



ENVIRONMENT  
INSTITUTE OF  
AUSTRALIA AND  
NEW ZEALAND

FEBRUARY 2007

# NZ Chapter NEWSLETTER

An Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Publication

## Contents

### *Page 1*

- Greetings from the Editor and President

### *Page 2*

- Have Your Say: EIANZ survey  
- News from the CEnvP Board

### *Page 3*

- News from Bay of Plenty branch  
- EIANZ member profile  
- Ethics article

### **Kia Ora from the editor....**

Well we're well into the new year so hopefully everyone had a good break and is still enthusiastic about the year to come. Please note my new address for any comments or items about the newsletter – [sk\\_pritchett@yahoo.com](mailto:sk_pritchett@yahoo.com)

My apologies if not everyone received my request for items for this newsletter – Yahoo has limits as to how many people can receive the same email and I may have accidentally missed some people out. Sarah P

### **And from the President....**

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2007. Activities for the year ahead are already taking shape, with some dates confirmed and others still in planning. The main event for the Institute is the 20th Anniversary Roadshow which will take place in the spring. The Environment Institute of Australia was founded in 1987, and to celebrate, a series of seminars and workshops will be held across Australia and New Zealand. The local ones will be held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch in September –if we can get some assistance with organisation! If you live in or near any of these centres, and could spare sometime to help with logistics, please give a hand. Most of the organisation is being done through Central Office, so you will get lots of support from the team there. If you want more information or would like to offer help, please contact Rex Verity ([verityr@cpit.ac.nz](mailto:verityr@cpit.ac.nz)) who is the NZ link person.

In this Newsletter, Professor Ian Spellerberg reports on the CEnvP certification programme and expresses his disappointment about the slow uptake of the programme in New Zealand when compared to Australia. The Institute initiated the programme, but is now completely independent of it, but we still have a strong interest in its success since it is the only measure we have of the quality of New Zealand's professional environmental practitioners. And excellence in environmental practice is an aim of the Institute. I would be very interested to hear your thoughts on what we can do to encourage people to apply for certification – why haven't you applied? Cost? Time to fill in the form? Inertia?? Or simply lack of incentive or need in the course of your work? Please get in touch with your comments – [judithrl@boffamiskell.co.nz](mailto:judithrl@boffamiskell.co.nz)

Thank you to Belinda van Eyndhoven for getting the Bay of Plenty Branch into action! This is a large geographical area with a number of environmental agencies, organisations and businesses and a range of issues. The presence of the Institute in this area is significant since it provides the first forum for networking and debate amongst the environmental professionals there. If you live or work in the area, please support Belinda and encourage your colleagues to join too.

And finally, the Executive will meet for the full day in Christchurch on 23rd March to look at Chapter developments for 2007. As always, if you have any ideas or comments do let one of us know.

## **Events/Important dates**

The next EIANZ BoP Branch Event will be held on Thursday 12 April at 5pm. Contact belinda.vaneyndhoven@beca.com

Closing date for items for the Next EIANZ NZ Chapter newsletter is: Monday 30 April at 5pm. Send items to sk\_pritchett@yahoo.com

## **New Zealand's Environmental Priorities – Have Your Say**

The Institute is conducting a survey of its New Zealand members to find out what the members, as professional environmental practitioners, consider to be the most important environmental issues that need to be addressed by local, regional and central government and the New Zealand community.

We want you tell us, from the following list, what you think the 3 most important environmental issues are:

- Air quality
- An informed and active public
- Bicultural resource management
- Biological diversity - ie ecosystem services, threatened species and ecosystems
- Biosecurity
- Built environment and urbanisation
- Climate change
- Coastal and marine
- Consumption and waste
- Energy
- Rural land use change and land management
- Sustainability
- Water
- Wetlands
- Other--please identify

This information will assist the Institute to prioritise its engagement in public debate, submissions and the development of EIANZ policies and programmes. The Australian Chapters have recently undertaken a similar exercise to determine the environmental priorities in Australia\*.

Please send your responses by email to office@eianz.org or fax to 0061 3 9650 1242.

- If you participated in the Australian survey please also respond to the New Zealand survey, as the results will be treated separately.

## **News from the CEnvP Board**

There are now about 150 individuals who have received CEnvP status. The fifth intake of applications has been received and is well on the way to being processed. There were 27 applications but only one from New Zealand. That is very disappointing. The next intake closes on 29th June. There will be another round closing on 21st December. I am very happy to meet with anyone or any group to discuss the Certification Programme and the benefits to both individuals and employers. Of particular interest is the fact that there is now indemnity insurance available for those who have been certified. The rates are very competitive.

Professor Ian Spellerberg, FEIANZ, CEnvP,

## **Recognising the CEnvP in Australia**

Here are three examples to show how the CEnvP is being recognised in Australia. I do believe that here in New Zealand we are losing out on the benefits of CEnvP.

1. The Yalumba's EMS is managed by a certified environmental practitioner, demonstrating the organisation's commitment to a high standard in ethical and environmental practice?

## EIANZ NZ Chapter Sub-Committees

*Publicity and Promotion*  
Coordinator: vacant

*Policy and Program*  
Coordinator:  
David Clendon  
dclendon@unitec.ac.nz

*Finance, Sponsorship & Corporate Matters*  
Coordinator:  
Leo Fietje  
Leo.Fietje@ecan.govt.nz

*Branch Building*  
Coordinators:  
Gabi Torkington - Auckland  
gabi.torkington@enviowaste.co.nz

Leo Fietje - Christchurch  
Leo.Fietje@ecan.govt.nz

Susan Chapman - Wellington  
[S.Chapman@transport.govt.nz](mailto:S.Chapman@transport.govt.nz)  
Insert Belinda for BOP

*Certification Coordinator:*  
Ian Spellerberg  
spelleri@lincoln.ac.nz

*Newsletter Editor*  
Sarah Pritchett

*Membership Secretary*  
Eric Scott  
mescott@clear.net.nz

*NZ representatives on EIANZ Standing Committees*

*Policy and Practice SC:*  
David Clendon  
dclendon@unitec.ac.nz

*External relations SC:*  
Pene Burns  
PBurns@skm.co.nz  
Rex Verity  
VerityR@cpit.ac.nz

*Impact Assessment SC:*  
Leo Fietje  
Leo.Fietje@ecan.govt.nz

*Membership Promotion SC:*  
Belinda van Eyndhoven  
[Belinda.vanEyndhoven@beca.com](mailto:Belinda.vanEyndhoven@beca.com)

(see <http://www.yalumba.com/policy.asp?p=172>)

2. Assessing impacts on the Great Barrier Reef is only done by CEnvPs (see [http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au/about\\_new/news\\_events\\_publications/news/bugle/2006\\_july\\_dec/060929\\_edition140.html#eianz](http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au/about_new/news_events_publications/news/bugle/2006_july_dec/060929_edition140.html#eianz))

3. In Victoria, VicRoads requires that a contractor shall engage an individual/s to review the Environmental Management Strategy and Environmental Management Plan(s) and that such persons shall have demonstrated competence and suitable experience in environmental management in a construction environment; and be either a Certified Environmental Practitioner, or a member of the Environment Institute of Australia & New Zealand, Institute of Engineers (Australia), Environment Business Australia, or other appropriate affiliation; satisfies the requirements for an environmental auditor as detailed by AS/NZS ISO 19011:2003 Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing; or be on the Victorian EPA environmental auditor registered list  
(see <http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/NR/rdonlyres/373CFF87-06BD-4538-BA27-4DF3EA379FD3/0/EnvironmentalManagementGuidelines.pdf>)

Professor Ian Spellerberg, FEIANZ, CEnvP

### News from the BoP Branch

The Bay of Plenty Branch of the EIANZ had its inaugural meeting in December 2006. It was decided to formalise the meetings and initiate a number of branch activities and events, the first of which was a seminar on Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal, which took place on Thursday the 1st of March, sponsored by Beca. One of the Institute's members Michael McMullan gave a 40 minute presentation on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and how he thinks it could be used in New Zealand, which facilitated a great discussion amongst the 16 attendees.

The next event will be held on the 12th of April at 5pm, location to be confirmed. At this stage it will be a brief presentation about undertaking coastal environmental impact assessments in the pacific islands, followed by a discussion (TBC). There will be no cost.

If anyone would like to come along to the next event or is interested in the Institute's activities in the Bay of Plenty please contact Belinda van Eyndhoven on (07)543 5453 or [belinda.vaneyndhoven@beca.com](mailto:belinda.vaneyndhoven@beca.com)

### EIANZ Member Profile

**Name:** Mark Sanders

**Location:** Christchurch

**Organisation work for and position:** Senior Ecologist, Boffa Miskell Ltd

**How does your work contribute to sustainable management of the environment?** Much of my work involves preparing ecological reports and AEEs, and presenting evidence at hearings, especially in relation to rivers and lakes. I'm also involved in developing ecological rehabilitation or restoration



projects. I believe my work contributes to sustainable management by providing decision-makers with advice that they can rely on to be sound, evidence-based, and impartial.

**Biggest environmental challenge currently facing Aotearoa and why:** Our increasing demand for energy in all forms, and the resulting pressures this puts on our various energy sources - particularly our freshwaters, which face multiple competing demands. Cheap energy has been fundamental to everything we do, including environmental management. With cheap energy sources running out, I think we need to meet the difficult challenge of making large per capita reductions in energy demand.

**How do you think EIANZ can help to meet these challenges?** Increasing competition for water in particular is increasingly causing controversy. In my view, EIANZ can help guide us through these controversies by setting the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct, and nurturing an environmental profession that can be relied upon for sound, impartial advice.

**Environmental superheroes and heroines:** Globally, Jared Diamond, for writing *Collapse*, and presenting powerful and comprehensive evidence for the proposition that over-exploitation of natural resources can cause societal collapse. Locally, Hugh Wilson for making Hinewai Reserve on Banks Peninsula happen, and for inspirational dedication to cycling.

**Glass half full or half empty view of future of Earth and why:** I'm pessimistic about our chances of ever reversing the profound global impacts of invasive species, but the prominence of the environment as a social and political issue now makes me optimistic that we can avoid extensive environmental collapse.

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**Would you like to be the next EIANZ member to be profiled? Or is there another EIANZ member you would like to nominate? If so please email [sk\\_pritchett@yahoo.com](mailto:sk_pritchett@yahoo.com) and let me know.**

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#### **Ethics Article**

"Embedding ethics in environmental practice is gaining ground for specialists navigating a balance between ecological, social and economic issues."

Check out <http://www.cenvp.org/media.php> for an interesting article about Environmental Ethics.

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#### **The Newsletter Needs You!**

This newsletter is only as good as the articles it gets so please help by submitting items you think may be of interest to other EIANZ members. Relevant book, movie and website reviews are welcomed, as is news of any recent projects you or your organisation have completed.

Please send all items to [sk\\_pritchett@yahoo.com](mailto:sk_pritchett@yahoo.com)