservoir Modelling Interest Group – Juliet Newson

No update available.

Service Providers and Finance Interest Group – new leader required

This group met during the November Geothermal Workshop to discuss a specific path forward. While the specific proposal was not accepted, there was strong agreement that a focus of the group will be the management and reduction of risk. It is with regret that we note that John Wheble, who previously led this group, passed away in February 2014.

Environment and Legislation Interest Group - Noel Kortright

It has been a very quiet time for the ELIG over the past few months. A meeting to discuss direction and focus for the Group was held in Rotorua at the Geothermal Workshop. The meeting was poorly attended (only 5 in attendance) however three new members attended, Erica Withington, Sarah Beadel and Dave Anderson, welcome to the Group. It was suggested, given the relatively advanced state of geothermal policy in New Zealand that there may be a role in working offshore and providing input assistance on geothermal policy and regulations. We will explore opportunities in this area over the next few months. Noel Kortright has also provided advice about the need (or lack of need) for involvement in various appeals around the Northland Regional Plan decisions.

The Geothermal Heat-pump Association of New Zealand (GHANZ) – Brian Carey

Recent news here - <http://www.nzgeothermal.org.nz/ghanz.html>

Service Providers and Finance Group – Brian White

No activity since March 2013.

Direct Use – Mike Sunstall

No update available.

Iwi and Landowners

No update available.

Education and R&D – Sadiq Zarrouk

No update available.

Who	Group
Irene Wallis	SGGG Special Interest Group
Chris Mann Assisted by: Greg Moore	Generation and Industrial use
Trudy Stuart	Tourism
Juliet Newson	Geothermal Reservoir Modelling Interest Group
Noel Kortright	Environment and Legislation Interest Group
Brian Carey Assisted by: Rick Smith	The Geothermal Heat-pump Association of New Zealand (GHANZ)
Brian White	Service Providers and Finance Group
Mike Dunstall	Direct Use
Leader required	Iwi and Landowners
Juliet Newson & Sadiq Zarrouk	Education and R&D