

## **Australian Geothermal Project In China**

Four Chinese government agencies have signed an exclusive agreement with Australian hot rock proponent, Petratherm Limited, to identify high prospect geothermal energy projects in China. Under the agreement, Petratherm will help identify those engineered geothermal projects best able to exploit China's vast geothermal resources for base-load, large-scale and emission free sources of heat and electricity. The agreement represents the first commercial venture for Petratherm into geothermal energy since it was granted approval under the Australian Government's Asia-Pacific Partnership Program to undertake a unique renewable energy initiative in China. Petratherm says it was the only company to secure such approval from the member governments of the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Climate and Clean Development, which includes the United States, China, India, Japan, South Korea, Australia and more recently, Canada. Under the agreement signed on 1 November, Petratherm will now work on a cooperative project over the next 12 months with four Chinese Government institutions. The Chinese institutions will provide key geological and geophysical data to Petratherm to process using the same exploration and thermal modelling methods it successfully employed to identify Paralana in South Australia. "The objective in China is to generate a temperature depth map of the mainland which identifies the best sites above 200°C and less than four kilometres in depth for which first-pass 2D models can be generated for assessment," says Petratherm managing director Terry Kallis.

[Source esaa news]