

GEOHERMAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AT
MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, IDAHO

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1. January 1977: Mountain Home Air Force Base made initial contacts with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) officials in Boise, Idaho, Menlo Park, California and Denver, Colorado for information and advice concerning Geothermal Energy potential in Elmore and Owyhee counties.
2. February 1977: Mountain Home Air Force Base contacted Energy Research and Development Agency (ERDA), Washington, D.C. for possible funding of Geothermal Reconnaissance study at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho - no funds available.
3. April 1977: Mountain Home Air Force Base letter to HQ TAC/Civil Engineering requested funding for Geothermal energy reconnaissance study at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho - no funds available.
4. April 1977: Mountain Home Air Force Base officials met with USGS Regional Geothermal coordinator and Boise based USGS officials in efforts to initiate Geothermal exploration on Mountain Home Air Force Base.
- Scope of USGS funding did not include exploration on or around proximity of Mountain Home Air Force Base.
5. May 1977: Civil and Environmental Engineering Development Office (CEEDO) HQ ADIC at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida contracted with Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California to determine Geothermal potential at Mountain Home Air Force Base.
6. November 1977: Results of Naval Weapons Center study of Geothermal potential at Mountain Home Air Force Base indicated significant Geothermal energy exists at Saylor Creek Gunnery Range (possible generating quality of water) and at Mountain Home Air Force Base for space heating.
7. November 1977: HQ TAC letter to Mountain Home Air Force Base relayed CEEDO information that the entire Geothermal exploration program may be delayed until FY 80 or later due to lack of funding.
8. March 1978: HQ TAC requests DOE to give priority consideration for Geothermal demonstration projects at Mountain Home Air Force Base/Saylor Creek Range.
9. July 1978: HQ ADIC (CEEDO) letter to Department of Energy requested assistance in verifying Geothermal potential at Mountain Home Air Force Base and for priority funding consideration for Geothermal exploration project.
10. November 1978: Message from HQ ADIC (CEEDO) request representatives from Mountain Home Air Force Base for meeting at Boise, Idaho with officials of USGS, DOE, and CEEDO.

Results of meeting indicated lack of funds for all agencies involved. Agencies are reluctant to expend funds in locations where known Geothermal resources are not present.

11. July 1979: Geothermal exploration project for Mountain Home Air Force Base included in FY 82 Military Construction Program (MCP) due at HQ TAC by 4 September 1979.
12. July 1980: Geothermal exploration project for Mountain Home Air Force Base included in FY 83 MCP because of slippage out of FY 82 program.
13. May 1981: Geo-heat Utilization Center, Oregon Institute of Technology, Klamath Falls, Oregon met with Civil Engineering officials and offered to prepare preliminary engineering and economic analysis for geothermal heating of base residential area.
14. June 1981: Geo-heat Utilization Center provided preliminary engineering and economic analysis for geothermal heating of base residential area.
15. July 1981: Geothermal exploration project for Mountain Home Air Force Base included in FY 84 MCP because of slippage out of FY 83 program.
16. January 1982: HQ TAC/DEMUC letter advised Mountain Home Air Force Base of TAC's and Tyndall's inability to obtain development money for geothermal exploration. Requested Mountain Home Air Force Base Civil Engineering to explore funding sources (???) and "start a spark".