Submission by



to the

Electricity Authority

on the consultation

Proposed Amendments to improve access to electricity product data

18 November 2025

Proposed Amendments to improve access to electricity product data

- SUBMISSION BY BUSINESSNZ ENERGY COUNCIL—

General Discussion

- 1. BusinessNZ Energy Council (BEC)¹ is pleased to have the opportunity to provide feedback on the Electricity Authorities (EAs) consultation document titled 'Proposed Amendments to improve access to electricity product data.'
- 2. BEC represents a diverse array of leading energy-sector businesses, government bodies, and research organisations dedicated to creating a sustainable, equitable, and secure energy future.
- 3. As a brand of BusinessNZ, New Zealand's largest business advocacy organisation, we represent the World Energy Council in New Zealand, aiming to shape better outcomes for our wider energy system both locally and globally.
- 4. With this work the EA proposes to amend various clauses of Part 11 of the Code to better enable access to, and exchange of, electricity product information.
- 5. This work follows on from earlier consultations such as 'enabling consumer mobility by improving access to electricity product data' and ties in with the ongoing consultation 'improving electricity billing in New Zealand.'
- 6. Following the consultation 'enabling consumer mobility by improving access to electricity product data' the EA has changed its preferred option to the modular suite of EIEP-14s. The original proposal has been changed by combining the proposed EIEP-14A and EIEP-14B into a single EIEP-14A which will capture all active plans generally available and non-promoted but contracted. EIEP-14C and EIEP-14D remain unchanged but have been renamed to EIEP-14B and EIEP-14C.
- 7. BEC is supportive of this change as it reduces complexity and maintains visibility of active plans.
- 8. The EA is also proposing to introduce a new unique plan identifier code to address structural issues with plan identification and data set integration. It will require retailers to allocate an identifier code to each of its retail plans, provide information on available plans and associated codes when requested and provide identifier codes to consumers when requested, which is applicable to that consumer's ICP.
- 9. BEC supports this as we see identifier codes as vital to the success of the switching and comparison tool that the EA is moving to implement as well as the broader work to improve electricity billing.

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¹ More about BEC in APPENDIX One

- 10. The EA has moved away from the original plan to develop and implement all protocols within six months. The new proposal is to design, develop and implement the new suite of EIEP14 protocols in a staged approach, starting with the EIEP14-A and product identifier code work and then working on EIEP-14B and EIEP-14C. It will take a total of ten months.
- 11. Overall, BEC is supportive of the work that the EA is doing within this consultation and views it as complementary to the consultation on improving electricity billing in New Zealand. As we stated in our submission for that consultation New Zealand's current billing and plan switching leaves too many consumers disengaged, on unsuitable or overpriced plans. Within 'an industry perspective on the Government's proposed Energy Strategy' we outlined in the first guiding principle that the energy system exists to serve New Zealanders, households and businesses. Greater understanding on electricity bills should allow consumers to engage more with the system that is meant to serve them and the amendments outlined in this consultation are vital for that.

APPENDIX ONE – BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESSNZ ENERGY COUNCIL

The <u>BusinessNZ Energy Council (BEC)</u> is a group of leading energy-sector business, government and research organisations taking a leading role in creating a sustainable, equitable and secure energy future.

BEC is a brand of BusinessNZ and represents the <u>World Energy Council</u> in New Zealand. Together with its members, BEC is shaping the energy agenda for New Zealand and globally.



BusinessNZ is New Zealand's largest business advocacy body, representing:

- Regional business groups: EMA, Business Central,
 Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce, and Business South
- Major Companies Group of New Zealand's largest businesses
- Gold Group of medium sized businesses
- Affiliated Industries Group of national industry associations
- ExportNZ representing New Zealand exporting enterprises
- ManufacturingNZ representing New Zealand manufacturing enterprises
- Sustainable Business Council of enterprises leading sustainable business practice
- BusinessNZ Energy Council of enterprises leading sustainable energy production and use
- Buy NZ Made representing producers, retailers, consumers of NZ-made goods

BusinessNZ is able to tap into the views of over 76,000 employers and businesses, ranging from the smallest to the largest and reflecting the make-up of the New Zealand economy.

In addition to advocacy and services for enterprise, BusinessNZ contributes to Government, tripartite working parties and international bodies including the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the Business and Industry Advisory Council (BIAC) to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

