

8 July 2026

Ryno Verster, DSO Programme Director, Powerco

Via email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe Ryno,

Thank you for Powerco's application for the Innovation and Non-traditional Solutions allowance (INTSA) on 28 May 2026.

As a follow-up to the meeting we had on Friday 26 June 2026, we have the following questions regarding the Powerco as a DSO project:

- Some of the workstreams included in the application seem to relate to projects already funded via INTSA. To the degree that this is the case, please explain why the initial funding has not been sufficient?
- Contractors represent approximately 40% of the forecast expenditure on the project. Could you please explain the factors driving the proposed level of contractor expenditure and the role contractors are expected to play in delivery?
- Powerco is undertaking a number of strategic initiatives in parallel. Could you outline any risks this may present for delivery of the DSO project, and how those risks are being managed?
- One of the stated objectives of the programme is to provide input to DPP5 decisions. Could you provide examples of the outputs or insights that you expect could be used to inform future regulatory settings?
- Could you describe the metrics and outcomes that will be used to evaluate the success of the proposed changes?
- The proposed DSO programme contains multiple workstreams, some of which are expected to evolve over time. Could you describe the governance arrangements for the programme, including stop/go decision points?
- Could you describe any developments regarding potential future phases of the programme that have occurred following submission of the application?

We will consider Powerco's responses and use them to inform our decision. As we intend to publish this letter and Powerco's reply alongside our final decision, please ensure that any confidential information in your reply is clearly identified.

Nāku iti nei, nā

Ben Woodham