



Top 10 non-fuel products of concern due to conflict in Middle East as at 15 March 2026

Non fuel products of concern		
Product (HS-4/6)	Class of goods/sector	Rationale
Polyethylene (390110, 390120)	Critical chemicals	By product of oil refining. Factories in Asia idling production. No NZ manufacturing. Product using Polyethylene are critical to food safety and medical supplies.
Ammonia (2814)	Critical chemicals	By product of gas refining and used widely for industrial process. Commercial Information Ammonia is used in multiple sectors and is a key input into fertiliser manufacturing and as a coolant.
Urea (310210)	Critical chemicals	By product of gas refining and used widely for fertiliser but also as a diesel exhaust fluid. Commercial Information Free and frank opinions
Helium (280429)	Critical element	Part of oil and gas extraction. Not manufactured in meaningful quantities. Largest uses in NZ include cooling MRI machines and pressurising rockets. No NZ manufacturing. Already a volatile supply chain.
Sulphur (2503)	Critical mineral	By product of oil refining. No NZ manufacturing. NZ one of the world's largest consumers of sulphur per capita mostly for fertiliser. Important uses in NZ also includes fungicides, pesticides, and disinfection.
Bitumen (27132)	Transport	By product of oil refining. No NZ manufacturing. Concentrated supply in Asia. Critical for transport network.
Petroleum-based lubricants (271019)	Transport and manufacturing	By product of oil refining. Base products not manufactured in NZ and has limited domestic blending capability. Vital for all transport and industrial processes.
Adhesives (350691)	Manufacturing and construction	Many adhesives have inputs derived from oil refining (Olefins, aromatics, polymer). No NZ production of petroleum inputs. Resins (see below) as an import input.

Resins (391110)	Manufacturing and construction	By product of oil refining. No NZ manufacturer of petroleum precursors. Large number of uses including paint manufacture. Primarily used as a binder for multiple applications.
Toluene (271019)	Manufacturing	By product of oil refining. Not manufactured in NZ. Widely used globally and used in paints and adhesives. Other petroleum solvents include xylene, naphtha, mineral spirits, etc

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