



Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Amendment Regulations 2026

Rt Hon Dame Helen Winkelmann, Administrator of the Government

Order in Council

At Wellington this 24th day of August 2026

Present:

Her Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council

These regulations are made under sections 43F and 43S of the Gas Act 1992—

- (a) on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council; and
- (b) on the recommendation of the Minister for Energy made in accordance with sections 43J to 43O of that Act.

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Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management)
Amendment Regulations 2026

2026/235

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Regulations

- 1 **Title**
These regulations are the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Amendment Regulations 2026.

- 2 **Commencement**
These regulations come into force on 24 September 2026.

- 3 **Principal regulations**
These regulations amend the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008.

- 4 **Regulation 5 amended (Interpretation)**
 - (1) In regulation 5, replace the definition of **affected party** with:

affected party, in relation to any part of the transmission system affected by a critical contingency, means an interconnected party or shipper that has a contingency imbalance

 - (2) In regulation 5, definition of **business day**, paragraph (b), after “the Sovereign’s birthday,”, insert “Te Rā Aro ki a Matariki/Matariki Observance Day,”.

 - (3) In regulation 5, replace the definition of **consumer installation** with:

consumer installation means 1 or more gas installations that have—
 - (a) a single point of connection to a distribution system or the transmission system and for which there is, or previously has been (at any time), a single consumer:

 - (b) multiple points of connection to the same part of a distribution system or a transmission system and for which there is, or previously has been (at any time), a single consumer at a single site

 - (4) In regulation 5, replace the definition of **critical contingency management plan** with:

critical contingency management plan means a plan that takes effect in accordance with regulation 25(3)

- (5) In regulation 5, definition of **OATIS**, replace “MPOC and VTC” with “a transmission system code”.
- (6) In regulation 5, replace the definition of **retailer** with:
- retailer—**
- (a) means any person who supplies gas to another person or other persons for any purpose other than for resupply by the other person or persons; but
 - (b) does not include—
 - (i) a gas producer in respect of the supply of gas to a large consumer; or
 - (ii) a person in respect of gas that is not transported to another person or other persons through the transmission system; or
 - (iii) a transmission system owner in respect of a balancing gas transaction or a cash-out transaction under a transmission system code; or
 - (iv) a person in respect of gas that is traded on an electronic wholesale market platform that is used for the short-term trading of gas
- (7) In regulation 5, revoke the definitions of **gas producer**, **Maui Pipeline Operating Code** or **MPOC**, and **Vector Transmission Code** or **VTC**.

5 Regulation 10 amended (Publication of transmission system)

- (1) Replace regulation 10(1) with:
- (1) Each transmission system owner must, if requested by the industry body, provide the industry body with the information specified in Schedule 4.
- (2) In regulation 10(3), delete “and no later than the go-live date”.

6 Regulation 13 amended (Relationship with transmission system codes)

In regulation 13(2), replace “MPOC, VTC, and any other” with “A”.

7 Regulation 18 replaced (How and when estimated ongoing fees payable)

Replace regulation 18 with:

18 How and when estimated ongoing fees payable

- (1) The estimated ongoing fees are payable to the industry body.
- (2) Subclauses (3) to (6) apply to every person to whom regulation 17(3) applies.
- (3) Each person must supply to the industry body a return no later than the tenth day of each month, unless otherwise agreed with the industry body. The return must state—
 - (a) the total number of gigajoules of gas that the person purchased directly from all gas producers during the previous month; and

- (b) how many gigajoules of gas were purchased from each gas producer during that month.
- (4) For each year, the industry body must—
 - (a) estimate and publish on its Internet site, at least 2 months before the beginning of the year, a breakdown of the estimated critical contingency ongoing costs for that year; and
 - (b) as soon as practicable after publication of the estimated critical contingency ongoing costs, notify each person of those costs and the ongoing fees that will be payable by that person in that year calculated in accordance with the formula in subclause (5).
- (5) The formula is as follows:

$$a \times (b \div c)$$
 where—
 - a is the critical contingency ongoing costs estimated in accordance with subclause (4)(a) divided by the number of months in the applicable year
 - b is the total quantity of gas purchased by the person directly from all gas producers during the month that is 2 months before the month in which the relevant invoice is issued under subclause (6)
 - c is the total quantity of gas purchased by all persons directly from all gas producers during the month that is 2 months before the month in which the relevant invoice is issued under subclause (6).
- (6) On the first business day of each month following the notification given to each person under subclause (4)(b), the industry body must invoice each person for that person's share of the estimated critical contingency ongoing costs payable during that month, calculated in accordance with the formula in subclause (5).

8 Regulation 20 amended (General provisions regarding fees)

In regulation 20(2), replace “18(7)” with “18(6)”.

9 Regulation 25 amended (Content of critical contingency management plan)

- (1) In regulation 25(1)(f), after “the contact details”, insert “, or a link to a data source that contains the contact details,”.
- (2) In regulation 25(1)(i), replace “a list of the contact details” with “the contact details, or a link to a data source that contains the contact details,”.
- (3) After regulation 25(1)(i), insert:
 - (ia) a description of the process the transmission system owner will use to maintain the contact details referred to in paragraphs (f) and (i) in order to comply with regulation 33(1); and

- (4) After regulation 25(1), insert:
 - (1A) Despite subclause (1), a proposed critical contingency management plan may be consistent with—
 - (a) an amendment made to these regulations that is not in force as at the date on which the plan is submitted to the industry body for approval under regulation 24;
 - (b) an amendment to a transmission system code that has been made but is not yet in effect as at the date on which the plan is submitted to the industry body for approval under regulation 24.
 - (1B) Subclause (1A) applies only if—
 - (a) the proposed critical contingency management plan, or that part of the plan that is consistent with the amendment to these regulations, comes into effect on or after the date on which the amendment to these regulations comes into force;
 - (b) the proposed critical contingency management plan, or that part of the plan that is consistent with the amendment to the transmission system code, comes into effect on or after the date on which the amendment to the transmission system code comes into effect.
- (5) In regulation 25(2),—
 - (a) replace “MPOC, VTC, or any other” with “a”; and
 - (b) after “these regulations”, insert “or any amendment to these regulations that is provided for in the plan in accordance with regulation 25(1A)”.
- (6) In regulation 25, after subclause (2), insert:
 - (3) A proposed critical contingency management plan—
 - (a) may include a date or event on which the critical contingency management plan takes effect; or
 - (b) if paragraph (a) does not apply, takes effect on the date it is published by the critical contingency operator in accordance with regulation 32.

10 Regulation 27 replaced (Appointment of expert adviser)

Replace regulation 27 with:

- 27 Appointment of expert adviser**
- (1) Within 30 business days after receiving a proposed critical contingency management plan submitted under regulation 24, the industry body must appoint an expert adviser to review the plan.
 - (2) Within 10 business days after receiving a proposed amendment to a critical contingency management plan submitted under regulation 33(4)(c), 34(6)(c), or 65(3)(c), the industry body must determine whether—
 - (a) the proposed amendment is material or immaterial; and

- (b) the transmission system owner has carried out consultation on the proposed amendment in accordance with regulation 26.
- (3) If the industry body determines that a proposed amendment is material and that the transmission system owner has complied with regulation 26, the body must, within 30 business days after receiving the proposed amendment, appoint an expert adviser to review the plan.
- (4) If the industry body determines that a proposed amendment is material but that the transmission system owner has not complied with regulation 26, the body must require the transmission system owner to—
 - (a) carry out consultation on the proposed amendment in accordance with regulation 26; and
 - (b) resubmit the proposed amendment to the industry body for further consideration under this regulation.
- (5) If the industry body determines that a proposed amendment is immaterial, the industry body must approve or decline the proposed amendment in accordance with regulation 30.

11 Regulation 28 amended (Expert adviser to consult critical contingency operator)

Replace regulation 28(1) with:

- (1) This regulation applies in relation to a proposed critical contingency management plan submitted under regulation 24 or a proposed amendment to a critical contingency management plan submitted under regulation 33(4)(c), 34(6)(c), or 65(3)(c) that the industry body has determined under regulation 27(3) is to be reviewed by an expert adviser.
- (1A) As soon as practicable after receiving the proposed plan or making the determination relating to the proposed amendment, the industry body must provide the proposed plan or the proposed amendment to the expert adviser and the critical contingency operator.

12 Regulation 29 amended (Review of critical contingency management plan)

In regulation 29(1)(b), after “65(3)(c)”, insert “that the industry body has determined under regulation 27(3) is to be reviewed by an expert adviser”.

13 Regulation 33 amended (Maintaining critical contingency management plan)

In regulation 33(4)(c), after “30”, insert “(as applicable)”.

14 Regulation 34 amended (Testing critical contingency management plan)

- (1) After regulation 34(1)(b), insert:

- (ba) the retailer curtailment plans comply with regulation 43; and

- (2) After regulation 34(1), insert:

(1A) Retailers must, as requested by the critical contingency operator, participate in tests instigated under subclause (1).

(3) In regulation 34(2), delete “retailers,”.

(4) In regulation 34(6)(c), after “30”, insert “(as applicable)”.

15 Regulation 35 amended (Publication of communications plan)

(1) In regulation 35(2), after “owners”, insert “before a critical contingency declaration and”.

(2) Replace regulation 35(3) with:

(3) The communications plan must apply to communications from the critical contingency operator to the transmission system owners, and from the transmission system owners to the critical contingency operator, relating to—

- (a) monitoring the transmission system before a critical contingency declaration; and
- (b) making a critical contingency declaration; and
- (c) implementing curtailment of demand; and
- (d) revising curtailment of demand; and
- (e) restoring gas supply; and
- (f) terminating a critical contingency; and
- (g) identifying persons who did not comply with curtailment or restoration directions.

16 Regulation 39 amended (Retailers to provide consumer information)

In regulation 39(1), replace “retailer trades” with “retailer’s consumers are connected”.

17 Regulation 40 amended (Large consumers to provide information)

In regulation 40(1), delete “critical processing”.

18 Regulation 43 amended (Retailer curtailment plans)

(1) Replace regulation 43(1) with:

(1) Each retailer must—

- (a) prepare a retailer curtailment plan (the **plan**) in accordance with subclauses (2) to (4); and
- (b) provide the plan to the industry body and the critical contingency operator annually, by 1 March; and
- (c) keep its plan up to date and, if it makes a material change to the plan, provide an updated plan to the industry body and the contingency operator; and

- (d) ensure that the plan or updated plan is accompanied by a certificate in the form set out in Schedule 6 signed by a person who, in relation to the retailer, is a director or occupies a position equivalent to that of a director of a body corporate.
- (2) After regulation 43(2)(a), insert:
 - (aa) contact details for the retailer's primary contact with the critical contingency operator; and
- (3) Revoke regulation 43(5) and (6).

19 New regulation 45A and cross-heading inserted

After regulation 45, insert:

ICP information

45A Industry body to provide ICP information to critical contingency operator

- (1) The industry body must inform the critical contingency operator in writing of the following, as recorded on the registry:
 - (a) the number of ICPs by curtailment band:
 - (b) the number of ICPs by gas gate.
- (2) The industry body must comply with subclause (1) annually, not later than 6 weeks after receiving a request from the critical contingency operator to provide the information.
- (3) To avoid doubt, for the purposes of this regulation, a **gas gate** does not include a point of connection between a distribution system and a gas measurement system downstream of that distribution system.

20 Regulation 46B amended (Essential services designations)

In regulation 46B(2)(a) and (b), replace “2 terajoules” with “250 gigajoules”.

21 Regulation 46K amended (When designation becomes effective)

- (1) Replace regulation 46K(1)(b) with:
 - (b) the declaration form is signed,—
 - (i) in relation to a consumer installation with a critical processing designation or electricity supply designation, by a person who, in relation to the consumer, is a director, or occupies a position equivalent to that of a director, of a body corporate; or
 - (ii) in relation to a consumer installation with a critical care designation or essential services designation, by a person who, in relation to the consumer, is a director or chief executive, or occupies a position equivalent to that of a director or chief executive, of a body corporate; and

- (2) Replace regulation 46K(1)(e) with:
- (e) in relation to a consumer installation with a critical processing designation or electricity supply designation, the responsible retailer or, in the case of a large consumer, the transmission system owner has confirmed that the consumer installation has a time-of-use meter that enables gas consumption to be recorded daily.
- (3) In regulation 46K(2), after “approved designation”, insert “and, in relation to a consumer installation with a critical processing designation, any shutdown profile determined under regulation 46J,”.

22 Regulation 46L amended (Declaration form requirements)

Replace regulation 46L(1)(d) with:

- (d) in the case of a critical processing designation, that the consumer understands and accepts that the consumer may continue to use gas in accordance with the shutdown profile determined under regulation 46J, except in the circumstances described in paragraph (da):
- (da) for the purposes of paragraph (d), the circumstances are that,—
- (i) at the time that a critical contingency is declared, if a curtailment direction is given in respect of the consumer’s curtailment band, the consumer must, unless the shutdown profile provides otherwise, commence the shutdown of plant from the consumer installation’s gas consumption rates:
- (ii) the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if the consumer installation is in curtailment bands 1 to 3 and—
- (A) a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4; or
- (B) the critical contingency operator directs full curtailment under regulation 53:
- (iii) the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 6:

23 Regulation 48 amended (Critical contingency operator must determine critical contingency)

After regulation 48(2), insert:

- (3) Despite subclause (1), the critical contingency operator is not required to make a determination that there is a critical contingency if the critical contingency operator considers that—
- (a) the breach is—
- (i) short-term; or
- (ii) unavoidable as a result of a planned outage; and

- (b) a determination is not necessary to achieve the purpose of these regulations.
- (4) In this regulation, **planned outage** means a short-term reduction of pressure on a part of the transmission system that, before it occurs,—
 - (a) is planned for; and
 - (b) is subject to consultation between the transmission system owner or distributor and the critical contingency operator.

24 Regulation 53 amended (Role of critical contingency operator during critical contingency)

Replace regulation 53(2) with:

- (2) The critical contingency operator—
 - (a) may direct curtailment of a subset of load within a curtailment band (if it is satisfied that the direction would further the objectives set out in Schedule 2), including—
 - (i) a subset of gas-fired electricity generation, to enable remaining gas-fired electricity generation within a curtailment band to assist with voltage support or electricity system stability, or both (provided the critical contingency operator has consulted the electricity system operator); and
 - (ii) a geographical subset of load; and
 - (iii) a subset of load defined by a percentage of gas consumption rates at the time the critical contingency is declared; and
 - (iv) a subset defined by 1 or more gas gates; and
 - (v) a subset defined by reference to transmission system pressure levels;
 - (b) must, if a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation and is in bands 1 to 3, direct the consumer to fully curtail gas consumption before a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4.

25 Regulation 54A amended (Asset owners to communicate information about failed assets)

- (1) In regulation 54A(2), replace “damaged or fails, and that damage or failure” with “damaged, fails, or is subject to an unexpected interruption and that damage, failure, or unexpected interruption”.
- (2) In regulation 54A(3), replace “damaged or failed component” with “component that is damaged, fails, or is subject to an unexpected interruption”.

26 Regulation 55 amended (Retailers and large consumers must follow directions)

After regulation 55(2), insert:

- (2A) Retailers and large consumers must provide the information required by subclause (2) in the form (if any) specified in the transmission system owner’s critical contingency management plan.

27 Regulation 56 amended (Retailers to instruct consumers)

After regulation 56(3), insert:

- (4) Retailers must provide the information required by subclause (3) in the form (if any) specified in the transmission system owner’s critical contingency management plan.

28 Regulation 65 amended (Performance report)

- (1) In regulation 65(1),—
- (a) replace “30 business days after making a determination to terminate” with “20 business days after terminating”; and
 - (b) after “prepare and publish a”, insert “draft of the”.
- (2) In regulation 65(2), after “preparing the”, insert “draft”.
- (3) In regulation 65(2A)(a), replace “publish a draft of the performance” with “publish the draft”.
- (4) After regulation 65(2C), insert:
- (2D) No later than 10 business days after the deadline for making submissions under subclause (2A)(a)(ii), the critical contingency operator must,—
- (a) having regard to any submissions made under subclause (2A)(a)(ii), prepare and publish the performance report; and
 - (b) send a copy of the performance report to the industry body.
- (5) In regulation 65(3)(c), after “30”, insert “(as applicable)”.

29 Regulation 65A amended (Industry body may audit performance of obligations)

In regulation 65A(1), after “performance report from the critical contingency operator”, insert “under regulation 65(2D)”.

30 Regulation 66A amended (Process for identifying gas usage that is contrary to curtailment directions)

In regulation 66A(2)(a), replace “data from large consumers” with “data on large consumers”.

31 Regulation 71 amended (Determining critical contingency price)

Replace regulation 71(3) with:

- (3) When determining the critical contingency price, the industry expert must take into account the following matters:
 - (a) the prices in the wholesale market for electricity during the critical contingency; and
 - (b) the economic cost of the loss of gas supply to those customers who had their gas supply curtailed; and
 - (c) any other matters that the industry expert considers relevant to achieving the purpose of subclause (2).

32 Regulation 81 amended (Imbalance obligations under MPOC, VTC, etc)

- (1) Replace the heading to regulation 81 with “**Imbalance obligations under transmission system code**”.
- (2) In regulation 81(1), replace “MPOC, VTC, or any other” with “a”.

33 Regulation 85 amended (Separation of roles for critical contingency operator)

In regulation 85, replace “the MPOC, VTC (or other transmission system code),” with “a transmission system code”.

34 Schedule 1 replaced

Replace Schedule 1 with the Schedule 1 set out in Schedule 1 of these regulations.

35 Schedule 2 amended

- (1) In Schedule 2, after clause 1, insert:

1A Curtailment bands

- (1) A consumer installation’s curtailment band in Schedule 3 is the band that specifies either or both of the following:
 - (a) in relation to the installation’s daily consumption of gas in the most recent 3-year period, the highest amount of gas that the installation consumes in 1 day;
 - (b) in relation to the installation’s annual consumption of gas in the most recent 3-year period, the average annual amount of gas that the installation consumes.
- (2) Subclause (3) applies in respect of a consumer installation that has consumed gas for a period that is less than 3 years (the **relevant period**).
- (3) The consumer installation’s curtailment band in Schedule 3 is the band that specifies either or both of the following:
 - (a) in relation to the installation’s daily consumption of gas in the relevant period, the highest amount of gas that it is expected the installation will consume in 1 day;

- (b) in relation to the installation's annual consumption of gas in the relevant period, the average annual amount of gas that it is expected the installation will consume.

(2) In Schedule 2, replace clause 2(4) with:

(4) To the extent that a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation, the consumer installation may continue to use gas in accordance with the shutdown profile determined under regulation 46J, except in the circumstances described in subclause (4A).

(4A) For the purposes of subclause (4), the circumstances are that,—

- (a) at the time that a critical contingency is declared, if a curtailment direction is given in respect of the consumer's curtailment band, the consumer must, unless the shutdown profile provides otherwise, commence the shutdown of plant from the consumer installation's gas consumption rates:
- (b) the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if the consumer installation is in curtailment bands 1 to 3 and—
 - (i) a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4; or
 - (ii) the critical contingency operator directs full curtailment under regulation 53:
- (c) the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 6:

(3) In Schedule 2, replace clause 3 with:

3 Order and priority of curtailment

During a critical contingency,—

- (a) any curtailment of gas consumption must occur in the order of the curtailment bands in Schedule 3, for example, curtailment band 0 is curtailed first and curtailment band 7 is curtailed last; and
- (b) subject to regulation 53(2), consumer installations in each curtailment band are to be given equal priority in the event of any curtailment; and
- (c) if a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation and is in bands 1 to 3, the consumer must fully curtail gas consumption before a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4.

36 Schedule 3 replaced

Replace Schedule 3 with the Schedule 3 set out in Schedule 2 of these regulations.

37 Schedule 4 replaced

Replace Schedule 4 with the Schedule 4 set out in Schedule 3 of these regulations.

38 Schedule 5 amended

- (1) In Schedule 5, clause 1(2), replace “band 3” with “band 2A or 3”.
- (2) In Schedule 5, clause 2(1), replace—
 - (a) “damaged or fails” with “damaged, fails, or is subject to an unexpected interruption”; and
 - (b) “damage or failure” with “damage, failure, or unexpected interruption”.
- (3) In Schedule 5, clause 2(2), replace “band 3” with “band 2A or 3”.
- (4) In Schedule 5, clause 2(2)(a), replace—
 - (a) “damaged or failed component” with “component that was damaged, failed, or was subject to an unexpected interruption”; and
 - (b) “damage or failure” with “damage, failure, or unexpected interruption”.

Schedule 1

Schedule 1 replaced

r 34

Schedule 1

Critical contingency threshold limits

r 25

In accordance with regulation 25(1)(a), the permissible limits for the thresholds specified in a critical contingency management plan that apply to the following parts of the transmission system (as identified on the map published in accordance with regulation 10) are as follows:

Pipeline	Maximum time before minimum operating pressure is reached	Minimum time before minimum operating pressure is reached	Minimum operating pressure range	Point of measurement*
Maui	5 hours	2 hours	30.0 (±5.0) bar g	Rotowaro Compressor Station
South	10 hours	3 hours	27.5 (−7.5; +9.5) bar g	Waitangirua WTG06910
Hawke's Bay lateral	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Hastings HST05210
Frankley Rd to Kapuni	6 hours	3 hours	35.0 (±2.5) bar g	Kapuni (GTP) KAP09612
Bay of Plenty	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Gisborne GIS07810
Bay of Plenty	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Tauranga TRG07701
Bay of Plenty	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Whakatāne WHK32101
Morrinsville lateral	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Cambridge CAM17201
Central (North)	6 hours	3 hours	27.5 (−7.5; +10.0) bar g	Westfield WST03610
North	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Whangārei WHG07501
For any other gas gate on the pipeline, excluding Taupō TAU07001 and Broadlands BRO36301	6 hours	3 hours	25.0 (±5.0) bar g	Gas gate not specified elsewhere

*The codes specified in the first and fifth columns of this table refer to the gas gate codes determined under the Gas (Switching Arrangements) Rules 2008.

Schedule 2
Schedule 3 replaced

r 36

Schedule 3 Curtailment bands		
Curtailment band	Consumer installation's gas consumption in gigajoules (GJ) or terajoules (TJ)	Description
0	N/A	Any consumer installation, to the extent that gas is used for injection into gas storage
1	More than 100 TJ per day	Any consumer installation supplied directly from the transmission system
2	More than 15 TJ per day and not more than 100 TJ per day	Any consumer installation supplied directly from the transmission system
2A	More than 300 TJ per annum and not more than 15 TJ per day	Large industrial or commercial consumer installation
3	More than 10 TJ per annum and not more than 300 TJ per annum, and not more than 15 TJ per day	Large industrial or commercial consumer installation
4	More than 250 GJ per annum and not more than 10 TJ per annum	Medium-sized industrial or commercial consumer installation
5	More than 250 GJ per annum	Any consumer installation (whether or not in any of curtailment bands 0 to 4), to the extent that an essential services designation applies to the installation
6	250 GJ or less per annum	Small commercial consumer installation
7	Any	Any consumer installation (whether or not in any of curtailment bands 0 to 6), to the extent that a critical care designation applies to the consumer installation

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Schedule 3

Schedule 4 replaced

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Schedule 4

Transmission system information

rr 10, 38

The information referred to in regulations 10(1) and 38(1)(d) in respect of a transmission system is as follows:

- (a) a high-level map indicating the geographic location of the network and the critical contingency threshold information required under regulation 25(1)(a) in respect of a contingency management plan approved by the industry body under regulation 30;
- (b) engineering drawings, provided in paper and electronic form and with any cross-referenced information contained in an accompanying schedule, of each transmission system of the pipeline owner showing the following details:
 - (i) all assets in the system with notations showing—
 - (A) internal, external, or nominal pipe diameters used (and identifying whether internal, external, or nominal pipe diameters are used); and
 - (B) pipe design pressure ratings; and
 - (C) pipe wall thickness; and
 - (D) operating pressure; and
 - (E) pipeline route maps; and
 - (F) flow control valves, system isolating valves, and non-return valves; and
 - (G) all stations, main line valves, and intake and offtake points, including a unique identifier for each item; and
 - (H) the distance between the items referred to in subsubparagraph (G);
 - (ii) if applicable, the points where a significant change has occurred since the previous disclosure of the information referred to in subparagraph (i), including—
 - (A) a clear description of every point on the network that is affected by the change; and
 - (B) a statement as to whether the capacity of the network, at the points where the change has occurred or other points (as the case may be), has increased or decreased or is not affected; and
 - (C) a description of the change.

Rachel Hayward,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the regulations but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which come into force on 24 September 2026, amend the Gas Governance (Critical Contingency Management) Regulations 2008 (the **principal regulations**).

These regulations are made on the recommendation of the Minister for Energy (the **Minister**) to give effect to a recommendation the Gas Industry Company Limited (the **GIC**) made to the Minister in July 2024.

To the extent that the GIC's recommendation proposes amendments for the purposes of section 43F(2)(e) of the Gas Act 1992 (the **Act**), section 43J(1)(b) of the Act requires that the Minister may make the recommendation only if it implements the effect of the GIC's recommendation and it does not differ from that recommendation in any material way (for example, other than in matters of drafting style or minor detail).

Section 43F(2)(e) of the Act authorises regulations to be made providing, in relation to wholesale or any other markets for gas, for arrangements relating to outages and other security of supply risks, including imposing requirements in connection with those matters on any industry participant or consumer (other than a domestic consumer).

The effect of these regulations is—

- to require each transmission system owner (**TSO**), if requested by the GIC, to provide the GIC with the information specified in *new Schedule 4* of the principal regulations (*see new regulation 10(1)*);
- to remove references to the Maui Pipeline Operating Code and the Vector Transmission Code from the regulations (*see amendments to regulations 5, 13, 25, 81, and 85*);
- to clarify how and when estimated ongoing fees are payable (*see new regulation 18 and amendment to regulation 20*);
- to allow TSOs to specify in a proposed critical contingency management plan the date or event on which the plan takes effect, otherwise the plan will take effect on the date it is published by the critical contingency operator (the **CCO**) in accordance with regulation 32 of the principal regulations (*see new regulation 25(3)*);
- to require TSOs to provide in a proposed critical contingency management plan the specified contact details, or a link to a data source that contains the specified contact details, and a description of the process the TSO will use to main-

tain the specified contact details (*see new regulation 25(1)(ia)* and other amendments to regulation 25):

- to enable TSOs to provide for a proposed critical contingency management plan to be consistent with an amendment to the principal regulations, or to a transmission system code, in specified circumstances (*see new regulation 25(1A)*):
- to change how expert advisers are appointed to review a proposed critical contingency management plan or a proposed amendment to a critical contingency management plan, as follows:
 - within 30 business days after receiving a proposed critical contingency management plan, the GIC must appoint an expert adviser to review the plan (*see new regulation 27(1)*):
 - within 10 business days after receiving a proposed amendment to a critical contingency management plan, the GIC must determine whether the proposed amendment is material or immaterial and whether the TSO has carried out consultation on the proposed amendment in accordance with regulation 26 (*see new regulation 27(2)*):
 - if the GIC determines that the proposed amendment is material and the required consultation has been carried out, the GIC must, within 30 business days after receiving the proposed amendment, appoint an expert adviser to review the plan (*see new regulation 27(3)*):
 - if the GIC determines that the proposed amendment is material and the required consultation has not been carried out, the GIC must require the TSO to carry out the consultation and resubmit the proposed amendment to the GIC for further consideration (*see new regulation 27(4)*):
 - if the GIC determines that the proposed amendment is immaterial, the GIC must approve or decline the proposed amendment in accordance with regulation 30 (*see new regulation 27(5)* and amendments to regulations 28, 29, and 33):
- to require the CCO, after consultation with TSOs, to instigate exercises to test that the retailer curtailment plans comply with regulation 43 (*see new regulation 34(1)(ba)*) and to require retailers to participate in those tests (*see new regulation 34(1A)* and other amendments to regulation 34):
- to require that the communications plan will govern the communications between the CCO and TSOs before a critical contingency declaration and during a critical contingency (*see amendment to regulation 35(2)*):
- to require that the communications plan also include communications relating to monitoring the transmission system before a critical contingency declaration and relating to making a critical contingency declaration (*see new regulation 35(3)(a) and (b)*):

- to require each retailer, as required, to provide a notice to the CCO setting out certain matters for each gas gate at which the retailer's consumers are connected (*see* amendment to regulation 39):
- to require each large consumer to include in the annual notice provided to the CCO any designation that has been approved (*see* amendment to regulation 40):
- to require each retailer to prepare a retailer curtailment plan and provide it to the GIC and CCO annually, by 1 March, and keep the plan up to date. The plan must include the contact details for the retailer's primary contact with the CCO (*see new regulation 43(1)* and other amendments to regulation 43):
- to require the GIC to annually inform the CCO in writing of the number of ICPs by curtailment band and the number of ICPs by gas gate as recorded on the registry (*see new regulation 45A*):
- to require the GIC to approve an essential services designation if satisfied that the annual gas consumption for providing the essential services at the consumer installation is reduced from more than 2 terajoules in a 12-month period to more than 250 gigajoules in a 12-month period (*see* amendment to regulation 46B):
- to adjust the requirements for when an approved designation is effective and when the GIC must give notice of an approved designation (*see* amendments to regulation 46K):
- to adjust the declaration form requirements in relation to a designation under regulation 46K (*see new regulation 46L(1)(d) and (da)*):
- to clarify that the CCO is not required to make a determination that there is a critical contingency if it considers that the breach is short-term or unavoidable as a result of a planned outage, and a determination is not necessary to achieve the purposes of the principal regulations (*see new regulation 48(3)*):
- to provide that the CCO may direct the curtailment of subsets of load defined by a percentage of gas consumption rates at the time a critical contingency is declared and must, if a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation and is in bands 1 to 3, direct the consumer to fully curtail gas consumption (*see new regulation 53(2)*):
- to clarify that asset owners must publish information as required by clause 2 of Schedule 5 about failed assets, including if the gas supply chain is subject to an unexpected interruption (*see* amendments to regulation 54A and clause 2 of Schedule 5):
- to require retailers and large consumers to provide a TSO with regular updates during a critical contingency and for those updates to be in the form specified in the TSO's critical contingency management plan (if any) (*see new regulation 55(2A)*):

- to require retailers to give notice to their consumers in the form specified in the TSO's critical contingency management plan (if any) (*see new regulation 56(4)*):
- to require the CCO to prepare a draft performance report no later than 20 business days after the termination of a critical contingency and to provide for a final performance report to be prepared and published no later than 10 business days after the deadline for making submissions (*see new regulation 65(2D)*, other amendments to regulation 65, and amendment to regulation 65A):
- to require the allocation agent or a TSO to provide requested data within 5 business days after whichever is the later of the date on which the allocation agent receives the data from allocation participants and the date on which the TSO receives the data on large consumers (*see amendment to regulation 66A(2)(a)*):
- to adjust the list of matters that the industry expert must consider when determining the critical contingency price (*see amendment to regulation 71*):
- to replace the critical contingency threshold limits in Schedule 1 (*see regulation 34 and the new Schedule 1 set out in Schedule 1 of these regulations*):
- to replace the critical contingency threshold limits in Schedule 1 (*see new Schedule 1 set out in Schedule 1 of these regulations*):
- to make the following amendments to Schedule 2:
 - to provide that a consumer installation's curtailment band in Schedule 3 is the band that specifies either or both of the following:
 - in relation to the installation's daily consumption of gas in the most recent 3-year period, the highest amount of gas that the installation consumes in 1 day:
 - in relation to the installation's annual consumption of gas in the most recent 3-year period, the average annual amount of gas that the installation consumes (*see new clause 1A(1)*):
 - to provide that, in relation to a consumer installation that has consumed gas for a period that is less than 3 years (the **relevant period**), the installation's curtailment band in Schedule 3 is the band that specifies either or both of the following:
 - in relation to the installation's daily consumption of gas in the relevant period, the highest amount of gas that it is expected the installation will consume in 1 day:
 - in relation to the installation's annual consumption of gas in the relevant period, the average annual amount of gas that it is expected the installation will consume (*see new clause 1A(2)(and (3))*):
 - to provide that, to the extent that a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation, the consumer may continue to use gas

in accordance with their shutdown profile except in the following circumstances:

- at the time a critical contingency is declared, if a curtailment direction is given in respect of the consumer's curtailment band, the consumer must, unless the shutdown profile provides otherwise, commence shutdown:
- the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if the consumer installation is in curtailment bands 1 to 3 and a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4 or the CCO directs full curtailment under regulation 53:
- the consumer must stop using gas as soon as possible if a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 6 (*see new clause 2(4) and (4A)*):
- to replace clause 3 to provide that if, during a critical contingency, a consumer installation is the subject of a critical processing designation and is in curtailment bands 1 to 3, the consumer must fully curtail gas consumption before a curtailment direction is given in respect of curtailment band 4 (*see new clause 3(c)*):
- to adjust the amounts of gas consumption that apply to curtailment bands and to provide new curtailment band 2A, which applies to large industrial or commercial consumer installations that consume more than 300 terajoules of gas per annum and not more than 15 terajoules of gas per day (*see new Schedule 3*):
- to amend the transmission system information referred to in regulations 10(1) and 38(1)(d) in respect of a transmission system (*see new Schedule 4*):
- to make consequential amendments to Schedule 5 as a result of amendments to regulation 54A and *new Schedule 3*.

Regulatory impact statement

The Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment prepared a regulatory impact statement on 29 August 2024 to help inform the decisions taken by the Government relating to the contents of this instrument.

A copy of this regulatory impact statement can be found at—

- <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/29818-regulatory-impact-statement-amendments-to-the-gas-governance-critical-contingency-management-regulations-2008-proactiverelase-pdf>
- <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/publications-and-resources/regulatory-analysis-summaries/>

Consistency with principles of responsible regulation

The Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment provided the following documents relating to its review of this secondary legislation, and its process for developing it, for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation under the Regulatory Standards Act 2025:

- a consistency accountability statement on 16 July 2026;
- a summary of underpinning analysis on 16 July 2026.

Copies of these documents can be found at—

- <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/32310-consistency-accountability-statement-gas-governance-critical-contingency-management-amendment-regulations-2026-pdf>
- <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/32311-summary-of-underpinning-analysis-gas-governance-critical-contingency-management-amendment-regulations-2026-pdf>

The Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment considers that a statement from the maker under section 14(1)(b) of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025 is not required for this secondary legislation.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 27 August 2026.

These regulations are administered by the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment.