



BRIEFING

Next steps for two-weekly fuel data publication

Date:	30 June 2026	Priority:	High
Security classification:	Restricted	Tracking number:	BRIEFING-REQ-0035142

	Action sought	Deadline
Hon Nicola Willis Minister of Finance	Agree to move from twice weekly to weekly publication of fuel stock information. Agree that publication will occur on Wednesday of each week.	6 July 2026
Hon Shane Jones Associate Minister for Energy	Note the contents of this briefing.	
Hon David Seymour Associate Minister of Finance		
Hon Chris Bishop Associate Minister of Finance		
Hon Simeon Brown Minister for Energy		

Contact for telephone discussion (if required)			
Name	Position	Telephone	1st contact
Scott Russell	Manager, Fuel Regulation and Operations Policy	Privacy of natural persons	✓
Jordyn Taiuru	Senior Advisor, Fuel Regulation and Operations Policy		

The following departments/agencies have been consulted
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Minister's office to complete:

☐ Approved

☐ Declined

☐ Noted

☐ Needs change

☐ Seen

☐ Overtaken by Events

☐ See Minister's Notes

☐ Withdrawn

Comments



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Purpose

This briefing seeks your agreement to a revised approach for the publication of fuel supply data, including the frequency and timing of publication. It also outlines associated changes to monitoring and reporting arrangements as we transition to business-as-usual.

Key Messages

- MBIE and fuel companies have been operating at an elevated level of monitoring and reporting in response to the international fuel supply disruption caused by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. While global supply and demand remain finely balanced, New Zealand has not experienced any disruption to fuel supply.
- Ministerial Oversight Group Ministers previously agreed to a fortnightly fuel response meeting, or by exception when needed. Ministers also asked for advice on the current two-weekly fuel data publication cycle.
- MBIE's understanding of the fuel supply chain has evolved through the current fuel crisis. Our view is that a range of factors besides stock movements, such as futures prices and spreads, global inventory levels and refinery output, are likely to provide a clearer indication of risk of supply disruption than fuel stock movements. We are also seeing less media attention on the fuel stocks publication.
- To reflect this, officials recommend shifting the public publication of fuel stocks data from twice weekly, to weekly (on Wednesdays).
- Alongside this, officials have moved to a weekly monitoring and reporting model. This will maintain visibility of geopolitical and broader upstream supply risks and the ability to scale up if conditions change. This will ensure Ministers continue to receive clear, decision-ready information. Fuel data collection will focus on forward supply (i.e. consignments), as this provides a better measure of supply risk than stock data.

Recommended action

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment recommends that you:

- a **Agree** to move from twice weekly to weekly publication of fuel stock information

Agree / Disagree

- b **Agree** the publication will occur on Wednesday of each week

Agree / Disagree

c **Note** there are associated changes to monitoring, reporting and industry engagement

Noted

Privacy of natural persons

Iain Cossar
Deputy Secretary, Fuel Response
MBIE
30 June 2026

Hon Nicola Willis
Minister of Finance
..... / /

Hon Shane Jones
Associate Minister for Energy
..... / /

Hon David Seymour
Associate Minister of Finance
..... / /

Hon Chris Bishop
Associate Minister of Finance
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Hon Simeon Brown
Minister for Energy
..... / /

Background

1. MBIE has been operating at an elevated level of monitoring and reporting arrangements, in response to the international fuel supply disruption caused by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.
2. A key part of these arrangements has been twice-weekly public data publication. Regular updates have also been provided to Ministers through the Ministerial Oversight Group, the provision of frequent situation reports (SitReps) and enhanced data collection and reporting. We also engaged frequently with the fuel sector through both regular sector-wide meetings and bilateral discussions with fuel importers and distributors.
3. While there are still risks to fuel supply, and there remains some uncertainty with the peace negotiations between the US and Iran and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, New Zealand's ability to secure fuel has been maintained throughout the crisis. Although there may be ongoing pressure points in coming months, it is increasingly unlikely escalation through Fuel Plan phases will be required. A transition to a more sustainable monitoring approach is now appropriate.
4. The Ministerial Oversight Group has agreed to shift to a fortnightly meeting cycle, and sought advice from officials on the current twice-weekly fuel stocks data reporting.

Proposed approach to monitoring and reporting

Public data publication

5. Twice-weekly publication of data is no longer providing materially new or relevant information for decision-making. MBIE recommends a shift in the frequency and timing of public publication of fuel supply data, from twice weekly to weekly, with publication each Wednesday.
6. Publishing fuel data on a weekly basis, rather than reducing frequency further, will help maintain public confidence, while still allowing reporting to be scaled up quickly if conditions deteriorate. This is also supported by recent trends, where limited media pickup of published fuel data suggests reduced public concern about fuel stocks. This indicates a more proportionate publication frequency is appropriate.
7. To support this, MBIE propose to move to once-weekly data collection from fuel companies. The current reporting effort by these companies is no longer justified by the value of the data. Once-weekly data collection will be sufficient to maintain visibility of relevant supply chain conditions.
8. Officials consider that forward supply data (i.e. consignments) provides the most accurate indication of emerging fuel supply risk, rather than stock levels. This information does not change at a pace that supports or justifies twice-weekly collection. More frequent collection does not materially improve situational awareness.

Weekly reporting to Ministers

9. MBIE also proposes to shift to providing a consolidated weekly report for Ministers, maintaining the current Tuesday reporting cycle. This will replace the standalone Friday Fuel Monitoring Pack, SitReps and weekly Ministerial agenda papers. We propose continuing this arrangement for the rest of the 2026 calendar year.
10. The weekly report will place greater emphasis on forward supply indicators, reflecting their importance in assessing emerging supply risks. It will also provide an integrated view of fuel supply conditions, including stock levels (with days of cover and regional variation), global supply and demand trends, fuel prices and MBIE's overall assessment of supply risk. Demand will continue to be monitored with insights included as needed.
11. MFAT will contribute to this report through weekly updates on geopolitical factors relevant to fuel supply. Weekly reporting will also align with other business-as-usual reporting streams, including fuel margins reporting (when resumed) and ongoing Minimum Stock Obligation reporting. It will support fortnightly Ministerial meetings with a short agenda covering stock levels, overall risk assessment and any emerging issues.
12. Routine communications products will not be produced as part of weekly reporting. Communications advice and products will be developed on an as needed basis. Existing media products will be published and will initially include messaging on the change in publication frequency.

Resourcing and sustainability

13. The proposed approach builds on the insights and practices developed during the recent fuel response. It ensures Ministers receive timely and reliable information while making efficient use of MBIE and other agencies' resources and keeps reporting demands reasonable for industry.
14. Broader preparedness work will continue, the focus of which is maintaining readiness should conditions deteriorate. This includes further development of fuel response planning, including credentialling arrangements and legislative preparedness.

Next steps

15. Subject to your decisions, MBIE will implement the agreed approach to public data publication and the proposed weekly monitoring and reporting approach. We will work with your offices to manage the transition to weekly reporting, including our communications related to that.