

**Video 1. short announcement PEER-Science project kick-off meeting by Public Television of Armenia**

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**Great potential for geothermal energy production in Armenia**

**Journalist:** Research done by the geologists proves there is a great potential for geothermal energy production in Armenia. The first source was discovered by drilling about 4 years ago in Karkar, Syunik.

**Khachatur Meliksetian:** There is a need to select and study several new promising geothermal sites similar to Karkar so that the potential investors are more interested to invest in this field.

**Journalist:** The geologists have examined all the mineral and geothermal waters of Armenia and have proven through research that they are connected to the cooling volcanic chambers. Currently, with the funding of the US National Academy of Sciences, the experts start a new phase of research. Aiming to map the geothermal energy resources from Gegham mountains to Javakhk mountain range.

**Khachatur Meliksetian:** All of our volcanic plateaus – Gegham, Vardenis plateau, Syunik, and Javakhk volcanic mountain range – have a perspective as source of geothermal energy. Apart from that, the region of Hankavan, Arzakan, Bjni with outflows of hot waters also has a big perspective.

**Journalist:** To discover geothermal potential, new methods will be utilized, such as seismic noise tomography. This will reveal the areas where the earth's heat flux is closest to the surface. As a result of the studies, suitable locations for the construction of a geothermal power plant will be selected for exploration and presented to the government.

**Ara Mirijanian:** Geothermal energy is the only renewable energy source that can serve as a so-called guaranteed power source.

**Journalist:** Taking into account that we lost a number of hydroelectric power plants during the Artsakh war, at present most of Armenia's energy production comes from imported gas or nuclear fuel. Experts believe that the future use of geothermal energy will solve the problem of energy security to some extent.