



TE TARI TIAKI PŪNGAO
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

1 November 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

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

1. Snapshot of the fortnight

Full updates are provided in section three of this report. Here are some standout insights below:

1. The EV Charging Request for Information is now closed. We received eight submissions, and we are expecting to receive one late submission. The original deadline has been extended by an additional three working days, to allow key market players enough time to craft their submissions.
2. We are planning to launch a new Low Emissions Transport Fund round that will target New Zealand's 13 major ports. We will open this round in November and will close the round in February next year. Previously, EECA has had two rounds (8 & 11) specifically targeting Marine projects.

2. Update on priority outputs

Priority area	Fortnightly achievements	Target
Supercharging EV Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RFI deadline is now Thursday 31 October 2024 (an additional three business days). Eight submissions were received by the deadline, with one more intending to submit on Friday 1 November. 	Support the Government to deliver 10,000 EV Charging points by 2030.
Warmer Kiwi Homes (WKH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with the 9(2)(b)(ii) ██████████ to develop a customised WKH Deprivation index. Leverage existing connections for medium to large businesses to engage their workers in the programme. 9(2)(b)(ii) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ industry. 	26,500 installs. Better target high need households.
Efficient products	Consultation published on Distribution Transformers, which are critical infrastructure components in the electricity grid.	Develop energy efficient products and labelling regulatory regime.
9(2)(f)(iv) ██████████ ██████████ ██████████	██████████ ██████████	██████████
Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, EECA has approved grant applications for 10 vehicles under the Fund. So far, we have 17 Heavy Vehicle suppliers signed up to the fund, offering 32 vehicle models. 	At least 50 Low Emissions Heavy Vehicles ordered in 2024/25. (SPE 18.)

3. General updates

3.1 Public EV Charging RFI

Following requests from key market players, the deadline for the Request for Information (RFI) seeking feedback on the co-investment approach was extended by three business days. The new deadline was Thursday 31 October 2024, 4pm.

As at the end of 31 October, eight submissions had been received (from 9(2)(b)(ii) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] has advised they intend to make a late submission on Friday 1 November.

EECA and MoT will provide you with an update on themes from submissions and next steps through MoT's weekly report to you next week.

3.2 EECA is planning to open a new LETF round opening in November: Round 15 – Port Round

This round seeks applications from New Zealand's 13 major ports (and third parties who operate on those sites) to demonstrate land-side low-emission technologies, infrastructure, innovations, and business models in the port sector. Ports play a central role in New Zealand's supply chains. In 2020, 99% of New Zealand's exports and imports (by volume) passed through New Zealand ports. We have seen several ports apply for LETF funding over the last few rounds, along with general interest shown by this sector. There are opportunities for ports to significantly reduce their carbon footprints, including reducing emissions from port equipment, and landside transport operations.

Up to \$4 million will be available in Round 15. The round will close in February 2025.

EECA has previously run two LETF funding rounds dedicated to the uptake of low-emissions marine technologies. This funding helps to derisk the uptake of these technologies in the wider sector. Approved marine projects under the LETF include an electric work boat, electric marine conversion kits, and a data intelligence platform.

9(2)(iv) [REDACTED]

9(2)(f)(iv)

3.4 Workshop held between EECA & industry on future scenarios and the use of the TIMES-NZ model

The TIMES-NZ model is a whole energy sector model which is used to explore future scenarios for energy demand and supply. This is a joint project with the BusinessNZ Energy Council (BEC). As part of the next phase of work on this model, BEC and EECA convened a workshop with approximately 50 participants from across business, government, and research to better understand model users' needs. The updated model and scenarios (v3.0) will be released in the second half of 2025. The model will be used to inform government and industry planning and reporting, including electricity network build and climate-related disclosures.

3.5 Warmer Kiwi Homes engaging with businesses to discuss outreach opportunities

As mentioned in our briefing to you on Warmer Kiwi Homes Programme Targeting (EECA 2024 BRF 009 refers), we are working to leverage our existing connections with businesses to promote the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme and encourage uptake by eligible homeowners. There is an opportunity for businesses to integrate the WKH offering into their existing wellness programmes, at no additional cost.

Our sector engagement team has begun outreach with relevant businesses at conferences, including 9(2)(b)(ii)

his has been well-received as an option to support their wider community and staff.

3.6 Your attendance at EECA Day

You will be speaking at our annual EECA Day on Wednesday 06 November, at Rydges Hotel (75 Featherston Street, Wellington). Your speech will touch on your vision for the energy sector, your views and vision for EECA and our work, as well as your background. MBIE will provide you with a written speech prior to the day.

The purpose of EECA Day is for our 115 staff to come together to reflect on our performance, and plan EECA's priorities for the year ahead. This also gives staff the opportunity to connect with

their colleagues in person, as we have three offices (Wellington, Auckland, and Christchurch). Along with our staff, a number of Board members will be in attendance, including Andrew Knight. Andrew has been a member of our board since the 2022/23 financial year, and is currently the Chief Executive of Gas Industry Co.

Please refer to **Appendix One** for the full agenda. MBIE is briefing you separately on the event. You and any accompanying staff members are welcome to join us for lunch, should your diary permit.

4. Ministerial servicing updates

4.1 Current and upcoming advice to the Minister

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
2025/26 Levy Request	EECA energy levies funding in 2025/26 (EECA 2024 BRF 014)	Advises on options for future cost-recovery.	In progress
[REDACTED]	9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	In progress

4.2 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date Received	Date due
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Advice to Ministers on the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund.	10 October 2024	8 November 2024
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Any CIPA or analysis on the emissions impact of the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund.	18 October 2024	18 November 2024

9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Documents that assessed the impacts of three of EECA's change processes (2018 - 2020).	21 October 2024	19 November 2024

4.3 Proactive releases

None.

4.4 Consultations underway

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Supercharging EV Infrastructure Taskforce	<i>Request for Information:</i> Approaches to Government co-investment in public electric vehicle charging infrastructure	To gather information to inform a recommended co-investment approach to be considered by Cabinet.	Submissions closed 31 October

4.5 E3 and regulatory consultations

Programme/ strategic area	Topic	Timing
E3	Options to increase minimum energy performance standards and expand the scope of distribution transformers.	Closes 6 December 2024.

4.6 Communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in **bold**. Note we are also working on possible communications opportunities for the summer period, as requested by your office.

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
October 2024	PR/event	<p>9(2)(f)(iv)</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted]</p>
October 2024	Programme launch	<p>As part of our Sector Decarbonisation programme, we will launch the <i>Packhouse and Cool Stores Sector Pathway</i>. This pathway focuses on increasing energy efficiency and encouraging demand reduction within the sector.</p>	<p>The pathway was developed with participation from the sector; there is an opportunity to engage with businesses undertaking demand reduction and fuel switching activities.</p>

Appendix One: EECA Day full agenda

Time	Item	Presenter
9.25am – 9.40 am	Welcome	Dr Marcos Pelenur
9.40am - 10.00am	Icebreaker	Staff Reference Group
10.00am - 10.30am	About the Board: hear from Andrew Knight and Dr Daniel Tulloch (note, Dr Daniel Tulloch will not be present for your speech).	Britt Mann, Senior Communications Advisor
10.30am – 10.50am	<i>Morning tea</i>	-
10.50am - 11.40am	The Leadership team’s priorities, vision, and plan	The Leadership Team
~11.35pm – 11.40pm	Dr Marcos Pelenur will greet you in the foyer of Rydges Hotel (75 Featherston Street, Wellington)	-
11.40am – 12.00pm	You will speak.	Hon Simeon Brown
12.00pm- 12.45pm	<i>Lunch</i>	-
12.45pm – 1.15 pm	Chief Executive Awards: acknowledging great work	Dr Marcos Pelenur and Jacqui Agar, Manager of People & Capability



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15 November 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

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

1. Update on priority outputs

Priority area	Fortnightly achievements	Target
Supercharging EV Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taskforce agencies have commenced analysis of the submissions received. Officials have also met with some submitters to clarify and obtain more detail on their submissions and alternative investment approaches. New Zealand now has 1,249 public charge points, toward the target of 10,000. 	Support the Government to deliver 10,000 EV Charging points by 2030.
Efficient products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are consulting on policy options to revise the Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for Distribution Transformers and the scope and types covered by the regulations. Forums with key stakeholders on both technical and policy aspects are being conducted in November. The consultation closes 31 January 2025. 	Develop energy efficient products and labelling regulatory regime.
<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>[REDACTED]</p>
Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, EECA has approved grant applications for 11 vehicles for seven customers under the Fund (with six customer applications in progress). So far, we have 18 Heavy Vehicle suppliers signed up to the fund, offering 33 vehicle models. 	At least 50 Low Emissions Heavy Vehicles ordered in 2024/25. (SPE 18.)

2. General updates

3.1 EV Charging RFI

Taskforce agencies are continuing to analyse submissions to the recent request for information (RFI). 9(2)(g)(i)

Officials are having follow-up discussions with some submitters to clarify and obtain more detail about their suggested alternative approaches.

The Taskforce will provide you with a briefing on the outcomes of the RFI and our recommended approach on 27 November.

3.2 Government Investment in Decarbonising Industry (GIDI) fund projects at risk

85 GIDI projects remain active, at various stages of design, installation or operation. EECA is continuing to monitor 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. However, several projects face issues related to financial/resourcing constraints and industry downturn.

See **Appendix One** for a list of projects assessed as at risk. 9(2)(b)(ii)

We will keep your office updated on returned funding. All returned funds will be returned to centre.

3.3 Switch on Efficiency public engagement update

The 'Switch on Efficiency' public engagement is due to go live at the end of November. Taking a highly targeted approach in reaching New Zealand homeowners (with financial capability to invest in their home). The campaign will provide information about energy efficiency investments they can make when times comes to replace aging appliances. This is supported by a digital tool where consumers can compare appliance options and see annual running cost comparisons to support informed decision making

This targeted public engagement will align with industry facing information and training for key intermediaries such as Master Electricians, supporting their members to be ready for evolving technology.

Like all EECA public engagement activity of this scale it will be evaluated to understand its impact and the financial return on investment it delivers. The modelling indicates this initiative should conservatively return \$3 for each \$1 invested.

We will share the final material with your press team ahead of launch.

3.4 Distribution Transformer consultation

In partnership with the Australian regulator, EECA is continuing to consult on policy options to revise Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for Distribution Transformers (DT) and the scope and types covered by the regulations. Distribution Transformers are critical infrastructure components in the electricity grid, which typically lose less than 2% of the energy that passes through them but are energised 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so small efficiency gains can lead to large energy savings. DTs have a long service life (~45 years), therefore the MEPS requirements of today have an ongoing impact for decades to come.

Public forums are being held online in November 2024. The main forum (joint Australian and New Zealand session) was on 12 November. The bulk of engagement was from a small group, primarily the DT manufacturing sector, interested in understanding the MEPS levels proposed and manufacturing implications (cost, timeframes, etc.).

Following on from the joint technical forum, New Zealand is also hosting a national forum on 14 November, focusing on the NZ policy context. The policy forums are primarily for government agencies, Electricity Distribution Service Network Providers in Australia and Electricity Distribution Businesses in New Zealand, to have an opportunity to ask questions about the policy implications of the proposed MEPS. The New Zealand session will focus on the wider policy considerations for the local DT sector including infrastructure investment, electricity pricing, and implementation. It is being co-led by EECA and MBIE.

The consultation was released on 14 October 2024 with submissions closing on 31 January 2025.

3. Ministerial servicing updates

4.1 Current and upcoming advice to the Minister

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	In progress
Annual Report	Final EECA Annual Report 2023/24	To provide copies of EECA's final Annual Report 2023/24 for presenting in the House.	In progress (scheduled for 21 November)
Levy funding	Draft EECA 2025/26 levy consultation document	To provide a draft copy of EECA's 2025/26 levy consultation document under the 'no surprises' principle.	In progress (scheduled for 13 December)

4.2 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date Received	Date due
9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	Any CIPA or analysis on the emissions impact of the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund.	18 October 2024	18 November 2024
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	A copy of the Draft New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (released for consultation in December 2006).	7 November 2024	5 December 2024

4.3 Proactive releases

None.

4.4 Consultations underway

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
EV Charging	<i>Advance Notice of a contract opportunity:</i> Heavy vehicle charging infrastructure (as part of a Low emissions Transport Fund round).	To gauge interest from suppliers and transport operators to demonstrate/pilot commercial and heavy EV charging solutions with an emphasis on grid connection management. This activity is intended as a precursor to an RFP which will open in early 2025, providing the market more time to identify possible collaborations.	Process to close on 13 December 2024. An RFP will go live in February 2025.

4.5 E3 and regulatory consultations

Programme/ strategic area	Topic	Timing
E3	Options to increase minimum energy performance standards and expand the scope of distribution transformers.	Closes 31 January 2025

4.6 Communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in **bold**. Note we are also working on possible communications opportunities for the summer period, as requested by your office.

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
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November 2024	PR/event	9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]
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4. Quarterly update on EV Charging numbers (as at 21 October 2024)

Number of public charge points* in New Zealand	
New last year:	292
New last quarter:	40
Total:	1,249 public charge points

EECA supported public charge points	
Live:	613
In progress:	222
Total:	835 charge points

Notes:

- Charge points refer to how many vehicles can be charged simultaneously. A charger may have multiple charge points.
- These figures are expected to slightly underestimate the total number of charge points, as it is voluntary for charge point operators to register their chargers in EVRoam (the government-run charger database).
- This data is drawn from EECA's public EV charger dashboard, available here:
- <https://www.eeca.govt.nz/insights/data-tools/public-ev-charger-dashboard/>

Please see the next page for the regional update.

We will provide you with the next update in January 2025.

North Island Regions

Northland	58
Auckland	284
Waikato	152
Bay of Plenty	57
Gisborne	9
Hawke's Bay	15
Taranaki	18
Manawatu-Whanganui	60
Wellington	181
Subtotal	834



South Island Regions

Nelson-Tasman	22
Marlborough	18
West Coast	10
Canterbury	286
Otago	48
Southland	31
Subtotal	415

Appendix 1: Government Investment in Decarbonising Industry (GIDI) fund projects at risk

Applicant	Technology	EECA Funding	Annual-Abatement (tonnes CO2)	Reason for risk
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9(2)(b)(ii)

9(2)(b)(ii)



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EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

29 November 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

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

1. Update on priority outputs

Priority area	Fortnightly achievements	Target
Supercharging EV Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taskforce agencies held follow-up discussions with some submitters on the RFI to clarify and obtain more detail about their suggested alternative approaches. The Taskforce provided you with a briefing on the outcomes of the RFI and our recommended approach on 27 November. 	Support the Government to deliver 10,000 EV Charging points by 2030.
Efficient products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation continues on policy options to revise the Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for Distribution Transformers and the scope and types covered by the regulations. The consultation closes 31 January 2025. 	Develop energy efficient products and labelling regulatory regime.
<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 100%; min-height: 80px;"></div>	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 100%; min-height: 80px;"></div>	<div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 100%; min-height: 80px;"></div>
Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To date, EECA has approved grant applications for 16 vehicles. The fund has 20 suppliers, of which 3 are vehicle converters. There are a total of 41 heavy vehicle models approved for use in the fund. 	At least 50 Low Emissions Heavy Vehicles ordered in 2024/25. (SPE 18.)

2. General updates

9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

2.3 Low Emissions Transport Fund (LETf) update

The work undertaken by the LETf to enable the demonstration of transport innovations helps to support the principles outlined by the Government for complementary policies to the Emission Trading Scheme, such as policies that reduce barriers to uptake of technologies. As outlined in the draft of the second Emissions Reduction Plan, these policies can derisk and provide certainty for private investment.

9(2)(f)(iv)

LETF Round 15: *Ports* is now open for applications

Round 15 of the Low Emission Transport Fund is now live.

This round is aimed at New Zealand's 13 major ports (and third-party operators) to demonstrate land-side low-emission technologies, infrastructure, innovations and business models in the port sector. The key difference for this round is the focus on more complex and higher value technologies necessitating a dedicated funding round. An example of what we are hoping to see are innovative ways of overcoming the typical infrastructural upgrade issues coupled with low emission equipment.

Discussions with potential applicants are well underway.

Up to \$4 million is available in Round 15. The round will close in February 2025.

9(2)(b)(ii), 9(2)(f)(iv)

9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(b)(ii) [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

3 Ministerial servicing updates

3.1 Current and upcoming advice to the Minister

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	[Redacted] [Redacted] [Redacted]	In progress

3.2 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date Received	Date due
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	(Summary of request) Copies of EECA’s parental leave policies/documents and a summary of support provided to employees who return to work after taking parental leave.	15 November 2024	13 December 2024
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	(Summary of the request) Information regarding EECA funding to Oji Fibre solutions since 2014, and funding to Winstone Pulp since 2004. paragraph or two on the purpose of the funding and the originating fund.	29 November 2024	20 January 2024

3.3 Consultations underway

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
EV Charging	<i>Advance Notice of a contract opportunity:</i> Heavy vehicle charging infrastructure (as part of a Low emissions Transport Fund round).	To gauge interest from suppliers and transport operators to demonstrate/pilot commercial and heavy EV charging solutions with an emphasis on grid connection management. This activity is intended as a precursor to an RFP which will open in early 2025, providing the market more time to identify possible collaborations.	Process to close on 13 December 2024. An RFP will go live in February 2025.

E3	<i>E3 Distribution Transformers Regulation Impact Statement – Public Consultation</i>	Options to increase minimum energy performance standards and expand the scope of distribution transformers.	Closes 31 January 2025
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3.4 Communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in **bold**. We recently provided your office with a forward view of events and announcements for Q3 and Q4 2024/25. Note we are also working on possible communications opportunities for the summer period, as requested by your office.

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
December 2024	PR	We are publishing the Hawkes Bay Regional Energy Transition Accelerator Report (RETA). The report the region’s potential for renewable biomass, which emerges as a cost-effective alternative for industrial applications requiring high-temperature boilers.	The publication of this report highlights the opportunity for economic, infrastructure and job growth by utilising the abundant forestry residue/slash in the region.
Jan 2025	Event	Open day at 45 South Cherry Orchard, Otago, to showcase the Burro autonomous orchard transportation technology.	This project was co-funded by the Technology Demonstration fund and is an opportunity to showcase innovation in the port sector.