

FN-26-02 Fortnightly report 5 February 2026

This report summarises items that may be of interest to the Minister for Energy and Associate Minister for Energy but do not require a formal briefing. Further information can be provided on request. Substantive items and decision papers will be provided by briefing.

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1. Upcoming publications

EDB export limits: progress tracker	
Strategic outcome	Affordable
Purpose	<p>On 30 January we published a “league table” (Appendix A refers) tracking EDB progress on voluntarily increasing export limits for residential connections to 10kW. So far, 19 EDBs have moved to 10kW. Ten are working towards this and one, Wellington Electricity, is not currently considering it, due to concerns that resulting network congestion would affect power quality and restrict new connections. We’ll monitor this and update you as necessary.</p> <p>Our consultation on maximising benefits from local generation considers mandating the 10kW export. However, our proposal allows distributors to set lower limits if they are justified.</p> <p>Increasing export limits will enable consumers to sell more of the solar they generate, increasing solar electricity and lowering prices.</p>
Action and timing	Published: 30 January 2026 (updated regularly thereafter)

Decision on amendments to the Security of Supply Forecasting and Information Policy (SOSFIP)	
Strategic outcome	Secure and resilient
Purpose	<p>The Authority will publish its decision on the System Operator’s proposed amendments to the Security of Supply Forecasting and Information Policy (SOSFIP). Further information is provided in section 4.</p> <p>The changes proposed will improve security of supply reporting and certainty around the arrangements to access contingent hydro storage. Consumers will benefit from a more secure and resilient electricity supply.</p>
Action and timing	Publication: Late February

Paper on gas price data sources for determining the Electricity Allocation Factor	
Strategic outcome	Affordable
Purpose	The Authority is publishing a paper on the choice of gas price data used to determine the Electricity Allocation Factor. The paper supported engagement with the Major Electricity Users’ Group and

	<p>other relevant stakeholders, and we are considering their feedback.</p> <p>The Electricity Allocation Factor estimates the effect of the Emissions Trading Scheme on wholesale electricity prices. It is important to businesses that purchase substantial electricity and impacts the allocation of New Zealand Units under the government's allocation scheme.</p>
Action and timing	Publication: Late February 2026

2. Current consultation

Current consultation	Consultation period
Open letter on Energy Competition Task Force Work Plan	15 December – 9 February
Supplementary consultation on enabling multiple trading relationships and improving switching	27 January – 17 February
Code amendment omnibus #6	12 January – 23 February

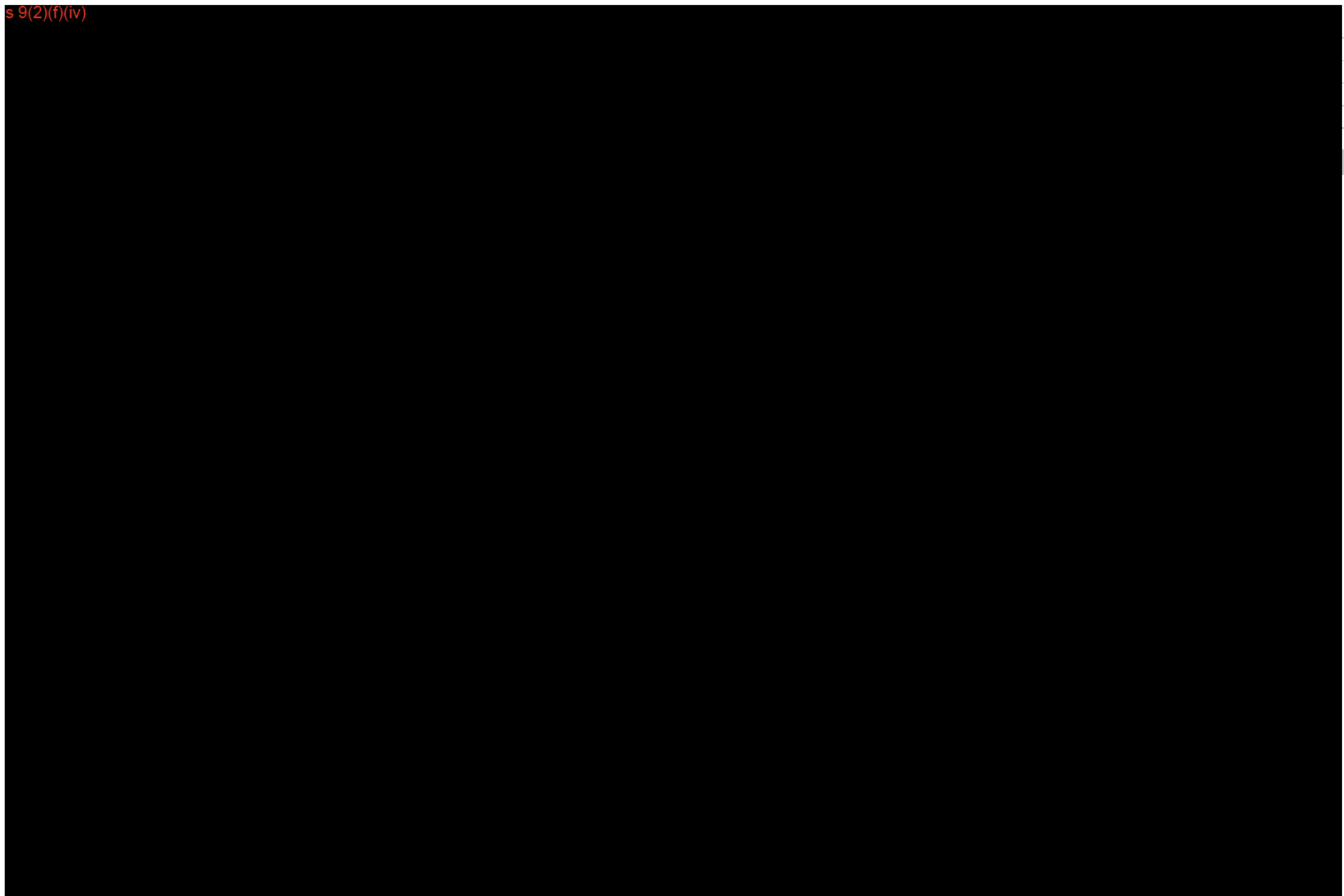
3. Update: Review of contingent storage arrangements

Key points

- 3.1. The System Operator submitted its final proposal to update the triggers for accessing contingent storage in December 2025.
- 3.2. These arrangements are captured in the Security of Supply Forecasting and Information Policy (SOSFIP).
- 3.3. The Authority is responsible for approving the System Operator's final proposal.
- 3.4. We will release our decision late February.

The proposed changes will improve security of supply reporting and provide better certainty for participants

- 3.5. Overall, we consider the System Operator has proposed material improvements to the contingent storage release boundary buffer, and the changes are compatible with the current approach to coordinating security of supply.
- 3.6. Most submitters supported the proposal although Meridian considers that the proposal does not go far enough and contingent storage should be triggered even earlier.
- 3.7. Meridian's arguments come back to resource consent issues rather than regulatory matters. It is seeking resource consent via the Fast-track panel to enable it to use the contingent water in Lake Pūkaki without reference to the controls in the SOSFIP for the next three years.
- 3.8. The Authority has indicated to the Fast-track panel that we would like to be invited to submit on the application to ensure consistency with the SOSFIP. Any changes to resource consents governing contingent storage volumes will require subsequent amendments to the SOSFIP.
- 3.9. Clearer rules and earlier access to contingent storage would provide the market with confidence that contingent storage will be available to be used when needed. The trade-off is ensuring that contingent storage is not used too early, resulting in consumers failing to get the price signals to start conserving power. If this happens there may be insufficient storage available when it is needed most.



5. Appendix A – League table - shift to 10kW export limits:

5.1. View the table online [here](#):

■ Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
 ■ Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
 ■ Not currently considering a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)

Distributor ▾	as at 30 Jan ▾
Alpine Energy	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Aurora Energy	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Buller Electricity	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Centralines	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Counties Energy	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Electricity Ashburton	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Electra	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Electricity Invercargill	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Firstlight Network	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Horizon Networks	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Lakeland Network	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
MainPower NZ	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Marlborough Lines	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Nelson Electricity	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Network Tasman	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Network Waitaki	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Northpower	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Orion NZ	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
OtagoNet	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Powerco	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Scanpower	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
The Lines Company	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
The Power Company	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Top Energy	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Unison Networks	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Vector	Working towards a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Waipā Networks	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
WEL Networks	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Wellington Electricity	Not currently considering a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)
Westpower	Already have a default export limit of 10kW (or greater)