

Introducing Mazama EMPOWER - Economic Mobilization: Partnered Opportunity, Workforce & Enterprise Readiness

Newberry Volcano Geothermal Project | Central Oregon

***Mazama EMPOWER** is Mazama Energy's economic development program designed to help local businesses, service providers, and skilled trades participate directly in geothermal drilling and field operations, building durable in-state capacity and long-term economic benefits.*

About Mazama Energy

Mazama Energy is a geothermal operator and development company advancing next-generation technologies to deliver reliable, carbon-free, baseload energy from deep geothermal resources. In Oregon, Mazama is advancing development at the Newberry Volcano geothermal site, a strategically important location with extensive prior scientific characterization, existing geothermal infrastructure, and long-standing coordination with federal and state agencies. These attributes make Newberry well suited for phased, responsible geothermal development aligned with Oregon's clean energy, resilience, and economic development objectives.

Mazama's work at Newberry builds on decades of geologic and geophysical research, prior drilling, and recent high-temperature field operations that have successfully demonstrated SuperHot Rock geothermal conditions. The site's existing infrastructure and permitted access provide a strong foundation for continued development while maintaining environmental stewardship and public transparency.

Newberry is positioned as a long-duration infrastructure and economic development opportunity, not a short-term construction effort. Mazama's approach emphasizes incremental development over time - supporting continuity of work for local contractors and service providers and enabling long-term workforce and supply chain planning as the project advances.

Why This Matters Now: Meeting Clean Energy Goals While Maintaining Reliability and Affordability

Electricity demand is rising across the country, including in Oregon, as states work to decarbonize their grids. New industrial loads and broad electrification require power that operates continuously, even as households and businesses face increasing costs, grid congestion, and climate driven extreme weather.

In November 2025, the Oregon Department of Energy released the Oregon Energy Strategy pursuant to HB 3630 (2023), establishing the state's first integrated, economywide framework for achieving energy policy objectives while maintaining reliability and affordability. The Strategy makes clear that decarbonization must occur alongside grid resilience, economic competitiveness, and cost stability for ratepayers.

Geothermal energy, including the Mazama Energy Newberry Project, directly supports that mandate. Geothermal is one of the few clean energy resources capable of delivering steady, 24/7 electricity. The U.S. Department of Energy highlights geothermal's high-capacity factor and its ability to operate around the clock with consistent output, attributes that align directly with grid reliability needs and constant industrial loads.

This is also a pivotal moment for geothermal. Next generation approaches, particularly Superhot Rock Enhanced Geothermal Systems, are expanding where geothermal can be developed and creating commercial pathways that move beyond pilot projects toward scalable deployment. By advancing this technology at Newberry, Mazama is helping strengthen clean electricity supply while reinforcing reliability, affordability, and long term resilience.

Newberry Project Overview and 2026 Field Activities

Beginning in Q2 2026, Mazama plans to undertake a new phase of drilling and field operations at Newberry focused on additional high-temperature wells. This near-term campaign builds directly on prior drilling, workover, and testing activities already completed at the site and is designed to further validate enhanced geothermal systems while establishing a foundation for longer-term development.

The 2026 phase is expected to involve sustained on-site operations over multiple field seasons, including drilling, construction, logistics, utilities, equipment support, and environmental services. While the scope of individual activities will evolve based on

technical progress and permitting, the overall approach emphasizes incremental development rather than one-time mobilization.

Long-Term Development Trajectory

From a state and regional perspective, the Newberry project represents a long-duration infrastructure and economic development opportunity, not a short-term construction effort. As technical milestones are achieved and permits allow, the site has the potential to support a multi-well development program over time, with activities extending across multiple years.

This phased trajectory creates continuity of work for local contractors, service providers, and skilled trades. Unlike single-project developments, a multi-well geothermal program supports workforce retention, skills transfer, and long-term business planning, allowing local firms to invest in people, equipment, and training with greater certainty.

Economic Development and Workforce Implications

The scale and duration of activity at Newberry creates meaningful opportunities for regional workforce development and rural economic stability. Geothermal development requires a diverse mix of skills spanning civil construction, transportation, equipment operations, mechanical services, utilities, environmental services, specialist drilling services, and industrial support.

Sustained activity over multiple field seasons supports:

- Retention of skilled workers in Central Oregon
- Development of specialized geothermal and high-temperature drilling expertise
- Career pathways for trades and technical roles
- Reduced boom-and-bust employment cycles typical of short-term projects

These attributes align closely with Oregon's workforce, resilience, and rural development priorities.

Supply-Chain Continuity and Resilience

Mazama's development approach recognizes that local and in-state supply-chain capacity is essential for both economic resilience and project efficiency. Over time, building regional service capability can:

- Reduce reliance on distant suppliers
- Shorten lead times and improve schedule certainty
- Increase responsiveness during time-critical operations
- Keep a greater share of project investment circulating within Oregon

This focus on supply-chain continuity supports not only the Newberry project, but also positions Oregon to serve as a hub for future geothermal development elsewhere in the state and region.

Introducing Mazama EMPOWER

Mazama EMPOWER (Economic Mobilization: Partnered Opportunity, Workforce & Enterprise Readiness) is Mazama Energy's structured economic development and engagement program designed to support local participation in geothermal development.

Mazama EMPOWER is not a contracting guarantee. Rather, it is a transparent framework that:

- Identifies service categories needed for geothermal projects
- Communicates readiness, safety, and documentation expectations
- Supports alignment between project needs and the capabilities of local and in-state businesses
 - Supports "site-ready" qualification for local and in-state providers by clarifying scopes and field interfaces early, and by guiding vendors through Newberry HSE and Permit-to-Work expectations so onboarding is predictable and safety-aligned
 - Bridges common readiness gaps related to documentation, certifications, compliance workflows, and operational sequencing
- Encourages repeatable, competitive participation as opportunities arise
- Builds long-term regional capacity tied to energy development

By formalizing this engagement, Mazama aims to make local participation practical, predictable, and scalable over time.

Environmental Stewardship and Community Interface

Environmental stewardship is a core pillar of Mazama's work at Newberry. Mazama is committed to conducting all activities at Newberry in compliance with applicable permits, environmental requirements, and safety standards. Operations are designed to be phased, monitored, and adaptive, with ongoing coordination among regulatory agencies and communication with local communities.

Environmental monitoring, reporting, and operational controls are integrated into project planning to ensure responsible development as activity progresses.

State Coordination and Role

Mazama views the State of Oregon as a partner in coordination, not a project sponsor. Development at Newberry proceeds through permitting and regulatory processes, with state agencies playing their respective roles in oversight, workforce development, and economic coordination.

Areas of constructive state engagement include:

- Inter-agency coordination and sequencing
- Workforce and training alignment
- Economic development and supply-chain visibility
- Long-term planning for clean energy infrastructure

Conclusion

The Newberry Volcano geothermal project represents a unique opportunity to pair next-generation clean energy development with durable economic and workforce benefits for Central Oregon and the state as a whole. Through phased development, long-term planning, and the Mazama EMPOWER program, Mazama Energy seeks to ensure that geothermal growth at Newberry strengthens local communities, builds in-state capacity, and contributes to Oregon's clean energy future.