



Join the Energy Industry
IT'S YOUR FUTURE



**Net Zero
Technology
Centre**
Technology Driving Transition

Year in Review

2024



Energy Resources
Aotearoa

Foreword

Every year, I take this opportunity to reflect on the significant milestones we've achieved as an organisation, and this year has been a stand-out. 2024 proved more dynamic than almost any year we have ever faced, filled with seismic shifts as the Government reinstated pragmatic policies for our sector.

Fossil fuels are now recognised as vital to back the intermittency and variability of our weather-based system. While New Zealand's renewable electricity generation is expected to grow to over 90%, no one reasonably expects us to move beyond 95% cost-effectively.

In the initial months of our new coalition government's tenure, it became clear that previous policies were exacerbating and not solving our energy problems. Coal imports have filled the gap left by the reduced gas supply, creating an environmental own-goal.

This strain on energy security has increased hardship for Kiwis and harmed our heavy industry. Factories closed, jobs were lost, and communities suffered as employers shut down. Major gas and electricity users cut production to keep markets functioning.

Swift change was necessary to provide New Zealanders with dependable, affordable local energy. Thankfully, urgent action has been taken to secure our energy security, including abandoning the Lake Onslow project and the 100% renewable electricity target, introducing fast-track consenting legislation, and progressing the reversal of the oil and gas exploration ban.

Our organisation has long advocated for policy settings that prioritise energy security and affordability. These policies allow New Zealand's exporters to compete globally and keep the lights on while reducing emissions. I'm happy to note that we

are seeing these policies come through, along with our long-advocated calls for a Carbon Capture and Storage (CCUS) framework.

As other countries look to New Zealand to see the lessons learned, the world is starting to think about energy more expansively—we are no longer just limiting the discourse to producers and distributors – and Energy Resources Aotearoa will continue to strive to be at the forefront of this through our global reach into complementary member organisations and our international media profile.

Nowhere is this expansive shift in energy thinking better reflected than in our membership, which continues to expand to include firms from across the energy system. All have a common interest in robust, evidence-based policy settings that allow them to grasp the opportunities they see.

The new year will bring even more change – New Zealand is still on the brink of significant energy security supply issues next winter. Our focus will remain on communicating clear, well-thought-out plans for our energy system that support our economic and social health and well-being.

The good news is that Energy Resources Aotearoa is heading into 2025 stronger than ever. I appreciate your support in helping us lead the energy industry on your behalf. A strong, collective membership, informed by our members' needs, allows us to advocate more clearly and consistently. We will continue reciprocating your support with insightful commentary, thorough analysis, and impactful submissions to ensure your voices resonate where they matter.



John Carnegie

Chief Executive, Energy Resources Aotearoa



Influence

Those expecting legislative respite with the change of government would have been disappointed. The first 100 days of the coalition government undid many of the reforms introduced last term.

We have long advocated for a “back-to-basics” approach to energy policy, and we are pleased to be working with a government that shares our balanced and consistent approach.

Our advocacy during the rollout of changes to the Crown Minerals Act, the Resource Management Act, the Government Policy Statements for transport and electricity, ETS-led climate policy, and the overturn of the oil and gas exploration ban has been getting cut through with officials and media. These vital legislative reforms are essential for the continued health and prosperity of all Kiwis. We will continue to work with the government to get it right.

This year, we continued to strongly advocate for an energy system that ensures secure, affordable energy while minimising red tape. We have led the public discourse about gas and fuel market settings to ensure they are enabling, cost-effective, timely, targeted, and fuel-agnostic.

From Crown Minerals legislation to opposing illogical ETS alternatives for reducing carbon emissions, as the sector’s voice, we have clearly and confidently represented the diversity of our members’ interests. Our arguments are always evidence-based and aim to leave no doubt about the best option or pathway in a given situation.

We are proud of our influence in all these areas and hope to influence many more in 2025.

19 
Submissions

53 
Newsletters

6 
TV Interviews

14 
Reports & Briefings


21 
Press Releases

52 
Radio Interviews
(or Mentions)

5 
Perspectives
Series Notes

11 
Meetings with Ministers &
6 Meetings with MPs

8 
Public
Presentations

73 
Media Articles
(68 Local & 5 International)

Educate

This year, the educational and vocational training system has been significantly restructured. Our organisation has actively engaged with policymakers to advocate for sensible reforms for the future of New Zealand's energy sector.

STEM was a big focus for us in 2024. The STEMFest Taranaki Primary Schools Science and Engineering Fair was hugely successful, with a record number of students and their whanau participating this year. The newly designed STEMFest Taranaki initiative will allow us to broaden our future engagement in this space.

We have worked diligently to bridge the gap between academic learning and industry needs. We launched an inaugural summer internship programme that provides university students with practical experience and industry exposure.

Our Fundamentals of Energy training modules were redeveloped to provide a comprehensive and wide-reaching approach to upskilling within the energy sector. We can now tailor this training to suit our audience's energy production, distribution and sustainability needs.



246

Students attended the Science and Engineering Fair



12

Students completed the Process Operations Training



5

Interns placed into work with energy companies



1

Fundamentals of Energy Course Delivery

Collaborate

Collaboration with like-minded organisations helps us engage with broader audiences and build alliances to effect positive change.

This year, our collaborative efforts were best exemplified by how we worked to bring the sector together as signatories of our August open letter to all political party leaders. In conjunction with eleven other organisations from across the energy and resources sectors, we implored all members of the House to put politics aside and pursue long-lasting, bipartisan energy policy for the good of all New Zealand.

Our collaboration reached new heights this year as we gained a global audience. An international voice about policy developments will be crucial to attracting renewed interest in oil and gas exploration. We will continue to leverage our partnerships with sister organisations like Offshore Energy UK to ensure the New Zealand perspective is heard worldwide. We also continue to work closely with the World Energy Council, connecting with over 3,000 organisations and national Member Committees in nearly 100 countries and its local member committee, the BusinessNZ Energy Council.

3



University Career Days



5

Events

4



Select Committee Appearances



5

Countries Visited

Excellence

Our team has been working hard this year to keep members updated with Government policy, leverage their expertise and perspectives in our submissions, and deliver thought-provoking events that shape the energy agenda.

This year, we are proud to have welcomed nine new organisations to our membership. Our organisation

continues to expand, evolve, and grow to meet the expanding needs of the energy sector. Our organisational health has never been more robust, with this year seeing the most members and best resourcing we've ever had.

9



New Members

Auckland University Business School Energy Centre, Channel Infrastructure, Chris McKeown Consulting, Engineering Taranaki Consortium, Epic Char, GNS Science, MinterEllisonRuddWatts, Highview Power, NERI.



1

AGM



4

Board Meetings





John Carnegie

Chief Executive

021 375 061

john@energyresources.org.nz



Sheree Long

Director, Workforce Development

021 119 3362

sheree.long@energyskills.co.nz



Craig Barry

Policy Director, Upstream & Climate

021 967 326

craig.barry@energyresources.org.nz



Angela Parker

Policy Director, Downstream Energy & Climate

021 194 1499

angela.parker@energyresources.org.nz



Caroline Westlake

Accounts Manager

caroline.westlake@energyresources.org.nz



Cory Lunnon

Office & Events Manager

cory.lunnon@energyresources.org.nz

Contact

PO Box 25259, Wellington

- energyresources.org.nz
- facebook.com/EnergyMixNZ
- twitter.com/energyresnz
- linkedin.com/company/energy-resources-aotearoa

Energy Skills

Our programme to develop the skills needed by the energy industry.

- energyskills.co.nz
- facebook.com/EnergySkillsAssociation.nz

EnergyMix

Our educational website explaining energy issues to the general public.

- energymix.co.nz

Energy Voices

Our educational social media campaign raising awareness on the importance of natural gas and a balanced energy system.

- energyvoices.nz
- facebook.com/energyvoices
- twitter.com/nzenergyvoices

Our Members

