



Examining an offset printing plate in the production room at the official opening of Taranaki Newspapers Ltd's new premises last night were, from left, the managing director of NZ News Ltd, Mr Pat Williams, a director of NZ News Ltd and deputy chairman of Brerley Investments Ltd, Mr Bruce Hancock, the chairman of NZ News Ltd, Mr Leicester Steven, and the general manager of Taranaki Newspapers Ltd, Mr Rash Avery.

Delays 'to give public a say'

PA Wellington Any delays in announcing allocation of the remaining portion of the Maui gas field were to give the public a chance to comment, the Minister of Energy, Mr Tizard, said yesterday.

He was replying to claims by the Opposition's energy spokesman, Mr Friedlander, that the Government was "dithering" over the allocation.

"If any delays can be blamed on the Government it is solely because the opportunity was taken to consult the public, which responded with an unprecedented 303 submissions."

The Energy Advisory Committee had evaluated the submissions and the Government's decision would be announced shortly, he said.

Officially in our new home

The completion of Taranaki Newspapers Ltd's new building in New Plymouth was a significant event in the history of the company, said the chairman of NZ News Ltd, Mr Leicester Steven, last night.

He was addressing more than 100 guests — representing Taranaki's community and commercial life and including directors and executives of NZ News Ltd — during a dinner function on the premises.

Mr Steven declared the building open and presented to the general manager of TNL, Mr Rash Avery, a plaque commemorating the event.

Mr Steven said the plaque would be mounted later at the entrance to the building.

Independence

After traversing the history of The Daily News and the Taranaki Herald, he said one constant thread had been the continuing editorial vigour and independence. The present editors, Mr Denis Garcia (The Daily News) and Mr George Koea (the Taranaki Herald), were worthy successors to a line of editors who had brought great distinction to both newspapers and to the newspaper industry in New Zealand.

Philosophy

"Our own philosophy as it relates to Taranaki newspapers Ltd is not solely an altruistic one — naturally our shareholders seek a return on their investment," said Mr Steven.

"But in return we seek to ensure that Taranaki Newspapers Ltd has

autonomy and editorial independence, and access to the people and technology necessary to create a product of the highest quality. This new building is evidence of our commitment and our confidence."

Important

The mayor, Mr David Lean, congratulated the company on the achievement of the new building. He said the editorial in-

dependence of both newspapers was very important, and thanked TNL for "the number of things you have done for our community over many, many years."

Mr Lean praised the newspapers' help in the project to renovate the New Plymouth Opera House and in other projects involving the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust, the Sportsman of the Year con-

test and the transatlantic solo yacht race. "It goes on and on."

Cheque

Mr Steven presented to the chairman of the Taranaki Hospital Board, Mr Dan Holmes, a cheque to enable the completion of the purchase of a vital-signs monitor for the accident and emergency department at the Taranaki Base Hospital.

Mr Holmes thanked the company for the cheque, and also for the services the two newspapers gave the board through their reporters. He said there was a very good mutual rapport between the board and the reporters.

Mr Steven also announced that a \$5000 cheque would be given at a future date to the project for an outdoor activities centre for Taranaki.



Plaque is presented

A plaque commemorating the opening of Taranaki Newspapers Ltd's new building in New Plymouth is held during the function on the premises last night by the general manager of TNL, Mr Rash Avery (left) and the chairman of NZ News Ltd, Mr Leicester Steven.