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Contact: Ian Crawford

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530.758.2360

GRC Annual Meeting is a Great Success

Over 2,000 attendees from 33 different countries gather for the largest annual meeting of the global geothermal community

Davis, CA, USA - The Geothermal Resources Council (GRC), the world's premier geothermal association, has completed a successful 36th GRC Annual Meeting at the Peppermill Resort Spa in Reno, Nevada.

GRC Interim Executive Director Steve Ponder welcomed the attendees from 33 different countries and relayed greetings from Senator Harry Reid of Nevada to the global geothermal community gathered in Reno.

Senator Reid said it was his pleasure to welcome attendees to Reno for the Geothermal Resources Council 36th Annual Meeting and the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) Geothermal Energy Expo 2012.

"I am delighted that the GRC and GEA have chosen to gather in the Silver State. Given the vast geothermal resources and industry presence in the region, you could not have selected a more ideal location for this event," Senator Reid said.

In an op-ed that appeared in the Reno-Gazette Journal just before the Annual Meeting Senator Reid commended the GRC for its work and stressed the importance of ongoing federal support for the industry.

There was an overwhelming consensus that the event was a great success. The numbers tell the story. 1,087 attendees registered with the GRC for the Annual Meeting, including 140 students who attended for free. The registration included entry to the GEA Geothermal Energy Expo. Over four days they were treated to over 180 technical presentations totaling over 60 hours, bringing the latest research from around the world. On display were over 75 posters including those from graduates of the National Geothermal Academy in Reno and

the three finalists of the National Geothermal Student Competition, and the winners of the 33rd GRC Photo Contest.

Over 100 attended the pre-meeting workshops on Drilling and Reservoir Stimulation, 141 ventured out into the Nevada countryside on field trips to witness geothermal development in the Silver State and a further 150 or so took the opportunity to tour the Peppermill Spa's geothermal system heating the hotel and it's hot water supply.

A highlight of the geothermal calendar, the GRC Annual Banquet was held at the National Automobile Museum in Reno. Over 230 dined surrounded by shiny vintage cars. Back at the Peppermill, more than 80 students and geothermal leaders joined together at a luncheon co-hosted by the GRC and the GEA to discuss job opportunities in the industry. In addition, the GRC hosted the 5th International Luncheon with representatives from Turkey, Chile and Kenya reporting on the exciting developments in geothermal power in their countries.

The annual GRC Charity Golf Tournament was held at the Red Hawk Golf & Resort in nearby Sparks. Over 100 golfers played for charity with all profits going to the local chapter of the American Lung Association.

The climax to the GRC Annual Meeting is the Annual Membership Meeting & Awards Luncheon where the GRC presented its prestigious Aidlin, Pioneer, and Special Achievement awards. R. Gordon Bloomquist won the Joseph W. Aidlin Award for outstanding contributions to the Geothermal Resources Council and to the development of geothermal resources.

Held in tandem with the GRC Annual Meeting, GEA's Geothermal Energy Expo featured 166 exhibits showcasing the latest in geothermal technological advancements. Almost 1,000 attendees, including booth staff, guests and registrants, signed up for the trade show.

For more information about next year's 37th GRC Annual Meeting at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, visit www.geothermal.org/meet-new.html or call (530) 758-2360.

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About the Geothermal Resources Council:

With the experience and dedication of its diverse, international membership bolstering a more than 40-year track record, the Geothermal Resources Council has built a solid reputation as the world's preeminent geothermal association. The GRC serves as a focal point for continuing professional development for its members through its outreach, information transfer and education services.

For more information, please visit www.geothermal.org.

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