



13 May 2011

### **AWATEA announces programmes for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on “The Business of Marine Energy”**

**The AWATEA Executive proudly announces the programmes for AWATEA's 5th Annual conference, workshop and field trip to be held at Te Papa Tongarewa on Thursday and Friday 26 and 27 May 2011.**

The theme of the conference on Thursday 26 May will be "**The Business of Marine Energy**", to recognize the growing maturity of marine energy both internationally and here in New Zealand. The conference will be opened by the Minister of Science and Innovation, Hon. Wayne Mapp and there will be three keynote presentations – by Mr. Julius Espedal, the CEO of Langlee Wave Power, a company planning a wave energy project off Stewart Island, by Dr. Tom Denniss, the CTO of Oceanlinx, the Sydney-based wave energy device developer and Mr. Richard Morris, Commercial Director of the European Marine Energy Centre in the Orkney Islands, Scotland.

Following the keynote presentations will be a series of presentation on topics ranging from legal and commercial aspects of marine energy in New Zealand, papers on present tidal energy research in New Zealand, grid connection of new renewables and lessons learnt from the barging of wind turbines across Cook Strait for the West Wind farm, which will be visited on the second day of the meeting.

The one-day conference will be followed by a half-day workshop on the and a half-day field trip.

The second day of the conference will begin with a workshop, "**Projects at the Frontier**", which will feature presentations from participants in active projects in marine energy. The workshop will feature presentations from Crest Energy, Tangaroa Energy, Wave Energy Technology - New Zealand, Chatham Islands Marine Energy and Neptune Power.

The second half of the day will involve a field trip to the West Wind farm near Makara to view Cook Strait in the company of specialists in the tidal energy resource in Cook Strait and the wind farm development.

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority and Meridian Energy Limited are Foundation Sponsors of the AWATEA conference and we have also attracted sponsorships from GNS Science, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise, Genesis Energy, NIWA, Chapman Tripp and New Zealand Diving and Salvage.



The Executive is also planning to repeat the very successful Trade Exhibition, which it held at last year's conference. Information on the Trade Exhibition, including an application form for display booths, is available on the AWATEA website.

Further details on the "**The Business of Marine Energy**" conference and the "**Projects at the Frontier**" workshop and the West Wind field trip can be downloaded from the AWATEA website conference page:

<http://www.awatea.org.nz/conference11/conference11.html>

Further Information: [www.awatea.org.nz](http://www.awatea.org.nz)

AWATEA  
04 499 0060  
[mail@awatea.org.nz](mailto:mail@awatea.org.nz)