Freie Universität Berlin

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

Geochemical processes in a deep geothermal well during production of thermal fluid - example Groß Schönebeck

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Thermal waters produced from deep geothermal reservoirs are often highly saline and of complex chemical composition. Chemical reactions occur due to changes in temperature and pressure or by interaction with materials. As a consequence minerals precipitate (=scaling) or materials corrode. Both are unwanted features of many geothermal facilities potentially resulting even in failure of the plant.

At the Groß Schönebeck research platform scaling represents an enormous challenge due to the observed clogging of the production well. Here, gas, solution, and solid phase have been monitored since beginning of plant operation.

Dr. Simona Regenspurg studied Geology at the Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich. After finishing her PhD at the University of Bayreuth (Department of Hydrology) she worked as postdoc at the Colorado School of Mines, the Technical University of Stockholm and at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. Since 2009 she is employed as research scientist at the International Centre of Geothermal Research at GFZ Potsdam. Her research focus is on geochemical topics related to fluid-rock interactions, contaminant mobility, and geothermal energy.

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