

Workshop 2 – Forecasting and modelling wind hazards



Tornado damage in Oakura/Taranaki – July 2007

Wind is something we experience almost every day but severe winds can cause considerable damage and occasionally result in many casualties. In some cases it can totally disrupt modern civilization: closing down airports and roads, creating power and telephone outages and destroying houses.

New Zealand faces the potential for numerous severe wind events each year and it might worsen in the future since storm intensity is linked to the recent ocean warming trends associated with global warming.

The workshop will address end-user relevant issues such as improvements in forecasting and impact modelling, how climate change could influence New Zealand's wind risk, and what the role of the building code and new materials and structural designs should be to improve the wind resiliency of New Zealand houses.

Preliminary programme:

1. High risk areas in NZ, measuring wind; challenges and problems (Steve Reid, retired)
2. How climate change could affect wind in NZ (Brett Mullan, NIWA)
3. Forecasting/ modelling wind (Mike Revell, NIWA)

Coffee Break –

Interactive session - What are the end-user demands?

4. Building codes, standards (Andrew King, GNS)
5. Sustainable construction (Graeme Beattie, BRANZ)
6. Loss modelling and post-event surveys (Stefan Reese, NIWA)
7. Final discussion -