

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.

NEW CONSULTATION

Transmission Access Options Paper 2 - Submissions close Monday 22 June 2015

Gas Industry Co has today issued *Transmission Access; Options for Improvement #2 (OP2)*, the latest development in its Gas Transmission Investment Programme (GTIP) work. OP2 builds on Gas Industry Co's initial Options Paper of December 2013 and acknowledges work being progressed in parallel by an industry group, the Gas Industry Transmission Access Working Group (GITAWG).

All this work follows directly from the 2013 recommendations of the Panel of Expert Advisors (PEA) on gas transmission access and pricing issues. The PEA recommended that a number of initial changes to the code-based transmission access arrangements on the Maui and Vector pipelines could be achieved relatively quickly, and in the longer term recommended a process of 'evolutionary convergence' of the codes to harmonise the services offered across both transmission systems. The PEA also suggested that the industry could lead the next phase of that code development. Gas Industry Co endorsed the PEA's recommendations, and the industry accepted its invitation to form a working group to pursue those.

The GITAWG has made good progress in a number of areas over the past year. However, a number of aspects make it timely for Gas Industry Co to review progress against the PEA's recommendations and look forward to how remaining issues should best be addressed. OP2 accordingly has two parts:

- The first part assesses progress on the PEA's three initial changes. Of these, two – information transparency and development of Maui Authorised Quantity arrangements - are being progressed. OP2 proposes a way forward for the third element - Vector interruptible services.
- The second part takes a longer term view and considers whether the current industry-led process of incremental code changes can best achieve converged transmission access arrangements. It proposes development of a vision for those converged arrangements and discusses options for how the associated process can best be run.

OP2 is now open for submissions by 5.00pm, Monday 22 June 2015.

[> Upload a submission](#)

OTHER ITEMS

24 April 2015 MPOC Amendment Process Change Request (reiteration of earlier advice)

On Tuesday 4 May 2015, Gas Industry Co advised stakeholders of a Maui Pipeline Operating Code (MPOC) Change Request. This came in a letter dated 24 April 2015 from Mighty River Power (MRP) and proposes changes to the process for making amendments to the MPOC. MRP says that its Amendment Process Change Request (APCR) ‘... is designed to promote an inclusive and collaborative change process as opposed to the current arrangement which can become adversarial.’ Broadly, the proposal aims to align the MPOC code change processes with the process recently introduced into the Vector Transmission code (VTC).

The APCR would require Gas Industry Co to make a recommendation in relation to a proposed change to its own role. Gas Industry Co has assessed this and related issues; taken legal advice; and concluded that an actual or perceived conflict of interest makes it inappropriate for Gas Industry Co to process this application. Gas Industry Co is discussing next steps with both MRP and MDL and will provide stakeholders with an update in due course.

New Zealand Gas Story

Further to our advisory in March 2015 of the release of the third edition *The New Zealand Gas Story – the State and Performance of the New Zealand Gas Industry*, the Distribution Chapter has now also been updated to incorporate the latest disclosures.

[> Read the story](#)

Quarterly Report

Gas Industry Co has released its March 2015 Quarterly Report, which also incorporates the Industry Performance Measures for the three month period.

[> Read the report](#)

Latest Switching Statistics

Gas Industry Co has published the gas consumer switching statistics for April 2015. The 4,077 completed switches during the month were 185 fewer than in March 2015, and 725 fewer than in April 2014.

[> View the switching statistics](#)

Gas Industry Transmission Access Working Group (‘GITAWG’) - Quarterly Report

GITAWG’s fifth Quarterly Report identifies significant progress for the quarter ended March 2015 and is available on Gas Industry Co’s website.

[> Read more](#)

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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