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Earth Temperature and Site Geology

Introduction

The term "geothermal energy" is popularly associated with bubbling hot springs and geysers, where volcanic activity produces temperatures above the boiling point of water near the earth's surface. As shown in Figure 1, such high-temperature geothermal reservoirs do not exist in the eastern United States. As also shown on this map, however, there are two low-temperature reservoirs in Virginia, which are briefly described below.

