

*Breathing New Life Into...*

# Bottle Rock

## US Renewables Group, LLC Intends to Re-Power the Bottle Rock Geothermal Power Plant at The Geysers

**O**n Oct. 12, US Renewables Group, LLC (USRG), a company organized to acquire, develop and operate renewable energy and clean fuel assets, announced that it has acquired a controlling interest in Bottle Rock Power Corp. (BRPC), a California company whose principal asset is a 55-megawatt (MW) geothermal power plant at The Geysers Geothermal Field in northern California. USRG plans to refurbish and restart the Bottle Rock power plant within 12 months, when USRG expects the facility to produce ~200,000 megawatt-hours of electricity annually.

The Bottle Rock power plant was originally constructed, owned and operated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to service its own power consumption requirements. The operation was closed in 1991 because of a field-wide steam pressure decline at The Geysers. Other factors included the availability of ample and inexpensive power capacity in California, and DWR's financial inability to restore full power production. DWR sold the power station to BRPC in 2001.

"With acquisition by USRG, the barriers to re-commissioning the facility have been cleared and Bottle Rock Power now has the critical resources it requires to successfully bring the power plant back online," said USRG Executive Vice President of Finance and BRPC Board Member Tom King.

He told reporters that initial work at the site would begin by December, focused on workovers of 10 existing geothermal wells. Bottle Rock Power Corp. will eventually employ between 50 and 100 personnel at the power plant when it's at full operation. Until that time, King said, local contractors will be employed to bring the facility back online.

The BRPC acquisition builds on USRG's growing renewable energy assets, which include two landfill methane facilities in California, and negotiations for biomass power and ethanol assets. USRG recently closed \$80 million in financing as part of its plan to raise a total of \$250 million to fund acquisition and operation of renewable energy assets.

"We look forward to working with all interested parties to bring this important geothermal power plant back online for the benefit of the State of California," said USRG Chief Operating Officer and BRPC Board Member Lee Bailey. "The restart and continued operation of the facility will bring many new job opportunities and additional commerce to Lake County, while providing impetus to



Kathleen Eneedy

*Recent well test at the Bottle Rock Power Corp. generation facility in The Geysers Geothermal Field, northern California. The subsidiary of US Renewables Group (USRG) plans to have the former California Department of Water Resources geothermal power plant up and running in a year.*

local development in a number of exciting ways. USRG prides itself on being a good corporate citizen, and we look forward to forming a strong bond with the local community."

US Renewables Group, LLC is an investment company capitalizing on the fastest-growing segments of the \$650 billion energy marketplace. USRG acquires, develops and operates renewable stationary power generation and clean fuel assets primarily in North America. USRG operates nationally from headquarters in Los Angeles and offices in New York. For more information, visit the company website at: [www.usregroup.com](http://www.usregroup.com). (USRG) ■