

## STATE COUPLED RESOURCE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - AN UPDATE

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The purpose of the State Coupled Resource Assessment Program of the Department of Energy, Division of Geothermal Energy (DOE/DGE), is the identification and evaluation of low temperature (<90°C) geothermal resources. This program is presently active in 17 western states (Fig. 1). The program is divided into two phases: resource identification (Phase I) and reservoir confirmation (Phase II). Personnel from DOE/DGE, various state agencies acting as resource assessment teams, the Earth Science Laboratory/ University of Utah Research Institute (ESL/UURI), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory (LASL) are involved in the program (Tables 1 and 2).

Phase I, resource identification, centers upon the compilation of temperature, chemical and productivity data from known thermal springs and wells, and the identification of new low temperature geothermal exploration targets. Geothermal resource maps that depict this information will be published. The first map from each state will be a non-technical, user-oriented map, which should be completed by late 1979. A second map, oriented toward geoscientists and engineers, will be published later. Each state team is contributing data to GEOTHERM, the USGS computer file of thermal spring and well information. These data were also used by the USGS to define areas "...favorable for discovery and development of ...low temperature (<90°C) geothermal waters" as depicted in USGS Circular 790 (Muffler, 1979).

Phase II, reservoir confirmation, involves detailed geoscientific studies at favorable thermal sites located primarily near potential users, and resource confirmation drilling of the most attractive targets.

The information gathered during the State Coupled Resource Assessment Program will stimulate geothermal development by increasing public awareness of and interest in low-temperature geothermal resources, and by making resource data available to developers and users.

## REFERENCE CITED

Muffler, I.J.P., ed., 1979, Assessment of geothermal resources of the United States - 1978: U.S. Geological Survey Circular 790, 163 p.

TABLE 1  
 PARTICIPANTS IN THE STATE COUPLED PROGRAM

DGE/DOE

- Funding
- Business Management

STATE AGENCY

- Overall Project Management
- Data Compilation, Interpretation, Reporting
- Site Specific Reservoir Confirmation

ESL/UURI

- Assist DGE in Technical Project Management
- Technical Help to States
- Coordination Among States, USGS, NOAA

USGS

- Base Data for Maps at 1:500,000
- Assist in Geoscience Data Interpretation
- Data Transfer to File GEOTHERM

NOAA

- Publish State Geothermal Resource Maps

LASL

- Technical Help to Arizona

TABLE 2  
STATE COUPLED PROGRAM PERSONNEL

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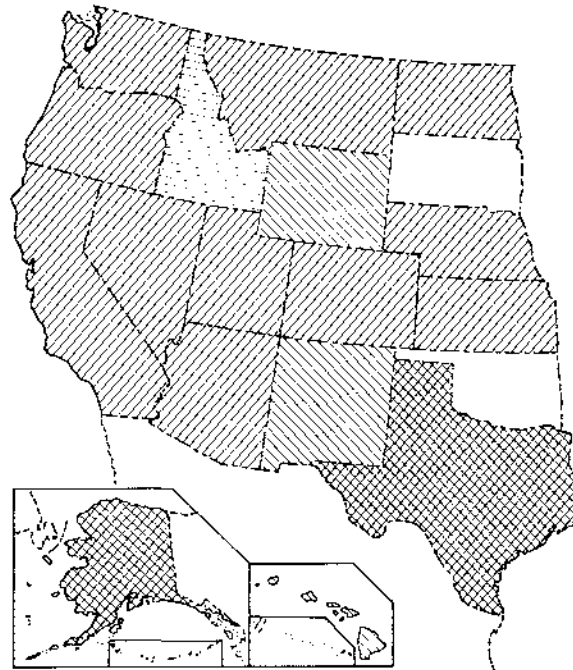
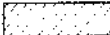
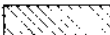



FIGURE 1

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTING AGENCIES

-  STATE SURVEYS
-  UNIVERSITIES
-  DEPARTMENT OF WATER RIGHTS