Geothermal Industry News

Geothermal Heat Pump Tax Credits Reinstated!
Hard-Fought Victory Will Secure Jobs and Buy Time to Help Overcome Market Barriers

Feb. 9 - The U.S. geothermal heat pump (GHP) industry scored a victory for its workforce and their employers as federal legislation was passed to extend federal tax credits for residential and commercial installations of GHPs. The measure was included in the Continuing Resolution (CR) approved by Congress to fund the federal government, and signed by President Trump.

The reinstated GHP tax credits are retroactive to Jan. 1, 2017, and extended to Jan. 1, 2022. The language also changes an important consideration for commercial GHP projects, making them eligible if commenced by Jan. 1, 2022 rather than placed in service. (box).

“This action by Congress finally fixes the inequity created two years ago when tax credits for solar installations were extended through 2021,” explains Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO) President and CEO Doug Dougherty. “Credits for other technologies including GHPs, fuels cells, microturbines, small wind and combined heat and power were left to expire at the end of 2016.”

Since then it was an uphill fight, as GEO and its allies worked diligently for parity with the solar industry through bills in both the House and Senate. During 2017, two bills—H.R 1090 in the House of Representatives (Reed/Thompson) and S.1409 in the U.S. Senate (Carper/Heller)—championed tax credit parity for clean energy, granting the same extension to the orphaned technologies as applied to solar in late-2015.

GEO’s message to legislators was ultimately heard: Congress shouldn’t be picking winners and losers when it comes to renewable energy and fairness in tax policy. “And now we have finally achieved parity with solar,” said Dougherty.

Coalition partners included all of the “orphaned” clean energy technologies, and among others, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the National Association of Homebuilders, the Air Conditioning Contractors of America, and the American Heating and Refrigeration Institute. In the days prior to passage, GEO joined a larger coalition of business, energy, transportation, real estate, and

Geothermal Tax Credits
For geothermal heat pumps and other renewable energy technologies, the legislation passed by Congress on Feb. 9:

- Reinstates the residential income tax credit at 30% of installed cost, dropping to 26% in 2020, then to 22% for 2021, before ending on Dec. 31, 2021.
- Extends the 10% commercial investment tax credit until Jan. 1, 2022, and changes the language for placed in service to “property the construction of which begins before Jan.1, 2022.”
- Makes both residential and commercial tax credits retroactive to Jan. 1, 2017.
agriculture stakeholders who gathered forces to make their case for including tax extenders in the CR that passed the Senate and the House.

In scores of meetings with House and Senate members, GEO urged immediate action. But even with impressive support in Congress to fix the inequity, election-year politics stood in the way of success. As a result, the GHP industry experienced a 50% loss of residential sales last year, with hundreds of layoffs and thousands more jobs in jeopardy. Industry investment and jobs were slashed, affecting the entire U.S.-based technology supply chain.

GEO's relentless campaign to regain GHP tax credits included several Executive Fly-Ins to Washington DC in 2017, plus GEO Board Members, staff and industry volunteers making hundreds of visits to House and Senate legislative offices. Grassroots efforts by GEO members and supporters included job site visits set up for key legislators to show them firsthand the value of GHPs and plead the industry’s case for tax credit parity with solar.

“Achieving this critical milestone for our industry couldn’t have been accomplished without the positive and aggressive leadership of GEO staff, GEO manufacturers and members, our DC lobbying team—and the tireless efforts of my fellow board members during several Fly-Ins to Washington during the past two years,” said GEO Board Chairman Joe Parsons (Earthlinked Technologies, Inc.).

“Our hard-fought victory for the GHP industry helps ensure a bright future for our technology,” said Dougherty. “It will stem the loss of jobs we now face, provide more time to overcome market barriers, achieve economies of scale, and help spread the environmental and economic benefits of GHPs across America.” (GEO)

**EPAct 179D Geo Tax Incentive Renewed**

Feb. 9 – Charles Goulding, of Energy Tax Savers, announced, “EPAct 179D has been retroactively extended to include projects completed in 2017, when Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, which included this retroactive 2017 extension of EPAct.” This means that any commercial or government building completed in 2017 is again eligible for a tax incentive of up to $1.80/sq.-ft. if it employs qualifying clean energy technologies like geothermal heat pumps.

The tax incentive is now available for any newly constructed or renovated commercial or government buildings completed in 2017. “As soon as possible, we recommend beginning to compile information on any of your potentially eligible projects completed in 2017 so you can include the EPAct benefit on your 2017 tax returns,” said Goulding. “If you send us the data, we can perform our complimentary review and process in time for you to incorporate into your 2017 filing.” More information on the EPAct 179D tax benefit, including articles on how it works for a range of building types, can be found at the Energy Tax Savers website. (Energy Tax Savers)
The Value of GEO Membership

The Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO) is the “Voice of the Geothermal Heat Pump Industry,” focused on legislative, regulatory and tax initiatives to expand residential and commercial markets and to increase profits for members. Two examples are our continued efforts to reinstate the federal tax credits for residential and commercial installations of geothermal heat pumps (GHPs) and to forge state energy policy which recognizes the value of thermal energy as a renewable resource.

GEO is successfully working toward universal recognition of the thermal energy utilized by GHPs—which will offer increased sales and business opportunities to all segments of the industry from manufacturers and component producers, to GHP installers and drillers.

Our presence in our nation’s capital and across the country provides support to grassroots efforts, political insight and action on a variety of issues that are vital to the future of our industry. GEO continually tracks federal policies, from tax treatment to technological research and deployment. In additional to supporting tax credit parity for clean energy, we actively support various agency actions on technology advancement, as well as environmental and energy efficiency programs, that will enhance GHPs’ market position.

GEO also actively supports state geothermal associations in their efforts at the local level. GEO is pivotal to the future of our industry. We are instrumental in amending Maryland’s Renewable Portfolio Standard to include GHP as a utility compliance option. New Hampshire and Massachusetts followed suit and now Massachusetts has one of the highest financial incentives for installing GHPs in the country. At the same time, GEO amended Illinois energy efficiency law, encouraging utility rebates for GHP installations. With GEO support, New York has instituted several programs supporting the benefits of GHPs.

Your GEO Membership is Crucial
As a company supplying products and services to the GHP industry, increased market share for residential and commercial installations directly improves your sales and revenues. Your company’s GEO membership will help us fulfill our mission of growing the industry through advocacy and beneficial changes to federal and state public policies. Additional important benefits of GEO Membership include:

- Involvement in GEO legislative and regulatory initiatives at both the federal and state levels, helping to set the pace for a positive industry future.
- Participation in GEO’s continuing efforts to positively influence the industry’s future growth through personal meetings with your elected officials.
- Collaboration with GEO efforts to influence and guide utility renewable and demand-side energy programs that favor GHP technologies.
- Access to GEO information and studies, plus up-to-date reports on our activities across the country via our monthly GEO Industry News, Action and News Alerts, and our targeted industry press releases.
Keith Swilley Leaves GEO Board

In January, Gulf Power Co. Energy Sales and Efficiency Manager Keith Swilley regretfully resigned his long-time position as a Board Member of the Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO). “It saddens me to formally inform you that Gulf Power has changed my management responsibilities such that I will not be able to continue to serve on the GEO Board,” said Swilley. “I’ve immensely enjoyed being a part of GEO all the way back to the GHPC original days of existence. I will always be a geothermal heat pump advocate.” He will continue to serve the industry as a local ASHRAE Chapter President.

Swilley has worked at Gulf Power Co. in various positions since 1980, interrupted by a 2-year stint as an HVAC mechanical contractor. He has been an advocate of geothermal heat pumps for the past 24 years as well as other efficient energy saving technologies. He was involved with the original Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium, and was a Founding Board Member of GEO. Gulf Power serves the Northwest Florida region and is a subsidiary of the Southern Company. Going forward, Swilley will manage the utility’s lighting efficiency sales programs.

“Keith has been tapped to take on the responsibility of another program for Gulf Power and will unable to continue as an active board member,” said GEO Chairman Joe Parsons (EarthLinked Technologies). “It has been a real pleasure working with Keith as a fellow board member, geothermal industry advocate, and as a friend. I’ve learned to listen when Keith has some-thing to say as his comments are always well thought out before they are delivered and always include a healthy dose of common sense. On behalf of the GEO board, I wish him all the best.”

Jim Leverette, a research engineer with the Southern Co., has agreed to serve as Swilley’s replacement on the GEO Board. In his farewell, Swilley said, “I wish the very best for the GEO organization, for its purpose and success in building the GHP Industry.”

Feb. 1 – Delivering enhanced customer value is one of the primary goals of New York State’s Reforming the Energy Vision (REV). Through REV, the State’s investor-owned utilities (IOUs) have been testing innovative technologies and are focused on business models where utilities and market partners can collaborate to advance customer value. REV Connect, New York State’s initiative to accelerate the adoption of REV technologies and business models, worked with New York IOUs to gain insight into their 2018 priorities and identified four potential key trends for the year.

Trend 1. Electrification, storage, and load shifting will be big innovation opportunity areas. In parts of the Central Hudson utility’s region, natural gas is difficult to deliver. By pursuing electrification (heating and electric vehicles (EV)) and driving geothermal adoption, Central Hudson hopes to deliver natural gas alternatives at competitive prices through their REV initiatives. Additionally, the company is researching a unique EV business model where it can use public channels like community groups to build customer awareness. Similarly, electrification is a corporate priority for National
al Grid. The company filed requests with the Public Service Commission for support to expand EV infrastructure and education in multiple states. In Ithaca, NYSEG is pursuing an energy storage demo within the Energy Smart Community ecosystem to leverage investments and data that exist there. Additionally, under parent company Avangrid, NYSEG and RG&E are looking to aggregate distributed energy resources (DER) and storage solutions to see what grid-edge resources may be called upon for demand management. Integrating energy storage into their system is a similar priority for Orange and Rockland Utilities.

**Trend 2. A concerted effort will be made to bring REV thinking to natural gas.** In New York City, Con Edison will launch a gas peak demand management program. The utility expects to issue an RFI mid-2018 to request new business model approaches for commercially proven technologies to help manage gas peak demand, such as geothermal heat pumps and cold-climate air-source heat pumps. Solutions providers are invited to work with REV Connect to refine their business cases and respond to the RFI. In addition, there are concurrent gas peak reduction efforts, such as the RFP already issued for non-pipe solutions and expanding the company’s existing energy efficiency programs.

**Trend 3. For REV opportunity areas that have already yielded preliminary results, IOUs are actively looking for business model refinements.** National Grid is researching ways to better serve low- to moderate-income customers and small to medium businesses. It will help customers better manage energy affordability while improving grid efficiency and resiliency. Other utilities are focusing more on refining tools and linkages. Central Hudson is looking to expand around the existing CenHub digital platform to use customer feedback for recommendations on new incentives. For example, by working with ESCOs or community distributed generation, Central Hudson may become a one-stop shop where customers can get side-by-side comparisons and personalized advice.

**Trend 4. Pricing model innovation will grow in importance in all aspects of the evolving IOU business.** Although relatively new, the need for EV charging stations is growing. NYSEG is partnering with Cornell University to investigate how to create EV charging pricing models that effectively support both customers and the network. National Grid, on the other hand, is looking for new ways to tackle energy efficiency. Utility supported energy efficiency initiatives are currently funded through system benefit charges, but opportunities may exist for new pay-for-performance models where the market finances efficiency upgrades. National Grid is testing whether energy efficiency can be self-funded and generate a healthy return on investment.

**Conclusion.** This year is proving to be the time when the IOUs’ efforts to implement REV offer solutions providers a great business opportunity. Visit nyrevconnect.com to learn more on how to take part in this emerging ecosystem and submit innovative business model ideas. (NYSERDA)
St. Mark’s UMC Launches Geo Fundraising Campaign

Feb. 5 – St. Mark’s United Methodist Church in Easton, MD has embarked on a major fundraising campaign to update its HVAC system—a 55-year old system that will be replaced with a new geothermal heat pump (GHP) system for clean and reliable heating and cooling.

The church is challenging its members and the community to support the project for future generations. Engineering consultants, Gipe Associates, Inc., conducted a feasibility study to compare the option of replacing the existing system with an air-cooled chiller system or installing an expansion of a GHP system that has successfully served chapel and office spaces since 2007. The Board decided that the GHP system was the best choice.

The project timeline includes requests for bids in mid-January and awarding a successful bidder by mid-February. Construction will begin in early April. By June 30, 2018, a substantial portion of the project will be completed and the system operational in the sanctuary. The project will be completed by July 30, 2018. Contact St. Mark’s at (410) 822-0001 for details on how you can donate to make their new geothermal system a reality. Read the article here. (Star Democrat)

Geo Secures Bardessono Reputation as Green Resort

Jan. 11 – “Bardessono Hotel and Spa in Yountville, CA is one of only three Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum-certified hotels in the country—the highest and most rigorous form of green development accreditation in the United States. The Napa Valley property on which the resort is built was originally farmed by the Bardessono family who arrived from Italy in 1926.”

The resort opened in 2009. According to the North Bay Business Journal, “Bardessono was designed to be as environmentally friendly as possible with a wide range of environmental elements including heating and cooling via geothermal energy, material reuse, onsite waste management, low water use and LED and fluorescent lighting.” The resort cost $62 million to build, and in 2015, Remington Hotels, based in Dallas, purchased it for $1.3 million per room.

To heat and cool guest rooms as well as the property’s water supply, a system of 82 300-foot geothermal boreholes were drilled to work with a specially developed geothermal heat pump system. The developer decided to use geothermal for heat and air conditioning because there would be zero noise and it was sustainable. The resort also gets about half of its electricity from a 200-kilowatt photovoltaic solar system discreetly mounted and concealed atop the hotel’s flat-topped roofs Read the story here. (North Bay Business Journal)
NY-GEO 2018
The New York Geothermal Energy Association’s Premier Northeast Renewable Heating & Cooling Conference

Heating buildings by burning fossil fuels causes about 1/3 of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in New York State. There is no way New York will reach its GHG goals without a massive conversion of buildings to renewable heating.

Our annual conference is the best place to learn about heating and cooling without burning fossil fuels and NY-GEO 2018 is the place to meet the movers and shakers as New York begins to embrace this incredible opportunity.

Come learn what it’s all about! Be part of the geothermal surge!

There’s a 10% early discount if you register by January 31st and a 2nd discount for those who have taken out a 2018 NY-GEO membership.

We urge you to consider becoming a sponsor – or an exhibitor at this year’s conference.

NY-GEO 2018
Geothermal Heating & Cooling
April 18-19 Albany, NY

This conference is affordable! Not only that - PSEG Long Island and Versaprofiles have donated to a grant fund – we’ll work with you to get you here – Admission help is also available to Gov’t officials with no conference budgets.

Check our website NY-GEO.ORG for more details and registration information.

Meet over 200 key players as New York moves into the Renewable Heating & Cooling future.

Workshops are keyed to Engineers, Architects, Building Owners & Managers, Installers, Designers, Contractors, Consultants, Policy Makers and all who care about the transition to Renewable Energy. AIA, PDH BPI and LEEDs Continuing Education Credits Available!
Plastic Pipe Institute Joins GEO

Feb. 22 -- The Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO) is pleased to announce that the Plastic Pipe Institute (PPI), which has joined GEO as an Allied Organization to help foster growth in the geothermal heat pump industry. GEO Chief Operating Officer Ryan Dougherty said, “PPI has a clear commitment to the future of our industry, recently working with us in Washington, DC. I look forward to continuing that collaboration.”

PPI Director of Engineering Lance McNevin echoed that sentiment: “PPI and our members promote the adoption of geothermal technologies to help reduce energy consumption for heating and cooling buildings, saving owners money. We value the cooperation with GEO, working together to help share the many benefits of geothermal systems and advocating for these technologies!”

PPI is a non-profit trade association dedicated to advocacy and advancement of the use of plastics in pipe infrastructure systems as smart, economical and sustainable solutions. The mission of The Plastics Pipe Institute is to advance the acceptance and use of plastic pipe systems through research, education, technical expertise and advocacy. Find more info on PPI here.

SAVE THE DATES!

2018 Geothermal and Related Conferences

Feb. 27-28  Ontario (Canada) Geothermal Association (OGA)
Westin Toronto Airport Hotel, Mississauga, ON – Information and Registration

Feb. 28 - Mar. 1  Minnesota Geothermal Heat Pump Association (MNGHPA)
Treasure Island Resort and Casino, Red Wing, MN – Information and Registration.

March 12-14  Geothermal Alliance of Illinois (GAOI)
Doubletree Hotel, Bloomington, IL – Information and Registration.

March 6-7  Iowa Geothermal Association (IGA)
Prairie Meadows Casino, Altoona, IA – Information and Registration when available.

March 27-28  International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA)
Caribe Royale, Orlando, FL – Information and Registration.

April 18-19  New York Geothermal Energy Organization (NY-GEO)
Radisson Hotel, Albany, NY – Information and Registration.

April 18-19  Advancing Renewables in the Midwest
University of Missouri Campus, Columbia MO – Information and Registration.

April 24-25  Michigan Geothermal Energy Association (MGEA)
Soaring Eagle Casino, Mt. Pleasant, MI – Information and Registration.
Massachusetts Geo Rebates Made Easy by EnergySmart... and GEO

Jan. 22 – EnergySmart Alternatives, LLC (Medford, MA) has secured over $385,000 in rebates since 2014 through the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (Mass CEC) Ground-Source Heat Pump rebate program. According to a database published by the Mass CEC in July 2017, EnergySmart has secured double the rebates of their next closest competitor and has obtained more than 20% of all residential rebates awarded in Massachusetts.

“Due to the number of rebate applications we have successfully completed, we have been able to streamline the process making it easy for homeowners to qualify and obtain all the money that is available to them,” said Melanie Head, co-owner of EnergySmart. “Massachusetts is very pro-geothermal with its sales tax exemption, generous rebates through the Mass CEC, and no-interest loans through MassSave. Massachusetts has also recently kicked off a program whereby homeowners can earn and sell credits similar to a Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs).”

Announced last month, the increase in the value of the Mass CEC rebate to $3,500 per heating ton (up from $1,500) is expected to give a boost to the residential geothermal industry in the state. The value of the base rebate is capped at $17,500. However, there are “adders,” that can increase that value for public and non-profit entities, affordable housing developments, or households below 80% and 120% of the state median income.

These range from an additional $750 to $1,500 per ton heating capacity. “Our customers have seen rebates ranging from $2,850 to $17,500 with an average rebate of $8,100,” said Head. “When the rebate is combined with 0% financing for $25,000 through MassSave, geothermal becomes feasible for many more homeowners who previously thought it was financially out of their reach.”

Before installation begins, qualified homeowners must have their chosen geothermal installer complete the Mass CEC rebate paperwork on their behalf. Homeowners are responsible for scheduling a free MassSave Home Energy Assessment and providing a copy of a recent electric bill to qualify for the program. They must also sign a Participant’s Agreement indicating that they agree to participate in the rebate program.

Rebate checks are mailed three to four weeks after the geothermal system installation is complete and the final paperwork has been submitted by the installer. Checks can be written directly to the homeowner or to the installer. Qualified homeowners can take advantage of the rebate through 2020.

Such success was made possible through the efforts of the Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO). “We were instrumental in helping to pass legislation to redefine renewable energy to include the thermal energy avoided by a geothermal heat pump (GHP) in Massachusetts several years ago.” Said GEO President and CEO Doug Dougherty.

“Over a two-year period, GEO financially supported a lobbyist to accomplish that goal, and led a grassroots effort that got the bill passed and signed by the governor,” he continued. The State of Massachusetts has issued guidance for GHPs to be included in the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard that utilities can use to meet their Alternative Energy goals (here). And given the change in the definition, the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center has established a rebate program for GHPs (here).

“Sometimes GEO’s hard work of years ago is forgotten, because it takes a long period of time for a legislative change in a state statute to bear fruit,” Dougherty said. “It has now come to fruition in Massachusetts.” (EnergySmart / GEO)
Bard College Will Use 64K from NYSERDA to Develop Energy Plan

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has awarded Bard College a $64,000 grant to help develop a campus energy master plan (EMP). Working with Ecosystem Energy Services, Bard will evaluate its current and future energy footprint and create a roadmap for achieving the College’s goals of campus net-zero energy and carbon neutrality by 2035.

The plan will review Bard’s existing geothermal systems and their potential expansion to existing buildings and new construction. A key goal of the plan will be to evaluate how to contain and/or reverse the rise in consumption, costs, and emissions, with a focus on the opportunity to convert equipment that is due for replacement with high-efficiency alternatives. The grant, through NYSERDA’s REV Campus Challenge Technical Assistance for Roadmaps Program, includes $4,000 to support an internship for a graduate student from the Bard Center for Environmental Policy.

“For more than two decades, Bard has been using geothermal systems to access the stable temperatures in the ground for heating and cooling buildings. We are grateful to NYSERDA for the chance to evaluate how we’ve been doing, whether we can convert existing buildings to using ground-source heat pumps, and how to wisely incorporate them into future buildings,” said Laurie Husted, chief sustainability officer in the Bard Office of Sustainability (BOS).

Dan Smith, BOS energy manager, added, “geothermal systems use electricity but are much more efficient and sustainable than conventional systems that consume fossil fuels, and we can further reduce electricity consumption by adding complimentary renewable energy sources—something NYSERDA has helped us with through funding for solar panels and, more recently, through funding our investigation into the use of micro hydropower.”

“Colleges and universities play a pivotal role in helping the state meet its ambitious energy goals set by Governor Cuomo,” said Alicia Barton, president and CEO, NYSERDA. “Investments like these made through the REV Campus Challenge help ensure campus and community resiliency and build a cleaner, more sustainable energy future for generations to come.” For more information about sustainability initiatives at Bard, visit their website, here. For more information about NYSERDA’s REV Campus Challenge, visit the program website, here. (Bard College / NYSERDA)
Trump Budget Cuts Clean Energy Research
Feb. 1 – In its draft fiscal 2019 budget, the White House asks Congress to slash the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) renewable energy and energy efficiency programs by 72% overall. The budget proposal would reportedly cut funding for the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) to $575.5 million from its current level of $2.04 billion. That would be a much deeper cut than that sought for the current fiscal year. The White House had proposed to cut EERE's budget to $636.1 million for this year, but Congress did not approve the proposal. Electric vehicle research would take an especially big hit, cut to $56 million from the current $307 million level. Fuel efficient vehicle research would be cut 82%, bioenergy funding by 82% and solar funding by 75%. The draft document also suggests staff cuts, down from 680 in the enacted 2017 budget to 450 in 2019. Read the article here. (The Hill)

National African American Museum Uses Geo
Jan. 26 – According to New Atlas, “The National Museum of African American History and Culture, designed by Ghanaian British architect Sir David Adjaye, has won the prestigious Beazley Design of the Year for 2017. Located close to the Washington Monument, the building measures 397,000 sq.-ft. spread over 10 floors (five above ground and five below), and includes galleries, administrative spaces, theater space, collections, and more. “There is significant sustainable technology and design installed in the building, such as roof-based solar panels, ground-source heat pumps for efficient heating and cooling, and rain-water harvesting for toilet and irrigation use. Natural light is maximized, plus recycled and recyclable materials were used during construction. The building was inaugurated in September 2016 and the construction budget came in at US$385 million. Read more here. (New Atlas)

Geo Among Innovations Shaping HVAC Future
Jan. 23 – “With the rise of smart home technology adoption, home buyers increasingly expect new homes to be equipped with the latest technological advances, and the HVAC system is no exception. The entire HVAC industry is undergoing a technological revolution to keep up with the demand of home buyers and builders,” says Paul Hill in Builder.

“Geothermal technology is a major investment that promises to save you much money over its lifetime. Geothermal heat pumps have been around since the 1940s, so they’re not exactly a new technology. Nevertheless, these products haven’t really caught on until recently. With more homeowners waking up to the importance of going green, geothermal heat pumps have grown in popularity.

“A geothermal heat pump gets its energy directly from the earth through an underground looped pipe that absorbs the heat and carries it into the home. When cooling is needed, the process occurs in reverse, with the pump removing warmth in the home. A major bonus of having a geothermal heat pump is the availability of free hot water. If you’re considering having geothermal technology installed in your home, ask your technician about this valuable perk.” Read the entire article here. (Builder)
This year we are bringing the ground source heat pump to the Sunshine State. With Conference sessions, training opportunities, and dedicated expo hours, you're sure to find all you need to learn more about the ground-source heat pump industry. We’re focusing this year’s conference and expo on providing you with the tools and information you need to excel your business. You're sure to see some new faces and hear new ideas that can help support the industry. To be BETTER TOGETHER we need to come together.

Join IGSHPA on March 27-28!

Here are the Top Five Reasons to Attend the IGSHPA Conference and Expo in Orlando

1-Session offerings are a mix of industry case studies, technical how-to's, and tools you can use to enhance your business in marketing, financing, and more!

2-Dedicated expo hall hours on Tuesday from 10am to noon.

3-Our second awards dinner on Wednesday night highlights innovative industry applications, notable achievements of our members, and exemplary industry supporters.

4-The welcome reception on Tuesday evening and the awards dinner Wednesday night provide attendees with networking opportunities.

5-Industry experts addressing large groups in panel settings.

Click Here for Registration, Exhibitor Information, and Hotel Information
Industry Survival in 2018

MGEA 2018 Conference

Michigan Geothermal Energy Association
Soaring Eagle Resort • Mt. Pleasant Michigan
April 24, 6:00 PM-10:00 PM • April 25, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM

Keynote Speaker Dianna Cacko serves as the Trade Ally Account Representative for the Energy Optimization Residential HVAC and Business programs, previously serving as an account manager for both the Consumers Energy and DTE Energy residential energy optimization portfolios. WECC is a national leader in the design and implementation of innovative energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Ms. Cacko’s presentation will review utility service territories, all available incentives, the incentive application process, and examples of qualifying GSHP systems and incentives they have received from the program.

Our conference will feature additional presentations by:

- Todd O’Grady Contractor Coordinator- Michigan Saves
- Rick Vanderbeek Energy Coordinator USDA (Grants)
- David Coveyou Owner- Coveyou Farm (Geo Greenhouse)
- Art Thayer Director of EE programs MECA
- Hantz Financial Review of new Tax Laws

REGISTRATION
$100 fee includes reception, dinner, annual meeting and half-day conference. Annual Meeting or Conference only fee is $50. Hotel registration is on your own. Use code MGEA042418 when registering at (877) 232-4532.

More Information and Registration for the MGEA Conference can be found here.
**Certified GeoExchange® Designer Course**

**Certification for HVAC Engineers, Architects and Designers**

With the cooperation of the Geothermal Exchange Organization (GEO), the CGD® Training Course is presented by the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA), with certification awarded by the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE). The CGD® Course covers the gamut of professional geothermal heat pump system applications, from an introduction to the technology to a complete review of commercial design processes.

**Who Should Attend**  The 3-day comprehensive Installation Workshops are designed for GSHP installers, contractors, dealers, home builders, manufacturers, distributors, architects, heating cooling mechanical engineers, trenching/water well drilling contractors, and anyone who desires a working knowledge of this innovative technology. Representatives from public utilities, private utilities, and rural electric cooperatives can also benefit from training. Workshop information can help utility representatives serve as information sources on ground source heat pump systems.

**Accreditation**  Upon successful completion of the workshop and passing the IGSHPA installer's exam, you will be issued IGSHPA accreditation as an installer of GSHP systems, a 3-year installer's card and certificate, and a 1-year IGSHPA membership.

**Topics**  Design and Material Options • System Layout • Pipe Joining Techniques - Hands-on for butt, socket, saddle and electro fusion • Trenching/Drilling Processes • Air and Debris Purging • Pressure Drop Calculations • Pump and Fluid Selection • Thermal Conductivity • Start-up, Performance Checking and Troubleshooting

**IGSHPA Certified GeoExchange Designer (CGD Plus) Accreditation**

March 27-28, at the IGSHPA 2018 Conference & Expo in Orlando, FL. Click on the link above for more information and to register.