



## Site Description

### Wells

(updated 2010)

#### Geologic setting:

Geothermal features: Numerous springs ~1.5 km north of Wells, NV were a stopping point on the emigrant trail, and although not particularly warm, they have never frozen over (Adams and Bishop, 1884, p.192). Three hot springs areas are located adjacent to a basin-and-range fault which runs along the western Snake Mountains north of Wells [figure](#) (Secs. 29,20,17, T38N, R62E).

The Wells Rural Electric in the town of Wells currently (2002) uses geothermal fluid sourced heat pumps to heat their building.

***Humboldt Wells, Hot Sulfur Springs:*** The Humboldt Wells system has moderate temperatures, but may be mixed with considerable cool waters. Sampling in this area was conducted to characterize the geothermal system along 25 m of a fault zone, and determine if any resources are hot enough for moderate temperature uses. Two springs were sampled near Wells, one in Sec. 20, T38N, R62E (54°C) and one in Sec. 27, T39N, R62E (40°C). The chalcedony and Na-K-Ca geothermometers are only slightly greater than measured temperatures.

#### ***Railroad Spring:***

***Threemile Spring:*** Threemile Spring (Sec. 20) flows from an 80- to 100-m-diameter travertine mound; some gas is emitted. Temperatures are reported as high as 61°C, and estimates of reservoir temperatures are as high as 184°C, based on a Na-K-Ca geothermometer. The thermal waters may have mixed with cool groundwater, however (Mariner and others, 1974).

#### ***Twelvemile Spring:***

Leasing information: Wells, a former Sierra Geothermal Power property, reverted to RAM Power during SGP's acquisition by RAM in 2010. No information is available on this 3,996 acre project.