

Sophie Heighway - Biography 2010

Sophie has 15 years experience leading change for both local authorities and business on environmental sustainability. She is actively involved with the development of sustainable business in New Zealand, chairs the Northern Sustainable Business Network Regional Advisory Board and is an advisor to Green Fleet.

Sophie is the Sustainability Manager for Downer NZ, a role which involves the management of environmental sustainability functions within the organisation as well as providing professional environmental management and sustainability leadership. A key aspect is encouragement and support of the integration of corporate strategy environmental, social and economic considerations into business planning and operations.

Sophie's experience includes the implementation of initiatives in greenhouse gas emissions, carbon and ecological foot printing, energy management, biodiversity, life cycle assessment and business sustainability. She has successfully implemented programmes to reduce and offset emissions risk, manage ecological footprint and improve organisational sustainability.

Sophie believes the key to SBN thriving is with growth in membership and being the voice for sustainable business in NZ. Businesses will deliver the solutions needed to move into a carbon-constrained future and, by the strength of its members, SBN can support business through sharing and innovation. As consumer demand for sustainable solutions grows, businesses in NZ need a strong advocacy agency that can support them and advocate on their behalf, which will increasingly be the role of SBN.