Deep Geothermal Energy

Photonics for Harvesting

by Prof Arild Rødland NTNU* November 7th 2012 Neuchatel Switzerland

Drilling for Geothermal Energy

"...where we are and where we go..."

THE EPB STORY

THE SITUATION 2012



GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

ONLY WHERE ELEVATED TEMP GRADIENTS ARE PRESENT

REASON?

ACCESS (= drilling) COST TOO MUCH.

= 60-80% OF GEOTHERMAL DEVELOPMENT COST acc to independent accessment

SOLUTION?

Government SUBSIDIES

GOVERNMENTS GUARANTEE 18-28 EU CENTS PER KILOWATTHOUR FOR NEW ENERGY - which stalls development of new technology

New, cheap drilling methods

WHAT THIS PRESENTATION IS ABOUT

THE SITUATION 2012 II



GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

OVER-FOCUS ON ELECTRICITY WHICH ELEVATES SKY-HIGH THE DEMANDS ON TECHNOLOGY DEEPER WELLS, HIGHER TEMPERATURES*

*Strenthens image of geothermal energy only for the geologically privileged

While the fact is that

the biggest energy demand is on heating and cooling; perfectly served

by

hot water energy*

*which will in turn relieve demand on other electricity for it to serve higher purposes

Now, then

WHAT DRILLING TECHNOLOGY CAN DO

STATE OF THE ART

Well cost US\$ 1500-3000 /m

6000m DEPTH RANGE; sedimentary lowest, HDR highest;, STANDARD FINAL DIAMETER*
*Oilfield Standard = 8½" open - 7" cased borehole; 4 CASINGS**

**LARGER COST MUCH MORE



ENERGY PRICE* ? 10 - 20 EU¢ / kWh

*Model calculation for a specific well configuration; hot water energy at wellhead at average HDR geological conditions

THE GOOD NEWS:



There is IMPROVEMENT POTENTIAL

LOOK TO THE CONCEPT OF

ADAPTED CONVENTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

*ACT

ACT? WHERE DO WE LOOK?



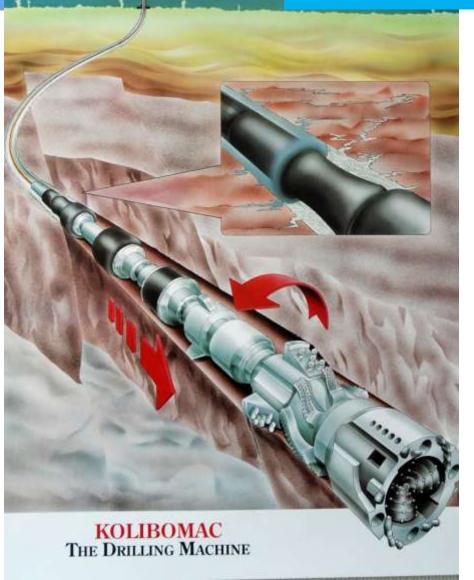
Not the oil industry*

*Neither motif nor need.

ACT EXAMPLES HOW WELLS CAN BECOME CHEAPER



- INNOVATIVE BREAKAGE
- GRAVITY INDEPENDANCE BY WELL TRACTOR
- BuoyPipe
- · CONTINUOUS LINER
- HOSE RETURN

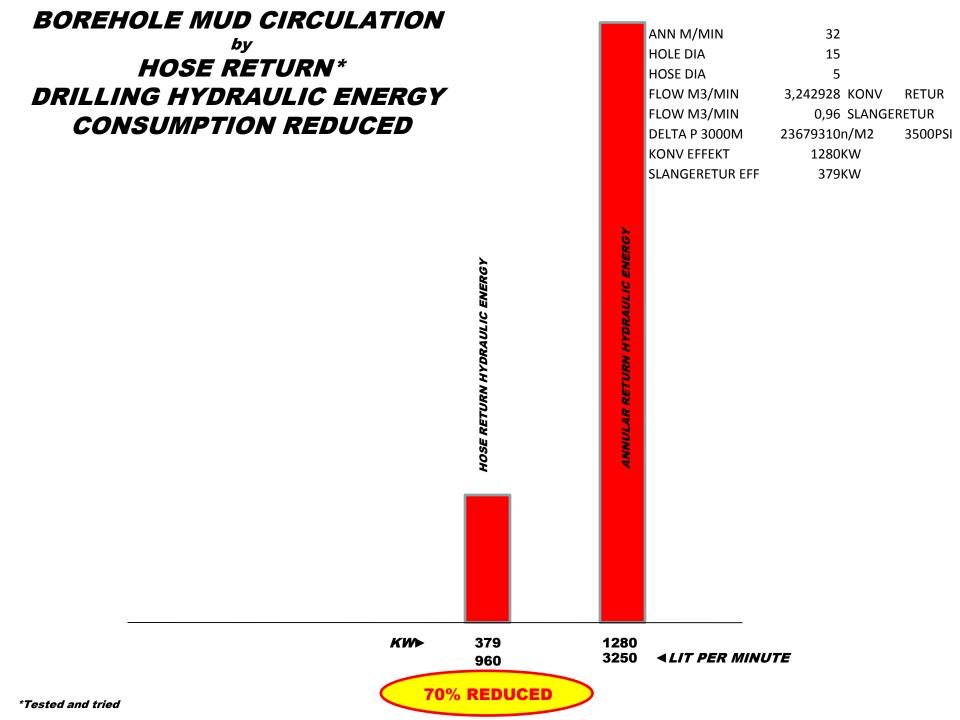


LET'S TAKE A LOOK

WHAT ONLY

HOSE RETURN

MAY ACHIEVE



In Summary

WHAT ACT CAN DO

Adapted Conventional Technology



1000-1500 US\$ / m

=

< 10 EU¢ / KWh*

i.e. not an unacceptable energy price in our times

DRILLING TECHNOLOGY Novel Methods 2012

- ❖ Flame Spallation and Fusion Drilling (1998)*
- ❖ Chemically Enhanced Drilling (2000) *
- ❖ Electro Pulse Drilling (EPB) (2005) *
- ❖ Metal Shot Abrasive-Assisted Drilling (2006) *

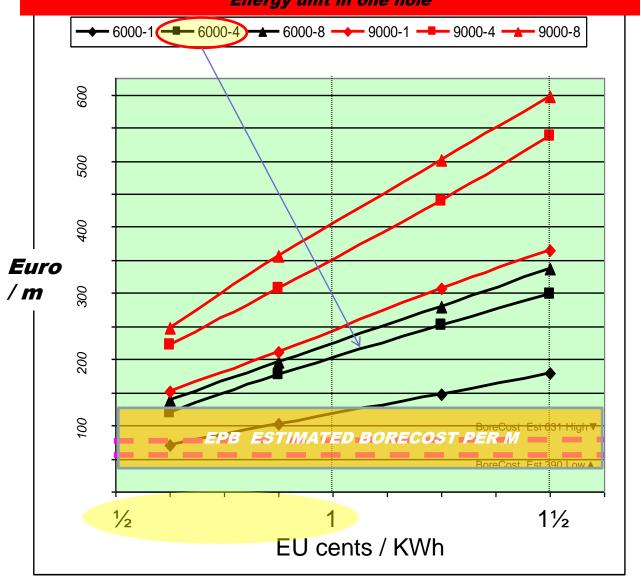
THIS PRESENTATION CONCERNS EPB

EPB Electro Pulse Boring

What can it do?

EPB

ENERGY-PRICE (WELLHEAD) VS BORECOST DEVIATED BRANCH HOLE ENERGY COLLECTOR Energy unit in one hole



NOTE THE DIAMETER **20" HOLE DIAMETER** EPB: Example Geothermal HDR Volume and Energy Efficiency Heat Exchanger: Increase with Diameter 6000m & 4 Branches ...this is what enables complete Hot Water Return Yellow Cold Inlet Water Red energy collector in one hole.... (Max 8 Branches @ 0 = 90°) 3000m 20" Mother Hole 8" Return Line w/ 30mm insulation Open Junction $\theta = 30^{\circ} : 4 \times 3000m$ **Heat Exchange Holes** 20" Heat Exchange 8" Return Line w/30mm insul Openended Pipe

CLOSED LOOP HEAT EXCHANGER IN ONE HDR HOLE

-a concept for guaranteed GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

availability EVERYWHERE

-no groundshaking (guaranteed)

EPB Electro Pulse Boring

How can that be?

EPB

It is HARD ROCK EXCAVATION TECHNOLOGY by

Electric Pulses

discharged between

fluid submerged electrodes
in contact with
the Rock Matrix



IT EXCAVATES ROCK
IN AMAZING VOLUMES
AT A MINIMUM OF APPLIED ENERGY
WHEN PROPERLY FORMATTED AND APPLIED

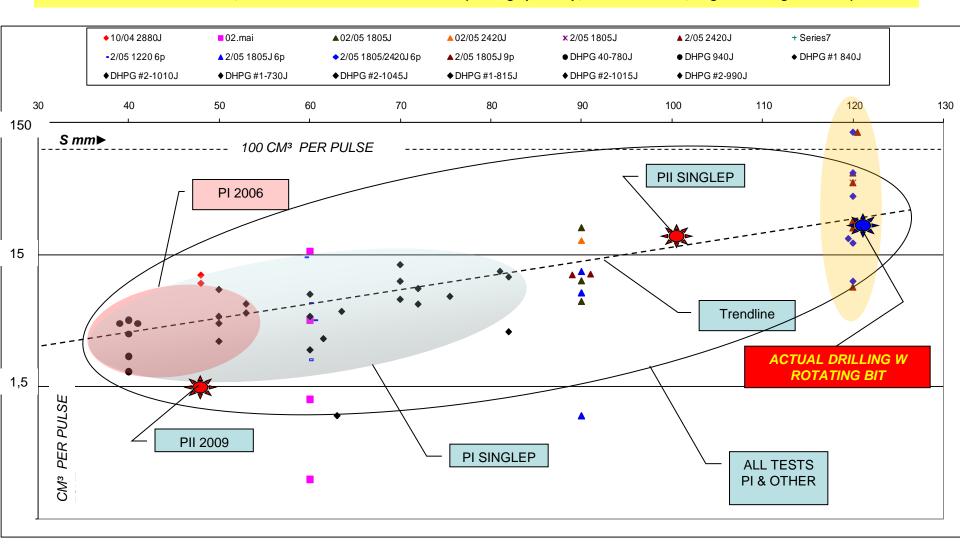
EPB Pulse Characteristics

EXAMPLE (magnitudes)

PULSE:	Value	Unit
VOLTAGE	<i>500</i>	KV
AMPS	10	KA
PEAK POWER	5	GW
AVG POWER CONSUMPTION	<i>25</i>	KW
DURATION	<i>300</i>	nSec
REPETITION FREQUENCY	10	Hz
DURATION; of TOT TIME	0,001	‰

EPB FACT BASE \$30-\$120 SUMMERIZED SEPT 2011

VOLUME PER PULSE; FUNCTION OF ELECTRODE GAPS (all singlepuls exp, varierende ladN, virg & non-virg locations)



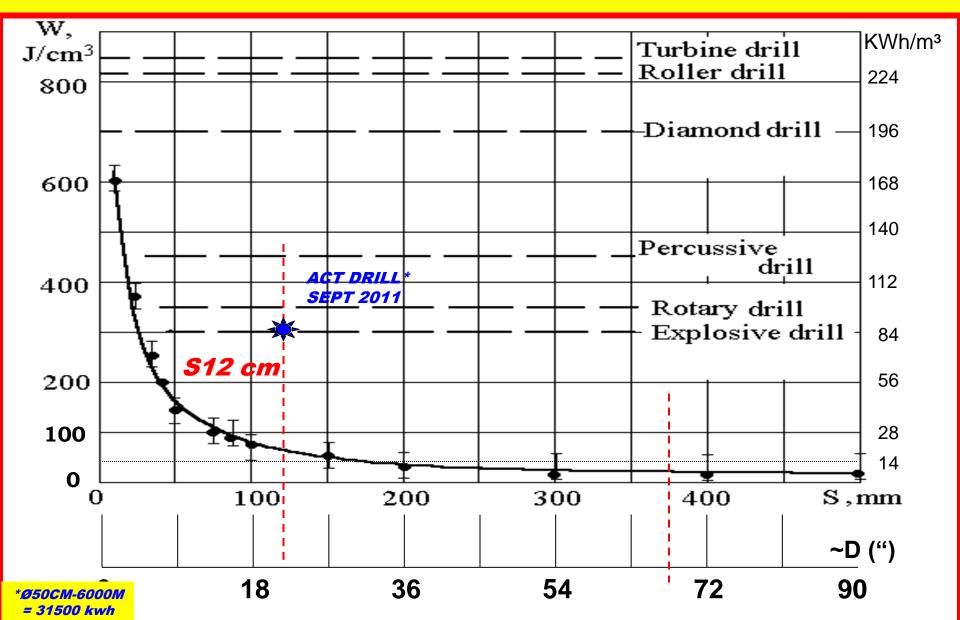
VOLUME EXCAVATOR

Example relevant for Granite

> **EXAMPLES**

Distance S Electrode Gap cm	Excavated Per Pulse	Excavated Per Hour	= Drill Speed Mtr Per Hour Ø20" Borehole
> S = 10	20 cm³	1,4 m³	7
> S = 15	100 cm³	7 m³	35
> S = 50	1000 cm³	70 m³	na

EPB Breaking Energy



ENERGY EFFICIENT EXCAVATOR

Examples

> EXAMPLES
Granite

Excavated Per Pulse

Energy per m³

> S = 12 cm:

100 cm³

> S = 50 cm:

1000 cm³

20 KWH

Epb is: VOLUME EXCAVATOR + ENERGY EFFICIENT & COST EFFECTIVE

SOME OTHER FAVOURABLE CHARACTERISTICS

Details yes, but important ones

➤ EPB favours LARGE DIAMETER BOREHOLES; faster, more energy efficient and cheaper;

more and more so as the diameter increases

> An EPB borehole diameter is bigger than the bit which made it;

it allows the option open to protect the hole as it is being drilled

in Summary:

EPB : An Emerging Technology

and
The Established Fact Base
indicates

20" HDR GEOTHERMAL WELL*

@ €100 /m (or less)

i.e.

geothermal energy

at

€1 per 100 KWh (or less)

...general availability...

^{*}Example values; real values may differ.

REALLY; NOT EPB ALONE, BUT



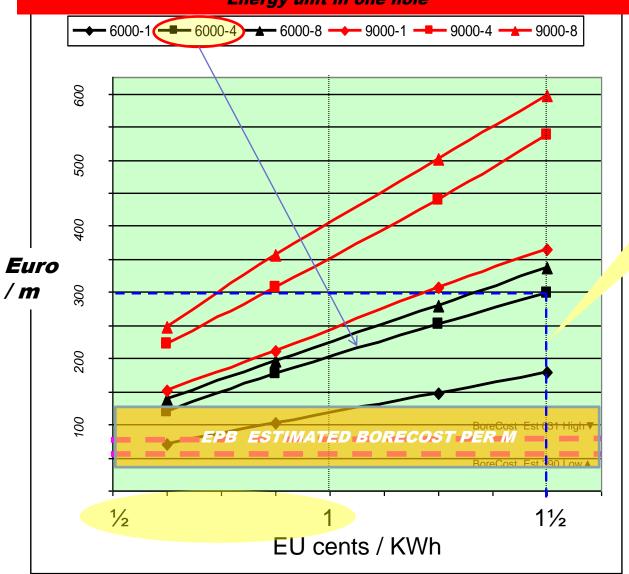


- = 20 KWH / m³ BREAKAGE*
- = 70% REDUCED HYDRAULIC ENERGY*
- = ONE DIAMETER CASING TOP TO BOTTOM *

≈ 100 € / m 20" HDR D6000m

EPB

ENERGY-PRICE (WELLHEAD) VS BORECOST DEVIATED BRANCH HOLE ENERGY COLLECTOR Energy unit in one hole

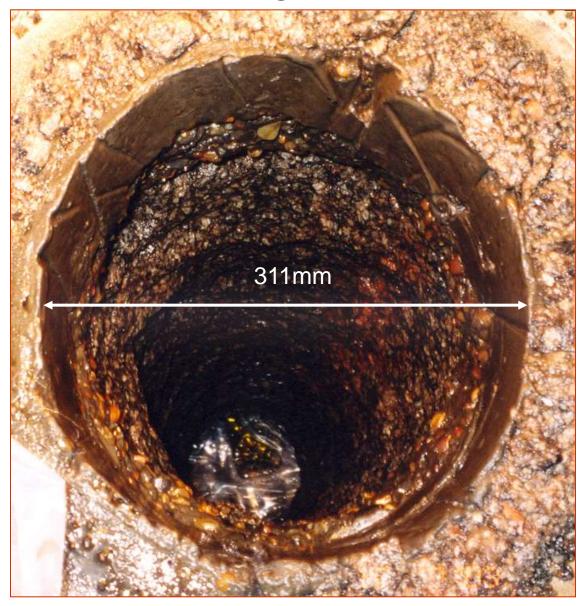


NOTE
THE SENSITIVITY
3x COST ► +50% PRICE!

EPB

Pictures from 15 years of R&D

EPB 2003: Drilling Full Scale in Granite



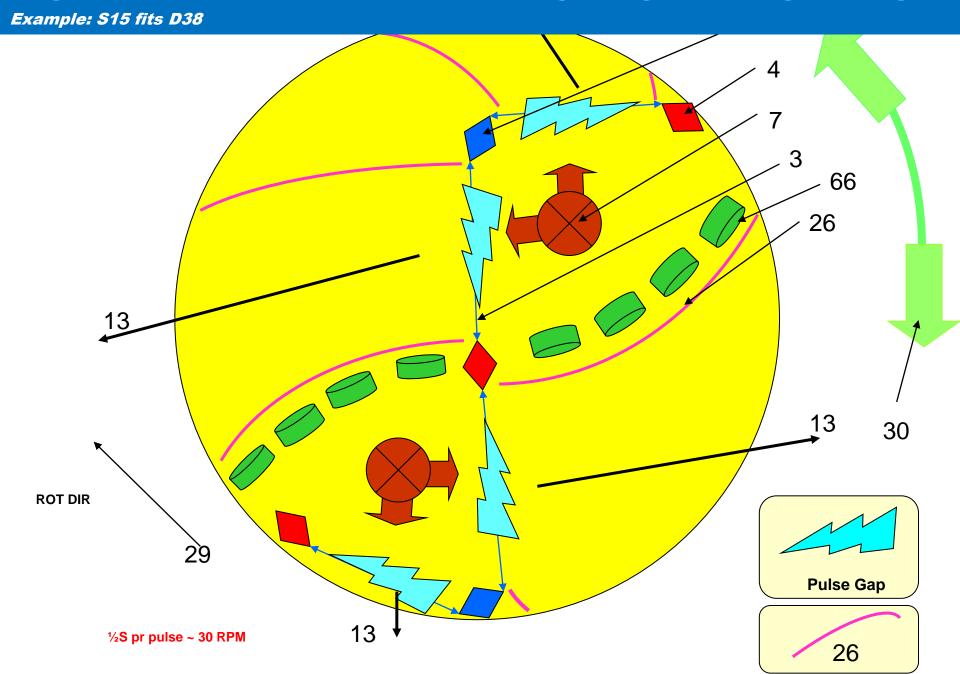
A LATER BIT DESIGN



LATER DESIGN YET INDICATING CRATERS & HIGHSPOTS



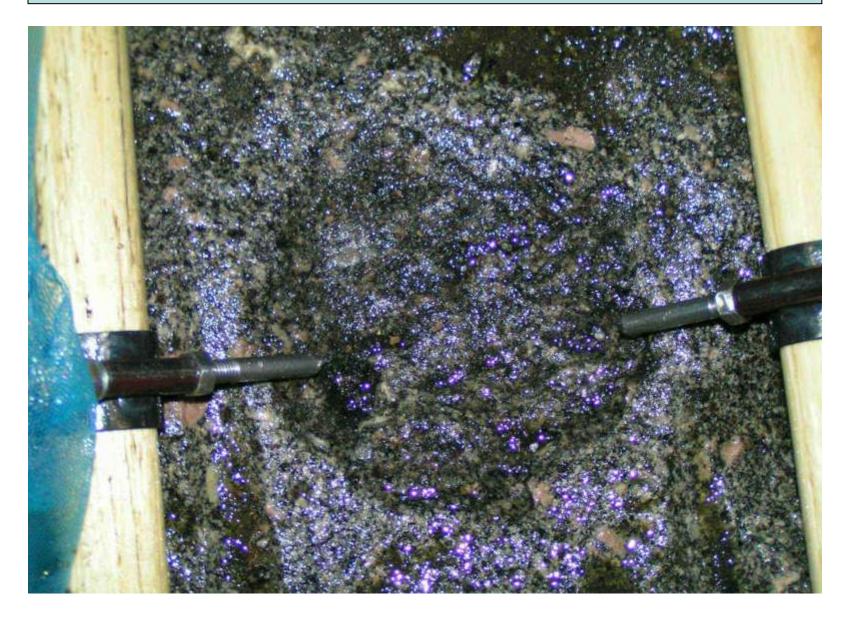
HOLE DIAMETER AND ELECTRODE DISTANCE



EPB 2005 CRATER: 376 cm³ 12cm gap 3 pulses



Fig Exp feb 2005: Crater at 12cm gap-3 pulses



2009 BOREHOLE FOOTPRINT



2009 CUTTINGS SELECTION



2009 EPB TESTRIGG BERGEN-NORWAY



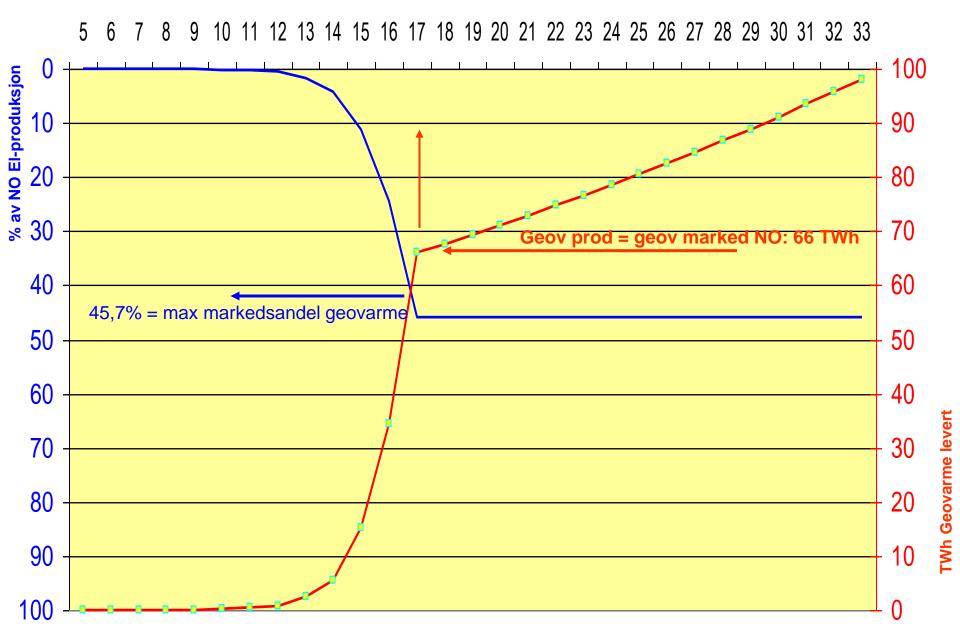
EPB Electro Pulse Boring

Where do we go from here?

NORWAY PERSPECTIVE

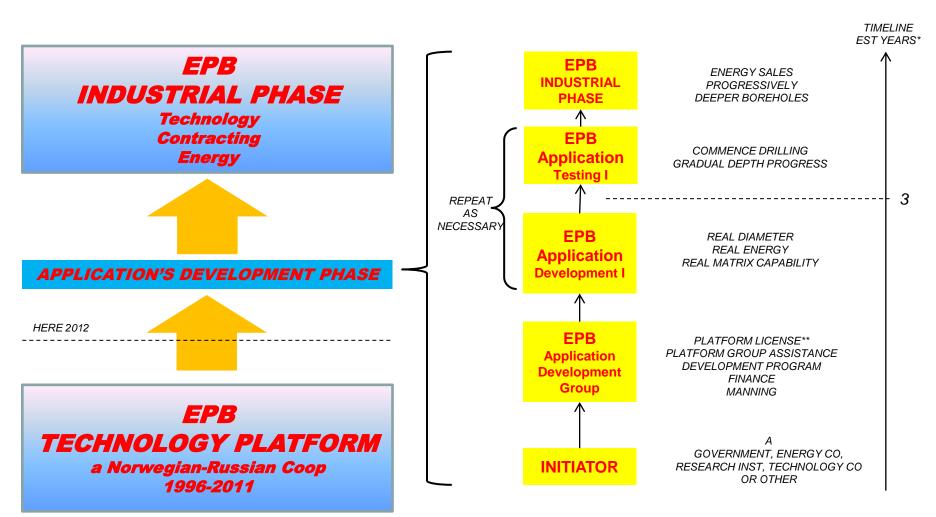
Årstall; 2005-2033

— % av EI-NO — TWh NO

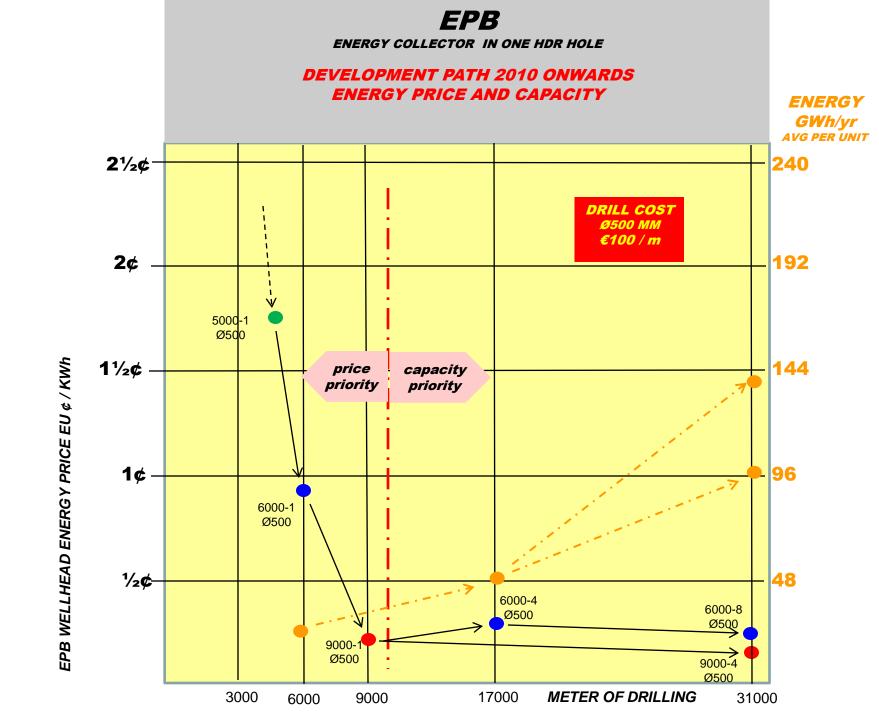


A GEOTHERMAL EPB APPLICATION: HOW CAN WE GET TO IT*?

*AN APPLICATION = AN EPB LARGE DIAMETER DEEP DRILLING RIG



*Nominal values. Applications are different. **A one-time fee ≈ 6-7% of platform cost



Where do we go from here, cont'd:



FULL STOP

THE SITUATION 2012 III



EPB

COUNTER-FORCES HAVE MOBILIZED

- 1 OIL COMPANIES PROTECT GAS: THE SHALE GAS INITIATED PRICE COLLAPS:
 They need no cheap geothermal competitor
- **2** UTILITY COMPANIES PROTECT ELECTRICITY: MARKET WORRIES:
 - They need no 1¢ /Kilowatthour geothermal energy competition
- 3 SUBSIDY TAKERS PROTECT SUBSIDIES: POLITICAL WORRIES:
 - The politicians must not learn about 1¢ /Kilowatthour drilling technology
- 4 TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES PROTECT MARKET POSITIONS:

PROGRESS GOOD ONLY WHEN INVENTED HERE

THE OLD LESSON IS HERE AGAIN:
PROGRESS DON'T COME EASY



who

guarded his chair with diligence for 35 years:

Inventions in multitude came past my desk.

Never I saw an as promising one as EPB.

True, many a bridge shall have to be crossed before fly like a 747 it does but fly it will, it already does

Wilbur & Orville are thoroughly past

THIS ENDS

the

PRESENTATION

Thank You for the Attention