

## 2022 - 2023 Board of Directors Election Candidate Statements

Online voting closes on Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

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## Developer Candidates – one (1) seat available



**Monte Morrison**: I am a third generation native Nevadan, having grown up in Sparks, NV and currently residing in Fallon, NV for the past 32 years. I have been interested in Geothermal Energy since Junior High when I completed a project report on Geothermal. Later at Sparks High School I followed that with a term paper, 25+ pages on a typewriter no less, on Geothermal Energy. That desire led me to the University of Nevada's Mackay School of Mines where I received a BS in Chemical Engineering in 1986. Again, with my capstone in Geothermal Energy.

After starting with Ormat in Reno, NV in 1985, I now have over 37 years of experience in the management of renewable power plants (primarily geothermal) and geothermal well fields. My management has taken me to power plants and well fields in Nevada, California, Hawaii, Utah and New Mexico for seven different companies from assistant manager to an executive in Operations and Safety.

I am currently Cyrq Energy's VP Geothermal Technology while I transition from the corporate world to my own engineering firm, Hot H2O Engineering at the end of 2022. I have had responsibilities that include all aspects of managing the business of operations and maintenance of 14 different geothermal power plants in the United States, along with executive safety responsibility for the geothermal, hydroelectric and wind in Canada and geothermal plants in Iceland. I bring a passion of safety and environmental risk management to every aspect of my profession and personal life.

I am a Professional Engineer (Chemical) from the State of Nevada for the past 24 years and have been a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1) in Nevada for the past 34 years. I have also been fortunate to give hundreds of tours and classes on energy, geothermal in particular, to all walks of life from kindergartners to the US Naval Academy as an SME for six years.

I summarize my career to date and moving forward as a Tactical Executive specializing in geothermal and safety.

**Election Statement**: I have been involved in many facets of the Geothermal Rising organization since my early days but have not had the time to fully devote to the Board of Directors. If elected, I will bring by enthusiasm and energy, to the Board and the organization. I expect to promote and educate those near and far of the benefits of all aspects of geothermal energy and share my experience and expertise to all who will listen. It is time for me to give back as I enter the world of consulting. I will bring a very practical, boots on the ground approach to the Board while standing at the ready to lead the charge when asked.





**Bridget Silva** serves on the Geothermal Rising Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee and was a member of the Geothermal Rising Conference 2022 Plenary Session planning committee. Bridget is a member of WING, presented the WING yoga event at GRC 2022, and spearheaded the planning and delivery of a workshop at GRC 2022 that brought more than thirty industry colleagues together to explore synergies between oil and gas and geothermal which can be utilized to support and accelerate geothermal expansion.

Bridget actively participates in the geothermal industry as Vice President of Business Development and Commercial Strategy at

Criterion Energy Partners. In this role, she is focused on commercializing geothermal energy by applying traditional and innovative applications of the resource to solve real world problems. Her work includes partnerships with her colleagues, customers, communities, and the Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office to i.) apply geothermal resource applications to decarbonize hard to abate sectors, ii.) address environmental justice issues in line with the Justice40 initiative, and iii.) implement systemic changes that positively impact economic development and social justice priorities along the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast region.

As an active member of the energy community, Bridget collaborates across the value chain to bring awareness to the advantages of geothermal energy through her work with the Greater Houston Partnership's Houston Energy Transition Initiative, with the Texas Economic Development Council, and with economic developers across the Gulf Coast region. She sees an opportunity to increase Geothermal Rising engagement in the region and has plans to actively lead, support, and foster growth of a regional Geothermal Rising presence across Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas which aims to bring awareness to and engagement from new participants that are critical to commercializing geothermal, including oil and gas industry participants, prospective customers, power and utility industry participants, regional vocational colleges, investors, local government, and local supply chain stakeholders.

Bridget has 19 years of experience in managing and commercializing large energy industry focused technology and innovation and draws her experience from companies including Dell, Hewlett-Packard, Lockheed Martin, and RS Energy Group. Her passion for the renewable and distributed energy sector was founded when she was named a key leader in Hewlett-Packard's Smart Grid Co-Innovation initiative in 2009. Her work at Criterion Energy Partners marks a new chapter for her in the renewable energy space, where she focuses on the relentless pursuit of geothermal energy to accelerate widespread access to clean, renewable, baseload energy, to enable an equitable and just energy transition, and to aid stakeholders in meeting energy demand and sustainability goals.

Bridget is the mother three girls, the wife of a teacher, holds a Bachelor's in International Studies from Baylor University, and is completing her MBA at Texas A&M.

**Election Statement:** Bridget's goals are to i.) expand upon the great work of previous Geothermal Rising leadership teams to support continuous improvement, ii.) contribute commercialization strength and experience to members of the Geothermal Rising community, and iii) identify and engage newcomers of the geothermal industry value chain which will promote growth, expansion, and commercialization of the industry.



## Government Candidates – one (1) seat available



**Elisabeth de Jong** currently serves as an elected board member of Geothermal Rising (January 2020 – December 2022). Elisabeth has over 7 years of professional experience as a public servant in the energy industry. Prior to her current role, Elisabeth served as the program administrator for the California Energy Commission's GRDA grant and loan program and project manager of California's Lithium Valley Commission.

Elisabeth is a graduate of Cal Poly Humboldt, holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science with a focus on energy and climate.

Elisabeth is passionate about supporting and promoting educational opportunities to highlight everything geothermal resources has to offer. She values collaboration, transparency, diversity, and is a proud member of Women in Geothermal (WING).

**Election Statement:** Elisabeth de Jong has served on the Geothermal Rising Board since January 2020. In that time, Elisabeth has enjoyed actively participating in the Communications Committee, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, and the Conference Planning Committee. Elisabeth is currently spearheading a project with a small team of volunteers to support and implement a geothermal museum exhibit for permanent and mobile applications. The museum project is an exciting new opportunity to reach the organization's goals of broadening awareness and improving public sentiment of geothermal energy.

Elisabeth is honored and humbled by her nomination to continue to serve as a board member of Geothermal Rising. Her experience working with State and local governments gives her confidence to be a government representative on the board.

If re-elected, Elisabeth plans to support the organization's transition under new leadership, encourage improving diversity, equity, and inclusion within the industry, and encourage outreach to educate a broad audience about the organization and geothermal community as a whole. Elisabeth aims to use her role as a Geothermal Rising board member to make the geothermal industry more accessible to everyone.

Geothermal Rising has a bright future and countless opportunities to modernize and become more influential. Elisabeth looks forward to supporting Geothermal Rising's future and hopes to do so in her capacity as a board member.



## At-Large Candidates – one (1) seat available



**Dr. Joseph Batir** is Geothermal Lead at Petrolern with more than 10 years of experience in geothermal exploration and research. He guides Petrolern's work in thermal resource characterization, oilfield energy conversion, geothermal reservoir modeling, and new technology tool development. Dr. Batir's expertise is geothermal resource identification and quantification through surface and subsurface geospatial analysis, play fairway mapping, and numerical modeling, which has led to discoveries of unknown and underutilized energy resources. Much of Dr. Batir's recent work has focused on sedimentary basin geothermal industry operators and stakeholders. His work involves the collation of disparate data and application of innovative analysis methods to discover new geologic insights and identify additional energy opportunities. Dr. Batir has performed projects throughout the Continental United States, Gulf of

Mexico, Alaska, Africa, Colombia, and Iceland. Dr. Batir was awarded a B.Sc. in Geology from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, a M.Sc. in Geothermal Energy from the School for Renewable Energy Science, and a Ph.D. in Geophysics from Southern Methodist University. Dr. Batir has been a member of GR since 2009, is a past graduate student scholarship recipient, and is a past GR student committee member.

During his spare time, Dr. Batir is host of the Energy Transition Solutions Podcast, where he interacts with all facets of energy including upstream oil and gas operators, service companies, investors, and end user consumers of energy. Whenever given the opportunity, Dr. Batir highlights the benefit and value of geothermal energy on his show. Through all of these interactions, he has gained a unique perspective of the entire energy ecosystem, where geothermal fits into the present and future energy basket, and how to increase opportunities for geothermal growth in untapped markets.

**Election Statement:** I am grateful for the nomination to serve on the GR Board of Directors. My passion for geothermal has always been focused on building diverse energy use applications in novel locations. If elected, my goal as a board member would be to further geothermal by increasing GR's role in geothermal energy awareness, highlighting the importance of geothermal energy in our world's future energy mix and the vital role it can play to bring an equitable energy transition. I would achieve this goal by seeking to complete the following objectives: (1) increase and diversify GR membership to include complementary industries and stakeholders, (2) develop a targeted educational/outreach program for non-geothermal industry professionals, and (3) build collaborative relationships to magnify our impact as an industry.



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**Leland Davis** is the Vice President of Operations and a Senior Geoscientist at Geologica Geothermal Group. I have been active as a geoscience consultant in the geothermal industry since joining Geologica in 2008.

I have spent the last 15 years participating in all stages of geothermal project development including early-stage exploration, wellfield drilling and development, and long-term reservoir management. I have spent my time at Geologica developing a keen interest in well test planning and implementation, project management, sampling of gases, liquids,

and vapors, and 3-D conceptual model development as they pertain to resource evaluation and project due diligence. My broad work experience across multiple disciplines over the last 15 years with Geologica provides a practical understanding of all facets of geothermal development including geology, geophysics, geochemistry, conceptual modeling, well targeting and design, reservoir engineering, and energy conversion. I've had the privilege of working on geothermal projects around the world in all stages of development including California and Nevada, the Western US, Turkey, Central America, Eastern Europe, the South Pacific, Southeast Asia, East Africa, and the Caribbean.

**Election Statement:** Yes, this is my second year running for a seat on the GR Board, but I must admit, this year I am taking the opportunity much more seriously. When I was nominated last year, I was honored to be acknowledged, but my interest was only peripheral to the many other things I had going on in my life. However, this year I accept this honor with a more experienced perspective. I spent the last year as the general chair of the GRC planning committee and helped spearhead the kick-off of our exciting new fundraising campaign in support of a new geothermal-focused exhibit at The Discovery Museum here in Reno. During this time, I've had the honor to work closely with a wide array of incredible volunteers on the committee that work hard every day to make our industry succeed. I also had the opportunity to meet a lot of new colleagues and engage with a number of present and past board members that have volunteered their time above and beyond their every day jobs to represent the geothermal industry both at home and abroad.

I believe that with the recent departure of our previous Executive Director, Geothermal Rising finds itself at exciting cross-roads. We have the opportunity to learn from the past and expand our future. Each GR Board member, now more than ever, will have the unique opportunity to help in shaping the future of not just GR as an organization, but how, as an association, we elevate our industry not just in the US but as a leader on the global stage as we elevate geothermal energy in the fight against climate change. Having had the opportunity to learn from some of the best and brightest in the industry over the last 15 years, I feel it is time to give back to an industry that I love being a part of, representing the next generation to shepherd GR on a path towards success for the next 75 years and beyond. I would be honored to continue to serve this industry as a member of the GR Board.





**Reza Khastoo'**S employer of 20 years, Scientific Drilling International (SDI), has been a stalwart of the geothermal well construction and well intervention space over several decades. Mr. Khastoo is responsible for a cased hole services product line that has pioneered technologies that benefit some of the world's largest sites of geothermal energy production. In his roles at SDI, Reza has been involved in field operations, sales and marketing and product development.

Mr. Khastoo holds a BSc in geology from Edinburgh University and received an MBA from Durham University (UK) in 2021. Reza resides in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

**Election Statement:** Sharing knowledge, stimulating discussion, and generating interest in geothermal energy is a great passion of mine. I am a frequent contributor on LinkedIn and my geothermal-themed posts in the past year have accumulated a total of 166,000 views. This alludes strongly to an ability to promote the geothermal cause to a large and diverse audience. For many years, I have had one foot in oil & gas and another in geothermal. This translates to a highly relevant background and perspective as we strive to transition and proliferate geothermal energy utilization.

Admittedly, I am a relative outsider in the geothermal community having not served in any voluntary positions of note prior to this candidacy. However, I firmly believe that an atypical candidate is just what the board needs at this very critical juncture of the planet's future. With my voice, energy and enthusiasm, I can help GR reach new audiences, expand its sphere of influence in the eastern hemisphere particularly, and become a key link with the oil & gas community, which, as we know, we very much rely on for a plethora of subsurface technologies that enable geothermal energy production. I would be honored to receive your vote and I would represent the organization with the utmost integrity and responsibility, with a relentless pursuit of its goals.



**Dr. Will Pettitt** is the Global Discipline Lead for Geothermal Energy at Baker Hughes. Will helps position this international energy technology company as a market leader in the Energy Transition, helping develop and execute the organization's vision for taking geothermal energy forward. Dr. Pettitt is a thought leader on developing and deploying the use of Earth's heat. Before joining Baker Hughes, Will was Executive Director of Geothermal Rising, the largest nonprofit professional and trade association for geothermal energy worldwide, and previously led geomechanics and microseismics consulting, software, and research companies. He publishes and speaks on a wide range of topics and participates in government and organizational committees. Dr. Pettitt is an applied geophysicist with a B.Sc. and a Ph.D.



**Election Statement:** My experience as Executive Director over the past four years gives me a unique position to help Geothermal Rising continue evolving with the community and guide its growth in these unprecedented times of industry innovation and expansion. As an industry leader, with connections into both the geothermal and oil & gas communities, I will work to bring together diverse perspectives as a Member of the Board and continue our growth trajectory.

The industry growth we're experiencing is being driven by energy decarbonization and security goals in policy frameworks that encourage transition to renewable and clean energies with supply stability and reliability. There is still much work to do for our community to take advantage of these frameworks, build research, development, and demonstration, and encourage public and private investment. The next phase for our association must include a vision for a mainstream and mature representation of our community across all geothermal technologies in electricity generation, direct heat use, and heat pumps. Our association must thrive through a broad membership that speaks with one voice, authority, and gravitas.