



**Travel Award - Jeremy Whitby to Attend the North Island Biogas Seminar - New Zealand**

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Queensland Natural Pork Holdings (Marketing) Pty Ltd  
Whitby J.

Mr Jeremy Whitby of Queensland Natural Pork Holding (Marketing) Pty Ltd attended the North Island Biogas Seminar in Inglewood, Taranaki, New Zealand on 18 March 2010. QNPH is currently undertaking a methane capture project on-farm and attending this seminar would assist in furthering knowledge in this area.

Over the last few years New Zealand Pork; the NZ Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority; the National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research; and Massey University have been investigating the broad subject of Farm Biogas and researching the feasibility of developing relatively small scale, individually designed, commercially viable capture and utilisation systems. One of QNPH's farms in Queensland is the site of research work involving floating pond covers to capture methane and the analysis of the quantity and quality of gas. The project is at the point of choosing methods of gas utilisation, consequently it was opportune to visit the Taranaki field day to further their knowledge.

The seminar consisted of a series of presentations followed by a farm visit to view a pilot system in action. The farm visit demonstrated how the years of research have provided solutions to components of the process, including pond covers, compression and storage, scrubbing/cleaning, control of pressure, balance of flow of fuel source between gas and grid, generator powering the farm, and co-generation of hot water to heat piglets. This information will assist QNPH in utilisation gas on their farm and serve as a demonstration for other producers.