

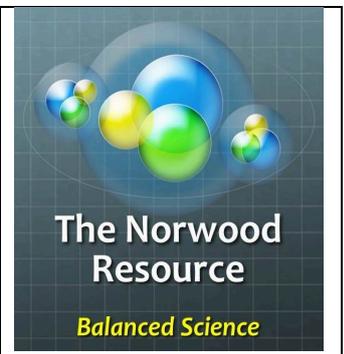
NEWSLETTER

The Norwood Resource *Incorporated*

ABN: 39 286 963 247

Registered ACNC

Issue 7: October 2014



Welcome

Welcome to The Norwood Resource (TNR)'s October Newsletter. In order to incorporate more information into our Newsletters, the general information, such as why we formed and our mission, have been removed. Details on why we formed, together with our mission, can be found at:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/about/>

Membership

For potential members more information about becoming a member can be found at:

<http://thenorwoodresource.org.au/become-a-member/>

During September, our membership numbers increased from 83 to 87, consisting of 29 active members and 58 associate/overseas members. The fact that very few new members joined in September is again very disappointing, especially given the number of personnel working in the oil/gas industry.

Even though we get lots of verbal support for what we are doing, from quite a number of individuals and organisations, this support has not, for some reason, been converted into healthy membership numbers.

Our mission is to challenge and counter misinformation in the public arena. If the process of challenging/countering misinformation about the industry causes it to "head for the bunkers" whenever poor publicity is encountered, it is little wonder that it is becoming more difficult and expensive to operate. As the then Federal (Labour) Resources Minister, Gary Gray, stated in his address at the 2013 APPEA conference "***We need to put evidence and science into the current debate – and balance the misinformation that is being peddled in the public arena, and we need to be robust about it.***"

The TNR Founding Committee believes that, to be a robust but respectful, voice in the community, we must have a vibrant membership consisting of individuals from all walks of life who are **passionately** interested in balanced debate. This is why we are so keen to increase our membership numbers.

TNR and the media/public

As per our mission statement, our ultimate objectives are "***to inform key media***" and "***establish and maintain a centre of expertise***" about the facts and science pertaining to oil/gas exploration/production and the environment. Only by achieving these objectives can we "balance the misinformation peddled in the public arena".

We are gaining some exposure in industry media but more community and mainstream media exposure is needed. As mainstream media appear reluctant to "let the facts get in the way of their story" we are investigating ways, in addition to social media, to get the message directly to interested groups. For example, one of our founding committee is ready, willing and able to give talks to community groups (eg Rotary), school groups, etc on the topic of seismic surveys and marine life. Please call if you know of any groups that would like a speaker.

Countering/Challenging misinformation.

Although no articles were published during September, members of the committee were busy collecting information for future articles, planning TNR's inaugural meeting in Perth (to be held on 9th October) and promoting TNR's role as a new voice within the industry. John Hughes, one of TNR's founding committee members, participated in two Conferences as a TNR delegate during the month:

- APPEA HSE Conference – Perth – 2-3 September. One of the highlights of this Conference was the Keynote address by the President and CEO of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association (COGA), Tisha Conoly Schuller. Tisha's key message could be summarised as follows: "***Industry Associations cannot defend the industry on their own. We need individuals within the industry to be passionate about a balanced debate regarding the claimed impacts of the industry on the environment.***" It is pleasing to hear that the philosophy and mission adopted by TNR is very much aligned with this message. Individuals in the industry can no longer remain silent and leave it to industry associations, individual companies or professional associations to "balance the debate" – the industry needs a 'whole of industry' effort and we need to respond to misinformation at all levels of the industry. This is what TNR is set up to do – harness the passion of individuals who are willing to get involved in countering and challenging the scurrilous misinformation frequently distributed by those that wish to harm our industry.
- Effects of Sound in the Ocean on Marine Mammals (ESOMM-2014) – Amsterdam – 8-11 September. John Hughes was invited to attend and present at this conference which includes ocean sounds other than seismic (eg sonar, pile driving) and is attended by regulators, researchers, etc from around the world. His presentation entitled "***Seismic Surveys and Marine Life: A Plea for evidence-based debate, assessments and Regulation***" aligned well with the conference theme of "***Linking Science with Policy***".

It would certainly be a different world if policy were linked with to science!! How good would that be! At some stage in the near future, an article outlining the content of John's talk, will be published on our website.

Published during September

As mentioned above, we did not publish any articles during September. However, the month provided lots of ideas for articles as a result of a significant level of information collection/collation along with some stimulating brainstorming sessions at conferences and meetings. Thus, following our inaugural meeting in Perth on 9 October, it is anticipated that there will be an up-tick in articles and rebuttals during October.

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