



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Shane Jones	Portfolio	Resources
Title of Cabinet paper	From the Ground Up – A strategy to unlock New Zealand’s geothermal potential: Release for public consultation	Date to be published	1 September 2025

List of documents that have been proactively released

Date	Title	Author
July 2025	From the Ground Up – A strategy to unlock New Zealand’s geothermal potential: Release for public consultation	Office of Minister for Resources
15 July 2025	From the Ground Up – A strategy to unlock New Zealand’s geothermal potential: Release for public consultation EXP-25-MIN-0063 Minute of Decision	Cabinet Office
	<i>Note: The version of the draft strategy appended to the Cabinet paper (Appendix 1) is superseded by the final version, which was released for public consultation on 30 July 2025. It can be accessed here:</i> https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/30975-from-the-ground-up-a-draft-strategy-to-unlock-new-zealands-geothermal-potential-pdf	MBIE

Information redacted

YES

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE’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.

Some information has been withheld for the reason of Confidential advice to Government.



Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review 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.

From the Ground Up - Strategy to Unlock New Zealand's Geothermal Potential: Approval to Consult

Portfolio **Resources**

On 15 July 2025, the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee:

- 1 **noted** that New Zealand has a globally significant geothermal resource, with the potential to support economic growth, regional development, emissions reduction, and Māori economic participation;
- 2 **noted** that the draft strategy *From the Ground Up – A strategy to unlock New Zealand's geothermal potential*, attached as Appendix One to the paper under EXP-25-SUB-0063, includes: an ambitious target to double geothermal energy use by 2040; three strategic outcomes focussed on innovation, energy resilience, and economic growth; and actions centred on five goals;
- 3 **noted** that successful implementation of the geothermal strategy will require coordinated action across multiple ministerial portfolios, including: Resources; Energy; Science, Innovation and Technology; Environment; Māori Development; Regional Development; and Finance; and that officials will continue to engage across agencies to support integrated delivery;
- 4 **noted** that the Waitangi Tribunal inquiry into National Freshwater and Geothermal Resources (Wai 2358) is ongoing, and outcomes will be considered as the strategy develops;
- 5 **agreed** to release the draft strategy on 30 July 2025 for public consultation over a period of six weeks;
- 6 **invited** the Minister for Resources to report back to Cabinet with a final geothermal strategy and implementation roadmap, and any funding implications, following public consultation by late 2025;
- 7 **authorised** the Minister for Resources to make minor and technical decisions necessary to finalise the consultation materials and manage the consultation process.

Tom Kelly
Committee Secretary

Attendance: (See over)

Present:

Hon David Seymour (Chair)
Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Chris Bishop
Hon Simeon Brown
Hon Erica Stanford
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Judith Collins KC
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Shane Jones
Hon Casey Costello
Hon Chris Penk
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Mark Patterson

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for EXP
Office of the Prime Minister
Office of the Attorney-General