

4 September 2026

s 9(2)(a)

Your request

Thank you for your request to the Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko (Authority), received on 7 August 2026, under the Official Information Act 1982 (Act) for the following information:

Please provide a copy of the Sapere report cited by the Electricity Authority in its final decision paper on Improving electricity billing in New Zealand (5 July 2026). The report is referred to as:

Sapere, "Economic analysis of customer billing proposals", January 2026...

Please include any appendices, attachments, supporting analysis, or final versions of the report held by the Authority.

Our response

Please find attached the Sapere report, Economic analysis of customer billing proposals (report).

The Authority commissioned Sapere to provide an independent economic perspective on refinements to the electricity billing proposals following consultation.

The report was one input into the Authority's decision-making. It was not commissioned as a cost-benefit analysis and was not intended to fulfil the regulatory statement requirements for a Code amendment under section 39(2) of the Electricity Industry Act 2010.

The Authority undertook that statutory assessment through its consultation and decision-making process, including its own regulatory statement. Sapere's role was narrower. Its analysis considered how consultation feedback had been incorporated, potential unintended consequences, and whether it was reasonable to expect the revised package was preserving, or not, consumer benefits while reducing implementation costs.

The report itself sets out these scope and limitations and explains that it should be read as a complement to the Authority's regulatory statement.

We are releasing the report in full so it can be considered in its complete context, including the scope and limitations described by Sapere.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, the Authority may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All personal data, including your name and contact details, will be removed before publication.

If you'd like to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact us by emailing oa@ea.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Airihi Mahuika', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Airihi Mahuika

GM Legal, Monitoring and Compliance