



TE TARI TIAKI PŪNGAO
ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

EECA's Fortnightly Report to the
Minister for Energy

6 September 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

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

9(2)(f)(iv)

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Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF) progress and safety requirements

We recommend market launch at your earliest convenience

As industry have been involved in our procurement activity over the past few weeks (noting ITR opened on 1 August), we would recommend launching the programme as soon as possible. A number of fleet operators have reported that they are awaiting official launch to order low emission vehicles.

Information on the programme's safety requirements

When designing the programme last year, we received advice from the Ministry of Transport (MoT) and New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) to incorporate three safety features beyond the minimum requirements for heavy vehicles set out in the Land Transport Rules: electronic stability control (ESC), lane departure warning system (LDWS), automatic emergency braking (AEB). This was on the basis that heavy vehicles are widely equipped with these features, and it allows the Government to send signals to the market given regulations are common across other jurisdictions.

When considering this, we consulted widely with manufacturers to determine whether requiring these features would impact the successful operation of the LEHVF. Manufacturers responded that these features were a standard offering in most (if not all) heavy vehicles, and therefore they were included as a requirement.

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

Update on residential electrification activity

As signalled in previous meetings with you, EECA has been actively reshaping its consumer engagement approach in response to current energy market conditions. This has involved moving away from public engagement activity around Residential Electrification and into developing more direct energy efficiency information and tools to support consumers to make informed choices that reduce their energy bills and make considered efficient appliance decisions.

Recently, we have been engaging with both Master Plumbers and Master Electricians to provide information and training support to increase their understanding and confidence in recommending and installing highly efficient technology. Both are highly engaged and see strong value in partnering with EECA to support their members. We will keep your office updated as these projects take shape.

9(2)(b)(ii)

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Next week we will meet with the Minister of Climate Change

On Wednesday 11 September senior EECA officials will meet with the Minister of Climate Change to discuss:

- EECA’s overall work programme in relation to how it supports reducing emissions and driving energy efficiency in residential, business and industrial settings.
- The role of solar, hydrogen and also battery storage.

Briefing material for the meeting will also be shared with your office.

Insights pipeline – upcoming insights and web-content in the works		
Indicative Timing	Type	Insights
Early September	Video	We have published a video featuring Tohu wines decarbonisation story, to support EECA’s Wine Decarbonisation Pathway.
September	Video	EV charging at accommodation.
TBC	Package	To support the LEHVF launch; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated zero- and low-emission-truck content and • Total-cost-of-ownership case studies (featuring Reliance Transport/Scania and Fuso eCanter).
TBC	Case Study	Industrial demand flexibility solutions.

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
September 2024	PR/event	We are working with your office to finalise plans for launching the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund. An ‘Invitation to Register’ opened to suppliers on 1 August.
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9(2)(f)(iv) [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

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

Upcoming items to the Minister				
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required
Will Jensen (Manager, Policy & Engagement)	Upcoming	Aide Memoire: Minister’s announcement of the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund	n/a	n/a
	9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted] [Redacted]	[Redacted]
	Upcoming (mid-September)	Briefing: Warmer Kiwi Homes Programme Targeting		n/a

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests				
Requestor	Type	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Departmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records on the usage of EV chargers funded or supported by EECA, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total number of charging sessions per charger ○ Total energy dispensed (kWh) per charger. ○ Peak usage times and patterns. • A breakdown of usage statistics for each location where EECA-supported chargers are installed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Addresses or general locations of the chargers. ○ Usage figures for each location • Information on the systems or methods used by EECA or its partners to monitor and report on charger usage, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Data collection methodologies ○ Frequency of reporting and data updates • Any reports or evaluations that analyse the effectiveness of the EV chargers in terms of their utilisation and contribution to EV infrastructure goals. 	16 August 2024	13 September 2024

<p>9(2)(a) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Departmental</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receipts and financial records – including amounts, dates, and any associated conditions or terms – related to building subsidies provided to EV charging companies since 14 October 2023 • Any correspondence with charging companies and/or other government organisations and/or government ministers on the policies, criteria, and guidelines used to determine the eligibility and amount of building subsidies for EV charging companies since 14 October 2023. • For the purposes of this OIA ‘Charging companies’ include: ChargeNet NZ, Z Energy, BP, Wellington City Council, EV Infrastructure Partners, Meridian Energy, We.EV, JOLT Charge, Hikotron, Jump Charging, Network Waitaki, Plug & Save, Agritech Green Investments 	<p>16 August 2024</p>	<p>13 September 2024</p>
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ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

20 September 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

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

Update on smart EV chargers approved list

In March 2024 EECA published an Approved List of smart chargers, to help New Zealanders identify and purchase EV chargers that use smart technology and are energy efficient. Modelling by EECA and Concept consulting found widespread use of “smart” and energy-efficient EV chargers could save the country \$4 billion by 2050, by reducing the need for costly investment in new power generation and transmission.

During the first week of September, EECA added 15 new chargers to the [Approved List](#), bringing the total number of chargers to 51 (this represents a 41% increase in number of charges on the list). This included a 350kW charger that was added to the commercial list, the largest charger so far. EECA continues to make rolling updates to the list, and to develop new avenues to share and promote the list to consumers.

Request for proposals (RFP) published for research to quantify demand flexibility in New Zealand

There is likely to be a significant role for Demand Flexibility (DF) to support both energy affordability and network reliability in New Zealand. The opportunities presented by DF resonate strongly with EECA’s strategic objective to Empower Consumers, and EECA has a range of active initiatives focused on supporting the shift towards greater utilisation of DF.

An immediate step is commissioning research to examine current utilisation of DF across identified sectors, and future opportunities to build upon. This will enable EECA to build clear strategies for target sectors, based on research findings, to realise identified DF opportunities.

On 4 September EECA published an RfP for the research project. The project is made up of two parts:

- Part One: Investigating demand side flexibility potential for peak demand reduction in New Zealand’s electricity grid.
- Part Two: Deep Dive: Further Utilising Industrial Demand Flexibility for Enhanced power system outcomes

The RfP closes on the 27th of September, and the research findings are expected to be delivered early-mid 2025. We will keep your office updated on milestones as the research progresses.

EECA meeting with the Minister of Climate Change

Officials met with the Minister of Climate Change (Hon Simon Watts) and the Prime Minister’s Climate Change Advisor (Matt Burgess) on 11 September. Minister Watts was interested to discuss EECA’s overall work programme in relation to how it supports reducing emissions and driving energy efficiency in residential, business and industrial settings.

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A further 2,500 homes to receive third-party funding for insulation grants

One of our third-party funding providers under the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme, Foundation North, are set to invest a further \$1million for eligible homeowners in Northland and Auckland. The third-party funding will cover the additional 10-20% of insulation costs, so that installs can occur at no cost to the homeowner. The additional funding will mean a further 2,500 will have their homes insulated for free, helping those most in need.

Transport update

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Low Emission Heavy Vehicle Fund

Following the official launching of the LEHVF via PR this morning, we are now open for applications. We expect orders will be placed quickly, based on a good level of interest to date. We have contracts with 10 suppliers with over 22 vehicles represented on the whitelist and eligible for grant funding. We will keep your Office updated on early uptake.

Regional Energy Transition Accelerator (RETA) Auckland

EECA's RETA programme kicked off for Auckland with a productive meeting on 28 August, which was attended by stakeholders (representing demand side organisations), electricity networks and generators, bioenergy suppliers, Auckland Council, and Auckland University. At the meeting, attendees openly discussed the challenges and opportunities in transitioning to renewable fuels. RETA will directly address many of these issues once the analysis is completed. Feedback received from the session highlighted the value in learning from peers, and in establishing connections between the 'demand' and 'supply' sides.

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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
20 September 2024	PR	Press release and case studies to support the launch of the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund.
9(2)(f)(iv) [Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
September 2024	Programme launch	We will launch the Heavy Freight Sector Pathway. This pathway focuses on reducing energy-related emissions from heavy freight and improve efficiency within the sector.

Upcoming items to the Minister				
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required
Will Jensen (Manager, Policy & Engagement)	Upcoming (20 September)	Briefing: Warmer Kiwi Homes Programme Targeting		TBC

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests				
Requestor	Type	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	Departmental	<p>Access to the forecast data points per statistical area as shown in the map pop-ups in the EECA EV Charger Planner tool, found here: https://www.eeca.govt.nz/insights/data-tools/community-ev-charger-planner/</p> <p>Specifically, we are looking for these data points per statistical area for each year forecasted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year • Current number BEV • Projected number BEV • Current charge points • Charge points needed • Charge point gap • Population Estimate • Population growth 	12 September 2024	10 October 2024
9(2)(a) [Redacted]	Departmental	Information on the average cost of gas per kilowatt-hour (kWh)	18 September 2024	16 October 2024