

# EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

12 July 2024

**EECA Contact:** Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

Phone: 04 470 2441 Mobile: 9(2)(a)

## The truck supplier for the 'Shovel-Ready' Hiringa Minimum Viable Hydrogen Network project has ceased its operations

With funding from the 'Shovel-Ready' COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, TR Group is delivering a fleet of 20 hydrogen fuel cell trucks, to complement Hiringa's network of four hydrogen refuelling stations.

Truck manufacturer Hyzon was contracted to build the 20 hydrogen trucks at its site in Australia. On 8 July 2024, Hyzon advised TR Group that its operations in Australia are ceasing effective immediately and it will appoint an administrator. To date, Hyzon had largely completed two of the 20 hydrogen trucks. 9(2)(b)(ii)

Hyzon was scheduled to deliver all 20 of the trucks by early 2025. It is highly likely the change in supplier will cause further delays due to lead times for components. 9(2)(f)(iv)

We will keep you informed as the situation develops.

## Low Emissions Heavy Vehicle Fund (LEHVF) launch plan

Following your approval on final aspects of programme design for the LEHVF (EECA 2024 BRF 008 refers), we are now moving at pace to implement the processes to accommodate the final scope, 9(2)(f)(iv)

9(2)(f)(iv)

## **Update on EECA's latest transport rounds**

## Update on the Urban Infill EV charging funding round

The Urban Infill EV charging funding round closed on 31 May 2024.

This round sought applications for chargers in locations where drivers would be for between 30 minutes and 2 hours, such as shopping locations, leisure facilities and community amenities.

9(2)(f)(iv)



Successful projects from Round 13 of the Low Emissions Transport Fund are ready to announce in July 2024

Successful Round 13 LETF projects are ready to be announced.

EECA has signed agreements with the 12 successful applicants. This has allocated co-funding of \$3.3 million (representing 33% of total project costs), leveraging \$6.7 million in private funding.

Approved projects include a large-scale bus depot charging system, port-based electric container handlers, electric digger technology and battery storage rapid EV charging infrastructure with the potential to earn revenue through trading in energy markets.

We plan to announce the successful projects through EECA's public facing channels in July 2024.

If interested, there is an opportunity for you to share information via your channels about successful projects from this funding round. We will engage with your office regarding potential announcement opportunities.

9(2)(f)(iv)	
	_

## The updated Regional Heat Demand Database (RHDD) is ready to go live

The Regional Heat Demand Database (RHDD)<sup>1</sup> is an interactive data visualisation tool that currently contains anonymised process heat data of large fossil fuel heat plant sites across the South Island. The tool includes sites with capacity of over 500 KW, and can be filtered by region/sector, with breakdowns by fuel type, and equipment numbers.

The database will be updated with North Island data in the week of 22 July. This update also includes a new visualisation tool with superior usability to allow for detailed data interrogation.

The tool is designed to provide the fossil fuel process heat data picture for the entire country. This valuable information has been used by government, the private sector and academia to inform energy and emissions modelling and analysis for business or policy decision making and infrastructure modelling.

The release of the updated tool will align with the release of a webpage of insights content, which we will promote through our channels.

Please refer to appendix one for an image of the draft landing page of the RHDD tool.

### EECA communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in bold.

Significant Events		
Date	Туре	Activity/Event
July 2024	PR/ promotion	We will publish the South Island RETA report with an accompanying PR. This report brings together and diffuses all the regional energy transition accelerator programme work undertaken in the South Island regions over the past two years.
July 2024	PR/event	We will work with your office on promotion opportunities for the successful projects in round 13 of the Low Emissions Transport Fund, which was focused on vehicles, technology & off-road (discussed above).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.eeca.govt.nz/insights/data-tools/regional-heat-demand-database/

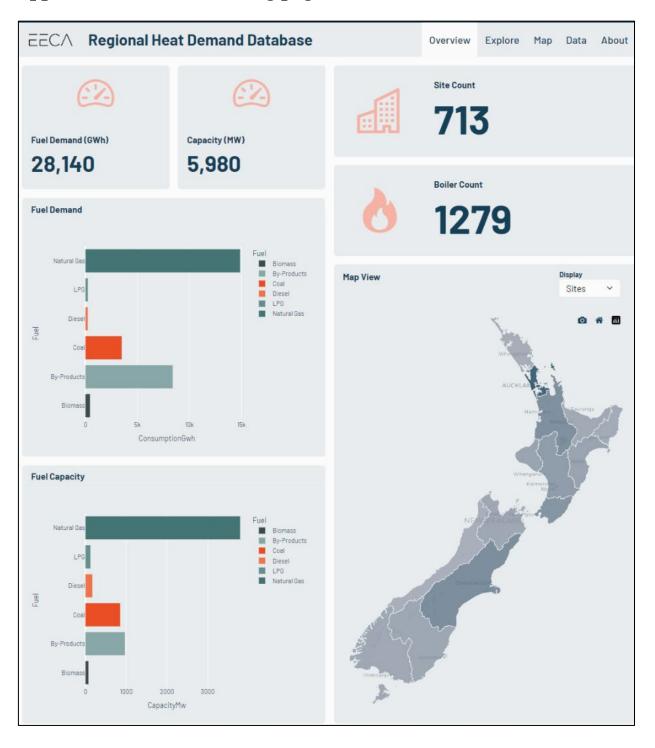
\_

9(2)(f)(iv)	

Upcoming items	Upcoming items to the Minister				
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required	
Will Jensen, Manager Policy & Engagement	Sent	EECA's final Statement of Intent 2024-2028 and Statement of Performance Expectations 2024/25	N/A	12 July 2024	
	Sent	Briefing: Supercharging EV Infrastructure Taskforce: Proposed approach to 2024 EV charging funding activity	Accompanying MoT briefing on the preferred future funding approach.	19 July 2024	
	Upcoming	Briefing: Low Emissions Transport Fund 2024/25 Focus	N/A	N/A	
	Upcoming (31 July)	2023/24 Fourth Quarter Report to the Minister for Energy	N/A	N/A	

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests				
Requestor	Туре	Request	Date received	Date due
None.				

## Appendix One: Draft landing page of the RHDD





# EECA's Fortnightly Report to the Minister for Energy

26 July 2024

EECA Contact: Will Jensen, Manager, Policy and Engagement

Phone: 04 470 2441 Mobile: 9(2)(a)

## Low Emissions Heavy Vehicles Fund (LEHVF) – further update on plans for announcement

On 1 August, we will begin the Invitation to Register (ITR) process to develop a 'whitelist' of vehicles that meet the criteria of the LEHVF. This will be published on EECA's website and on GETS. To maximise industry engagement with this process, we will be hosting a webinar on Tuesday 6 August, targeting relevant stakeholders identified through previous market engagement, and with advice (under embargo) from National Road Carriers and Transporting New Zealand.

	1	O			
9(2)(f	f)(iv)				

9(2)(f)(iv)	
9(2)(f)(iv)	

## You have requested regular updates to EV Charger figures

As part of the Government's goal of 10,000 public EV Chargers by 2050, EECA understands you would like to receive regular updates to public EV Charger figures. We will provide these on a quarterly basis, through our Fortnightly Reports.

Providing updates more frequently than quarterly is not currently feasible, as gaps in EVRoam data (that underpins EECA EV charger data) mean we need to manually follow up with charge point operators to identify missing chargers. 9(2)(f)(iv)

## 9(2)(f)(iv)

As well as total EV charger figures, we intend to provide you with the current ratio of chargers to EVs, as well as brief commentary on notable projects and industry activity.

We will provide you with the first public EV charger update in mid-August.

9(2)(f)(iv)	
9(2)(f)(iv)	

## Your office has requested further information on the FlexTalk 2.0 pilot

We recently completed the FlexTalk 1.0 pilot, which installed two-way smart EV charging functionality on three NZ electricity networks - Orion, Aurora and WEL. The project created a two-way communications platform from EDBs to 57 home/business EV chargers using an international standard/open communication protocol (OpenADR). This project was run in partnership with the Electricity Engineers' Association, and was an early opportunity to demonstrate real time utilisation of demand flexibility by EDBs via a digital platform.

We are now implementing a second stage of the pilot. FlexTalk 2.0 will add other consumer technologies onto the two-way communication platform created under FlexTalk 1.0 – e.g. electric hot water heating, space heating (heat pumps), solar PV etc. The 2.0 pilot focuses on

retrofitting 'smartness' to existing/installed appliances in NZ homes to rapidly show network optimisation and consumer cost reduction benefits. This is a key project to build confidence in smart technology and its potential to help solve security of supply issues.

### Next steps

- **Appliance Pilot**: technical testing of connectivity and interoperability of appliances is underway in ten homes. Once this is complete, EECA can expand this to the maximum pilot scale.
- Identifying supply 'pinch points': collaborating with EDBs to identify supply 'pinch points' on their low-voltage networks to locate where smart appliance connectivity would be most effective in alleviating supply constraints. The final scale of the pilot will be dependent on industry financial co-funding secured (which will determine the number of houses able to be connected). EECA are working with the Commerce Commission to enable innovation funding available under EDB default quality price path (DPP) settings to support industry investment.

Project planning for FlexTalk 2.0 will be completed by the end of September. We will continue to keep you advised of progress, via our fortnightly reports.

## Your office has requested further information on Regulatory Amendment 9

Regulatory Amendment 9 is a package of updates to existing regulations ensuring that energy using products supplied in NZ meet minimum energy efficiency standards and/or are labelled with consumer information on their energy efficiency. The impact of the regulations is on product users (through energy cost savings) and on the network (through energy conservation).

These amendments cover a range of products used in homes and businesses (chillers, air conditioners, clothes washers, clothes dryers, dishwashers, external power supplies, refrigerators, tubular fluorescent lamps, three-phase electric motors).

This package of updates will bring New Zealand into closer alignment with Australia. It will bring our requirements on energy efficiency in line with updates made in Australia from as far back as 2012. The amendments will therefore ensure that manufacturers and importers can no longer supply New Zealand consumers with less efficient products than those supplied to Australian consumers.

The amendments make changes such as widening the scope of some product classes, raising the minimum energy efficiency standards for other products and adjusting some point-of-sale energy efficiency labels on domestic appliances to convey more meaningful information to consumers.

New Zealand participates in a joint energy efficiency policy programme with the Australian Government and its states and territories, referred to as E3, on which you will soon be briefed. Arising from that programme are Ministerial agreements in principle (including by yourself as the Minister for Energy) to regulate specific products for energy efficiency in a consistent way across the Tasman.

Insights pipeline – upcoming insights and web-content in the works			
Indicative Timing	Туре	Insights	
Week commencing 22 July	Website content (data release and dashboard)	The Regional Heat Demand Database has been refreshed and now includes data for fossil fuelled process heat sites for the whole country. It is explorable by sector, region, demand, and fuel. The update will be published this week.	
August	Website content	Update to commercial solar content, including two small case studies:  • Sudima Hotels – use rooftop solar with a power purchase agreement  • Argosy Property Management – have purchased rooftop solar outright	
Week commencing 12 August	Package	To support the LETF round 13 (Off-road) announcement;  • Video case study featuring 3 businesses and their electric offroad equipment:  • Reliance Transport (electric reach stacker)  • Leach & Co (electric loader at Wellington Landfill)  • Fulton Hogan (electric loader)  • Detailed written case studies for each of the above  • Offroad electric vehicles insights piece and report	
Late August	Video	Tohu wines decarbonisation story, to support EECA's Wine Decarbonisation Pathway.	

September	Video	EV charging at accommodation.
TBC	Package	9(2)(f)(iv)
TBC	Case Study	Industrial demand flexibility solutions.

## EECA communications and events calendar

The following table shows upcoming events and communications which EECA is involved in. New items are shown in bold.

Significant Events			
Date	Туре	Activity/Event	
July 2024	PR/ promotion	As above, we will publish the first full national Regional Heat Demand Database. It is an open database that records aggregated data from existing process heat sites relying on fossil fuels, by region and sector as well as other useful breakdowns. We plan to make some targeted approaches to data and energy media.	
9(2)(f)(iv)			

9(2)(f)(iv)	

Upcoming items to the Minister							
Primary contact	Status	Item description	Notes	Response Required			
Will Jensen, Manager Policy & Engagement	Sent	Briefing: Supercharging EV Infrastructure Taskforce: Proposed approach to 2024 EV charging funding activity.	To accompany MoT briefing on the preferred future funding approach.				
	Upcoming (31 July)	2023/24 Fourth Quarter Report to the Minister for Energy.	N/A	N/A			

Active Official Information Act (OIA) requests						
Requestor	Туре	Request	Date received	Date due		
9(2)(a)	Departmental	The number of EV Charging stations (both public and private) in Wellington City, in the last five years	23 July 2024	20 August 2024		
9(2)(a)	Departmental	<ul> <li>Data from the Green Grid Study, or data regarding household appliance power ratings (kW),</li> <li>End use of energy data for individual dwellings, including background information on those dwellings.</li> </ul>	24 July 2024	21 August 2024		