

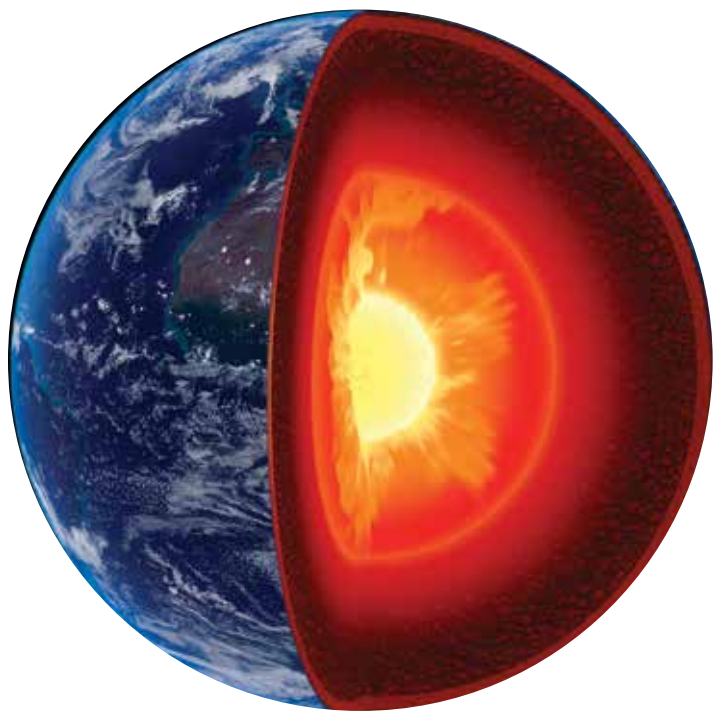
**INFO
101**

ENERGY

GEO THERMAL POWER



Matt Levine



Deep inside, Earth is very hot.



Mount Aso is a volcano in Japan.

Earth's heat provides *geothermal power*. This heat comes to the surface at or near *volcanoes*.



A volcano is a hole in Earth's crust. Melted rock and gases come up here.

Springs of hot water lie near volcanoes. People used their heat at least 10,000 years ago.



A hot spring in Wyoming

They bathed with it.
They also cooked with it.



People have used heat
from hot springs for
thousands of years.



The Romans bathed in hot springs about 2,000 years ago. They heated some buildings with geothermal power.

A hot spring used by the ancient Romans in Italy



This Idaho spa opened in 1892. It had a pool heated with geothermal energy.

A district heating system heats many buildings. The first geothermal system like this was used in 1892 in Idaho.

Piero Ginori Conti made the first geothermal generator in Italy in 1904. It could run a few light bulbs.



In 1960, the world's biggest set of geothermal plants opened.



The Geysers

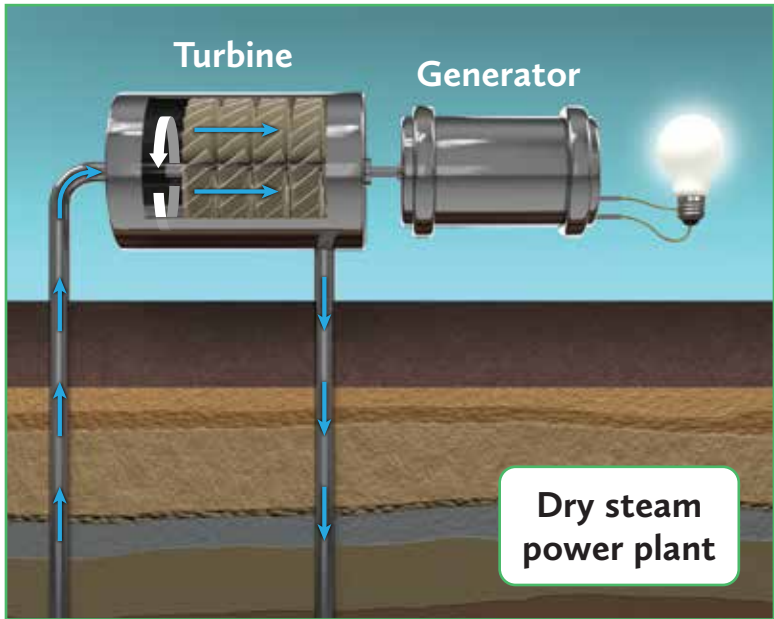
It is *The Geysers*, in California.
The plants make electricity.



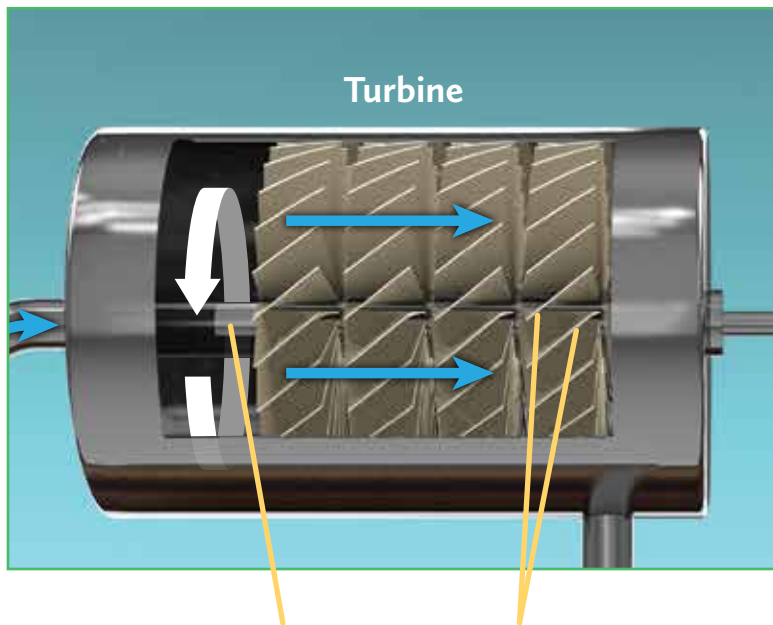
An aerial photograph of a geothermal power plant situated in a dense forest. On the left, a tall, silver metal lattice tower stands prominently. In the center, a black smokestack emits a thick plume of white steam that rises into the air. To the right of the smokestack is a large, circular, reddish-brown earthen structure, possibly a reservoir or a cooling pond. The foreground and background are filled with lush green trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

The Geysers serves
five California counties.

There are three kinds
of geothermal plants.



One is a *dry steam* plant.
Geothermal steam powers
turbines.



Central shaft

Blades

Turbines are engines with a central shaft. The shaft holds blades or fins.