

16 January 2025

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority By email: levyconsultation@eeca.govt.nz

EECA's 2025/26 Levy Consultation

Meridian appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the EECA's 2025/26 levy consultation.

We note that EECA's proposed Electricity Industry levy for 2025/26 of \$6.677 million is a 31% increase over the 2024/25 levy of \$5.10 million (as proposed in the 2024/25 consultation here). In Meridian's view, this is a considerable increase and as such we have looked carefully at the consultation document to see how it has been justified.

The electricity sector is currently facing significant cost pressures, not least an increase in distribution charges for households of up to \$25 a month from 1 April 2025.¹ In this context, it is critical that all cost increases are closely scrutinised.

We do not consider EECA has provided sufficient justification for its proposed increase to the Electricity Industry levy. We strongly recommend that the 2025/26 levy be kept flat with the previous year and that EECA scale back and/or prioritise its planned programme of work to meet this cap.

Please contact me if you have any queries regarding this submission. This submission can be published in full.

Nāku noa, nā

Matt Hall

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¹ https://comcom.govt.nz/regulated-industries/electricity-lines/electricity-lines-and-transmission-charges-what-are-they,-why-are-they-changing-and-what-does-this-mean-for-your-electricity-bill