

Volume 2, #2: February 2007

CONFERENCE UPDATE

**BLUE ENERGY – Taking the Plunge**

**08:30 – 18:00, 15 March 2006**

**Icon Room, Te Papa Tongarewa**

Renewable energy has always played an important part in supplying New Zealand's energy needs. In the last ten years the contribution of renewables to energy supply has declined. Recent focus on climate change and emissions reductions has turned the spotlight back on renewable energy for its positive and carbon-free contribution to energy supply. Wind energy is currently experiencing rapid growth. Marine energy is less advanced but, like wind energy, has the potential to supply a substantial proportion of New Zealand's future energy needs. Marine energy is developing quickly overseas and has the potential for similar rapid growth in New Zealand.

The objectives of the conference are to:

1. Promote the uptake of marine energy in New Zealand
2. Accelerate the development of marine energy projects here, and
3. Respond to the proposed initiatives in the draft New Zealand Energy Strategy and related documents.

**CONTENTS**

CONFERENCE UPDATE .....1

**Blue Energy: Taking the Plunge - AWATEA's first annual conference .....2**

    AWATEA Administrator ..... 3

    Discounted Hotel Rates ..... 3

    Website Upgrade..... 3

    New Office - reminder ..... 4

If you wish to join the Association an updated application form can be downloaded from the Association's website: [www.awatea.org.nz](http://www.awatea.org.nz).

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## **Blue Energy: Taking the Plunge - AWATEA's first annual conference**

The first annual marine energy conference in New Zealand will take place on:

**Blue Energy: Taking the Plunge**

**08:30 – 17:30, 15 March 2007**

**Icon Room, Te Papa Tongarewa  
Wellington**

This will be a full-day conference with the opportunity to hear overseas and domestic speakers talk on two themes: Resources & Projects and Policies & Regulations. Senior Government officials have been invited to open the conference and give addresses on the draft energy and climate change documents, which were published for consultation before Christmas. The objective of the conference is to gather views and opinions on the proposals in the draft documents for a submission by 30 March 2007.

Two keynote speakers from overseas have been invited to retell their experience of projects and policies that will have great relevance to New Zealand. A number of other speakers have been approached to address the key conference themes. A panel discussion focussing on the Government's draft strategy documents will give conference delegates the opportunity to air their views.

Suggestions or volunteers for speaking slots are welcome, although most of the speaking slots are already filled. If you would like to speak or wish to recommend a topic or speaker, please contact the Executive Officer (mail@awatea.org.nz).

The cost of the conference will be:

**\$200 + GST for paid members of AWATEA**

**\$250 + GST for non-members**

Non-members may join the Association and receive the benefit of the discounted member's rate by sending a membership application form with their conference application form. An application form will be available on the AWATEA website, which is being upgraded, in the next couple of weeks. It will also be sent out to all the current recipients of the mailing list.

The conference fee includes attendance at the conference, including morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea, together with a conference pack. Post-conference drinks will be available until 19:00 to give delegates a chance to network with other conference attendees. A conference CD will be available. Given the cost of other conferences, the Executive believes this is excellent value and should attract a wide and diverse audience.

Numbers will be limited because of the size of the available room. **Electronic copies of the conference flyer, registration form and sponsorship packages are attached with this newsletter and will be available for download from the AWATEA website early next week.**

The Executive of AWATEA is seeking sponsors to support the conference. There are a number of conference sponsorship packages available, ranging from \$500 upwards. If you are interested in taking up one of the sponsorship packages, please see the attachment.

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## **AWATEA Administrator**

AWATEA's Executive recognized the huge workload involved in organizing a conference. To assist in making the conference a memorable event for everyone, the Executive has employed Ms. Rachel Levy as an administrator. She will be working with the Executive and Executive Officer to finalize the conference arrangements. Rachel has previously organized conferences for Maritime NZ and so she knows the 'territory'.

If you have any specific questions regarding the conference, please address them to Rachel at [admin@awatea.org.nz](mailto:admin@awatea.org.nz) or call the office on +64 (0)4 499 0060.

## **Discounted Hotel Rates**

AWATEA has negotiated a discounted rate with the Museum Hotel, which is directly across the road from Te Papa.

You can book their standard or studio apartment rooms by quoting "**AWATEA conference**" and the confirmation number: **60779**.

Room rates are:

Standard room: \$180.00 (inc. GST) per room per night  
Studio apartment \$215.00 (inc. GST) per room per night

The Museum Hotel's contact details are:

Telephone: +64 (0)4 802 8900  
Freephone: 0800 994 335 (in NZ only)  
Fax: +64 (0)4 802 8909  
Website: [www.museumhotel.co.nz](http://www.museumhotel.co.nz)

If you are also planning to attend the NZWEA wind energy conference, preceding the AWATEA conference, you may be able to extend your booking to cover all three days.

## **Website Upgrade**

As noted, the current website will be updated early next week to include details of the conference. The registration form, flyer and sponsorship package will be available there for downloading.

Please keep checking the site over the next few weeks. We will upload the conference programme and other conference news items, as and when they become available.

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## New Office - reminder

From 15 January 2007 the Aotearoa Wave and Tidal Energy Association has moved to a new physical address (postal address and telephone/fax numbers are unchanged):

*Physical Address:*

Level 8, Equinox House  
111 The Terrace  
Wellington 6011

Tel: +64 (0)4 499 0060

Fax: +64 (0)4 499 0059

*Postal Address:*

PO Box 25456  
Panama Street  
Wellington 6146

You can also contact AWATEA by sending an e-mail to [mail@awatea.org.nz](mailto:mail@awatea.org.nz).

The **Aotearoa Wave and Tidal Energy Association (AWATEA)** is a registered Incorporated Society. Its aim is to:

***"AWATEA will promote, aid and foster a vibrant and viable marine energy sector in New Zealand"***

**Role:** AWATEA will be the national association for the representation of industry and research interests in marine energy and its uses.

**Objectives:** AWATEA has the following objectives:

1. to **promote the marine energy industry** in New Zealand, including research, energy generation, marine fabrication and marine services;
2. to **increase recognition and utilization of marine energy** as another energy source in New Zealand's supply portfolio;
3. to act as a **centre for advocacy of marine energy**, including lobbying, drafting and making submissions to the Government and representing the views of the marine energy industry;
4. to assist in the **exchange of information about the marine energy sector** and to provide and publish statistics and informed commentary on issues affecting the uptake of marine energy in New Zealand;
5. to be a meeting place for marine energy industry participants; and
6. to **represent the New Zealand marine energy industry** to national bodies, including Government agencies, non-governmental organisations and other industry bodies as well as liaising with any relevant international bodies.

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.