Firstgas Group

3 February 2022

Firstgas Group 42 Connett Road

Bell Block New Plymouth 4312

Tim Kerr Gas Industry Company PO Box 10-646 WELLINGTON 6140

Uploaded via website

Dear Tim

Advanced Gas Metering Infrastructure – Submissions review and recommendations

Firstgas Group welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Gas Industry Company's (GIC) consultation document *"Advanced Gas Metering Infrastructure – Submissions review and recommendations"* released in December 2021. We are keen to have a market-driven rollout of advanced gas metering across our networks as they offer a variety of possible benefits.

We support GIC's proposal to use an Advanced Gas Metering Infrastructure (AGMI) Group to work through the issues identified in the consultation document.

Additionally, we propose the AGMI Group be:

- given terms of reference requiring the Group to consider any opportunities for cost-effective future-proofing of metering infrastructure to accommodate future blending of hydrogen (or other low- or zero-carbon gasses) into natural gas pipelines
- given terms of reference requiring the Group to recommend to the GIC whether the industry ought to have a standardised data format for half-hour gas consumption
- advised that pipeline owners need to be able to combine smart meter data with other datasets to be able to realise network management benefits. As such, data access that relies on the Electricity Authority's data template (which precludes combining datasets) will not achieve the desired benefits.

Contact details

Firstgas Group would welcome the opportunity to meet with GIC staff to discuss our submission. To arrange this meeting or if you have any questions, please contact me on 027 472 7798 or via email at <u>karen.collins@firstgasgroup.co.nz</u>.

Yours sincerely

Karen Collins Regulatory and Policy Manager