



## AIDE MEMOIRE

### Fuel response plan: assessment meeting advice

|                                 |              |                         |         |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------|
| <b>Date:</b>                    | 8 April 2026 | <b>Priority:</b>        | High    |
| <b>Security classification:</b> | Restricted   | <b>Tracking number:</b> | 0030680 |

|   | Action sought  | Deadline     |
|---|--|--------------|
| Hon Nicola Willis<br><b>Minister of Finance</b> | Agree that no assessment meeting is required following the fuel stock levels change criteria in the Fuel Response Plan 2026 having been met. | 9 April 2026 |

#### Contact for telephone discussion (if required)

| Name        | Position                  | Telephone | 1st contact |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Iain Cossar | Fuel Response Policy Lead |           | ✓           |

#### 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 Withdrawn |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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### Purpose

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To recommend that you do not convene an assessment meeting in response to a criterion in the Fuel Response Plan 2026 having been met as fuel supply has increased.

Privacy of natural persons



Iain Cossar  
**Fuel Response Policy Lead**  
MBIE

8 April 2026

## Background

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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.

### **Increases in jet fuel meet the threshold criteria but we do not recommend an assessment meeting**

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3. In our daily fuel monitoring pack on Tuesday 7 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) |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|
|                 | 1 April                     | 5 April     |               |
| Petrol          | 61.9                        | 62.6        | +0.7          |
| Diesel          | 51.5                        | 51.7        | +0.2          |
| <b>Jet fuel</b> | <b>50.1</b>                 | <b>53.5</b> | <b>+3.4</b>   |

4. The increases in jet fuel meet the threshold criteria (three or more days' cover) to consider phase assessment.
5. As this is an increase in the total stocks for this fuel, and we are currently in Phase 1, we do not consider an assessment meeting is necessary at this time.