Investment pipeline notice—Distributors

This investment pipeline notice is published under clause 2.16 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (Code). This notice applies from 1 December 2026.

Overview

Clause 2.16(1) of the Code enables the Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko (Authority) to publish a notice specifying information that a participant must, on a regular basis or as a result of an identified event, collect, collate and/or provide to the Authority.

The provision of the required information to the Authority as specified in this notice is for a purpose set out in section 45(a) of the Electricity Industry Act 2010 (Act), specifically to undertake market-facilitation measures under section 16(1)(f) and to undertake industry and market monitoring under section 16(1)(g) of the Act.

To whom the notice applies

The notice applies to distributors as defined in section 5 of the Act, but with the same exclusions as stated in clauses 6.2A and 6.2B of the Code.

When the information needs to be provided

Information is to be provided to the Authority monthly and should reflect the state of the investment pipeline as at the last day of each month. The deadline for provision is the fifth business day of the following month. Thus, the first set of information is due on 7 December 2026.

The Authority may extend the deadline but only in exceptional circumstances. If you wish to apply for an extension of time under this notice, please email monitoring@ea.govt.nz no later than 5pm on the last business day of the month stating your reasons for seeking the extension.

How distributors must provide the information to the Authority

Distributors must upload the required information as a CSV file using the Authority's secure file transfer facility. CSV files are to be created by utilising the UTF-8 character encoding standard. An option to save as a UTF-8 CSV file is available in Excel.

The Authority will provision an SFTP account if the distributor doesn't already have one. The details required for the Authority to provision an SFTP account and instructions on how to configure and use the SFTP facility will be supplied upon request by emailing data.products@ea.govt.nz.

We encourage distributors who need to set up a new SFTP account with the Authority to make their request well in advance of the deadline to provide data, as it may take some distributors several days working through their IT teams.

File-naming convention

Files are to be named according to the following format:

DistributorInvestmentPipeline-yyyymmdd-YYYYMMDD-HHMM.csv where:

(a) yyyymmdd is the last day of the month to which the data relates, eg, 20261130 if the data refers to the pipeline state as at the end of November 2026, and

(b) YYYYMMDD-HHMM is the date and time the file is submitted, eg, 20261207-1440 if the file is submitted at 2:40pm on 7 December.

The submission datetime need not be particularly accurate. The key is, if you need to submit subsequent files to correct any errors, that each file has a unique name with timestamps preferably in chronological order.

There is no need to specify company name in the filename as such information is automatically captured by the unique SFTP account assigned to each participant.

Information that must be collected and provided

Information is required for the following connection applications:

(a) Distributed generation (DG) applications with net export ≥ 300kW

(b) Load applications ≥ 500kVA.

Where a connection application covers multiple points of connection, such as for a new subdivision development, the load and generation thresholds apply to the aggregate capacity, as under clause 6.2AC of the Code. Progress through the Part 6 application process and project milestones for DG should reflect the progress of the overall project.

The information that distributors are required to collect and provide to the Authority under this notice for these applications is specified in the tables below.

For milestones relating to planning or land acquisition, only the status at the date of issuance of this notice and milestones reached thereafter are required to be provided. For example:

(a) if a consent is awaiting the result of an appeal (when this notice is issued), the date of the initial consent application is not required

(b) if legal proceedings for acquiring land have been completed, the date legal proceedings commenced is not required.

Projects that have more than one type of generation as part of a single project (for example, solar projects with associated battery energy storage systems) should be split into separate projects and given the same project name but different sub-project names. This will better enable the provision of information about the generating characteristics of each technology type.

Projects that include both generation and load components in a single connection application only need to be split into separate projects if the generation and load components are expected to progress at different rates.

The Authority does not expect that projects at an early stage in the application process will be able to provide confirmed information for each category. The Authority expects distributors to ask applicants to provide best estimates of all the information required by the notice for all projects, and for distributors to pass on all available information to the Authority—particularly in the "Project details" section.[1]

The Authority's approach to assessing and publishing information

The Authority has decided to group distribution-level projects with transmission-level projects and continue the current practice for both datasets, which is to only publish total MW in the generation pipeline at a regional level, while all other characteristics such as project status, fuel type, developer type, load type, load MW are only shown at a national level. The Authority does not consider this information to be confidential.

In addition, the Authority has decided it may in the future publish any of the quantities proposed in paragraph 5.27 of the decision paper, aggregated at a national level by any of

[1] Throughout this notice the term "applicant" has the definition in Part 1 of the Code.

the categories proposed in paragraph 5.26 of the decision paper (except for region). The Authority will endeavour to notify distributors and applicants before doing so, if it considers it necessary.

If publishing information at a more granular level than this is deemed desirable, the Authority will engage with relevant parties, before a decision is made on that publication, to assess the extent and risk to which individual projects could be identified.

The Authority will treat as confidential by default any information that could identify a project (unless that information is already in the public domain).

However, if the Authority wants to publish more granular information, it will require distributors to identify and/or ask applicants to identify any information that the distributor and/or applicant consider to be confidential, in accordance with clause 2.21 of the Code, and to explain why the information is confidential.

The Authority will handle this information in accordance with clause 2.22 of the Code.

More information is available at Information Management policy

Information will be published in aggregated form including by geographical region, developer type (gentailer or independent), generation category (firming or intermittent), generation technology, project status (committed, actively pursued or other), expected commissioning year, and load type, consistent with the current publication of data received from Transpower on the Authority's Generation investment pipeline.

Developer and location information

Column	Data type	Definition and Example	Purpose
ApplicationID	String	Identifier (intended to be a consistent value to help the Authority to avoid duplicating projects). This must be a unique key for each project and remain until it is commissioned or cancelled, after which the ApplicationID cannot be reused. Each project must be on a separate line of the file with its own ApplicationID. For projects with multiple stages progressing at different rates, each stage should use the same root ID with the stage indicated by a different letter at the end (or similar mechanism). Projects with both generation and load components progressing at different rates should also be treated like this. Projects with more than one type of generation (eg, solar and battery), should also be treated similarly. Each generation type should be on a separate line with the same root ID but a different suffix. eg, G12345A, G12345B Where projects have been split into two or more sub-projects as described above, they should have the same ProjectName but a different SubProjectName to indicate that they are distinct parts of the same overall project.	Generation developments may change owner, developer, location, and size. As such, the Authority considers maintaining a consistent identifier to track when projects change and avoid publishing duplicated information is necessary. It is necessary to split into sub-projects as described in order to track progress or to differentiate between components with different technical characteristics.
Proponent	String	The entity developing the project. If a joint venture, any entities participating in the joint venture should be listed. eg, Energy Company Limited. For multiple parties, include all names separated by a pipe character. eg, First Company Limited | Second Company Limited	Including information about the connecting party—and in particular about any additional parties involved—is necessary to match public information about projects to information provided under the notice. It also improves monitoring by providing information to assess the breakdown of developers investing in generation in New Zealand.

Column	Data type	Definition and Example	Purpose
Operator	String	For generation and storage projects that are required to offer into the wholesale spot market only. If the planned operator of the plant is different to the connecting party / proponent, then provide the name of the operator (ie, the entity that will be submitting offers for the generating station) eg, Operating Company Limited If this does not apply or is unknown, leave blank.	This is helpful for the purposes of matching offers to the generation fleet. The operator of a plant may impact offers.
ApplicationDate	Date	The date the initial application is received by the distributor, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31	Information on the time since the initial application will help the Authority monitor how long developments take to progress through the connection process, as well as monitoring trends in which projects are delivered.
ExpectedCommissioningDate	Date	The approximate date on which the applicant expects to commission the project, in YYYY-MM-DD format. If the expected commissioning month is not known (for example, for projects several years away from commissioning), use 31st December of the expected year of commissioning. eg, 2024-12-31	Collecting information on when the applicant expects to commission the project enables the Authority to assess the supply/demand balance, and to assess changes to project timelines over time.

Column	Data type	Definition and Example	Purpose
ReasonForDelay	Char(8)	For generation and storage projects only. If the expected commissioning date is later than previously provided, provide the main reason for the delay in commissioning. Selected from the options in bold below: • **CONSENT** - Consenting • **FINANCE** - Finance • **CONSTUCT** - Construction • **PRIORITY** - Prioritising other project(s) • **OIA** - Overseas Investment Act • **CONTRACT - negotiation** • **TECHNICAL - technical design or studies** • **LAND - land acquisition and negotiation** • **PROCUREMENT - delivery of equipment** • **OTHER** - Other • **N/A** Not case sensitive. If more than one reason applies, list the reasons separated by a pipe character. eg, Consent|Finance	Collecting information on the reason for delays informs the Authority about bottlenecks and barriers in the connection/development process.
Cancelled	Char(1)	If a decision has been made to not proceed with the project. Selected from: • Y • N	Necessary to keep the pipeline up to date.
ProjectName	String	The intended generating station/plant name. If no formal name has been selected, a name can be a working name or linked to the location of the proposed generating station eg, Wellington Solar Farm	Name information will help the Authority assess projects against any public or news information where necessary.

Column	Data type	Definition and Example	Purpose
SubProjectName	String	Where projects that have either multiple stages, or load and generation components progressing at different rates, or multiple generation types have been split into sub-projects as described under ApplicationID, enter a different sub-project name for each component. eg, BESS, Solar, Load, Generation, Stage1 Otherwise, leave blank	This will assist in distinguishing between distinct parts of the same overall project.
ConnectionLocation	Char(7)	The GIP/GXP that the connection is embedded behind, if known. Provide the GIP/GXP code - three letters followed by four digits. eg, KOE1101	Providing information on the location of projects supports better assessments of the supply/demand balance and availability of spare network capacity in different locations.
ZoneSubstation	String	Name of zone substation where (or behind which) the generation/load will be connected, if known. eg, Hobson	As above
LocationName	String	Provide a name of the location of the project. This could be the name of the nearest town, the region or the local authority eg, Wellington	As above
LocationLatitude	Decimal(9,5)	Latitude by global positioning system coordinates (degrees to 5 decimal places - a negative number), if project site is known or anticipated. eg, -35.21870	As above. Also enables the Authority to publish visual information about projects to provide better information on the regional breakdown of developments.
LocationLongitude	Decimal(9,5)	Longitude by global positioning system coordinates (degrees to 5 decimal places), if project site is known or anticipated eg, 173.75750	As above

Column	Data type	Definition and Example	Purpose
Part6ApplicationStage	String	Selected from: • InitialApplicationReceived • InitialApplicationApproved • InitialApplicationRejected • InterimApplicationReceived • InterimApplicationApproved • InterimApplicationRejected • FinalApplicationReceived • FinalApplicationApproved • FinalApplicationRejected • FinalApplicationLapsed • ConnectionContractNegotiated • ConnectionRegulated • ConnectionCommissioned Notes - ConnectionCommissioned means the distributor has completed and commissioned their assets. The applicant may not necessarily have completed and commissioned their plant. Where a connection application covers multiple points of connection, such as for new subdivision developments, this should reflect the status of the application as a whole.	Collecting information about where projects are in a distributor's application process will assist in determining the progression of a project. It will also help to assess how much information the Authority expects the applicant to provide. For example, projects at an early stage are unlikely to have any information available about consents, land, or financing.
ShareWithSO	Char(1)	Does the applicant give consent for the information about this project to be shared with the system operator? Selected from: • Y • N	Visibility of the generation pipeline will assist the system operator in managing system security.

Project details

Column	Data format	Definition	Purpose
MaximumExportCapacityMegawatts	Decimal(8,3)	For generation and storage projects only. The export limit applied to the connection if any (in MW or MVA), to a maximum of three decimal places. eg, 100, 0.650 If no export limit applied, leave blank.	Maximum export capacity is important for understanding the impact on the local distribution network.
GenerationActualCapacityMegawatts	Decimal(8,3)	For generation and storage projects only. The planned capacity of the generating station provided in MW, to a maximum of three decimal places. For solar generating stations, provide the MWac figure, ie, the total inverter capacity. For battery energy storage systems, provide the maximum discharge rate. For pumped hydro, provide the maximum generation capacity. For projects that are upgrades of existing generating stations, this should be the net increase in overall capacity in MW. eg, 100, 0.650	Capacity information for projects is necessary to assess capacity adequacy. This will also help the Authority assess how developments may change during the planning process.
GenerationPeakCapacityMegawatts	Decimal(8,3)	For solar generation projects only. Provide the MWp figure, ie, the total nameplate DC capacity of the PV modules under standard test conditions. For other technologies, leave blank. For projects that are upgrades of existing generating stations, this should be the net increase in capacity. eg, 100, 0.650	Collecting differentiated information about MWp and MWac will better enable the Authority to assess the capacity factor and projected annual GWh for solar projects.

Column	Data format	Definition	Purpose
ExpectedPeakDemandMegawatts	Decimal(8,3)	For load and storage projects only, including new subdivisions where total design capacity exceeds the threshold. The expected peak demand of the load, provided in MW, to a maximum of three decimal places. If MW value not available use the MVA value instead. For battery energy storage systems, provide the maximum charge rate. For pumped hydro, provide the maximum pumping load. eg, 100, 0.650	Capacity information for projects is necessary to assess capacity adequacy. This will also help the Authority assess how developments may change during the planning process.
CapacityFactor	Decimal(4,2)	For generation projects only. A best estimate of the expected capacity factor, to two decimal places. For projects that are upgrades of existing generating stations, this should be the increase in energy output relative to the increase in capacity. Provide a number between 0 and 1. eg, 0.95	Important for assessing the annual energy contribution of the plant. The Authority may be able to assess capacity factors using generalised capacity factors for different fuel types. For some fuel types, information provided by applicants will provide a better assessment of capacity factor. This is particularly the case for wind developments, where projects are based on site monitoring for expected wind resource.
ConnectionVoltageKilovolt	Decimal(7,3)	The connection voltage to the distribution network (in kV), to a maximum of three decimal places. eg, 11, 33, 0.400	This information improves the Authority's monitoring and helps with assessments of capacity on local networks.

Column	Data format	Definition	Purpose
GenerationTechnology	String	For generation and storage projects only. Selected from: • Onshore wind • Offshore wind • Photovoltaic panels • Hydro • Pumped hydro • Geothermal • Open cycle gas turbine • Combined cycle gas turbine • Co-generation • Rankine • Fuel cell • Chemical battery energy storage • Reciprocating engine • Other (please specify)	This information enables better assessment of security of supply, capacity factor, and likely offer structure.
FuelType	String	For thermal generation projects only. Selected from the options in bold below: • **Gas** – ie, natural gas • **Coal** • **Diesel** • **Biomass** • **Biogas** • **Hydrogen** • **Other** (please specify) If more than one fuel type applies, list the fuel types separated by a pipe character. eg, Gas|Coal	As above.

Column	Data format	Definition	Purpose
LoadType	String	For load projects only. Selected from: • Transport • Process heat • Data centre • Subdivision • Other load	This information matches the load categories for the Network Connections Project Stage 1 amendment, except for the additional 'subdivision' category, which is to be used where a connection application covers multiple points of connection.
AsynchronousOrSynchronous	String	For generation and storage projects only. Selected from: • Synchronous • Inverter-based • Other asynchronous Whether the generating station is synchronous, an inverter-based resource, or another type of asynchronous generator, eg, an induction machine directly connected to the AC system without power electronics. Classify Doubly fed induction generator (DFIG) as "Inverter-based".	This information will help the Authority assess the need for further policy work on frequency management, voltage and harmonics.[2]
GridFollowingOrForming	String	For inverter-based generation and storage projects only. Selected from: • Grid-following • Grid-forming Whether the inverter is grid-following or grid-forming. A grid-following inverter synchronises with the existing grid voltage and frequency and relies on the grid to set the reference and injects power accordingly. A grid-forming inverter can establish and maintain voltage and frequency on its own and doesn't rely on an external reference.	As above
StorageCapacityMegawattHours	Decimal(12,3)	For energy storage projects only, eg. chemical battery, pumped hydro. The energy storage capacity in MWh, to a maximum of three decimal places. eg, 120.5	This will help the Authority assess capacity adequacy to manage peak demand.

[2], Review of the Common Quality Requirements in the Code consultation papers, June 2024

Project stage (generation and storage only)

This information is only required for generation and storage projects and does not include load projects.

Where a connection application covers multiple points of connection, such as for new subdivision developments with rooftop solar PV covenants, milestones should reflect the progress of the overall project.

Information in this section will be aggregated to form the Authority's published project status (committed, actively pursued or other)—with some exceptions.

Category	Data format	Definition	Purpose
AnyMilestonesReached	Char(1)	Have any of the following milestones been reached yet? Selected from the options in bold below: • **Y** – one or more reached • **N** – none yet reached	Where all the milestone dates have been left blank, this will confirm that this was intentional.
LandNegotiationCommencedDate	Date	If the project proponent has commenced negotiations to acquire or lease land for the purposes of construction, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As per the definition for 'committed projects' in the Code: "The proponent has acquired or executed an agreement to acquire land (or commenced legal proceedings to acquire land), or has executed an agreement for the leasing of land, for the purposes of construction." This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication. This information will not be published individually, unless already public through other sources.
LandLegalProceedingsCommencedDate	Date	If the project proponent has commenced legal proceedings to acquire or lease land for the purposes of construction, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
LandCompletedLegalProceedings	Date	If the project proponent has completed legal proceedings to acquire or lease land for the purposes of construction, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above

Category	Data format	Definition	Purpose
Contracts	Date	As per the definition for 'committed projects' in the Code: "contracts for supply and construction of the major components of the plant and equipment (including any generating units, turbines, boilers, transmission towers, conductors, termination station equipment) have been executed (i.e. all the necessary formal legal requirements have been observed to make the contract valid and complete)" If this applies, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication. Our intent at this stage is that this information would not be published individually, unless already public through other sources. Developers would be requested to indicate when submitting information whether it is already in the public domain.
PlanningProcess	String	Select consenting process from the options in bold below: ▪ **COVID** - COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020 ▪ **FTAA** - Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 ▪ **IFTCA**- Resource Management (Natural and Built Environment and Spatial Planning Repeal and Interim Fast-track Consenting) Act 2023 ▪ **RMA** - Resource management Act 1991 ▪ **OTHER** (please specify)	As per the definition for 'committed projects' in the Code: "the proponent has obtained all required planning consents, construction approvals, and licences, and fulfilled any other regulatory requirement that must be met before commencing construction" This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication. Our intent at this stage is that this information would not be published individually, unless already public through other sources. Developers would be requested to indicate when submitting information whether it is already in the public domain.
ApplicationSubmitted	Date	Provide the date at which the project proponent first submitted an application for a consent, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 If this does not apply, leave blank.	As above
ConsentGranted	Date	If the consent has been granted, provide the date it was granted, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
ConsentDeclined	Date	If the consent has been declined, provide the date it was declined, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above

Category	Data format	Definition	Purpose
Appealed	Date	If the consent is subject to an appeal, provide the date the consent was appealed, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
AppealDecidedConsentApproved	Date	If the consent was subject to an appeal, the appeal has been decided, and the consent has been approved, provide the date it was approved, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
AppealDecidedConsentDeclined	Date	If the consent was subject to an appeal, the appeal has been decided, and the consent has been declined, provide the date it was declined, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
ConsentExpiryDate	Date	If the consent has been granted (and is not subject to any appeals), provide the expiry date of the consent, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	As above
Finance	Date	As per the definition for 'committed projects' in the Code: "contracts for the financing of the project, including any debt plans, have been executed (i.e. all the necessary formal legal requirements have been observed to make the contract valid and complete)" If this applies, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication. Our intent at this stage is that this information would not be published individually, unless already public through other sources. Developers would be requested to indicate when submitting information whether it is already in the public domain.
FinalInvestmentDecision	Date	If this milestone has been reached, provide the relevant date, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank.	Final investment decision may be separate to the finance indicator where contracts include preconditions relating to final investment decision. Collecting information about final investment decision improves the Authority's monitoring about the stage of projects.

Category	Data format	Definition	Purpose
ConstructionCommencementDateSet	Date	If a firm commencement date for construction has been set, provide the date that the project met the criteria, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 Otherwise leave blank. Note that this is not the date that construction will commence, it is the date that the construction commencement date was set.	As per the definition for 'committed projects' in the Code: "construction has commenced or a firm commencement date for construction has been set". This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication. Our intent at this stage is that this information would not be published individually, unless already public through other sources. Developers would be requested to indicate when submitting information whether it is already in the public domain.
EstimatedConstructionCommencementDate	Date	Provide an estimate of when construction will commence, in YYYY-MM-DD format. Be conservative, eg, if the expected month is not known (for example, for projects that are less advanced), use 31 December. eg, 2024-12-31	As above
ActualConstructionCommencementDate	Date	The actual date that construction commenced, in YYYY-MM-DD format. If construction has not yet commenced. leave blank. eg, 2026-12-31	If the estimated construction commencement date has passed this will indicate whether construction has actually started.
DateCommissioned	Date	Provide the date the load, generation or storage project was commissioned and became fully operational, in YYYY-MM-DD format. eg, 2024-12-31 If this does not yet apply, leave blank.	This information will inform the 'project stage' information for publication.

More detail on data formats is available at Data_types_for_clause_2.16_notices