

Appendix E Format for Feedback

Exploring network visibility: costs, benefits and value

Submitter	Alpine Energy Limited
What is your interest in network visibility?	Electricity Distribution Business

Questions	Comments
Q1. Are you aware of the extent of the information currently being provided by distributors (including through disclosures)?	
Q2. How do current distributor disclosures support your understanding of available capacity, constraints and opportunities on: a) high-voltage networks? b) low-voltage networks?	
Q3. How are you making use of existing disclosures to support more efficient outcomes?	
Q4. Would changes to the type of data, format, regularity or granularity of distributor disclosures better support decision-making? Please provide detail.	
Q5. What other disclosures of network information would further inform your choices and decisions?	
Q6. What are distributors' perspectives on the value of collating and publishing network capacity information for their own businesses?	Collating and publishing information supports internal and external engagement. Publication of one 'source of truth' about network capacity can ensure consistency through planning functions across different teams. Published information is however a point in time view of the network, and this limits its value, compared to live capacity information.
Q7. What are distributors' perspectives on how well interested	Currently we do not see evidence of many interested parties using our published data frequently. Stakeholder engagement with network

parties are using the data they already publish?	data has been most evidently of value when it is targeted and specific to the stakeholder – for example, we host regular large customer forums and share targeted network constraint data with them. This is an efficient process and provides relevant and timely information to genuinely interested parties. Feedback from customers at these forums supports the value of this engagement mechanism for sharing network constraint data.
Q8. What are your perspectives on recent developments on access to smart meter data?	
Q9. Is the pace of distributor progress on developing the capability needed to support work on improving network visibility appropriate? If not, what are your expectations regarding timeframes?	
Q10. What are the barriers and costs to distributors in developing the capability needed to support work on improving network visibility faster?	
Q11. Do you agree that distributors having a better understanding of network capacity/constraints and publishing this information in an easily accessible way is in the long-term interest of consumers?	
Q12. Do you consider that there is a case for further regulatory intervention to further improve progress and the quality (e.g. timeliness, granularity, format standardisation) of disclosures that improve network visibility?	We consider there is a case for developing industry guidance or standards for improving visibility.
Q13. Do you consider that measures are needed to improve awareness of and encourage use of network visibility disclosures by interested parties?	We see value in industry and the EA working alongside interested parties to better understand information gaps, and how best to resolve these gaps. Network visibility disclosures designed to meet data needs of wide range of users may dilute the value for those most interested, be inefficient to prepare, and be out of date as soon as published. We believe there is an opportunity to provide targeted disclosures for discrete needs of different interested parties. Developing a ‘problem

	statement' for different interested parties data access issues would be helpful.
<p>Q14. If further work is required to support the development and use of network visibility, which approach do you prefer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) developing industry guidance or standards. b) introducing a regulatory backstop that would codify the industry guidance or standards. c) developing regulatory standards and timeframes for improving network visibility. d) something else. 	
<p>Q15. Do you support an approach that focuses on high-voltage networks first, or do you have another preference?</p>	<p>We support an approach that focuses on high-voltage networks</p>
<p>Q16. What other aspects of international developments relating to network visibility should we be looking at for lessons that could be considered in the New Zealand context?</p>	
<p>Q17. Do you consider that metering equipment providers should be required to publish schedules of available data and prices to improve transparency and reduce transaction costs?</p>	
<p>Q18. Do you consider that elements of Part 12A of the Code relating to default distributor agreements should be reinforced or extended to ensure consistent access to both consumption data and other types of data e.g. power quality from smart meters or other devices (such as inverters)?</p>	