

# Waikato Regional Council Geothermal Update

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*Healthy environment*

*Strong economy*

*Vibrant communities.*

# Policy

- Regional Policy Statement under review
- Review required every 10 years
- No change to geothermal policies
- Geothermal chapter reorganised to fit new format

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# RPS Timeline

- Draft and Proposed versions released
- Geothermal chapter reorganised to fit new format
- Submissions and further submissions received
- No major issues raised in geothermal submissions
- Hearings in February to June 2012
- Decisions version late 2012

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# MOU with BOP

- Memorandum of Understanding with Bay of Plenty Regional Council
- Manage the geothermal resource of the Taupo Volcanic Zone as an integrated whole
- Supported at highest level in both councils and by central government
- Alignment of policy – but RPS reviews proceeding independently – a challenge
- Potential for sharing of staff and other services

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# Planning for growth

- Central Govt expect geothermal electricity production to double
- Where is the increased growth coming from?
- Need to prove the currently known resource
- Update 2002 SKM figures (stored heat calculations)
- New prospecting techniques (MT etc)
- New drilling techniques means deeper resource is more available
- New central and regional policies
- New commercial environment

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# Geothermal investigations

- Need to better delineate geothermal resource to facilitate growth
- Policy in place and working – need to see what effects on resource
- Gain access to existing information – Crown wells, power company surveys etc
- Work with research funding providers
- Collaboration between CRIs, Regional Councils and powercos
- Funded by Royalties? Consent holder charges? Not the general ratepayer.
- \$\$\$Millions

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# Reporting Code

- Cf Canadian and Australian geothermal associations' reporting codes
- NZ process driven by regional councils
- Consult all major stakeholders incl stock exchange
- Listed companies need to accurately describe their resources
- All SOE power companies listed after election?

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# Peer review panel review

- Review of the way our peer review panels for geothermal systems operate
- Independent report commissioned, currently going through council management and governance acceptance.
- Ensure transparency and consistency
- Ensure panels have sufficient information from developers
- Ensure panels understand their role
- Provide panels with the tools they need

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# Bay of Plenty Update – RPS

- Apology from Bridget Robson – working on RPS staff report
- RPS deliberations Feb-March 2012
- Definition of sustainability
- Defining Significant Geothermal Feature types

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# Bay of Plenty Update – Other matters

- New development planned for Kawerau and other systems
- Implementing PRP review recommendations

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# The End

# Thank you

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