



Objectives – ANZSES, ISES and Solar Action promote:

- Scientific, social & economic development through the environmentally sound utilization of solar energy and other renewable energies;
- Investigation into the operation and development of solar energy applications and other potential renewable energy applications;
- The development of viable renewable energy industries in Australia and New Zealand;
- The generation and dissemination of information on current and future renewable energy developments to members and potential members;
- Influence on government policies which may impact upon the present and future and
- The development of renewable energy applications.

Organization

ANZSES is a not-for-profit organization and is governed by a committee elected by its members. To enhance member contact and activity the society has a branch in every Australian State and Territory, and has an affiliate organization (Solar Action) in New Zealand. ANZSES is an affiliate Section of ISES, the International Solar Energy Society.

The ANZSES coordination team is made up of experts and experienced staff (Renewable Energy Promotion Officer, Executive committee members, Administration Manager, “Solar Progress” Editor) and many ANZSES volunteers.

By “solar energy”, we mean all the renewable energy sources that originate from the sun: solar radiation (photovoltaic and solar thermal), wind (wind energy), biomass and biogas, biofuels, and hydroelectricity. The society is a forum for technology development and application.

ANZSES does *not* support fossil fuels or nuclear energy, because these energies are not sustainable. Their resources are limited and the exploitation of these forms of energy produce several risks for our societies: climate change, waste disposal, pollution risks, and terrorism. Renewable energies are either competitive now or are becoming so and their resources are unlimited.

Brief History

ANZSES evolved out of ISES – in the mid 20th century. The establishment of the Solar Energy Society occurred in 1954 in the USA. This organization formally became known as the International Solar Energy Society shifting its headquarters to Australia in 1970. (It is now in Freiburg, Germany)

The origins of a separate Australian New Zealand organization occurred in 1961. ANZSES was incorporated as company in the State of Victoria, Australia in 1981 as a separate but affiliate organization to ISES, with a structure of state/territories branches across Australia.

ISES

Today ISES has members in over 110 countries, with more than 50 National Section offices in Europe, South and North America, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. National Conferences and community events are of enormous importance in advancing research into and market acceptance of renewable energy systems. A large number of research results and technological advances have been achieved only due to the continued dialogue between researchers, industrialists and politicians – communication actively supported by ISES and its national sections such as ANZSES.

Philosophical values

The Solar Energy Society emerged from a philosophical as well as educated opinion that the future was dependent on the use of clean forms of energy, such as solar energy and other renewable energy sources. ANZSES grew out of a research, philosophical base that is still at its core function today. It evolved as a network of researchers and educators reaching out to the public and industry to adopt new and renewable technologies and systems. From the beginning it included related industry groups and individual companies as a forum for the sharing of information and innovative ideas.

ANZSES is not a government or industry lobby group and we do not serve any government or industry vested interest. A key factor of success for ANZSES is credibility with all stakeholders – the public, business and governments – by being recognized as providing factual and unbiased information about renewable energy and how it can be used in society.

Providing reliable information and providing a forum for the exchange of this information and ideas is ANZSES key role. We do this by organizing regular branch meetings throughout Australia and New Zealand, by organizing and participating in community and professional events, and by providing factual and powerful comment in the media when needed. ANZSES aims to always play a constructive role to support the efforts of individuals, industry and governments in their efforts to foster and develop the intelligent use and development of renewable sources of energy. That is why ANZSES and ISES have survived over the last 50 years.

Activities

“Solar Progress”

The society has for over 25 years published a magazine "Solar Progress", which has aimed at providing information of a technical and social nature to both experts and lay readers. The aim has always been to educate and inform those interested in the application of solar energy to our daily lives. We now publish on-line for members with a free selection of past issues available as PDFs from 2006 and earlier. It's timeless information and you are welcome to browse.

Sustainable House Day

Being sustainable begins at home. But how? From the bricks and mortar to the grey-water system, you need to know what you are doing and who to ask in your locality when embarking on one of life's big financial decisions. Sustainable House Day is aimed at providing the answers. Visit the homes. Talk to people who have done it, talk to experts who can guide you.

Annual Solar Conferences

For forty five years, ANZSES has held a conference in a major city in Australia and New Zealand. It is a gathering of like minded experts, and people just interested in developments in solar energy. It is inclusive, [not exclusive] and if you want to come along and meet with the men and women who research and develop solar application, you are very welcome.

If you are in industry, you will know that you need to keep an eye on the R&D – here is where you will find it – talk to researchers face to face.

Come and join us.