

15 August 2019



Re: Moving the light vehicle fleet to low-emissions

To whom it may concern

Electrix Limited is a leading provider of engineering, construction and maintenance services to asset owners in the utility, industrial, commercial, resources, and infrastructure sectors. We have been in business in New Zealand since 1955, and our key clients include Transpower, Vector Limited, First Gas Limited and PowerCo. We employ in excess of 1000 employees nationwide and operate a fleet which includes 200 staff cars, 340 trade utilities (Utes) and 110 vans, which would be categorized as light vehicles in the terms of the LEV discussion document. These vehicles are leased on a four-year term.

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In response to the Clean Cars/Light Vehicle Emissions proposals, we would like to offer the following submissions:

1. A large proportion of our fleet are diesel powered utilities (Utes) which tow trailers and high loads in off-road environments. Currently there are no Hybrid/EV alternatives for these vehicles in the New Zealand market that would enable us to continue to provide the services required under our contracts to support the national grid and various networks operations. The towing and load capacities of any proposed utility vehicles would need to be significantly increased to enable us to carry the necessary equipment and materials. These vehicles may be in development but their availability to the New Zealand market needs to be a consideration. Also, for our rural and off-road operations there is currently no infrastructure to allow re-charging.
Consequently, we propose that legislation should not penalize companies for continuing with the current technology until suitable alternatives and infrastructure are available.
2. The current cost of Hybrid / EV vehicles makes them an unattractive commercial option. The removal of FBT from the private use of company vehicles would be an incentive for us to change some of our fleet.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity for Electrix to engage in the process and we look forward to being able continue to expand our commitment to managing our environmental impact as technology becomes available.

Kind regards
Electrix Limited


Robert Ferris
Managing Director

