

## Ormat

Ormat is the largest geothermal power company in the United States. They also own and operate geothermal facilities in five other countries. Their plants represent about 20% of the total geothermal power production in the world.

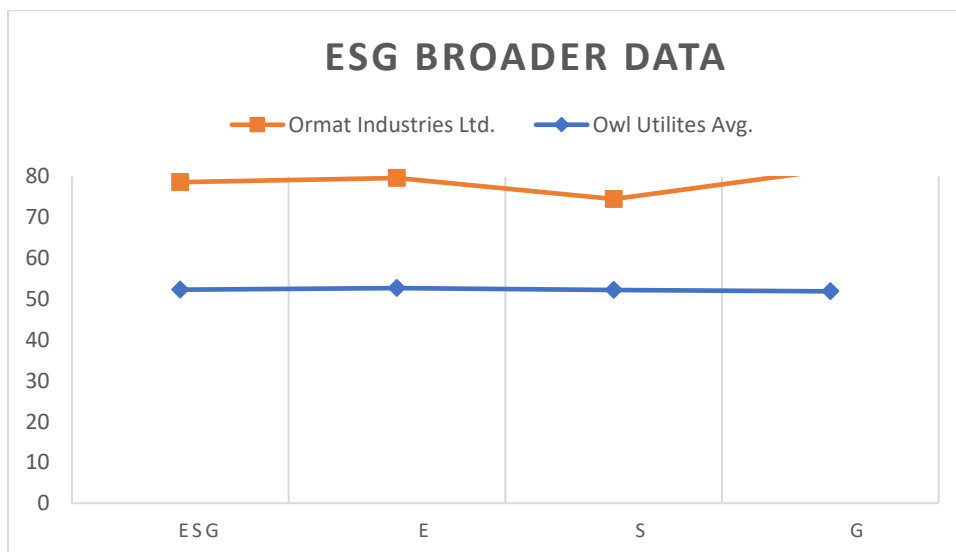
Geothermal plants work by capturing the earth’s heat released in areas of volcanic activity or along fault-lines in areas such as California, Hawaii, and Nevada. In a geothermal plant, the earth heats an underground reservoir to over 300°F. The resulting steam is brought into a heat exchanger which contains a low-boiling point fluid. When the fluid is vaporized, it drives a turbine which produces electricity. Since the system is enclosed, the fluid is returned to the heat exchanger when it cools, and the steam/water is returned to the reservoir when it cools.

Geothermal energy is renewable and has almost no air emissions. It also has the advantage of operating constantly, unlike other sources of renewable energy such as wind and solar.

In 2017, Ormat-owned power plant facilities generated more than 5.5 million MWh of electricity. These plants created 80,000 tons of carbon dioxide emissions. To generate this same amount of electricity, coal power plants would have generated 5,190,000 tons of carbon dioxide; natural gas plants would have generated 2,200,000 tons of this emission.

Ormat faced a difficult challenge this year with the eruption of the Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii in May. This proved to be the most destructive volcano in Hawaii’s history. Lava flows forced Ormat to close down its Puna geothermal power plant which was located about 15 miles from the volcano. While Ormat hopes to eventually be able to re-open this plant, it has guaranteed full-time employees at least one year of salary while the plant sits idle.

While the company’s sustainability report is adequate, it has pledged to upgrade it significantly with more data with the next issuance.



Source: OWL SHARES

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