
Export limits

From Kate Hodgins [REDACTED]
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To Connection Feedback <connection.feedback@ea.govt.nz>

[REDACTED]
Kia ora, I am submitting from the Castle Hill Community Energy Project.

Our community would support an increase to export limits to 10kw. We have had this feedback recently from a number of residents who invested in solar systems. Removing barriers to solar investment is particularly relevant for our community (and others like it) as installing solar/ battery storage in remote areas where properties are not the main residence makes less economical sense (as they generate less demand to offset) unless they can recoup costs by exporting excess power. The current arrangement curtails this ability.

However, there is a broader community benefit to having more solar generation in remote, high natural hazard areas such as Castle Hill, which sits in the Alpine Fault AF8 zone, and has experienced serious flooding and fire events within the past 5 years.

Firstly, more generation will build resilience through local generation during network outages, and Secondly, it will help to offset the need for otherwise expensive capacity upgrades for the lines infrastructure over time.

Increasing the export limit will encourage more residents to invest in solar systems.

Ngā mihi

Kate Hodgins