

NEWS 12/5/06

It sure looks like winter has settled in with our latest Southerly blast covering most of the country. Good for the duck shooters and skiers I guess, and hopefully for our Southern hydro storage lakes also. Solar performance is of course down during the winter months. Mirak systems are designed to still supply 50% of your winter water heating requirements.

There have been continuing calls on the energy front for higher efficiency in our homes. Better design and better insulation would definitely help, but how do we upgrade such a large number of our substandard existing homes? This has been left to the home owner, which leaves our large number of rental properties unlikely to see any action. Follow this link for more info:

Energy efficiency demand heats up

Mean while, the big players in the energy market are still debating how to fix issues they have been know about for years. It seems more and more unlikely we will see any extra generation, or improved distribution, in the near future. The following link will give you the latest in the Auckland 400kV transmission line debate:

Energy players see more focus on renewables

So where does this leave the average consumer? At Mirak, we do not have the answer to this question. What we can help you with is an increase in your own personal energy storage. The one part of the electrical system the energy retailers do have control of is your water heating. Through the ripple control system, your water heating is turned off in times of peak demand. If we have an energy shortage in the future, this would be a very easy place for the energy retailers to reduce demand. Scary! Every solar water heating installation in this country will help to reduce our electricity demand. Once you have solar installed, you can be proud of the fact that you are actually helping to solve a major problem. Every little bit helps!