

Privacy of natural persons

Page 2: We will keep your information safe

Q1 **Yes**

Have you read and understood the Privacy Statement?

Page 3: About you

Q2

What is your name?

Michael Fitzgerald

Q3

What is your email address? We may need to contact you for clarification on your submission, or regarding Official Information Act requests. Your email address will not be used for any other purpose.

Privacy of natural persons

Q4 **Organisation**

Are you submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Q5

If on behalf of an organisation, what is its name?

Empower Energy Charitable Trust

Q6 **Registered charity**

If on behalf of an organisation, which of these best describes it?

Page 4: Proposed Definition for energy wellbeing

Q7

Neither agree nor disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed definition for energy wellbeing is right for Aotearoa?

Q8

Do you have comments on why have you chosen this answer?

There is need for wider consideration such as housing stock condition and insulation; utilizing existing measures such as a community services card; and disconnection of service actively disconnected (by retailer) or passively disconnected by prepay mechanism.

Q9

Agree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the inclusions in the proposed definition?

Q10

Do you have any comments on what is included in the definition?

An inclusion of existing measures such as a community services card; housing standard and insulation should be considered. As energy use changes towards a greater use of electricity for transport. This too should be considered. In 1947 when the Housing Improvement Act was written there were many forms of free or cheap energy such as the dropping off firewood or coal. This has largely stopped in urban environments and as such the cost of energy has increased for the urban poor. Consideration of the donation of solar panels should be considered as an off set of this growing cost.

Q11

Strongly disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with what is excluded by the definition?

Q12

Do you have any comments on what is excluded by the definition?

Transport must be considered as there will be a growing drive to supply transport energy from residential electricity. All people count and should be counted, rough sleepers and the entire housing stock should be considered especially the uninsulated. Also the prepay "passive" disconnections which currently only show up in negative health statistics. Overcrowding and living in caravans and garages should be counted also.

Q13

Do you have any further comments on the proposed definition of energy wellbeing? - Is it clear and easy to understand?- Do you think there is anything missing?- Is it relevant to you and your community?

No further comment.

Q14

Agree

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the framework represents the factors that influence energy wellbeing in Aotearoa?

Q15

Do you have comments on why have you chosen this answer?

Household income should be a consideration.

Standard of housing stock and insulation should be included. In NZ we build to the minimum as a matter of course.

Q16

Do you have any other comments on the proposed framework? You may want to consider:- The layout of the framework, and if it is easy to understand - If anything is missing, or should be added- Which factors you think are most significant in your community

Insulation and consideration of a healthy home should be considered, along with New Zealand's climatic variations.

Page 6: Proposed indicators for energy wellbeing

Q17

Strongly disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed indicators for energy wellbeing?

Q18

Do you have comments on why have you chosen this answer? You may want to consider: - Are the indicators comprehensive?- Are there any other indicators of energy wellbeing that should be considered?

Disconnections both active by the retailer and passive by use of prepay must be included. The urban poor have less available access to cheap or free other energy sources as we focus on electricity as the main energy source.

Using existing frameworks such as the community services card and health of the residents should also be considered.

Page 7: Measuring energy hardship

Q19

Yes

We are proposing to use a set of primary and secondary measures for energy hardship. Do you support this proposal?

Q20

Do you have comments on why you have chosen this answer?

Home income, Housing standard, home ownership, climate considerations, health of residents, efficiency of appliances and transport should also be considered.

Q21

Neither agree nor disagree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed primary measures?

Q22

Agree

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the potential secondary measures?

Q23

Do you have any comments on the proposed primary and secondary measures? You may want to consider:- How many primary and secondary measures you think we should consider- Which measures you think should be primary or secondary (and why)

Disconnections must be counted, both active from the retailer and passive from the use of a prepay meter. These prepay disconnections only show in health statistics currently.

Q24

Do you have any comments on measuring the depth of hardship? You may want to consider: - If we should use these measurements in Aotearoa, in addition to the primary and secondary measures- Combining measures (i.e. a DEP-17 style approach) - Measuring the energy hardship gap

The 10% of income measure is not useful. As at the margin above the median use of 3-4% of income it becomes a burden on the household and impacts other purchases and at the other extreme may mean the pool is heated all year. Absolute measures and consideration of income and the existing measure of a community services card must be included.

Page 8: Data gaps and proposed way forward

Q25

Rank the following proposals in order of most important (1) to least important (4).

Further analyse any currently available data	4
Work to fill existing data gaps/limitations	2
Model required energy use for households in Aotearoa	3
Research energy hardship-related indicators	1

Q26

Do you have any suggestions for alternatives or changes to the proposed way forward? You may want to consider:- Are there gaps in the measurement we haven't identified?- Are there data sets or measures you know of that should be included?- Do you have any other suggestions for future analysis?

The 10% measure is not appropriate. 3-5% of certain household income may be useful, but absolute levels may be of more use as a percentage in a high income home with a pool may skew the result as too the rationing of power in a home in energy hardship.

Page 9: Final thoughts

Q27

Do you have anything else you would like to mention?

I would like to reiterate that all people and households should be counted. So too all disconnections whether by the retailer or by the design of the prepay meter.

Consideration of Electric Vehicles and transportation energy should be included.

The move towards electricity as the sole source of domestic energy and the subsequent increase in energy cost on the low income should also be considered with sustainable remedy to this problem explored.

Q28

Yes

Can we publish your submission on the MBIE website? If your submission contains personally identifiable information that should not be made public, please make clear what can and cannot be made public. For example, information about other people that you are sharing without their consent or information about children. Your name, and that of your organisation will be visible. Email addresses will not be visible.
