

United Downs Deep Geothermal Project, UK

John Reinecker (GeoT)

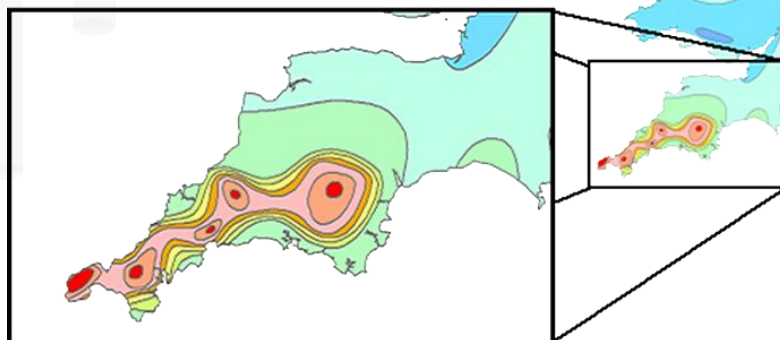
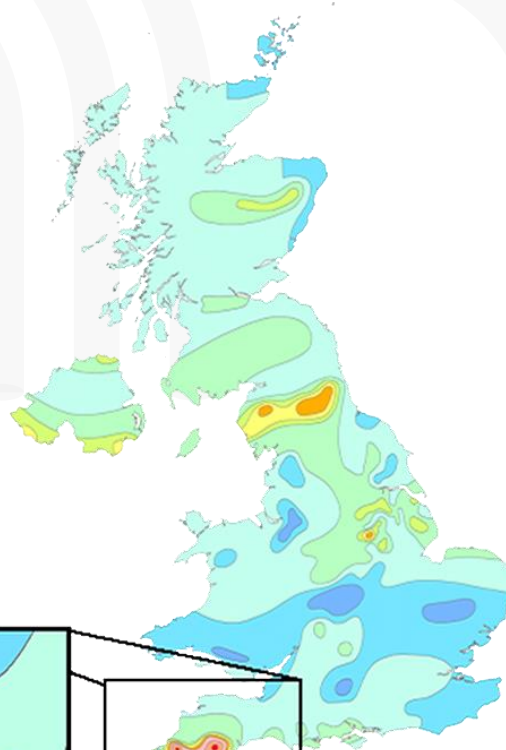
MEET Project – Geothermal Winter School – February 2021



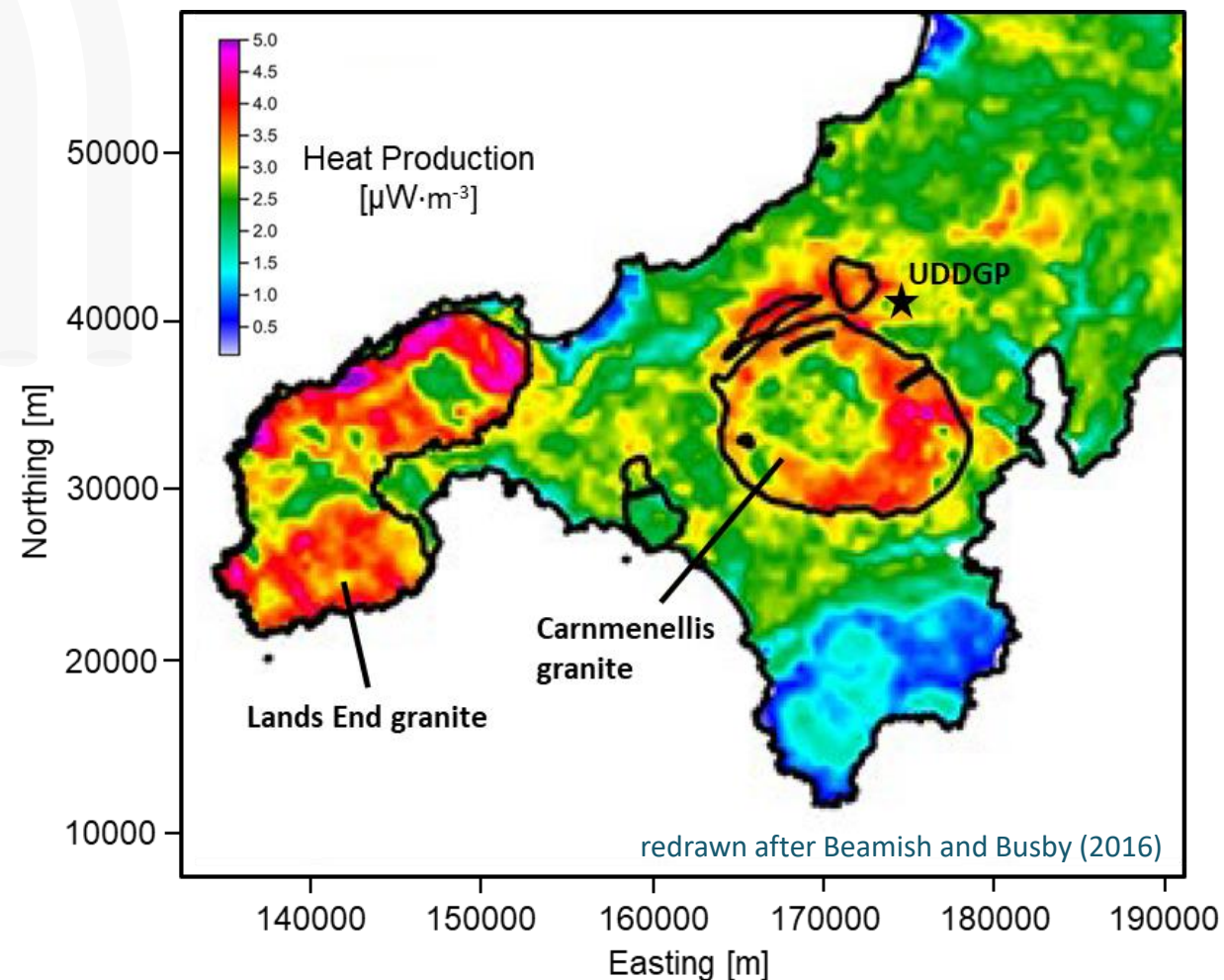
This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 792037

Why Geothermal in Cornwall?

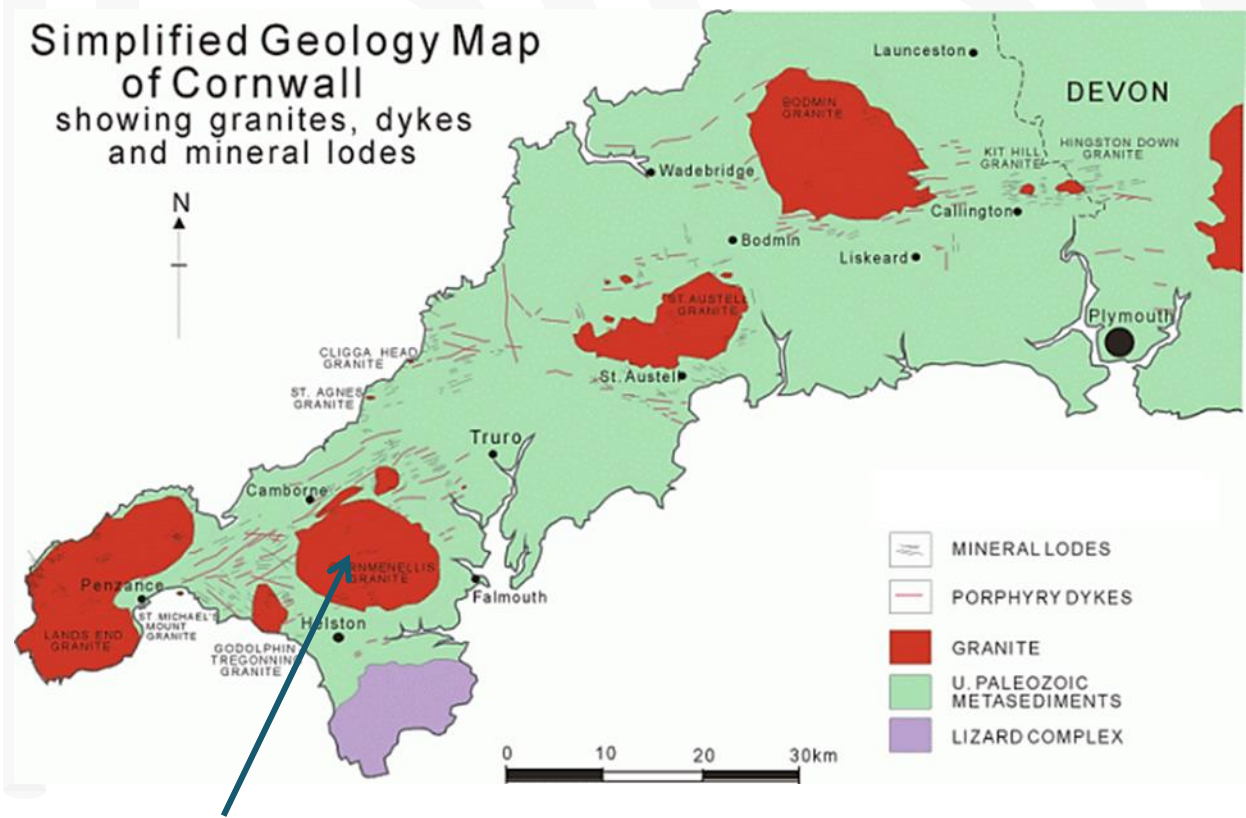
Average UK
geothermal
gradient
= 26 K/km



Geothermal gradient of the
Carnmenellis Granite 33-35 K/km

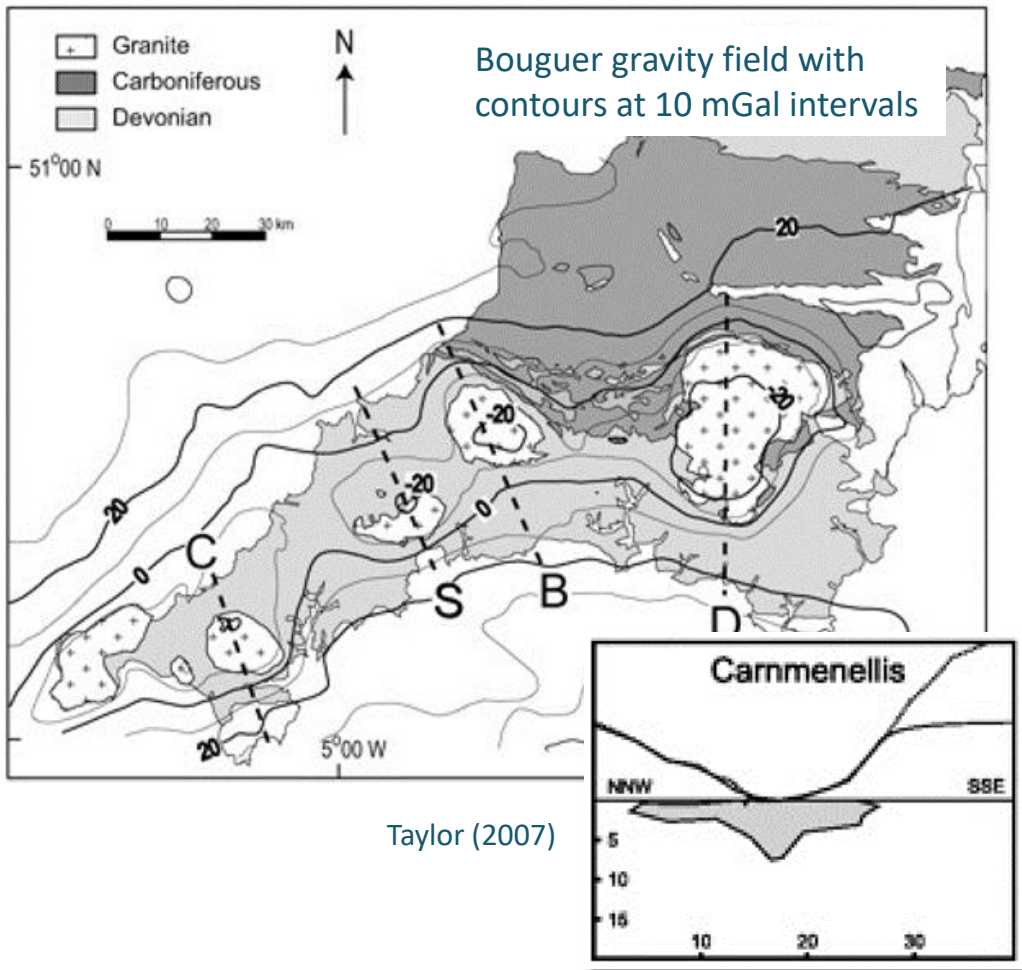


Geology of Cornwall



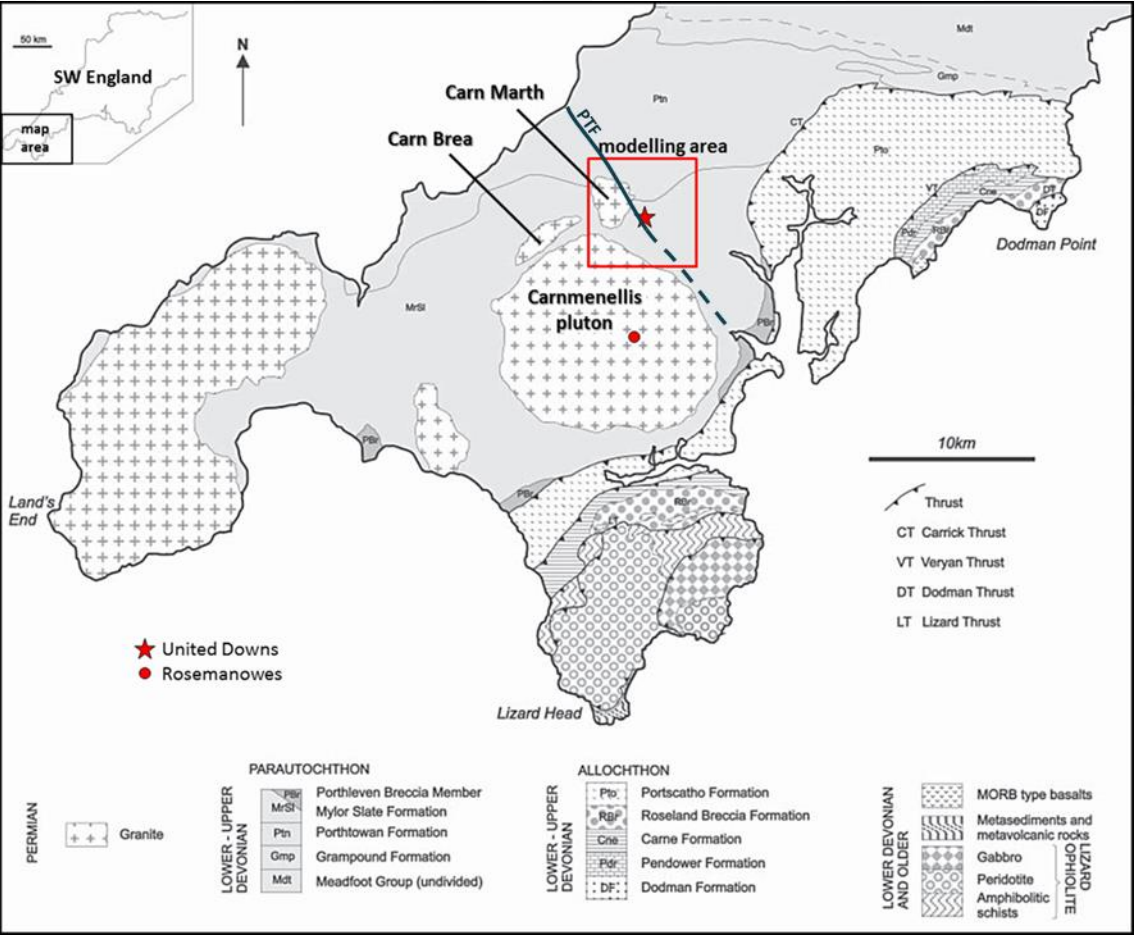
Carnmenellis Pluton

LeBoutillier (2002)

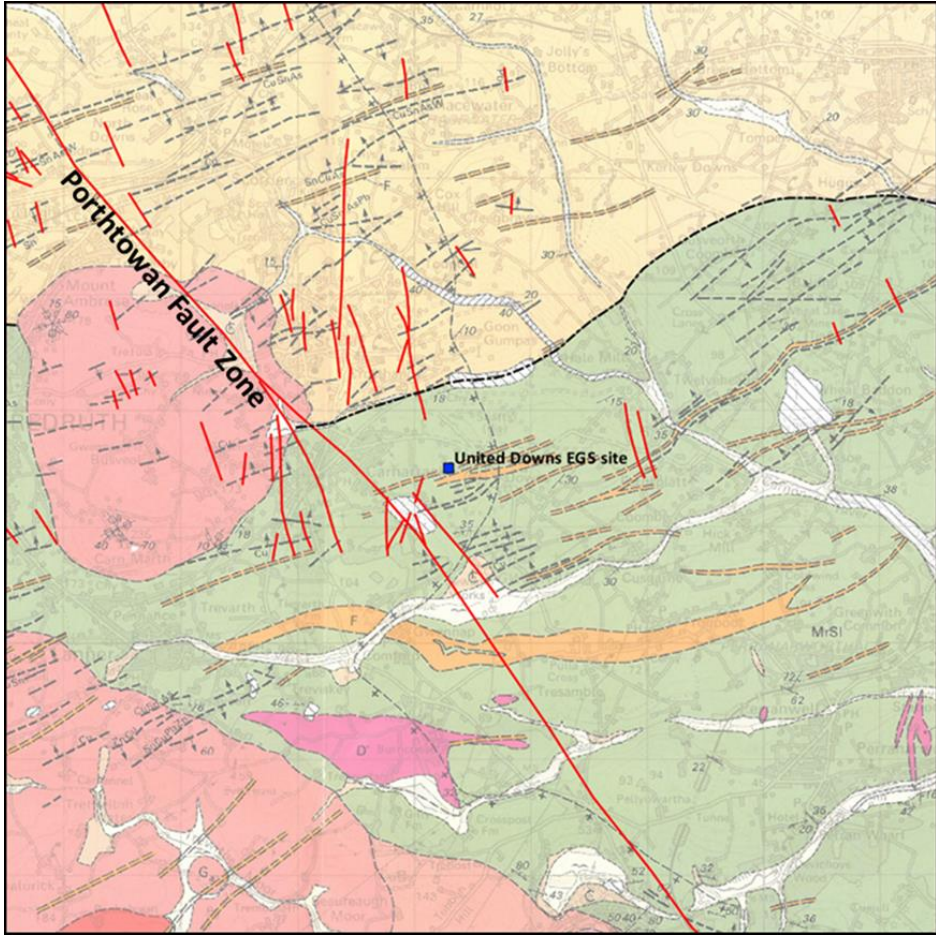


Taylor (2007)

Geology of Cornwall

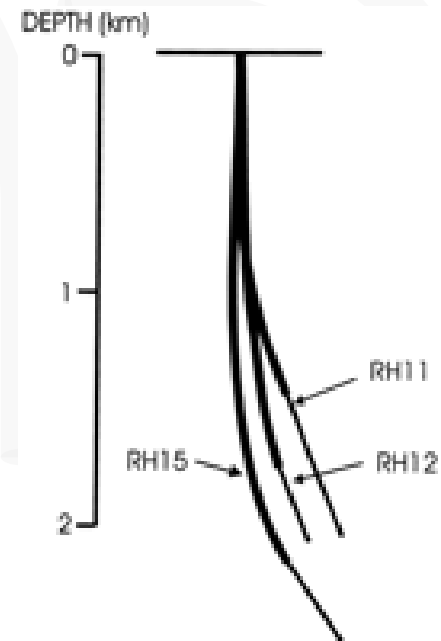


modified from Leveridge and Hartley (2006)



BGS, sheet 352 (Falmouth)

HDR in Cornwall



Rosemanowes, Cornwall, UK 1984

Where:

Why here:

When:

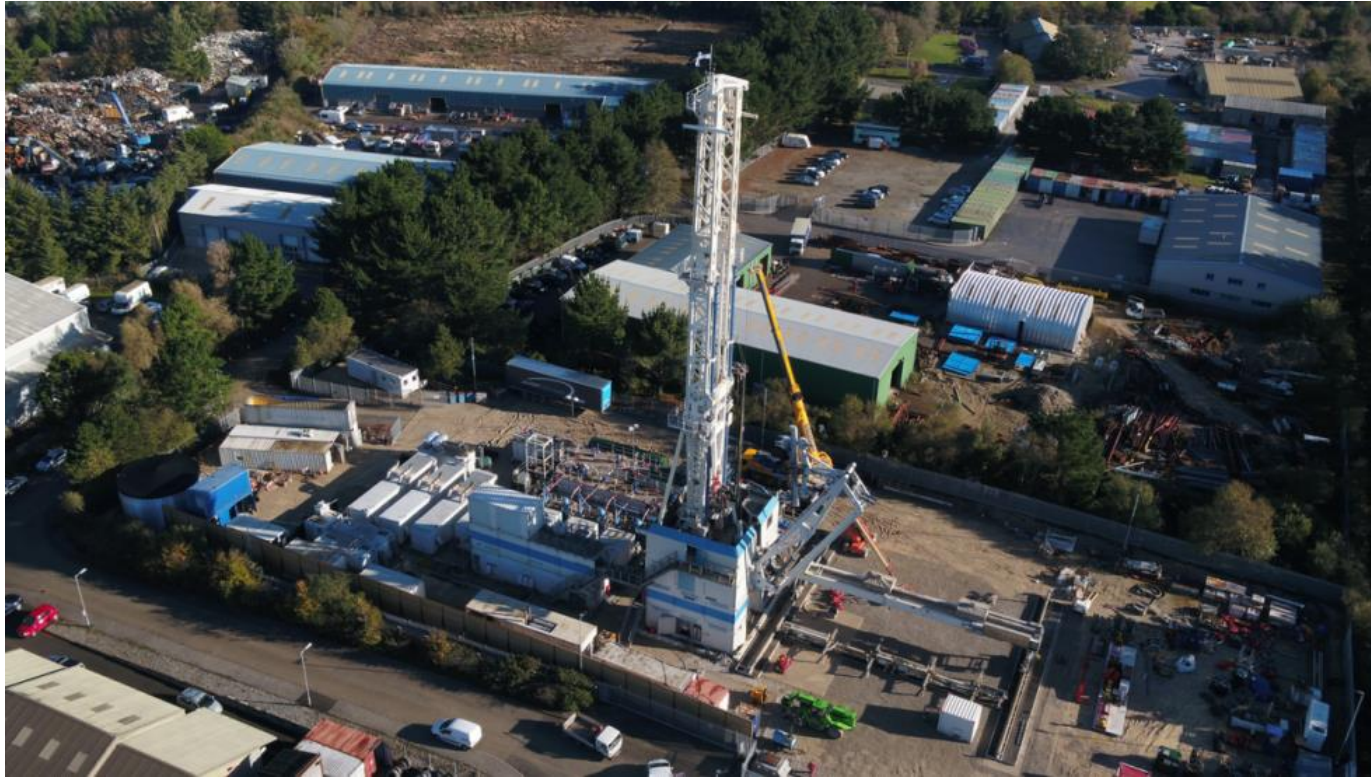
Motive:

Funding:

Aim:

- Rosemanowes (quarry), near Penryn
- Granite with highest heat flow in UK (120 mW/m^2)
- 1977 until 1991
- 1973 oil crisis
- Department of Energy and European Commission
- Stimulation of a pre-existing fracture system to hydraulically connect boreholes in hot dry rock
- Testing a wealth of new methods

UDDGP



- Where: - United Downs (industrial estate), near Redruth
- Why here: - Large fault structure, site infrastructure (grid connection)
- When: - Since 2009
- Motive: - Prove that geothermal power possible in UK
- Funding: - Public and private funds including the European Regional Development Fund, Cornwall Council, £5m crowdfund and Thrive Renewables plc.
- Developer: - Geothermal Engineering Ltd.

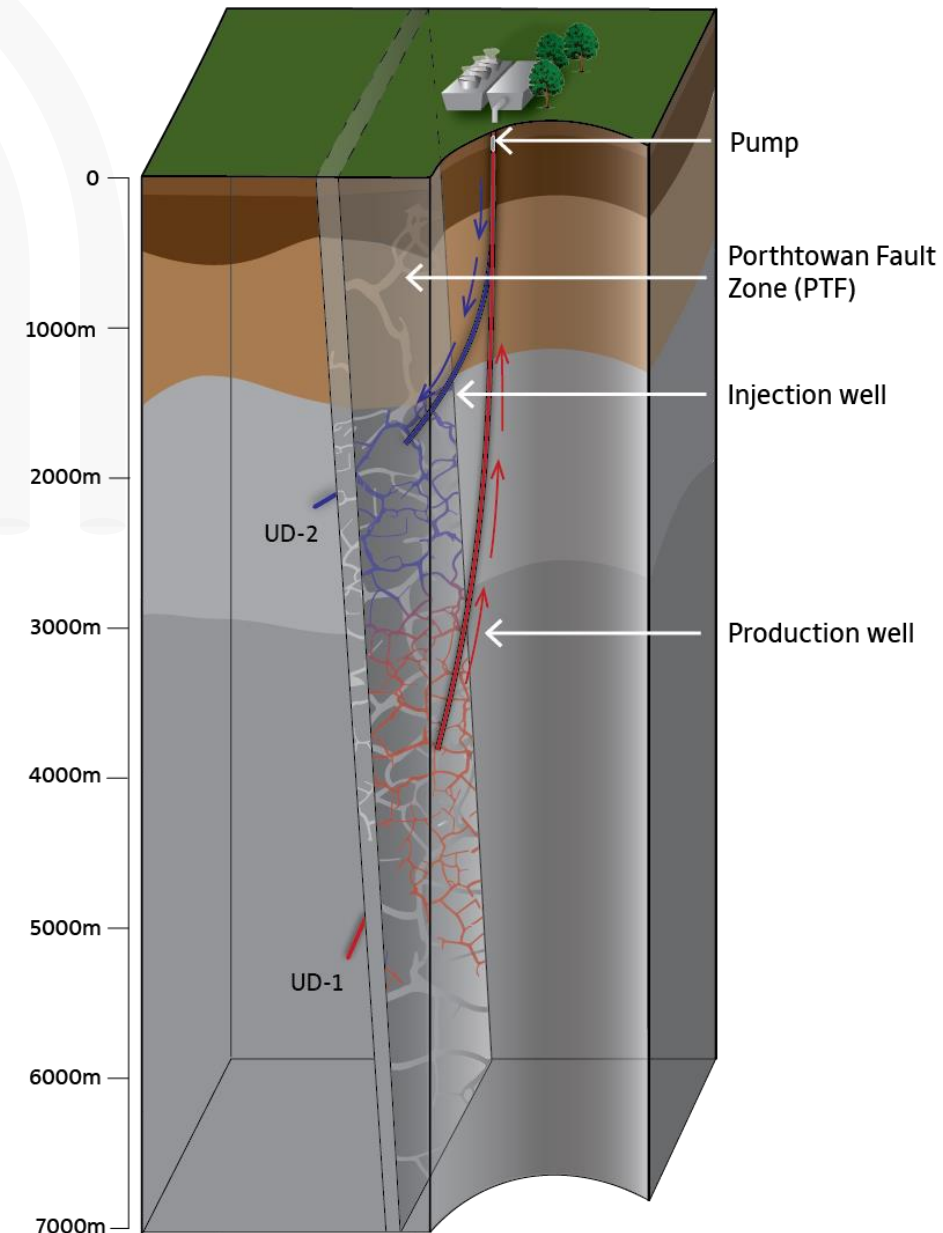


Concept of UDDGP

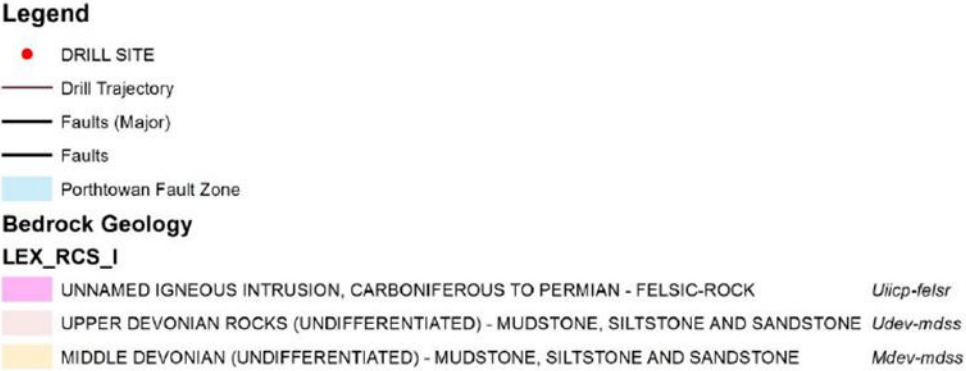
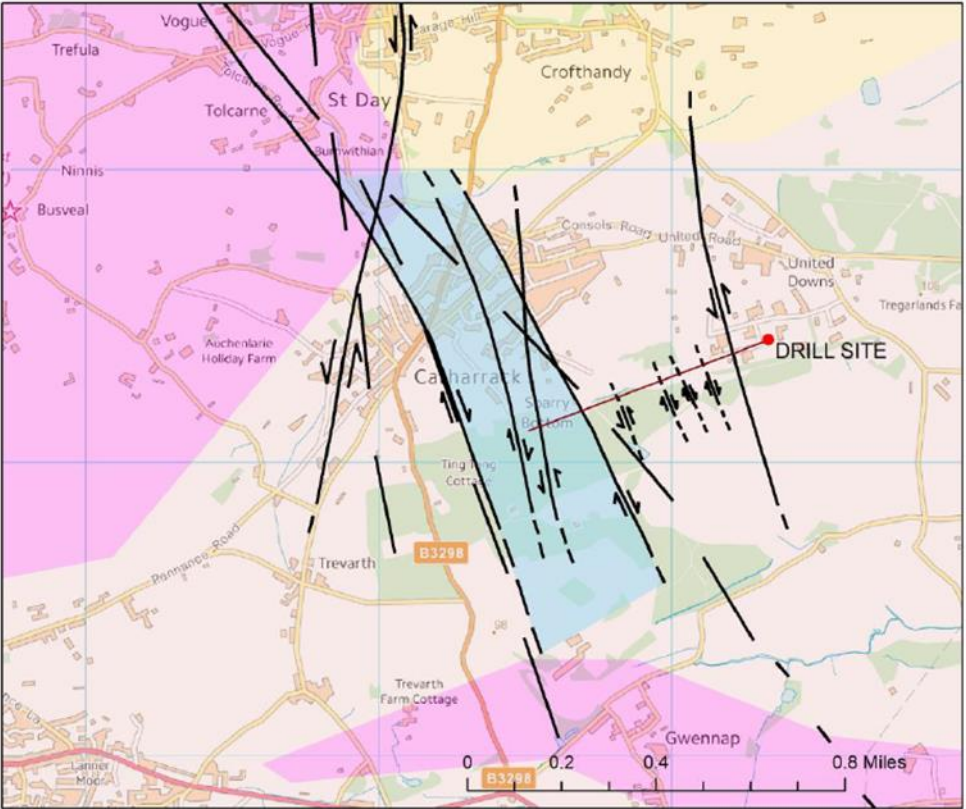
- Injection well – 2500 m
- Production well – 4500 m
- Target structure: Porthtowan Fault Zone
- Temperature of water delivered to surface: 175 °C
- Re-injection temperature: about 80 °C

Open questions:

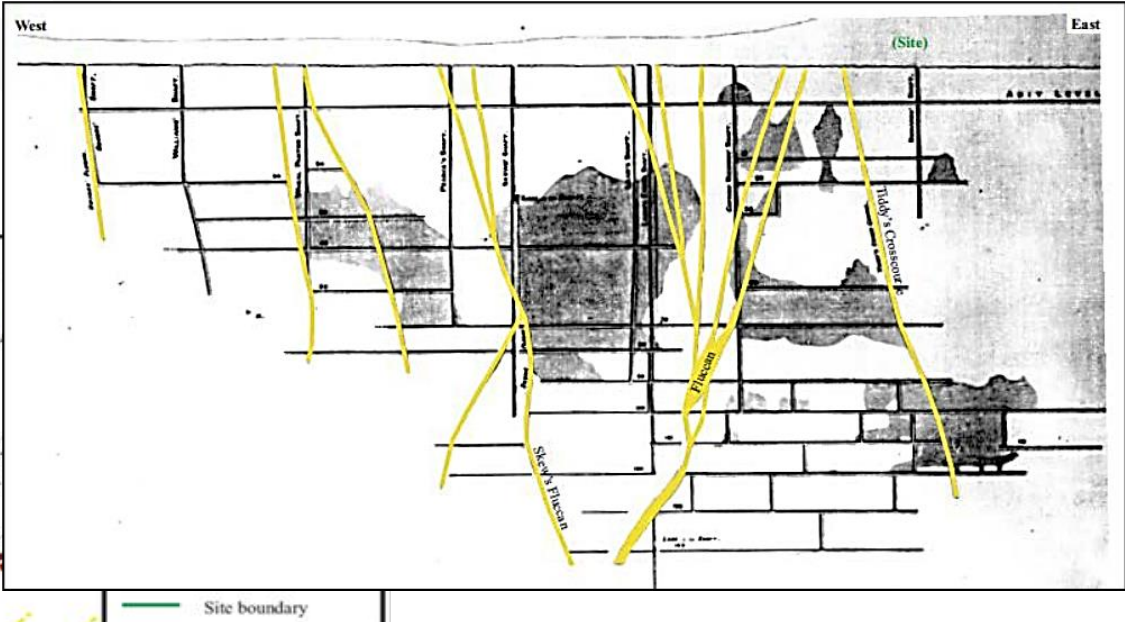
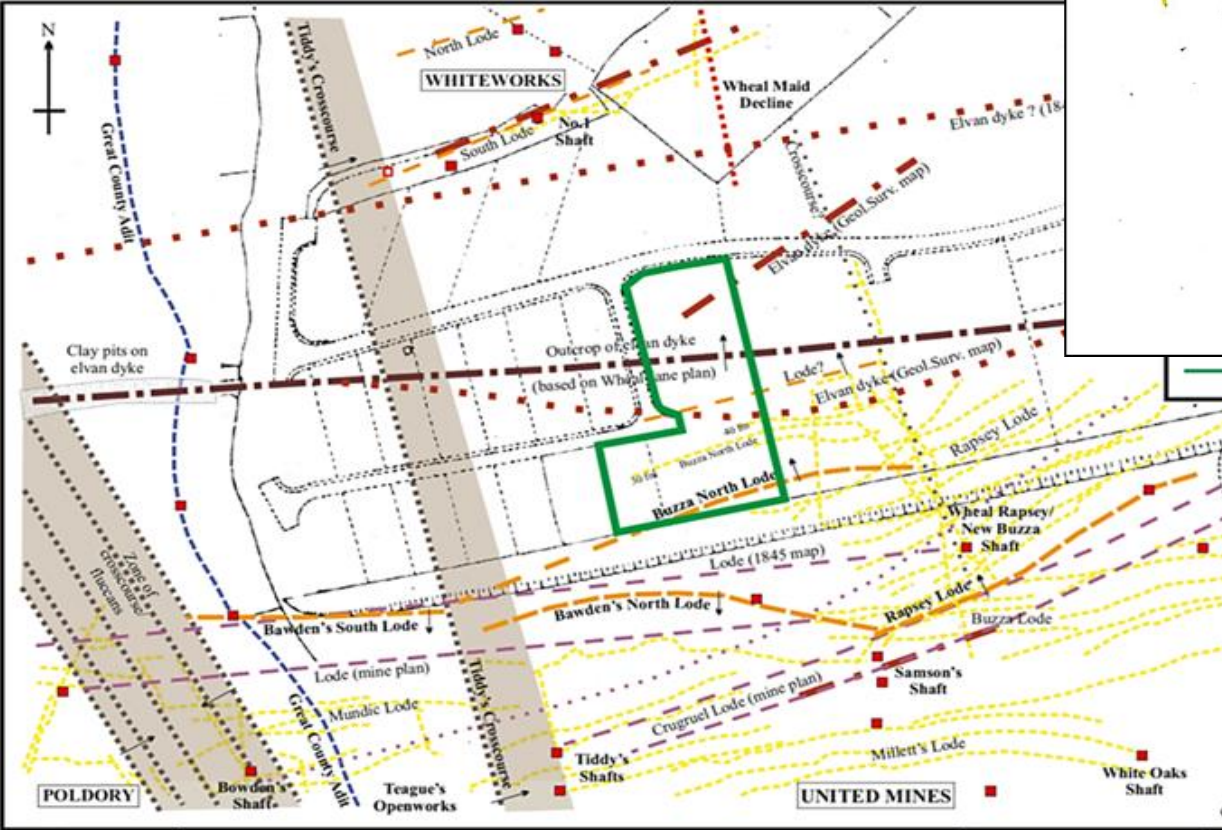
- How is the reservoir characterised?
- What controls fluid flow in the reservoir?
- Does the natural fracture system have the right characteristics to host a geothermal reservoir?



Concept of UDDGP



Drill site



Drilling UD-1 and UD-2

UD-1

Drilling started 8th November 2018
 December 2018: decision that the first well will be the deep production well
 Drilling finalised 24th April 2019
 Total depth: 5,058 m TVD (5,275 m MD)
 UDFT1 production test (airlift) 2nd May 2019

Skid rig by 8 m to drill UD-2

UD-2

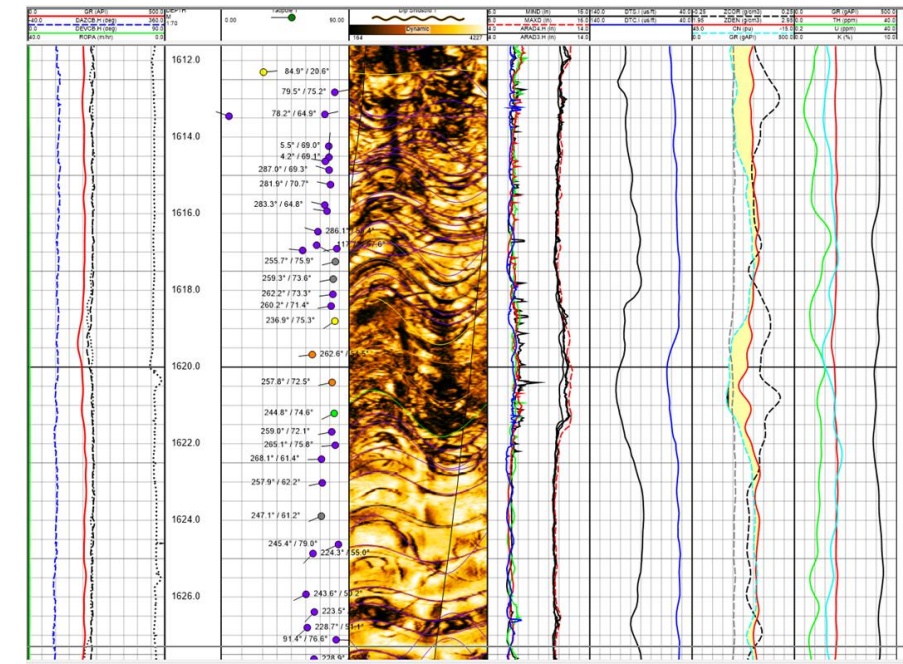
Drilling started 11th May 2019
 Drilling finalised 28th June 2019
 Total depth: 2,214 m TVD (2,393 m MD)
 UDFT2 injection test (with drill pipe in hole) 1st July 2019
 UDFT3 injection test (without drill pipe) 2nd July 2019

Demobilise rig



Data from UD-1 and UD-2

	UD-1	UD-2
Well data		
drilling data	x	x
cuttings	x	x
suite of wireline logs	x	
sidewall cores	x (reservoir section)	
PTS	x	
Induced seismicity	x	
Hydraulic test data	x	x

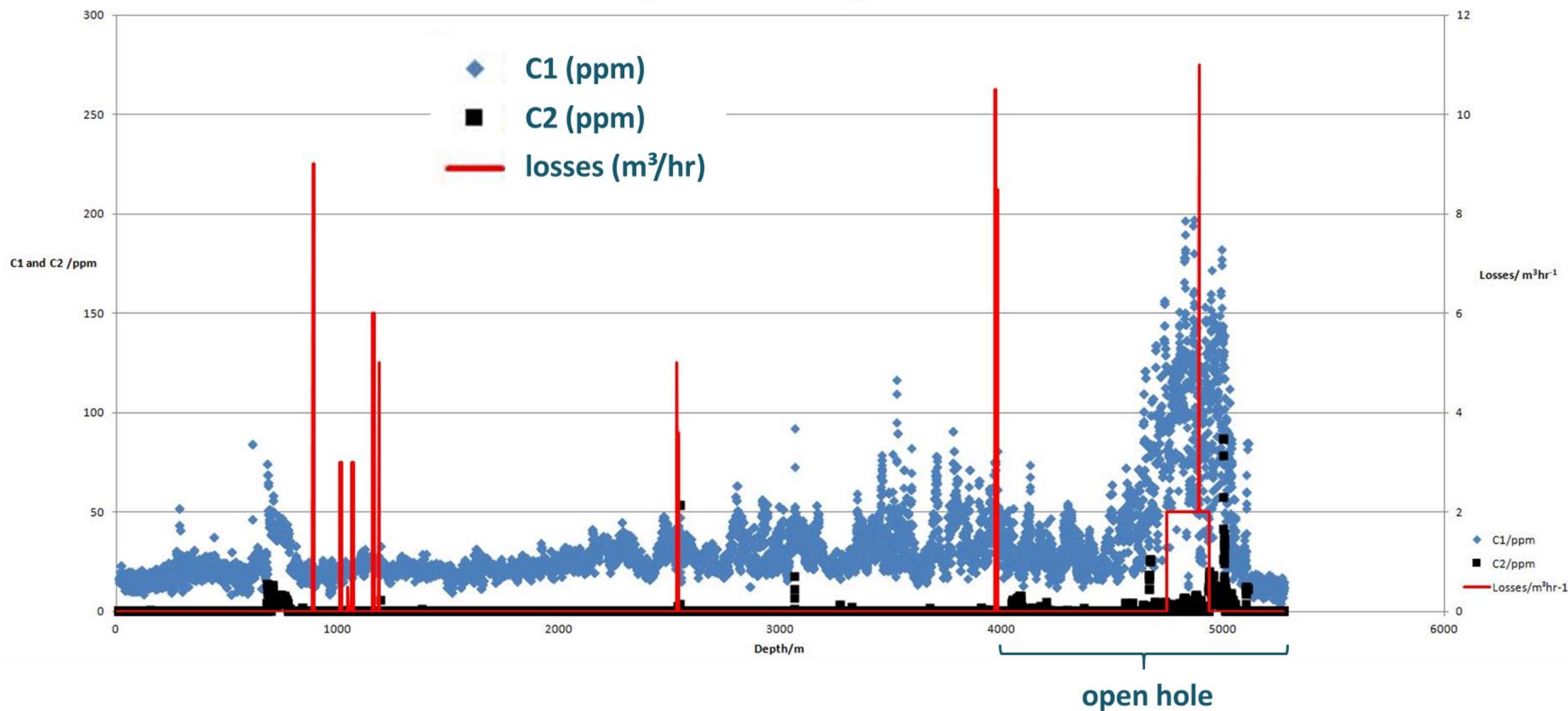


suite of wireline logs:

- spektral GR
- caliper
- denisty
- sonic
- acoustic and resistivity image

UD-1: Evidence of Permeability at Depth (whilst drilling)

C1, C2 and Losses Throughout UD1



UD-1: Evidence of Permeability at Depth (whilst drilling)

First observations:

- Many fractures (on acoustic image logs)
- Mud losses while drilling
- Induced seismicity
- Hydraulic testing results below expectations

Workover, testing and stimulation of UD-1

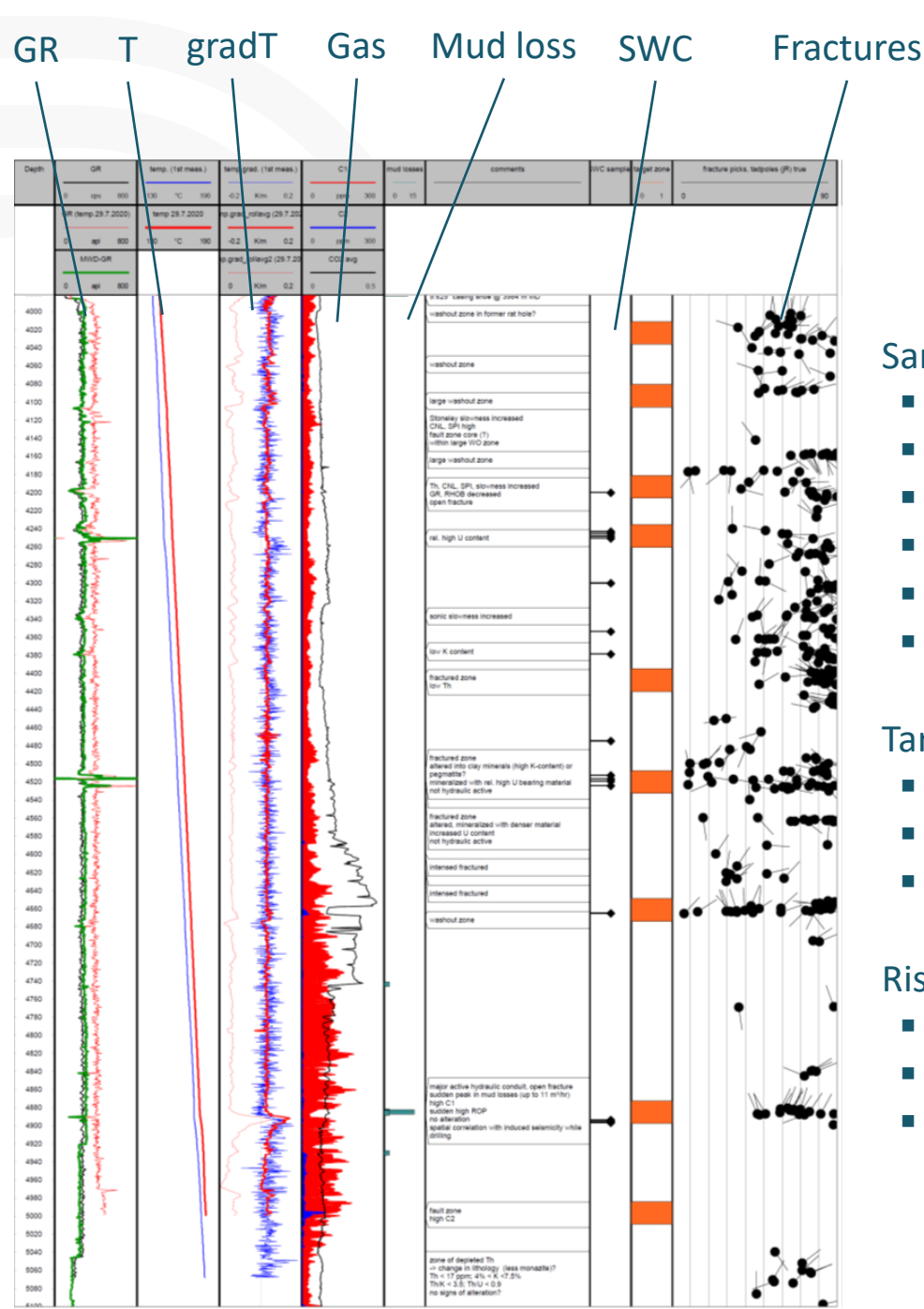
Workover including sidewall coring, PTS

24th July – 4th August 2020



Sidewall coring

- sidewall coring to investigate fracture mineralisation and to test stimulation acid in the lab
- target zones for chemical stimulation



Sample locations defined using:

- temperature log,
- gamma log
- mud losses,
- gas influx,
- drilling breaks and
- fracture density and UXPL log

Targets:

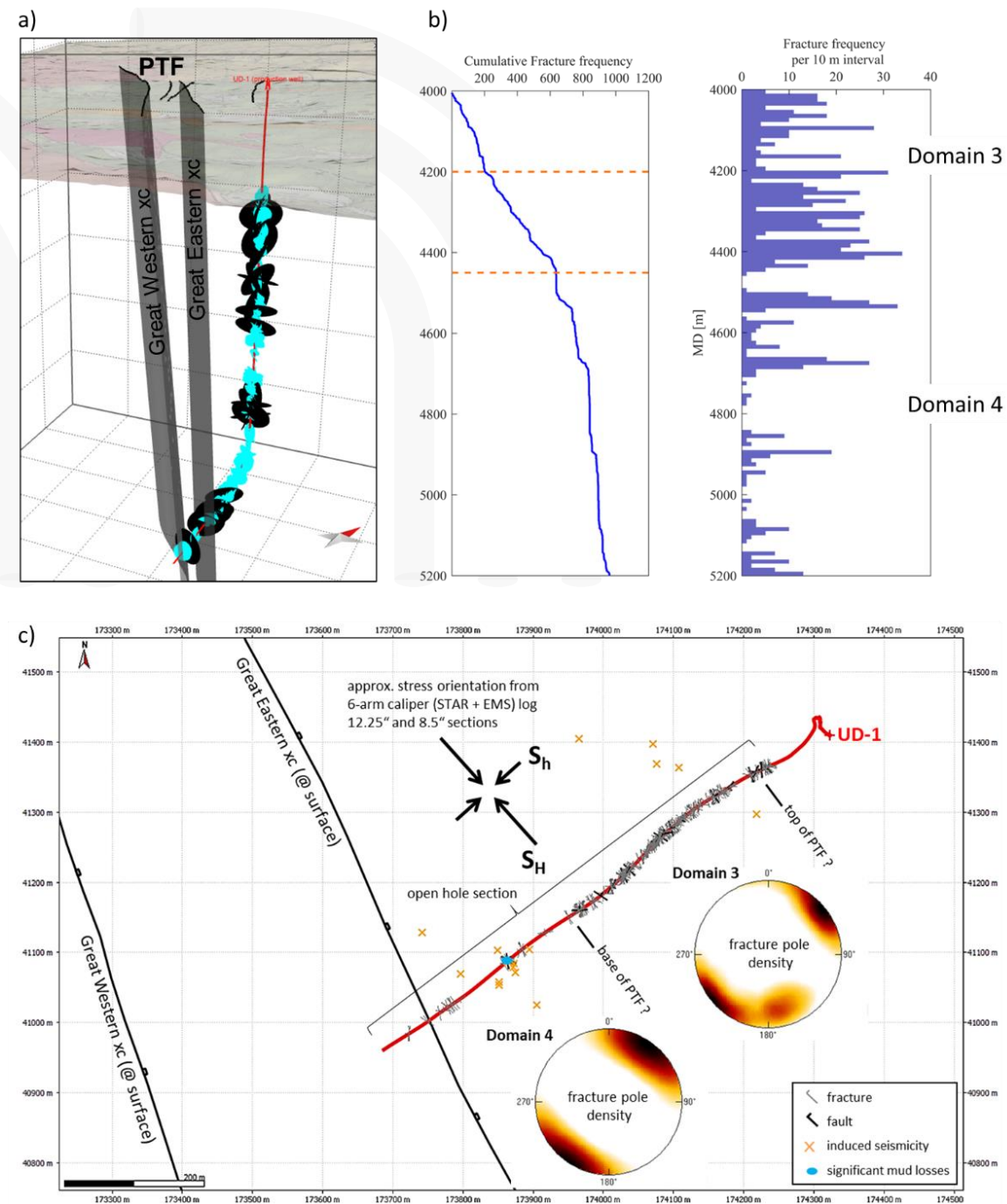
- all granite varieties
- open fracture zones
- mineralized fracture zones

Risks to be avoided:

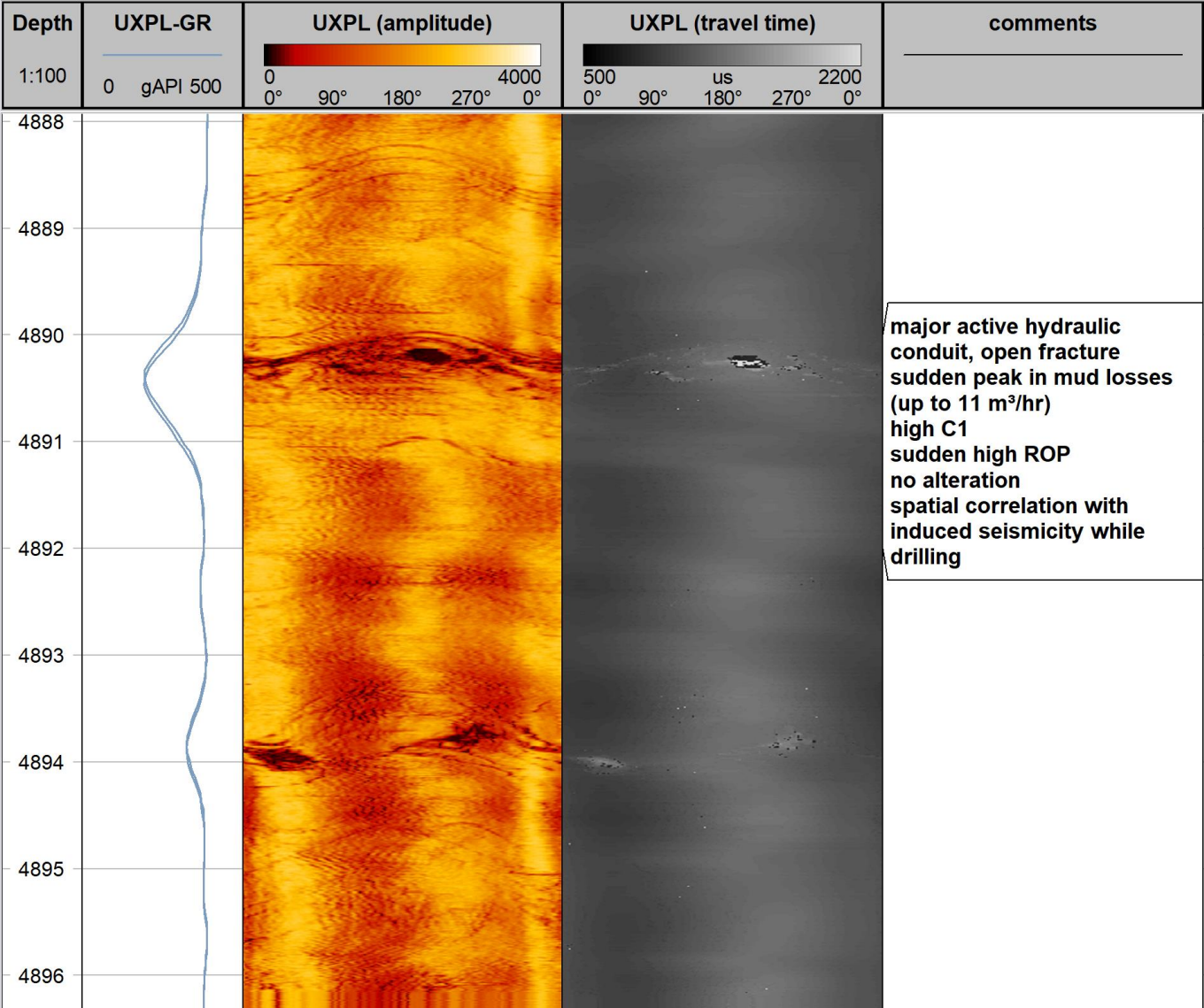
- doglegs
- borehole breakouts or washouts
- open fractures

30 SWC were planned
19 SWC could be retrieved

Fracture Network

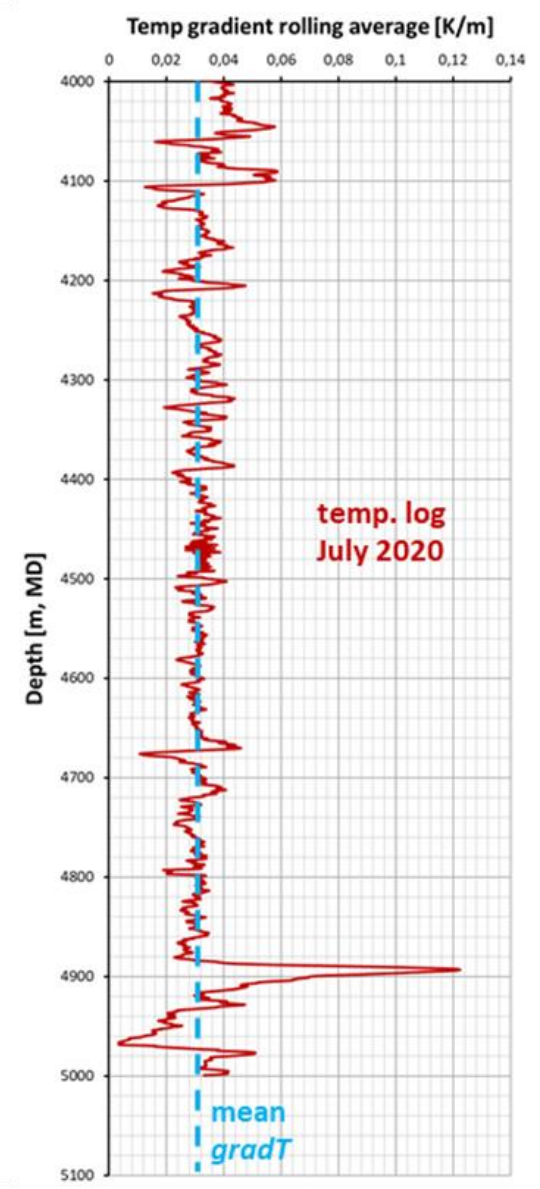
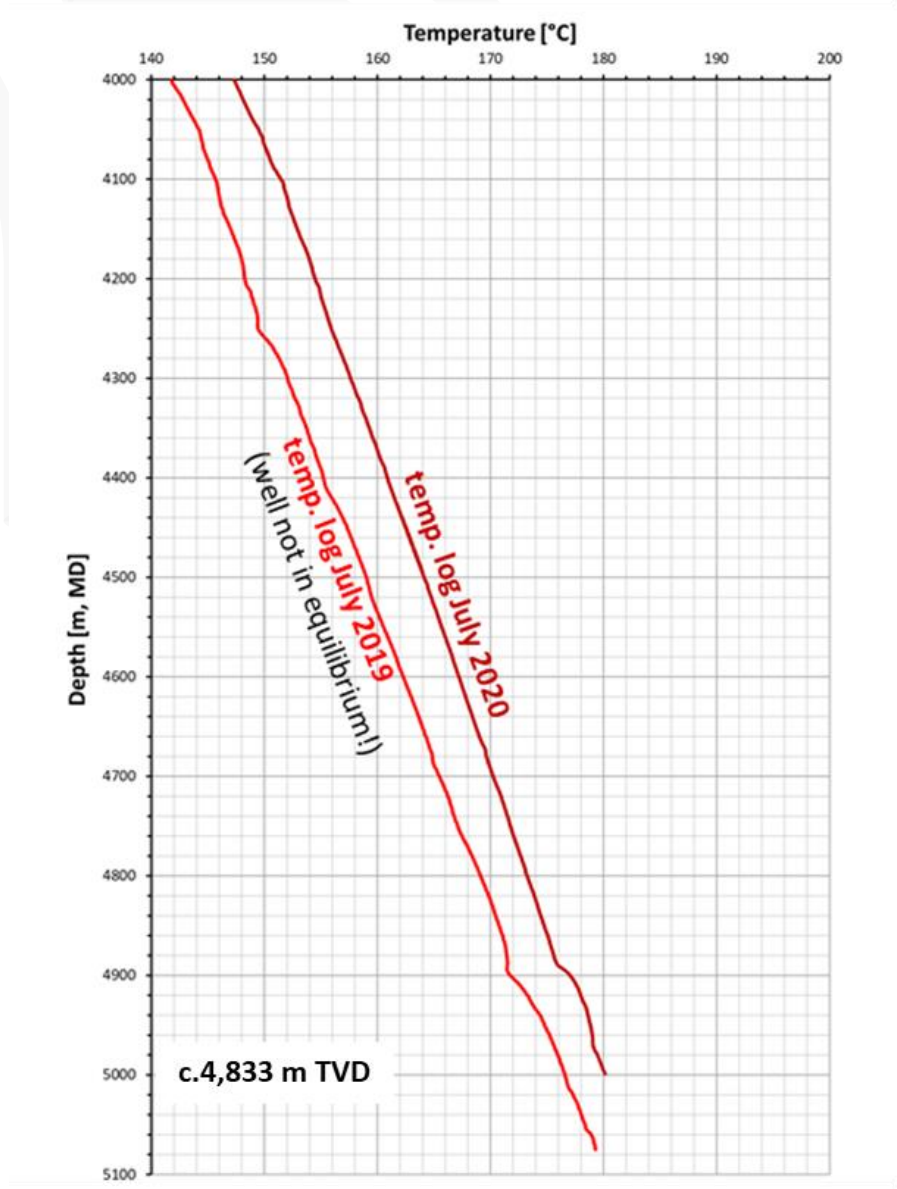


Main Hydraulic Zone (UD-1)



Geothermal Gradient

max. temperature recorded:
180 °C @ 4,833 m TVD

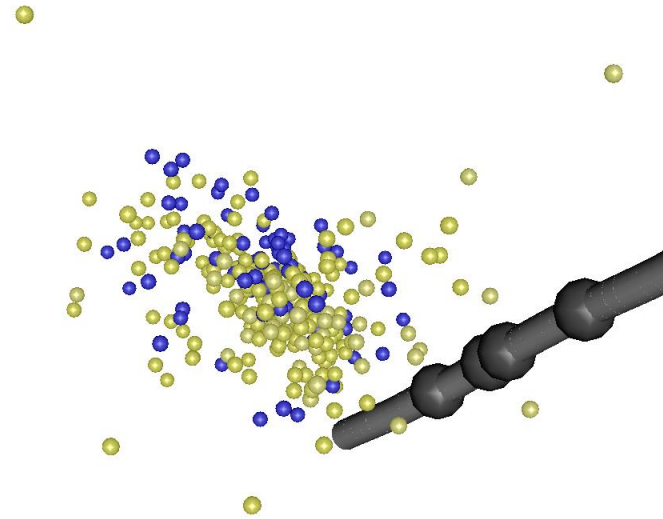


Induced Seismicity

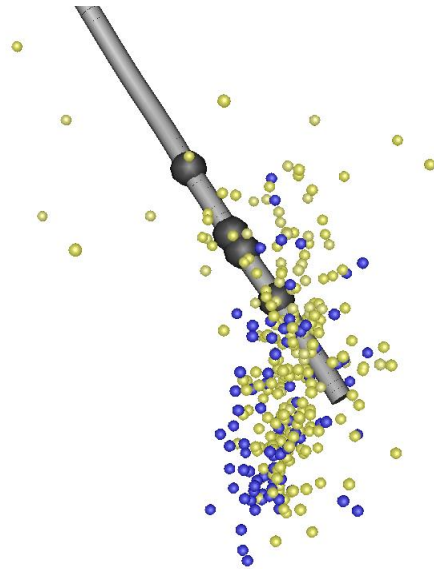
Seismicity prior to low flow rate injections in yellow.

During low rate injections blue.

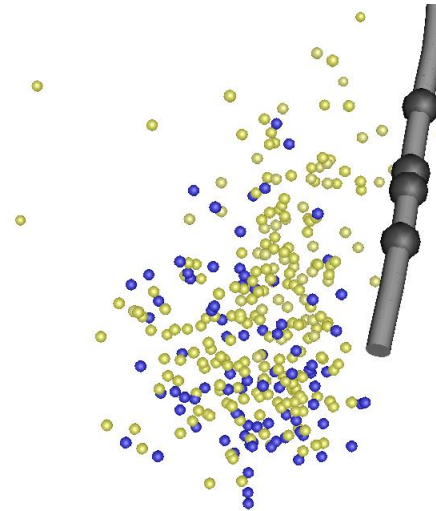
Map view



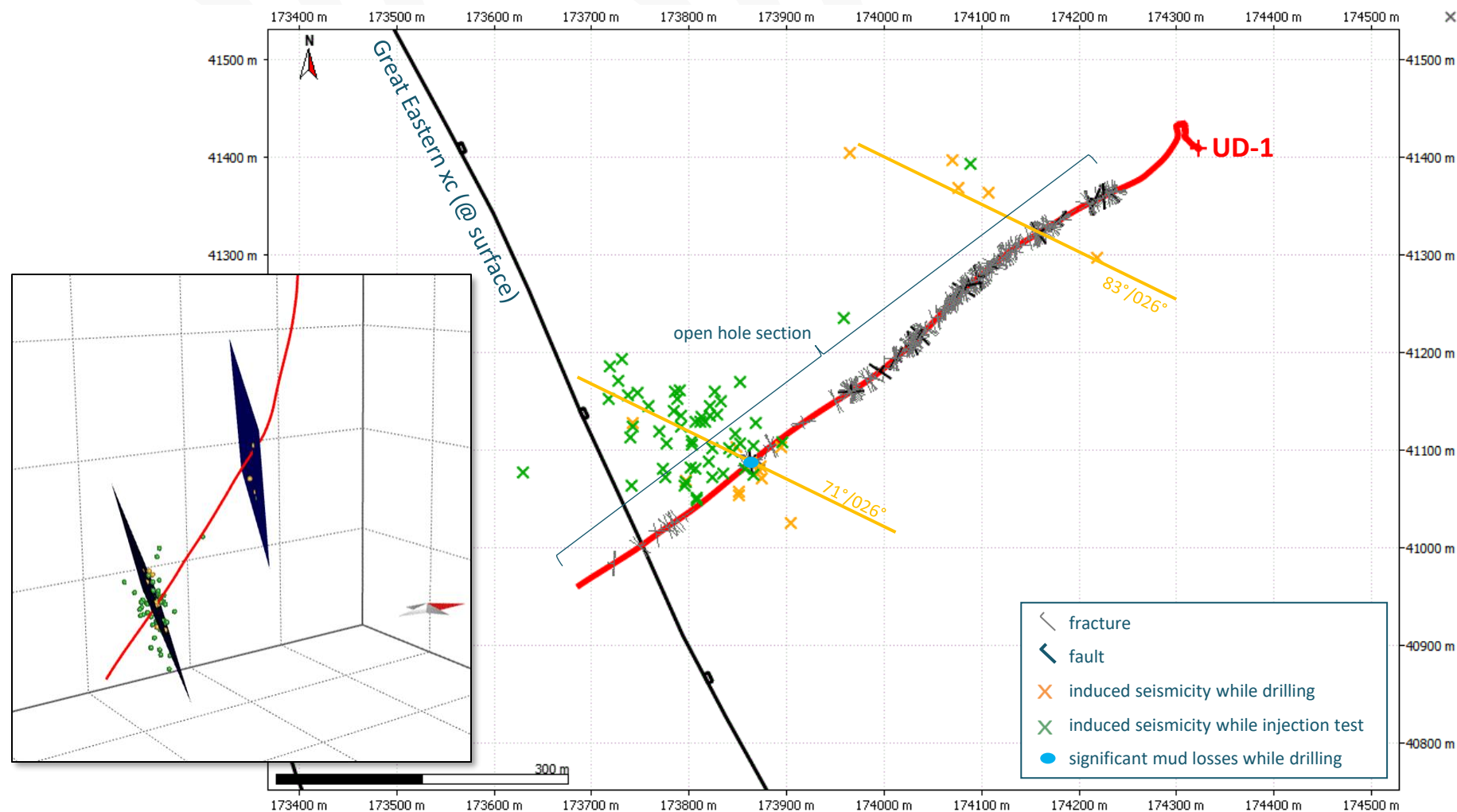
Side view – 305°



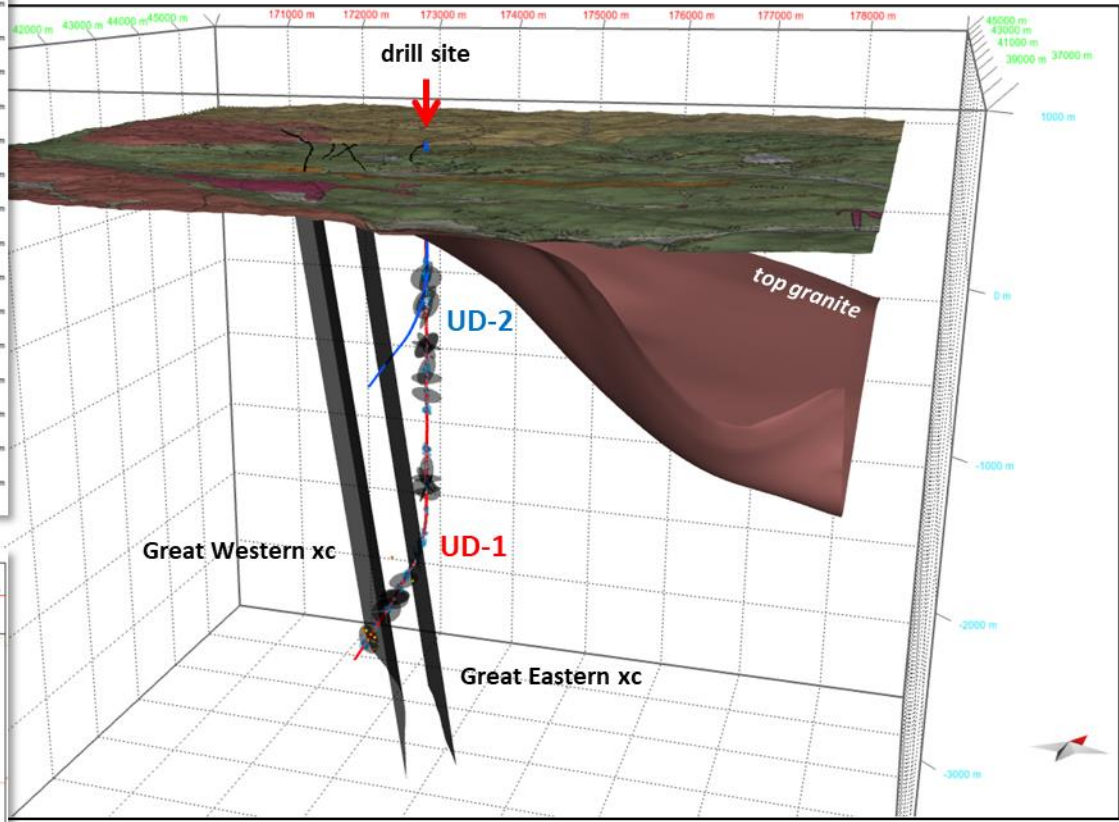
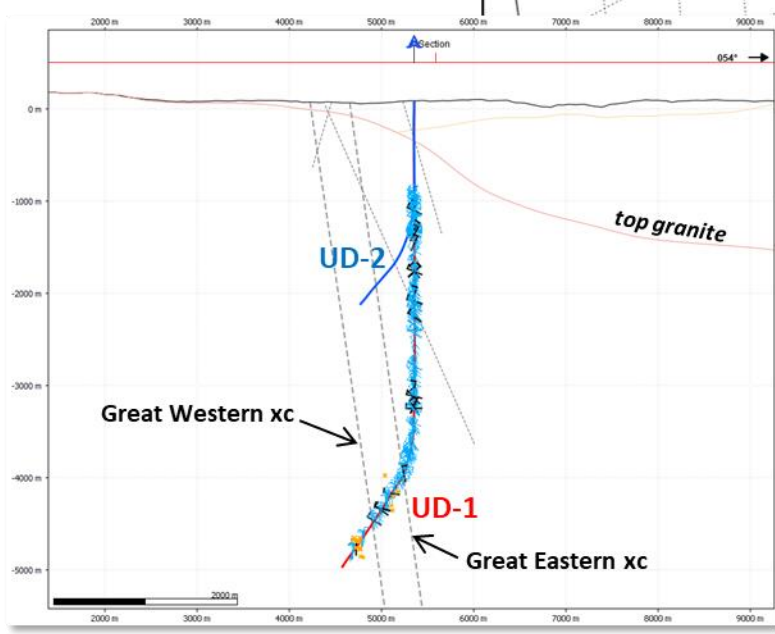
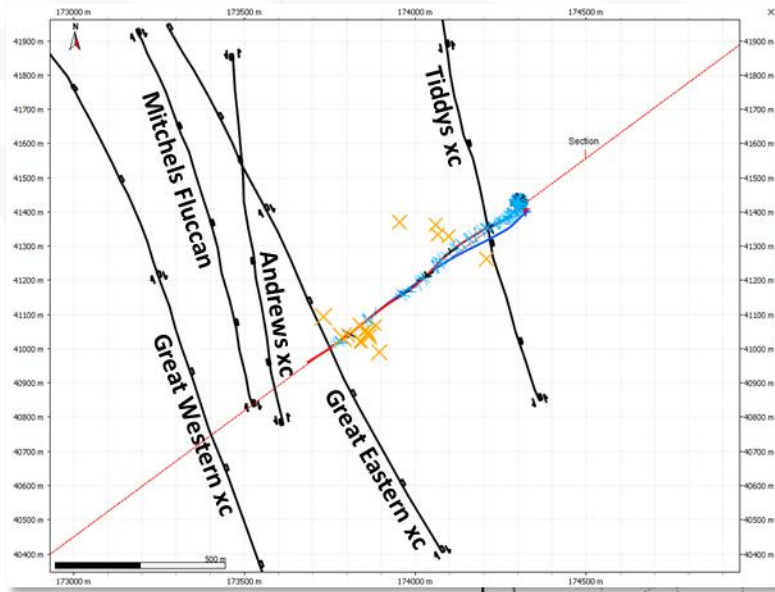
Side view – 215°



Induced Seismicity



Reservoir Model



- open fracture
- fault
- induced seismicity

Next Steps

- Injection test UD-2 (February/March)
- Circulation test with ESP installed in UD-1 (April/May)
- Chemical treatment in UD-1 (June) [MEET]
- Power plant online Q2 2022

Thank you very much for your attention



 This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No. 764810.



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