



Gas Industry Co.



News Bulletin 4 May 2026

## Kia ora

Welcome to the latest News Bulletin.

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## Briefing for new Minister for Energy – Hon Simeon Brown

We have provided a Briefing to the Incoming Minister (BIM) to the new Minister for Energy, Hon Simeon Brown.

Minister Brown was previously the Minister for Energy between January 2024 and January 2025.

The BIM provides an outline of the major issues affecting the New Zealand gas industry, the key findings of the 2026 Gas Supply and Demand study, and details of Gas Industry Co's work programme priorities.

You can read the Gas Industry Co [BIM](#) on our website.

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## OMV New Zealand announces closure of Māui gas field

OMV has notified the Government and energy sector regulators that production from the Māui gas field is likely to cease by the end of 2026.

While the closure of Māui has long been signalled, confirmation it will close at the end of 2026 accelerates the decline in domestic gas supply and brings forward risks already identified for New Zealand's gas and electricity systems.

The OMV announcement reinforces the findings of the [2026 Gas Supply and Demand Study](#), which identified winter 2027 and beyond as a critical risk period for the New Zealand energy system. The Māui closure also raises immediate questions for large gas users, including New Zealand's single largest gas consumer Methanex. The loss of Methanex would mark another step in the ongoing de-industrialisation of gas-intensive manufacturing, alongside earlier and anticipated business closures.

The Māui announcement underscores the need for coordinated, timely decisions to manage gas supply resilience and ensure energy security, while recognising the wider economic consequences of continued industrial withdrawal.

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## Future of Gas Infrastructure workstream

We are holding a stakeholder briefing on our Future of Gas Infrastructure workstream.

In our December 2025 consultation on Gas Industry Co's FY2027 Work Programme and Levy, we noted that as the gas industry contracts the future of infrastructure and increasing costs to consumers unable to transition are becoming key issues. We advised stakeholders that we intended to commence a workstream regarding the Future of Gas Infrastructure.

An online stakeholder briefing on the scope of our Future of Gas Infrastructure workstream will take place at 10.00 am on **Thursday 7 May 2026**.

To register for the briefing, please email [info@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:info@gasindustry.co.nz) with 'RSVP Future of Gas Infrastructure workstream' as the subject. We will then send you a link to the event.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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## Firstgas Critical Contingency Management Plan approved

We approved Firstgas' proposed amendments to its Critical Contingency Management Plan (CCMP) in April.

The changes were primarily designed to simplify, streamline, and improve the readability of the CCMP, and include:

- Introducing more of a "plain English" feel to core sections, including removing some redundant, repetitive, or unnecessarily "wordy" text.

- Allowing greater flexibility in communications and information flows between stakeholders, by removing things like “pro forma” notices and other hard-wired format requirements.
- Reducing two pressure thresholds (Cambridge and Waitangirua) within the existing ranges of Schedule 1 of the CCM Regulations.
- Updating the table of industry stakeholders.
- Minor incidental changes or corrections.

The [Firstgas Critical Contingency Management Plan](#) is available on the CCO website.

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## New graphs and data on Gas Industry Co website

Information on Gas Reserves, LPG, Gas use by sector, and Energy supply by fuel type, is now available on the Gas Industry Co website.

With the continual change in gas market conditions, the need for up-to date, accurate and readily accessible data is essential for industry participants. This new information is provided in addition to the existing gas production, consumption and pricing information already available as a helpful resource for industry and consumers.

You can view gas market information in the [Data](#) section of our website.

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## March 2026 Quarterly Report

Our Quarterly Report – March 2026 is now available on our website.

Our Quarterly Report provides the Minister for Energy with an update on the gas sector and progress made towards meeting the Government’s objectives and outcomes for the gas industry.

You can find the [Quarterly Report – March](#) on our website.

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## Gas Industry Co Consultation Calendar

Information on upcoming industry consultations is now available on our website.

The [Consultation Calendar](#) will be updated quarterly and can be found under the ‘Our work’ section of our website.

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## Electricity Authority launches Billy

Billy is a free, publicly-owned comparison and switching site.

Owned and operated by the Electricity Authority, the interactive site uses real data from 27,000 New Zealand households to model how people use power and create personalised comparisons.

You can find a link to Billy on the [Compare prices and contracts](#) page on our website.

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## Critical Contingency Operator (CCO) annual exercise

The CCO will run the Annual Industry Exercise (Exercise Aituā) on Wednesday, 13 May 2026.

This exercise is designed to test the Firstgas Critical Contingency Management Plan and Retailers' emergency contacts for consumers.

The Participants' Brief for the exercise with further details and instructions is available on the [CCO website](#).

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