*NEWS*bulletin

Welcome to Gas Industry Co's *News Bulletin*, a periodic advisory of new and current consultations, workstream developments, publications and presentations.

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➢ Publication of Gas Industry Company reports.
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CONSULTATION REMINDER: Information Disclosure Options Paper.

On 6 March 2019, the Gas Industry Company (GIC) released for consultation the document: *Options Paper for Information Disclosure (Options Paper)*. We then held a workshop on Wednesday 27 March to take interested parties through the paper to discuss any concerns they may have. The presentation from that workshop is available on our website here.

Last December, GIC established the information disclosure workstream as an initial step in the process to address potential information issues relating to information availability in the wholesale gas sector. As part of that workstream we will consider whether current market arrangements related to information disclosure in the sector are sufficient or whether further arrangements are required.

The *Options Paper* sets out a proposed problem statement and discusses the importance of information for the operation of a well-functioning market. The options are described at a concept level and are evaluated qualitatively. Submissions will be used to assist in determining whether there is potential information issue, and if there is an issue, the extent of the issue and the appropriate option for detailed design and evaluation.

To ensure we understand the full range of perspectives that parties have on this subject, we encourage submissions from all stakeholders including the wider energy sector. In this regard, we have received a letter from Meridian Energy on gas market information disclosure. That letter can be found on the submissions webpage here. Submissions on the *Options Paper* are invited by **5.00pm, Wednesday 17 April 2019** and can be made here.

REMINDER – Industry training and annual test exercise.

The annual test exercise under the Critical Contingency Management Regulations is scheduled for **Wednesday, 8 May 2019.**

The Critical Contingency Operator will hold training sessions so that industry participants can refresh their understanding of what happens during a critical contingency and how they are required to respond. The following sessions are planned:

Location	Date	Time	Venue
New Plymouth	Wednesday, 3 April	10.00am – 12.00 noon	First Gas 42 Connett Road West Bell Block
Auckland	Tuesday, 9 April	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Genesis 660 Great South Road Greenlane
Wellington	Wednesday, 10 April	10.00am – 12.00noon	Gas Industry Co 95 Customhouse Quay Level 8 The Todd Building

Publication of Gas Industry Company Reports.

The Gas Industry Company's December 2018 Quarterly Report, including the quarterly Industry Performance Measures Report are both available on our website.

March 2019 customer switching numbers available.

The Gas Registry statistics recording gas consumer switching numbers for March 2019 are available here. There were 3,982 completed customer switches during March 2019 – 69 more than February 2019, and 308 more than March 2018.

For the last couple of years switching numbers and the time they take to complete have been relatively stable. In the last 12 months we saw on average 3,846 switches taking place a month and they took on average two days to complete. During that time the highest numbers of switches occurred in November 2018 (4,345) and January 2019 saw the lowest (3,229).

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this Bulletin, please contact us at info@gasindustry.co.nz or 04-4721800