



AIDE MEMOIRE

Fuel response plan: assessment meeting advice

Date:	18 April 2026	Priority:	High
Security classification:	Restricted	Tracking number:	0031525

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Nicola Willis Minister of Finance	Agree that no assessment meeting is required following the fuel stock levels change criteria in the Fuel Response Plan 2026 having been met.	20 April 2026

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Jivan Grewal	Fuel Response Policy Lead	Privacy of natural persons	✓

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
The Department of the Prime Minister of Cabinet has been informed of this briefing.

- Minister's office to complete:
- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noted | <input type="checkbox"/> Approved | <input type="checkbox"/> Declined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overtaken by Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs change | <input type="checkbox"/> Seen |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> See Minister's Notes | <input type="checkbox"/> Withdrawn |

Comments



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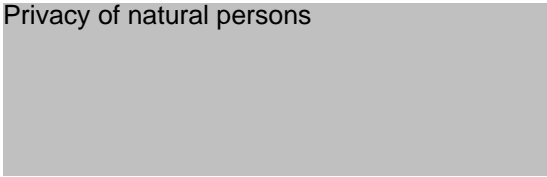
Fuel response plan: assessment meeting advice

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Purpose

To recommend that you do not convene an assessment meeting in response to a slight increase jet in fuel stocks which meet the Fuel Response Plan 2026 criteria.

Privacy of natural persons



Jivan Grewal

Fuel Response Policy Lead

MBIE

18 April 2026

Background

1. New Zealand is currently at Phase 1 of the Fuel Response Plan 2026. The Ministerial Economic Security and Supply Chains Group (Oversight Group) agreed to six criteria that would lead to convening an Oversight Group meeting to assess a shift in phases:
 1. **Export restrictions:** If any of our source refineries introduce or relax export restrictions
 2. **Fuel stock levels:** (+/- three days since the last published update)
 3. **Future orders:** a fuel company informs the government that they are unlikely to fill future orders
 4. **Minimum storage obligations:** a breach, or a notification of an imminent breach, of the minimum storage obligations
 5. **Overseas policy changes:** any significant policy changes in Australia or the International Energy Agency
 6. **Regional distribution:** a significant disruption to regional distribution.
2. You have delegated authority as chair of the Oversight Group to determine whether, when and how to hold assessment meetings, based on advice from officials.

Decreases in petrol, diesel and jet fuel stocks meet the criteria for considering a phase assessment meeting

3. In our fuel monitoring pack on Friday 17 April, we noted that total stocks for jet fuel increased by more than three days since the last update:

Fuel type	Total NZ stock (days cover)		Change (days)
	12 April	17 April	
Petrol	56.3	54	2.3
Diesel	45.4	44.8	0.6
Jet fuel	47.0	51.4	4.3

4. The change in jet fuel stocks meets the three-day threshold to consider phase assessment. As this is an increase in stock levels at Phase 1, we do not consider an assessment meeting is necessary. We consider this to be relevant not only for the current change but also in general. Advice about tuning the phase assessment process will be included in the briefing on the Fuel Response Plan next week.