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Submissions
Electricity Authority

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By email: OperationsConsult@ea.govt.nz

Review of urgent Code amendment to the System Operator's information gathering powers

Nova Energy (Nova) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Authority's proposal to make permanent the urgent Code amendment expanding the System Operator's (SO) information gathering powers.

Nova agrees that it is important for the SO to have access to accurate and timely thermal fuel information. The events of 2024 showed that incomplete or delayed information can undermine security of supply assessments, increase uncertainty, and contribute to higher market prices. Having a framework that ensures regular information flows is important to maintaining confidence in the market.

While Nova supports the proposal to make the urgent Code amendment permanent, the current approach results in some duplication of reporting. Participants are already providing detailed thermal fuel information to the Electricity Authority (EA) on a weekly basis under Clause 2.16 requirements. Ideally, the EA would then share this information directly with the SO, which would remove the need for participants to provide similar information twice. This is not the only case where duplication of reporting exists.

Nova acknowledges that enabling this information sharing would require legislative change under section 47A of the Electricity Industry Act, which is not a practical option in the short term and would not meet the current timing needs. For this reason, Nova accepts that participants should continue to provide the necessary information directly to the SO for now. However, Nova strongly recommends that legislative change be considered and prioritised as a longer-term solution, to reduce duplication, streamline reporting, and improve efficiency.

In conclusion, Nova supports making the urgent Code amendment permanent as a pragmatic step to safeguard security of supply in the near term. At the same time, Nova encourages the Authority to explore and advance legislative amendments that would allow the EA to share data it already collects with the SO, creating a more efficient and enduring arrangement for the future.

Yours sincerely,



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