

AWATEA 5th Annual Conference

Friday 27 May 2011

8.45am start

Oceania Room, Te Papa

Mayor Celia Wade-Brown's Speech Notes

Ranginui e tu iho nei

Mē Papatuānuku e takoto nei

Tēnā kōrua

E ngā iwi, e ngā mana, e ngā reo,

Tēna koutou kua tae mai nei

Ki te kaupapa o te rā

nau mai

haere mai,

whakatau mai rā!

(Sky Father above, Mother earth lying here, greetings to you both. To the many peoples, all voices, all authorities, thank you. Welcome to you all who have arrived today!)

Acknowledgements:

- Hon. Wayne Mapp, Minister of Science and Innovation
- Julius Espedal, CEO Langlee Wave Power
- Tom Denniss, CTO Oceanlinx
- Richard Morris, Commercial Director, EMEC (European Marine Energy Centre)
- Nick Inskip, HERA (Heavy Engineering Research Assn) AWATEA (Aotearoa Wave and Tidal Energy Assn.)

Speakers, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to open this second day of AWATEA's conference – a warm welcome to those from overseas.

Renewable energy is something close to my heart, and a key plank for New Zealand's energy future

- Both central and local government need to support
- Appropriate that this conference's theme is Business of Marine Energy - economic development and business growth is central to making marine energy successful in New Zealand
- Marine Energy provides multiple benefits for New Zealand – economic, ensuring secure energy supply and reducing the carbon intensity of our electricity sector
- I strongly believe that Government energy-related investment should be directed toward developing renewable, clean technologies such as marine energy

- Wellington City Council supports emerging, renewable technologies and clean-tech businesses – it is key to our future economy and we are keen to be involved and see it grow.
- Involves partnerships between industry, government, councils, research institutes, and iwi to ensure successful implementation and maximise business development
- Economic development opportunities will include construction work, engineering work and engineering consultancy as well as assisting device developers grow and access international markets
- Today's workshop - "Projects at the Frontier" – outlines a few of the myriad projects taking place, and recognising the evolving technology

A range of projects which are taking place in New Zealand, including:

1. Neptune Power turbines in Cook Strait
 2. Wave Energy Technology devices to be tested off Lyall Bay
 3. Crest Energy capturing tidal flow in Kaipara Harbour
 4. Chatham Islands Marine Energy capturing wave energy
- Wellington City Council is excited by AWATEA's work in creating both domestic and international partnerships and relationships that have a focus on testing and commercialisation. Work is advancing to develop a New Zealand Marine Energy Centre, based on the European Marine Energy Centre in Scotland
 - Wellington City Council very interested in working with the industry to see if we can position this centre in New Zealand's capital, Wellington
 - Wellington is centrally located to support deployment nationally as well as operating a testing centre here supported by our harbour and port facilities and being home to government and research institutes
 - Wellington is enthusiastic to be at the leading edge of marine energy technology developments and is keen to help facilitate these developments further – need to position ourselves globally
 - I was pleased to see the recent Dr James Hansen lectures were completely sold out and screens set up to allow more to listen
 - There is huge potential for New Zealand - the sea is our realm, need to lessen our dependence on fossil fuels, the sun may not shine, the wind may not blow but the waves are always there.

I wish you all the best for the remainder of the conference. I hope you have some time to enjoy all that Wellington has to offer and I look forward to hearing more about tidal and wave energy into the future.