

Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Government Grants Related to Income) Amendment Determination 2026

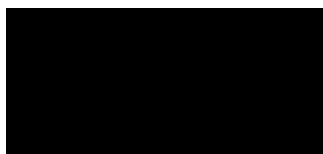
[2026] NZCC 32

The Commission:

Nathan Strong
Dr John Small
Dr Derek Johnston
Bryan Chapple

Date of decision:

1 September 2026



Robert Cahn, Chief Legal Counsel – Infrastructure Regulation

Dated at Wellington this 1st day of September 2026

COMMERCE COMMISSION

Wellington, New Zealand

Determination history		
Determination date	Decision number	Determination name
28 September 2012	[2012] NZCC 26	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Determination 2012 ('principal determination')*
15 November 2012	[2012] NZCC 34	Electricity and Gas Input Methodologies Determination Amendments (No. 2) 2012
26 September 2014	[2014] NZCC 24	Electricity Lines Services Input Methodologies Determination Amendment 2014
29 October 2014	[2014] NZCC 27	Electricity Lines Services and Gas Pipeline Services Input Methodologies Determination Amendment (WACC percentile for price-quality regulation) 2014
14 November 2014	n/a	Determination of Input Methodologies by the High Court in <i>Wellington International Airports Ltd and others v Commerce Commission</i> [2013] NZHC 3289 (11 December 2013)
27 November 2014	[2014] NZCC 31	Electricity Distribution Input Methodology Amendments Determination 2014
27 November 2014	[2014] NZCC 32	Incremental Rolling Incentive Scheme Input Methodology Amendments Determination 2014
11 December 2014	[2014] NZCC 38	Electricity Lines Services and Gas Pipeline Services Input Methodologies Determination Amendment (WACC percentile for information disclosure regulation) 2014
12 November 2015	[2015] NZCC 28	Electricity and Gas (Customised Paths) Input Methodology Amendments Determination 2015
25 November 2015	[2015] NZCC 32	Electricity Distribution Services (Incremental Rolling Incentive Scheme) Input Methodologies Amendments Determination 2015
20 December 2016	[2016] NZCC 24	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Amendments Determination 2016
21 December 2017	[2017] NZCC 30	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Amendments Determination 2017
8 November 2018	[2018] NZCC 19	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Accelerated Depreciation) Amendments Determination 2018
13 November 2019	[2019] NZCC 18	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Amendments Determination 2019
26 November 2019	[2019] NZCC 20	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Amendments Determination (No. 2) 2019

Determination history		
Determination date	Decision number	Determination name
30 March 2020	[2020] NZCC 2	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Amendments Determination 2020
13 December 2023	[2023] NZCC 35	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (IM Review 2023) Amendment Determination 2023
20 November 2024	[2024] NZCC 27	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Washup Amounts) Amendment Determination 2024
11 December 2024	[2024] NZCC 36	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (treatment of insurance entitlements) Amendment Determination 2024
27 March 2025	[2025] NZCC 5	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Reopeners and Other Matters) Amendment Determination 2025
19 May 2026	[2026] NZCC 15	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Accounting for Shifted Revenue) Amendment Determination 2026
1 September 2026	[2026] NZCC 32	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Government Grants Related to Income) Amendment Determination 2026

* The principal determination re-determined the input methodologies contained in *Commerce Act (Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies) Determination 2010* (Commerce Commission Decision No. 710, 22 December 2010), as amended by the *Electricity and Gas Input Methodologies Determination Amendments (No. 1) 2012* [2012] NZCC 18 (29 June 2012). A complete history of determinations relevant to the input methodologies applicable to electricity distribution services is available on the Commission's website.

Under section 52W of the Commerce Act 1986, the Commerce Commission makes the following determination:

1. TITLE

- 1.1 This determination is the Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Government Grants Related to Income) Amendment Determination 2026.

2. COMMENCEMENT

- 2.1 This determination comes into force on 2 September 2026.

3. INTERPRETATION

- 3.1 Terms in bold that are defined in the **principal determination**, but not in this determination, have the meaning given to those terms in the **principal determination**.
- 3.2 In this determination, **principal determination** means the Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Determination 2012 [2012] NZCC 26.

4. DETERMINATION AMENDED

- 4.1 This determination amends the **principal determination**.

5. PRINCIPAL DETERMINATION AMENDMENTS

- 5.1 Insert, in the appropriate alphabetical order, a new definition of “government grant related to income” in clause 1.1.4(2) of the **principal determination**:

“**government grant related to income** has the same meaning as ‘grants related to income’ under **GAAP**, except to the extent such a grant relates to expenditure that has been explicitly or implicitly provided for in a **DPP** or **CPP**;”

- 5.2 Replace the definition of “operating cost” in clause 1.1.4(2) of the **principal determination** with:

“**operating cost**

means a cost incurred by the **EDB** in question relating to the **supply** of-

- (a) **regulated services** alone; or
- (b) **regulated services** and one or more **unregulated service**,

net of any **insurance entitlement**, **compensatory entitlement**, **third-party liability entitlement**, or **government grant related to income** for the same cost, up to the amount of that cost, which the **EDB** chooses to net off in calculating that cost,

and excludes-

- (c) a cost that is treated as a cost of an asset by **GAAP**;
- (d) amounts that are depreciation, tax, subvention payments, revaluations or an interest expense, in accordance with their meanings under **GAAP**;
- (e) **debt issuance costs**;
- (f) **pass-through costs**;
- (g) **recoverable costs**;
- (h) distribution of profits to **consumers**;
- (i) **pecuniary penalties**; and
- (j) costs associated with the assets that are funded under **large connection contracts**;"

5.3 Replace the definition of "other regulated income" in clause 1.1.4(2) of the **principal determination** with:

other regulated income

for the purpose of–

- (a) Part 3, means income associated with the supply of **electricity distribution services**, including gains and losses on **disposed assets**, but excluding–
 - (i) income through **prices**;
 - (ii) investment-related income;
 - (iii) **capital contributions**;
 - (iv) **vested assets**;
 - (v) income associated with the assets that are funded under **large connection contracts**;
 - (vi) any **insurance entitlement** that has been applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset under clause 2.2.11(1)(m);
 - (vii) any **compensatory entitlement** that has been applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset under clause 2.2.11(1)(m);
 - (viii) any **insurance entitlement** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**;

- (ix) any **third-party liability entitlement** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**;
 - (x) any **government grant related to income** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**; and
 - (xi) any **retained entitlement**; and
- (b) Parts 4 and 5, means income associated with the supply of **electricity distribution services**, including gains and losses on **disposed assets**, but excluding-
- (i) income through **prices**;
 - (ii) investment-related income;
 - (iii) **capital contributions**;
 - (iv) **vested assets**;
 - (v) income associated with the assets that are funded under **large connection contracts**;
 - (vi) any **insurance entitlement** that has been applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset under clause 2.2.11(1)(m);
 - (vii) any **compensatory entitlement** that has been applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset under clause 2.2.11(1)(m);
 - (viii) any **insurance entitlement** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**; and
 - (ix) any **third-party liability entitlement** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**,
 - (x) any **government grant related to income** that has been netted off in calculating an **operating cost**; and
 - (xi) any **retained entitlement**,
- as determined by the **Commission**;

- 5.4 Replace the definition of “retained entitlement” in clause 1.1.4(2) of the **principal determination** with:

retained entitlement

for the purpose of-

- (a) Part 3, means the **retention factor** multiplied by (the sum of any **insurance entitlements, compensatory entitlements, third-party liability entitlements, and government grants related to income** excluding the sum of any of those entitlements and grants netted off in calculating an **operating cost** or applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset under clause 2.2.11(1)(m)); and
- (b) Parts 4 and 5, means the **retention factor** multiplied by (the sum of **insurance entitlements, compensatory entitlements, third-party liability entitlements, and government grants related to income** excluding the sum of any of those entitlements and grants netted off in calculating an **operating cost** or forecast to be applied to reduce the value of a **commissioned** asset, as determined by the **Commission**);

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the determination but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This determination amends the Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Determination 2012 ('principal determination').

This is secondary legislation issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019 .	
Title	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Government Grants Related to Income) Amendment Determination 2026
Principal or amendment	Amendment
Consolidated version	No
Empowering Act and provisions	Commerce Act 1986 Section 52W
Replacement empowering Act and provisions	Not applicable
Maker name	Commerce Commission
Administering agency	Commerce Commission
Date made	1 September 2026
Publication date	1 September 2026
Notification date	1 September 2026
Commencement date	2 September 2026
End date (when applicable)	Not applicable
Consolidation as at date	Not applicable
Related instruments	Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Determination 2012 [2012] NZCC 26

Consistency Accountability Statement: Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies (Government Grants Related to Income) Amendment Determination 2026

Agency Responsible	Commerce Commission
Portfolio	Commerce and Consumer Affairs
Date finalised	1 September 2026
Identification number	N/A

Statement of Review

I confirm that the Commerce Commission has assessed the above legislation, and the process for developing it, for consistency with the principles of responsible regulation as set out in section 9 of the Regulatory Standards Act 2025. This assessment identified no inconsistencies with the principles of responsible regulation.



Suzanne Stew
Chief Executive Officer
Commerce Commission