

Definition of small business Code amendment proposal

From Jo D

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To TaskForce <TaskForce@ea.govt.nz>

Kia ora Electricity Authority,

I am writing to urge you to reconsider your proposed limits on who can access your distribution peak export tariffs.

As outlined by Rewiring Aotearoa, the current proposal to restrict eligibility to connections of 45 kVA or less and generation capacity of 45 kW or less would unfairly exclude critical contributors such as schools, farms, marae and small businesses.

These community energy users are not well-placed to negotiate bespoke deals with their local Electricity Distribution Businesses (EDBs), yet they can deliver huge value.

Fair peak export payments would incentivise investment in solar plus battery systems that lower network congestion, reduce demand on the grid, and provide resilience, acting as local hubs during outages, especially for marae and schools.

Limiting access in this way risks undercutting the very purpose of the peak export rebate: to reward contribution when it matters most, and to avoid costly network upgrades.

If a cap is necessary, a more reasonable threshold would be up to 1 MW of generation and storage capacity, which would include many of these smaller, community-oriented generators while excluding large industrial-scale systems.

I strongly believe that every community should be able to benefit and contribute under a fair, equitable tariff structure. Thank you for considering this feedback.

Ngā mihi, Jo Drysdall