

## Tēnā koutou

**This Gas Industry Company Bulletin is bringing you the latest from our consultation on extending the Electricity Price Review's Final Recommendations to the Gas Market.**

### PLUS:

- An update on our Gas Market Settings Investigation.
- Latest switching numbers.
- Critical Contingency Operator Annual test exercise.
- Firstgas Stakeholder Workshop & D+1 Workshop.

## *Nga mihi*

## Extending the Electricity Price Review's Final Recommendations to the Gas Market – Submissions Analysis and Recommendations

In April 2018, the Government appointed an advisory panel to investigate whether the current electricity market delivers “efficient, fair and equitable prices” to customers. The Electricity Price Review panel issued its final report in May 2019.

The electricity markets have similarities and links to the natural gas and LPG markets, so Gas Industry Company thought it prudent to consider extending the Electricity Price review recommendations to the gas market as part of its policy objective of ensuring that gas is delivered to existing and new customers in a safe, efficient, fair, reliable and environmentally sustainable manner.

We established a workstream to investigate applying each of the Electricity Price Review recommendations. A consultation [paper](#) was published on 6 November 2020. 15 [submissions](#) were received. Gas Industry Company has now reviewed these submissions and developed a set of recommended next steps. These recommendations are set out in this [paper](#).

## Gas Market Settings Investigation

As announced in our last Bulletin, the Minister of Energy and Resources has asked Gas Industry Company to investigate whether current market, commercial and regulatory settings that provide for gas availability and flexibility are fit for purpose in supporting New Zealand's transition to a future with 100% renewable electricity from 2030 and a net zero carbon economy by 2050.

Gas Industry Company's investigation of the issues is underway. In March, we will meet with stakeholders to gather perspectives about current settings and where any issues exist or may develop.

Alongside our conversations, analysis is being undertaken of the gas supply and demand outlook under a variety of system scenarios.

In April, we plan to release a consultation document and seek input from stakeholders and interested parties. Depending on the outcomes of that consultation, further discussions and investigation may be required —we'll keep you posted.

When we report back to the Minister, we intend to set out current arrangements and issues, identify any potential issues and propose a work programme to address any issues identified.

Our timetable for completion is mid-2021.

If you haven't been in touch with us yet and would like to register your interest, please email Carolyn van Leuven at: [Carolyn.vanLeuven@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:Carolyn.vanLeuven@gasindustry.co.nz)

## Critical Contingency Operator Annual test exercise

The annual test exercise under the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008 is scheduled for **Wednesday the 5th of May 2021**.

In advance of the test exercise the Critical Contingency Operator will hold training sessions for industry participants to refresh their understanding of what happens during a critical contingency and how they are required to respond. The following sessions are planned:

Location	Venue	Date	Time
<b>Auckland</b>	Genesis Energy 155 Fanshawe Street Wynyard Quarter Auckland	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	2:00pm – 4:00pm
<b>Wellington</b>	Gas Industry Company Level 8, The Todd Building 95 Customhouse Quay	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	10:00am – 12:00 noon
<b>On-Line</b>	Microsoft Teams	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	10:00am – 12:00 noon
<b>New Plymouth</b>	Firstgas Ltd 42 Connett Road West Bell Block	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2021	10:00am – 12:00 noon

If you have not done so already, please register your interest by emailing [cco@cco.org.nz](mailto:cco@cco.org.nz)

## Increasing rate of customer switching

**3,921** customers completed switches during February 2021.

Customer switches were up by **503** from January, and up **314** from February last year.

### Switching Trends

On average, 3,887 customers switched each month over the past year.

Switches took an average of two days to complete.

The highest number of customers switched in July 2020:

4,962. The fewest switched in April 2020: 1,760.

### Find out more

Switching numbers are available in the Gas Registry [here](#).

## Firstgas Stakeholder Workshop & D+1 Workshop

Gas Industry Company will host a Firstgas stakeholder workshop followed by a D+1 workshop on Wednesday 31 March, 9.30am to 4pm at our offices in Wellington.

Last year, Firstgas signaled that it would hold a workshop with stakeholders after its March board meeting to consider the future of the GTAC program. The purpose of this workshop is to relay the Firstgas decision and to outline and get feedback on next steps.

This will be followed by a D+1 (daily allocation) workshop, where Gas Industry Company will outline the plan for D+1.

Please RSVP to Firstgas via [gasrec@firstgas.co.nz](mailto:gasrec@firstgas.co.nz) or to GIC via [info@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:info@gasindustry.co.nz)

Contact Gas Industry Company Communications at [info@gasindustry.co.nz](mailto:info@gasindustry.co.nz) or 04 494 2465

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