

12 July 2012

Allan Carvell
General Manager Pricing and Regulation
Vector Limited
Private Bag 99882
Auckland 1149

Dear Allan

Response to extension request for information gathering notices

1. This letter is in response to Vector's extension request, dated 2 July 2012, for:
 - responding to the Commerce Commission's 22 June 2012 information gathering notices for electricity distribution services, gas distribution services and gas transmission services
 - responding to queries raised by Nel Consulting Limited on Vector's proposed asset adjustments for electricity distribution services, gas transmission services and gas distribution services.

Gas distribution and transmission information

2. We have considered Vector's extension request concerning gas distribution services and gas transmission services and agree to extend the timeframes for responding to parts of the 22 June 2012 information gathering notice. However we still require the following information to be supplied by the original due date of 3 August 2012:
 - Weighted average price information - paragraph 5 of the 22 June 2012 information gathering notice
 - Commissioned and disposed assets information – Schedule A4 of the Request workbook (the MS Excel workbook that was provided with the 22 June 2012 information gathering notice)
 - Forecast information – Schedule B of the Request workbook
 - Revenue statistics – Schedule C of the Request workbook
 - Other regulated income – Schedule D of the Request workbook
 - Insurance cost information - Schedule E(B) of the Request workbook

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3. The information listed above is to be provided with a cover letter signed by an authorised representative of Vector.
4. All other information required by the 22 June 2012 information gathering notice is to be supplied by no later than 5 pm Friday 31 August 2012. Any resubmitted information (eg, Vector's governance and audit processes may require information supplied by 3 August to be revised) is to be provided with an explanation of the changes to the information and the reasons for those changes.
5. The directors' certificate and independent assurance report required by the information gathering notice is to be provided by Friday 31 August 2012.
6. Information sought by Nel Consulting Limited relating to Vector's proposed asset adjustments is to be provided by the due dates of 17 and 18 July 2012.
7. Extending the timeframes as set out above will mean that our draft decisions on the initial default price-quality paths for gas pipeline services will only be able to include indicative starting prices. In light of this, we would publish any revised starting prices (that takes account of the information that is supplied after 3 August 2012) during the consultation period on the draft decisions. However, we do not propose to extend the proposed consultation period.

Electricity distribution information

8. We have considered Vector's extension request concerning electricity distribution services and have decided not to extend the timeframes for:
 - responding to the Commission's 22 June 2012 information gathering notice
 - responding to queries raised by Nel Consulting Limited on Vector's proposed asset adjustments.
9. Please send information to Regulation.Branch@comcom.govt.nz, Attention: Matthew Lewer.

Yours sincerely



Dr Mark Berry
Chair