

Welcome to Gas Industry Co's News Bulletin, an advisory issued periodically to draw attention to new and current consultations, workstream developments, publications and presentations.

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

MPOC Market-Based Balancing Change Request

Gas Industry Co is consulting on its Draft Recommendation on the 10 October 2014 Maui Pipeline Operating Code (market-based balancing) Change Request (MBBCR) proposed by Maui Development Limited (MDL). The Draft Recommendation supports the proposed changes. It incorporates a summary of submissions and cross-submissions received to date and an independent cost-benefit analysis—Market Based Balancing on the Maui Pipeline: Cost-Benefit Analysis, prepared by Dr John Small of Covec.

Workshops were held in early March in Wellington and Auckland to assist stakeholders to clarify aspects of the Draft Recommendation and the associated Cost-Benefit Analysis. Submissions on the Draft Recommendation are invited by Monday 30 March 2015.

[> View the Draft Recommendation](#)

Maui AQ Product

Consultation is currently being held on a paper *Design Option – MPOC Authorised Quantity Product* prepared by Gas Industry Co. It incorporates a paper *Proposed Maui AQ Product (AQ Paper)* prepared by Concept Consulting.

The AQ Paper develops one of the 'initial changes' discussed in Gas Industry Co's [Transmission Access; Options for Improvement](#) issued in December 2013. It proposes taking a price-based rather than a rule-based approach to the allocation of AQ and recommends the development of standardised AQ Products. Submissions on the AQ Paper are invited by 24 April.

[> Read more](#)

OTHER NEWS ITEMS:

Gas Quality: Requirements and Procedures

Gas Industry Co has received three submissions on the draft *Gas Quality: Requirements and Procedures* document released in February 2015. This replaces the previous draft *Gas Quality Information Protocol* and incorporates a number of changes arising from stakeholder feedback and industry comment. The Requirements and Procedures document is an overview of the various requirements pertaining to gas quality and how those requirements are fulfilled by parties in the gas supply chain.

[> Read more](#)

Amendments to the Switching Rules and Reconciliation Rules

The Minister of Energy and Resources has approved changes to the Switching Rules and Reconciliation Rules.

The amendments arise from two workstreams: the gas registry amendments project and the development of a framework for managing gas retailer insolvency. Each workstream has benefitted from stakeholder input via an industry working group and a formal consultation process.

Registry Operator, Jade Software Corporation has commenced system development work on the Gas Registry and this is expected to be available for acceptance testing in June 2015 with a go-live date in mid-September. The changes will give retailers increased certainty that the data they are using is correct. Consequently, customers should receive more accurate accounts.

[> Read more](#)

Release of the New Zealand Gas Story

Gas Industry Co has released the third edition of *The New Zealand Gas Story – the State and Performance of the New Zealand Gas Industry*.

The Report updates current statistics and other information from a variety of published sources, apart from Distribution which will be updated at the end of next month. The Gas Pricing section incorporates extended discussion of the wholesale gas market with additional information flowing from the operation of the wholesale trading platform. And a variety of recent reports have fed into extended discussion of gas supply and demand scenarios, and the opportunities and challenges they may present.

Overall, the Report notes that the gas industry continues to be in good health, although it faces some headwinds.

[> Read the story](#)

Latest Switching Statistics

Gas Industry Co has published the gas consumer switching statistics for February 2015. Customer switching between gas retailers increased during the month - the 3,978 completed switches were 727 more than in January 2015, and 671 higher than in February 2014.

[> View the switching statistics](#)

Downstream Gas Presentation

At the Downstream 2015 Conference in Auckland on 4 – 5 March, Simon Coates of Concept Consulting spoke about downstream gas issues. Simon has produced a number of reports for Gas Industry Co including future supply/demand scenarios, consumer energy options and new gas discovery commercialisation options.

[> View the presentation](#)

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this bulletin, please contact us at info@gasindustry.co.nz or 04-4721800

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