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Mr. Rodger Bryan
Bureau of Land Management Winnemucca District
5100 East Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

August 8, 2008

Dear Mr. Bryan:

Ormat Nevada requests approval to perform a passive seismic survey at Desert Peak. The information generated from this activity is a necessary component of the DOE funded effort to develop technologies and methods to create engineered geothermal systems (EGS). The Desert Peak project is intended to demonstrate reservoir stimulation technologies by creating and connecting fractures in the impermeable peripheral parts of an active geothermal field.

Reflection seismic methods are regularly used in the petroleum industry to interpret stratigraphic and structural relations in sedimentary environments. The method requires a controlled seismic source of energy and an array of geophones at fixed distances and spacing to sense the seismic signals. For the proposed survey, the energy source will be a truck-mounted vibrator (trademark name Vibroseis) and geophones in two linear arrays totaling roughly 5 line miles (map attached). Interpretations depend on knowing distances, travel times and exact source characteristics to evaluate the reflected signal arrival at a geophone to estimate the depth of the feature that generated the reflection. The proposed reflection seismic survey at Desert Peak will add significant information on the structure of the geothermal field, calibrate an existing passive seismic array installed around the field and correlate with the stratigraphy interpreted from existing wells.

The vehicle travels along the surface with minimal impact on the ground and no new roads or cleared surfaces are necessary to perform this survey. The timing of the survey in late August will allow us to take advantage of Blackhawk Geophysical crews and equipment that will already be in central Nevada and will allow integration of this information with other EGS data that will be completed in late Fall. If you have any questions please contact me (775)356-9029.

Scott Kessler
Regulatory Affairs Administrator

Cc: Dave Hays
Ken Loda

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