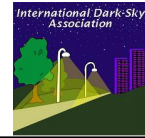




Newsletter 6 – May '07

RASNZ Dark Skies Group



Welcome

Welcome to the sixth newsletter of the Dark Skies Group of the RASNZ.

TVNZ's promo ad for TVOne where many people were shown shining torches, car headlights, sports field and building flood lights into the sky, has shown how little appreciation there is of the night sky particularly within the media. After complaints were sent to TVNZ their response has been muted to say the least.

"We do not believe, that as a result of this ad, people are shining lights skyward each night. New Zealanders (and TVNZ) are very proud of our country's beauty and this includes the night sky."

*Communications Executive
Public Affairs
TVNZ*

I have written again to reinforce our concern.

To date I have sent letters on this matter to the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, The Electricity Commission, The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority and The Govt3 team at the Ministry for the Environment. (The Govt3 team are concerned with energy efficiency within government organisations. TVNZ receives government funding.)

Please write to TVNZ and complain.

TVNZ Web Site: www.tvnz.co.nz

For a formal complaint:

<http://tvnz.co.nz/view/page/816462/823787>

or for viewer feedback:

<http://tvnz.co.nz/view/page/816462/869443>

Toronto launches Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines

The Lights Out Toronto campaign, launched last year, calls on Torontonians to turn out unnecessary lighting at night so that birds that become disoriented by city lights will be less likely to collide with buildings.

<http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/May2007/03/c4642.html>

National Parks Service Dark Sky Team

The NPS Dark Sky Team are monitoring and managing light pollution in many of their National Parks.

www2.nature.nps.gov/air/lightscapes

The International Dark-Sky Association has named Natural Bridges Park in Utah as the Worlds first Dark Sky Park under a recently promoted Dark Sky Park certification program.

<http://www.parkremark.com/item/287/>

The next Newsletter will not be until around July as I am traveling over the next two months. I will be attending the RASNZ Conference in Auckland and hope to catch up with many of you there.

That's all for now.

Best regards,

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