

A REGIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY FOR THE CANTERBURY REGION

AIM

The aim of the Regional Energy Strategy for the Canterbury Region is to enable and encourage the Canterbury Region to have a secure, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy system.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the draft Regional Energy Strategy for the Canterbury Region is to:

Undertake regional actions, such as collaboration and partnerships, to implement the key elements of national strategies (New Zealand Energy Strategy (NZES) and the New Zealand Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy (NZECCS), National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission, Proposed National Policy Statement on Renewable Electricity Generation), with a 20-year outlook.

KEY ELEMENTS

1. Stakeholder-driven, with input as energy experts to provide endorsement of a draft Regional Energy Strategy for the Canterbury Region to be released for public comment. Environment Canterbury is the facilitator¹ to develop the Canterbury Regional Energy Strategy and is also one of the stakeholders.
2. Complementary to existing regional and district strategies, with appropriate linkages to the NZES, NZECCS and other national initiatives.
3. Brief overview of Canterbury's energy resource, including emerging issues and drivers
4. Areas of actions: (1 to 6 are *after* Part 2 of the NZES, with 7 and 8 being regional specific areas of action – the aim is to enable local solutions that will address previously identified 'supply and demand'² issues)
 1. Resilient low carbon transport
 2. Security of energy supply
 3. Low emissions power and heat
 4. Using energy more efficiently
 5. Sustainable energy technology and innovation
 6. Affordability and wellbeing
 7. Urban Development
 8. Sustainable land, water and air management

Case studies of positive approaches.

5. Recommendations
 - a. Identify actions, who to undertake these actions and the timing of these.

¹ Environment Canterbury's Draft Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-19 states that "Environment Canterbury is an advocating and influencing agency for promoting energy efficiency and the benefits of the use and development of renewable energy. This includes the strategic integration of infrastructure with land use (Resource Management Act 1991 and National Policy Statement Electricity Transmission, April 2008)."

² 'Supply and demand' issues include, but are not limited to, those in relation to the energy supply system and transmission, renewable and non-renewable energy sources, innovative technologies and barriers to development, distributed energy, energy efficiency and conservation.

WORKSHOP – 1 MAY 2009

The purpose of the workshop is to work with energy stakeholders to identify gaps in existing initiatives in the region, and to strategise and prioritise solutions for the next 20 years to enhance Canterbury's longer term resilience.

The workshop will include a focus on transport, new generation, security of energy supplies, and energy efficiency, as well as the considering the energy implications of urban development and sustainable land, water and air management.

WORKSHOP – 3 JUNE 2009

Follow-up workshop for stakeholders who have specific actions identified in recommendations.