

Residential Wood Pellet Heating Group - helping your wood pellet business grow

Introduction

The Bioenergy Association has established a **Residential Wood Pellet Heating Group (RWPHG)** to drive wood pellet market related standards, policies and initiatives that will grow the production and use of wood pellets in the residential heating market. Bioenergy Association through the RWPHG is a sector association which offers:

- a one-stop shop for information on the residential wood pellet heating market
- promotion of the sector to central and local Government and interested parties
- establishment of quality standards and market facilitation
- liaison with territorial authorities with regard to regulatory standards and processes
- support for members' business initiatives
- advocacy for residential wood pellet heating

The RWPHG has members with business interests throughout Australia and New Zealand and anyone with a commercial or academic interest in the use of wood pellet for residential heating is invited to become a member.

RWPHG receives most of its income from Bioenergy Association membership subscriptions and with a strong and active membership RWPHG effectively undertakes advocacy; provides member services; and promotes the benefits of the use of wood pellet for residential heating.

RWPHG maintains a dedicated website www.woodpellet.org.nz which is part of the usewoodfuel portal www.usewoodfuel.org.nz/residential-heating and has a committee driving the group's activities.

Interact with heating sector professionals

Members include anyone with a commercial and academic interest in the residential heating sector – wood pellet fuel manufacturers, heater importers and manufacturers, heater and wood fuel retailers, residential heating researchers, consultants, and council and shire regulators.



Stay informed

The **BioFlash** and specific RWPHG activities give members current news, articles and best practice developments relevant to wood pellet practitioners in New Zealand and Australia. With workshops and webinars organised throughout the year, RWPHG members are able to promote best practice.

Networking

- Receive latest market information through informal meetings.
- Attend seminars which bring sector players together to share latest best practice information
- Meet government officials with an interest in wood pellet heating
- Participate or support sector advocacy
- Get introductions to others in the industry
- Benefit from collective problem solving through Group participation
- Influence the rules affecting your business through Group setting of sector standards and best practice guidelines.
- Take part in joint initiatives through an industry association.



Profile and visibility

The RWPHG profile is growing. As a commentator we are regularly asked for media comment and our press releases get good attention. We are known to be 'active' in the sector making regular contributions, developing resources and putting a strong case forward for wood pellet heating. We continue to develop strong relationships with Ministers and key government departments developing regulatory policies.



Technical standards and best practice guides

The Bioenergy Association produces and publishes sector prepared Technical Guides which set out best practice and which many regulators are now adopting as appropriate standards. This means that standards are industry driven and thus relevant and following best practice.

Training and accreditation of installers

The Bioenergy Association runs a suite of training short courses and several accreditation schemes. Once the Technical Guides for heater consenting and installation have been finalised the Association will develop a training course and implement an Installer Accreditation Scheme. If you are interested in training and accreditation contact executive@bioenergy.org.nz.

Potential to influence policy

- Gain access to the Government through the Association
- Be in to have your say
- An alternative route to influence policy
- A bipartisan route for the transfer of information
- Greater number of members; greater the influence
- Access to an association with existing credibility
- Ability to access ministers and officials



Bioenergy Association leads the implementation of the New Zealand Government endorsed **NZ Bioenergy Strategy** which has a vision of **25% of energy coming from bioenergy by 2040** (compared to 10.3% today). Bioenergy Association works closely with government officials and other industry associations, especially in the fields of engineering, forestry and biotechnology.

Membership

As a sector association Bioenergy Association and its subgroup, the RWPHG, is focused on advancing members' business interests and your involvement in activities is encouraged. To be effective RWPHG must be driven by members' needs.

RWPHG through Bioenergy Association has different categories of membership which cater for the level of service and corporate profile you need. RWPHG members selling pellet fuel or heaters are listed on the website www.usewoodfuel.org.nz/buying-wood-pellets-heaters. This directory is being regularly accessed by the public when they want to contact quality practitioners. Gold and Silver Members also enjoy enhanced promotion on the website, at events and in the BioFlash.

For information on membership please email admin@bioenergy.org.nz or download the membership form and information from the website www.bioenergy.org.nz/join-us

Exciting times are ahead for residential wood pellets heating!
RWPIG is here to help you make the most of the potential opportunities.
We look forward to helping you grow your wood pellet business.