The Energy Law Association, Inc (the ELA) is an incorporated society the members of which work in the energy and resources sectors of New Zealand. The ELA’s core goal is to further learning, awareness and debate in areas of the law relevant to the wider energy and resource sectors.

As such, the ELA fosters learning and academic research and writing amongst law students and lawyers interested in these vibrant sectors of our economy.

In 2015 the ELA is running the ELA Essay Competition for the second time. Cash prizes will be awarded for the 3 best entries.

The ELA Essay Competition supplements a range of other initiatives undertaken by the ELA, including Wellington lunchtime seminars on topics of legal interest, other prizes and sponsorships awarded over time.

The ELA invites applicants from a wide range of legal areas. We envisage that the essays will be on any legal topic directly of relevance to the energy and resources sectors. We contemplate that essays will be on a range of topics of corporate, commercial, contractual, public, land, financing, tax or environmental interest. Please note that we will be considering and judging applications from this wide range.

Applicants must, as at 30 June 2015, have been:
- Undergraduate law students at a tertiary institution in New Zealand, or
- have graduated from any tertiary institution with their first law degree within the previous three years.

**Prizes**
The ELA intends to offer 3 prizes:

- First prize $3,000
- Second $2,000
- Third $1,000

However, the ELA reserves the discretion to award such combination of prizes as it sees fit.

**Judging**
Essays submitted will be judged by a panel of lawyers from private, governmental and corporate practice, to be selected by the ELA.

**Important dates**
Proposed topics, and the author’s (or authors’) name and eligibility, must be recorded on the attached entry form and submitted for approval to the Secretary of the ELA by Friday 2 October 2015. Topics and eligibility will be approved shortly after that date.

Essays must be received by the Secretary by 5.00pm on Friday 27 November 2015. Late essays will not be accepted.

Prize winners will be announced on our website ([www.energylaw.org.nz](http://www.energylaw.org.nz)) (with personal communication to all authors) in January 2016.
Conditions of entry
All persons submitting entries shall be deemed to have agreed to the following conditions of entry:

(a) Essays may be on any topic related to energy and resource law, provided that the topic must have prior approval by the ELA (refer below).

(b) Length is to be no more than 3,500 words. Footnoting is not to be used for substantive text.

(c) Essays submitted are to be the author’s original and previously unpublished work and cannot be submitted for the essay prize more than once. Essays must be the author’s work alone, and without correction, editing or rewriting by any university or legal employer supervisor.

(d) The entry form, essay form and essay must be submitted by email to the Secretary at energylaw@xtra.co.nz, in both Word and PDF form, and by the relevant due date.

(e) The ELA reserves the right to publish any entries in hard copy and/or on its website. The author or authors grant the ELA a non-exclusive royalty-free worldwide licence to copy, use, publish and otherwise reproduce all or part of the essay.

(f) The ELA reserves the right to have one or more of the prize-winning authors present their essay topic at a short ELA lunchtime seminar during 2016. Each author agrees to make him or herself available to present at an ELA seminar at a time reasonably convenient to the ELA and the author(s).

(g) The ELA retains absolute discretion as to whether to approve a topic, whether to approve an author’s eligibility, and whether to award one or all of the prizes.

(h) The judges’ decision will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into in respect of any entry.

(i) These conditions of entry may be altered at any time by the ELA, on reasonable notice to entrants or prospective entrants via the ELA website.

Additional requirements
Submission of each proposed topic for approval by the ELA must be accompanied by a completed entry form (attached) and signed by the proposed author (or authors)

Submission of each essay must be accompanied by a completed essay form (which will be issued to each author with the confirmation of topic eligibility and signed by the author (or authors).

Further enquiries
Please direct any queries to the Secretary of the ELA, email energylaw@xtra.co.nz, or to the ELA Chair, Brigid McArthur (brigid@grclegal.com).
Energy Law Association

Essay Competition 2015

Entry Form

Each author wishing to enter the ELA’s Essay Prize must complete this form and submit it to the Secretary of the Energy Law Association by 5pm on Friday 2 October 2015. Where two or more authors propose to submit one essay jointly, each author must complete the form and all forms must be sent together.

Author’s name _____________________________________ _____________________________

I confirm that [please tick]:

☐ I propose to write an essay on a topic of law directly relevant to the energy and resources sector in New Zealand, as summarised below

☐ As at 30 June 2015, I was a New Zealand resident

☐ As at 30 June 2015, I was an undergraduate in law at a tertiary institution in New Zealand

☐ As at 30 June 2015, I had graduated from a tertiary institution in New Zealand with my first law degree within the last three years

In less than 150 words, the topic of my essay is:

Author’s signature ________________________________

Date ____________________________________________