



PRESS RELEASE – 6 November 2025

Major users welcome Commerce Commission decision supporting electricity security

MEUG Executive Director Karen Boyes said the Commission's decision provides much-needed certainty for New Zealand's electricity market, particularly around security of supply in dry years when hydro generation is constrained.

"The Commission's final determination is a positive step for both consumers and industry. It provides major users with a level of reassurance on security of supply. Sufficient generation capacity during dry years is critical for keeping prices stable and maintaining confidence in New Zealand's electricity system," Boyes says.

The arrangement enables Genesis to maintain Rankine Unit 2 at the Huntly Power Station, providing additional generation capacity until 31 December 2035. The Commission found the proposal delivers significant public benefits by supporting supply security and moderating wholesale electricity prices compared to a scenario in which the unit would be shut down.

MEUG also welcomed the Commission's acknowledgement of the importance of ensuring fair access to remaining unallocated Rankine capacity for independent retailers, large industrial users, and other market participants.

"It's essential that all participants—not just the largest generators—can access appropriate hedge and firming products. This will help improve competition and resilience across the electricity market," Boyes says.

MEUG supports the Commission's intention to monitor the implementation of these arrangements and the design of future hedge products to ensure the expected benefits materialise for all electricity consumers. MEUG also appreciates the Commission working swiftly to enable Genesis to undertake the necessary investment before next winter.

"Electricity affordability and reliability are vital for New Zealand businesses and households. Today's decision is an important and pragmatic move to strengthen both," Boyes says.

MEUG looks forward to engaging with Government on other post-Frontier report measures that will increase security of supply, so the market is not again caught short by high demand, gas shortages and low hydro storage.

The [Major Electricity Users' Group](https://meug.co.nz) (MEUG) represents the interests of large electricity consumers in New Zealand. MEUG advocates for policies ensuring a reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity supply, benefiting its members and the wider community.

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For further details, please contact:

Karen Boyes, Executive Director
Phone +64 27 472 7798
Email: karen@meug.co.nz