## **Mount Spurr Geothermal Project**

Grantees Ormat Nevada, Inc. (Independent Power Producer), ORNI 46 LLC (Independent Power Producer)

**Technology Type** GEOTHERMAL

**Region** Railbelt **AEDG Project Code** 10157

## **REF Grants Received**

| Round | App | Grant Title            | Grant # | <b>AEA Project #</b> | Phase        | <b>Start Date</b> | <b>End Date</b> | Status |
|-------|-----|------------------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|
| 3     | 477 | Mount Spurr Geothermal | 7030018 | 406012               | Feasibility  | 7/1/10            | 6/30/12         | Closed |
|       |     | Project                |         |                      |              |                   |                 |        |
| 4     | 652 | Mount Spurr Geothermal | 7040032 | 406012               | Construction | 7/1/11            |                 | Closed |
|       |     | Project 2              |         |                      |              |                   |                 |        |

## **Grant 7030018: Mount Spurr Geothermal Project**

**Project Scope**: ORNI 46 LLC used a Round III Renewable Energy Fund grant to complete a staged reconnaissance and assessment of the geothermal resources on Mt. Spurr. Work completed included: aeromagnetic gravity survey, electromagnetic geophysical surveys, LiDAR survey, field work, mapping, geochemical sampling, and drilling two temperature gradient and two slim holes. Work began in the summer of 2010 and was completed in the fall of 2011. Ormat Nevada, Inc. has previously completed the initial reconnaissance field work in 2009.

The activities completed with the grant funds are follow-up activities to determine whether to proceed to drilling production wells and further commercial development of the Mt. Spurr geothermal project. Preliminary analysis of data from field reconnaissance of the region conducted by Ormat Nevada, Inc. in July and August of 2009, coupled with historical exploration work from the mid-1980's, indicated the potential existence of a commercial size geothermal resource; however, further exploration is required in order to confirm it.

The grant had a two-phased program for continued resource studies and assessment surveys. Phase I, included mapping, further geochemical sampling, remote sensing, aerial and ground-based geophysics and temperature gradient drilling. Phase II included slim-hole drilling.

**Project Status**: Ormat reported disappointing exploration drilling results in 2011, drilling to a depth of 4,500 feet in the eastern leases on Mt. Spurr. The maximum temperature encountered was 140 degrees F, which is substantially less than the minimum for a commercial system.

In the summer of 2012, Ormat conducted a geo-hazard study of the central Mt. Spurr area. This was followed with additional field work in 2013, which was aimed at locating future drill targets in this area. The results of this field work, which was funded by Ormat, are currently under review.

| As of Nov. 30, 2013        | Budget         | Expenditures   |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Renewable Energy Funding   | \$1,993,158.00 | \$1,993,158.00 |
| Other State Funding        | \$0.00         | \$0.00         |
| <b>Total State</b>         | \$1,993,158.00 | \$1,993,158.00 |
| Required Local Match       | \$2,158,603.00 | \$2,549,052.00 |
| Federal Grant Funding      | \$0.00         | \$0.00         |
| <b>Total Project Costs</b> | \$4,151,761.00 | \$4,542,210.00 |

## **Grant 7040032: Mount Spurr Geothermal Project 2**

**Project Scope**: Mount Spurr represents what currently appears to be the best opportunity in Alaska to develop a utility-scale baseload geothermal energy power plant. Located 80 miles west of Anchorage on state lands which were leased by Ormat Nevada Inc. in October of 2008, a successful power project at Mt. Spurr would serve communities along the Railbelt through power purchased by one or more of the Railbelt electric utilities.

This grant request is for the start of construction of the geothermal well field and later on (beyond the scope of this grant application), the power plant itself. The first step in construction of a commercial geothermal well-field is to drill a full-size deep geothermal production well, in order to tap into the geothermal reservoir and flow test the geothermal fluid in order to measure its