



TE TARI TIAKI PŪNGAO  
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

**EECA's Fortnightly Report to the  
Minister for Energy**

**14 June 2024**

**EECA Contact:** Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

**Phone:** 04 470 2441 **Mobile:** 9(2)(a)

### Supercharging EV Infrastructure update

9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted content]

### Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle implementation update

9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted content]

9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted content]

### Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG) Ministers will meet next week to discuss Tranche 20 advice, which includes Hiringa's refuelling network project

Early next week IRG Ministers will meet to discuss Tranche 20 advice which will cover the need to vary the Crown's contract with Hiringa (as advised in previous Fortnightly Reports).

In the advice to IRG Ministers, officials' preferred option involves retaining the contract between EECA and Hiringa until their final refuelling site in Tauranga is completed to the satisfaction of the initial agreement, with a 12-month extension on the required date of completion. This extension will allow Hiringa to deliver at the new Tauranga site (recognising the issues faced sit outside of their control), while allowing EECA to retain project oversight and the ability to clawback conditional grant funding should there be any issues with delivery.

Following Ministers decisions, we will keep you updated on the any resulting impacts on the delivery of Hiringa's hydrogen refuelling network.

### Memorandums of Understanding signed

#### *Sustainable Electricity Association New Zealand (SEANZ)*

EECA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SEANZ. SEANZ is a membership-based organisation focused on promotion, support, and innovation of both distributed energy resources/technologies or onsite generation and storage assets (predominantly solar PV and batteries), and utility-scale solar farms and grid-scale energy storage.

The MoU lays out our intention to collaborate in a space that is growing in importance. Collaboration will include the regular sharing of data, regular engagement, and together supporting projects to enhance the uptake and quality of solar distributed generation.

#### *Ara Ake and Rewiring Aotearoa*

EECA is about to sign an MoU with Ara Ake and Rewiring Aotearoa to collaborate on a project to survey and collect data about the number and nature of technologies in New Zealand that could be electrified. The intention is to ensure the data collection supports the needs and objectives of all three organisations as much as possible and maximise the use the data. The project is being funded by Ara Ake and Rewiring Aotearoa is doing the work to collect the data.

**Estimates 2024/25 planning**

We are supporting MBIE with preparation for the Estimates Hearing before the Economic Development, Science and Innovation Select Committee, scheduled for 20 June.

EECA’s Chief Executive and Board Chair will be in attendance, and available to support you with any operational detail regarding EECA’s programme activity.

**EECA communications and events calendar**

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in bold.

<b>Significant Events</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Activity/Event</b>
June 2024	PR/ promotion	We are looking at celebrating the success of the Ministry of Education’s School Coal Boiler Replacement Programme with more than 100 coal boilers being removed from NZ State schools.
July 2024	PR/event	We will work with your office on promotion opportunities for the successful projects in round 13 of the LETF.
<b>9(2)(f)(iv)</b>	<b>[REDACTED]</b>	<b>[REDACTED]</b>
<b>[REDACTED]</b>	<b>[REDACTED]</b>	<b>[REDACTED]</b>

Upcoming items to the Minister				
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required
Will Jensen, Manager Policy & Engagement	Awaiting response from IRG Ministers	Briefing to Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG) Ministers: Tranche 20 Approval briefing (EECA input seeking to amend the Hiringa Minimum Viable Hydrogen Refueling Network project)	N/A	ASAP
	Sent	EECA revised draft Statement of Intent (SOI) 2024-2028 and revised draft Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) 2024/25	As requested in your letter dated 21 May 2024. Note MBIE will provide a separate briefing with advice on this.	N/A
	Upcoming	Briefing: Final details on the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF)	N/A	TBA
	Upcoming	Briefing: EECA's 2024 public EV charging funding activity	Accompanying MoT briefing on the preferred future funding approach.	TBA

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests				
Requestor	Type	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	Departmental	<p>Regarding Meridian's Springs Junction EV Charger:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.A copy of the original proposal from Meridian for this install, and any conditions imposed by EECA on this installation</li> <li>2.The amount of funding provided by EECA for this installation.</li> <li>3.How much of this funding for this installation has been provided to Meridian to date.</li> <li>4.Each occasion that the installation date has been reviewed/changed- and what the new date has been.</li> <li>5. Does EECA apply any penalties for non-delivery</li> <li>6. Reasons for delays.</li> </ol>	23 May 2024	21 June 2024
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	Departmental	<p>We are seeing specific information relating to Government funding of Pacific Steel EAF. Please ensure the information we receive covers the following questions: - Please provide all evidence, the entire file, handwritten notes, audio recordings, site visits etc.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the process by Government to involve Pac Steel? Who initiated it?</li> <li>2. Who decided on partnering with Pac Steel? When was this decided upon and how was the decision made?</li> </ol>	24 May 2024	24 June 2024

		<p>3. Was there a tender process? If so, who put it out to tender?</p> <p>4. When was this put out for tender? Please provide full timeline.</p> <p>5. What advertising process was followed for the tender process?</p> <p>6. Who were all the parties involved in the tender process?</p> <p>7. Did tender go before a committee? If so, when did this happen? Who was involved?</p> <p>8. What was the select criteria? Please provide full details.</p> <p>9. Please provide all tender documents submitted by third parties.</p> <p>10. What was the selection criteria, process, and procedure?</p> <p>11. Copies of the contract that was signed between Government and Pac Steel.</p> <p>12. For how many years is the contract and specifically what does this contract cover?</p>		
<p>9(2)(a) [Redacted]</p>	<p>Departmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme policy/guidelines.</li> <li>• A definition of ‘home’ under the programme.</li> <li>• An explanation (with references) as to why their application for a wood burner was declined.</li> </ul>	<p>08 June 2024</p>	<p>08 July 2024</p>

<p>9(2)(a)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>Departmental</p>	<p>Regarding Dr Marcos Pelenur' s Smart EV Charging interview with RNZ on Monday 10 June:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can EECA please share the modelling RNZ quotes EECA as saying has been done that widespread smart charger use could save the country \$4billion by taking stress out of the national grid.</li> <li>2. What legislation is required to enable lines companies to use smart meters to control HW heating? If there isn't any then what is the situation regarding requiring the functionality to be implemented so they can use it now?</li> <li>3. What research has EECA done to ascertain the percentage EV driver that use timers to take advantage of off-peak electricity tariffs when charging on a standard 3 pin plug?</li> <li>4. What research has EECA done into the cost of purchasing and installing a Smart EV Charger in a standalone dwelling and in an apartment building and, if such research has been done what were the outcomes?</li> <li>5. What restrictions, if any, is the UK introducing on charging an EV from a standard 10Amp plug?</li> <li>6. This question is related to my first question and Mr Pelenur' s statement that EV's could add 20% to New Zealand's electricity demand. My question is, can EECA please provide the calculations supporting the statement</li> </ol>	<p>10 June 2024</p>	<p>09 July 2024</p>
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		<p>that EV could add 20% to New Zealand’s electricity demand.</p> <p>7. Mr Pelenur referred to a strategy of using Smart EV Chargers to enable EV charging times to react to market pricing signals. Therefore, my questions are, given New Zealand’s current electricity retailer environment, can EECA please provide information on how a system enabling EV Charging to reflect real-time market prices for electricity,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. can EECA please provide information on how a system enabling EV Charging to reflect real-time market prices for electricity,</li> <li>b. what legislative and technical changes would be required to implement such a system and</li> <li>c. has any country implemented such a system to date?</li> </ul>		
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

EECA's Fortnightly Report to the  
Minister for Energy

27 June 2024

**EECA Contact:** Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

**Phone:** 04 470 2441 **Mobile:** 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

### GIDI cancellations and projects at risk

Four GIDI projects have been withdrawn since December 2023, totalling \$1.7 million in EECA co-funding and an estimated 3,457 tonnes of annual emission reductions. These projects have withdrawn due predominantly to industry downturn and financial/resourcing constraints. For example, the timber industry is experiencing a significant downturn with some recipients advising a drop in revenue of 50-75%. A number of projects have also been identified by EECA as at risk for similar reasons. We are monitoring the at-risk projects closely and in the case where there are technical challenges we are assisting the recipient to identify solutions within the scope of the original project.

Any funding clawed back or no longer allocated due to cancellations will be returned to the centre as per your letter to EECA, dated 20 December 2023, on the discontinuation of GIDI. See **Appendix One** for a list of recently cancelled projects and those at risk.

### IRG Ministers have approved a contract variation with Hiringa

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Infrastructure Reference Group (IRG) Ministers met to discuss Tranche 20 advice. During this meeting, Ministers agreed to a 12-month extension to EECA's contract with Hiringa to deliver the Minimum Viable Hydrogen Refuelling Network project. This will require Hiringa to deliver the final Tauranga site by 30 June 2025, after which they will be eligible for the \$5 million conversion of the \$16 million loan to a grant.

We have notified Hiringa of this decision. They have confirmed that they are well-positioned to deliver at the new site by June 2025, and we are now working through the contract modification process to give effect to these changes.

9(2)(f)(iv)

[Redacted content]

### Update on Urban In-fill EV charging funding round

We are currently in the middle of assessing applications for our recent ‘Urban infill’ EV charging funding round.

The funding round was open for applications from 30 April to 31 May. It sought applications for chargers in locations where drivers would be for about 30 minutes to 2 hours, such as shopping locations, leisure facilities and community amenities.

The funding round offered grant funding towards the electricity network connection costs of charger projects – up to a cap of 35% of the total project cost. EECA has indicatively allocated \$15 million of funding towards this funding round.

9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted text block containing multiple lines of blacked-out content]

### EECA communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in bold.

Significant Events		
Date	Type	Activity/Event
July 2024	PR/ promotion	We are looking at celebrating the success of the Ministry of Education’s School Coal Boiler Replacement Programme with more than 100 coal boilers being removed from NZ State schools.
July 2024	PR/ promotion	We will publish the South Island RETA report with an accompanying PR. This the report brings together and diffuses all the regional energy transition accelerator programme work undertaken in the South Island regions over the past two years.

July 2024	PR/event	We will work with your office on promotion opportunities for the successful projects in round 13 of the Low Emissions Transport Fund, which was focused on vehicles, technology & off-road.
9(2)(f)(iv)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Upcoming items to the Minister				
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required
Will Jensen, Manager Policy & Engagement	Sent	Briefing: Final details on the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF)	N/A	5 July 2024
	Upcoming	Briefing: EECA's 2024 public EV charging funding activity	Accompanying MoT briefing on the preferred future funding approach.	TBA
	Upcoming	EECA's final Statement of Intent 2024-2028 and Statement of Performance Expectations 2024/25		TBC

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests				
Requestor	Type	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Departmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme policy/guidelines.</li> <li>• A definition of 'home' under the programme.</li> <li>• An explanation (with references) as to why their application for a wood burner was declined.</li> </ul>	08 June 2024	08 July 2024
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Departmental	<p>Regarding Dr Marcos Pelenur' s Smart EV Charging interview with RNZ on Monday 10 June:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can EECA please share the modelling RNZ quotes EECA as saying has been done that widespread smart charger use could save the country \$4billion by taking stress out of the national grid.</li> <li>2. What legislation is required to enable lines companies to use smart meters to control HW heating? If there isn't any then what is the situation regarding requiring the functionality to be implemented so they can use it now?</li> <li>3. What research has EECA done to ascertain the percentage EV driver that use timers to take advantage of off-peak electricity tariffs when charging on a standard 3 pin plug?</li> </ol>	13 June 2024	12 July 2024

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. What research has EECA done into the cost of purchasing and installing a Smart EV Charger in a standalone dwelling and in an apartment building and, if such research has been done what were the outcomes?</li> <li>5. What restrictions, if any, is the UK introducing on charging an EV from a standard 10Amp plug?</li> <li>6. This question is related to my first question and Mr Pelenur's statement that EV's could add 20% to New Zealand's electricity demand. My question is, can EECA please provide the calculations supporting the statement that EV could add 20% to New Zealand's electricity demand.</li> <li>7. Mr Pelenur referred to a strategy of using Smart EV Chargers to enable EV charging times to react to market pricing signals. Therefore, my questions are, given New Zealand's current electricity retailer environment, can EECA please provide information on how a system enabling EV Charging to reflect real-time market prices for electricity,             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. can EECA please provide information on how a system enabling EV Charging to reflect real-time market prices for electricity,</li> <li>b. what legislative and technical changes would be required to implement such a system and</li> </ol> </li> </ol>		
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		c. has any country implemented such a system to date?		
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## Appendix One: GIDI projects

Withdrawn GIDI Projects since December 2023					
Applicant	Technology	EECA Funding	Annual Abatement (tonnes CO2)	Withdrawal Date	Reason for withdrawal
South Pine (Nelson) Limited	Biomass Boiler	\$220,000.00	729	20/03/2024	Due to budget overrun and business downturn
Ovation New Zealand Limited	Biogas	\$263,139.00	469	18/03/2024	Due to financial constraints arising beyond the control of the company
Bremworth Carpet and Rugs Limited	Heat Pump	\$798,000.00	1,566	17/05/2024	Lack of in-house business resources after their Napier factory was damaged in Cyclone Gabrielle.
Oji Fibre Solutions NZ Ltd	Biomass Boiler	\$475,000.00	693	27/02/2024	No commitment by Oji Fibre Board to fund the project likely due to industry downturn and lack of financial resources.

At Risk GIDI Projects

9(2)(b)(ii)