



# NEEC News

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Australia's energy future is very much a hot topic now – rising oil prices, gas shortages, plans to privatise power stations, and now carbon trading. The draft Garnaut report has set an ambitious challenge for us all. What are the implications? How do we reduce carbon emissions and keep the lights on with demand forecast to increase by up to 50% in the next 20 years?

Now is the chance for you to have your say on the national stage

## *Half way!*

We are at the half-way mark in the competition with just over 6 weeks to go before the close of entries. "10,000 words on a topic such as this is no mean feat" said Jenny Riesz from Queensland. It's true - so don't leave it too late to start!

Over 120 potential entrants have registered already, covering all states and territories. Interest is widening and the media is starting to pick it up. Dr. Karl is continuing to promote the competition whenever he can.

In the meantime we are continuing to target social, student and professional networks to make sure as many people know about the competition as possible.

Mike Bagot from Victoria was very excited to learn of the competition. "It should be a fantastic exercise in generating ideas and garnering exposure to energy and resource issues," he said.

We agree. There is a real need to raise the level and quality of debate on Australia's energy future and who better than the leaders of the next generation.

Toshi Matsuo from Sumitomo Australia, a Platinum Sponsor, said that "this competition is a unique way to mobilise the younger generation who are the future of Australia's energy".

"Innovation is at the core of Tenix's success, and will be critical to providing Australia's energy needs for the future" said Paul Salteri, Chairman of Tenix Group, a Gold Sponsor. "This National Energy Essay Competition provides the younger generation an opportunity to come forward with innovative ideas towards meeting Australia's energy demands and supply challenges," he added.

## *The competition*

Please check the web site at [www.neec.org.au](http://www.neec.org.au) from time to time to review any updates which may have occurred. Check the FAQ page in particular - responses to enquiries which have general relevance are regularly posted there.

In particular, please note that we have made a minor amendment to the Terms & Conditions to clarify the eligibility criteria for NZ citizens living in Australia under the Special Category Visa system. This was an anomaly which needed to be addressed.

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