

# CEP2025 CONFERENCE

27th & 28th May  
Grand Millennium Auckland



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME As at 18 April

### DAY 1: TUESDAY 27 MAY 2025

#### Grand Millennium Auckland


TE RADAR | CONFERENCE MC *Te Radar appears by arrangement with Johnson & Laird Management*

8.00am	<b>Registration and Coffee</b> <b>Pre-Function Area, , Grand Ballroom Level</b>
	<b>Session 1   Conference Opening and Welcome</b> <b>Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level</b>
9.00am	<b>Mihi Whakatau</b>
9.10am	<b>Welcome and Housekeeping</b> <b>TE RADAR   MC</b>
9.15am	<b>Welcome from CEP</b> <b>CEP BOARD MEMBER / MIKE HOPKINS</b>
9.20am	<b>Welcome to Auckland</b>
9.25am	<b>The Psychology of Climate Change, Especially on Behaviour Change</b> <b>LORRAINE WHITMARSH   DIRECTOR, CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE &amp; SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS (CAST)</b>
10.25am	<b>Introducing a Reliable and Verifiable Net Zero Pathway</b> <b>LUIS FILARDI   HEAD OF SUSTAINABILITY, BSI GROUP ANZ</b> <p>There are many regulations and sustainability schemes, which can be confusing for organizations aiming for a systemic, credible, and achievable net zero plan. Accuracy and management of data, communication, board commitment, efficient governance and wider impact are essential elements to obtain compliance and stakeholder's needs. BSI has launched the Net Zero Pathway (IWA42) with ISO at COP27, which is one of the 60,000 standards it has designed since its inception. BSI will share case studies, benchmarking practices and details about how organisations can systemically manage their net zero projects, plans and sustainable actions.</p> <p>Delegates will understand how their operations can become aligned with trusted Net Zero plans, while compliant with disclosure regulations.</p>
10.55am	<b>MEET THE EXHIBITORS – 2 MINUTES</b>

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11.15am	Networking Break in the Industry Exhibition		
	Session 2a   Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level	Session 2b   Coromandel Room, Level 1	Session 2c   Workshop Auckland Room, Ground Floor
11.45am	<b>Emissions Reduction Planning</b> <b>RICK LOMAX   HEAD OF SUSTAINABILITY, TE WHATU ORA HEALTH NEW ZEALAND</b>	<b>5th Generation Heat Networks (5GHN)</b> <b>RICHARD FREEBORN   FOUNDER, THE KENSA GROUP</b> Richard will introduce 5th generation heating and cooling networks, including why you might want one and where you can buy them. He will feature details of the 68 house “Tewa Banks” community housing development in Arrowtown, opened by the Housing Minister in late November, which is probably the first 5 <sup>th</sup> generation heat network in the Southern hemisphere.	<b>Product Emissions Workshop: Biofuels / Fuels (limited to 25 people)</b> <b>DUSTIN COURAGE   SCIENCE &amp; ADVISORY, SECTOR LEAD, BUILT ENVIRONMENT &amp; FINANCE, TOITŪ ENVIROCARE</b> <b>STEVE SCHOULTZ   SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST, TOITŪ ENVIROCARE</b>  The Bioenergy Association of NZ and Toitū have developed product carbon footprint guidance for Gaseous Biofuels in NZ. The workshop will introduce the biofuels guidance based on international renewable energy certificate schemes and low carbon fuel standards.
12.15pm	<b>Advanced Data Analytics</b> <b>NIKK KING   DIRECTOR, OT SYSTEMS CONSULTANT, NZ CONTROLS LTD</b>	<b>Beyond the Hype: Real-World Lessons in AI for Energy Management</b> <b>HONG LEE   ENERGY CONSULTING LEAD, BRAVEGEN</b> <b>VAIBHAV CHOUDHARY   ENERGY ANALYST, BRAVEGEN</b> In this presentation, we aim to provide energy managers and practitioners with practical insights into the current state of AI for energy management. We will set the scene with a quick primer on relevant AI and machine learning techniques—from anomaly detection to large language models like ChatGPT. We will then introduce examples of AI deployments within the energy efficiency and carbon management realms and discuss what we can learn from these examples and how to separate real-world applications from excessive hype. We will then showcase a case study detailing the development, testing, and deployment of our own AI tool, including the pitfalls we encountered and the tangible benefits we achieved in terms of cost savings, energy reductions, and operational efficiencies.	All fuels have product related carbon emissions from upstream indirect activities and downstream use phase. Producers and users of fuels should understand the product lifecycle emissions to enable organisational carbon reporting and highlight reduction opportunities.  This workshop will apply LCA principles to understand product carbon footprints of fuels and highlight the opportunities of low carbon fuels to reduce organisational emissions.
12.45pm	<b>STUDENT PAPERS</b> <b>Variable Renewable Energy and Distributed generation: Impacts on New Zealand’s Electricity Market   JACK O’LEARY</b>  <b>Embodied Carbon Unveiled: A Life Cycle Assessment of Aotearoa New Zealand's Evolving Electricity System   MAOXING LIU</b>		

	Carbon Price Volatility in the New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme   <a href="#">YUDON YANG</a>		
	A Techno-Economic Analysis of Hybrid Industrial Boiler Systems   <a href="#">MATTHEW TAYLOR</a>		
	A New Zealand Heat Atlas: A Regional Breakdown of Residential Heat Demand and Associated Emissions   <a href="#">HANNAH KONINGS</a>		
1.15pm	Networking Lunch Break in the Industry Exhibition <i>Proudly Sponsored by:</i> 		
	Session 3a   Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level	Session 3b   Workshop Coromandel Room, Level 1	Session 3c   Workshop Aucklander Room, Ground Floor
2.30pm	EECA Position and Strategy	<b>Electric Boiler Workshop</b> <i>(limited to 25 people)</i> <a href="#">JONATHAN POOCH   MANAGING DIRECTOR, DETA GLOBAL</a> <a href="#">ALELIGN GESSESE   ENERGY LEAD, LUMEN</a>  This workshop explores the different types of electric boilers such as hot water vs steam and electric vs electrode. It covers key feasibility considerations such as efficiency first, thermal metering, electrical capacity upgrades, water quality and treatment, and installation requirements. The session also dives into optimising the economics of electric boilers, focusing on minimising capital expenditure through solutions such as hybrid systems, N electrical redundancy (instead of N - 1), and thermal storage. Additionally, participants will learn strategies to reduce operational costs, including solutions such as spot market exposure, leveraging retailer special rates and PPAs, and participating in demand flexibility markets.	<b>Deep Conversations About Scope 3 – Materiality, Reduction Strategies, Engagement</b> <i>(limited to 25 people)</i> <a href="#">EMMA ELBAUM   MANAGING CONSULTANT, SLR CONSULTING</a> <a href="#">CHEILO MANALO   SENIOR SPECIALIST, AUCKLAND COUNCIL</a> <a href="#">MARTA KARLIK-NEALE   PRINCIPAL SUSTAINABILITY &amp; RESILIENCE, TONKIN + TAYLOR</a> <a href="#">KEVIN MANALO   ASSOCIATE, ALTA</a>  Join this interactive workshop to explore the complexities of Scope 3 GHG emissions. Participants will first hear about three case studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• port sector guidance materiality assessment process,</li><li>• using a framework for Scope 3 emissions reductions, and</li><li>• Auckland Council Healthy Waters embodied carbon strategy.</li></ul> Speakers will then facilitate small group discussions to answer strategic questions on Scope 3 emissions, with all attendees having the opportunity to participate in each discussion.
3.00pm	TBC		
3.30pm	<b>From Consumer to Prosumer: Sharing the Benefits of Rooftop Solar Energy</b> <a href="#">MOONIS VEGDANI   GROUP CHIEF STRATEGY AND TRANSFORMATION OFFICER, COUNTIES ENERGY</a> <a href="#">SARAH ANDERSON   PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, CLIMATE CONNECT AOTEAROA</a>  Counties Energy’s Group Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer Moonis Vegdani will overview an ambitious and innovative energy-sharing pilot in Auckland’s Franklin region, which will test how households and businesses generating solar electricity can share or gift excess energy to others. Programme Director of Climate Connect Aotearoa, Sarah Anderson, will discuss the key role of collaboration – between Counties Energy, Ara Ake and other partners - in bringing this pilot to life. Together, they will unpack the potential of energy-sharing to empower communities and accelerate Aotearoa New Zealand’s energy transition.		
4.00pm	Networking Break in the Industry Exhibition		
	Session 4   Panel Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level		
4.30pm	<b>The Value of Sustainable Buildings – The Realised Benefits of Rating Energy Efficiency in Sales/Rental Value</b> <a href="#">BOBBY SHEN   SENIOR MANAGER - EXISTING BUILDINGS, NZ GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL</a>  Commercial buildings in Aotearoa New Zealand are a great opportunity to continuously decarbonise, not only reducing emissions and energy use, but also to create more resilient buildings. The electricity grid also benefits from the lower demand from buildings when they are more efficient.		

	<p>NABERSNZ and Green Star Performance are tools that enable building owners, their property managers, and tenants to understand how their energy consumption compares to others via a benchmark. As third-party verified tools, they are well received by the finance sector; banks and investors are hungry for green assets to fulfil their own climate goals and there are benefits offered to those who verify their building's energy performance.</p> <p>Bobby Shen, the Senior Manager of Existing Buildings at the NZGBC has worked with the finance sector over the last few years to develop more streamlined ways for decarbonised properties to access green capital via the NZGBC's '<a href="#">Guidance on Green Building Ratings for Sustainable Finance</a>'. There has also been some insightful research on the transaction records of building sales and rentals in JLL's '<a href="#">Turning Green to Gold</a>' report which show an uplift of sales and rental value for buildings that are rated to a high standard.</p> <p>Come to this session to learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What a 'green building' looks like in our current and future years as we process toward Aotearoa's climate goals</li> <li>- How people have been deriving benefit from rating their buildings with rating tools, Green Star, NABERSNZ and others</li> <li>- What the research shows is the 'green premium' of buildings with sustainability ratings</li> <li>- How these value incentives are driving continuous improvement and electrification across many NZ property portfolios</li> </ul> <p>The NZGBC is a not-for-profit whose purpose is 'all homes and buildings in Aotearoa are green and sustainable, making healthier, happier New Zealanders.' Bobby Shen brings a background in architecture and sustainability, passionate about the improvement of buildings. As Senior Manager of Existing Buildings his role is to assist the industry in meeting Aotearoa's sustainability goals through their existing building portfolios.</p>	
5.00pm	<p><b>Keynote - Virtual</b>  <b>PETER SWEATMAN   CHIEF EXECUTIVE &amp; FOUNDER, CLIMATE STRATEGY &amp; PARTNERS</b></p> <p>Peter's presentation will address the latest developments in finance for buildings renovation in Europe. Starting from the current new regulatory frame defined by the Energy Efficiency Directive and Buildings Performance Directive, the presentation will look specifically at the clauses which cover finance. Residential building segmentation and the design of a new EU Renovation Loan will be the centrepiece of the forward looking segment of the presentation, leaving the audience with a clear view of the advances in Europe and the key elements which may resonate in the local markets.</p>	
6.00pm	<p><b>Ministerial Address</b>  <b>HON SIMON WATTS</b></p>	
6.20pm	<p><b>Day's Wrap and Invitation and Welcome to Networking Drinks</b></p>	
6.20pm – 8.00pm	<p><b>Networking Drinks in the Industry Exhibition</b></p>	<p><i>Proudly Sponsored by: Tonkin + Taylor</i></p>

## DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 28 MAY 2025

### Grand Millennium Auckland

8.30am	<p><b>Registration and Coffee</b></p>	
	<p><b>Session 5  </b>  <b>Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level</b></p>	
9.00am	<p><b>Housekeeping</b>  <b>TE RADAR   MC</b></p>	
	<p><b>Session 6a   Workshop</b>  <b>Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level</b></p>	<p><b>Session 6b   Workshop</b>  <b>Auckland Room, Ground Floor</b></p>
9.05am	<p><b>New Zealand's Pathway to 110% Renewable Electricity Generation by 2035</b>  <b>AL YATES   CEO AND CO-FOUNDER, ECOTRICITY</b></p> <p>This presentation outlines a bold vision for New Zealand to exceed its 100% renewable energy target and reach 110% by 2035. It explores how an</p>	<p><b>Product Emissions Workshop - Food Products</b>  <i>(limited to 25 people)</i>  <b>ALIREZA MOKHTAR   ENERGY &amp; CARBON CONSULTANT, PATHWAY2050</b>  <b>ABBAS TAMADON   LEAD OF LCA &amp; CIRCULAR ECONOMY, PATHWAY2050</b></p>

	oversupply of clean energy can enhance grid resilience, reduce electricity costs, and attract industry from overseas. Delegates will gain insights into mindset shifts, policy reforms, and emerging technologies needed to accelerate this transition and future-proof Aotearoa’s energy system.		The CEP conference workshop, hosted by PathWay2050, will focus on life cycle assessment and product carbon footprint of food products. In 60 minutes, participants will explore these concepts through a case study in New Zealand's food industry, engaging in collaborative assignments and teamwork. This interactive session aims to enhance understanding of sustainability metrics and their practical applications within the industry, fostering skills to practically assess environmental impacts. Join us to learn, collaborate, and contribute to a greener future.
9.35am	<b>On the Grid - How the Electricity Grid is Enabling Decarbonisation</b> <b>MATT WEBB   EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER GRID DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPOWER</b> Transpower is the national transmission power grid provider for Aotearoa. Transpower’s nationwide grid can provide a boost to renewables adoption via connection of the large number of currently proposed renewable wind and solar developments but comes with a number of challenges if supply reliability and security are to be maintained for all customers during the transition to renewables. Matt Webb, Executive General Manager Grid Development will provide perspective on the areas focus areas for Transpower as well as insights from his previous role working on Renewable Energy Zone proposals in Australia.		
10.20am	<b>MEET THE EXHIBITORS – 2 mins each</b>		
10.45am	<b>Networking Break in the Industry Exhibition</b>		
	<b>Session 7a   Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level</b>	<b>Session 7b   Coromandel Room, Level 1</b>	<b>Session 7c   Workshop Aucklander Room, Ground Floor</b>
11.15am	<b>Electrification in C&amp;I</b> <b>TAHIR TARIQ   GENESIS</b> <b>JEFF SMIT   GENESIS</b>	<b>Biogas: Is Bigger Always Better?</b> <b>EMMA REES   CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEER, BECA</b> <b>NATHAN HILL   COMMERCIAL ANALYST, POWERCO</b> Powerco and Wood Beca have been working together to explore a regional biogas ecosystem—one that transforms organic waste into energy, enhances local waste management and energy resilience, and maximises shared resources. By bringing together councils, industry, and the waste, energy, and agricultural sectors, we can aggregate feedstock, scale up production, and establish biogas as a mainstream energy solution.  This presentation examines why biogas hasn’t taken off in New Zealand, why that’s changing, and how we can overcome key challenges. Powerco and Wood Beca will share their perspectives on why collaboration isn’t just beneficial—it’s essential to unlocking renewable gas’s full potential.	<b>Managing Climate Risk: A Practical Workshop for Businesses and Asset Owners (limited to 25 people)</b> <b>GUI BERRINGER   TEAM LEADER – BUSINESS SOLUTION TEAM, EKOS KĀMAHI</b> <b>JAMES HUGHES   TECHNICAL DIRECTOR: CLIMATE AND RESILIENCE, TONKIN + TAYLOR</b> Businesses and asset owners face increasing challenges in managing climate risk, as extreme weather events, rising temperatures, and shifting environmental conditions place growing pressure on essential services. At the same time, the transition to a low-emissions economy presents its own risks and opportunities, with regulatory changes, shifting market dynamics, and evolving stakeholder expectations reshaping investment and operational landscapes.  This workshop will equip participants with the knowledge and tools to assess, plan for, and respond to both physical and transition climate risks. We will explore key frameworks for climate risk assessment, including scenario analysis and include some hands-on activities which will offer
11.45am	<b>Port of Auckland - Transitioning to Electrification: Why, How, When and Future Resilience</b>	<b>Potential Supply and Potential Demand Nationwide</b>	

	<b>SIMONNE ELLIOT   SENIOR SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST, PORT OF AUCKLAND</b> Port of Auckland Limited (POAL) has charted a path for zero emissions by 2050 via electrification. Adopting this target required POAL to review its electrical masterplan, considering increased demand, climate related risks and resilience. This process identified several interesting challenges and opportunities that will be discussed in the presentation. POALs electrification and resilience journey has commenced with the operationalising of an electric tug and an electric container hoist, as well as the installation of a solar array, the learnings from which will also be discussed.	<b>OLIVER HOWITT   RETA PROGRAMME LEAD   EECA</b>	practical insights into effective climate risk management.  By the end of the session, attendees will have a clearer understanding of climate-related risks which will support them in ensuring their assets and operations remain viable and fit for the future.
12.15pm	<b>A Sustainable Future for Macrae's: The Role of Renewable Energy and Hydrogen in Mining and Post Closure</b> <b>DANIEL JELFS   ENERGY ENGINEER, OCEANA GOLD</b> This presentation explores how OceanaGold's Macraes Operation can transition toward renewable energy and green hydrogen to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency. It assesses the feasibility of integrating solar and wind power, hydrogen production, and the use of its oxygen byproduct in ore processing. A staged implementation strategy is outlined, considering both operational benefits and post-mine closure opportunities. The session will also discuss economic viability, policy incentives, and how Macraes can serve as a model for sustainable mining in New Zealand. By leveraging these technologies, Macraes can contribute to national net-zero goals while ensuring long-term industry resilience.	<b>A Practical Journey into New Zealand's First Commercial-Scale Anaerobic Digestion Facility and Its Role in the Renewable Transition</b> <b>ANDY BEDFORD   NORTH ISLAND MANAGER, ECOGAS</b> <b>SHAUN GOLDSBURY   CEO, BRAVETRACE</b> Ecogas' Reporoa commercial-scale Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility is transforming 75,000 tonnes of organic waste annually into renewable electricity, biomethane, and biofertiliser. This session, led by Ecogas and BraveTrace, explores how biomethane supports the renewable transition, from production to certification. Learn about the AD process, its environmental and economic benefits, challenges, and future opportunities—including the role of New Zealand Energy Certificates (NZ-ECs) in tracking and certifying renewable gas. Gain insights into New Zealand's decarbonisation journey and how innovative solutions like Ecogas are driving the circular economy.	
12.45pm	<b>Networking Lunch Break in the Industry Exhibition</b>		
	<b>Session 8   Millennium Ballroom, Grand Ballroom Level</b>		
2.00pm	<b>Student Prizegiving</b>		
2.05pm	<b>AI Energy Demand and Sourcing</b> <b>ANDREW GREEN   DIRECTOR OF DATA CENTRES, DATACOM</b>		

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2.35pm	<b>Space Weather</b> <b>ANDREW RENTON   SENIOR PRINCIPAL ENGINEER, TRANSPOWER</b> Until the “Gannon” storm of May 2024 you may never have considered that space has weather, or thought about how it may impact the system and infrastructure we rely on in our modern world. This discussion will help you get to grips with what it is, how it could impact us, why it is important to be prepared, our resilience and what we’re doing to prepare and how you can help reduce the impact of a space storm.
3.05pm	<b>Building Utility Scale Solar in New Zealand</b> <b>GARY HOLDEN   MANAGING DIRECTOR, LODESTONE ENERGY</b> The challenges, barriers and critical success factors to developing a 5% market share of large-scale solar generation that is directly sold to energy consumers. Mr. Holden will cover the financial challenges of raising debt, securing equity, the consenting process and the key methodologies of creating a credible long-term alternative to traditional electricity contracts.
3.35pm	Conference Reflections / Wrap up
3.40pm	<b>Conference Close</b>



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