



Gas Industry Company  
Via email: [consultations@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:consultations@gasindustry.co.nz)

28 January 2020

### Consultation Paper – FY2021 Work Programme and Levy

Mercury welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to Gas Industry Co ('GIC') on the FY2021 Work Programme and Levy paper.

Mercury welcomes a levy reduction for the upcoming year and we appreciate the clear process for developing the work programme and levy. We have no information to suggest the gas volumes ought to be materially different from those forecast in the paper.

Mercury supports the GIC's work programme as described. Mercury particularly supports the ongoing work on information disclosure and reiterates the importance of that workstream not only for the gas sector but also the wider New Zealand energy sector.

While Mercury would urge the GIC to not divert too many resources into a hydrogen workstream, we agree there is a need to ensure preparedness in New Zealand from a regulatory perspective if it becomes a viable and widespread fuel. As the Government's 2019 Green Paper on hydrogen notes, electrification of transport and process heat will be the most cost-effective and readily implemented ways to reduce New Zealand's domestic carbon emissions. To the extent the hydrogen market develops in New Zealand this could also result in exportation so the GIC could consider whether that would have any Gas Act implications.

If you have any questions on this submission, please contact me at [john.bright@mercury.co.nz](mailto:john.bright@mercury.co.nz).

Yours sincerely,

John Bright  
**Regulatory Strategist**

