

## ENHAR Newsletter # 3

### Dear Reader,

Welcome to our third newsletter!

We extend a warm invitation to everyone in our professional network to attend our next Seminar event:

**[Sustainable Energy Lunchtime Forum, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2008](#)**



Speakers at the event include:

- **Michael Williamson**, Sustainability Victoria: "Repowering Victoria for the 21st century"
- **Craig Memery**: Embedded Wind Energy: "The Time is Right"
- **Bruce Thompson**, MEFL: "Decentralised Energy in the Victorian Context"
- **Demian Natakhan**, Enhar: "Wind energy trends in Victoria, part II"

The event is in Brunswick, Melbourne. Lunchtime refreshments will be served.

**[Click here to get full details of the Seminar or visit \[www.enhar.com.au/sustainable\\\_energy\\\_events.html\]\(http://www.enhar.com.au/sustainable\_energy\_events.html\)](#)**

**Who should attend?** Business persons with an interest in sustainable energy sector are encouraged to attend. Professionals who own or manage sites with potential for renewable energy generation, whether commercial, public sector or private professional, are encouraged to attend. Owners of industrial or commercial facilities in Victoria wishing to benefit from on-site renewable power systems will also find the event useful. Staff of professional services organisations are also welcomed, and all participants are welcome to bring colleagues.

A limited number of student seats are also available at the event and we welcome academic staff with an interest in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

**How do I register?** To register yourself at this event, please **[go to our website](#)**.

Our last Seminar event on 19th September 2008 was attended by delegates from Pacific Hydro, Sustainability Victoria, Connell Wagner, SGS certification services, Swinburne renewable energy department, NMIT, Alternative Technology Association, Entropy Environmental Services, Eco Power and more. Past event presentations are **[available for download](#)**.

**Wind Monitoring begins at Port Melbourne!**

The City of Port Phillip is undertaking a Sustainable Lighting project for the sea front area of Port Phillip Bay in South Melbourne. The sea breeze presents the opportunity of harnessing renewable energy through wind turbine systems.



The purpose built mast holds the anemometer and transmitter at 7 m height plus, at head height, the white logger enclosure.

As part of the feasibility investigation phase of this project, Enhar was commissioned to supply a wind monitoring service. We are pleased to say the three wind monitoring systems we have supplied and commissioned are now up and running. The data is interesting and will assist to identify the best site. Enhar will also collect and analyse the wind data from these three adjacent stations over the next few months, and report to the City of Port Phillip on the feasibility of wind generation.



You can read more about this project on our website:

[http://www.enhar.com.au/Wind\\_Monitoring.html](http://www.enhar.com.au/Wind_Monitoring.html)

### **Stronger Winds Ahead?** Article by Demian NataKhan

Global Climate Change has many impacts, including the possible result of increasing mean wind speeds at the surface. Since wind is essentially a form of atmospheric energy, a warmed atmosphere containing more energy would be expected to exhibit stronger winds in general. If this causes higher average wind speeds at the surface, this could have an important effect on energy yields from the wind energy sector.

Possible anecdotal evidence for an increase in mean wind strengths has been identified by one of my former students, Paul Judd. Examining wind data from a particular Bureau of Meteorology site, Paul noticed that the mean during September of 2008 was about 37% higher than the average September value from the preceding 13 years. Is this well beyond the norm, and does it indicate changing wind patterns?

Now, we know that one result from one location is not enough to diagnose a regional or global

trend, but it is an interesting point. Experience shows that finding and proving statistical trends in wind climates can be a bit like finding a needle in a haystack. A [2007 report by CSIRO](#) projected future trends in mean wind speeds across Australia, finding that a summer increase of 2-5% in mean wind speeds is possible along much of the coast by 2030, but annual averages will not change much. Our question is: does current experience and data show any trends of changing wind patterns already?

We welcome your feedback and opinions: What, in your view, is a robust measure of whether average wind speeds are increasing around Australia or in other parts of the globe? Please send in your ideas and your data! In our next Newsletter, we will report on the best information received from our industry network on this topic. We would also like to hear from wind farm operators: Are wind yields from recent months and this year above expectations?



### Enhar Team Update

We welcome Sophie Buttress who has joined us as a research assistant! Sophie is a graduate of Environmental Geography at Wellington University, New Zealand and brings to the team a passion for renewable energy plus knowledge of environmental and community processes. Luke Reade has accepted the post of Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Australia, Program Support - Queensland Manager, at [ICLEI Oceana - Local Governments for Sustainability](#) (formally International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). Luke will be based in Brisbane, guiding Councils on exciting climate change solution programs. We wish him the very best in his new role there.

Enhar will continue to offer the [Energy Auditing and Energy Management](#) services which Luke has developed with us. We are reverting to our original company name *Enhar*. Please update your company databases! *Enhar Blue* was the partnership name run by Luke and Demian, this is now put on one side.

### Waiting for Federal Policy to come into Force

Following the Federal election, the renewable energy scene livened up dramatically in Australia thanks to election commitments for a 20% mandated renewable energy target plus a national greenhouse emissions trading scheme. With consultations now received from the Australian community on both these major schemes, it is now a case of wait and see if the government follows through. Many projects are ready but are waiting for the Federal Government implementation of these commitments into legislation. But when is this legislation likely to happen? The 20% MRET target is expected to come into legislation during 2009, coming into force 2010. The time-line of the emissions trading scheme is publicised to a similar timeframe, but we may be hindered by significant political to and fro still to come on this one.



## Submissions and requests invited for the next Enhar Seminar Event, February 2009

Sustainable energy is a broad topic and there are many aspects of interest which we can focus on. We want to hear from you - our network - what do you want to hear about? Please [send in your list](#) of priority issues which you would like to hear about from our next Seminar.

Also if you would like to offer a presentation at our February Seminar, please send your proposal. We are keen to have presentations from individuals and companies about their experience of installing and operating renewable energy projects.

### Enhar Services Summary

Enhar exists to assist you research, design and implement your renewable energy plans and projects in Australia. We work across several renewable energy technologies and energy resources. We support companies with our knowledge and expertise in order to create success in your projects. For example, if you require an independent assessment of a wind, wave, tidal or solar energy resource before going further with a prospective project, we can evaluate the resource and undergo feasibility work to inform your decision.

We are proud to offer top quality consultancy services at the best value on the market. We welcome your [enquiry](#) and look forward to building a successful, sustainable energy future with you.

Sincerely yours,

Demian NataKhan



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