

Geothermal across the Americas

Part I: Geothermal – as a game changer: heat, power and minerals



Carlos Jorquera

President | Geothermal Council of Chile

Carlos Jorquera is an industrial civil engineer & MBA in Business Management (from UTFSM) and MBA in Energy Economics (Uni. Offenburg, Germany), with extensive experience in the geothermal sector. He started in 2007 in the sector working for a geothermal group in Iceland and has served in different positions as a consultant, representative of Icelandic companies for Latin America, and executive positions in national geothermal companies.

In addition, since 2016 he leads PiensaGeotermia, the Spanish-language geothermal news platform of ThinkGeoEnergy, where he focuses on the work of the geothermal industry at a global level with a focus on Latin America. He currently holds the position of Deputy Project Manager at Espinos S.A., where he is enhancing the company's renewable portfolio. Carlos was recently President of the Geothermal Council of Chile in March of 2022.



Dr. Lawrence (Trey) Meckel

Founder & CEO | Monteverde Energy

Dr. Lawrence (Trey) Meckel is an experienced leader in the global energy industry, and an expert in alternative energy, decarbonization, and oil & gas. During his career, spanning more than 30 years, he has identified, matured, commercialized and operated energy projects in Australia, SE Asia, North America, South America, and Africa.

In 2021, Dr. Meckel founded Monteverde Energy, a consultancy which advises on and manages alternative energy and decarbonization projects, including geothermal projects in Western Australia, where his technical work served as the basis for a most likely inferred resource estimate of 226 MW-e, and in SW Colorado, USA, where he is leading a project to quantify geothermal energy and district heating potential. He is also a co-founder of Groundbreaking Energy, a geothermal exploration company actively acquiring leases in Australia.

Dr. Meckel has a PhD in Earth Sciences from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH-Zürich), a Master of Arts in Geology from the University of Texas at Austin; and a Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Geology from Williams College (USA).



Chris Sladen

Chair/Founding Members, Geothermal Energy Advancement Association

Chris is an advocate for better energy solutions than the ones we have used so far!

Chris is well known across the energy sector, particularly for laying a framework for co-investment between public and private sector energy companies, whilst explaining the different elements of project, contract and country risk. He has a track record of helping governments and regulators to optimise private and co-investment.

His focus as a non-resident fellow at the Institute includes low carbon and zero carbon policies and energy technologies, particularly geothermal and hydrogen, being implemented across the globe, especially in Latin America, Europe/UK and Australasia.

Chris is author of the widely read 'Energy Matters' op-ed that tackles big energy issues using real-life personal experiences, extensive research and verification. Chris contributes to numerous media articles and research pieces, and is frequently quoted on energy and climate issues by both the energy press and mainstream media. His articles reflect his passion for the energy sector and how to achieve better outcomes. He has published extensively over five decades.

Chris also has experience acquired on Boards of companies, advisory boards, and business chambers, including the Board of Directors of the Institute of Americas from 2014 through 2021. He has a doctorate in geoscience from the University of Reading and has researched lake systems and their economic importance for over 40 years. His contributions to energy and education have been recognised by the UK Government with both an MBE and CBE, and also the Aztec Eagle from the Mexican Government – the first foreigner in the energy sector to receive this.



Jonathan Weisgall

Vice President for Government Relations | Berkshire Hathaway Energy

Jonathan Weisgall is Vice President for Government Relations for Berkshire Hathaway Energy Company, a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway. He joined CalEnergy (Berkshire Hathaway Energy's predecessor company) in 1993 as Vice President for Legislative and Regulatory Affairs.

Weisgall also serves as Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Directors of the Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies and vice chairman of the Geothermal Rising's Policy Committee. He is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, where he has taught a seminar on energy issues since 1990 and recently received the Charles Fahy

Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award as outstanding adjunct professor of the year. He has also guest lectured on energy issues at Stanford Law School, Haverford, and the Johns Hopkins Environmental Science and Policy Program and its School of Advanced International Studies. He is a member of the Lithium Valley Commission and has been named one of the top Washington, DC corporate lobbyists by *The Hill* since 2004.

Weisgall graduated from Columbia College and from Stanford Law School. He previously practiced law in Washington, D.C. at Covington & Burling, has written several law review articles, and has published articles in *Legal Times*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *Johns Hopkins SAIS Review*, and *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*.