

December 13, 2011

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman and Lisa Murkowski
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
U.S. Senate
Washington DC 20510

Dear Senators Bingaman and Murkowski:

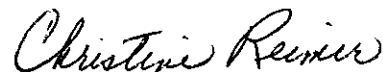
The National Ground Water Association (NGWA) wishes to express its support for S. 1142, the Geothermal Exploration and Technology Act of 2011. NGWA strongly supports the bill and geothermal heat pump technology as a step toward energy independence, reduced costs for consumers, and jobs for American manufacturers and installers.

The bill, if passed, will be a major step to ensuring the United States maintains a leadership position in geothermal heat pump technology. The bill's focus on enhancing research, development, demonstration and commercial application of geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy while maintaining environmental protections will help address the nation's energy needs in a sustainable manner.

NGWA is a nonprofit professional society and trade association. Our 12,000 members from all 50 states include some of the country's leading public and private sector groundwater scientists, engineers, drilling contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers of groundwater related products and services. The groundwater industry has multiple roles in assisting in energy production – from drilling to water resource assessment and water management.

Thank you for your leadership on energy and environmental issues.

Sincerely yours,



Christine Reimer
Government Affairs

Cc: Senators Tester and Reid



Hydrogeologic Address/ At: +005.37°N, 82.54.20°W on 10' of Alexandria silt loam soil underlain by clayey till averaging less than 30' in thickness, atop 250 to 300' of Ohio black shale (Devonian age). Well yields are 2 gpm or less, except in sand and gravel lenses, which can yield 15 gpm or more.