

Your name

Bern Sommerfeld

Your organisation

Grey Power New Zealand Federation Inc.

Your email address

lynbern@xnet.co.nz

In what capacity are you making this submission?

Consumer group/advocate

1. What emerging technologies or alternative fuel sources are likely to be covered by the Act's definition of "Gas"?

2. What aspect(s) of the Act could be a barrier to the uptake of emerging technologies or alternative fuels?

3. What aspects should be amended or changed to facilitate the emergence of new technologies and alternative fuels?

4. How will your business be impacted if changes to the Act are not made in the short-term (e.g. two to three years)?

5. Does the Act cause any issues with complying with any requirements under other legislation?

6. Are you or your organisation involved in the development or deployment of emerging technologies or alternative fuels?

7. Are you interested in being contacted as MBIE develops a longer-term programme of regulatory work around the development of emerging technologies and alternative fuels relating to the Act?

Yes Grey Power NZ Federation Inc. are interested in emerging technologies and the impact they may have on our members

8. What concerns do you have about the flow and availability of information available to you or your organisation regarding situations that may affect the price and/or availability of gas supply?

Changes should not be made to the GAS Act 1992, part 4A, Clause 43H. low fixed charge tariff option for domestic consumers

9. Do you support the inclusion of an additional regulation/rule making power in the Act to require broader disclosure of information from the gas industry?

Our answers cover 3.4.66 in the options paper and also 3.4.67:

3.4.66 - Yes for information disclosure gas governance arrangements

3.4.67 Non-regulatory intervention is opposed. Gas should be regulated as per the electricity industry

10. What concerns do you have about the current penalty regime for gas governance arrangements provided for by the Act?

11. Are there other factors, such as contractual arrangements between parties, that mitigate any concerns about the penalties regime?

12. Aside from the penalties for breaching gas governance arrangements, are there any other penalties under the Act that you consider are not fit-for-purpose?

13. Do you consider it still appropriate for the Gas Rulings Panel to only have one member if the penalties are increased to higher levels?

The panel needs to be increased with a similar structure to the electricity panel.
An alternative panel structure could be considered that reviewed all energy penalties.
This panel would be able to rule on the New Zealand global energy perspective

14. Do you support the addition of daily or volumetric penalties to the Act to enhance the flexibility of penalties available? What would be an appropriate minimum or maximum rate, if any?

15. Are there circumstances where the Act should impose a criminal offence on either industry participants or on non-industry participants? What are these?

16. Do you support the addition of a civil pecuniary fine as an additional penalty to improve the effectiveness of the penalties regime? If not, why not?

17. What are your views on expanding the definition of industry-participant to include all large gas users (e.g. any user averaging over a certain level of consumption per day)? If so, what would be an appropriate threshold?

The information provided in submissions will be used to inform MBIE's policy development process, and will inform advice to Ministers on progressing changes to the Gas Act 1992.

Can we include your name or other personal information in any information about submissions that we may publish?

Yes

We intend to upload submissions to our website. Can we include your submission on the website?

Yes

You can ask us to keep your submission, or parts of your submission, confidential. If so, you'll need to attach reasons and grounds under the Official Information Act 1982 for consideration.

No, I do not wish my submission to be kept confidential

Please provide grounds below