

Wood Energy Adviser Professional Development

Registered wood energy advisors

Wood energy projects—such as feasibility studies, heat plant construction, and commissioning—require specialist knowledge and experience in plant equipment, fuel, feedstock, operation, maintenance, and safety.

Bioenergy Association-Registered Wood Energy Advisers have demonstrated expertise in balancing fuel type and grade with equipment design, ensuring efficient and effective project outcomes. They adhere to a [Code of Conduct](#) and engage in ongoing professional development, including webinars, workshops, and site visits.

An increasing number of businesses pursuing wood energy projects seek registered experts, as registration assures clients that advisers stay up to date with best practices and industry advancements. Additionally, registered advisers are covered under the Bioenergy Association's [Complaints Scheme](#), providing further assurance of professionalism and accountability.

Becoming a registered wood energy advisor?

If you are interested in becoming a Registered Wood Energy Adviser, contact the Bioenergy Association for more information. The following resources provide further details:

- [Wood Energy Advisor - Guidance Document](#)
- [Wood Energy Advisor - Application Form](#)



Find an advisor

Registered Advisors are listed under the following endorsements:

- **Fuel and Fuel Handling** – Biomass sourcing, fuel preparation and supply contracts
- **Heat Plant Engineering & Operation** - Design of primary and ancillary equipment, tendering, construction and commissioning
- **Commercial Feasibility & Contracts** - Commercial analysis, business case preparation, market analysis and development
- **Engineering & Commercial** – Comprehensive expertise across all areas

See [Registered Wood Energy Advisers](#) list for more details.

UseWoodFuelNZ

The UseWoodFuelNZ Campaign hosts the website www.usewoodfuel.org.nz, as a portal providing on the sourcing and use of solid biofuels in New Zealand, Australia and the South Pacific. Managed by the Bioenergy Association, the portal is overseen by the Solid Biofuel Interest Group.

- The website has around **1800+ followers** with new content added weekly
- Introductory information is publicly available, while in-depth resources can be found in the [Wood Energy Knowledge Centre](#) or through downloadable [Information Sheets and Technical Notes](#).

Wood Energy Knowledge Centre

The [Wood Energy Knowledge Centre](#) is a part of the wider [Bioenergy Knowledge Centre](#), offering comprehensive information on wood energy in **New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific**, including:

- Information sheets
- Media releases
- Research reports
- Submissions, and
- Technical Guides
- Webinar Presentations
- Workshops and Conferences

With over **1200+ catalogued publications**, the collection includes:

- **300+ resources** specifically on wood energy
- **615+ publications** related to the broader bioenergy market

Access and Availability

- Abstracts of all documents are freely available
- Full documents are **free to members** and available for non-members with an administration fee
- The Knowledge Centre includes information relevant to **New Zealand, Australia or the South Pacific markets**

Bioflash newsletter

The **Bioenergy Association** publishes a monthly [Bioflash](#) newsletter, featuring:

- News on solid biofuels sourcing and usage
- Case Studies and practical applications

Back issues are available on the [website](#). Solid Biofuel Advisers can stay informed on government policy and market developments by registering their email with the [association administrator](#).

Webinars

The Bioenergy Association hosts at least **one webinar every two months**, covering:

- Bioenergy and biofuels markets
- Technical guidance and best practices
- Real-world case studies and demonstrations

Benefits for Registered Wood Energy Advisers:

- **Free access** to webinars as part of ongoing professional development
- An opportunity to **learn from industry peers** and engage in discussions
- A platform to **share expertise** – presenting a webinar enhances professional recognition among **2,400+ followers**

Format

- 30-minute presentation and 30-minute discussion
- Open forum for participation interaction
- Recorded sessions available in the Wood Energy Knowledge Centre

Workshops and Conferences

Bioenergy Association organises workshops and conferences to facilitate in-depth discussions on key topics.

Why attend a Workshop?

- **Hands-on learning:** Focussed sessions on bioenergy, technology, business risks and biomass supply chains
- **Face-to-face interaction:** Ideal for complex topics requiring group discussions
- **Comprehensive resource access:** All proceedings and presentations are archived in the Bioenergy Knowledge Centre.

Solid Biofuels Interest Group

All Bioenergy Association members can participate in at least one of the three Interest Groups:

1. [Solid biofuels](#)
2. [Gaseous biofuels](#), and
3. [Transport biofuels](#).

Additional sub-groups include:

- [Residential Wood Pellet Heating](#)
- Used and Treated Timber, and
- Pacific Bioenergy

Why join?

- Influence industry direction – Help shape best practices, policies and programmes
- Network with industry peers – Regular meetings via audio/video links
- Stay updated – Gain insights into sector developments and regulations

Member support

The Bioenergy Association provides **specialist confidential support** to help members grow their businesses. Services include:

- Mentorship for new entrants
- Market knowledge and industry insights
- Capability building programmes to ensure members operate at optimal potential

Training courses

A series of **short courses** provide professional development for:

- Solid biofuel suppliers
- Wood energy advisers
- Wood-fuelled heat plant facility owners and operators

Course Details:

- Most courses are **Level 4**, requiring no prior training unless specified
- **Structure**
 - Pre-course reading
 - Half-day or full-day practical modules (in-person or online)
 - Assessments before and after training
- Successful completion counts towards Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Available Courses:

1. **WE1: Wood Fuel supply** (½ day – audio/visual module)
 - Harvest residue processing, fuel classification, grading and verification
 - Optional site visit based on demand
2. **WE2: Contracting for the Sale of Wood Fuel** (½ day – audio/visual module)
 - **Pre-requisite** – WE1 Wood Fuel Supply course
 - Covers wood fuel storage, preparation and delivery
 - Includes Model Wood Fuel Sale & Purchase Contract. Pricing based on fuel grading

3. **WE3: Design concepts for Wood-fuelled Heat Plant** (1-day practical module)
 - **Pre-requisite** – WE1 Wood Fuel Supply course
 - Engineering degree or equivalent
 - Course will cover the principles of design of wood energy plant
 - Comparisons will be made between coal and wood fuel heat plant operation
4. **WE4: Optimising Wood Fuel Use in existing Coal Fired Heating Plant** (1-day practical module)
 - **Pre-requisite** – WE1 Wood Fuel Supply course
 - Engineering degree or equivalent
 - The course covers the principles of wood fuel heat plant and how they differ from coal fuelled plant.
 - The techniques for processing wood fuel suitable for co-firing
5. **WE5: Purchasing & Operating a Wood-fuelled Heat Plant** (1-day)
 - **Pre-requisite** – WE1 Wood Fuel Supply course **and** WE2 Contracting for the Sale of Wood Fuel
 - The course is principally for heat plant owners and operators and will cover tendering for design and supply of wood fuelled heat plant. The operation of wood fuelled heat plant. Co-firing of coal and wood fuel
6. **WE6: Small scale wood fuelled heat plant operation** (½ day – practical module)
 - This course is principally for the operators of school scale wood fuelled heat plant. The course is aimed at school caretakers etc who are required to operate a school heating system safely and efficiently. The course is aimed at assisting schools meet health and safety requirements.

Course Availability

- Courses will be run based on demand
- Some practical modules are available via audio/video link

For more details, contact the [Bioenergy Association](http://www.bioenergy.org.nz)