

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) has partnered with Venture Southland (VS) to deliver the Wood Energy South project in the Southland region.

The project is being funded over three years (2014-2017) and aims to lower energy-related carbon emissions in Southland, improve air quality and demonstrate the cost and life cycle benefits of wood-chip and wood-pellet fuelled boilers utilising local waste wood. It will also provide local employment capacity building and business opportunities.

Southland is regarded as an ideal place to set up a hub because it has forestry and wood processing facilities which generate 300,000 tonnes a year of potential wood fuel. There is demand for heat from commercial premises such as schools, offices, rest homes, hospitals, and industrial processes such as meat works, other factories and dairy processing.

This project builds on the thermal energy switching opportunities identified in the Southland [Wood Energy Demand Assessment June 2011](#) and can best be described as the implementation phase of the Demand Assessment. The work will also look closely at demonstrating diversity on energy fuel sources and combustion systems particularly those that comply with the Regional Air Plan.

The aim of the project is to facilitate the establishment of new commercial heating systems fuelled by wood and woody biomass. The project will demonstrate new and emerging technologies and will focus on life cycle costs and demonstrating project investment feasibility.

The Wood Energy South is primarily focused on overcoming market barriers to establish a regional cluster of wood energy end-use in commercial and industrial applications.

The programme provides Southland heat plant owners with independent technical advisory services and funding. Our team is working closely with local and national industry stakeholders to support switching opportunities.

### **Independent technical advisory services are available to Southland heat plant owners and Industry stakeholders.**

Technical Advisory Services include:

- Site visits to assess the suitability of wood fuels for your business
- Unbiased advice on boiler and fuel options
- Assistance with funding applications.

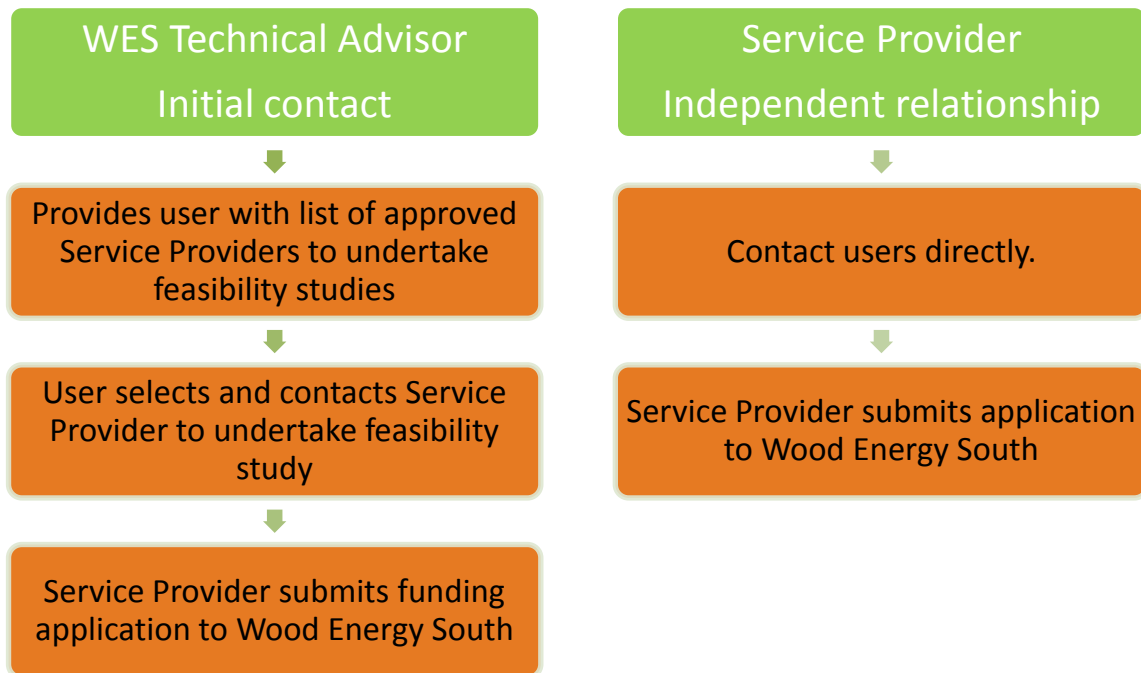
Contact [Lloyd McGinty](#) for more information regarding these services.

### **Funding**

Wood Energy South has funds available to assist Southland businesses with wood energy projects and welcomes applications as part of the Wood Energy South Project.

Funding is available for Feasibility Studies, as Capital Grants and for Crown Loans. The Wood Energy South team is working hard to create awareness of wood fuel as a viable option and to create confidence in the supply of quality wood fuels and sound advice. If or when the opportunity arises for a feasibility study to be undertaken, the user is provided with the full list of project approved service providers and it is up to the client to decide which company to go with. Alternatively, if your

business has a client that would like to undertake a feasibility study please contact the Wood Energy South team to make a funding application.



### FEASIBILITY GRANTS

Depending on the evaluation of the grant application and project plan, the recipient may receive up to a maximum of 50% of the cost of the study. The maximum grant amount will be \$15,000 and is payable upon completion of the study. Recipients may apply later for a Capital Grant or Crown Loan to help implement the project.

### CAPITAL GRANTS

Wood Energy South has funds available to assist in meeting business case thresholds. To evaluate fuel switching opportunities. Capital grant funding - \$4/GJ of energy displaced. Capital Grants will only be considered when a business case has been presented.

### Contact

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