

Kia ora, and welcome to the Gas Industry Company's *News Bulletin* - a periodic advisory of new and current consultations, workstream developments, publications and presentations.

In this issue we cover:

- Impact of Covid-19 to the gas industry
- Gas (Information Disclosure and Penalties) Amendment Bill
- CCO Annual Exercise Report
- May 2020 gas switching numbers available
- REMINDER: Consultation on Statement of Proposal for amending Critical Contingency Management Regulations

Impact of COVID-19 to the gas industry

Gas Industry Company continues to provide support to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) by acting as the sector coordinating entity for the gas industry. This role has included assessing and collating information in relation to any emergent issues and risks to the New Zealand gas industry arising from the COVID-19 outbreak.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Gas Industry Company has been extensively liaising with our industry participants on a number of issues. We would like to thank the industry for its continued support, constructive engagement, and unwavering focus on security of supply.

Gas (Information Disclosure and Penalties) Amendment Bill

Submissions are being accepted on the Gas (Information Disclosure and Penalties) Amendment Bill on the New Zealand Parliament website [here](#). The closing date for submissions is **Thursday, 16 July 2020**.

The Bill strengthens the regulation-making powers in the Gas Act to provide for enhanced information disclosure requirements for the gas market, and to ensure that settings around enforcement and penalties are suitably robust. The Bill passed its first reading in Parliament on 27 May 2020.

CCO Annual Exercise Report

The Critical Contingency Operator's (CCO) report to the Gas Industry Company on Exercise Hohoro held on 6 May 2020 to test First Gas's Critical Contingency Plan has been published on the CCO website [here](#).

May 2020 gas switching numbers available

The Gas Registry statistics recording gas consumer switching numbers for May 2020 are available [here](#).

There were 3,332 switches in May 2020, 1,566 more than April 2020, and 618 fewer than May 2019.

For the last couple of years switching numbers and the time they take to complete has been relatively stable. In the last 12 months we saw, on average, 3,489 switches taking place per month, and they took an average of two days to complete. During that time, the highest number of switches occurred in July 2019 at 4,407, and the lowest occurred in April 2020 at 1,766.

REMINDER: Consultation on Statement of Proposal for amending Critical Contingency Management Regulations

In our 22 May 2020 News Bulletin, we released our consultation paper: 'Statement of Proposal for amending Critical Contingency Management Regulations', and invited stakeholder submissions on the paper.

This is a reminder that submissions are invited by **5.00pm, 24 July 2020**. Submissions can be made [here](#).

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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