

Geothermal Energy - Could it be the Answer to the World's looming Energy Crisis?

WHERE IT COMES FROM?

It comes from drilling deep into the earth, 6000 meters down. Cool water is released down and hot water is then pumped or even passively released back to the surface.

HOW IT IS USED?

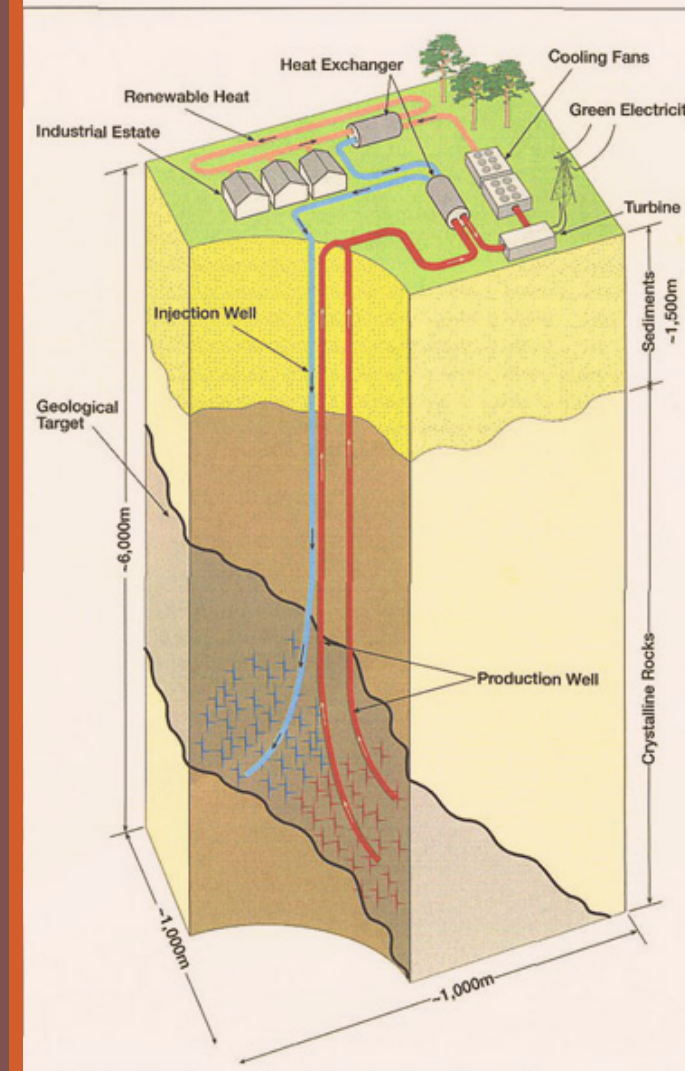
At present it is more typically used to heat and/or cool homes and larger facilities. It can however also be used to generate electricity

PROS - SUPPORT FOR GEOTHERMAL

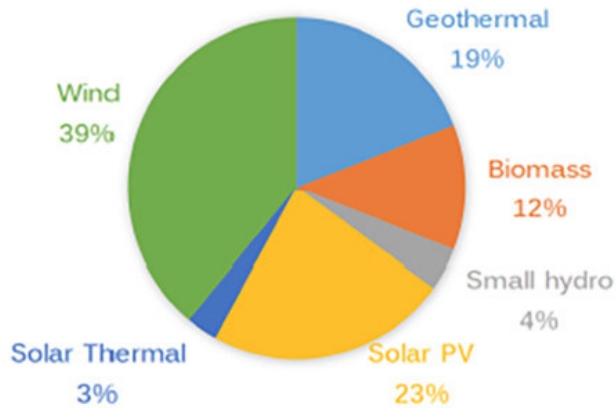
- 1 - Reliable and potentially capable of producing base load electricity for municipalities.
- 2 - Abundant and free to use
- 3 - Low carbon Emissions

CONS - COUNTER POINTS AGAINST IT

- 1 - Drilling associated with it can release green gases and pollute ground waters.
- 2 - Right now it is simply not economically viable everywhere
- 3 - Decentralized energy source
You have to drill down 4-5 km into the earth in most cases.



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Environmental Engineering. 24.1 (Feb.
2011): p38+.



GEOTHERMAL

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