



## Business NZ recommendations to incoming Government: Infrastructure

A healthy economy requires good infrastructure to adequately support business now and to enable investment in future growth.

Current infrastructure issues include delays and lack of coordination in roading development, barriers to private investment in roading and other infrastructure, uncertainty and delays in consenting infrastructure developments, risk of electricity brownouts in dry years because of investment disincentives resulting from generator monopoly issues, inadequate telecommunications infrastructure and inadequately defined water property rights.

Given the range and depth of issues related to infrastructure, Business NZ endorses the Government's decision to appoint a Minister for Infrastructure.

### **Business NZ recommendations:**

1. Create a long term national plan for development of roads and public transport.
2. If Local Authorities retain responsibility for public transport in their region, require their delivery to align with the national development plan to ensure projects are co-ordinated and consistent
3. Amend the Land Transport Management Act to better facilitate public-private partnerships and tolling, including allowing tolls to existing as well as new roads
4. Amend the RMA to facilitate and streamline consenting for nationally important infrastructure projects and to encourage more use of the call in process
5. Allocate water rights for time periods that are fit for purpose where capital investment is involved, e.g. hydro generation or industrial process plant
6. Review the regulatory framework for electricity generation to allow for the future privatisation of state owned generators
7. Remove the restriction on baseload thermal generation

8. Clarify the target of 90% renewable generation as an aspirational goal
9. Require the Electricity Commission to revise its Statement of Opportunities to take account of the removal of the thermal ban and the target for renewable generation and require Transpower to review their long term planning on the same basis
10. Confirm Transpower as the national transmission planner and require the Electricity Commission to consider Transpower proposals on merit without supplanting Transpower's planning role
11. Review electricity pricing methodology to rectify the lack of incentive for generators to build close to load (as they do not have to meet transmission costs)
12. Return regulation of the telecommunication sector in stages in the direction of light handed regulation
13. Facilitate broadband to all households and businesses through a range of technologies and ensure that a reliable and advanced telecommunication infrastructure is updated and continued throughout the country
14. Ensure that any regulatory steps towards changes to the ownership of telecommunications services do not impede property rights and investment
15. Undertake regular and comprehensive analysis of the telecommunications industry so that New Zealand's telecommunications position can be readily assessed against other countries

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