



PROACTIVE RELEASE COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Chris Bishop	Portfolio	Responsible for RMA Reform
Name of package	Proactive release of Cabinet paper - NES for Electricity Network Activities and NES for Telecommunication Facilities and minor amendments	Date to be published	14 October 2026

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
7 September 2026	Updating RMA national direction – NES for Electricity Network Activities, NES for Telecommunication Facilities and minor amendments to the NES for Detached Minor Residential Units and NES for Marine Aquaculture – Approval for submission to Executive Council 26-CAB-01289	Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions & Transport
3 September 2026	Cabinet Legislation Committee Minute LEG-26-MIN-0190	Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions & Transport
7 September 2026	MARKED UP Report of the Cabinet Legislation Committee Minute CAB-26-MIN-0292	Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions & Transport
4 August 2026	Updating RMA National Direction - Ministerial consultation on draft Cabinet Legislation paper - NES for Electricity Network Activities and NES for Telecommunication Facilities and minor amendments 26-BRF-01912	Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions & Transport

Information redacted **YES**

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions, and Transport's policy on proactive release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Summary of reasons for redaction

Out of scope Cabinet papers have been withheld.

In Confidence

Office of the Hon Chris Bishop Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

LEG - Cabinet Legislation Committee

Updating RMA national direction – NES for Electricity Network Activities, NES for Telecommunication Facilities and minor amendments to the NES for Detached Minor Residential Units and NES for Marine Aquaculture – Approval for submission to Executive Council

Proposal

- 1 This paper seeks Cabinet authorisation to submit the following amended Resource Management Act (1991) national environmental standards to the Executive Council:
 - 1.1 amendments to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Activities) Regulations 2009 (NES-ETA EV), which will be renamed the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities (NES-ENA)
 - 1.2 amendments to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Regulations 2016 (NES-TF)
 - 1.3 amendments to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Regulations 2025 (NES-DMRU)
 - 1.4 amendments to the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Regulations 2020 (NES-MA).

Relation to government priorities

- 2 The NES-ENA and NES-TF deliver on the Government's commitments under Infrastructure for the Future and Electrify NZ (National Party policies). They will remove unnecessary regulatory barriers to infrastructure delivery and support the Government's target to double renewable electricity generation by 2050.

Executive Summary

- 3 On 1 July 2024, Cabinet agreed to develop and amend a large suite of RMA national direction [CAB-24-MIN-0246 refers] and on 12 May 2025, agreed to commence public notification and statutory consultation on 16 proposed new and amended national direction instruments [CAB-25-MIN-0151 refers].¹ This programme of change to RMA national direction is the biggest in New Zealand's history. It will have an immediate impact on the performance of the current resource management system, removing

¹ The proposed national direction was split across three packages: Package 1: Infrastructure and development national direction, Package 2: Primary sector national direction, Package 3: Freshwater national direction. Package 4 was on Going for Housing Growth policy and how it will be implemented in the new system. Statutory consultation on the proposals in package 1 and package 2, and non-statutory consultation on package 3 ran from 29 May 2025 to 27 July 2025. Non-statutory consultation on package 4 ran from 18 June to 17 August 2025.

barriers that would delay infrastructure delivery and hinder the transition to the new planning system.

- 4 Discussion documents on the proposed national direction were released in May 2025 for eight weeks of public consultation. Fifteen new or amended national direction instruments have been gazetted since December 2025 as part of the programme [CAB-25-MIN-0476², CAB-26-MIN-0113³, CAB-26-MIN-0148⁴ and CAB-26-MIN-0186⁵ refer].
- 5 I seek Cabinet authorisation to submit the final two drafted amendment instruments, the NES-ENA and NES-TF, to the Executive Council.⁶ This will complete the delivery of the largest single package of new and amended RMA national direction to date. I am satisfied that all statutory requirements have been met.⁷
- 6 I also seek Cabinet authorisation to submit minor amendments to the NES-DMRU and NES-MA to resolve two minor errors identified through implementation. The NES-DMRU was gazetted on 18 December 2025 and the NES-MA on 7 May 2026. I seek a further decision from Cabinet to waive the 28-day rule for the commencement of the minor amendment to the NES-DMRU.
- 7 I have considered the submissions and recommendations reports for the proposed NES-ETA EV and NES-TF amendments and have made all post-consultation policy decisions under section 44(2) of the RMA, in consultation with relevant portfolio Ministers under the authority granted by Cabinet [CAB-25-MIN-0151 refers].
- 8 Subject to approval by the Executive Council, the proposed NES-ENA, NES-TF and minor amendment to the NES-MA (appendices 1, 2 and 11) will be gazetted on 10 September 2026 and come into force 28 days later on 8 October 2026. The minor amendment to the NES-DMRU will be gazetted on 10 September 2026 and come into force the day after notification in the New Zealand Gazette.

Background

- 9 Cabinet previously agreed to develop and consult on amendments to the NES-ETA EV and NES-TF and granted authority to make final policy decisions [CAB-24-MIN-0246; CAB-25-MIN-0151]. Those decisions have been drafted into the attached instruments, which now require Cabinet authorisation for Executive Council submission.

² This included giving notice of three new instruments (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units, National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards and National Policy Statement for Infrastructure) and seven amended instruments (National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land, New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity, National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, National Environmental Standards for Freshwater, National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation, National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks).

³ This included giving notice of the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Activities, and Stock Exclusion Regulations.

⁴ This included giving notice of the National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture and the National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry.

⁵ This included giving notice of the National Environmental Standards for Papakāinga.

⁶ The Prime Minister has agreed that the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform has portfolio responsibility for Phase 2 national direction statutory decisions. The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform can exercise these powers in accordance with section 7 of the Constitution Act 1986.

⁷ The statutory requirements referred to sit under sections 44 and 46A of the RMA. These sections set out the process for developing national direction.

Policy

- 10 The drafted amendments to the NES-ETA EV and NES-TF are designed to deliver a nationally consistent and enabling planning framework for electricity and telecommunications infrastructure.
- 11 Progressing the changes to the NES-ETA EV will enable the operation, maintenance, upgrading, development, and protection of electricity transmission and distribution networks. It also complements the recent amendments to the instrument that enable electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- 12 Progressing the changes to the NES-TF will support efficient telecommunication infrastructure roll-out and network upgrades, reflecting modern technology and evolving urban environments, to meet the connectivity needs of New Zealand households and businesses.
- 13 I have considered the submissions and recommendations reports on the proposed instruments and have made final policy decisions which will support the transition to the new planning system and improve clarity, workability and consistency. I made these decisions under section 44(2) of the RMA and discussed them with relevant portfolio Ministers, consistent with the authority previously granted by Cabinet [CAB-24-MIN-0246 refers].
- 14 I confirm that the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026 (appendix 1) and the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026 (appendix 2) enact my policy decisions.
- 15 The minor amendment to the NES-DMRU clarifies the original policy intent that minimum setback requirements under the NES-DMRU and the corresponding building consent exemption under the Building Act 2004 are measured consistently. The building consent exemption is applied from the external face of the wall cladding, while the NES-DMRU could be interpreted as measuring from the building's outermost features, such as eaves and gutters. This could require some granny flats to be set back further from the main dwelling or legal boundaries than intended to meet both exemptions, or otherwise require resource consent.
- 16 This outcome is unintended. An urgent amendment will address this ambiguity identified by stakeholders to clarify the original policy intent, improve consistency across both frameworks, and provide greater certainty for homeowners, local authorities and builders.
- 17 The minor amendment to the NES-MA corrects an error that was made in the NES-MA, gazetted on 7 May 2026. The correction is to remove regulation 62(2)(f)(vi). Regulation 62 relates to research or trial activities that involve aquaculture activities outside marine farms and provides a list of areas where research and trials cannot be conducted. Regulation 62(2)(f)(vi) relates to an area of effects around the footprint of a marine farming activity rather than an actual location for a research or trial activity. The regulation is therefore redundant and retaining the provision could lead to confusion by councils implementing the NES.

Timing and 28-day rule

- 18 This paper seeks a waiver of the 28-day rule for the NES-DMRU Order in Council (OIC) to allow the amendment regulations to commence the day after the date of their notification in the New Zealand Gazette.
- 19 Early commencement of the amendment regulations is necessary to avoid the purpose of the secondary legislation being defeated. The amendment will clarify the original policy intent of the NES-DMRU and avoid otherwise compliant detached minor residential units requiring resource consent as a result of the ambiguity in how the setback is measured. I consider this reason is consistent with clause 7.101(d) of the Cabinet Manual.
- 20 If the waiver is granted, the amendment will come into force on 11 September 2026.

Compliance

- 21 The instruments comply with:
- 21.1 the rights and freedoms contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 or the Human Rights Act 1993
 - 21.2 the principles and guidelines set out in the Privacy Act 2020
 - 21.3 relevant international standards and obligations
 - 21.4 the Legislation Guidelines (2021 edition), which are maintained by the Legislation Design and Advisory Committee
 - 21.5 the principles of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025.
- 22 I am also satisfied that the development of the NES-ENA and NES-TF has met the requirements of sections 44 and 46A of the RMA, including the requirements for notification and consultation, and for preparing, considering, and releasing reports and recommendations on national direction proposals. The reports and recommendations for the proposed NES-ENA and NES-TF were publicly released on 4 May 2026, meeting the requirements of section 44(1)(b) of the RMA.⁸
- 23 I consider that the recommended amendments to the NES-DMRU and NES-MA meet the requirements under section 44(3)(f) of the RMA to make changes that are no more than minor in effect, to correct errors, or to make similar technical alterations. I have also considered whether it would be more appropriate to follow the section 46A process, as required by section 44(4)(a) of the RMA.
- 24 I therefore recommend that Cabinet authorises submission of the instruments to the Executive Council.

⁸ When the proposed instruments are gazetted, an addendum to the reports and recommendations for the proposed NES-ENA and NES-TF will be publicly released. The addendum will cover further policy decisions made since 4 May and provide a clear record of all decisions in one place.

Treaty of Waitangi

- 25 Consultation and Treaty impact analysis prepared for the proposed instruments have informed my policy decisions and the associated regulatory impact statements (RIS).
- 26 The Crown has ongoing commitments to iwi and hapū through deeds of settlement, Treaty settlement legislation, and other relevant arrangements. The proposed instruments do not alter the operation, status, or effect of Treaty settlement commitments, and existing settlement obligations will continue to apply unaffected.

Certification by Parliamentary Counsel

- 27 The following national environmental standards have been drafted and certified by PCO as being in order for submission to Cabinet:
 - 27.1 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 27.2 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 27.3 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 27.4 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026

Regulatory Analysis

- 28 Two RIS have been prepared to support the proposed amendments to the NES-ETA EV and NES-TF and informed my final policy decisions. Both RIS have been updated to reflect submissions and subsequent information. The final RIS, including quality assurance statements, are attached as appendices 3 and 4. An addendum outlining minor changes to the NES-ENA RIS is attached as appendix 5.
- 29 All RIS were independently reviewed by quality assurance panels comprised of officials from the Ministry for the Environment (now the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (MCERT)).
- 30 The RIS for the amendments to the NES-ETA EV received a quality assurance rating of “Partially meets” (appendix 3). The RIS for the amendments to the NES-TF received a quality assurance rating of “Partially meets” (appendix 4).
- 31 MCERT considers that a Regulatory Analysis Summary (RAS) is not required for the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026 or the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026 as the changes have no or only minor economic, social, or environmental impacts and the relevant issues have already been adequately addressed by existing regulatory impact analysis.

Climate Implications of Policy Assessment.

- 32 The Climate Implications of Policy Assessment (CIPA) team has been consulted and noted that the proposal to amend the NES-ETA EV and NES-TF helps to deliver five

Emissions Reduction Plan 2 (ERP2) actions.⁹ The CIPA team cannot confirm whether the CIPA requirements apply to this proposal, as potential emissions impacts of the decisions could not be assessed in the time available. Sufficiently detailed quantitative evidence on the type, scale and location of future activities is also not currently available to support robust emission impact modelling.

Consistency with principles of responsible regulation

- 33 I am satisfied that neither the NES-ENA nor NES-TF pose an inconsistency with the principles of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025. This has been confirmed by the Consistency Accountability Statements (appendices 6 and 7), which were signed by the Ministry for the Environment's Acting Chief Executive.
- 34 The Consistency Accountability Statements are supported by Summaries of Underpinning Analysis (appendix 8 and 9).
- 35 The Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026 and the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026 are excluded from Consistency Accountability Statement and Summary of Underpinning Analysis requirements.¹⁰

Publicity

- 36 The regulations will be publicised through notice to submitters, local authorities, Government website updates, and letters to post-settlement governance entities to comply with section 44(5) of the RMA.
- 37 I will also publish my reasons for making the minor amendments to the NES-DMRU and NES-MA on the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport's website to comply with section 44(4)(b) of the RMA.

Proactive Release

- 38 I propose to proactively release the Cabinet paper with redactions in line with the Official Information Act 1982.

Consultation

- 39 Officials consulted local authorities, iwi authorities, Government agencies and key stakeholders through the policy development stage for the NES-ENA and NES-TF. Public consultation on the proposals met the statutory requirements of sections 46A(1) and (2) of the RMA.

⁹ The relevant ERP2 actions are:

- Encouraging the private sector to commercialise solutions faster by removing regulatory barriers
- Delivering Electrify NZ to help achieve our goal of doubling renewable energy (including reducing consenting times)
- Enabling energy efficiency and a smarter electricity system
- Increasing renewable energy and encouraging advances in enabling technology, like battery storage
- Removing market barriers to encourage technology to be trialled in New Zealand.

¹⁰ In accordance with item 7 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025, and clause 4(3)(h), and clause 8(4) of Schedule 8 of the Regulatory Standards (Excluded Legislation) Notice 2026.

- 40 The Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport has provided a draft of this paper to agencies who report to a Minister with either portfolio responsibilities¹¹ or related responsibilities and considered feedback received.
- 41 For the NES-DMRU amendment, MCERT consulted the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.
- 42 MCERT also consulted with the Ministry for Primary Industries on the NES-MA minor amendment.

Recommendations

The Minister Responsible for RMA Reform recommends that the Cabinet LEG Committee:

- 1 **note** that I am satisfied the statutory requirements under the Resource Management Act 1991 to recommend amending national direction have been met, including:
 - 1.1 notification of the proposal under sections 46A(1) and (2)
 - 1.2 consideration of the report on submissions and recommendations for the proposal under sections 46A(1)(c) and 44(2)(a)
- 2 **note** that I have made final policy decisions to amend the NES-ETA EV and NES-TF proposals under section 44(2)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991, in consultation with relevant portfolio Ministers, under the authority granted by Cabinet [CAB-25-MIN-0151 refers]
- 3 **note** that I am satisfied the statutory requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 have been met to recommend an Order in Council to amend the NES-DMRU and the NES-MA under section 44(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991
- 4 **note** that the Parliamentary Counsel Office has certified the following as being in order for submission to Cabinet:
 - 4.1 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 4.2 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 4.3 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 4.4 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026

¹¹ Agencies provided with a draft of this paper include the Department of Conservation; Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (in relation to housing, transport and internal affairs); Department of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Treasury; Ministry for Primary Industries; Ministry of Justice; Ministry for Culture and Heritage; Ministry of Education; Health New Zealand; Te Puni Kōkiri; Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; Ministry for Regulation; Parliamentary Counsel Office; Office of Treaty Settlements and Takutai Moana: Te Tari Whakatau; and Land Information New Zealand.

IN C O N F I D E N C E

- 5 **authorise** submission of the following to the Executive Council for recommendation to the Governor-General in Council for approval under section 43(1) of the Resource Management Act 1991 subject to Cabinet agreement:
- 5.1 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 5.2 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 5.3 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026
 - 5.4 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026
- 6 **agree** to waive the 28-day rule for the commencement of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026:
- 6.1 so that the regulations can come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the New Zealand Gazette
 - 6.2 on the grounds that the amendment regulations are necessary to avoid the purpose of the secondary legislation being defeated, to clarify the original policy intent and avoid otherwise compliant detached minor residential units requiring resource consent as a result of the ambiguity on how the setback is measured
- 7 **note** that the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026 and Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026 give effect to the policy decisions referred to in recommendation 2 and are proposed to come into force on 8 October 2026
- 8 **note** that the requirements of section 44(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 to publicly notify the reports and recommendations made under section 46A(1)(c) for the proposal occurred in May prior to the upcoming gazettal of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026 and Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026
- 9 **note** that final proofing and formatting changes may be made prior to publishing the Cabinet package on Government websites, but there will be no material changes to the content of the Cabinet package.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Chris Bishop

Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Appendices

Appendix 1: Draft Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026

Appendix 2: Draft Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026

Appendix 3: Final Regulatory Impact Statement: National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities

Appendix 4: Final Regulatory Impact Statement: National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities

Appendix 5: Minor changes to the Regulatory Impact Statement: National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities

Appendix 6: Consistency Accountability Statement: National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities

Appendix 7: Consistency Accountability Statement: National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities

Appendix 8: Summary of Underpinning Analysis: National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities

Appendix 9: Summary of Underpinning Analysis: National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities

Appendix 10: Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026

Appendix 11: Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Updating RMA National Direction: NES for Electricity Network Activities, NES for Telecommunication Facilities and Minor Amendments to the NES for Detached Minor Residential Units and NES for Marine Aquaculture

Portfolio **RMA Reform**

On 3 September 2026, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform (the Minister) is satisfied the statutory requirements under the Resource Management Act 1991 to recommend amending national direction have been met, including:
 - 1.1 notification of the proposal under sections 46A(1) and (2);
 - 1.2 consideration of the report on submissions and recommendations for the proposal under sections 46A(1)(c) and 44(2)(a);
- 2 **noted** that the Minister has made final policy decisions to amend the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission and Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Activities) Regulations 2009 and Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Regulations 2016 proposals under section 44(2)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991, in consultation with relevant portfolio Ministers, under the authority granted by Cabinet [ECO-25-MIN-0059];
- 3 **noted** that the Minister is satisfied the statutory requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 have been met to recommend an Order in Council to amend the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Regulations 2025 and the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Regulations 2020 under section 44(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991;
- 4 **noted** that the Parliamentary Counsel Office has certified the Amendment Regulations in paragraph 5 below as being in order for submission to Cabinet;
- 5 **authorised** submission of the following Amendment Regulations to the Executive Council:
 - 5.1 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 28803/11.0];
 - 5.2 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 28758/11.0];

- 5.3 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026 [PCO 29252/5.0];
- 5.4 Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture) Amendment Regulations (No 2) 2026 [PCO 29264/4.0];
- 6 **agreed** to waive the 28-day rule for the commencement of the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Detached Minor Residential Units) Amendment Regulations 2026:
- 6.1 so that the regulations can come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the New Zealand Gazette;
- 6.2 on the grounds that the amendment regulations are necessary to avoid the purpose of the secondary legislation being defeated, to clarify the original policy intent and avoid otherwise compliant detached minor residential units requiring resource consent as a result of the ambiguity on how the setback is measured;
- 7 **noted** that the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Network Activities) Amendment Regulations 2026 and Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities) Amendment Regulations 2026 give effect to the policy decisions referred to in paragraph 2 and come into force on 8 October 2026;
- 8 **noted** that the requirements of section 44(1)(b) of the Resource Management Act 1991 to publicly notify the reports and recommendations made under section 46A(1)(c) for the proposals occurred in May 2026;
- 9 **noted** that final proofing and formatting changes may be made prior to the proactive release of the Cabinet package on Government websites.

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon David Seymour
Hon Louise Upston (Chair)
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Nicole McKee
Hon Scott Simpson
Hon James Meager
Hon Cameron Brewer
Hon Mike Butterick
Simon Court MP
Stuart Smith MP

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for LEG
Office of Simon Court MP



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

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Report of the Cabinet Legislation Committee: Period Ended 4 September 2026

On 7 September 2026, Cabinet made the following decisions on the work of the Cabinet Legislation Committee for the period ended 4 September 2026:

out of scope

LEG-26-MIN-0190

**Updating RMA National Direction: NES for
Electricity Network Activities, NES for
Telecommunication Facilities and Minor Amendments
to the NES for Detached Minor Residential Units and
NES for Marine Aquaculture**
Portfolio: RMA Reform

CONFIRMED

out of scope

out of scope



Rachel Hayward
Secretary of the Cabinet