

## **Electricity Industry (Exemption No. 209 (VirCom Energy Management Services Limited)) Exemption Notice 2014**

Pursuant to section 11 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010 (“Act”), the Electricity Authority (“Authority”) gives the following notice.

### **Notice**

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This notice is the Electricity Industry (Exemption No. 209 (VirCom Energy Management Services Limited)) Exemption Notice 2014.

(2) This notice comes into force on the day after the date it is notified in the *New Zealand Gazette*.

**2. Exemption**—VirCom Energy Management Services Limited is exempted from complying with clauses 11(3)(a), 11(3)(c), 11(4)(a), 11(4)(c), 11(4)(d) and 11(5) of Schedule 10.7 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (“Code”), in respect of installation control points with category 1 or category 2 metering installations where Arc Innovations Limited (“Arc”) is the metering equipment provider (“MEP”).

**3. Term**—This exemption expires at the close of **30 November 2014**.

**4. Reasons for granting the exemption**—The reasons for granting this exemption are:

- (a) granting the exemption meets the requirements in section 11(2) of the Act for granting exemptions;
- (b) without an exemption, Arc, as the MEP, would incur significant unreasonable costs to recertify its category 1 and category 2 metering installations, or risk displacement of its advanced meters;
- (c) the exemption will remove potential barriers to entry into the retail market, or inclusion of new “time of use” consumer pricing plans for retailers that require half-hour metering data for their products;
- (d) the exemption will allow efficient mass market switches and half-hour data settlement for advanced metering consumers;
- (e) in accordance with the Code, an approved test house fully tested Arc’s metering installations when they were originally certified as non half-hour;
- (f) the Authority has granted exemptions to other advanced metering MEPs, to allow recertification of advanced meters as half-hour without physically visiting the metering installations; and
- (g) there will be little or no impact on other participants and service providers and the exemption will not affect any other Code provisions.

Dated at Wellington this 25th day of August 2014.

For and on behalf of the Electricity Authority:

HON ROGER SOWRY, ONZM, Member, Electricity Authority.

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