**Submission template**

**Submitting on the *Gas Transitions Plan Issues Paper***

This is the submission template for responding to the consultation document *Gas Transition Plan Issues Paper.* The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (**MBIE**) seeks your comments by **5pm on Thursday, 02 November 2023**.

Please make your submission as follows:

1. Fill out your details under the “Your name and organisation” heading and, if applicable, check the boxes underneath on privacy and confidentiality.
2. Fill out your responses to the discussion document questions. Your submission may respond to any or all of the questions. Where possible, please include evidence to support your views, for example references to independent research, facts and figures, or relevant examples. If you would like to make other comments not covered by the questions, please provide these in the “General comments” section at the end of the template.
3. Before sending us your submission:
	1. delete this first page of instructions
	2. if your submission contains any confidential information, please:
* state this in the cover page or in the e-mail accompanying your submission
* set out clearly which parts you consider should be withheld and the grounds under the Official Information Act 1982 (**OIA**) that you believe apply
* provide a separate version excluding the relevant information for publication
1. Submit your submission by either:
2. emailing this template as a PDF or Microsoft Word document to gastransition@mbie.govt.nz
3. mailing your submission to:

Energy Resources Markets Branch

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

15 Stout Street

PO Box 1473, Wellington 6140

Attention: Gas Transition Plan Issues Paper submission

Please direct any questions that you have in relation to the submissions process to gastransition@mbie.govt.nz.

**Release of Information**

Please note that submissions are subject to the OIA and the Privacy Act 2020. In line with this, MBIE intends to upload copies of submissions received to MBIE’s website at www.mbie.govt.nz. MBIE will consider you to have consented to uploading by making a submission unless you clearly specify otherwise in your submission. MBIE will take your views into account when responding to requests under the OIA and publishing submissions. Any decision to withhold information requested under the OIA can be reviewed by the Ombudsman.

**Submission on the *Gas Transitions Plan Issues Paper***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Organisation** **(if applicable)** |  |
| **Contact details** |  |

**Release of information**

Please let us know if you would like any part of your submission to be kept confidential.

[ ]  I would like to be contacted before the release or use of my submission in the summary of submissions that will be published by MBIE after the consultation.

[ ]  I would like my submission (or identified parts of my submission) to be kept confidential, and **have stated below** my reasons and grounds under the Official Information Act that I believe apply, for consideration by MBIE.

I would like my submission (or identified parts of my submission) to be kept confidential because [Insert text]

[To check the boxes above: Double click on box, then select ‘checked’]

# Responses to questions

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| Chapter 2: Transitioning our gas sector |
|  | How can New Zealand transition to a smaller gas market over time? |
|  |
|  | What is needed to ensure fossil gas availability over the transition period? |
|  |  |
|  | What factors do you see driving decisions to invest or wind down fossil gas production? |
|  |
|  | Does the Government have a role in enabling continued investment in the gas sector to meet energy security needs? If yes, what do you see this role being? |
|  |
|  | Does the Government have a role in supporting vulnerable residential consumers as network fossil gas use declines? If yes, what do you see this role being? |
|  |
|  | Fossil gas and electricity |
|  | What role do you see for gas in the electricity generation market going forward? |
|  |
|  | What would need to be in place to allow gas to play this role in the electricity market? |
|  |
|  | Do you think gas can play a role in providing security of supply and/or price stability in the electricity market? Why / Why not? |
|  |
|  | Do you see alternative technology options offering credible options to replace gas in electricity generation over time? Why / Why not? |
|  |
|  | If you believe additional investment in fossil gas infrastructure is needed, how do you think this should be funded? |
|  |  |
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| Chapter 3: Key issues and opportunities |

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|  | Renewable gases and emissions reduction technologies  |
|  | On a scale of one to five, how important do you think biogas is for reducing emissions from fossil gas? Why did you give it this rating? |
|  |
|  | Do you see biogas being used as a substitute for fossil gas? If so, how? |
|  |
|  | On a scale of one to five, how important do you think hydrogen is for reducing emissions from fossil gas use? Why do you think this? |
|  |
|  | Do you see hydrogen being used as a substitute for fossil gas? If so, how and when? |
|  |
|  | What else can be done to accelerate the replacement of fossil gas with low-emissions alternative gases? |
|  |
|  | On a scale of one to five how important is a renewable gas trading to supporting the uptake of renewable gases? Why have you given it this rating? |
|  |
|  | What role do you see for the government in supporting such a scheme? |
|  |
|  | Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage  |
|  | On a scale of one to five how important do you think CCUS is for reducing emissions from fossil gas use? Why did you give it this rating? |
|  |
|  | What are the most significant barriers to the use of CCUS in New Zealand? |
|  |
|  | Do you see any risks in the use of CCUS? |
|  |
|  | In what ways do you think CCUS can be used to reduce emissions from the use of fossil gas? |
|  |
|  | Options to increase capacity and flexibility of gas supply |
|  | What role do you see for gas storage as we transition to a low-emissions economy? |
|  |
|  | On a scale of one to five, how important do you think increasing gas storage capacity is for supporting the transition? Why did you give it this rating? |
|  |
|  | What should the role for government be in the gas storage market? |
|  |
|  | Our position is that LNG importation is not a viable option for New Zealand. Do you agree or disagree with this position? If so, why? |
|  |
|  | What risks do you anticipate if New Zealand gas markets were tethered to the international price of gas? |
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| General comments  |
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