



News Bulletin

March 2024



Kia ora,

Today we are bringing you a News Bulletin that invites you to provide your views on our Statement of Proposal on amending the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008.

The Bulletin also notifies you about the upcoming Critical Contingency exercise and training and informs you of an upcoming amendment to CCM Regulations and Firstgas's CCMP.

We are also releasing our briefing to incoming Ministers which includes our draft Gas Transition Plan.

Your views: Statement of Proposal on amending the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008

The process to manage critical contingency events on the gas system requires changes to the CCM Regulations so that they are fit for purpose.

The Statement of Proposal presents a coordinated set of changes to the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008.

The proposal responds to the need to adapt the CCM regulations to operational changes in the last decade and implements learning from previous events and CCM exercises to increase efficiency.

The proposal is structured into three parts:

1. Changes Gas Industry Co intends to put forward to the Minister

2. Firstgas request to change Schedule 1 of the CCM Regulations to reflect operational changes of the transmission network
3. Ex-post consultation on the urgent Regulation change to remove the Taupo/Broadlands gas gates from Schedule 1 to enable the injection of biogas

You can read it [here](#).

Please email your submission to consultations@gasindustry.co.nz by 5pm, Friday 26 April 2024.

Critical Contingency Operator (CCO) training and exercise dates

This year's annual CCO exercise will be on **Wednesday 15 May 2024**.

An overview training session will be held by the CCO at 10am on **Wednesday 10 April 2024**, virtually via Teams.

The training will provide a general overview of the regulations designed as an introduction for new industry participants, refresher for previous participants if they wish, and/or for interested parties who require only a general awareness of the regulations. It is expected to last about an hour.

If you would like to attend please register by emailing CCO@cco.org.nz with the name and email address of each attendee.

Some parties have received additional communications from the CCO about other training opportunities particular to their organisation. This general overview training is in addition to this.

The Participants' Brief for the exercise, which provides further details and instructions on how to participate, is available on the [CCO website](#).

Amendment to CCM Regulations and Firstgas's CCMP

On 17 February 2024, the Minister for Energy accepted Gas Industry Co's recommendation to amend the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008 to remove the Broadlands and Taupo gas gates from the critical contingency threshold limits in Schedule 1 of the CCM Regulations. The amendment comes into force on 8 March 2024.

The amendment has been made in reliance of the urgent regulation making process in the Gas Act. Consultation on the proposed amendment will occur as part of Gas Industry Co's broader package of proposed changes to the Regulations that will be consulted on shortly.

Notice of the Minister's decision on the amendment is available [here](#). A copy of the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Amendment Regulations 2024 is available [here](#).

To align with the amendments to the CCM Regulations, Firstgas consulted on proposed amendments to its critical contingency management plan (CCMP). The documents associated with Firstgas's consultation on the amendments are available on our website [here](#). Gas Industry Co has approved the amended CCMP on this basis that it has received a recommendation to approve the CCMP from an expert advisor and the amended CCMP complies with regulation 25 and gives effect to the purpose of the CCM Regulations. The amended CCMP will be published on the Critical Contingency Operator's website [here](#).

We thank industry participants for their involvement in these consultation processes to date.

Briefing to Incoming Ministers released, including draft Gas Transition Plan

The incoming Ministers of Energy and Resources were provided with a briefing from Gas Industry Co in November. A copy of the briefing has now been made publicly available. The content of each briefing was the same for both Ministers.

The briefing included a draft Gas Transition Plan, prepared by Gas Industry Co in 2023. The draft informed the Gas Transition Issues Paper released by MBIE in August. It establishes a transition pathway that provides secure, sustainable, and affordable energy.

You can view the Briefing to Incoming Ministers [here](#).

A copy of the Gas Industry Co draft Gas Transition Plan is available [here](#).