

21 November 2022

By email:

David Prentice, Chief Executive, Manawa Energy
Alison Andrew, Chief Executive, Transpower
Vince Hawksworth, Chief Executive, Mercury
Neil Barclay, Chief Executive, Meridian
James Kilty, Chief Executive, Powerco
Simon MacKenzie, Group Chief Executive, Vector
Neil Barbour, Group Chief Executive, Orion
Tracey Hickman, Interim Chief Executive, Genesis
Mike Fuge, Chief Executive, Contact Energy
Ken Sutherland, Group Chief Executive, Unison Group
Babu Bahirathan, Chief Executive, Nova Energy

Re: Winter Peak Product to maintain security standards

Thank you for your letters dated 28 October, 4 November and 15 November 2022, advising us of the work you are doing to design a product ahead of winter 2023. The views, analysis, and suggested options of all sector participants play a significant role in informing Authority Board decisions, and we thank you for your input to our work.

As advised at the CE Forum on 11 November (also attended by MBIE) the Authority is aware of the potential for shortfall of generation and/or unexpected high periods of peak demand to impact on outcomes for consumers. We intend to release a consultation document on this matter shortly. As with all our consultations, it is important that all stakeholders are provided with the same opportunity to participate and provide feedback in an open and transparent process. We intend to make best use of the time available by continuing to work up and develop any options in the consultation document in parallel with the consultation process.

The Authority welcomes your submission as part of that consultation process, and we will consider it alongside the views of other interested parties as we examine options most likely to provide the best long-term outcomes for consumers.

In line with the Authority's commitment to transparency, we will be proactively releasing your letters dated 28 October, 4 November and 15 November 2022 – along with this response, on our website. I do not consider there are any grounds under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) to withhold any content from the letters. However, please let me know by 5pm on 22 November if you have any objections (based on the withholding grounds under the OIA) to this release.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'SGM', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Sarah Gillies
Acting Chief Executive

Cc Gareth Wilson MBIE
Justine Cannon MBIE