

Definition of small business Code amendment proposal

From Anne Scott

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To TaskForce <TaskForce@ea.govt.nz>

Kia ora

I do not support the 45kVA connection limit or 45kW maximum generation capacity limit as it limits many small and medium organisations and individuals from access peak distribution export tariffs. Trying to individually negotiate with distributers would be very difficult for small organisations as the distributers have too much power. What we need is many small suppliers in the system as this provides the most energy security and flexibility in our energy sector. Yes, this also requires a modernization of our existing grid practices to fully exploit the benefits. Energy will be cheaper for everyone if the peaks can be reduced as grid enhancements can be reduced or delayed. Fair payment encourages people or organisations to export when the price is higher. It would encourage more community groups to invest in batteries and solar that can benefit everyone in an emergency situation such as earthquakes or floods. There is resistance in many rural communities to providing EV charging (eg St Arnaud) because access to power is so limited in many remote areas. Encouraging farmers and local community groups to add solar and batteries is a much cheaper way to provide access to power for all needs. There needs to be a limit but it should be set much higher than the current proposal.

Regards Anne Scott