

Geothermal Electricity

Nevada has a substantial resource of geothermal energy. 15% of the US geothermal resource is in Nevada, but Nevada has only 1% of the US population.

In 2014, Nevada had 20 geothermal power stations in operation with a generating capacity of 610 MW, generating 300 MW of electric power.

Nevada's geothermal resource is estimated by the National Renewable Energy lab to be 4.4 GW(e)

Level 1

From 2010 to 2015, geothermal electricity generation in Nevada increased at a rate of 8 MW(e) per year. Level 1 assumes that this rate of increase continues to 2050. This would add one new geothermal power station every three years.

Level 2

We assume that geothermal power production increases by 3% per year reaching 840MW(e) by 2050 or 20% of Nevada's geothermal resource

Level 3

We assume that geothermal power production increases by 5% per year reaching 1,700 MW(e) by 2050 or 40% of Nevada's geothermal resource

Level 4

Geothermal power production increases by 8% per year such that by 2050 we are using Nevada's entire geothermal resource of 4.4 GW(e) of electricity generation.

