

General Description of the Regulations Governing the Permission and Management of Geothermal Energy Exploration and Development

In accordance with Paragraph 4 of Article 15-1 and Paragraph 7 of Article 15-2 of the Renewable Energy Development Act, as amended and promulgated on June 21, 2023, the qualifications, application procedures, required documents, review items, permit revocation, and other related matters concerning Geothermal Energy Exploration and Development Permits shall be prescribed by the central competent authority. Accordingly, the Regulations Governing the Permission and Administration of Geothermal Energy Exploration and Development (hereinafter referred to as “these Regulations”) are hereby enacted. The main points are as follows:

- 1.The competent authority and delegation of powers. (Article 2)
- 2.Definitions of terms. (Article 3)
- 3.Qualifications, required documents, and content of plans for geothermal energy exploration applications. (Articles 4 to 6)
- 4.Circumstances in which the vertical projection of a planned exploration well to the surface lies within 500 meters of the boundary of a site involving interested parties, and the explanatory information to be attached. (Article 7)
- 5.Qualifications, required documents, and content of plans for geothermal energy development applications. (Articles 8 to 10)
- 6.Circumstances in which the vertical projection of a planned development well to the surface lies within 500 meters of the boundary of a site involving interested parties, and the explanatory information to be attached. (Article 11)
- 7.Public tender procedures for areas with geothermal potential. (Article 12)
- 8.Procedures for correction or supplementation of applications for

Geothermal Energy Exploration and Geothermal Energy Development Permits. (Article 13)

9.Criteria for priority review of applications for Geothermal Energy Development Permits. (Article 14)

10.Composition of the Review Committee, review procedures by the competent authority, and grounds for rejection. (Articles 15 to 17)

11.Matters to be specified in Geothermal Energy Exploration and Geothermal Energy Development Permits, procedures for amending plans, and obligations and duties of permit holders. (Articles 18 to 21)

12.Information to be submitted before the expiry of a Geothermal Energy Exploration or Geothermal Energy Development Permit. (Article 22)

13.Procedures for applying to extend a Geothermal Energy Exploration or Geothermal Energy Development Permit. (Article 23)

14.Circumstances under which the competent authority may revoke a Geothermal Energy Exploration or Geothermal Energy Development Permit. (Article 24)

15.Requirements for taking appropriate measures where a Geothermal Energy Exploration or Geothermal Energy Development Permit is revoked or terminated by the competent authority, or otherwise becomes invalid. (Article 25)

16.Transitional provisions for entities that obtained local-government consent for drilling or exploration, or hot-spring development permits, before the enforcement of these Regulations. (Articles 26 and 27)

17.Procedures and matters to be undertaken for various types of renewable-energy generation equipment after obtaining a development permit. (Article 28)