

EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

8 May 2026

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1. Priority updates

Title	Comment
Fuel response	Public information campaign EECA is supporting MBIE to develop advice on the size and shape of our public information campaign. You received advice on options on the continuation of EECA's Phase 1 public information campaign on 8 May 2026. Once final Ministerial decisions are taken, EECA will give effect to any intentions to adjust spending in a timely manner. We will discuss this with you at the EECA officials meeting on 12 May, and MBIE recommends you discuss the options presented at the next Oversight Group meeting on 13 May. MBIE and EECA are currently working on advice on options and trade-offs for the Phase 2 campaign. You will receive this advice on 14 May. Targeted business support In parallel to its public information campaign, EECA has also developed a wider package as signalled in our last fortnightly report, targeting specific sectors and opportunities to reduce diesel consumption. Details on the package are outlined in the Appendix. Activities are based on previously successful initiatives, including our gas user support work, so are market-ready and able to be deployed swiftly. We were able to identify energy savings of 10-30% for gas users with equivalent supports. The package is capped at a total of \$1.35 million and is funded from baselines. Fleet offers are going live on Friday 8 May, with diesel boiler offers going live by Friday 15 May.
Gas users loan guarantee scheme	As previously advised, EECA is working with MBIE and Treasury on a gas transition loan guarantee scheme, via Budget 2026. The scheme will: • enable banks to offer discounts on their interest rate pricing on eligible lending; • encourage banks to increase their risk appetite in terms of lending to these projects, e.g. technology risk. However, for the scheme to be effective, businesses need to have 'bankable' projects. EECA wraparound support is intended to build and accelerate the pipeline of bankable or investment-ready projects and address other non-financial barriers that Businesses may face. We are working with MBIE and Treasury to shape up the package of supports, which would support eligible businesses to investigate project

Title	Comment
	feasibility and build strong investment cases ahead of seeking private lending. We will look to discuss this with you at the 12 May EECA officials meeting.
Low Emissions Heavy Vehicles Fund	We recently briefed you on two proposed initiatives to be funded through the Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF): a heavy vehicle charging demonstration initiative and 9(2)(f)(iv) (EECA 2026 BRF 012 refers). Following that briefing, you requested further advice on: - the LEHVF funding position - scheme design details for the heavy vehicle charging initiative 9(2)(f)(iv) We have now provided this additional information (EECA MEMO 184 refers) to support discussion at the 12 May EECA officials meeting.
Winter Energy Savings Campaign 2026	EECA has contributed to MBIE advice on the potential size and shape of potential 2026 Winter Energy Savings activities, in response to your request to MBIE officials on 27 April 2026 [Refer MBIE BRIEFING-REQ-0032164]. You have the opportunity to discuss possible options for the campaign with EECA officials on 12 May 2026.

2. Other updates

Title	Comment
Third Quarter Report and Statement of Performance Expectations	On 30 April 2026, we provided your office with our report for the third quarter of 2025/26. It gives a fulsome overview of EECA's progress to date, including updates on key work programmes, our financial position, and other organisational matters. We also shared a draft copy of our Statement of Performance Expectations 2026/27 for your feedback. It outlines our indicative work programme and budget for the coming 2026/27 financial year – focused on improving energy affordability and security and delivering our statutory function. We understand these documents have been included in your weekend bag. You will have the opportunity to discuss our progress for 2025/26

Title	Comment
	and forward plans for 2026/27 at the next EECA officials' meeting on 12 May 2026.

3. Ministerial servicing updates

3.1 Current and upcoming advice

Title	Purpose	Action and timing
EECA 2026 BRF 007 EECA Draft Statement of Performance Expectations 2026/27	To provide you with a draft copy of EECA's Statement of Performance Expectations 2026/27 for review and comment within 15 working days in accordance with the Crown Entities Act 2004.	SENT: 30/04/2026 ACTION BY: 21/05/2026
EECA MEMO 184 Further advice on proposed charging 9(2)(f)(iv)	To provide further advice on the proposed heavy vehicle charging initiative and 9(2)(f)(iv) to support a discussion at the 12 May EECA officials meeting.	SENT: 7/05/2026

3.2 Communications and events calendar

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
Early May	Milestone in broader vehicle-to-everything programme	EECA has released a market request for a new urban proposal on vehicle-to-everything (V2X) technology trial. The trial involves the testing of electric vehicles as mobile energy storage devices that can send power back to the grid, homes, or businesses (bidirectional charging) in a populated urban setting.	PR opportunity with an anticipated Auckland or Hamilton focus.

Date	Type	Activity/Event	Opportunities for engagement
May 2026	Milestone in broader programme / site visit	EECA and partner Rewiring Aotearoa will complete the first two household installations of V2X chargers as part of the Queenstown V2X pilot. The trial involves the testing of electric vehicles as mobile energy storage devices that can send power back to the grid, homes, or businesses (bidirectional charging).	Potential Queenstown site visit and a round table discussion with V2X industry participants. National PR opportunity (previous activity means existing interest – though not as high news value).
May 2026	Pre-Budget announcement	EECA and MoE have been working on a programme to provide solar panels to school buildings.	Potential joint ministerial PR.
9(2)(f)(iv)			

[illegible]

3.3 Official Information Act requests

Requestor	Request	Date received	Date due
9(2)(a) [REDACTED]	Information regarding insulation installed at her property.	10/04/2026	11/05/2026
[REDACTED]	Correspondence related to the 'Stretch every tank' campaign and a spending breakdown.	14/04/2026	13/05/2026
[REDACTED]	Requesting copies of several briefing papers related to the Technology and Fuel Enabler (TAFE), Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF), and Warmer Kiwi Homes programmes and budget.	14/04/2026	13/05/2026
[REDACTED]	Ministerial direction and correspondence related to the 'Stretch every tank' campaign. Budget information and a spending breakdown. As well as performance metrics.	20/04/2026	19/05/2026
[REDACTED]	Information relating to the 'Stretch every tank' campaign.	23/04/2026	22/05/2026
[REDACTED]	Requesting information about how personal health and medical circumstances of an applicant are considered in the assessment of applications under the Warmer Kiwi Homes programme.	24/04/2026	25/05/2026

3.4 Consultations underway

Strategic priority	Title	Purpose	Action and timing
Energy security and affordability	Attributes and competencies required for EECA approved solar installers	Trust in solar installer capability and system performance is a key barrier to uptake. This consultation is testing the best approach to supporting best practice.	Closes 15/05/2026

Appendix: EECA fuel response business supports

Action	EECA offer	Objectives
Freight and commercial fleet Basic steps like checking tyre pressure, improving fleet management, improving aerodynamics (ie, through covering trailers), cutting down on idling, vehicle maintenance and driver behaviour can save 10-20% of fuel costs.		
Fleet audit pilot \$50k	50% co-funding for fleet audits, capped at \$5k ex GST. Pilot for 3 months. For fleets with 20+ vehicles.	Help businesses without telematics to reduce their fleet costs, by providing insights for improved asset management and more efficient use of vehicles. This is the first step in shifting to an optimised fleet system.
Fleet optimisation support pilot \$300k	50% co-funding, up to \$30k ex GST. Pilot for 3 months. For fleets with 20+ vehicles.	Help businesses save on fuel costs by analysing existing fleet and telematics data, and identifying insights to drive short and longer term fuel efficiency opportunities. Most businesses collect data but many report they do not adequately analyse it.
In-cab driver coaching pilot \$300k	50% co-funding of 2-hour in-cab driver training, at \$260 ex GST per session. Pilot for 3 months.	Help heavy vehicle owners to reduce their fuel costs through driver training, without taking drivers off the road – which is a key barrier to this training. Initially run through TR Group customers due to scale, but open to offering through other training providers if suitable vendor is identified.
Diesel boilers Savings from no or low-cost actions can deliver 5% - 25% reduction in energy costs. Fuel switching could help to reduce costs for particular businesses and keep production in New Zealand.		
Diesel boiler walk-through \$300k	No cost to business. Maximum of \$3,000 excl. GST. Number capped at 100. Pilot for 3 months.	Support diesel users who are facing high prices to identify immediate actions that can be taken to improve energy efficiency on site, and options for new fuel or technology in the medium to long term.
Diesel boiler audit pilot \$200k	EECA will reimburse 40% of the costs of the audit and related report for eligible businesses up to a cap of \$20,000 excluding GST. Pilot for 3 months.	Help owners of complex diesel boilers or process heat systems to evaluate how diesel energy is being used in their process and plant and find effective opportunities to reduce diesel costs.
Feasibility studies and business case pilot \$50k	Co-funding capped at 40% of cost, up to maximum of \$50,000. Pilot for 3 months.	Support organisations using diesel boilers to create a business case for fuel switching.
Cross-cutting		
Targeted information \$150k	Targeted information on our website. \$150,000 over three weeks to drive web traffic.	Provide targeted information to support diesel users with the most effective evidence-based actions.