

Creating a stronger and more influential REA

Summary

The REA Board of Directors seeks the members' approval in providing them with delegated powers to acquire the [Geothermal Energy Advancement Association \(GEAA\)](#) upon the satisfactory outcome to the REA's due diligence on the GEAA. The acquisition is supported by both REA and GEAA boards of directors.

Rationale

A criticism levelled at the renewable energy sector is that there is too much fragmentation of representation and REA's strategy is, where possible, to work to consolidate the number of voices, thus delivering clearer and more impactful messaging.

Fragmentation can confuse the listener and at worst dilute the strength of the message which is being conveyed. For a technology to be adequately represented, the companies and other stakeholders active in it, must be unified if it is to convince Government of the case for change. Geothermal is a case in point; an emerging technology with significant UK potential for both heat and power but one that currently has multiple voices speaking on behalf of it.

The leadership teams of both the REA and the GEAA are seeking to address this, and believe that coming together, combining GEAA's members and expertise with REA's own Geothermal members, will send a positive message to a sector that urgently needs leadership.

The cost of the acquisition is capped at £6K, this includes legal fees and absorbing the GEAA into the REA Geothermal Forum.

Recommendation

In accordance with clause 14.1.4 of REA's Byelaws, your REA Board of Directors is required to put this acquisition to the members to vote upon. In doing so, your Board of Directors recommends that members support the acquisition of the GEAA for the nominal fee of £1. If supported by the members, the acquisition will take place once the due diligence process is completed and the Board are satisfied with the findings, hence the request for delegated powers.

About the Geothermal Energy Advancement Association (GEAA)

The GEAA is a stakeholder driven association that advocates for increased investment for the development of Geothermal Energy and increased awareness of this sustainable source of near zero-carbon baseload energy for power, heat and hot water.



The Association operates as a not-for-profit organisation offering peer review, leadership and a dialogue in the energy transition debate.

GEAA has 20 members from industry and academia.

It runs an annual geothermal conference which aims to bring to the sector together to discuss the benefits of geothermal and how its deployment can be accelerated. It has also established an international network to share knowledge and expertise.

About the REA's Geothermal Forum

The REA's Forum has been active since 2011 and has achieved significant wins for the sector including planning reform and inclusion in the RHI. It also provides the secretariat for the deep geothermal All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG), where in recent years its focus has been. Like the GEAA, the REA collaborates with the National Geothermal Centre and will seek to build more consensus amongst the stakeholders. The GEAA members will join the REA's Geothermal Forum and become bound by the REA's byelaws and practices. Coming together in this way should deliver synergies. It will give weight to our intention to become the leading voice for the sector, positioning the REA to grow its geothermal membership and to providing more clout with decisions-makers.

The REA and GEAA jointly announced on 17th October 2025 their intention to merge subject to satisfactory outcome of due diligence and that they had signed a Heads of Terms Agreement to this end. In the accompanying press release, the following statements were made:

Trevor Hutchings, Chief Executive of the Renewable Energy Association said:

'This move establishes a powerful new platform to help unlock the UK's exciting geothermal potential. Whether that's for clean sources of heat for homes and businesses, or new low carbon power generation - geothermal has an important and currently under-valued role to play. I am determined that by the REA and GEAA coming together in this way we can ensure that geothermal energy plays a key role in the UK's journey to greater energy security, energy sovereignty, local jobs and lower emissions.'

Karl Farrow, Founder/ Chief Executive of CeraPhi Energy, Chair of GEAA said:

'We started GEAA over a Kitchen Table in the midst of Covid nearly 5 years ago, at that time there was no designated UK voice for Geothermal, we have slowly built a framework around a group of passionate individuals and organisations – big and small from academia to industry - who have come on that journey with us building GEAA into a solid membership base and internationally recognised association. We now need a bigger table and evolving GEAA into the geothermal arm of the REA as the Geothermal Energy Forum is a natural next step for GEAA and its members'.