



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## TRUST SUPPORTS VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES

The Eastern Bay Energy Trust approved funding for the Whakatane and Ohope Volunteer Fire Brigades at its August meeting. The Whakatane Brigade received \$35,076 for an air compressor and to install electric motors for the fire station doors. The Ohope Volunteer Fire Brigade received \$33,728.26 for an automatic door opener, dehumidifiers to dry wet gear, heat pumps and kitchen appliances for the station.

Deputy Chairman Brian Ponting said that the Trustees were happy to support the two brigades as they provide a vital service to the community.

The Trustees also approved a distribution of \$75,363 for the Opotiki RSA to install heat pumps, insulation and new kitchen appliances, and to upgrade the hot water supply and the electrical wiring.

The Waihou Bay Sports Fishing Club can now go ahead with its new premises, which will also house the Waihou Bay Volunteer Coastguard, after the Trustees approved \$72,836 for the energy-related aspects of the new building. The Waiotahi Valley Settlers' Hall will be upgraded thanks to a distribution of \$37,369 which will cover the costs of installing heat pumps, ceiling fans, an alarm system, hand dryers, kitchen appliances, new lighting, and an electrical upgrade.

Funding was also approved for energy audits for Matata Public School, Galatea Primary School and Manawahe School.

Mr Ponting said that the Trust has now provided funding for energy audits for 22 Eastern Bay schools, resulting in energy savings and increased awareness of energy efficiency.

### ***For further information contact***

Brian Ponting  
Deputy Chairman, Eastern Bay Energy Trust  
Phone 323 8816

Kaye Jamieson, Manager  
Manager, Eastern Bay Energy Trust  
Phone 307 0893