

## SUGGESTED SKILL

 *Concept Explanation*

## 1.B

Explain environmental concepts and processes.



## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- Classroom Resource > [AP Environmental Science Teacher's Guide](#)

## TOPIC 6.10

# Geothermal Energy

## Required Course Content

### ENDURING UNDERSTANDING

**ENG-3**

Humans use energy from a variety of sources, resulting in positive and negative consequences.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVE

**ENG-3.N**

Describe the use of geothermal energy in power generation.

**ENG-3.O**

Describe the effects of the use of geothermal energy in power generation on the environment.

### ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

**ENG-3.N.1**

Geothermal energy is obtained by using the heat stored in the Earth's interior to heat up water, which is brought back to the surface as steam. The steam is used to drive an electric generator.

**ENG-3.O.1**

The cost of accessing geothermal energy can be prohibitively expensive, as is not easily accessible in many parts of the world. In addition, it can cause the release of hydrogen sulfide.