

24 June 2025

s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your request, received on 28 April 2025, under the Official Information Act 1982 (Act) for the following information:

"I am writing to request any briefings, memos or correspondence between the Electricity Authority, MBIE and the Minister of Energy's office relating to the work the Authority had planned or underway on reviewing the Distributed Generation Pricing Principles in Part 6.4 of the Code for the period during MBIE's preparation of the Regulatory Impact Statement (finalised 17 October 2024) and now."

On 26 May, the Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko (Authority) extended the due date of this request to 25 June 2025 under section 15 of the Act. On 28 May 2025, you confirmed a narrow approach as laid out above to only information related to Part 6.4 of the Code.

Our response

The Authority has identified one email within scope of your request, which we are releasing to you in part. Some information has been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons.

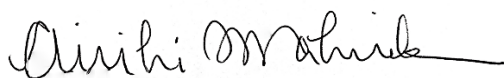
I am satisfied, in terms of section 9(1) of the Act, that the need to withhold the information referred to above is not outweighed by other considerations that render it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available.

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 Electricity 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 wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact us at oia@ea.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,



Airihī Mahuika
GM Legal, Monitoring and Compliance

From: [Emma Webley](#)
To: [Gary White](#)
Cc: [Catherine Marks](#); [Harpreet Singh](#); [Grant Benvenuti](#); [Janet Humphris](#)
Subject: RE: EA consultation on distributed generation pricing - interaction with EDB thresholds
Date: Tuesday, 29 April 2025 3:23:53 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.gif](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Hi Gary,

Thanks for the response, that's all fine I will look out for the decision paper when its released.

Ngā mihi,
Emma

From: Gary White <Gary.White@ea.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 April 2025 3:07 pm
To: Emma Webley <Emma.Webley@mbie.govt.nz>
Cc: Catherine Marks <Catherine.Marks@ea.govt.nz>; Harpreet Singh <Harpreet.Singh@ea.govt.nz>; Grant Benvenuti <Grant.Benvenuti@ea.govt.nz>; Janet Humphris <Janet.Humphris@ea.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: EA consultation on distributed generation pricing - interaction with EDB thresholds

Hi Emma

I have had a chat with the team leading the DG pricing work. They advise that the decision on the threshold for distributor involvement in generation wasn't front of mind when they were drafting the DG pricing issues paper.

We are currently considering submissions on the issues paper. We have not developed any proposals to change the Code. Noting the matter of making sure distributors are competitively neutral between their own DG and other parties DG, we can incorporate that into any future Code change proposals.

Happy to discuss if you wish.

Gary

Gary White
Principal Analyst

DDI: s9(2)(a)

M: s9(2)(a)



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www.ea.govt.nz



From: Emma Webley <Emma.Webley@mbie.govt.nz>

Sent: Wednesday, 23 April 2025 6:01 pm

To: Catherine Marks <Catherine.Marks@ea.govt.nz>; Gary White
<Gary.White@ea.govt.nz>

Subject: EA consultation on distributed generation pricing – interaction with EDB thresholds

Kia ora Catherine and Gary

One of our stakeholders has pointed out the Authority's consultation on DG pricing in this [Issues Paper](#).

In our advice on distributors investing in generation we did rely on Part 6 of the Code and noted that it constrains the ability of distributors to set prices for connection in a way that deters generators from connecting and that in particular it requires that distributed generation pays only for incremental costs, not contributing to shared network costs and how this is favourable regime for connecting generation.

What I can see from the issues paper is that the EA is looking at changing the way incremental costs are treated. I see that option four is the Authority's preferred option. Does the Authority have any thoughts on how these changes may interact with the removal of the thresholds for distributors investing? Or any thought to how the guidance would work in this scenario if option four was chosen?

Thanks
Emma

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