

Renewable Energy Systems for Schools

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

I would like to invite you to take part in my research project. Please read this information before deciding whether or not to take part. Your participation in my project is voluntary and is not required by I or the University to be completed. If you decide to participate, thank you. If you decide not to participate, thank you for considering this request.

Who am I?

My name is Elliott Andrews, and I am an Honours student in ENGR489 (Engineering Project) at Victoria University of Wellington. This research project is work towards my Bachelor of Engineering with Honours Degree in Software Engineering.

What is the aim of the project?

This project investigates the current state of energy consumption, fuel types (including gas, electricity, and LPG). Their different uses, and costs in schools. We will be exploring options to switch from non-renewable to renewable energy systems and presenting our findings to you. Researching your school and your energy consumption with current energy systems, versus simulated renewable energy systems is both interesting and valuable research to the renewable engineering field.

Your participation will support this research by showing your interest in a new way of thinking for renewable energy, to encourage a future for replacing existing energy systems with renewable ones. To ultimately help participate in the protection against global warming. This research has been approved by the Victoria University of Wellington Human Ethics Committee – Application No. 0000029413.

How can you help?

You have been invited to participate because of your relevance to our project location in Wellington and meet our requirement for interviewing renewable energy systems in schools. If you agree to take part, I will interview you at your school location. I will ask you questions about your school's energy production systems (if applicable), energy consumption costs and your willingness to share this data with us. The interview will take no longer than 20 minutes at most. I will ask your permission for an audio recording record of the interview and will be kept confidential. You can choose to not answer any question or stop the interview at any time, without giving a reason. You can withdraw from the study by contacting me at any time before

Monday 5th of July. If you withdraw, the information you provided will be destroyed or returned to you.

What will happen to the information you give?

This research is confidential. This means that the researcher named below will be aware of your identity, but the research data will be combined, your school's and identity will not be revealed in any reports, presentations, or public documentation by default. You may however wish to share results with your students and the school community and wish to give us permission to share information with other schools.

Only my supervisor and I, will read the notes or review the recording (if given permission) of the interview. The interview transcripts, summaries and any recordings will be kept securely and destroyed on Friday 22nd of October 2021.

What will the project produce?

The information from my research will be used in my final report for my engineering project and will be presented back to you with my findings.

If you accept this invitation, what are your rights as a research participant?

You do not have to accept this invitation if you don't want to. If you do decide to participate, you have the right to:

- choose not to answer any question.
- ask for the recorder to be turned off at any time during the interview.
- withdraw from the study before Monday 5th of July.
- ask any questions about the study at any time.
- receive a copy of your interview recording.
- be able to read any reports of this research by emailing the researcher to request a copy.

If you have any questions or problems, who can you contact?

If you have any questions, either now or in the future, please feel free to contact:

Student:

Name: Elliott Andrews

Email: andrewelli@myvuw.ac.nz

Supervisor:

Name: Jim Hinkley

Roles: Senior Lecturer and Project Professor

Phone: +64 4 463 5515

Email: Jim.hinkley@vuw.ac.nz

Human Ethics Committee information

If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of the research you may contact the Victoria University of Wellington HEC Convenor: Associate Professor Judith Loveridge. Email hec@vuw.ac.nz or telephone +64-4-463 6028.