



aotearoa wave and tidal energy association

## **AOTEAROA WAVE AND TIDAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION NON-MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER**

### **Volume 2, #9: 31 July 2007**

Welcome to the belated July newsletter. This newsletter has been delayed to allow some additional information about the Annual General Meeting to be confirmed.

#### **The Annual General Meeting and 'Developers' Day'**

The first Annual General Meeting of AWATEA has been confirmed for 13:00 – 14:00 on Thursday 16 August 2007 in the Lion Harbourview Lounge at the Michael Fowler Centre, Wakefield Street, Wellington. Formal notice of the AGM has been sent out to members, together with a proxy voting form.

We have also organized a Developers' Day mini-conference, the details of which are included later in this newsletter. Further, details and an online registration form are available at: <http://www.awatea.org.nz/registration.html>.

Non-members are welcome to attend the AGM but will not be able to vote on Association business matters. Non-members are also welcome to attend the following Developers Day mini-conference for which there is an admission charge.

#### **Newsletter**

You are receiving the non-members' newsletter, because you are not a paid member of AWATEA. If you would like to receive the members' newsletter, you can join the Association: an updated application form can be downloaded from the AWATEA website or supplied on request by sending an e-mail to [admin@awatea.org.nz](mailto:admin@awatea.org.nz).

We welcome your feedback on or input to the newsletter. Please send your comments to [mail@awatea.org.nz](mailto:mail@awatea.org.nz).



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## **AWATEA News**

### **Annual General Meeting and Developers' Day**

Members will now have received formal notification of the first Annual General Meeting of the Association on **Thursday 16 August 2007** in the Lion Harbourview Lounge of the Michael Fowler Centre, Wakefield Street, Wellington. The meeting will follow the same format as last September's General Meeting: a 30-60 minute meeting to discuss the business of the Association at which members can vote on any motions and elections for the Executive, followed by a mini-conference open to a wider audience.

Due to the shortness of time, the Executive has decided to hold the proposed Developers' Day after the AGM proceedings, rather than as a separate meeting. This will mean some small changes to the format of the Developers' Day. The meeting will be open to members and non-members alike, but 'Chatham House' rules will apply. A provision agenda for the Developers Day and a registration form have been sent out to members.

An agenda and voting forms for the AWATEA AGM will be provided at the meeting. The voting issues that will be addressed at the AGM will be limited to:

1. Election of the Executive until the next AGM
2. Changes to the Rules to include Life and Honorary membership categories

The Developers Day agenda is still provisional because we are hoping to have an important presentation to include but have not been able to finally confirm whether this presentation will be available. If it is, the agenda for the Developers Day will be slightly modified and a new agenda will be sent out prior to the meeting.

The Executive hopes that you will be able to attend the AGM and Developers' Day meeting. Details of the Developers Day and a downloadable registration form can be found under the 'News and Events' tab on the AWATEA website.

### **Departure of Tim Armstrong**

Tim Armstrong has been a member of the AWATEA Executive since its inaugural meeting in March 2006 and East Harbour Management Services has been a founding member of the Association. Tim will not be standing for re-election to the Executive, as he's off to investigate drier alternatives in the Arabian Peninsula. The Executive acknowledges Tim's contribution to the establishment and health of the Association and wishes him well in his location.

### **AWATEA Website Upgrade**

The website has been upgraded and a Members' only page is now active. A username and password is required to access this page.

### **Marine Energy – Bulletin Board**

AWATEA is increasingly receiving requests for contacts with NZ-based project developers. These requests are coming from people interested in working in marine energy and, occasionally, from potential investors in projects here. To date the Executive Officer has generally responded with a state of the 'industry' here and directed enquirers to the websites of members. However, this does not necessarily spread the net wide enough either for the enquirers or for potential contacts.



The Executive is looking at having a Bulletin Board, either in this newsletter or on the website, which members and non-members can post brief details of their interests, qualifications and purpose. The service is likely to be free for members but there is likely to be a charge for non-members.

If this service is offered, it will be on the basis that the Association is not endorsing the users of the bulletin board. We welcome comments on the above.

In this newsletter, we include an article submitted by Robert Holmes of Econnect, which is a new member of the Association. Whilst AWATEA does not necessarily endorse the views in the article, we welcome such articles from members. The Executive will publish informative articles, rather than marketing material. The Executive will also consider material for publication from non-members.

## **NEW ZEALAND News**

### **World's Biggest Wave?**

You may not have realized it but some surfers believe...

### **Maui's Dolphin Sanctuary: your views?**

In the last newsletter, there was an article about the Forest and Bird proposal to establish a marine mammal sanctuary on the west coast of the North Island, including the tidal harbours. This is a substantial area of coastline, where marine energy projects have been proposed and where CREST Energy has submitted an application for resource consents for its project in the Kaipara Harbour.

The sanctuary proposal is being evaluated by the Department of Conservation, which will presumably call for submissions in due course. AWATEA will be preparing a submission. AWATEA is keen to hear from members and non-members alike on the sanctuary proposal and consequences of establishment of such a sanctuary on marine energy projects.

The sanctuary proposal does not exclude marine energy at this stage but raises concerns about the presence of underwater tidal turbines in particular. CREST Energy is planning to use the Lunar Energy turbine, which is shrouded so that collisions with blade tips would not be possible.

There are likely to be a range of views and the Executive would like to develop a position, which meets its stated objectives (see page 9) but also shows marine energy project developers to be 'responsible citizens'.

Meetings have been held between AWATEA, DoC and Forest & Bird to discuss the sanctuary proposal and the likely effects of marine energy projects. Those meetings will continue. However, in advance of the hearings for the CREST Energy resource consent applications (not yet scheduled) and the call for submissions on the sanctuary proposal, AWATEA welcomes views on the proposal. Please e-mail your thoughts to [mail@awatea.org.nz](mailto:mail@awatea.org.nz).

### **Cook Strait Consent Application**

Neptune Power is reported to be submitting a resource consent application...

### **Improving Regulation of Environmental Effects in New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone**

The current focus of oceans policy development has moved to improving the regulatory regime for environmental effects in New Zealand's EEZ. The Ministry



for the Environment has recently published a Discussion Paper, which can be downloaded from MfE's website: [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz)

There is also a link to a discussion forum and a submission form. Submissions are due by 30 September 2007. AWATEA will make a submission but is interested to hear from members and non-members on what issues they think should be addressed.

### **EnergyScope Project**

The Foundation for Research, Science and Technology has commissioned three energy research studies...

### **9<sup>th</sup> Annual New Zealand Energy Summit, 13 – 15 August 2007**

The Executive Officer will be presenting some material on marine energy at the forthcoming 9<sup>th</sup> Annual New Zealand Energy Summit at the Duxton Hotel in Wellington on 13 August...

### **OVERSEAS News**

International publications and presentations indicate a growing interest and awareness of the potential for marine energy.

#### **IEC Standards**

Hot on the heels of the news that the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) is to establish standards for marine energy devices...

#### **Carbon Trust Marine Energy Accelerator**

In October 2006 the Carbon Trust announced the establishment of a Marine Energy Accelerator...

#### **Scotland's Marine Supply Obligation**

Scotland, already the world leader in marine energy technology developments, is also leading the way with its legislative and regulatory regime...

#### **Wave energy converter pilot to be built on Norwegian island**

The Seawave Slot-Cone Generator (SSG)...

#### **BioPower Systems awarded COMET grant**

BioPower Systems in Sydney is among 39 companies, which have been awarded a COMET grant...

#### **Canadian Environmental Study**

The Canadian National Research Centre has established a project team...



## DIARY

If you are aware of an event that might interest AWATEA's membership, please e-mail details to: [mail@awatea.org.nz](mailto:mail@awatea.org.nz).

Date	Location	Event
13-15 August 2007	Wellington	9 <sup>th</sup> Annual NZ Energy Summit
<b>16 August 2007 13:00 – 17:00</b>	<b>Wellington</b>	<b>AWATEA AGM &amp; Developers' Day Lion Harbourview Lounge, Michael Fowler Centre, Wakefield Street, Wellington</b>
21-23 August 2007	Hawaii	Energy Ocean 2007
23 August 2007	Wellington	Energy Law Seminar: "Electricity & Gas Complaints Scheme"; venue tba
23-26 August 2007	Wairakei	Leadership in a Climate of Change: a Dialogue for Change
29-31 August 2007	Hamilton	NZ Marine Sciences Society Conference
30-31 August 2007	Brisbane	3 <sup>rd</sup> Australia-NZ Climate Change & Business Conference
September 2007?		Publication of the New Zealand Energy Strategy
11-14 September 2007	Porto, Portugal	7 <sup>th</sup> European Wave and Tidal Energy Conference
20 September 2007	Wellington	Energy Law Association seminar: Sue Powell, Ministry of Economic Development "Call-ins"
29 September – 4 October 2007	Vancouver	Oceans07 Conference
<i>30 September 2007</i>	<i>Closing date for submissions</i>	<i>"Improving Regulation of Environmental Effects in New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone"</i>
October 2007?		Publication of the New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy
Week of 15 October, 2007	Messina, Italy	13 <sup>th</sup> IEA: Ocean Energy Systems Implementing Agreement Executive Committee meeting
9 November 2007	Dundee, Scotland	Scottish Renewables Marine Energy Seminar
11-15 November 2007	Rome, Italy	20 <sup>th</sup> World Energy Congress
19-21 November 2007	Valencia, Spain	Expo Energetica Conference
4-6 March 2008	Washington, DC	Washington International Renewable Energy Conference
11 – 13 March 2008	London	IMAREST Oceanology International 2008 Conference
8 – 11 April 2008	Kobe, Japan	Oceans '08 Conference

In future newsletters, AWATEA will publish dates of other events such as closing dates for submissions to draft Government documents. AWATEA relies on conference organizers and other event organizers to advise it of dates for meetings and submissions.



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You can also contact AWATEA by sending an email 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.



## **BULLETIN BOARD**

### **Econnect Forges Ahead In The UK Marine Industry And Future Plans For NZ**

The Econnect Group is currently involved in some new projects throughout the UK, including grid connection of the UK Wave Hub, a project which aims to be the world's first offshore facility for the large-scale testing of wave energy devices and a milestone project for the industry.

Most recently Econnect, together with Tidal Generation Ltd has been awarded funding from the UK DTI (npower juice funds) to conduct a grid connection study for tidal generation schemes. The primary objective of the study is to consider a range of connection scenarios and to develop a cost model to estimate the costs associated with grid connection with more certainty. In addition to the technical aspects of grid connection, relevant commercial and regulatory aspects will be also be considered.

It is intended that the findings of the study will be widely disseminated within the industry, in order to help developers better understand key issues and costs associated with the grid connection of commercial tidal generation schemes.

A project that should also see the industry receive strong government support is the development of a Marine Renewable Energy Strategic Framework for Wales, in which Econnect is working alongside international consultants RPS Group.

Econnect was established in the UK in 1995 as a specialist renewables business, 'energising renewables'. Since then the business has expanded internationally, with offices in Australia, Ireland and the UK.

Having been at the forefront of wind energy connection development in the UK (Econnect has been involved in more than 50% of all UK wind energy projects in the last 10 years) the group is staying ahead of the game, embracing wave and tidal technologies, as this multi-billion dollar industry continues to develop.

Another industry leading project currently involving Econnect is the proposed Severn Estuary Barrage. Engaged by the Sustainable Development Commission and working in partnership with Black and Veatch, Econnect is applying expertise investigating current and projected future grid capacity.

This is an ongoing and current project, where Econnect's consultants are investigating output variation in relation to both barrage and non-barrage tidal power.



Within the last few weeks, Tidal Generation Ltd has also enlisted Econnect's expertise, awarding a contract, which will see involvement of the consultancy in Tidal Generation's tidal turbines venture.

Tidal Generation has developed an innovative concept for a fully submerged machine which will be installed at the European Marine Energy Centre in Orkney. Econnect will provide design specifications for developing the tidal farm on a large scale.

Locally, the Econnect Group is planning to open a new office in Wellington later this year. Managing Director Robert Holmes believes there is huge potential for wave and tidal energy industry but is aware of the challenges ahead. He is anticipating that, in time, the industry could play a major role in the New Zealand business.

Robert Holmes Managing Director and Jeremy Warman Senior Engineer will be at the AWATEA AGM & Developers' Day on Thursday August 16.

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