



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## ENERGY TRUST DISTRIBUTES \$139,000 TO COMMUNITY

Grants totalling \$139,431.20 were approved at the November meeting of the Eastern Bay Energy Trust, for community projects throughout the Eastern Bay.

An \$88,000 grant will allow the Liberty Ministries Trust to install heat pumps at the Liberty Centre. Whakatane Combined Churches Food-Link received a grant of \$1,900 to purchase a new deep freezer, and the Whakatane, Opotiki and Kawerau Christmas in the Park events were each approved \$5000 towards the cost of hiring sound and lighting equipment.

Waioatahe Valley School will now be able to proceed with the installation of heat pumps and insulation throughout the school, a recommendation contained in the School Energy Audit which was initiated by the Trust in 2003.

Trust Chairman Toni Owen said "After a lull earlier in the year, there has been an increase in the number of applications for funding, and many of these are still being finalised before they are presented to the Trustees for a decision. Our manager works with each community organisation to make sure their application contains all the information the Trustees will need, and monitors the progress of each approved project on an ongoing basis as part of the Trust's audit process."

***For further information contact***

Toni Owen, Chairman

Phone 307 1141

Kaye Jamieson, Manager

Phone 307 0893