

Role of geomechanics in energy source and storage applications to be featured in 2013 Lausanne workshop



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The contribution which geomechanics makes to various endeavours in the field of energy will be the topic of discussion at the EAGE International Workshop on Geomechanics and Energy to be held in Lausanne (Switzerland) on 26–28 November 2013.

Geomechanics plays an important role in the utilization of conventional or alternative energy sources and in the development of sustainable energy management. The ground is the core of the geo-system integrated in a sustainable energy strategy, from energy extraction to energy storage. As a deformable porous multi-phase material, the ground is prone to complex multi-physical mechanical responses that must be understood to control safe and efficient exploitation or storage of energy resources.

Facing the limited fossil fuel resources, the way we exploit the hydrocarbon reservoir must be optimized in agreement with the geomechanical behaviour of the ground. In addition, alternative sources of energy must be promoted and developed in harmony with the

geo-system to reduce the worldwide dependency on fossil fuel. Finally, energy exploitation also means waste production. The ground offers a favourable host environment as a solution for energy geo-storage providing that the interaction between waste and earth are predictable and safe.

Facing the need for a deeper understanding of the highly-coupled response of geomaterials in interaction with energy infrastructures or waste storage, this workshop has general appeal to everybody involved in geomechanical engineering of energy geo-systems. This includes experts, companies, contractors, installers, and academic researchers. The main objective is to provide and to share comprehensive materials for the design and the exploitation of energy geo-systems with geomechanical application.

The three day workshop will consist of keynote speakers and oral and poster presentations. Plenty of time will be allocated to discussion. The EAGE is currently inviting interested contributors to submit abstracts for inclusion in the conference programme.

The call for papers is open until 20 June 2013. High-quality scientific work and contributions in innovative applied-oriented technologies are encouraged. Submitting authors may choose from the following topics:

- *Hydrocarbon exploration and production*: Naturally and hydraulically fractured reservoir, wellbore stability, unconventional energy sources, subsidence, fault reactivation.
- *Interactions between wastes and earth*: Nuclear waste disposal, CO₂ sequestration
- *Geothermal energy*: Shallow and deep geothermal energy, heat exchanger geostructures

In addition to the abstract proceedings which will be handed out to all participants, authors will be encouraged to submit their material for publication in the special issue of a peer-reviewed international journal specially dedicated to the workshop topics.

For companies, a large assortment of sponsorship opportunities is available with the double objectives of supporting the event and of giving high visibility of the sponsor to the target audience. The city of Lausanne, with Lake Geneva at its feet, is a perfect environment to host the event in autumn 2013. The actual workshop venue is the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL). Ice-breaker reception and workshop dinner will contribute to the atmosphere and the social success of the event.

EAGE and the workshop convenors, Prof L. Laloui (EPFL, Switzerland) and Prof B. François (ULB, Belgium), will be pleased to welcome you in lausanne for fruitful debates and discussions on this challenging issue of Geomechanics and Energy.

Please visit the workshop page — at www.eage.org for more information.