

NEW ZEALAND ENERGY STRATEGY

2011-2021

- + The New Zealand Energy Strategy 2011-2021 sets out how the balanced development of our energy resources will best position New Zealand for a higher economic growth, lower-emissions future.
- + The goal is for New Zealand to make the most of its abundant energy potential through the environmentally responsible development and efficient use of the country's diverse energy resources.
- + New Zealand's significant and diverse energy potential is a source of competitive advantage for the country, particularly in a world where environmental constraints will continue to increase.
- + Developing a mix of energy options makes good economic and environmental sense and will help us transition to a prosperous and secure low-carbon future.
- + The mix of energy options will allow optimal investment in, and use of, renewable energy resources and non-renewable energy resources.
- + Well-managed energy development contributes to our broader economic development objectives.
- + The Government is focused on striking the balance between protecting the environment and economic development.
- + Renewables and energy efficiency are a big part of the strategy – by 2025 we are aiming to have 90 percent of our electricity generated from renewable resources. Last year we generated almost three-quarters of our electricity from renewable sources.
- + Energy efficiency measures help reduce costs, make houses more comfortable and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- + We are committed to best practice in environmental management for energy projects and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. By 2050, we aim to achieve a 50 percent reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels. The New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme will help drive investment into technologies that produce fewer emissions.
- + Continuing world demand for oil and gas provides New Zealand with a major economic opportunity to expand oil and gas exports. Oil and gas has become an increasingly significant export industry for New Zealand (in the year to December 2010, crude oil was our fourth-largest merchandise export at \$2.1 billion) and has the potential to create additional skilled jobs, and earn substantial royalty and tax revenues.
- + It is vital that New Zealand has world-class environmental regulation for oil and gas exploration, production and transportation. The Government has introduced legislation to manage the environmental effects of activities in New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone and Extended Continental Shelf, and has announced interim measures to apply before the new law is passed.
- + The Government has announced the establishment of a specialist health and safety unit to deal with high hazard industries.
- + Increased economic activity associated with the energy sector provides a direct boost to the regions, while increased royalties help fund a first-class health and education system.
- + All New Zealanders have a role to play in New Zealand achieving its energy goals.

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