

Submission

Reducing barriers for new connections



19 December 2025

Fonterra welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the Electricity Authority's proposal to reduce barriers to new connections.

Fonterra is a dairy co-operative owned by over 8,000 New Zealand farming families with 28 manufacturing sites across the country, making us the country's largest exporter and a major supplier of dairy products to the domestic market.

Fonterra also supports the proposed code changes to clarify the Pioneer Scheme requirements. We do note, however, that clarity is needed where an existing connection has been implemented within the seven-year window prior to the 1st of April 2026 and EDBs are indicating that these connections are not capable of being classed as Pioneer Schemes.

There are also indications of initial connection enquiries prior to the 1st of April 2026 also resulting in non-inclusion into the Pioneer Scheme as subsequent connectors that will be required to pay compensation to the original pioneer. We recommend the EA considers this matter.

ENDS