

## ESR Events 2005

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### Educating for a Sustainable Future: Engineers in Focus

Event report available: [Educating for a Sustainable Future: Engineers in Focus](#)

- **Speaker:** Rob Fenwick - Chair, Coordinating Committee for NZ's Response to the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014
- **Date:** Thursday 17 November 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

The United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) 2005-2014 pursues a global vision: a world where everyone has the opportunity to benefit from good education and learn the values, behaviour and lifestyles required for a sustainable future and for positive societal transformation. Rob Fenwick will outline New Zealand's response to the Decade and the journey ahead - highlighting the necessary attitudes and skills for New Zealanders and engineers to help create a sustainable future.

Rob Fenwick is a prominent environmental businessman with a wide range and depth of experience. He is currently Chair of the NZ Coordinating Committee for the DESD, Director of Living Earth, Chairman of Landcare Research, Deputy Chair of TVNZ and Founding Member of the NZ Business Council for Sustainable Development.

- [New Zealand Commission for UNESCO - www.unesco.org.nz](http://www.unesco.org.nz)
- [IPENZ Task Committee - www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/practicesupport/sustainability.cfm](http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/practicesupport/sustainability.cfm)
- [IPENZ Practice Notes: Sustainability and Engineers - www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/forms/pdfs/PN05\\_Sustainability.pdf](http://www.ipenz.org.nz/ipenz/forms/pdfs/PN05_Sustainability.pdf)
- [The Engineer of the 21st Century Inquiry \(Forum for the Future Document\) - www.forumforthefuture.org.uk/publications/theengineerofthe21st\\_page720.aspx](http://www.forumforthefuture.org.uk/publications/theengineerofthe21st_page720.aspx)

For further information contact:

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## Auckland's Transport Strategy and the Role of Rail

Event report available: [Auckland's Transport Strategy and the Role of Rail](#)

- **Speakers:**
  - Don Houghton - Manager Transport Planning, Auckland Regional Council
  - Simon Wood - Rail Network Development Manager, Auckland Regional Transport Authority
- **Date:** Thursday 20 October 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Don Houghton will give a general overview of the transport strategy for Auckland, and how well it will deliver on the new Government objectives of economic development, access and mobility, safety and personal security, public health and environmental sustainability. The address will focus on the role of public transport, and in particular the role of rail.

Simon Wood will outline ARTA's long term vision for passenger rail in Auckland and will describe the current plans for improving rail infrastructure, trains and stations to permit increased service frequencies.

For further information contact:

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## The Road/s to a Sustainable Energy Future

- **Speakers:**
  - Don Elder - CEO of Solid Energy
  - Arthur Williamson - Professor of Chemical and Process Engineering (Retired)
- **Date:** Thursday 6 October 2005
- **Time:** 5:30pm
- **Venue:** Room E8, School of Engineering, Creyke Rd, Christchurch

Don Elder is CEO of Solid Energy and a strong advocate of coal. Coal use is increasing rapidly in New Zealand and internationally. But, due to concerns over climate change, within 5-10 years coal could either be history - with all the consequences for energy supply that would mean - or coal could be our energy saviour, if new technologies can be advanced. Don will discuss these options and the implications for New Zealand.

Arthur Williamson was Professor of Chemical and Process Engineering but retired early to set up a company making solar water heating systems. He is also a director of the Recovered Materials Foundation and was also on the Sustainable Cities Trust until its recent merger with other like-minded groups to form Sustainable Otago Christchurch.

The talks will be followed by questions and discussion, and then beer and pizza!

Visitors should use the car park at the rear of the Engineering School (off Forestry Rd) and enter through the nearest door.

For further information contact:

Hugh Thorpe

Email: [hugh.thorpe@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:hugh.thorpe@canterbury.ac.nz)



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## The End of Cheap Oil - Is New Zealand Prepared?

Event report available: [The End of Cheap Oil - Is New Zealand Prepared?](#)

- **Speaker:** Professor Frank Scrimgeour - Chairperson Departments of Economics, Finance and Tourism Management, University of Waikato Management School
- **Date:** Thursday 15 September 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Many of the world's leading oil production experts say the world is facing the end of cheap oil. What will the "Post Cheap Oil Age" be like? What strategies and plans should government and industry be working upon? Professor Frank Scrimgeour will report upon his work on a "Policy for Transition Post Peak Oil".

Professor Scrimgeour has published research on tax policies to facilitate optimal energy futures.

For further information contact:

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## The Role of the National Grid in Securing New Zealand's Electricity Future

Event report available: [The Role of the National Grid in Securing New Zealand's Electricity Future](#)

- **Speaker:** Dr Ralph Craven - CEO Transpower New Zealand Ltd
- **Date:** Thursday 18 August 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Transpower has been in the public eye in recent months with its proposal to build a 400kV line from South Waikato to South Auckland. The proposal has been the catalyst for what has become a public debate about New Zealand's electricity future and how to balance a wide range of competing interests and views.

Dr Craven's presentation will focus on the role of the national grid in securing New Zealand's electricity future. It will address both the need for the proposed 400kV line into Auckland and the often difficult trade-off issues that arise when building a major national infrastructure project.

For further information contact:

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## A Renewables Future for New Zealand

Event report available: [A Renewables Future for New Zealand](#)

- **Speaker:** Dr Keith Turner - CEO Meridian Energy
- **Date:** Thursday 21 July 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

New Zealand's energy needs continue to grow. Have we reached the point where we must supply with imported energy like LNG or coal or develop Southland lignites or can we survive with renewable energy?

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## Climate - A Challenge of Increasing Variability and Change

Event report available: [Climate - A challenge of Increasing Variability and Change](#)

- **Speaker:** Dr Jim Salinger - Principal Scientist, NIWA
- **Date:** Thursday 16 June 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Dr Jim Salinger will describe climate change and what this means for our living environment. He will provide the latest updates on the effect human activities are likely to have on global and New Zealand climate, the observed impacts of global warming and ways we can manage these future impacts as discussed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

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## Clean Coal - Coal as an Option for Power Generation

Event report available: [Clean Coal? - A Matter of Definition](#)

- **Speaker:** Nick Barneveld - Project Manager for coal-fuelled projects being developed by Solid Energy
- **Date:** Thursday 19 May 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

The public perception of coal fuelled electricity generation is very much one of "beauty being in the eye of the beholder", but with limited beholding and dated preconceptions. The presentation will review coal fuelled electricity generation technologies in the context of environmental performance, and their applicability or otherwise in the New Zealand electricity sector. The presentation will draw on experience of technical, environmental and transmission work undertaken by Solid Energy on the proposed coal-fuelled power stations at Buller on the West Coast and in Southland.

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## Sustainability- What will happen to Sustainability if NZ signs a Free-Trade Deal with China?

Event report available: [Sustainability? What Will Happen to Sustainability if NZ Signs a Free-Trade Deal with China?](#)

- **Speakers:** Warren Snow - Manager Envision NZ Ltd, Shuna Lennon - Advocacy and Campaigns Manager for Oxfam NZ
- **Date:** Thursday 21 April 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

Warren Snow will address the following issues:

- Loss of jobs and skills in NZ when companies re-locate to cheap labour in China (underpaid sweat shops in substandard safety and environmental conditions),
- The driving down of prices which makes repair uneconomic and hence these goods will quickly end up in the waste stream adding to the landfill problem,
- The second-hand market for used goods becomes uneconomic and these goods also end up in the waste stream,
- Non renewable resources are squandered and it becomes uneconomic to reclaim them,
- The more money people have and the cheaper the goods, the more goods they will buy, and then quickly discard.
- The IPENZ Sustainability Task group led by Gerry Coates came up with many excellent recommendations. Much of this is being undermined by a flood of cheap consumer goods from overseas.

Warren has participated in waste reduction and community development initiatives throughout NZ from small towns to large cities. He is the author of many reports and articles on sustainability, recycling and the recovered materials industry.

Shuna Lennon will discuss Oxfam's trade campaign "Make Trade Fair".

For further information contact:

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## Depleted Uranium

Event report available: [Depleted Uranium](#)

### Auckland Branch Joint Meeting with WILPF and the Peace Foundation

- **Speaker:** Dr. Chris Busby - University of Liverpool
- **Date:** Monday 11th April 2005
- **Time:** 7:30pm
- **Venue:** Room 3.407, School of Engineering, The University of Auckland, 20 Symonds Street

There has been increasing concern over the use of so-called 'depleted' uranium ammunition in recent conflicts, and its long-term effects upon combatants and returning civilian populations.

Born in 1945, Chris Busby has a PhD in Chemical Physics, and has worked in both the UK pharmaceutical industry and university research. In 2003 he was elected a Fellow of the University of Liverpool in the Faculty of Medicine (Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Biology). With a special interest in the health effects of low-level radiation, in 1995 he was funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust to write his first book *Wings of Death: Nuclear Pollution and Human Health*. As a member of the UK Ministry of Defence Depleted Uranium Oversight Board, and of the Committee Examining Radiation Risk of Internal Emitters established by the UK Departments of Health and Environment, he has visited Iraq and Kosovo to investigate the health effects of Depleted Uranium, and has given formal evidence to the Royal Society Committee on Depleted Uranium and Health. He has also been funded by the Government of Ireland to carry out research for litigation against British Nuclear Fuels Sellafield regarding cancer incidence and proximity to the Irish Sea.

For further information contact:

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## Oxfam Water For Survival Nihotupu Tramline Walk

- **Date:** Sunday 10 April 2005
- **Time:** 9:00am - 2:00pm
- **Venue:** Arataki Visitor Centre, Scenic Drive, Auckland

This is an easy 6 km walk that takes about 2.5 hours. Assemble at Arataki Visitor Centre, Scenic Drive, Auckland, any time from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Please bring the following items:

- a torch to see your way through the tunnels
- a donation of \$5 per adult, \$2 per child

- sunscreen and sunhat
- warmer clothing just in case
- Shoes suitable for walking

Sorry: No dogs, No baby buggies or pushchairs, No bikes.

The Oxfam Water for Survival Programme provides safe water, sanitation and health education for people in some of the world's poorest communities.

For further information refer to the [Oxfam Water for Survival](#) website.



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## ESR Annual General Meeting

- **Date:** Saturday 19th March 2005
- **Time:** 5:30pm
- **Venue:** Oakridge Conference Centre, Unitec New Zealand, Gate 4, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland

### Business

To receive the ESR Auckland Branch Annual Reports, items of general business, and election of the 2002 Auckland Branch Executive.

Nominations are called for Chairman, Branch Secretary, Branch Treasurer and Committee. They are to be forwarded to the Secretary:

Lynn Torgerson

Email: [torgersl@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:torgersl@lincoln.ac.nz)

Phone: 0-3-980 2566

Post: ESR, 150 Warren Crescent, Hillmorton, Christchurch



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## ESR National Conference 2005: Making Engineers Socially Responsible?

- **Date:** Saturday 19th March 2005
- **Venue:** Oakridge Conference Centre, Unitec New Zealand, Gate 4, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland

The Conference will follow the well-established pattern of stimulating and provocative talks followed by workshop sessions where attendees will be expected to contribute their own wisdom and experience. The intention is that in the final plenary session a number of conclusions will be drawn from the day's discussions and some suitable action points will be decided on.

And also in accordance with tradition, the Conference will be followed by the Annual General Meeting of ESR and then by an informal dinner.

ESR gratefully acknowledges the generous assistance of Unitec New Zealand in hosting this Conference. That sponsorship does not necessarily imply support for the outcomes of the Conference.

There are two motels reasonably close to the venue. Both look good and have a tariff for a two-person unit of around \$95 a night (incl GST) when checked last. This is reasonable for

Auckland.

Mount Albert Lodge Motel, 201 Carrington Road, Mount Albert (corner of Willcott Street). About three minutes walk from Oakridge House.

Telephone: (09) 846 2199

Fax: (09) 846 2127

Email: [mtalbertlodge@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mtalbertlodge@xtra.co.nz)

Mount Albert Motor Inn, 743 New North Road, Mount Albert (corner of Selcourt Road). About ten minutes walk from Oakridge House.

Telephone: (09) 846 4959

Fax: (09) 846 9462

Reservations freephone: 0800 743 639

Email: [motel@leadinglight.co.nz](mailto:motel@leadinglight.co.nz)

Website: [www.leadinglight.co.nz](http://www.leadinglight.co.nz)

For a conference registration form and programme, please contact:

John La Roche

Phone: 0-9-528 9759

Fax: 0-9-528 9752

Post: P.O. Box 6208, Wellesley St, Auckland

