

Development of Exploration Methods for Engineered Geothermal System through Integrated Geoscience Interpretation

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Tracer and Technologies

□ Project Timeline

Start Date	End Date	Percent Complete
May-10	Dec-12	0

□ Budget

Total Project	DOE Share	AltaRock Energy Inc.
\$1,975,640	\$1,449,712	\$525,928

- Funding Received in FY09: \$ 0
- Funding for FY10 (4-30-2012): \$1,450,120

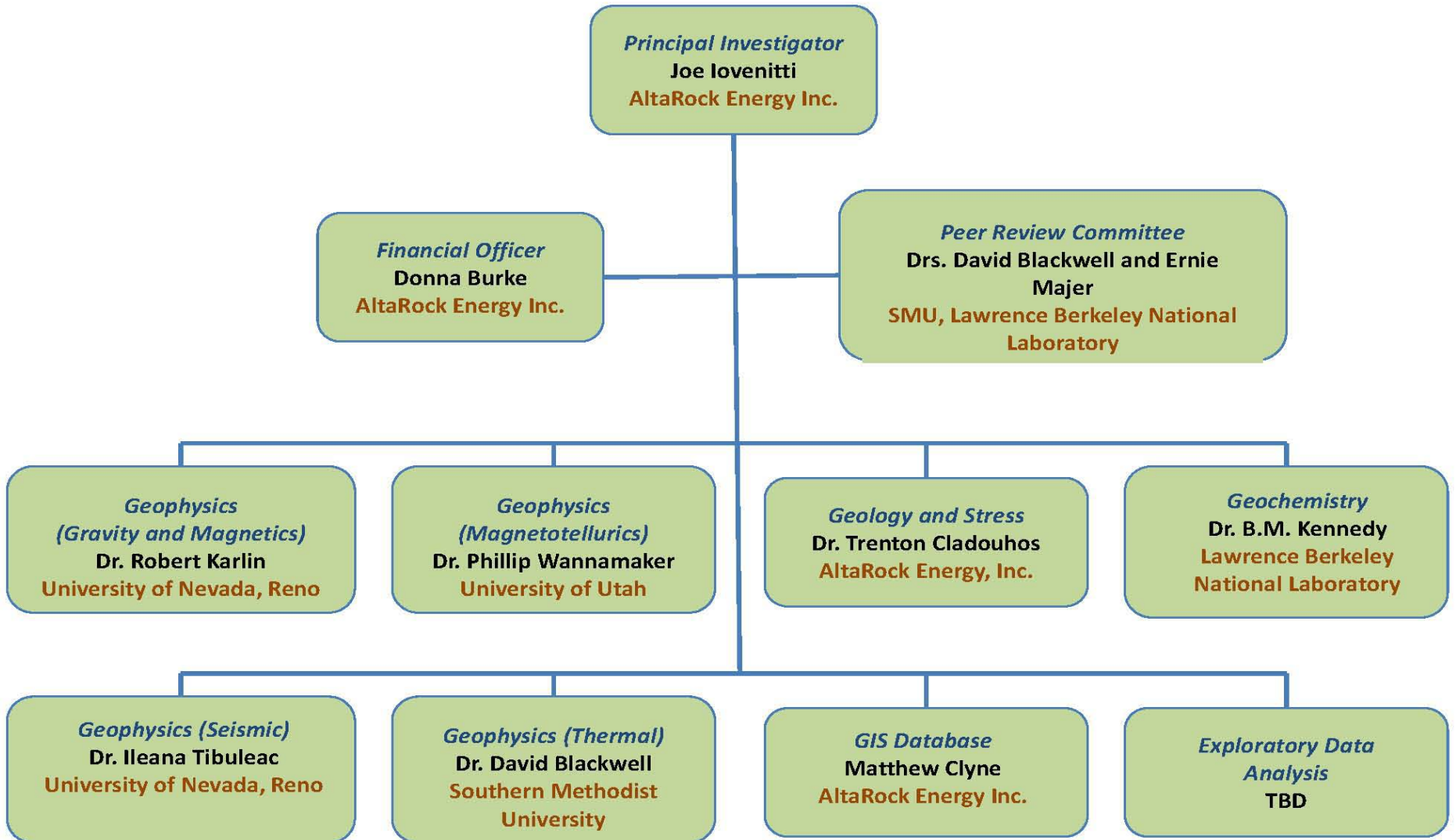
□ Barriers

- Negotiate performance end date from 2-2012 to 12-2012 due to when funding was received
- Obtaining BLM NEPA Determination Timely
- Fair weather for field work

□ Partners

University of Nevada, Reno	Univeristy of Utah	Southern Methodist University
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory		

Organizational Chart



□ PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Cost Impacts—Exploration costs will decrease, probability of meeting drilling objectives will increase
- Innovative Aspects
 - ❖ Developing interdisciplinary method for synthesizing, integrating, and evaluating geoscience data
 - ❖ Demonstrating new seismic techniques based on ambient noise
 - Technique does not require local earthquake data
 - Inexpensive method to image subsurface
 - ❖ Extending 2-D MT modeling and mapping to 3D and generating a – derived temperature map
 - ❖ Jointly inverting gravity, magnetic, seismic, and MT data to reduce non-uniqueness of geophysical data
 - ❖ Coupling He-data with other geochemical measurements to generate a subsurface temperature map

□ **Deploy, Test and Calibrate Non-invasive EGS**

Exploration Methodology integrating geoscience data to predict temperature and rock type at a scale of 5km x 5km at depths of 1-5km

□ **Use Statistical Methods** to minimize the uncertainty and non-uniqueness associated with the interpretation

□ **Employ Subject Matter Experts** to synthesize and interpret the information into a conceptual EGS model that can be used to infer temperature, rock composition, and stress at the depths of interest.

□ **Project Tasks and Milestones** – straight-forward and logical

- ❖ Task 1—Collect and Assess Existing Public Domain Data
 - Compile and assess the data relevant for the project
- ❖ Task 2—Design and Populate a GIS Database
 - Produce a GIS database populated with relevant data
- ❖ Task 3—Statistically Assess Public Domain Data (from Task 1)
 - Statically robust data set and development of baseline calibrated model and baseline EGS favorability map

- ❖ Task 4—Collect “New” Field Data to Improve Model Resolution
 - High-resolution dataset merged with existing (baseline) dataset

Go/No-go Decision: Based on the analysis of the existing and newly acquired data, is it appropriate to go forward

- ❖ Task 5—Develop Enhanced Conceptual Model
 - Calibrated enhanced conceptual model, enhanced EGS favorability map, an assessment of the methodology used and degree of improvement between the baseline and enhanced conceptual models/favorability maps
- ❖ Task 6—Project Management and Reporting
 - Maintain schedule, publications/presentations at geothermal and scientific meetings, Decision Point Topical Report, and Final Report

□ Technical Feasibility

- ❖ AltaRock is teamed with Subject-Matter Experts (SMEs), most have worked in the study area, and are
 - Knowledgeable about existing data, methodologies, and improvements in the “state-of-the-art” to meet the Objectives

- ❖ Pre-proposal submission consensus among SMEs on the technical approach
- ❖ Project requires a coordinated effort to obtain data that can be compared and analyzed collectively
- ❖ GIS database will be prepared to retrieve, visualize, analyze, compare, and integrate the data

❑ Accomplishments

- ❖ None at the time of this submittal

❑ Team Qualifications

- ❖ Interdisciplinary team with expertise in all Project elements provides a high likelihood of Project success
 - UNR (gravity, magnetic, & seismic) - facilities for laboratory tests (if required), capabilities in field work, internal staff actively researching analytical, modeling, and field measurement techniques
 - University Utah (MT) - experience in survey design, exploring geothermal resources within the Basin and Range, and developing “state-of-the-art” quantitative MT resistivity inverse models
 - SMU (thermal) - extensive thermal characterization and modeling experience along with an extensive geoscience database on Ixie Valley
 - LBNL (geochemistry) –extensive geothermal geochemistry and isotopic expertise

- ❑ **PI** has overall responsibility and accountability for the administrative, budget, technical, schedule, and reporting components of the project
- ❑ **Financial Officer** is responsible for financial tracking and reporting (e.g., SF-272 and SF-269A forms)
- ❑ **Peer Review Committee** is responsible for reviewing team progress, Decision Topical Report and Final Report and independent assessment of the scientific validity of work conducted
- ❑ **Task Leaders** are responsible for specific subject matter areas in their area of expertise; see organizational chart
- ❑ **Student Participation** in tasks with an University affiliation

- ❑ **Scientific/Technical Direction** coordinated through the PI
- ❑ **Publications** coordinated through the PI who has final authority
- ❑ **Intellectual Property Rights** remain with AltaRock, a qualified small business
- ❑ **Communication Plan**
 - ❖ PI will be the AltaRock single point of contact for DOE and will update DOE PM in a manner and frequency to be identified
 - ❖ Bi-weekly meetings between PI and the Task Leaders
 - Communication by e-mail and telephone calls, as required
 - Project staff will maintain a project notebook (electronic) to log activities and findings
- ❑ **Dispute Resolution** a tiered approach with disputes addressed at the lowest level, and if unsuccessful, then disputes will be escalated to the PI who has final authority

□ Project Duration: 2 years+

Task ID No.	Description	Duration
1	Collect/Assess Existing Public Domain Data	5/10 - 7/10
2	Design and Populate GIS-database	5/10 - 9/10
3	Statistically Assess Existing Public Domain Data	8/10 - 10/10
4	Improve Model Resolution at Dixie Valley	10/10 - 2/12
Go/No Decision		
5	Develop Enhanced Conceptual Model	2/12 - 7/12
6	Project Management and Reporting	4/30 - 12/18

□ Spend Plan

Task ID	Description	Budget
1	Collect/Assess Existing Public Domain Data	\$238,914
2	Design and Populate GIS-database	\$188,941
3	Statistically Assess Existing Public Domain Data	\$39,809
4	Improve Model Resolution at Dixie Valley	\$1,014,926
Go/No Decision		
5	Develop Enhanced Conceptual Model	\$167,977
6	Project Management and Reporting	\$325,481

□ FY10

- ❖ Task 1. Collect and Assess Existing Public Domain Data
- ❖ Task 2. Design and Populate GIS Database
- ❖ Task 3. Statistically Assess Existing Database
- ❖ Task 4. Improve Model resolution at Dixie Valley (initiate)

□ FY11

- ❖ Task 4. Improve Model resolution at Dixie Valley

□ Key Milestones

- ❖ Geo-referenced, statistically valid database for the existing public domain (baseline) data
- ❖ Baseline calibrated EGS conceptual model
- ❖ Baseline EGS favorability map

Supplemental Slides

□ EGS EXPLORATION R&D

- ❖ Develop a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach using existing (baseline) coupled with subject matter experts (SMEs) and baseline + newly acquired geoscience exploration data coupled with SMEs (enhanced) to determine the data combination(s) demonstrating the greatest potential for identifying EGS drilling targets using non-invasive techniques.
 - Proposed methodology expected to increase spatial resolution and reduce non-uniqueness inherent in geoscience data, thereby reducing uncertainty in the primary EGS selection criteria.
 - Statistical methods used to analyze uncertainty, non-uniqueness, and data inconsistencies, and assess the prediction capability of variables extracted from the data. SMEs will interpret available information into a conceptual EGS model with the goal of inferring temperature, rock composition, and stress at a scale of 5km x 5km at depths of 1-5km.
 - Comparative analysis Baseline and Enhanced EGS favorability maps to determine degree of improvement