

**AMERICULTURE**

**EXHIBIT**

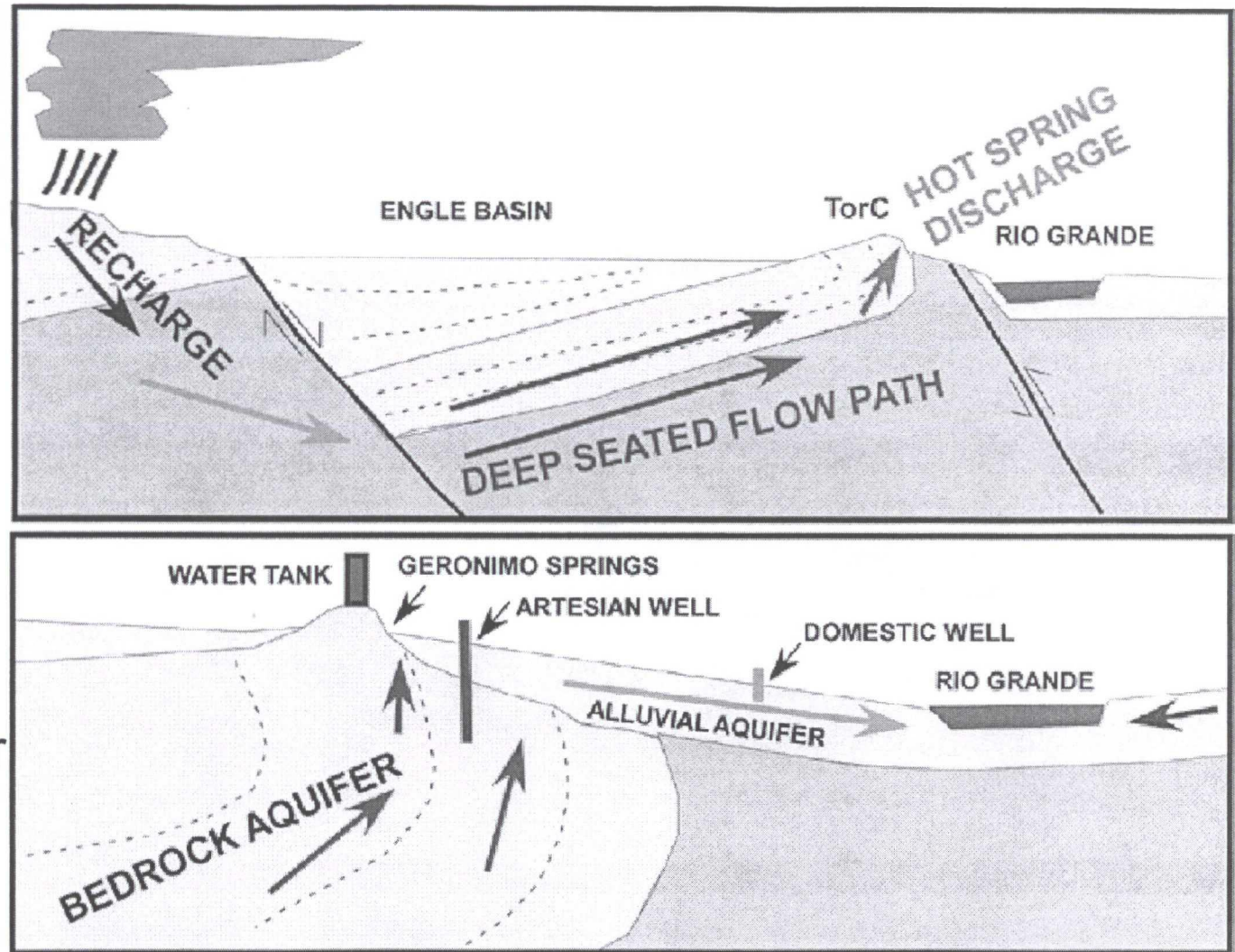
**3**

# **DISCUSSION OVERVIEW**

- Basic geologic framework of Lightning Dock geothermal.
- Thermal domains at Lightning Dock geothermal.
- Summary of subsurface geology.
- Water chemistry of thermal water in 45-7.
- Isotopic composition of thermal water in outflow plume.
- Summary of findings.

# A HOT SPRING SYSTEM

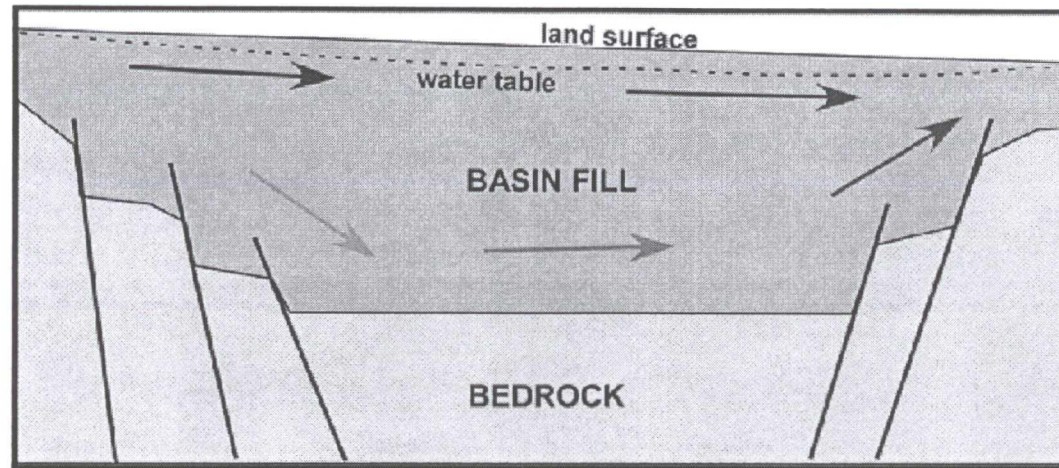
- 100 to 114° F
- 2,576 ppm TDS
- Flow to river  
+2.7 cfs  
+1,212 gpm  
+1,955 acre-ft/yr



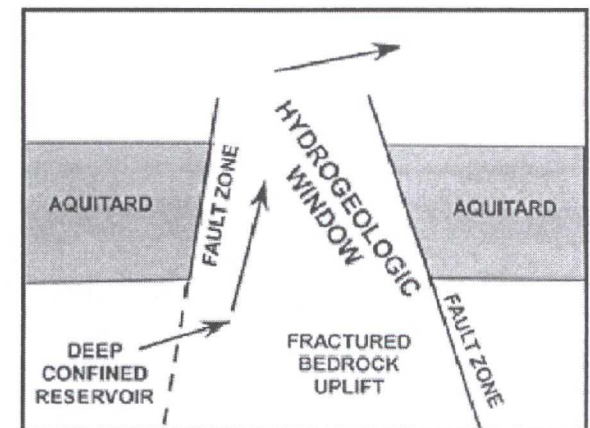
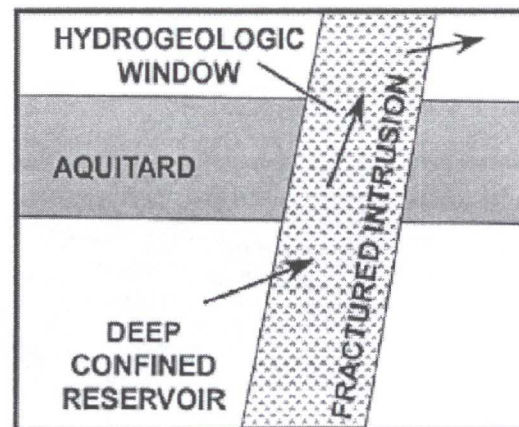
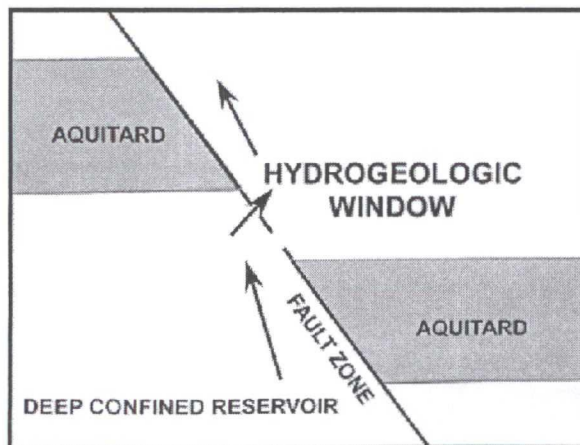
- Thermal and chemical sweep to +10,000 ft depth.
- Temperature gradient 1.6 to 2.5° F per 100 ft depth.
- Regional bedrock ground-water flow system.
- Important local component of salinity in Rio Grande.

# HYDROGEOLOGY

## Rift basin ground water flow constrictions (or outlets)



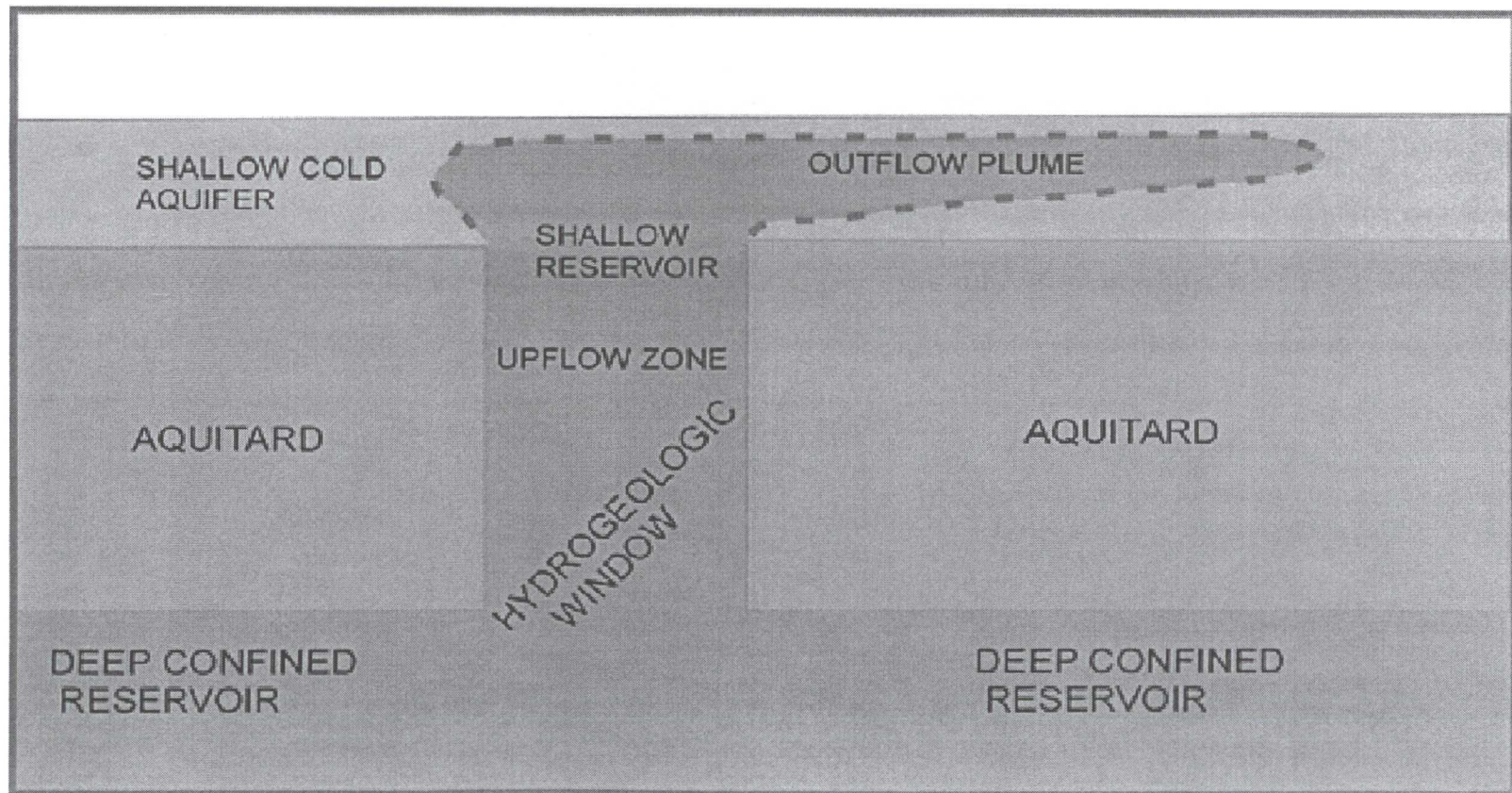
## Hydrogeologic windows





# RESERVOIR

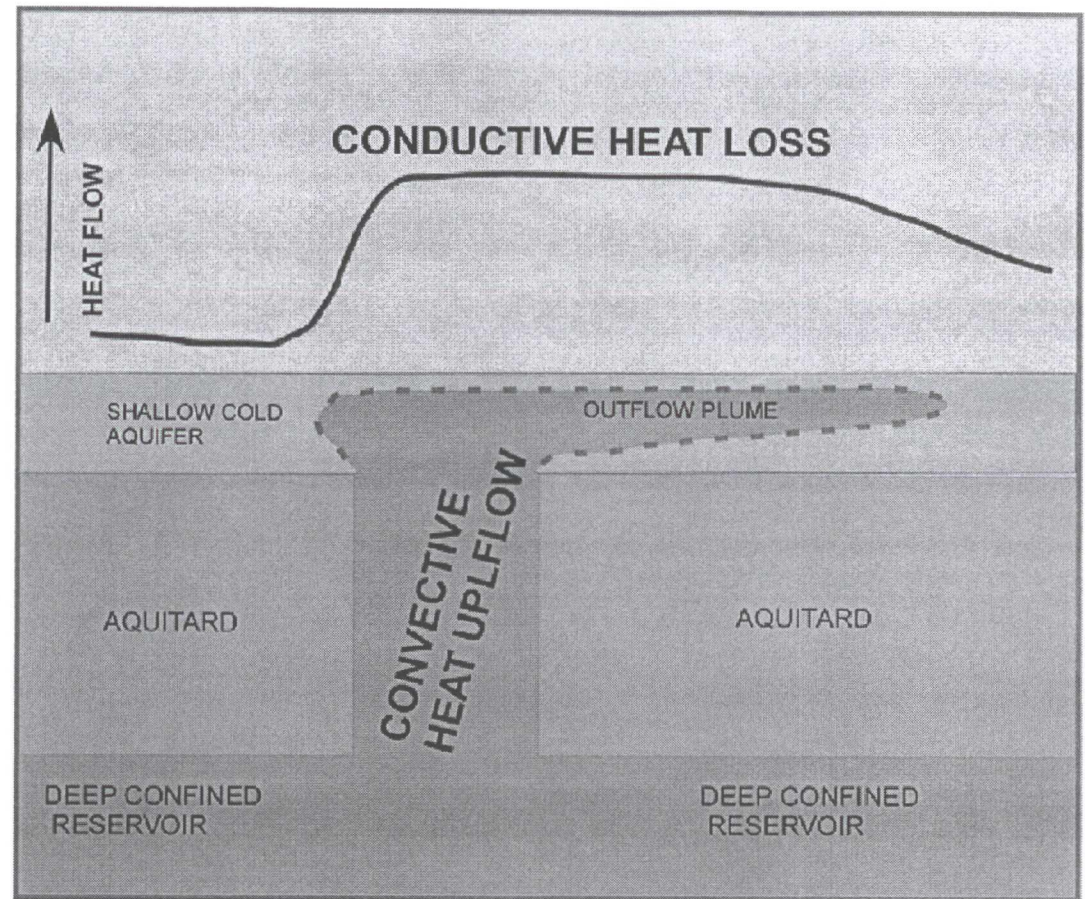
- Mixing with near surface ground water.
- Flow direction follows shallow hydraulic gradient.
- Most economic and productive reservoir volume is upflow zone and part of outflow plume.





# TOTAL CONDUCTIVE HEAT LOSS

- $q_z = k(dT/dz)$ 
  - $q_z$  conductive heat flow ( $mW/m^2$ )
  - $k$  thermal conductivity ( $W/m^{\circ}K$ )
  - $dT/dz$  temperature gradient ( $^{\circ}C/km$ )
  - $k = 1.8 W/m^{\circ}K$  basin fill
  - $k = 2.2 W/m^{\circ}K$  volcanics
- $Q = \downarrow q_z dA - \downarrow q_b dA$ 
  - $Q$  total system heat loss
  - $q_b$  regional heat flow ( $90 mW/m^2$ )
  - $dA$  area of integration ( $km^2$ )



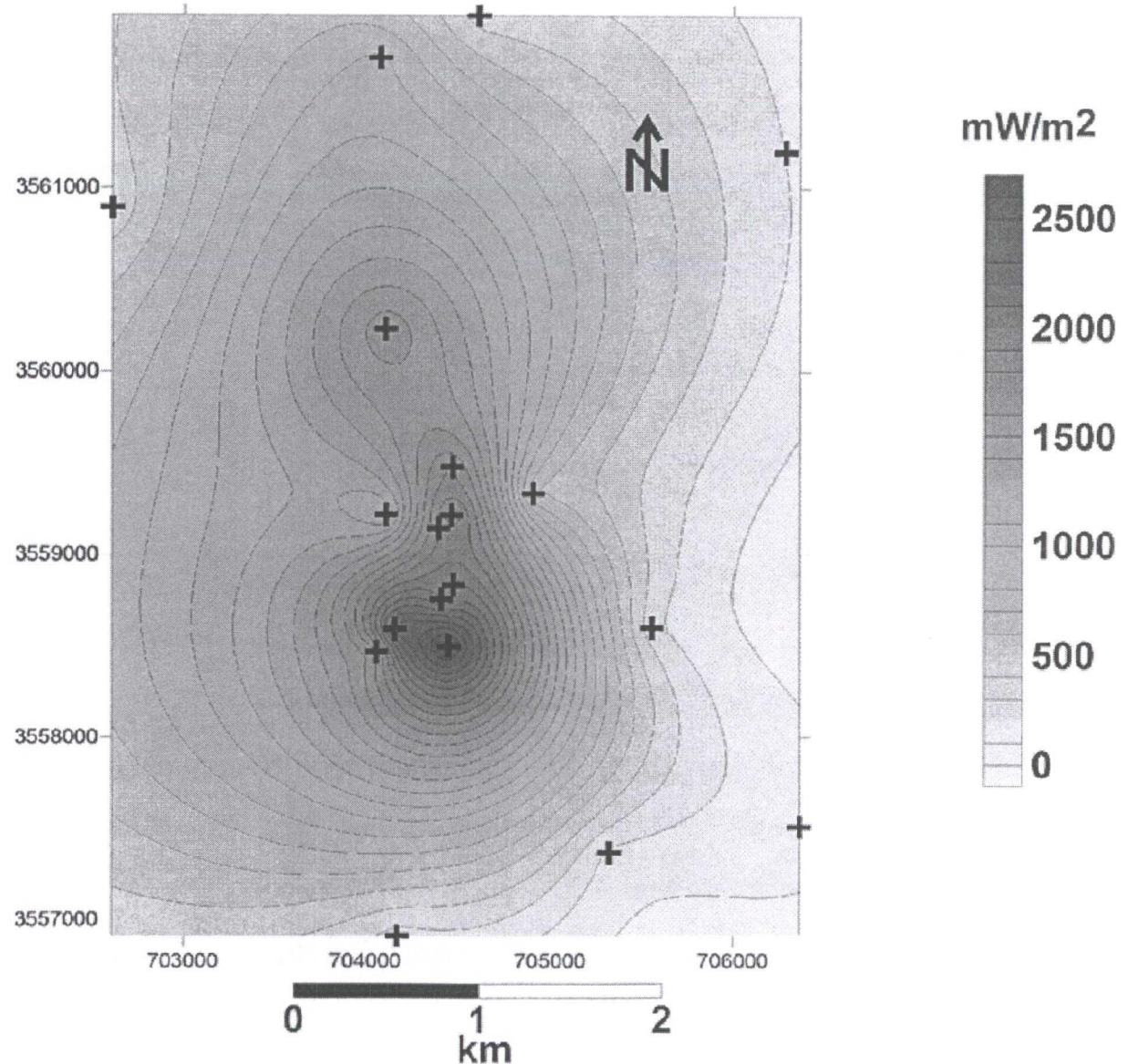
## Assumptions:

- All heat is lost by conduction over top of outflow plume.
- Estimated thermal conductivity does not introduce excessive error.
- Borehole density is adequate to characterize system.



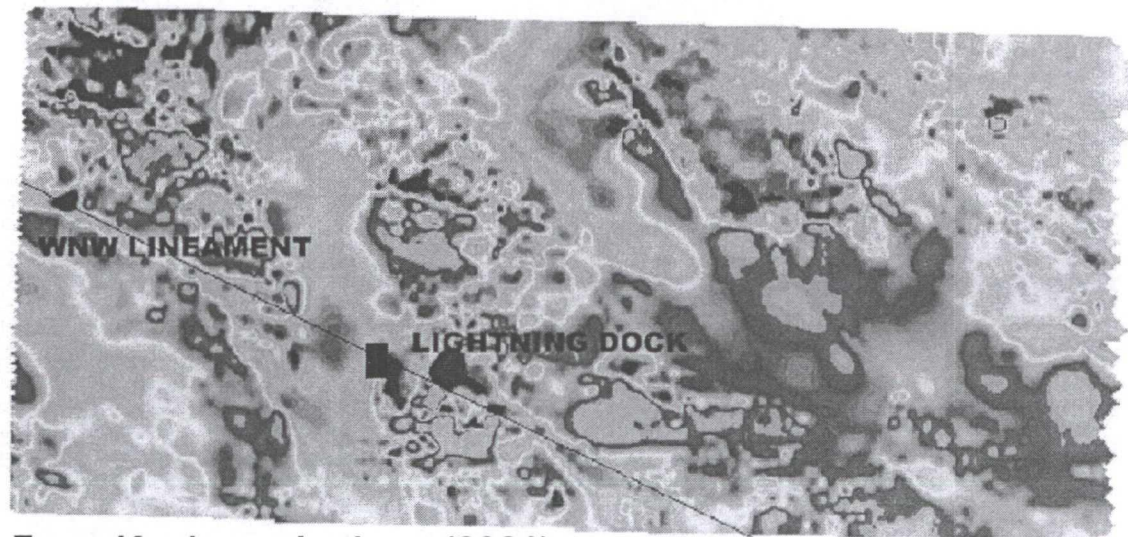
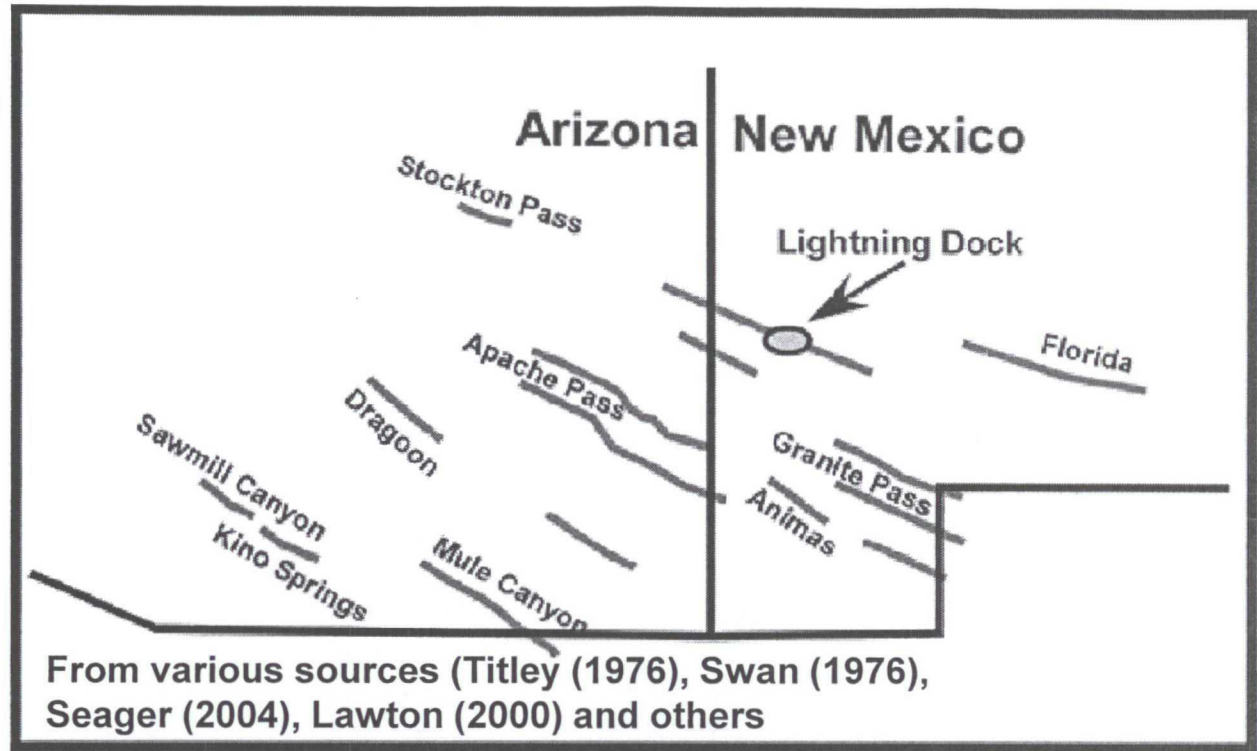
# LIGHTNING DOCK HEAT FLOW

- Maximum Heat Flow  
 $2543 \text{ mW/m}^2$
- Area of Heat Flow  
over  $90 \text{ mW/m}^2$   
 $17 \text{ km}^2$
- Reservoir Volume  
 $<1 \text{ to } 4 \text{ km}^3$
- Heat Loss
- $<10 \text{ MWt}$
- Natural recharge  
 $>300 \text{ gpm}$   
 $<1,200 \text{ gpm}$



# LIGHTNING DOCK REGION

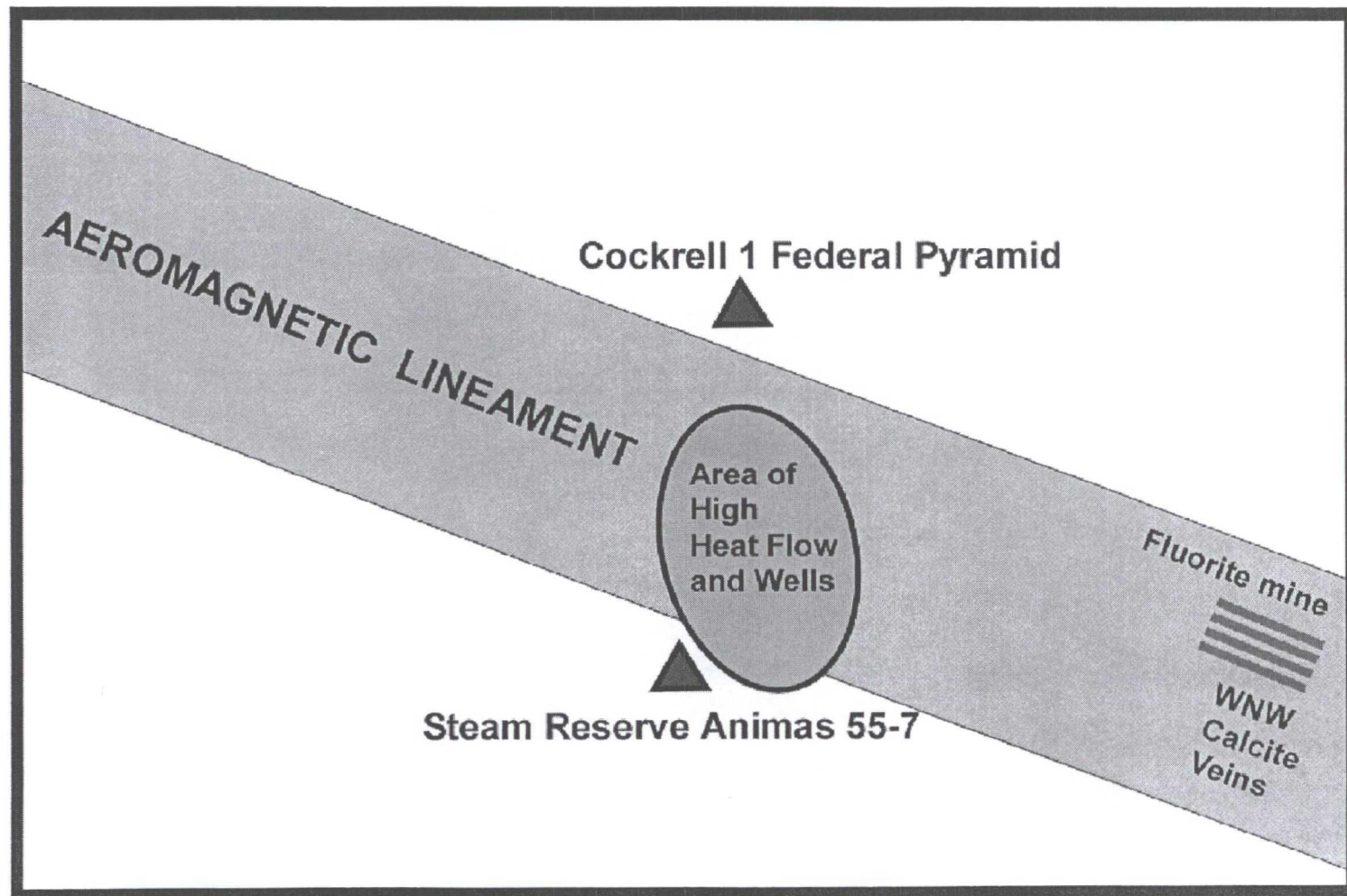
- Potential for deep seated fracture permeability
- Structures have long and repeated deformation history



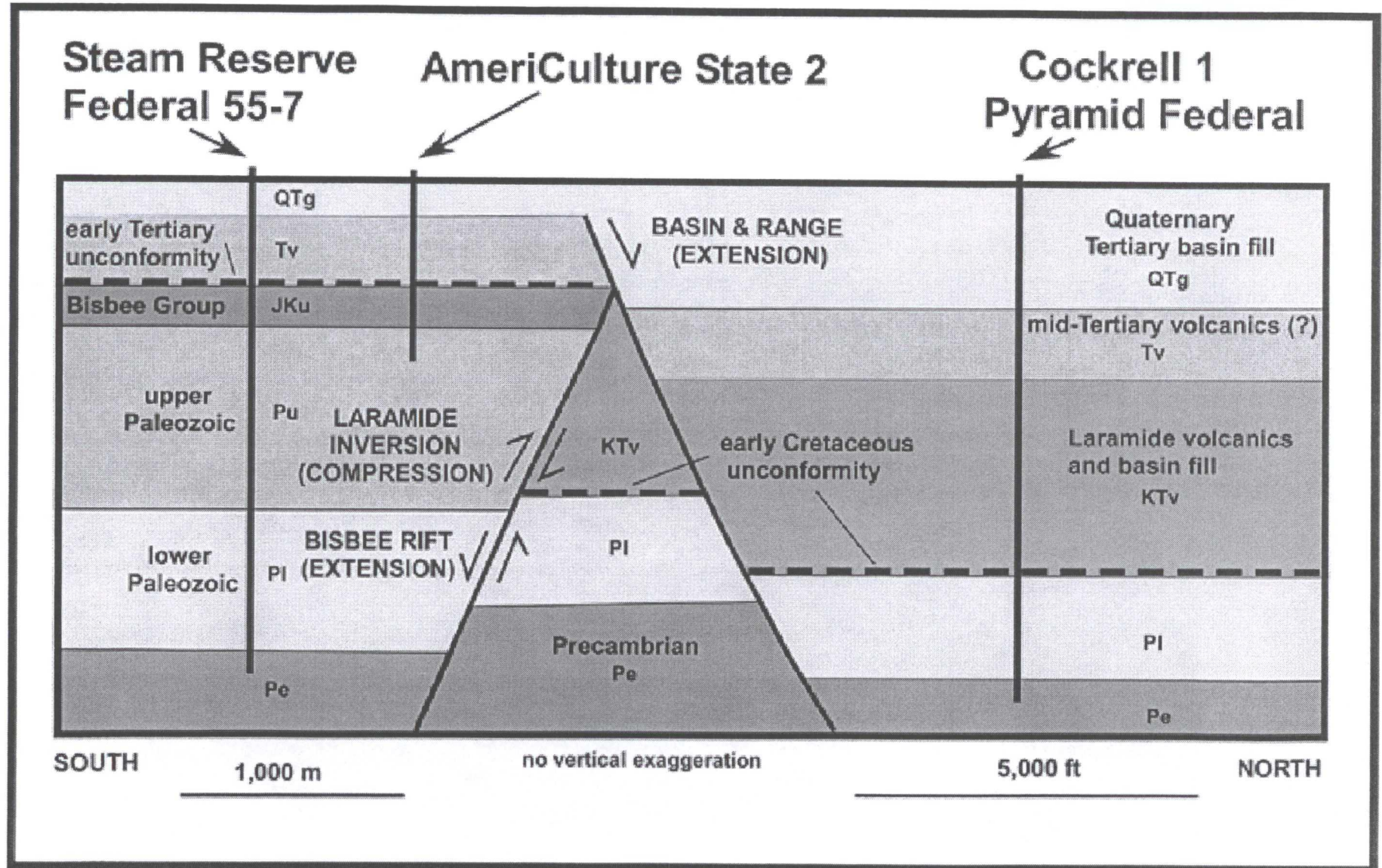
From Kucks and others (2001)



# A WNW STRUCTURE CONTROL AT LIGHTNING DOCK



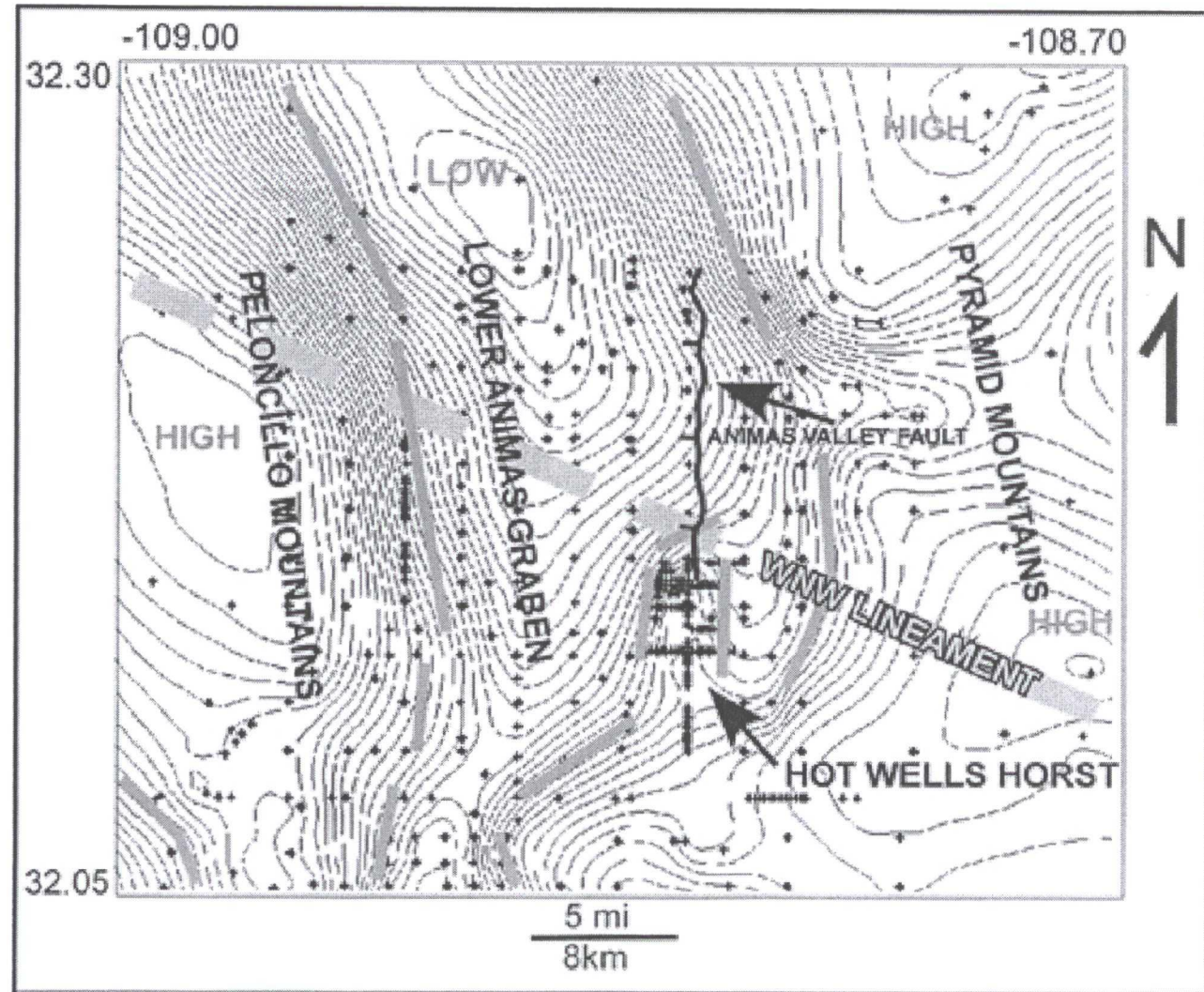
# DIAGRAMMATIC CROSS SECTION OF DEEP SUBSURFACE AND MAJOR TECTONIC INVERSION OF A WNW FAULT





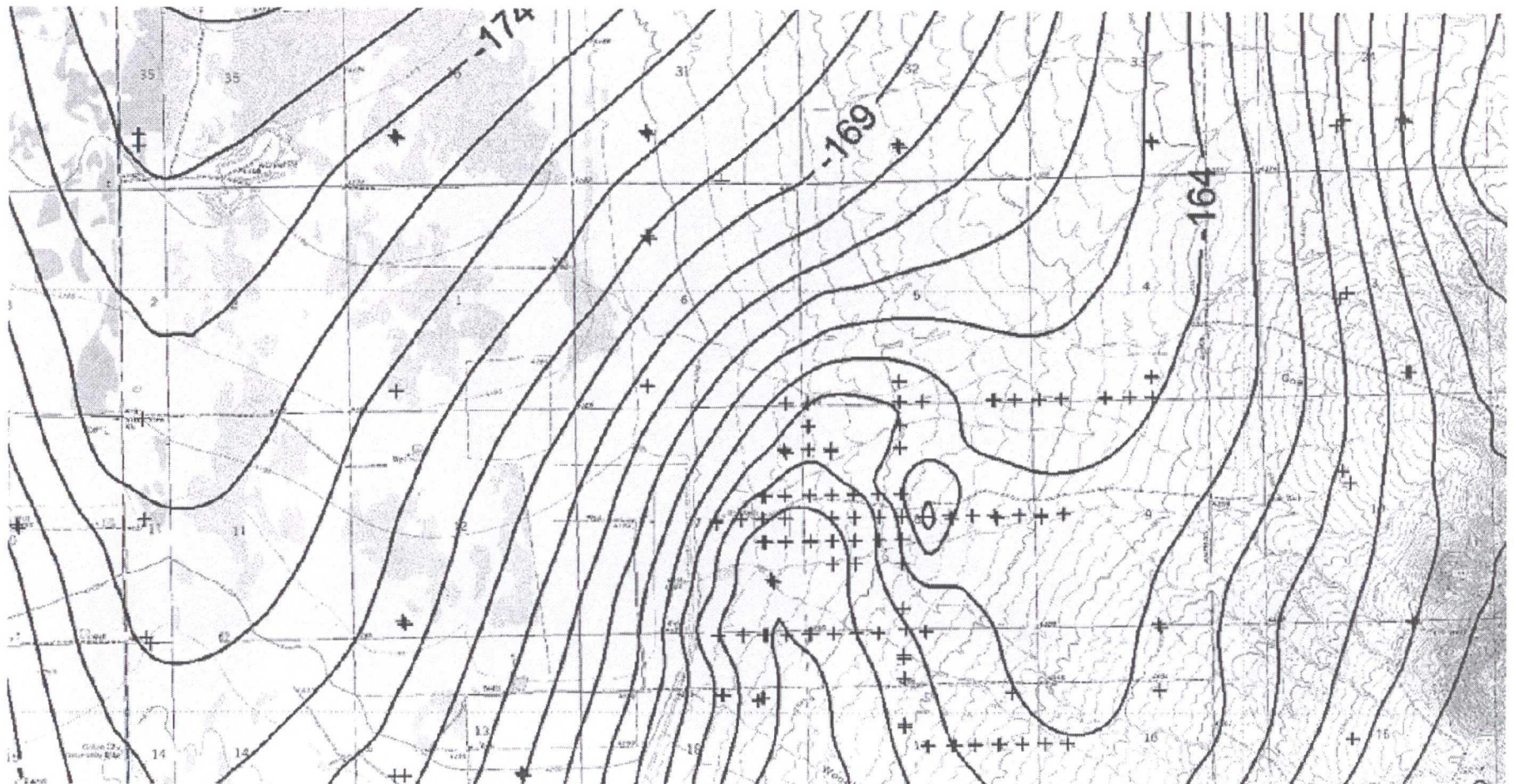
# COMPLETE BOUGUER GRAVITY MAP OF LIGHTNING DOCK REGION

Geothermal system is contained within a buried intrabasin horst block.





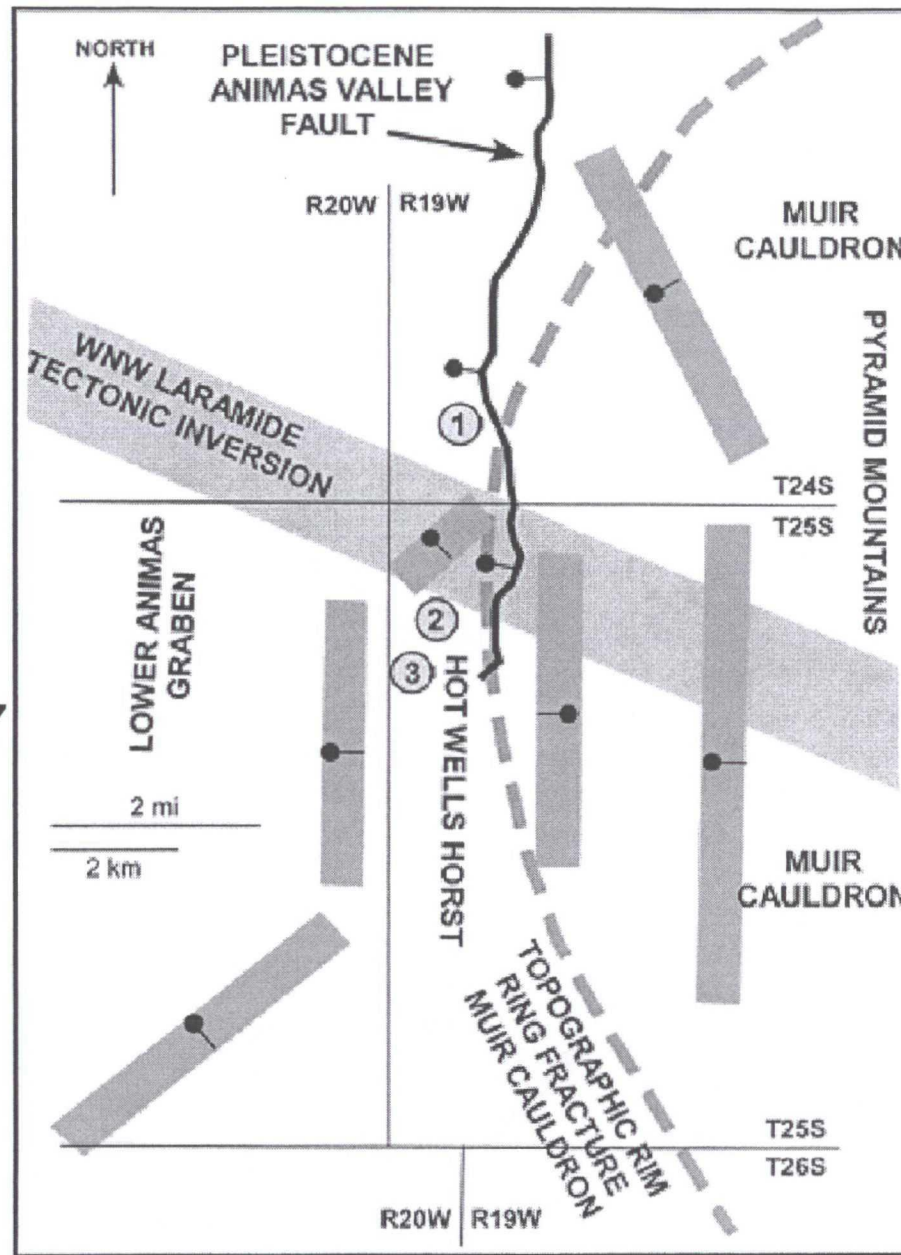
# GRAVITY ON TOPOGRAPHIC MAP



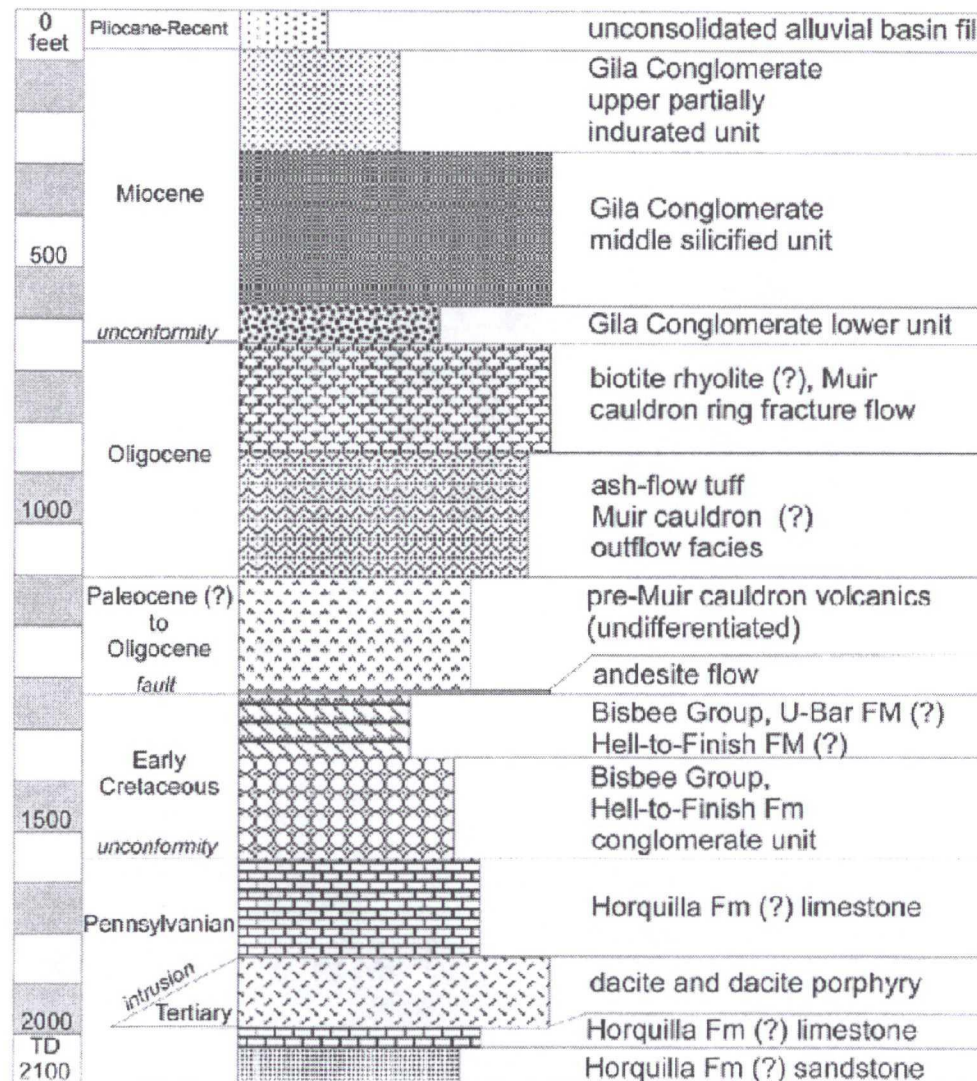


## SUMMARY OF LIGHTNING DOCK STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

- 1) Cockrell 1 Pyramid
- 2) AmeriCulture 2
- 3) Steam Reserve 55-7

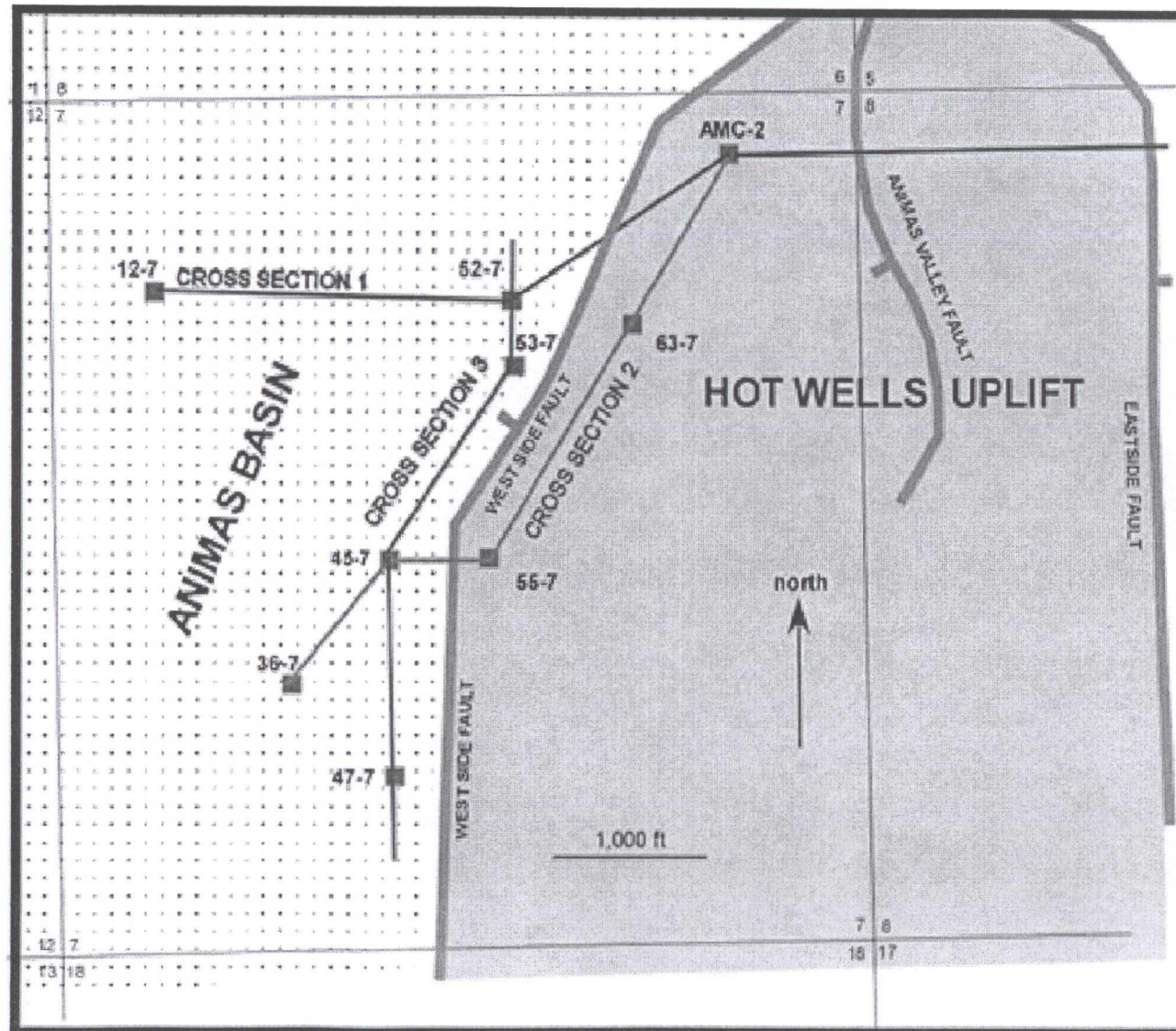


# SUMMARY GEOLOGIC LOG OF THE AMERICULTURE 2 WELL





# LOCATION MAP OF WELLS, FAULTS, AND CROSS SECTION LINES



# GEOLOGIC CROSS SECTION 1

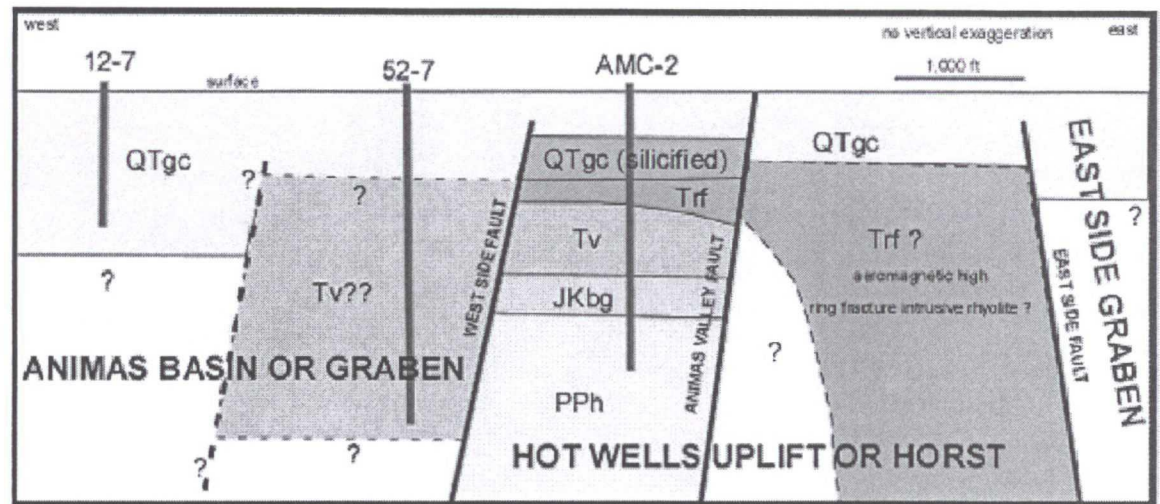
QTgc – basin fill/Gila Conglomerate

Trf – ring fracture zone rhyolite

Tv – Tertiary volcanics

JKbg – Mesozoic Bisbee Group

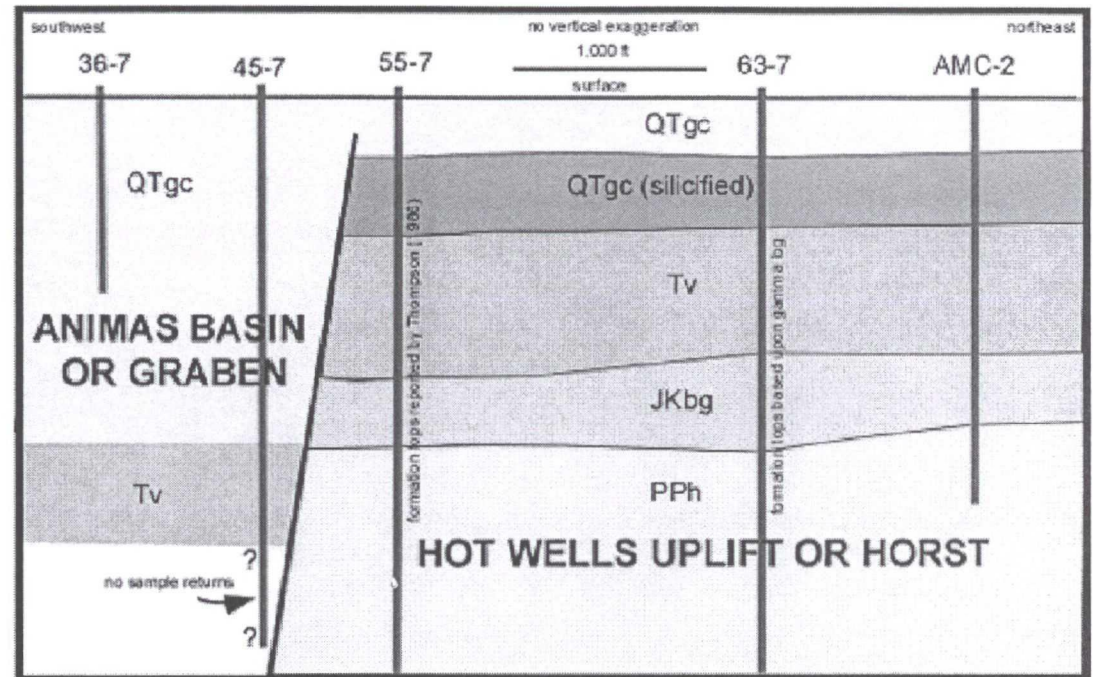
PPh – Paleozoic limestone





## GEOLOGIC CROSS SECTION 2

- 45-7 is completed in the Animas graben.
- 55-7 is completed in the “hot wells” horst block.
- 45-7 and 55-7 are in different thermal regimes with different reservoir hosts.
- 45-7 is completed in the Animas graben.



QTgc – basin fill/Gila Conglomerate

Tv – Tertiary volcanics

JKbg – Mesozoic Bisbee Group

PPh – Paleozoic limestone

## GEOLOGIC CROSS SECTION 3

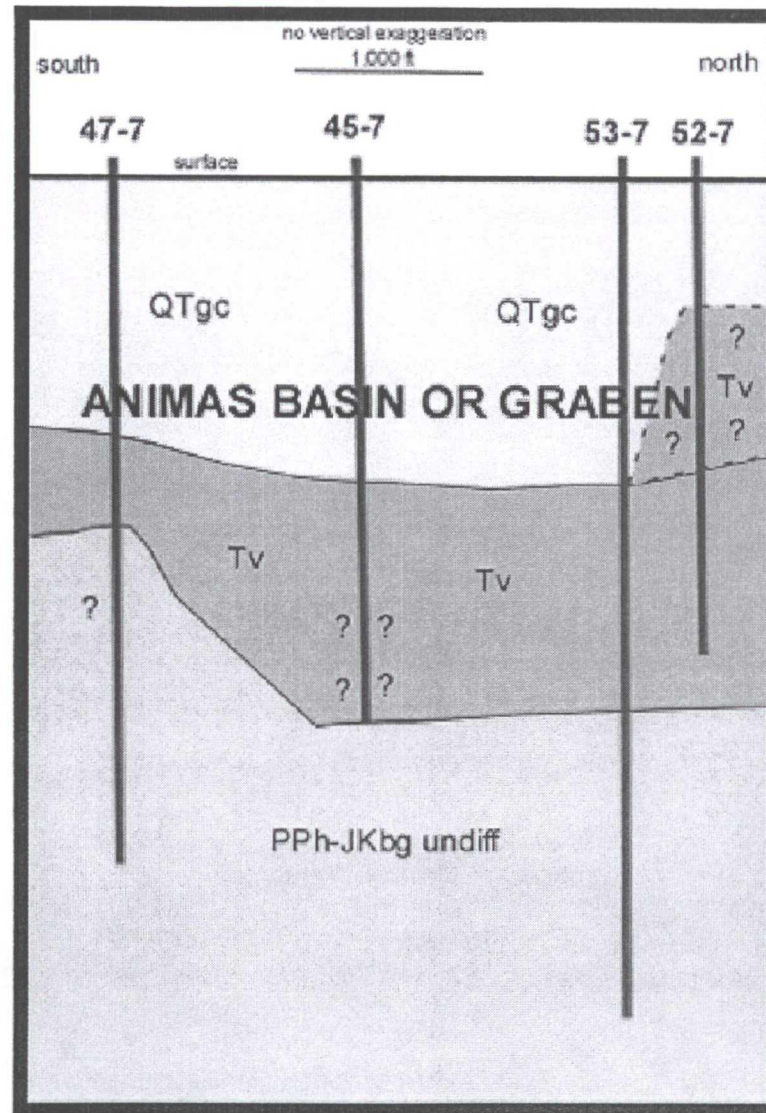
**Wells 45-7 and 53-7 are completed in the Animas basin or graben.**

QTgc – basin fill/Gila Conglomerate

Tv – Tertiary volcanics

JKbg – Mesozoic Bisbee Group

PPh – Paleozoic limestone





# GEOHYDROLOGY AND THERMAL REGIME OF 45-7

## GEOCHEMISTRY

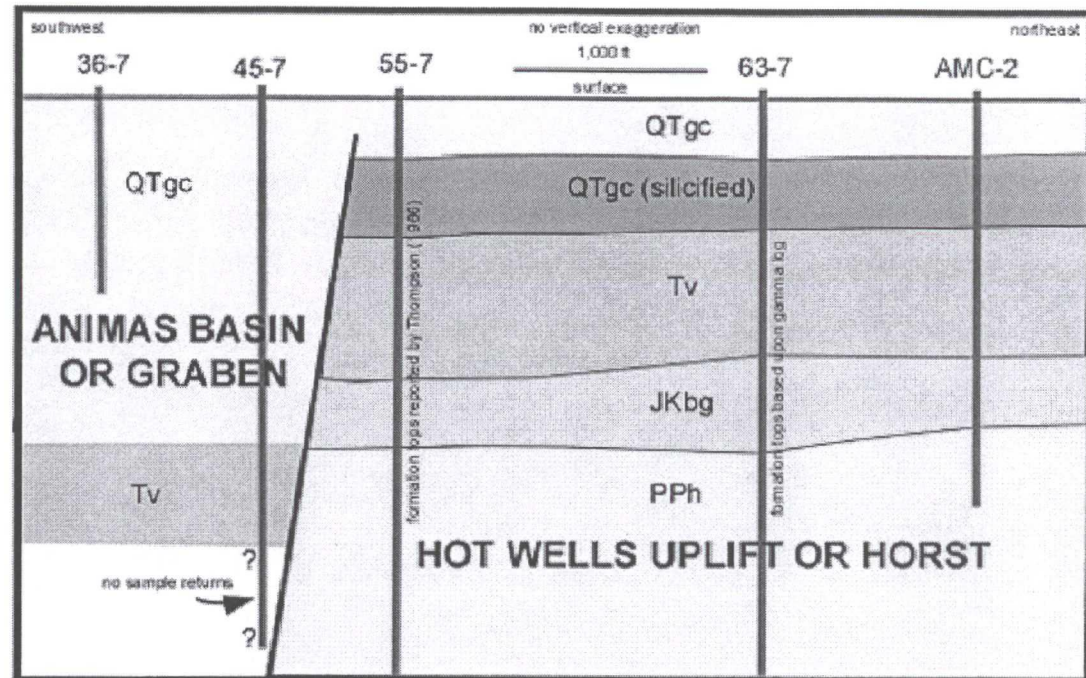
1 March 2011 sampling  
Turner Laboratories, Tucson

### Data:

- TDS 580 mg/L
- Silica 120 mg/L
- Cl 44 mg/L
- SO<sub>4</sub> 220 mg/L
- Na 250 mg/L
- Things don't add up? Why?

### Interpretation:

- Conductively-heated fresh basin-fill water adjacent the western boundary fault of the "hot wells" horst.
- Quartz (silica) equilibrates with water at temperatures approaching 150 C very rapidly.
- Reservoir is not sustainable without induced flow across fault from the reservoir in the "hot wells" horst.



QTgc – basin fill/Gila Conglomerate

Tv – Tertiary volcanics

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PPh – Paleozoic limestone

# 45-7 CHEMISTRY DISCUSSION

- TDS (total dissolved solids) less than fresh water source for drilling fluid (March, 2011).
- Chemistry of January 2012 is different after pumping and breakthrough of water across fault zone.
- Chemistry of January 2012 also appears to show enhanced TDS and silica concentration from mixing of injection of boiled and evaporated early production from 45-7 into 55-7.



# ISOTOPIC EVIDENCE FOR RESERVOIR AND FLOW PATH

| SAMPLE | SITE             | D/H | 18O/16O | 13C/12C | 34S/32S | 87Sr/86Sr |
|--------|------------------|-----|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| AM1    | Burgett #1       | -76 | -9.9    | -10.6   | 8.50    | 0.728344  |
| AM2    | Burgett #C       | -76 | -10.0   | -8.6    | 8.55    | 0.725616  |
| AM3    | Burgett #6       | -77 | -10.8   | n/a     | 8.34    | 0.727433  |
| AM4    | Americulture Fed | -70 | -10.1   | -10.0   | 8.84    | 0.728861  |

- Carbon isotopes are too low for water that has flowed through Paleozoic carbonate rocks (0 to +6)
- Sulfur isotopes show very little variation and suggest a single mineral source such as pyrite. The sulfur isotope ratio is too low for Paleozoic marine sulfate (+10 to +30) and is consistent with magmatic ratios (accessory pyrite in volcanics and intrusives).
- Strontium isotope ratios are too high for flow through Paleozoic carbonate rocks and mafic and intermediate volcanic rocks (<0.710) and indicates flow through rhyolite and granite of mid-Tertiary to Precambrian age.

# **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS 1**

**NOTE:** Same as presented to OCD in April 2009 hearing

- The Lightning Dock system is a very small geothermal system and will not sustain power production greater than 2 or 3 MW.
- The nature of the upflow zone is not well defined except to infer that it is very localized and may be less than a few tens of acres in planar cross section area.
- The geothermal fluids do not flow across or originate in Paleozoic carbonate rocks.
- Proposed injection and production wells are located from one another in dramatically different hydrogeologic domains.
- Characterization of deep resource potential is not well defined and can only be classified in an immature exploration stage.
- Excessive production and injection or improperly located wells will quench the current resource.



## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS 2 part 1**

- Well 45-7 is completed in a separate basin reservoir than the horst or uplift reservoir that 55-7 is completed.
- Well 45-7 chemistry (3/2011- Turner Labs) is consistent with basin-fill associated with rhyolite clast compositions or rhyolite.
- High silica represents equilibration of heated fresh water with quartz and disassociation of the primary dissolved silica species into secondary species at high pH and does not indicate a primary geothermal fluid.
- Well 55-7 and well 45-7 are completed in different reservoirs. Any production from 45-7 should be injected into a deep basin location and not in the horst block.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS 2 part 2**

- Injection into 55-7 during pump test shows water level rising from 80 ft depth to surface between 1/16/2012 and 1/24/2012.
- Production of 45-7 between 1/16/2012 and 2/3/2013 shows drawdown over 110 ft with injection.
- Sustainability of constant mass and energy flow from reservoir for commercial power and no impact to current use of geothermal heat and water rights holders is highly questionable.