

**Presentation to the Board of Enquiry on the  
Proposed National Policy Statement on Renewable  
Energy Generation  
Christchurch, Wednesday 24 June 2009**

by Alister Gardiner

On behalf of the Board of the Sustainable Electricity  
Association of New Zealand (SEANZ)

Further communication:

[a.gardiner@seanz.org.nz](mailto:a.gardiner@seanz.org.nz) or

Brendan Winitana (SEANZ Board Chair)

[brendan@seanz.org.nz](mailto:brendan@seanz.org.nz)

# Context of the Submission

- **SEANZ is an industry association that represents the interests of stakeholders of the smaller scale renewable /distributed generation (SSR/DG) industry. Stakeholders include manufacturers, importers, installer/designers generator-retailers, lines companies, consultants, developers and researchers and electricity consumers.**
  - SEANZ objective is to build the capacity and capability of the small scale renewable electricity generation industry in New Zealand
- **The SEANZ written submission contains views of the elected SEANZ Board members**
  - as a representative group of knowledgeable industry practitioners
- **Note it is not a consensus view of all SEANZ members**
  - A consensus view would be very difficult to achieve since members come from many stakeholder groups with differing perspectives

# Key Points

- **The SEANZ board supports a National Policy Statement promoting a renewable electricity generation objective**
- **There are three points in our submission that we wish to re-emphasise**
  - Recognition of the potential for solar PV electricity generation
  - Specific support for the inclusion of Policy 5
  - Concerns about the combined effects of the proposed Policies

# Solar PV Electricity Generation

- **The global PV market is growing at over 40% p.a.**
  - Much of this growth is now in grid connected systems which are relevant to accelerated New Zealand uptake
  - New Zealand has a very good solar resource
  - Lack of specific recognition or promotion of small scale PV under a NPS that promotes and recognises early market large scale technologies such as marine limits the choice of New Zealand consumers, and puts them at a disadvantage
  - We urge that under a NPS, PV generation is given a high profile and due recognition as a very environmentally friendly form of renewable generation

(These points are relevant to all proposed policies)

## Inclusion of Policy 5

- **It is particularly important that the specific characteristics of micro-scale renewable electricity generation are recognised**
- **Positive combined attributes of micro-generation**
  - Very low environmental impact and high reversibility
  - Reduced T&D losses, and deferment of large scale infrastructure
  - Widespread individual consumer access to a fully renewable alternative to grid-mix electricity supply
- **We consider that the unique combined benefits of micro-generation need to be differentiated under Policy 5 since these are not available in combination from other renewable generation**

# Combined Effects of the Proposed Policies

- **We have a concern that the combined effects of Policies to support or encourage Renewable Electricity Generation may “tip the balance” against the preservation of remaining areas of natural and physical uniqueness**
  - Policy 3: Reversibility may help rebalance this
  - Retaining a national diversity of environment is important even if some of these environments are not particularly outstanding
  - We have no particular suggestions as to how this should be taken into account but ask that the Board take note of this concern in its overall recommendations

***The SEANZ Board thanks the Board of Enquiry for the opportunity to make this presentation***