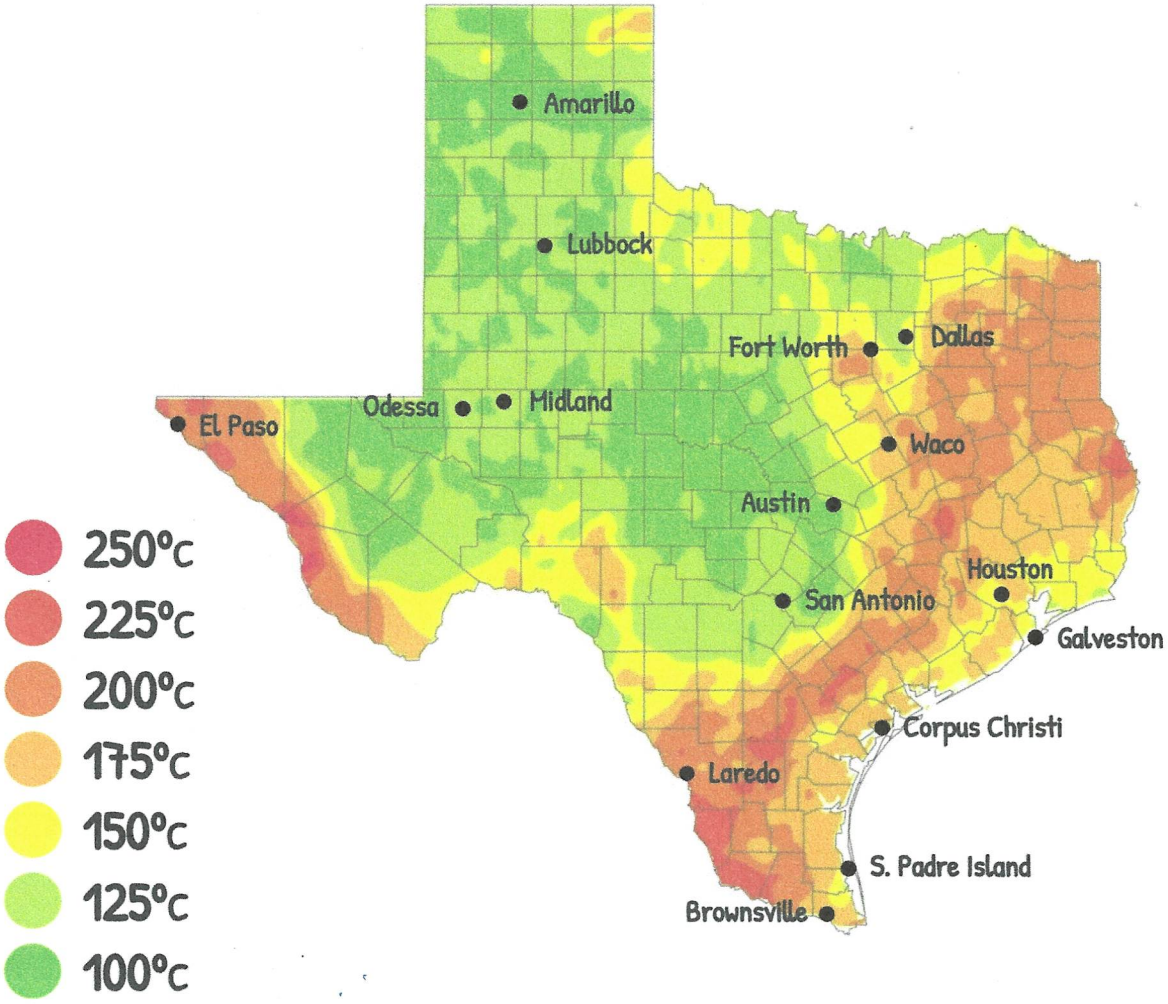
What is Geothermal?

The core of the earth is 6,000°C (10,832°F), the same temperature as the surface of the sun. We don't burn our feet when we walk around barefoot outside thanks to the insulative properties of Earth's crust, but anywhere in the world if you drill deep enough, you reach boiling, even supercritical temperatures. At 10 kilometers of depth or shallower, just about every point on earth has sufficient heat for power generation. This massive heat resource is viable for electricity production in much of the State of Texas, including near its major population centers, at approximately 6.5 kilometers, a drilling depth typical in parts of the world within the oil and gas industry. In fact, analysis in this Report and a prior related study concluded that it is likely hotter in the Texas subsurface than previously estimated, by as much as 15 percent. This difference is significant enough to improve both project economics, and technical feasibility of geothermal development in the State.



Temperature of Texas geothermal resources at 6.5 kilometers depth. As mapped, much of the State is at or near conventional minimum viable temperatures for geothermal power generation. *Source: Adapted from SMU Geothermal Laboratory.*

Geothermal energy is CO2 free, clean, always on, has a small surface footprint compared with other energy sources, and is ubiquitous.