Understanding Superhot Rock Energy in Context



Heat Extraction Methods

Conventional (or Traditional) geothermal systems

- Heat extraction method: production of naturally occuring hydrothermal fluid.
- Alternative term: Hydrothermal systems
- **Example:** Most existing geothermal power plants today

Enhanced (or Engineered) geothermal systems (EGS) **NEXT GENERATION**

- Heat extraction method: Circulating water through fractures (either existing, created, or enhanced through stimulation) in hot rock.
- Alternative term: Engineered geothermal systems (EGS)
- Example: Fervo, Utah FORGE, Mazama¹

Closed loop geothermal systems (CLGS) (NEXT GENERATION

- Heat extraction method: Circulating water through continuous boreholes/underground heat exchanger in hot rock.
- Alternative term: Advanced geothermal systems (AGS)
- Example: Eavor, GreenFire, XGS²

Figure 1: Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS)

Note: Not to scale. Underground flow conduits for water may either involve below-ground piping or fracture networks (pictured).



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Where does SHR fit in the picture?

Superhot Rock (SHR) is the resource, not the method. Superhot rock energy comes from a subsurface geologic rock resource existing in-situ at or above the supercritical temperature of water (374°C in de-ionized water or higher in brine). SHR may use EGS or CLGS methods. Existing EGS and CLGS developers are either actively chasing SHR or plan to as the technology matures.

Figure 3: Building toward superhot Conventional **Other Next-Generation** Superhot Rock **Geothermal Systems Geothermal Systems Energy Systems** Ĩ Steam 150-300°C Heat Depth: 7-10km >400°C Note: Depth is not to scale

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