

# ENERGY NEWS

## 2024 MEDIA KIT



## About

Launched in 2008, *Energy News* is New Zealand's daily online news and information service for the energy sector.

*Energy News* is a subscription-based website. Its independent editorial and research teams host daily news, executive interviews, opinions and commentary.

*Energy News* informs readers and assists high-level decision making around trends, projects and regulations influencing the sector.

A daily eNewsletter is sent directly to a reader's inbox.

*Energy News* hosts a suite of information resources including two large databases of sector participants and energy resources.

## Freeman

The publisher of *Energy News* is Freeman Media trading as Freeman. The company is an experienced information services provider to the New Zealand corporate community and was established in 2002 by Matt Freeman.

Freeman specialises in online subscription news and information services for specific business sectors, publishing a range of reports and maps, and running key industry events.

To learn more, visit [freemanmedia.co.nz](http://freemanmedia.co.nz)



**Adelia Hallett**  
**Editor**

Adelia has worked as a journalist and editor for a range of New Zealand media outlets, including the *New Zealand Herald*, Radio New Zealand and *Carbon News*. She has also worked in a variety of other roles in private companies, not-for-profits and the Government. She joined *Energy News* in 2024.

[adelia.hallett@freemanmedia.co.nz](mailto:adelia.hallett@freemanmedia.co.nz)  
+64 21 802 905



**Gavin Evans**  
**Group Editor**

Gavin started his career with the *Evening Post* in Wellington in 1987. He has spent the past 27 years in financial journalism, first with the NZ Press Association, and then *Bloomberg News*, *Energy News* and *BusinessDesk* prior to his current appointment.

[gavin.evans@freemanmedia.co.nz](mailto:gavin.evans@freemanmedia.co.nz)  
+64 27 433 5845

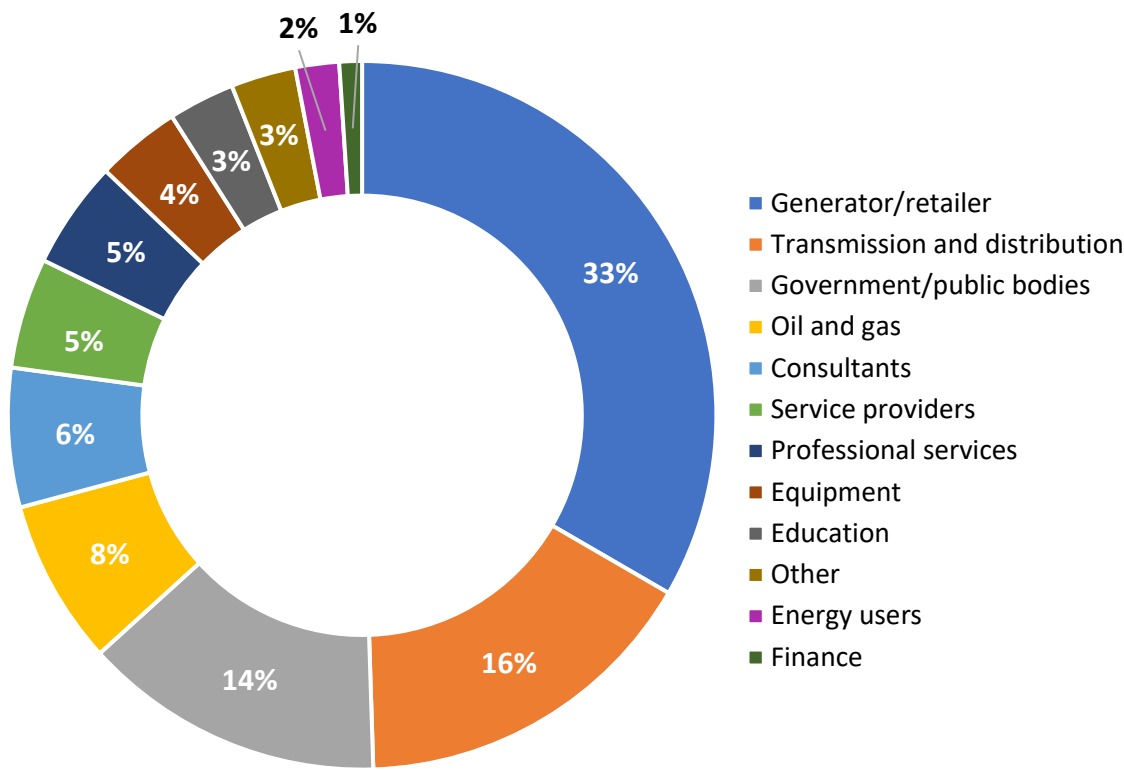


**Helen Ozolins**  
**Copy Editor**

Helen has 30 years' experience in business journalism, including more than 10 years at Dow Jones Newswires Global Desk in London and six years in the company's Wellington bureau. She joined Freeman in 2020, after a spell as Deputy Editor on CAANZ's *Acuity* magazine.

[helen.ozolins@freemanmedia.co.nz](mailto:helen.ozolins@freemanmedia.co.nz)

Subscribers by category



Audience

Energy News has a core of dedicated readers and subscribers from New Zealand organisations spanning the electricity, oil and gas, petroleum and alternative energy industries, who visit the site more than 4500 times weekly.

Energy News content is highly targeted, and our subscribers access editorial content, interviews, blogs, factfiles.

The daily eNewsletter drives busy professionals to the website with headlines and teaser articles to drive click-throughs.

Decision-makers read Energy News

352 organisations subscribe

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Average time spent per session: 4.1 minutes reading 2.9 stories per visit\*

Daily eNewsletter delivered to 5563 subscribers

\* Google Analytics



## Corroded grid needs \$36m fix

Eamon Rood

Widespread corrosion on conductors on the Bombay-Otahuhu regional network requires \$36 million in upgrades to maintain supply and support demand growth, according to Transpower and the Commerce Commission.

Transpower identified 969 corrosion defects on the South Auckland network where tensile strength has fallen to or below replacement criteria. The grid owner says conductors on the Otahuhu end require urgent intervention while conductors are rapidly deteriorating elsewhere.

[Read more](#)



## Quitting coal isn't easy

Steve Rotherham

Next year could see coal-fired generation rise again if persistent problems at the Pohokura gas field are coupled with low lake levels.

In 2019, 62 per cent more coal was burned to generate electricity than in 2018. This was partly because of a drop in the renewable share of generation – 82 percent in 2019, down from 84 per cent in 2018. But it was mostly because of problems at New Zealand's largest gas field.

[Read more](#)



## WEL posts big profit on UFF sale

Andrew Johnsen

Hamilton-based electricity distributor WEL Networks posted a strong profit following the sale of UFF Holdings.

Unaudited total net profit increased to \$209.6 million in the 2021 financial half year 30 September, up from \$21.1 million in the prior comparable period – a rise of 895 per cent.

The total net profit includes the gains from the sale of UFF.

The sale of UFF, the holding company for broadband business Ultrafast Fibre, to Sydney-based First State Investments for \$854 million was completed on 30 September.

[Read more](#)



## Methanol, ammonia for clean marine fuels

Andrew Johnsen

New shipping fuel standards could accelerate the shift to cleaner marine fuels, according to ship classification organisation DNV GL.

It assessed a dozen different fuel types in 30 different hypothetical market and regulatory scenarios, and found ammonia and methanol are among leading options for cleaner deep-sea shipping fuels. New Zealand produces both.

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## Publication

- Ads run for a week Monday 10am to Monday 10am
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- Always check availability as we sell out

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**What should be the energy minister's top priority over the next three years?**

- A transition plan for Tairāwhiti
- Policies that will help rebuild the economy
- Electricity Price Review recommendations
- Electrifying transport
- Decarbonising process heat
- Lake Onorou pumped hydro
- Finding viable alternatives to Lake Onorou
- Expanding solar, batteries and DER
- Fostering green hydrogen
- Energy efficiency and demand management
- Securing gas supply
- Tui decommissioning
- Something else

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**Climate emergency sets public sector emission targets**

*Edmon Road - Thu, 3 Dec 2020*

New requirements for adding electric vehicles to public sector fleets mark a tangible step towards the Government's decarbonisation goals, says Mercury chief executive Vince Hawksworth.

The mandate is part of a larger Government initiative for a carbon-neutral public sector by 2020 under a programme announced today as part of Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern's climate emergency declaration.

Hawksworth says this announcement is an important signal.

"It will edge New Zealand further towards the tipping point for transport electrification."

**Read more**

**Synlait makes sustainability gains**

*Edmon Road - Thu, 3 Dec 2020*

Synlait expects a plate heat exchanger to save 700 litres of diesel every day or 600 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent from its Tairāwhiti Cheese factory in Teitua, South Canterbury.

When it bought Tairāwhiti last year, the dairy processor installed a diesel boiler that emitted 800 t of CO2e in the year ended 31 July 2020.

The heat exchanger, commissioned in August, will reduce heat loss by 20 per cent, saving energy and emissions in the process.

**Read more** 2 comments 2 new comments

**Big Pohokura production downgrade for 2021**

*Steve Rotherham - Wed, 2 Dec 2020*

OMV has notified Contact Energy that its estimate of available gas supply for 2021 from the Pohokura and Maui fields has dropped by 25 per cent.

OMV previously expected to produce 14.3 PJ of gas for Contact Energy from its New Zealand operations in 2021. It now says it expects only 10.6 PJ will be available for Contact next year.

The problem lies at Pohokura, which produced 67.7 PJ in 2019, but is now expected to produce only about 30 PJ in 2021. OMV says investigations into the field's production decline are continuing.

**Read more**

**Small generators face unfair barriers – IEGA**

*Edmon Road - Wed, 2 Dec 2020*

Regulatory barriers to small-scale generation underscore how its role in supporting national grid stability is undervalued, the Independent Electricity Generators Association says.

IEGA says costs and consenting hurdles for plant below 10 MW capacity are disproportionate, particularly for renewable projects, even though they play a key role supplying local networks and managing intermittency.

**Read more**

**Flexibility needed to fix gas supply squeeze**

*Steve Rotherham - Wed, 2 Dec 2020*

The country needs more flexibility for remaining natural gas plants to help protect energy security and deliver a smoother transition to decarbonisation, according to a Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand cost-electricity study.

"New Zealand's energy security is at risk," says PEPANZ chief executive John Carnegie.

"Despite having our own natural gas here in the ground, we could end up reliant on imported LNG from Australia if we aren't careful."

**Read more**

**TLC to build new substation**

*Andrew Johnson - Wed, 2 Dec 2020*

The Lines Company's multi-million dollar investment in a new purpose-built zone substation at Valhalla will help meet growing electricity demand in Te Kaiti, according to the King Country electricity distributor's chief executive Sean Hogan.

Hogan says the region's rising population and growing industrial loads are driving up demand on the current Valhalla substation.

The new 33/11 kV substation will have two switch rooms built and fitted with switchgear, transformers, cabling, and protection and control equipment.

**Read more**

**Trustpower hydro upgrades on track**

*Andrew Johnson - Tue, 1 Dec 2020*

Trustpower is on course to reach its targeted increase in annual generation, according to general manager of generation Stephen Fraser.

The Taungira-headquartered generator-retailer is implementing efficiency and upgrades to augment its year's generation by 67 GWh from March 2020 to March 2025. Trustpower is also targeting \$20 million in efficiency improvements through resource consents, availability and reliability initiatives.

"We are progressing well and are on track to achieve this goal," Fraser tells Energy News.

**Read more**

**'Digital twins' for NZ DER study**

*Andrew Johnson - Tue, 1 Dec 2020*

Counties Power and Perth-based energy data start-up Gridconnection are launching a pilot study to understand large distributed electricity resources (DER) opportunities on the Counties Power network.

The collaboration will see Gridconnection create a 'digital twin' for different types of distributed energy assets at three potential pilot sites.

- a solar-equipped, energy-hungry manufacturing plant
- a utility-scale renewable generation site
- a commercial building with solar generation and battery storage

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**Hancock's blog**

*What Seba didn't predict*  
John Hancock

*Seba on AV safety by 2020*  
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**Former National Party energy spokesperson Jonathan Young**  
*Bernie Nepp*

Jonathan Young will exit Parliament after four terms.

- Minister for Climate Change James Shaw
- BEC executive director Tina Schirr
- PEPANZ CEO John Carnegie
- Electricity Authority CEO James Stevenson-Wallace
- PEPANZ CEO Cameron Madgwick

**News briefs**

- New GM technology and delivery for Trustpower
- ChargeNet launching EV hyperchargers
- Gentrack earnings drop 61 per cent
- Momentum building for Emissions Workshop
- Survey takes the pulse of NZ electricity sector
- Changing of the guard on Contact board
- New board member for WESC
- Bundling solar with broadband

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**Upcoming petroleum permit commit-to-drill deadlines**

Permit	Deadline
PEP 57073 (Offshore)	31/03/2021
PEP 60087 (Wairarapa)	1/04/2021
PEP 60087 (York East)	1/04/2021
PEP 60088 (Tairāwhiti)	1/04/2021
PEP 60089 (Koromiko)	1/04/2021
PEP 60091 (Te Whaiti)	1/04/2021
PEP 60092 (Pukekohe)	1/04/2021
PEP 60093 (Tairāwhiti)	1/04/2021
PEP 60094 (South Basin Boundary)	1/04/2021
PEP 60273 (Tairāwhiti)	1/04/2021
PEP 60402	20/12/2021

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**Is galvanised hardware on your network letting you down?**

Benefits from enhanced corrosion protection for line hardware and substation components with TQC, which offers superior steel protection, is less harmful to the environment, and costs less than stainless steel.

Do you have corrosion problems in line and substation hardware that is prematurely limiting the life of your electrical equipment?

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**Axos Systems: Data management in a post DDA world**

Early in 2021 distributors and traders will be able to do business under the new Default Distributor Agreement. The DDA brings about a number of changes. One of the changes is improved clarity in the provision of consumption data to distributors by traders (Section 12A, Appendix C). This has and continues to be a contentious issue between industry players.

**Read more**

**Lessons learnt from WE' resiliency project**

Without a robust power supply, essential facilities might not operate following a significant seismic event. With around 20,000 earthquakes in New Zealand each year (GNS Science, 2018), and the likelihood of a significant seismic event occurring in the future, the seismic strengthening of Wellington Electricity's substation buildings is paramount to ensuring essential facilities can continue.

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**White Papers**

**Breaking down commercial barriers to sustainable hydrogen**

*energynews.co.nz*

In their latest thought leadership paper, Valley Water to explore an industry for hydrogen facilities at wastewater treatment commercialisation of a hydrogen industry.

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**Taking the guesswork out of your energy operation**

New technologies have the potential to make your energy operation more efficient. You only have to look at the stability of the network. People typically drive them during the day and recharging in urban puts massive pressure on the electricity network.

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**Hybrid power plants, a one-stop flexible power solution**

More flexibility, reliability and revenue – Aggreko's hybrid solutions let you efficiently combine renewables with thermal generation and battery storage. Generators running on diesel or gas have been providing reliable power for years. Especially in remote areas, they were often the only choice to ensure safe and stable electricity supply to communities and businesses.

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**Topic cloud**

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**Building Infrastructure for the renewable energy sector**

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**Featured content**

**Geothermal 'not renewable' - Ecotricity**

*Andrew Johnson*

Geothermal energy's emissions are so high that it should be classified as non-renewable thermal, according to Ecotricity's submission on the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's Accelerating renewable energy and energy efficiency discussion paper.

The electricity retailer says geothermal creates 747,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent each year in New Zealand...

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**Time to remove barriers to solar expansion**

*Edmon Road*

Regulatory and market barriers, as well as a lack of government support, mean solar generation is underused in New Zealand, according to several industry participants.

Solar installation has increased in New Zealand since 2010, but still accounts for only 1 per cent of total generation capacity – much lower than in Australia, the USA, and the European Union.

Trustpower's

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**Columns**

**Show Forces muscled on**  
*Matt Burgess*

**Power to the insurers**  
*Clive Berry*

**Market-making to shake up retail competition**  
*Robert Allen*

**NZ needs a big battery – and soon**  
*Andrew Crossland*

**Recent comments**

**Synlait makes sustainability gains (2)**  
Thanks for pointing that out. The fuel savings are per day, not per year. That has been corrected.  
*Edmon Road*

**Synlait makes sustainability gains (2)**  
Synlait expects a plate heat exchanger to save 700 litres of diesel every year or 600 tonnes of carbon dioxide.  
*John Hancock*

**What Seba didn't predict (3)**  
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*John Hancock*

**What Seba didn't predict (3)**  
Hang on lets compare NZ prices - Telra's EV will have the performance of a Porsche 911 for the price of a Toyota.  
*Anonymous*

**Most commented**

**Really smart charging** 38

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
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Breaking down commercial barriers to sustainable hydrogen production

In their latest thought leadership paper, Jacobs partner with Yarra Valley Water to explore an industry-first idea: 'what if' co-locating hydrogen facilities at wastewater treatment plants could catalyse the commercialisation of a hydrogen industry?


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Taking the guesswork out of your energy operation

New technologies have the potential to cause all sorts of issues for the energy sector. You only have to look at the effects of electric vehicles on the stability of the network. People who own these vehicles typically drive them during the day and plug them in when they arrive home. Recharging in unison puts massive pressure on the electricity network.


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## Contact

Jeannie Stirling

Advertising

jeannie.stirling@freemanmedia.co.nz

+64 22 105 6807



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L11, Morrison Kent House  
105 The Terrace  
PO Box 24349  
Wellington, New Zealand