

29 October 2021

Andrew Knight
Gas Industry Company
PO Box 10-646
WELLINGTON

Sent via email: consultations@gasindustry.co.nz

Dear Andrew

Advanced Gas Metering Infrastructure – Issues Assessment

Firstgas welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Gas Industry Company's (GIC) consultation paper "*Advanced Gas Metering Infrastructure – Issues Assessment*" released on 24 September 2021.

We support the work the GIC has done around advanced meters to date and welcome the introduction of advanced gas metering (AGM) into the gas market. We believe that this initiative will reduce the costs associated with manually reading meters, while improving customer experience through improved data quality and access. From our understanding, the roll out of AGM by Genesis Energy is going well, with these meters being deployed across our gas distribution network.

Firstgas is particularly interested in data access, so that parties, such as gas distributors, can utilise AGM data to assist with the efficient operation of the network. We strongly believe that this is in the best interests of gas consumers. We also have questions about the ability of AGM to remotely disconnect customers from a safety perspective, how such disconnections will be managed operationally, and how they may impact other gas market arrangements.

We believe that these issues are best fleshed out and resolved through the continued use of a sector working group, involving parties from across the gas market. We would welcome the chance to progress the discussion with this working group.

Contact details

To discuss this workstream further, please contact Peter Sandston, Distribution Commercial Manager, on 04 830 5311 or peter.sandston@firstgas.co.nz.

Yours sincerely



Karen Collins
Regulatory and Policy Manager