



# NATIONAL GAS REVIEW

A newsletter from the Gas Association for members, industry contacts and energy commentators

SPRING 2005

## Energy = Product = Wealth

"The Gas Association fully endorses the call for a comprehensive energy policy as outlined in the recently released Sustainable Energy Future for New Zealand by 2050 report," Trevor Goodwin, chair of the Gas Association, said.

"The Gas Association believes the incoming government must have a strong focus on energy as a key foundation of the economy. A simple equation, energy equals product, which in turn equals wealth, continues to be a truism," he said.

"We are keen to see policies that recognise the essential nature of energy to the future wellbeing of the country. It's not just about making sure that homes are warm and healthy which is, of course, incredibly important.

"Energy policy is about ensuring we have products to trade and commerce to transact.

"Quite literally, energy is the fundamental driver of economic growth and wealth creation – both of which lead to making New Zealand a better place to live," he said.

The Gas Association is heartened by

a series of articles contributed by energy spokespeople to the winter edition of National Gas Review.

"We recognise the Greens' policies focus on renewables and conservation, but are also pleased that they support the direct use of natural gas as the most efficient use of the resource," he said.

All mainstream parties support the view that security of energy supply is a basic premise.

Then, ACT, National, NZ First and United Future all acknowledge that there are barriers that currently stand in the way of increased investment in electricity generation and oil and gas exploration.

The Labour Party has also indicated its commitment to sustainable energy, based on renewables, conservation, distributed generation and further exploration.

"So, what more does the gas sector specifically want from the new government?" Mr Goodwin asked.

"We believe natural gas, like all energy resources, is a strategic asset and needs to be considered as such. Government must ensure that each

resource is used to its best advantage.

"We shouldn't necessarily be compartmentalising our thinking only into traditional sectors of electricity generation, transportation fuels, and commercial and domestic use of fuels.

"Co-generation – where natural gas is used to generate both electricity and hot water – could become a way of providing both to new multi-storey buildings or even whole subdivisions. We're exporting the technology to the UK for use in thousands of homes, but it is largely unused in New Zealand beyond industry applications.

"Then, the growing emissions issue will mean we'll probably live to regret the virtual demise of CNG as an alternative fuel, and lack of incentive to use LPG, especially in our bus fleets.

"So, the message to the new government is that it must develop policies that can ensure we have all the prerequisites of sustainability, reducing emissions, security of supply, efficiency and even-handed legislation to ensure that New Zealand has a growing and thriving economy," Trevor Goodwin concluded.

## New oil and gas reserves needed now!

By Dr Mike Patrick, Executive Officer, Petroleum and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ)

The recent alarming events in the southern USA caused by Hurricane Katrina cut 91% of daily oil

IF YOU'VE GOT A VIEW ON ANY GAS INDUSTRY ISSUE, WE'D LOVE TO HEAR IT. PLEASE EMAIL IT TO INFO@FWC.CO.NZ AND WE'LL PUBLISH IT IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

[www.ganz.org.nz](http://www.ganz.org.nz)

production in the Gulf of Mexico and caused an immediate hike in New Zealand fuel prices.

This, along with other international events, such as the war in Iraq, has brought into focus the essential need for oil security in New Zealand.

The Government's recently-released report on measures to be taken to reduce oil demand in emergencies is prudent. But two further important factors should be considered to ensure New Zealand's ability to survive an oil supply disruption.

These are:

- The active encouragement of the petroleum industry to explore for

and produce new oil reserves.

- Actions to ensure that the Marsden Point refinery is capable of processing New Zealand oil.

If these measures were to be put in place, resulting in potential self-sufficiency in oil supply, the Minister of Energy could then, in an emergency, use his/her existing power to require that all indigenous oil be processed at Marsden Point (rather than being exported), thereby enabling the country to survive overseas supply disruptions.

New Zealand's self sufficiency in indigenous oil has deteriorated from around 60% a few years ago to 18%

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## **New oil and gas reserves needed now! *continued***

currently. However, if all petroleum demand (i.e. refined product imports) is included, it has gone from 46% self sufficiency to only 12%!

This shows New Zealand's oil exports (naphtha, crude and condensate) only offset 12% of its petroleum needs.

While this picture will improve significantly as new offshore fields at Pohokura, Kupe, Tui and Maari come on stream, the increase will not be enough to provide security for very long.

The only barriers to discovering new oil reserves and getting the oil out of the ground are financial; in the form of the royalties and tax regime imposed by Government on oil producers.

Whilst acknowledging recent Government moves to encourage

further exploration, the industry believes that there is still some way to go before the cost of exploration in New Zealand is low enough to encourage companies to invest here rather than in other countries where exploration costs are significantly lower.

PEPANZ has been seeking Government support for further amendments to the taxation regime and for royalty relief for offshore oil developments. These two relatively simple tax and royalty reforms would result in an immediate increase in exploration for oil and gas, and, most likely, the development of new reserves.

The benefits of this are not only potential security of energy supply.

Heavy reliance on imports has a massive impact on the balance of

payments, especially with recent price increases. The annual bill for oil imports, taking into account the offset from earnings from petrochemical exports, has doubled in the last two years from NZ\$2 billion to NZ\$4 billion.

That is an awful lot of sheep/meat/wood/wine to suddenly find to pay for oil. Wouldn't it be better to have a lot more indigenous oil and gas?

New Zealand needs a regime that will most likely lead to the discovery of new oil reserves, a policy that will also create a large number of jobs, reduce the use of overseas funds and save the consumer the costs of establishing an effective oil supply security buffer.

## **EECA says consumers will benefit from gas appliance efficiency measures**

*Contributed by Robert Tromop, EECA, in response to the lead article in the winter edition of National Gas Review*

**Clear benefits for consumers will be the bottom line for any energy efficiency proposals for gas appliances in New Zealand.**

The opinions expressed in the last issue of National Gas Review about possible gas appliance MEPS are premature. MEPS are just one option for raising the energy efficiency performance of gas appliances, and the process of determining the most cost-effective measures has yet to begin.

Far from forcing up product prices and "slashing" product choice, the aim of trans-Tasman work on energy efficiency options is to ensure

*... the aim of trans-Tasman work on energy efficiency options is to ensure consumers get value for money from gas appliances.*

consumers get value for money from gas appliances. The more warmth, hot water or cooking power an appliance delivers per unit of gas, the better off the consumer will be.

New Zealand and Australian governments have cooperated in the development of "Switch on Gas", a ten-year strategy to improve gas efficiency. It prompted the recent formation of a trans-Tasman group of officials to explore options for improving the efficiency of gas appliances and equipment.

This group, the Gas Appliance and Equipment Energy Efficiency Committee, has met just once. It is not yet close to any decisions on MEPS or any other measures. The alternatives may include voluntary efficiency labelling, mandatory labelling, MEPS, other interventions, or business as usual.

The committee operates under a set of policy principles that ensure any proposals are:

- common to both New Zealand and Australia under the trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement (TTMRA)
- based on international regulatory best practice
- based on international Standards

Any proposals that emerge will be the subject of extensive consultation with industry, including suppliers, retailers and organisations such as GANZ. The development of any regulations is a public process, open to scrutiny and submission, as is the development of any Standards.

In addition, the Switch on Gas strategy explicitly requires that the costs and benefits of any regulatory measures are assessed for both New Zealand and Australia individually, and on their own merits. This is not a framework that will force regulations with "an Australian flavour" upon New Zealand, as suggested.

Nor will New Zealanders' choice of imported gas appliances be dramatically curtailed. Any regulations emerging from the strategy must be submitted to the World Trade Organisation to ensure they are not technical barriers to trade.

Where MEPS have been used in other product sectors to raise efficiency, industry has been given a lengthy lead-in time – typically three years – to adapt and bring product lines up to standard. Rather than making products "illegal overnight", this enables suppliers to manage product lines through a transition.

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## **EECA says consumers will benefit from gas appliance efficiency measures** *continued*

It is worth noting that New Zealand has been regulating electrical appliance efficiency since early 2002, without any "slashing" of product choice or escalation of prices. There is no basis for alarmist claims such as these. Labelling and MEPS have simply 'improved energy choices' enabling consumers to make better-informed choices between better-performing products. At the same time a level playing field is developed for industry enabling it to develop and make available new technology options to consumers.

In some cases the performance gains have been significant. From the beginning of 2005, New Zealand and Australia shared with the USA the world's best fridge efficiency standards. Domestic refrigerators now typically require half the energy compared to those of say 10 years ago. The degree to which gas consumers could achieve similar benefits has yet to be assessed, but Switch on Gas provides an opportunity for industry to provide consumer benefits from efficient appliances.



**Robert Tromop leads EECA's Monitoring and Technical Group. Key roles include: monitoring energy end use efficiency in the New Zealand economy, managing EECA's products programme - Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and product labelling, and providing research and technical support for a range of EECA and Climate Change Office programmes.**

## **Open access to Maui pipeline finally agreed**

**An historic interconnection agreement with Maui Development Limited (MDL) following finalisation of an access code to open the onshore Maui gas pipeline to all natural gas shippers was signed in September.**

The Maui Pipeline Operating Code (MPOC) took effect from October 1 allowing non-Maui gas to be shipped by any party through the onshore Maui pipeline. This had been restricted to transporting only gas produced under the Maui contract.

There has recently been an interim arrangement for the Maui pipeline to

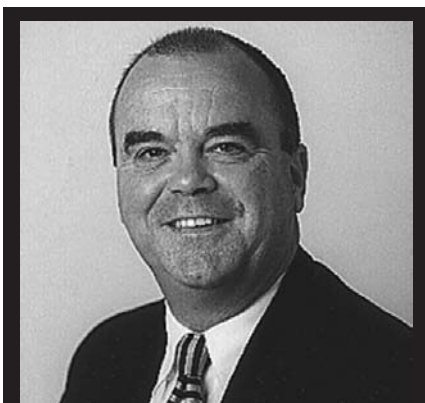
ship gas from Todd Energy's McKee and Mangahewa fields in Taranaki, pending the commencement of general open access. The MPOC allows the transportation of gas from any field, including Pohokura.

The interconnection agreement between NGC and MDL provides for the seamless transfer of gas between the Maui pipeline and NGC's gas transmission pipeline servicing the wider North Island.

NGC Chief Executive Bryan Crawford said the arrangements ushered in a new era of open access gas transportation in New Zealand and were needed to

maintain a commercially robust delivery framework as Maui reserves wind down and the gas industry becomes increasingly reliant on supplies from other fields.

Mr Crawford said industry participants had devoted considerable effort over the past year on developing the new open access regime. "This significant step for the industry follows the Minister of Energy endorsing the open access arrangements as being consistent with the Government's Policy Statement for the gas industry, and it will improve the security of supply in both the gas and electricity sectors."



**Stephen Parker, Executive Director, GANZ**  
**Stephen Parker was invited to become the Executive Director of the Gas Association taking effect from October. Stephen has managed the GANZ secretariat since 1995 as National Manager.**

## **Gas Industry Company**

**"Substantial progress is being made by The Gas Industry Company's Working Groups," said the GIC in its quarterly newsletter.**

- The Wholesale Market Working Group is preparing a report on wholesale market design. The report is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- The Model Contracts Working Group has undertaken research on retail contract issues and developed model contract guidelines. A consultation document is due to be released in November.
- The Switching and Registry Working Group has reviewed existing work on developing switching arrangements

for retail gas consumers and has identified issues with existing arrangements. Options for addressing these issues have been developed. A consultation document from this group is due for release in October.

An update on the GIC's workstreams is to be held in early November to brief industry stakeholders.

*Further information:*  
*Gas Industry Company,*  
*info@gasindustry.co.nz.*

# Focus on competence —

## The Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Industry Training Organisation Separates from Master Plumbers

The Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Industry Training Organisation held its official launch at its new premises in Taranaki Street, Wellington, in August.

"Our name may be a mouthful, but it describes who we are and what we do and everyone we talked to said it made sense," said John Simmiss, Board Chairman.

The organisation encompasses roofing, drainlaying, gasfitting and plumbing and separated from the Master Plumbers, Gasfitters & Drainlayers NZ Inc on July 1 2005.

Chief Executive Elizabeth Valentine said "our vision is 'world class training'. Our mission is to contribute to a healthy and safe working and living environment for New Zealanders through excellent services and qualifications. New Zealand currently faces critical skills shortages in the plumbing, gasfitting, drainlaying and roofing sectors, and we have a key role



**Craig Muirhead of Nova Gas displaying his recently achieved National Certificate in Gas Industry (Gas Distribution) Level 2 presented in August.**



**Roger Long of Siemens Energy Services (Central) displaying his recently achieved National Certificate in Gas Industry (Gas Distribution) Level 2 presented in August.**

in working with industry to make sure trainee qualifications are affordable and appropriate for a growing New Zealand market. The ITO:

- is the industry training leader in roofing, plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying
- sets skill standards for roofing, plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying

- in consultation with industry develops arrangements for the delivery of training. This includes:
  - registering trainees
  - recording and monitoring trainees
  - assessing trainees and moderating results to ensure standards are being maintained."

## Questions and answers

**Q: What is the ITO?**

*A: The Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying Industry Training Organisation (ITO) Limited is the training organisation that looks after the roofing, plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying sectors.*

**Q: What does the ITO do?**

*A: The ITO:*

- is the industry leader in training in roofing, plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying
- sets skill standards for roofing, plumbing, gasfitting and drainlaying in consultation with industry
- develops arrangements for the delivery of training. This includes: registering trainees, recording and monitoring of trainees, assessing of trainees and moderating results to ensure standards are being maintained.

**Q: The ITO recently separated from Master Plumbers, Drainlayers and Gasfitters NZ Inc.**

*A: The separation should make no difference to trainees or employers who are involved in training with the ITO. All qualification and training programmes will continue uninterrupted.*

**Q: What is the new ITO's strategic focus?**

*A: The ITO's vision is "world class industry training" and the ITO's mission is "to contribute to a healthy and safe working and living environment for New Zealanders through excellent services and qualifications".*

**Q: How do I take on an apprentice?**

*A: Employers who are interested in taking on an apprentice can contact the ITO on 0800 277 736. It will send you an information pack. Training services team will guide you through the process step by step and answer any questions.*

**Q: How is progress monitored?**

*A: The ITO receives weekly updates from training providers WelTec, Wintec and TOPNZ regarding theory work. Trainees are notified at approximately the same time as the ITO about how they do in an assessment. The ITO launched its website in August and expects that by late September, progress reports will be available on the website.*

**Q: My business is small. What if we can't afford to have trainees away for weeks at a time on courses?**

*A: The ITO qualifications offer a practical blend of on- and off-job training. The new qualifications that the ITO has developed with training providers and industry representatives from all over the country is important in ensuring trainees have a full body of knowledge and skills to carry out their work. The ITO is putting in place processes to effectively support trainees and employers throughout the whole new apprenticeship when it becomes available from 2006.*

*For further information please contact the ITO on 0800 277 736 or email [info@ito.co.nz](mailto:info@ito.co.nz)*

# training update

## Recognition of UK Gas Industry Qualifications in NZ

Over the past decade the number of experienced gas industry people emigrating to New Zealand from the United Kingdom has grown. This growth is expected to continue as a significant recruitment exercise is said to be underway.

EXITO Industry Training (EXITO) is currently developing a process that will create a simplified path for those emigrating to achieve NZ gas industry recognised qualifications.

The emigrants will have their current UK qualifications mapped against the relevant qualifications in NZ which will then allow a Recognition of Current Competence (RCC) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to be carried out by an EXITO registered assessor or an accredited training organisation.

Also identified as a part of this acceptable process are those unit standards within the current NZ gas industry qualifications that are critical competencies and recommended to be fully assessed to ensure current competence of any candidate.

For information, contact Anthony Salisbury. Phone - (06) 769 6712 or anthony@exito.org.nz



A quarterly meeting of the EXITO - Gas Sector Advisory Group was held at GANZ offices in August. This gas industry forum meets on a regular basis as an advisory body to EXITO and offers industry-wide input over National Qualification Framework requirements for the gas industry in NZ.

*Pictured attending (left to right) are: Wayne Armishaw (GasNet), Stephen Parker (Gas Association NZ), Geoff Hall (Group Chairperson) (Powerco), Graham Green (Vector Networks), Martyn Hammond (Contact Energy), Phill Dodds (Rockgas), David Whitfield (Genesis Energy), Craig Muirhead (Nova Gas) and Jan Van Staden (Might River Power). Additional SAG members unable to attend are: Peter Gilbert (LPG Association), Geoff Evans (GasNet), Jim Raybould (Wanganui Gas), Martyn West (On Gas), Stuart Dickson (NGC) and George Smith (Genesis Energy). The group is facilitated by EXITO Training Coordinator - Anthony Salisbury.*

## Third Party Damage

**Damage to pipelines by contractors and others digging in the roading corridor and on private property is a matter of considerable concern to Gas Association members.**

"It's not just the significant sums of money it costs to rectify broken pipelines, there is the very real threat of major damage being caused by exploding gas and fire," Stephen Parker, Executive Director of the Gas Association, said.

He was commenting following a meeting with contractors in August. This discussed underground services in general, i.e. electricity, water, waste water and telecoms as well as gas.

"Contractors are complaining to us that the depth of services, such as gas pipelines, is frequently inaccurate against published plans and required standards.

"However, both territorial local authorities and lines companies have been contracting out pipeline laying for 10 years or more. This raises interesting questions and clearly shows that quality assurance needs much closer attention," he said.

Discussions with contractors show a sad list of defects.

- Plans are generally inaccurate
- Safety alert strips are few and far between
- Electricity cables are sometimes live, when contractors have been advised they aren't
- Redundant services are sometimes found to be still live
- Surrounding vegetation often obscures services and alert notices.

The Gas Association has a "Third Party Damage" project underway and is

working to streamline and standardise emergency response processes, including investigation of a single 0800 gas emergency telephone number.

A research programme analysing a range of pipeline breach events is underway and a specific training programme to be delivered through EXITO is being discussed for entry into the public corridor in particular.

Stephen Parker will also be visiting a range of regulators and TLAs along with emergency service organisations with a safety handbook.

This will also be delivered to contractors throughout the country who may be involved in gas pipeline laying or where they might be involved in digging near such a pipeline.

# Sophisticated gas appliances creating demand for new skill sets

**Growing confidence in gas supplies coupled with sleek modern appliances mean that natural gas is the fuel of choice for new homes in subdivisions in the North Island. Indeed gas retailers are reporting that between 75% and 95% of such new homes are installing gas appliances.**

"Suitably qualified tradespeople are very much in demand. This makes modern gas installation and maintenance a very well paid job for young people seeking to begin a career," said Stephen Parker, the Gas Association Executive Director.

"Advanced technology requires the gasfitters of today and tomorrow to be familiar with a range of skills including electronic ignition, timers and regulators. A new market has been created with advances in technology, providing a wealth of opportunities for businesses that recognise the growth in gas appliances such as central and hot water heating and hob and oven cookers. Young people with the skills

and qualifications to install such appliances are increasingly in demand."

This situation has created some remarkable changes in the plumbing and gasfitting sector as gasfitters and electricians have reacted to the new environment. Some companies have welcomed the opportunities and are providing the right mix of plumbing, gasfitting, electronic and electrical work necessary to install and service highly sophisticated appliances.

"At the same time, many experienced gasfitters are now retiring and leaving the industry," said Elizabeth Valentine, Chief Executive of the Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying ITO.

"Close to 40% of the current registered plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers are over the age of 45, and it is estimated that 2,400 people are needed over the next 10 years for the workforce to keep the current number of tradespeople in the market."

"Both the Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying ITO and EXITO have

responded to the new environment with training and support. Both have revised qualifications in conjunction with industry to reflect the changing technology and to ensure trainees are knowledgeable and competent installing the latest gas appliances."

While the 'new-look' tradespeople are doing well and seemingly can afford the good things in life, natural gas is still affordable and efficient. Indeed Consumer Magazine found that even though households who use gas as well as electricity pay two sets of lines charges, that where gas is the predominant heating and cooking fuel, it is cheaper than having electricity alone in many parts of the North Island.

"This is a great time for young people leaving school to consider the gas industry as the career that offers an excellent living and lifestyle. Adult apprenticeships are available, and the Gas Association, the Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drainlaying ITO and EXITO can help those who are interested," Stephen Parker said.

# "Pure Excellence" recognised at Vector's Pure Energy Channel Partner Awards

The efforts of Vector's gas channel partners were recently celebrated at a special awards evening in Auckland.

Vector's gas channel partners play an important role in the company's 'go to market' business strategy, as they provide the necessary link between Vector and the consumer in regards to new connections. This relationship is backed up by Vector's "Pure Energy" marketing programme, which promotes the benefits of gas as a discretionary fuel.

The awards, which were launched last year, were themed "Pure Excellence".

Group Marketing Manager Jason Delamore says the annual event is specifically designed to recognise the important role channel partners play in Vector's gas strategy.

"Our channel partners are vital to the success and growth of our gas business and these awards are a great way to recognise the contribution they make to our business each year," he said.



The awards, which included five categories, were judged by an independent team which included Stephen Parker, Executive Director of the Gas Association of New Zealand, David Archer, a Channel Strategy Consultant, and Christopher Breen, Managing Director of Thinking Allowed.

The winners were:  
**Pure Energy Supreme Channel Partner of the Year - North City Heating**

**Pure Energy Promotion of the Year - Plumbing World**

**Pure Energy Business Plan of the Year - North City Heating**

**Pure Energy Industry Personality of the Year - Lloyd Grimmer from Siemens Energy Services**

**Pure Energy Channel Partner Personality of the Year - Suzanne Waugh from Plumbing World**

# Home heating with gas

New Zealand has a variable climate which means that there is a need for flexible solutions for home heating. While there are often warm days, the mornings and evenings can be very cold – especially in the middle of winter.

Complete control of home heating is possible with gas central heating where the precise temperature can be chosen from one central point. By zoning specific areas and pre-programming times of the day, the house can be heated so occupants wake up to a warm home.

Central heating is far more affordable to install than most consumers think – especially when compared to other comparable home heating solutions. With systems from just \$6,900 for a 4 bedroom home, central heating provides a very competitively priced solution to home heating. A heat pump system to heat the same area would cost over \$10,000. Central heating can also minimise on-going heating costs with energy efficient systems offering savings of up to 24%\* on heating costs compared to electricity.

With increasing demands for energy it is also important to take into account the environmental impact that heating can have. By choosing a highly efficient gas central heating system, such as those on offer from AberGas, a household can be assured

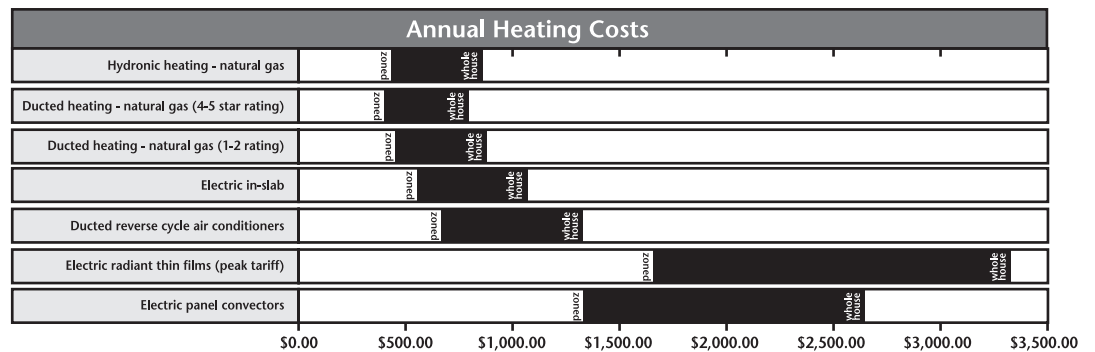
that they are using the minimum fuel to keep their family warm and that their fuel of choice has one of the lowest levels of greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, according to [www.greenhouse.gov.au](http://www.greenhouse.gov.au) "Electric systems may produce high greenhouse gas emissions – up to six times as much as an energy efficient gas central heating system."

More information AberGas  
[www.abergas.co.nz](http://www.abergas.co.nz)

**\*Cost savings based on natural gas prices in the Auckland region – 600 hours of heating at \$0.15 kWh for electricity and natural gas charges of \$0.79m and daily charge of \$0.69. This information can be found through a variety of publicly available sources such as the Sustainable Energy Authority in Victoria, manufacturers product specifications and a European study on labelling and other measures for heating systems in dwellings.**

Central heating v/s Space heaters						
Heating criteria	Central heating	Heat pumps	Wood fires	Gas fires	Flued heater	Unflued heater
Efficiency (+90%)	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Quick (warm in 10 mins)	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Programmable /Control	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Whole home	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Indoor air quality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗

The calculations were then based on: A typical new home with R2.5 ceiling insulation and R1.0 wall insulation in Melbourne. 24 hours heating up to 18°C for in-slab heating; 8 hours heating to 21°C for all others. The electricity costs are based on Meridian Energy Tariffs (Waikato Residential Rate as at 1/4/05) and the Gas costs are based on WEL networks tariffs. Supply charges are not included.



## Diary:

**17 – 18 October, 2005**

NZIGE Spring Technical Seminar and 81st AGM. Lower Hutt.

**Early November, 2005**

The Gas Industry Company Industry Forum, an update on the company's workstreams. [info@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:info@gasindustry.co.nz)

**22 November, 2005**

GANZ Board Meeting.

**23-24 November, 2005**

GASEX 06 Steering Committee meeting. Auckland.

**20–21 February, 2006**

Second Australia New Zealand Climate Change and Business Conference. Adelaide. [www.climateandbusiness.com](http://www.climateandbusiness.com)

**1-3 March, 2006**

The 8th Annual Power Conference. [www.terrapinn.com/2006/npnz\\_nz](http://www.terrapinn.com/2006/npnz_nz)

**5-8 March, 2006**

NZ Petroleum Conference. [www.crownminerals.govt.nz](http://www.crownminerals.govt.nz)

**September, 2006**

GASEX. Beijing, China.

**Complete directory of public CNG filling stations in New Zealand**

- Gonville Service Station, corner Carlton and Head Roads, Wanganui
- Pym's Tawa Motors, 8 Main Rd, Tawa, Wellington
- Brian Tinney Motors, Williams Street, Huntly

# Kennedy Education Trust

The Kennedy Education Trust is planning to raise its profile in the industry with initiatives to be announced shortly.

The board is currently considering ways that it can use its funds to add skills and knowledge to the industry. It is asking industry participants to comment on its draft proposals.

A country exchange programme is being considered to promote inter-country relationships as well as to increase knowledge. This would probably take the form of subsidised travel and expenses.

The Gas Speak programme is likely to be revived. This is where young New Zealanders from member companies are sent to Canberra to learn presentation skills dealing specifically with the gas industry. This programme used to be held by the AGA, which merged into a new body, the Australian Energy Networks Association (ENA). The ENA is the peak national body representing gas and electricity distribution businesses throughout Australia.

A third area under consideration is the continuation of the \$15,000 per

annum post graduate grant for students interested in the gas sector. This grant is paid through the New Zealand Institute for the Study of Competition and Regulation at Victoria University.

Comments and ideas are welcomed by the Trust, and can be directed through the Gas Association secretariat.

Tony Hammond, from HCL, was recently elected as Chair of the Trust.

# Two senior industry appointments

## Contact

Contact Energy has appointed its first New Zealand Chief Executive, David Hunt.

Mr Hunt is replacing Steve Barrett, who retired on 30 September to return to the United States.

"Steve has presided over a very successful period in Contact Energy's growth and consolidated the company's leadership position in the energy industry in New Zealand," said Contact Energy Chairman, Mr Grant King.



Mr Hunt has worked in the energy sector for over 10 years, and is currently the Executive General Manager,

Corporate Development, for Origin Energy.

"David's mix of skills and experience makes him best suited to leading Contact through the next phase of its development," said Mr King.

## Powerco

Richard Krogh was appointed as Chief Operating Officer at Powerco, replacing Steve Boulton who is now Chief Executive of Babcock and Brown Infrastructure.

The job title of CEO in Powerco is being renamed to Powerco Chief Operating Officer.

"The COO role will have similar responsibilities to the CEO position with a strong focus on effective management of the key electricity and gas assets to ensure reliability,



sustainability and ongoing improved cashflows for the company within an agreed risk window," Mr Boulton said.

Richard Krogh (Bachelor of Electrical Engineering with Honours, M.IPENZ) was previously a member of Powerco's Executive Management Team as General Manager Network Assets.

A professional engineer, he joined Powerco in September 2000 during the merger with CentralPower where he held executive and management positions. Before joining CentralPower he had held a variety of engineering positions within the electricity industry.

## DISCLAIMER

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# NZIGE 2005 Spring Technical Seminar

The 2005 NZIGE Spring Technical Seminar will be held on October 17 and 18 at the Angus Inn Hotel in Lower Hutt. The seminar provides an excellent opportunity to learn more about current issues, new technologies and trends emerging from within both New Zealand and overseas.

Presentations this year cover a wide range of topics that touch on their theme "Keeping Pace with Change". As with previous years, delegates will have an excellent opportunity to view a variety of trade displays, with

suppliers available to answer any questions.

This year's evening dinner speaker is Mark Sorenson, ex-captain of the New Zealand Men's Softball Team, the Black Sox.

The annual NZIGE golf tournament will be held on Sunday October 16 at the Shandon Golf Club, Jackson Street in Petone, and is open to all delegates and members.

For further information please call Peter Thorley on (09) 978 7844 or visit [www.nzige.org.nz](http://www.nzige.org.nz)

