

A PROPOSAL FOR GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE CLASSIFICATION: AN INDONESIAN CASE

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ABSTRACT

As the nature of a resource study, it is not a final study, but it is a continuing process. So, the result of a resource study at one stage may be reevaluated at another stages. Furthermore, the results of the following stages may be different to those before, i.e. Ray support, be modified or may be totally different and sometimes an interpretation of one author is different with the others. However, generally the more complete the data and information gathered, the better a resource study is. To make a common understanding of the term used, it is necessary that a resource potential be classified to coincide with its field activities done i.e. exploration and exploitation stages. In this paper five classifications are proposed with each respected criteria, namely: hypothetical, speculative, possible, probable and proven classes. This classification is then applied to calculate all the Indonesian reserves, and results in the following: 840 MWe for proven class, 1 507 MWe for probable class, 7 797 MWe for possible class, and 26 000 MWe for speculative class.

1. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays there is no uniform international standard in the geothermal reserve classification. It often causes different potential values of the potential areas which have been surveyed by several companies. The different of the values is caused by different levels of surveys. It is different from the classification of oil and gas which have the same terms for the same conceptions. For example: people will be able to understand the meaning of "possible reserve" or "proven reserve" quickly because the terms are related to the accepted criteria. Based on this condition, the Directorate of Exploration and Production of Geothermal MIGAS established a small team consisted of the representatives from Directorate of Exploration and Production of Geothermal, Research and Development Center of Oil and Gas "LEMIGAS", Center for Oil and Gas Human Resources Development, PERTAMINA, Volcanological Survey Indonesia, Directorate General of Electricity and New Energy, and PLN. To try to develop a geothermal reserve classification which is accepted nationally, or internationally if possible.

2. STATE OF THE ART OF RESOURCE POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT

Resource potential can be estimated during the early scientific exploration phase. This estimate

is based on thorough assessment of natural heat output and this in turn means that all surface features connected with the resource must be identified as part of the resource, and their thermal outputs estimated.

Estimation of these thermal outputs are very rough, and a small total thermal output does not mean that in every situation that no suitable resource exists, since some economic resources produce very few surface thermal features.

Another method of estimation that occurs early during exploration is by comparison of prospect size with some similar fields. Again this estimation is very rough.

Estimation of resource potential will improve, if it is possible to deduce the energy content of the resource. In order to do this, it is necessary to know the geometric extent of the reservoir and the porosity as well as the fluid content.

To get reliable measurements of these quantities is not easy. The resource boundary is usually determined by some geophysical method such as electrical resistivity. But sometime, even though the resource boundary has been defined, the permeability of the rock in some parts within the boundary is very poor.

The depth of resource is again speculative, and it may be nearly impossible to define a lower

boundary. It is usually be assumed and this undoubtedly involves a significant error. The nature of the geothermal system whether wet steam or dry steam may be estimated by geochemistry. Porosity is often assumed based on geological considerations of the nature of the reservoir rocks.

All this implies a very wide range of error likely in every estimation. However, the guiding philosophy is to be conservative.

When the above quantities are known or have been estimated conservatively, there remains one more parameter to decide on - that is what proportion of resource energy can be extracted for use, the Recovery Factor. This is even more difficult to determine. However, as more and more information becomes available about the resource so we might be able to improve the degree of confidence in our estimates.

A more usual method used in stored heat estimation is "lumped parameter model", the equations of which are as follows :

- The total thermal energy in rocks

$$QRO = A \times h \times (1 - \phi) \times Cr \times \int_r \times T \dots (1)$$

- The total thermal energy content in fluid

$$QFO = A \times h \times \phi (Sv \times \int_v \times Hv + S1 \times \int_1 \times H1) \dots (2)$$

- The useful thermal energy content in rock

$$QR = A \times h \times (1 - I) \times Cr \times \int_r \times (T - T_c) \dots (3)$$

- The useful thermal energy in fluid

$$QF = A \times h \times \phi (Sv \times \int_v \times Hv + S1 \times \int_1 \times H1) \dots (4)$$

$$S1 + Sv = 1 \dots (5)$$

- The fluid mass content in the reservoir

$$M = A \times h \times \phi \dots (6)$$

- The electric power capacity

$$P = (W \times RF) / (U \times L \times CF) \dots (7)$$

- Approximation formula for power capacity

$$P = 0,2517 \times A \times (T - T_c) \dots (8)$$

Where :

A : the reservoir area

h : the reservoir thickness

ϕ : porosity

\int : density

T : temperature of reservoir

S : fluid content

H : enthalpy

Cr : rock heat capacity

c : cold temperature limit,

0

in this case $T_c = 180^\circ C$

M : fluid mass

RF : Recovery Factor

U : Steam - electricity conversion

P : Power Capacity

CF : electric generator capacity factor

L : life time of electric generator

v : vapor

1 : water

3. THE CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND

General speaking of oil industry energy reserves are classified into four classes, based on the level of evidence :

- Resource (Oil Province)
- Possible Reserve
- Probable Reserve
- Proven Reserve

Each of the classes above has its own criteria agreed internationally (Arps, J.J. 1962).

The parameters used in geothermal reserve system are different compared to oil and gas reserve system.

Geothermal resource are traditionally associated with volcanic activities directly or indirectly, or associated with depression structure. In this case, meteoric waters penetrate to great depth below the subsurface, heated by magmatic intrusion, and on the way back to the surface geothermal reservoir might be developed with manifestations such as geyser, solfatara, fumaroles, etc. In order to determine the parameters associated with the geothermal resources, scientific studies such as geology, geochemistry and geophysics are needed.

Geological analysis examines volcanic activities, structures and volcanic stratigraphy associated with geothermal system. Geochemistry analysis emphasizes the hydrological system, homogeneity and/or fluid system. Geophysical studies examine geometrical structure and subsurface structure of the geothermal system. Based on the three "geosciences" a "basic model" of the geothermal system could be determined, ready to be explored in detail.

4. THE CLASSIFICATION OF GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES

Considering the conditions mentioned above, a geothermal reserve classification system has been developed by the team. This new classification system is as described below.

4.1. Hypothetical Potential Class.

This class determination is based on the geothermal prospect associated with the surrounding volcanic belt. The assumed potential is based on the statistical data of geothermal energy yield for similar areas: 10 - 15 MW/Km² and the area indicated from regional volcanism.

4.2. Speculative Potential Class.

This class can be determined if there has been regional reconnaissance including geological survey and geochemical survey, and surface manifestations such as hot springs, solfatara, fumaroles, rock alteration and mud pools have been identified.

Potential reserve estimate is determined from equation (8). The temperature is obtained by geothermometer (geochemical) of surface manifestation and the area of reservoir is estimated from the area by surface manifestations. In this case fluids and parameters of reservoir rock are assumed to be homogeneous.

4.3. Possible Reserve Class.

A tentative model of the geothermal system could be simplified based on integrated geoscientific exploration. By using equation (8) geothermal potential could be determined, geometrical data and reservoir temperature derived from the result of the surface survey and physical parameters of rock contained, in

this case fluids characteristic is still assumed. The reservoir thickness is coincident with subsurface structures and drilling depth which can be reached.

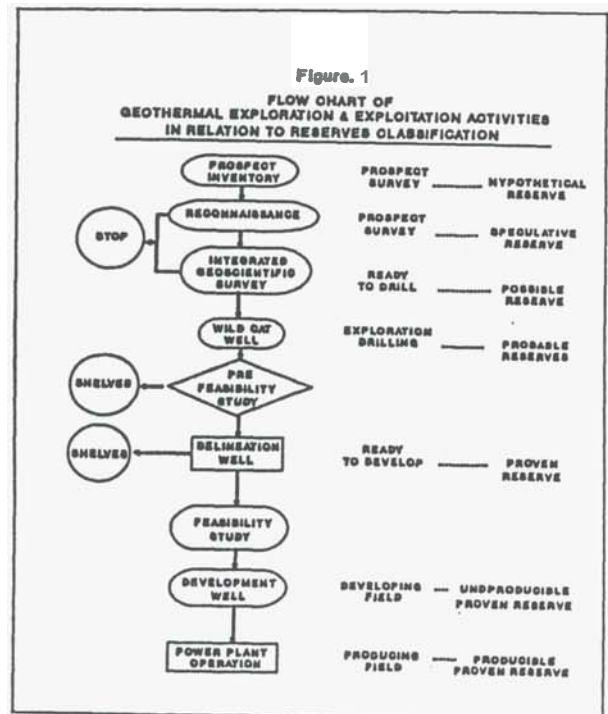
4.4. Probable Reserve Class.

This class is determined based on exploration drilling result and the geothermal system can be described in more detail. Equation (1) - (7) are used in obtaining the potential calculation and geometry (particularly reservoir thickness), petrophysical geometry and fluid thermodynamics matched with the available wells data.

4.5. Proven Reserve Class.

This class is established from productive wells. Wells spacing is appropriate with the prospect area. Potential calculations are based on equations (1) - (7), and reservoir parameters coincide with the productive wells data and reservoir continuity established by well logging.

The summary of this classification in relation with its feasibility is shown in figure 1, figure 2 and figure 3.



GEOHERMAL RESERVE CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY

PROSPECT STATUS	RESERVE CLASS	SOURCE OF INFORMATION	CRITERIA	FORMULA
EXPLORATION SURVEY	HYPOTHETICAL	LITERATURE STUDIES RECONNAISSANCE REGIONAL STUDIES	PROSPECT INDICATOR: - THERMAL DISCHARGE - ASSOCIATED WITH VOLCANIC ACTIVITIES	ASSUMPTION 12.5 MW/KM2
EXPLORATION SURVEY	SPECULATIVE	RECONNAISSANCE REGIONAL STUDIES CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THERMAL DISCHARGE	- CHEMICAL/GAS ANOMALY - GEOTHERMOMETER - ASSOCIATED WITH VOLCANIC ACTIVITIES	STORED HEAT CALCULATION $Q = 0.2317 \cdot A \cdot T$
READY TO DRILL EXPLORATION	POSSIBLE	INTEGRATED GEOSCIENTIFIC SURVEY	- TENTATIVE MODEL - GEOTHERMOMETER - TEMPERATURE GRADIENT	STORED HEAT CALCULATION
EXPLORATION WELL	PROBABLE	INTEGRATED GEOSCIENTIFIC SURVEY EXPLORATION WELL	- TENTATIVE MODEL - TESTED WELL	STORED HEAT CALCULATION
READY TO DEVELOP	PROVEN	INTEGRATED GEOSCIENTIFIC SURVEY EXPLORATION WELL	- MAKE UP MODEL - TESTED WELLS	STORED HEAT CALCULATION
DEVELOPING FIELD	PROVEN	INTEGRATED GEOSCIENTIFIC SURVEY EXPLORATION WELLS	- MAKE UP MODEL - TESTED WELLS	STORED HEAT CALCULATION
PRODUCING FIELD	PROVEN	INTEGRATED GEOSCIENTIFIC SURVEY EXPLORATION WELLS DEVELOPMENT WELLS	- MAKE UP MODEL - TESTED WELLS - PRODUCTION DATA	STORED HEAT CALCULATION SIMULATION

5. INDONESIAN CASE

FIGURE 3

GEOHERMAL RESOURCE CLASSIFICATION

GEOHERMAL RESOURCES					
Undiscovered/ Unidentified		DISCOVERED / IDENTIFIED			
			DEMONSTRATED		
Hypothetical	Speculative	Possible/ Inferred	Probable/ Indicated	Proven/ Measured	
					FAVOURABLE
					MARGINAL
					SUB MARGINAL

DEGREE OF CERTAINTY/
CONFIDENCE LEVEL →

↑ FEASIBILITY

At present, it has been recognized that Indonesia has 217 of geothermal prospects. To which various surveys have been done by the Volcanological Survey of Indonesia and PERTAMINA with different degrees of intensity i.e. from reconnaissance survey to detail integrated survey. Geological survey has been done on 214 prospects, geochemical survey on 200 prospects, geophysical survey on 45 prospects, and drilling on 10 prospects.

Of 217 prospects one prospect has been producing since 1983 (Kamojang), five prospects are in developing stage (Dieng, Lahondong, Salak, Derajat, and Wayang Windu), and four prospects are ready for exploration drilling (Bali, Patuha, Karaha, and Sibayak).

Based on these data, the calculations result show that the potential of geothermal resource of

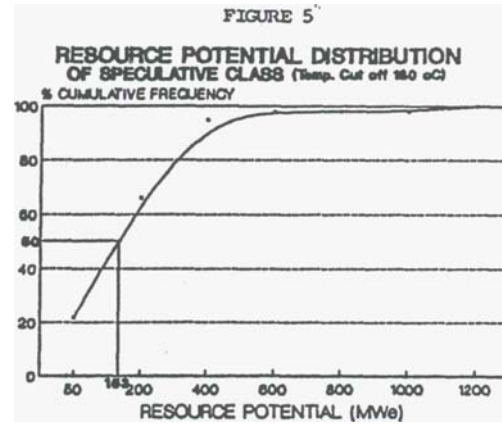
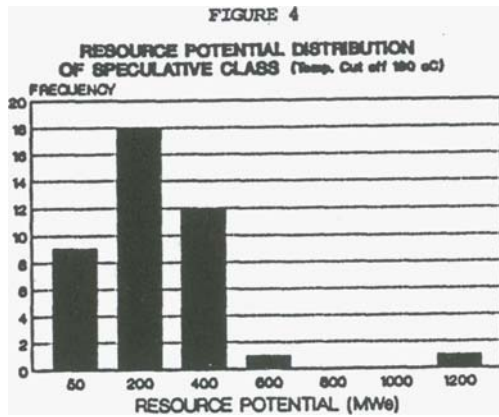


Figure 6

The Potential of Geothermal Resource of Indonesia
Year 1990

No.	Province	Class Potential, MW				
		Hypothetic	Speculative	Possible	Probable	Proven
1.	DI ACEH	-	2161	-	-	-
2.	NORTH SUMATRA	-	918	1777	-	-
3.	WEST SUMATRA	-	2339	186	23	-
4.	J A M B I	-	812	28	79	-
8.	SOUTH SUMATRA	-	765	93	-	-
6.	BENGKULU	-	1608	-	-	-
7.	LAMPUNG	-	1480	1042)	-	-
8.	WEST JAVA	-	4407	2289	849	488
2.	CENTRE JAVA	-	306	464	162	227
10.	YOGYAKARTA	-	-	-	-	-
11.	EAST JAVA	-	306	211	-	-
12.	B A L I	-	306	232	-	-
13.	WEST NUSATENGARA	-	459	21	-	-
14.	EAST NUSATANGARA	-	1998	382	93	-
15.	NORTH SULAWESI	-	3755	957	301	125
18.	SOUTH SULAWESI	-	-	-	-	-
17.	SOUTH EAST SULAWESI	-	1692	-	-	-
18.	M A L U K U	-	2490	14	-	-
19.	IRIAN JAYA	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L		-	26000	7797	1507	840

Indonesia are as follow :

- Proven	:	840	MW
- Probable	:	1 507	MW
- Possible	:	7 797	MW
- Speculative	:	26 000	MW

However, since the data of hypothetical classes were very limited, their potential were not calculated yet. It is also should be noted here, that not all of the prospects of speculative class could be calculated by using formula (8), so to those prospects their potential were assumed to be equal to the average value of the class. Figure 4 and Figure 5 show how the average value of this class was determined. The geothermal resource potential of each province is shown in Figure 6.

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