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DRILLING GEOTHERMAL WELLS AT THE GEYSERS FIELD

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ABSTRACT

There are 68 years of drilling history at The Geysers field. During that time, the drilling methods have evolved from cable tool drilling to the current state-of-the-art rotary drilling practices. The tools and practices that were developed during this time form the basis of the technology that is being exported to other geothermal developments worldwide. Since much of the current drilling practice at The Geysers is identical with drilling oil and gas wells, the paper only addresses those drilling practices that differ from petroleum practice. However, the differences are both significant and numerous.

(COMPLETED PAPER WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GEYSERS MONOGRAPH)