

Notes on AWATEA 2010 AGM

AWATEA's Annual General Meeting was held at Meridian Energy Limited's offices in Wellington on 23 September 2010. Nominations for Executive positions matched the requirements of AWATEA's rules and the following members were appointed by resolution at the AGM.

- **Murray Poulter**, Chief Scientist NIWA
- **Nick Eldred**, Water Infrastructure Development Manager Meridian Energy
- **Nick Inskip**, Industry Development Manager, HERA
- **Peter McCafferty**, Energy Sector Manager BECA
- **Alex Malahof**, GNS Chief Executive Officer
- **Cliff Turner**, Independent Electrical Engineer
- **Gary Venus**, Director Argo Environmental

As indicated in the notice of the AGM, the chairman gave a presentation on a draft NZ Marine Energy Road Map that AWATEA Executive had been working on over previous months. While the numbers attending were not high this was an early opportunity to engage with members on the road map and further opportunities will be provided over the coming months. In conjunction with EECA the Executive has also commissioned an update on the global market size and future cost trends for wave and tidal electricity generation. A copy of this report will also be made available to members shortly. Based on this and other research the Executive developed the following key elements of a draft road map.

Key Road Map Element	Progress
Export services and equipment to the global marine Energy Market	HERA members lead by Nick Inskip conducted a trade mission to the UK to identify opportunities with a focus on marine energy. Other global opportunities are also being pursued. Indications are that NZ suppliers are well able to compete. International contacts made through OES-IA, IEC Technical and other international meetings will also be developed.
Focus on the Pacific and Asian markets not presently a priority for UK & European investors	Some AWATEA members are actively looking at Pacific Island opportunities.
Opportunities in island communities dependent on diesel generation.	AWATEA is supportive of the CHIME wave energy project in the Chatham Islands as early proof of this opportunity and will encourage more of such opportunities.
NZ-based marine energy test facilities	Nick Inskip and other Exec members are facilitating a cross industry group to investigate this opportunity. There is a strong possibility of twinning with a northern hemisphere test centre.
Position NZ as a fast follower in large scale domestic deployment	AWATEA continues support for WET-NZ, Crest, Energy Pacifica, Neptune and developing expertise in NIWA, IRL, GNS etc. The Executive ran a joint workshop with key government agencies in July this year as a start on future development paths.
Build on AWATEA's capability.	AWATEA will be actively involved in all of the key road map elements. The value of AWATEA to members will be supported and strengthened through continued communication, conferences, website enhancements and interaction with government and other key agencies.