

19 November 2025

Electricity Authority
By email: connection.feedback@ea.govt.nz

MAXIMISING BENEFITS FROM LOCAL ELECTRICITY GENERATION

1. We welcome the opportunity to submit our views in response to the Electricity Authority's (the Authority's) consultation paper – "Maximising benefits from local electricity generation". Aurora Energy was the first distributor in New Zealand to increase the distributed generation export limit to 10 kW and this has shaped our thinking about the future of small-scale generation on our network. No part of our submission is confidential.
2. We are of the view that self-consumption of solar generation, rather than exporting solar generation, provides greater benefits to the electricity system and greater economic benefits to the solar household. Pairing rooftop solar with battery installations can help smooth network peaks and allow consumers to avoid higher peak Time-of-Use charges.
3. We support the increase in the distributed generation export limit, but pricing signals need to evolve in parallel to ensure that there are sufficient incentives for battery adoption. The increase in export limits should strike a balance between enabling customers freedom to maximise the value of their solar investment, without incurring additional network costs that will be borne by customers without solar. If increased export results in additional network costs, then these costs will need to be recovered from export tariffs to ensure equity amongst consumers with, and without generation capabilities.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stone
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