

FN-24-20 Fortnightly report 8 November 2024

This report summarises items that may be of interest to the Minister for Energy but not necessarily require a formal briefing. Further information on any topic can be provided on request. Substantive items and decision papers will be provided to the Minister in the form of briefings.

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1. Current and upcoming publications and advice

Strategic outcome(s)	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Secure and resilient: <i>Effective risk management</i>	Decision: Implement amendments to improve outage coordination	To improve the rules in the Code about when generators and transmission owners can take planned outages of their assets, e.g. for maintenance. The amendments will reduce risks to the secure supply of electricity to consumers by ensuring better coordination of outages.	Intended publication: Late November 2024 Code amendment: 27 December
Secure and resilient: <i>Security of supply</i>	Decision: Improving visibility of generation investment	To issue two information requests to collect and publish more comprehensive information about new generation and demand investment.	Board approval: 19 November 2024 Ministerial Briefing (BR-24-0040): 12 November Intended publication: 26 November 2024
Efficient: <i>Accurate and efficient pricing</i>	Decision: Transmission pricing methodology amendments: A level playing field for emerging technologies.	To amend the transmission pricing methodology to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure connection charges for shared connection assets are allocated in a more proportionate way where a customer both injects into and offtakes from the grid • Change the way the residual charge adjusts where new customers connect, or existing customers change their consumption, so the adjustment is less affected by customers' load factors. 	Board approval: 19 November 2024 Intended publication: 26 November 2024

2. Consultations underway

Strategic outcome(s)	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Efficient: <i>Innovation and distributed innovation</i>	Part 8 Common quality requirements review	To seek feedback on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-listed options to improve the common quality information available to network operators and owners about assets that are looking to connect to electricity networks. Proposed Code amendments to better enable emerging technologies to be used in New Zealand's electricity sector. 	Consultation closes: 12 November 2024
Secure and resilient: <i>Security of supply</i>	Review of forecasting provisions for intermittent generators	To seek feedback on proposed changes to the Code to give effect to a hybrid forecasting arrangement. The proposed amendments will require intermittent generators to change their offer practices to align with what is currently considered good practice – such as revising offers to reflect the latest forecast.	Consultation closes: 15 November 2024
Secure and resilient: <i>Effective risk management</i>	Update to scarcity pricing settings	To seek feedback on our proposal to update the scarcity pricing settings in the wholesale market. The updated settings will ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer expectations for security of supply are better reflected in the wholesale market. 	Consultation closes: 29 November 2024

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The market sends stronger and more reliable pricing signals for investment in flexible generation and demand side resources. 	
Efficient: <i>Accurate and efficient pricing</i>	Distribution connection pricing proposed Code amendment	To seek feedback on our proposal to develop rules that make it easier for electrified businesses and infrastructure to get up and running and deliver good outcomes for consumers, the economy and the market.	Consultation closes: 6 December 2024
Efficient: <i>Innovation and distributed energy</i>	Network connections project-stage one	We are consulting on our proposed Code changes that aim to remove barriers and create efficiencies in the application process for connecting distributed generation (like solar farms) and large load (like industrial plant) to networks. We think these changes will make connecting to the network easier, faster, more equitable and more consistent across New Zealand.	Consultation closes: 6 December 2024

3. Upcoming Electricity Industry Participation Code amendments

The following table has Electricity Industry Participation Code amendments that need to be presented to the House by the Minister's office **within 20 working days** following the date on which it is made.

Tracking number	Name	Date made	Date of Gazette notification	Date in force	Due date for presentation to the House
EIPCA-24-0012	Inflation Adjustment to Prescribed Maximum Fees	16 October 2024	18 October 2024	1 November 2024	14 November 2024
EIPCA-24-0013	Distributor Agreement Amendments	11 October 2024	21 October 2024	25 November 2024	11 November 2024

4. Key external engagements

- ENA meeting: 11 November
- Transpower CE meeting: 11 November
- Transpower Chair/CE quarterly meeting: 12 November
- Future Networks Forum: 13 November
- Electricity Engineering Association: 14 November
- Utilities Dispute Presentation - the Honourable Andrew Bayly: 14 November
- Commerce Commission meeting: 15 November
- PowerCo board meeting: 21 November

5. Ministerial engagements

- Minister for Energy meetings with Energy stakeholders regarding Winter: 7 November
- Minister for Energy monthly meeting: 13 November
- Minister for Energy and Electricity Authority Board dinner: 18 November