

POSTCONVENTION WORKSHOP

W-12: Key Business and Technology Enablers and Barriers of the Geothermal Industry in 2026

George R. Brown Convention Center, Room 360B

Start	Stop	Presentation	Speaker	Affiliation
8:30 AM	8:35 AM	Introduction	Shuvajit Bhattacharya/Nicole Wagoner/Gabe Matson	Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin/Great Basin Center for Geothermal Energy/Fervo Energy
8:35 AM	8:55 AM	The USGS National Geothermal Resources Assessment and Characterization project: Working to address Congressional mandates and geothermal research needs	Justin Birdwell	USGS
8:55 AM	9:15 AM	Enhancing Geothermal Exploration Success: Leveraging Geothermal Play Fairway Analysis (GPFA) to Target Anomalous Heat Mechanisms and Optimize Gradient Predictions	Kevin McCarthy	Baker Hughes
9:15 AM	9:35 AM	Enhancing Geothermal Project Economics Through Critical Mineral Co-Production: A Case Study in the Smackover Formation	Chelsea Neil	Los Alamos National Lab
9:35 AM	9:50 AM	Break		
9:50 AM	10:10 AM	Navasota (Texas): A Drilling and Geothermal Testbed	Chuck Wright	NOV
10:10 AM	10:30 AM	Geothermal for Power Grid in the Western United States	Laura Chiaramonte	Electric Power Research Institute
10:30 AM	10:50 AM	Current Business and Technology Enablers and Barriers to the Geothermal Industry: Comparing the Western US market with the Gulf States	Shuvajit Bhattacharya	Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin
10:50 AM	12:00 PM	Panel Discussion		