

2024 Offshore Renewable Energy Forum

EVENT PROGRAMME

20 - 21 March 2024 | TSB Hub, Hāwera



venture
TARANAKI
Te Puna Umanga

**Ara
Ake**
Future
Energy
Development

Programme

DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH

Doors open at 8am for registration - light breakfast available

9am – 9.50am	Mihi Whakatau Ngāti Ruanui Welcome Mayor of South Taranaki, Phil Nixon Housekeeping and Introduction MC - Jonathan Young - Head of Industry & Government Engagement, Ara Ake Ara Ake Introduction Will Edwards - Head of Māori Partnerships, Ara Ake Ministerial Update Honourable Shane Jones - Minister for Oceans and Fisheries, Regional Development, Resources, Associate Minister of Finance and Associate Minister for Energy (online)
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Session 1 – Offshore Wind: Status, challenges and opportunities

9.50am – 11.10am	Laying the foundations for a new offshore wind market Erico Lima - Global Offshore Wind Leader, Ernst & Young (online) Offshore wind impact study Aaron Webb - Director, PwC Initiated by the BlueFloat Energy and Elemental Group partnership, and supported by a collaborative group of energy sector participants, infrastructure providers and economic development agencies, the study, undertaken by PwC, examines the economic, social, and environmental impacts of a national-scale offshore wind energy industry through to 2050 and beyond. Ministerial Update Honourable Simeon Brown, Minister for Energy, Local Government, Transport, Auckland and Deputy Leader of the House (online)
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Morning Tea - 11.10am - 11.40am

Session 2 – Developer updates (Offshore Wind)

11.40am – 12.40pm	BlueFloat Energy and Elemental Group Nathan Turner - Country Manager (NZ), BlueFloat Oceanex Energy Andy Evans - CEO, Oceanex AU Parkwind Peter Spencer - Country Manager (NZ), Parkwind Taranaki Offshore Partnership Giacomo Caleffi - Senior Business Development Manager, Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners Wind Quarry Zealandia Dr Pat O'Meara - CEO, Wind Quarry Zealandia Sumitomo Shiraji Kosuke - Assistant Manager of Renewable Energy Team No.2, Sumitomo Corporation
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Session 3 – Non-wind technologies

12.40pm – 1pm	Ocean Energy (Non-wind) Rémi Gruet - CEO, Ocean Energy Europe (online)
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Lunch - 1pm - 1.45pm

1.45pm – 2.10pm	CalWave Ryan Davidson - Business Development Lead, CalWave (online) The role of test centres in supporting innovation and technology development Lisa MacKenzie, Marketing & Communications Manager, European Marine Energy Centre Ltd (online)
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Session 4 – Iwi perspective

2.10pm – 2.50pm	Ngāti Ruanui Ngā Iwi o Taranaki Speaking on behalf of Wharehoka Wano is Sera Gibson - Pou Whakahaere (Pūngao Whakahou/Alternative Energy), Ngā Iwi o Taranaki
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Session 5 – Social licence

2.50 – 3.10pm	Climate Justice Taranaki Tuhi-Ao Emily Bailey and Catherine Cheung, Climate Justice Taranaki
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Afternoon Tea - 3.10pm - 3.35pm

Session 6 – Collaborating to resolve barriers

3.35pm – 4.55pm	Panel discussion: Unlocking offshore energy potential through collaborative environmental monitoring. Facilitator: Alana Lampitt, Partner, Chapman Tripp Chris Rendall - RMA Senior National Advisor, Department of Conservation Dr Joshu Mountjoy - Strategy Manager, Oceans, NIWA Alison Lane - Technical Director, Torea Environmental Ltd Supply chain and workforce challenges Kevin Hart - CEO, New Zealand Wind Energy Association Developing Australia's Wind Energy Workforce: a Federation University Perspective Bill Mundy - Associate Director Partnerships and Growth, Federation University
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Day 1 - Wrap up and close

4.55pm – 5pm	MC - Jonathan Young and Will Edwards
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5pm – 9pm	5pm - 6pm: Networking drinks 6pm: Dinner followed by keynote speaker Ben Hurley
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DAY TWO – THURSDAY, 21 MARCH - 9AM - 3PM	
9am – 9.10am	Welcome MC - Jonathan Young
Session 7 – Infrastructure	
9.10am – 10.50am	<p>Introductory remarks on Infrastructure John Hutchings - Director, Hutch Consulting</p> <p>Panel discussion: Realising future Infrastructure needs. <i>Facilitator: John Hutchings</i></p> <p>Ross Dingle - GM Commercial, Port Taranaki Hayden Mackenzie - Investment Manager, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise Fraser Robertson - Infrastructure NZ Board Member and Director, RCP</p> <p>Lessons learnt from connecting offshore renewables to land - Lessons learnt from >13GW of OWF subsea cables Nicholas McGrath - Mechanical Engineer, Aurora Offshore Engineering</p>
Morning Tea - 10.50am - 11.15am	
Session 8 – Regulatory and commercial enablers	
11.15am – 1pm	<p>Government Update Melanee Beatson - Manager Offshore Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Energy Markets Branch, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment</p> <p>International perspective - CFDs and PPAs in renewable energy markets Kisha Couchman - Deputy Director, Energy UK (online)</p> <p>Practicalities of proposed Fast-Track consenting Lauren Wallace - Partner, Govett Quilliam</p> <p>Panel discussion: Catalysing and connecting for success – The role of regional leadership and planning in sector development. <i>Facilitator: Stacey Hitchcock, GM Investment and Deputy CE, Venture Taranaki</i></p> <p>Rosie Spragg - GM Economic Development, Te Waka (Waikato EDA) Steve Canny - Strategic Projects Group Manager, Great South & Chairperson, NZ Hydrogen Council Anne Probert - Director Strategic and Sector Partnerships</p>
Lunch - 1pm - 2pm	
Session 9 – Reflections and next steps	
2pm – 2.50pm	<p>Panel session - Winds of change: What's next for offshore energy? <i>Facilitator: Jamie McNeill, Business Group Leader for Power and Future Energy for New Zealand and the Pacific, GHD</i></p> <p>Nick Cozens - Chairperson, Offshore Wind Working Group & Technical Director – Infrastructure & Renewable Energy, BECA Anna Cramer - Offshore Wind Leader, Australia and New Zealand, RPS Jonathan Young - Head of Industry and Government Engagement, Ara Ake</p>
Close	
2.50pm – 3pm	Close MC - Jonathan Young and Will Edwards

Speakers



Phil Nixon

Mayor of South Taranaki

Phil Nixon was first elected to the South Taranaki District Council in 2013, was Deputy Mayor (2016-19) and was elected Mayor in October 2019. Phil has a background as an electrician and a dairy farmer. He has served on several School Boards (of Trustee's) for more than 16 years. Phil has been a member of the Royal Federation of the Justice of The Peace Association since February 2015 and is a Judicial Justice of The Peace. He was born, raised and educated in Hawera and with wife Tanya, has raised four sons and several grandchildren. Phil is particularly passionate about innovation, lifelong learning and supporting young people to develop and succeed.



Jonathan Young (MC)

Head of Industry & Government Engagement, Ara Ake

Jonathan Young is Head of Industry and Government Engagement at Ara Ake, New Zealand's future energy development centre. He joined Ara Ake in June 2021. Ara Ake was established by the Government in 2020 with the task of supporting and de-risking energy innovation, leading to the acceleration of decarbonising the New Zealand economy.

Jonathan was born in Hāwera and spent many of his early years there, later returning as a teacher at Ramanui school and more broadly South Taranaki before embarking for the Bay of Plenty and then Auckland for 25 years. Returning to Taranaki in 2008, Jonathan served as the Member of Parliament for the New Plymouth electorate for 12 years from 2008 through to 2020.

His Parliamentary roles included: Energy and Resources spokesperson (National Party), Parliamentary Private Secretary for Economic Development, Chair of the Economic Development Science and Innovation Committee, Chair of the Transport and Industrial Relations Committee, Chair of the Commerce Committee, Deputy Chair of the Law-and-Order Committee, Member of the Environment Committee, Member of the Māori Affairs Committee.



Will Edwards

Head of Māori Partnerships, Ara Ake

Will has extensive and diverse governance experience in the iwi and education sectors, as well as skills in research, analytics and data. His rural upbringing is complemented by broad academic training in public health, Māori development, Māori language and horticulture. Now living in South Taranaki, as a past Chair of Te Korowai o Ngāruahine, Will brings strategic Māori community and well-grounded perspective to Ara Ake, as well as proven leadership experience in the application of the Treaty of Waitangi to contemporary New Zealand.



Ben Hurley

Dinner Speaker

Star of hit TV3 Show 7 Days, Ben Hurley is one of the standout success stories of New Zealand comedy.

Winner of all of the major comedy awards including the coveted Billy T Award, and the NZ Comedy Guild awards for Best Male Comedian and Best MC.

With a hugely likeable stage presence, Ben is one of the few Kiwi acts to be invited to perform on the prestigious Comedy Store TV show. Also, one of the stars of the UK Festival Circuit playing to thousands in the comedy tents at Reading and Leeds Festival, Bestival and Latitude. Ben also starred alongside British comic, Andy Parsons, in a new BBC Radio for sitcom The Lost Blog of Scrooby Trevithick.



Honourable Shane Jones

Minister for Oceans and Fisheries, Regional Development, Resources, Associate Minister of Finance, and Associate Minister for Energy

Mr Jones entered Parliament in 2005 with the Labour Party and joined New Zealand First as an MP in 2017. Mr Jones was educated at St Stephen's and has completed degrees at universities in Wellington, Western Australia, and Harvard. He has held business and public sector leadership roles such as Chairman of Sealord, our country's first Pacific Economic Ambassador, Member of Parliament, and a Minister in government.



Erico Lima

Global Offshore Wind Leader, Ernst & Young

- Based in London, Erico leads EY's offshore wind efforts globally across all of EY's service lines.
- He has advised energy and infrastructure companies for over 15 years, structuring and executing strategic transactions in the renewables, power and utilities sector, both as a banker within HSBC and as a sponsor at Ørsted and Shell.
- He holds a master's degree in Finance (with Distinction) from Lancaster University (UK), and a graduated in International Relations from Brasilia University (Brazil)
- Father of 2 girls, keen cyclist and passionate about the renewables revolution.



Honourable Simeon Brown

Minister for Energy, Local Government, Transport, Auckland and Deputy Leader of the House.

Prior to entering politics, Simeon completed Law and Commerce degrees at the University of Auckland and worked in Commercial Finance at the Bank of New Zealand, as well as serving as an elected Local Board member at Auckland Council. He is the MP for Pakuranga.



Aaron Webb

Director, PwC



Nathan Turner

Country Manager (NZ), BlueFloat

Nathan was appointed as the New Zealand Country Manager for BlueFloat Energy in November 2022. Originally training and working as a lawyer in Australia, Nathan has 15 years' experience working on large energy projects and in energy markets in a variety of commercial, trading and general management roles. Nathan's experience extends to gas, LNG, power, renewables and transmission infrastructure having worked in Australia, Asia and New Zealand.



Andy Evans

Chief Executive Officer, Oceanex AU

Andy Evans has been in the energy and resources industry for over 20 years and commenced his offshore wind journey in 2012 as a co-founder and CEO for the first 7 years of the Star of the South Wind Farm, Australia's most developed offshore wind farm, and was responsible, with his co-founders, for introducing offshore wind into Australia.

After stepping down from the Star of the South CEO role at the end of 2019, Andy established Oceanex Energy, with Peter Sgardelis and international investors, as the originator of the development of floating offshore wind farm projects off the coast of New South Wales, Australia.

Andy is based in Melbourne, Australia, and is also involved in other new clean energy ventures including NewVolt Infrastructure and Meta Renewables.

Aside from his energy development activities, Andy has recently funded, created and hosted a feature-length documentary film 'Planet Wind', which investigates the planetary force that is wind and the potential benefits offshore wind has in driving the energy transition and bringing significant social and regional development benefits, and hearing from those that have led the charge over the last few decades.



Peter Spencer

Country Manager (NZ), Parkwind

Passionate about offshore wind, Peter is a New Zealander who started in the industry in 2007 at the specialist Danish engineering firm, ISC Consulting Engineers. Over the following 15 years Peter worked on delivery of key infrastructure including offshore substations and WTG foundations. To date, Peter has undertaken detailed design on 28 offshore wind farms installed around the world, with a combined capacity exceeding 13GW. These include 4 of the 5 offshore substations built by Parkwind since 2010. Peter was appointed by Parkwind as country manager for Aotearoa New Zealand in April last year and is working hard with the ambition to bring 500MW to 1GW of offshore wind to the country by 2032. Peter is also supporting Parkwind's development activities in Australia and currently preparing a feasibility license application for the Gippsland Offshore Electricity Energy zone, which was declared by the Commonwealth Government of Australia in December 2022.



Giacomo Caleffi

Senior Business Development Manager, Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners

Giacomo Caleffi is the NZ Senior Business Development Manager leading the development of offshore wind projects in New Zealand by Taranaki Offshore Partnership, a Joint Venture of NZ Super Fund and Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (COP). Prior to joining COP, Giacomo was the Chair of the NZ Offshore Wind working group and worked as structural engineer on several offshore wind projects globally (UK, Germany, US, Taiwan) for engineering consultancies Ramboll, Arup and ISC. Giacomo is based in Wellington.



Dr Patrick D. O'Meara

Chief Executive Officer, Wind Quarry Zealandia

Patrick is a family physician who has practised in Oregon and Colorado in the USA, and now sees patients in Gore, New Zealand. With a lifelong interest in renewable energy and biodiversity he and his brother John O'Meara founded Wind Quarry, LLC in the USA in 2008 to help increase renewable energy, and developed two commercial scale projects in South Dakota. After relocating to Aotearoa New Zealand he and his brother founded Wind Quarry Zealandia Ltd. in 2019 to develop offshore wind power projects here.



Kosuke Shiraji

Assistant Manager of Renewable Energy Team No.2

Power Infrastructure Dept. No.2

Sumitomo Corporation

- Apr 2014 – May 2018 : Joining Sumitomo Corporation, and being dispatched to a logistic subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation, Sumisho Global Logistics Co., Ltd. ("SGL"), as PIC of logistic support and arrangement for trading business of automobile and construction machinery.
- Jun 2018 – May 2020 : Being dispatched to a logistic subsidiary of Sumitomo Corporation in Myanmar, Thilawa Global Logistics Co., Ltd. ("TGL"), as Manager of Sales & Marketing Dept.
- Jun 2020 – Mar 2023 : Working in Logistics Business Dept as Senior Associate for supporting management of logistics subsidiaries in Asian market.
- Apr 2023 – Now : Working in Renewable Energy Team No.2, Power Infrastructure Dept. No.2 as Assistant Manager, being in charge of development of renewable energy projects in New Zealand.



Rémi Gruet

Chief Executive Officer, Ocean Energy Europe

Rémi Gruet started in the private sector before switching to energy policy in 2004. He spent the last 20 years influencing the European political agenda, working both inside and outside EU institutions – notably the European Parliament, and Wind Europe. He joined Ocean Energy Europe (OEE) in 2013 to bring innovative ocean energy to industrialisation.

He is a leading authority on renewable energies, climate and environment policy, and authored numerous reports, such as "Wind Energy and Climate Policy", the "Ocean Energy Forum Roadmap" or the recent "Powering Homes" report. He is a visiting lecturer on EU energy policy at the University for Political Science in Lille, France.



Ryan Davidson

Business Development Lead, CalWave

Ryan Davidson is the business development lead at CalWave, a California-based wave energy technology developer. He helps the company prepare for commercialisation of its wave energy technology across a number of use cases from indigenous-owned microgrids to utility-scale arrays. He leads CalWave's project expansion efforts beyond PacWave, a grid-connected test site offshore Oregon, where the company is contracted to deploy its first 200 kW unit in 2025-26. Passionate about building a sustainable blue economy, he believes the ocean must play a major role in our decarbonisation efforts if we hope to build a net-zero future.



Lisa MacKenzie

Marketing & Communications Manager, European Marine Energy Centre Ltd

Lisa joined European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC) in 2011 and leads the company's marketing and communications team to showcase the pioneering work taking place across EMEC's offshore energy, hydrogen and energy transition projects. Lisa works closely with EMEC's clients and partners, supporting the delivery of collaborative projects and has spoken at various events sharing EMEC's work and promoting ocean energy and a clean energy future.



Sera Gibson

Pou Whakahaere - Pūngao Whakahou/Alternative Energy Ngā Iwi o Taranaki

Sera Gibson's position as Pūngao Whakahou Pou Whakahaere for Ngā Iwi o Taranaki is guided by the Pūngao Whakahou Ohu which includes the Chief Executives of each of the eight Post-Settlement Governance Entities of Taranaki and is led by Te Aorangi Dillon and Wharehoka Wano.

Born in Taranaki and of Ngāruahine (Ōkahu/Inuawai, Ngāti Manuhiakai hapū), Te Atiawa and Te Arawa descent, Sera brings a wealth of experience in environmental management and legislation, policy, and resource management.

Sera has participated in several environmental projects across the rohe, including the Taranaki Mounga Project. She has a Master of Science in Marine Biology, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Biological Science and a Bachelor of Science in Zoology.

Sera will assist in facilitating a collective policy development approach with iwi and hapū o Taranaki to empower iwi to co-design the proposed Alternative Energy Regional Position Statement and Strategy.



Emily Tuhi-Ao Bailey

Founding Member, Climate Justice Taranaki

Emily Tuhi-Ao Bailey is an ecologist and community organiser, raised in Wellington and based at Parihaka Pa for the past 16 years, recently taking up the role of chairperson to lead infrastructure and housing development. She is a founding member of Climate Justice Taranaki and lead writer of their climate just transition plan Toitu Taranaki 2030.

Catherine Cheung

Climate Justice Taranaki



Alana Lampitt

Partner, Chapman Tripp

Alana advises public and commercial clients across the energy sector (including electricity generation, transmission and distribution) as well in industrial processes, mining, oil and gas and emissions trading sectors.

Alana specialises in the planning and environmental aspects of large-scale energy and infrastructure projects, property development, commercial contracts and due diligence investigations. She practised in the UK for seven years where she worked on a range of offshore wind developments advising on their planning applications, licensing, compliance and sale and purchase.

Alana is a climate change regulatory specialist and advises clients on emissions trading schemes and other climate regulatory reform necessary to support new technologies. She advises major corporates and crown entities on climate change strategy and litigation.

Alana's family is from Taranaki, and has a background in the energy sector - her father having done the surveying for the proposed Maui pipeline as a young man. She is passionate and invested in supporting Taranaki's energy future and transition.



Chris Rendall

RMA Senior National Advisor, Department of Conservation

For the last 13 years Chris has worked for the Department of Conservation (DOC), and for three years in Taranaki as a Community Ranger focused on resource and land management. This included engagement in oil and gas and offshore ironsand. He then moved to a Senior National Advisor Resource Management Act (RMA) role, initially focusing on resources to support rangers engaged in RMA processes, supporting the Minister of Conservation fulfil functions under the RMA, and some engagement in specific processes, for example the Chatham Rock Phosphate marine consent application. He has also contributed to national direction development and review under the RMA, legislation development including the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020, and specific topics including mining on conservation land. For the 23FY, Chris worked on a range of projects, including ongoing engagement regarding renewables, resource management reform including proposed changes to national direction, and continued refinement of the DOC RMA engagement system. Recent renewables engagement includes onshore and offshore windfarm and solar farm discussions. This has included NZ coordinating DOC responses to developer requests for comments.



Joshu Mountjoy

Strategy Manager, Oceans, NIWA

Joshu Mountjoy works for NIWA as the Strategy Manager Oceans and has a geoscience background. He leads and coordinates multidisciplinary research and applied science projects in the Aotearoa New Zealand ocean environment on the back of almost 20 years of investigator-led research. Joshu has been acting as energy lead for NIWA for the last two years and coordinates work in the offshore renewable energy space. In the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle he has been spending a significant amount of time coordinating multiple projects on extreme weather impacts and recovery and working with East Coast iwi and hapū to ensure their needs are recognised. Joshu cut his teeth surfing the Taranaki coast and is always happy to be in the shadow of Taranaki Maunga.



Alison Lane

Technical Director, Torea Environmental Ltd

Dr Alison Lane is a marine scientist and impact assessment specialist with 23 years of experience, supporting projects in New Zealand and around the world. Alison has worked in a range of regulatory roles and for the last 13 years has consulted to industry and government on national and international environmental policy, permitting strategy and applications, impact assessment, spill response, and internal and external EHS compliance.

Marine sectors supported include offshore wind, marine research, oil and gas, and shipping. Alison has also supported onshore projects in mining, transport, and manufacturing.

Through her work Alison has an extensive applied knowledge of New Zealand's marine and onshore regulatory framework and the workings of the agencies administering these. She also has strong working relationships within New Zealand government agencies and Māori organisations.



Kevin Hart

Chief Executive, New Zealand Wind Energy Association

Kevin was appointed as Chief Executive of the New Zealand Wind Energy Association in April 2023, following an international career at General Electric (GE), as GE Digital's Regional Executive Leader for the Asia Pacific region. Kevin has over 35 years' experience in the energy sector, starting his career at the NZ Electricity Department, followed by 5 years working overseas in the US and a 15-year career at Transpower NZ. He then spent 7 years working for French energy manufacturer Alstom Grid, as Country Manager for NZ before joining Power Systems Consultants (PSC) as their General Manager Business Development, Asia Pacific. In 2016, he was appointed initially as GE NZ's Country Leader & then as CEO for NZ and Papua New Guinea. In 2018 he was appointed GE's Asia Pacific Regional Executive Leader for its Digital business covering 12 countries. His background spans transmission, distribution, generation, and digital technology in the energy sector, primarily in commercial, business development and people leadership.

Kevin has a passion for renewable energy, having served as a board member of the New Zealand Wind Energy Association on two prior occasions. He is married with two children, and lives in North Canterbury, New Zealand.



Bill Mundy

Associate Director Partnerships and Growth, Federation University

Bill joined Federation University in 2016 coming from a 12-year career with Telstra Country Wide as an Area General Manager. As the Universities Associate Director of Partnerships and Growth, Bill's role is to work with industry partners stretching across the Universities Campuses to deliver education, research and workforce solutions that support the industries in regional Victoria. Since coming to the University Bill has led the development of the Universities Asia Pacific Renewable Energy Training Centre initiative aimed at addressing the vocational training needs of the wind energy sector. Commercially focused and having had a career stretching across dairy farming, ag equipment sales, IT sales, consulting and Telco, Bill brings a wealth of knowledge and connections in support of the Universities ambitions to assist the transition to a zero-emissions economy powered by renewable energy assets.



John Hutchings

Director, Hutch Consulting Ltd

Specialising in environmental sustainability, community resilience and related business case development. Assisted to develop Tapuae Roa – the Taranaki Economic Development Strategy, and related Taranaki projects. Past positions as GM Environmental Sustainability at Fonterra, Chief City Planner at Wellington City Council, advisor within Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet. Also, consultant advisor to clients on climate change adaptation and flood management.



Ross Dingle

GM Commercial, Port Taranaki

Ross has responsibility for leading the commercial, marketing, customer and community aspects of the Port Taranaki business, including managing the company's property portfolio. An experienced senior financial and commercial executive, before joining Port Taranaki in 2019, Ross was chief executive of Illion Tenderlink for eight years. A former chartered accountant, Ross has worked across a broad range of commercial, financial and management roles. This has included management accountant and then Taranaki onshore asset finance manager at Fletcher Challenge Energy, chief operating officer at online health management software company Doctor Global, and chief financial officer with KCL Property Ltd.



Hayden Mackenzie

Investment Manager, New Zealand Trade and Enterprise

Hayden is an Investment Manager at New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE). His role is around supporting international renewable energy and cleantech companies entering the New Zealand market and connecting New Zealand developers with international capital to support their projects. Prior to joining NZTE, Hayden worked in Venture Capital in Canada and as an exploration geologist.



Fraser Robertson

Infrastructure NZ Board Member and Director, RCP

Fraser Robertson has spent more than two decades transforming landscapes in Aotearoa. His expertise encompasses complex public and private projects in the UK, Asia, and New Zealand.

Fraser is a member of the board for Infrastructure New Zealand and with a deep knowledge of the infrastructure investment cycle, his work exemplifies the organisation's mission. He has long advocated for bipartisan long-term investment, aiming to decouple politics from decision-making and prioritise smart investment and efficient delivery.

In his role as RCP Infrastructure Director, Fraser applies his strategic and technical experience to shape delivery frameworks and create long-term solutions for clients. He is passionate about shifting the industry towards truly sustainable development – balancing economic, social and environmental outcomes.

Fraser is a well-respected sector contributor with experience and relationships that span the country and the full spectrum of stakeholders including local and central government, NGOs, private developers and contractors. With his strategic focus, analytical approach, and people-centric leadership, Fraser's commitment to advancing Infrastructure New Zealand's mission makes him an exceptional candidate who will bring a truly independent and strategic perspective to helping shape the future of the industry.



Nicholas McGrath

Mechanical Engineer, Aurora Offshore Engineering

Nicholas is a hydrodynamics engineer working for Aurora Offshore Engineering in the offshore renewables industry. He has worked on eight offshore wind farms that are operational or in construction, specifically on the subsea cable design. The focus of his work is on modelling the hydrodynamic effects on cables and the interaction between the cable and seabed. His education is from the University of Western Australia where he completed a Masters of Mechanical Engineering, during which he worked on numerically modelling and optimising wave energy convertors, which he continued post the completion of studies. He's here to share his experiences of the challenges and learnings of working on designing actual wind farms across Europe and Southeast Asia.



Melanee Beatson

Manager, Pou Kaupapahere – Offshore Renewable Energy and Hydrogen, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

Melanee joined MBIE's Energy Markets branch in mid-2023, where she is responsible for the team developing the regulatory regime for offshore renewable energy, alongside work on hydrogen policy. She joined MBIE (via Immigration Policy) from the Ministry of Transport, where she worked closely with the aviation and wider transport sector throughout the COVID-19 response on maintaining essential transport connectivity and reopening the borders. Her public service career began in Treaty Settlements, followed by 10 years in Foreign Affairs, including postings to Brussels and Tokyo.



Lauren Wallace

Partner, Govett Quilliam

Lauren is an environmental lawyer specialising in resource management, local government, and energy law. She is a partner at Govett Quilliam (GQ) and leads their Environment and Planning Team. She has worked on a variety of energy and environmental matters throughout her career, but her passion lies with renewable energy projects. She enjoys working with project teams to develop and co-design consenting pathways and solutions to address complex environmental issues. Her extensive experience allows her to bring a whole of system perspective and a deep understanding of the regulatory environment.

She has a broad client base and acts for local and regional authorities, national corporations, local businesses, startups, iwi and post-settlement governance entities, individuals and families, and community organisations. She has advised and represented clients with respect to Council Hearings, Environment Court, High Court, Court of Appeal and Board of Inquiry processes. Lauren is an accredited RMA Hearings Commissioner and current chair of an Expert Consenting Panel under the COVID 19 Fast Track Consenting legislation.



Kisha Couchman

Deputy Director, Energy UK



Stacey Hitchcock

General Manager Investment and Deputy Chief Executive, Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki

A local from Taranaki, Stacey's background has included youth and social development and roles within central and local government. She has held various leadership and governance positions over the past 20 years, including two recent terms as a New Plymouth District Councillor. More recently Stacey has worked within her own consultancy delivering strategy, research and project development and is currently the Deputy CE/GM Investment for Venture Taranaki Te Puna Umanga, focusing on strategic projects and investment for the region.



Rosie Spragg

General Manager Economic Development, Te Waka

Rosie is the General Manager Economic Development at Te Waka, the Waikato region's economic development agency. In her role she is responsible for the strategy, planning and implementation of initiatives to develop the Waikato economy with a focus on the region's wealth and employment creating sectors. Rosie has diverse experience spanning the private and public sector, working in analytical, strategic, commercial and operational leadership roles, including 10 years working in the telecommunications industry.



Anne Probert

Director Strategic and Sector Partnerships, Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki

As Director Strategic and Sector Partnerships at Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki, Anne leads big picture projects and strategic priorities with a particular focus on the energy and food and fibre sectors as regional economic intelligence briefings. She is advancing work streams including The Taranaki 2050 Roadmap, H2 Roadmap, Taranaki Offshore Wind report, and P2X, which underpin Taranaki's regional transition to a low emission, growth economy as well as the development of an energy strategy for the Taranaki region.



Steve Canny

Strategic Projects Group Manager, Great South & Chairperson, NZ Hydrogen Council



Nick Cozens

Chairperson, Offshore Wind Working Group and Technical Director – Infrastructure & Renewable Energy, BECA

Nick holds technical and commercial experience gained globally over 20 years in the upstream energy business. Predominantly in a technical capacity, Nick worked on challenging oil and gas projects and emerging renewable energy projects throughout Northern Europe, the Middle East and Australasia. For the past five years, Nick has provided energy transition strategies and avenues to commercialisation for hard to abate industrial participants and primary energy providers in Australia and New Zealand. As alumni of the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, he remains an active and well networked participant in global sustainable business practices.



Anna Crameri

Offshore Wind Leader, ANZ, RPS

Anna seeks to leave the world in a better place than she found – and believes that it is entirely possible to reach net zero by 2050.

She is the Executive General Manager of Operations and Strategy for RPS' Place & Environment division, developing and leading environment, marine, geospatial and place making teams. Anna is also RPS' Offshore Wind Leader for the Asia Pacific region, and supports clients with due diligence, approvals, communications and engagement and environmental baseline surveys. She is the creator and host of RPS' 18-month learning and development program in offshore wind, which has had over 60 consultants graduate.



Jamie McNeill

Business Group Leader for Power and Future Energy for New Zealand and the Pacific, GHD

With more than 20 years' working across the infrastructure, energy, environmental and contracting sectors, Jamie McNeill brings a wealth of experience to the 2024 Offshore Renewable Energy Forum. He currently leads GHD's Geotechnical, Power & Future Energy Business Groups in Aotearoa. Jamie is excited by the prospect of a renewable offshore energy industry and is looking forward to facilitating a fruitful dialogue on the key challenges and opportunities this promising sector presents.

Thank you to all of our sponsors



BlueFloat Energy and Elemental Group

BlueFloat Energy is a nimble and fast-growing offshore wind developer shaping the global energy transformation by bringing scaled decarbonisation solutions to new markets. Leveraging our team's extensive knowledge and hands-on experience in both bottom-fixed and floating offshore wind project development and execution, we are at the forefront of the emerging global market for offshore wind.

Elemental Group is an employee-owned, international energy company headquartered in New Plymouth, Aotearoa New Zealand. We understand the need for energy equity & sustainability to be front and centre of all our decision making. The scale of the challenge is enormous, and we love it.

bluefloat.com

elementalgroup.com

GHD

Leading the transition to an affordable, reliable, secure and low-carbon energy future.

Our purpose is to lead and accelerate the shift towards a future of affordable, reliable, secure and low carbon energy.

GHD is a leading professional services company operating in the global markets of water, energy and resources, environment, property and buildings, and transportation. Committed to a vision to make water, energy, and communities sustainable for generations to come, GHD delivers advisory, digital, engineering, architecture, environmental and construction solutions to public and private sector clients. Established in 1928 and privately owned by its people, GHD's global network of 11,000+ specialists are connected across more than 160 offices located on five continents.

ghd.com



New Zealand Wind Energy Association

The New Zealand Wind Energy Association (NZWEA) is a membership-based industry association that promotes the development of wind as a reliable, sustainable, clean and commercially viable energy source.

We aim to fairly represent wind energy to the public, government and the energy sector. Our focus is on utility-scale wind generation (generally over 100 kilowatts). We are a central point for information for our members and a trusted voice in the debate about wind energy in New Zealand.

We recognise that wind energy has a key role to play in the future of New Zealand's electricity generation portfolio to both ensure customer demand can be met and in reducing sector carbon emissions.

We work hard to ensure that New Zealand's world class wind energy resource is harnessed in a responsible and sustainable manner for our generation and generations to come.

windenergy.org.nz



NIWA

NIWA is New Zealand's leading natural resources and environmental sciences service provider.

Our mission is to support the wellbeing of Aotearoa New Zealand's people and businesses through improved management of the environment, sustainable use of natural resources, and effective responses to global change.

We deliver on our mission by undertaking world-leading climate, freshwater and marine science, and providing a wide range of services to our stakeholders and clients. We typically conduct more than 1,300 projects each year for more than 100 different organisations, including government, industry and Māori.

We focus our science and services on New Zealand's greatest opportunities and most pressing challenges, such as increasing resilience to weather-related hazards and climate change, fostering regional economic growth, transitioning to a diversified low-carbon economy, preserving biodiversity and ecosystem health, improving water quality and allocation, and achieving social equity.

NIWA's unique climate, weather and oceans forecasting capabilities support the development of renewable energy in New Zealand.

Thank you to all of our sponsors



Oceanex

Oceanex Energy is an Australian company led by experienced Australian founders and international partners, progressing the development and construction of up to 4 offshore wind farms off the coast of Australia, which will provide a new source of large-scale, clean and reliable electricity that creates huge new investment, jobs and innovation opportunities, especially in key regional centres. Oceanex Energy is also in early-stage development of up to 3 projects off the coast of New Zealand which also provide significant opportunities especially for regional centres, industry and local communities in New Zealand.

oceanexenergy.com



Sumitomo

Sumitomo Corporation, established in 1919, is a global trading and business investment company in Japan. Sumitomo Corporation develops businesses in a wide range of industrial fields on a global scale aiming to achieve prosperity and realize dreams through sound business activities. These business activities include sales of a variety of products and services, import and export, trilateral trade, and domestic and international business investment. Since our foundation in 1919, we have continued to grow through enhancing our ability to create new value together with stakeholders such as business partners and clients and local communities, across business networks around the world.

Our mission is providing global infrastructure that meets the needs of each country, region and society, we contribute to the building of a society where people can live in harmony with the global environment and to the development of local communities and industries across the world. In the global power infrastructure field, we are engaged in large-scale I(W)PP and power plant EPC business, as well as next-generation electric power business development. As for I(W)PP business, we currently own approximately 23 GW gross capacity (10GW net ownership capacity) of power generation under operation across the world, which include a broad range of renewable power such as offshore wind, onshore wind, solar PV, hydro, geothermal and biomass. In New Zealand, we have rich experiences in delivering geothermal power plants with 415MW capacity in total. We are aiming to further expand our renewable portfolio to contribute the energy transition all over the world.

sumitomocorp.com/en/jp



Parkwind

Parkwind is a Belgian based developer, owner and operator of Offshore Wind Farms. Parkwind and its parent company Jera have a strong track record in developing, financing, constructing and operating offshore wind farms. The companies operate seven offshore wind farms off the Belgian, German, UK and Taiwanese coasts, with one of Japan's first offshore wind farms (Ishikari Bay) currently under construction. Jera, headquartered in Japan, is one of the world's largest power generation companies, it operates an entire supply chain, from upstream fuel and procurement to project development and power generation. Parkwind signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Meridian Energy in October last year for the joint exploration of offshore wind generation in New Zealand waters. Its current efforts focus principally on the Taranaki coast where Parkwind has been working to establish relationships with iwi, hapū and local stakeholders for more than a year now.

parkwind.eu



Taranaki Offshore Partners

Taranaki Offshore Partnership is a joint venture between Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners and the New Zealand Super Fund. Between them, they bring unparalleled experience in offshore wind development and access to supply chains and capital.

Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners has a portfolio of more than 20 operational, under construction and in-development offshore wind projects in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia, cumulatively representing total capacity of over 30GW. The involvement of the NZ Super Fund gives all New Zealanders an interest in Taranaki Offshore Partnership's project.

Taranaki Offshore Partnership is investigating the feasibility of offshore wind off the coast of South Taranaki and Waikato. Each of these offshore wind farms could generate up to 1GW of electricity, which could power more than 650,000 homes, accelerate the decarbonisation of New Zealand's economy, and help to smooth the transition away from emissions-intensive industries.

taranakioffshorewind.co.nz

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