

GAS IN NEW ZEALAND

Date: September 2022 Author: Caitlin Tromop van Dalen



This presentation will cover

- Background on GIC and the gas sector
- Gas prices
- Gas for electricity security of supply
- Gas supply and demand forecast

• If there is time: Gas Transition Plan



About GIC and the Gas Sector

Gas Industry Co is the industry co-regulator.

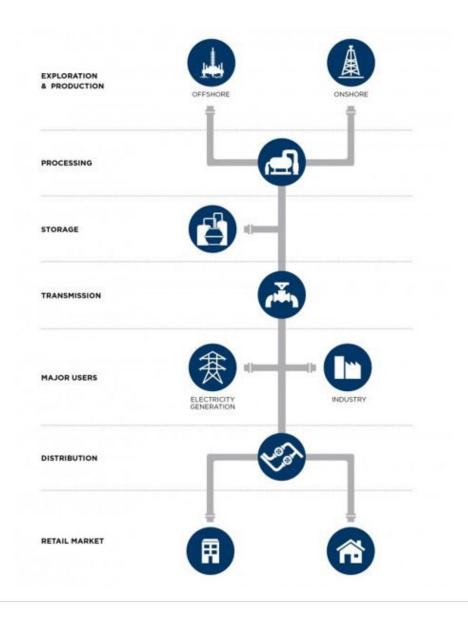
Our principal objective is to ensure that gas is delivered to customers in a safe, efficient, reliable, fair and environmentally sustainable way.

As the industry body we develop arrangements, including regulations, which improve:

- oconsumer outcomes;
- othe operation of gas markets; and
- oaccess to infrastructure.

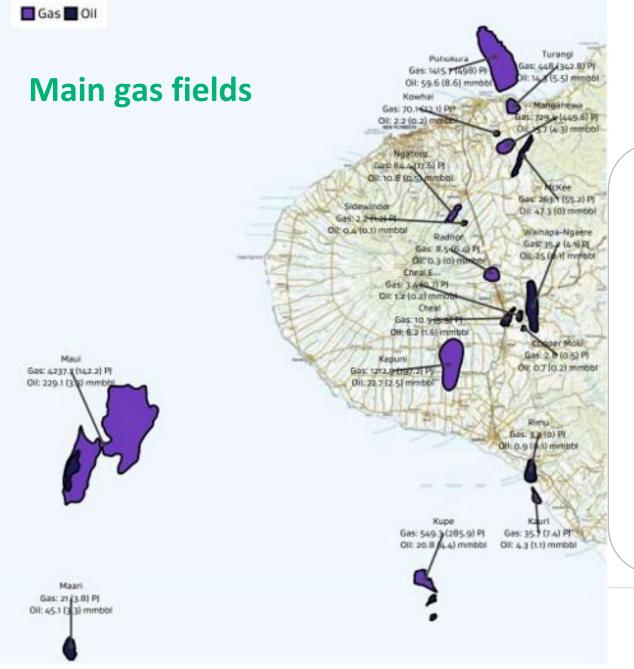


The gas industry is an intersection of production, transmission, and customers







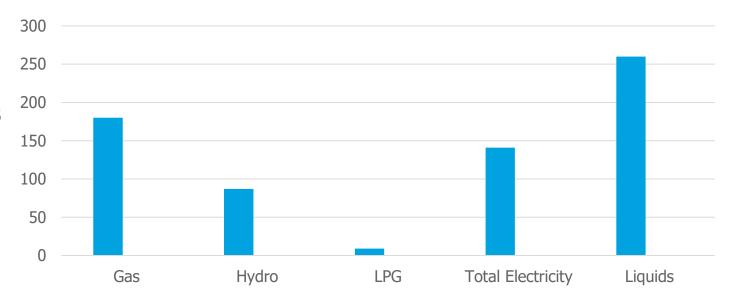






Energy supplied to New Zealand:

Natural gas is second only to liquid fuels such as petrol and diesel in New Zealand's energy system in total energy value



Annual calorific value of energy supplied. 2020 calendar year, MBIE, Energy in New Zealand 2021, page 10. Energy value at point of supply.



Gas Demand

Only 4% of gas is used residentially.

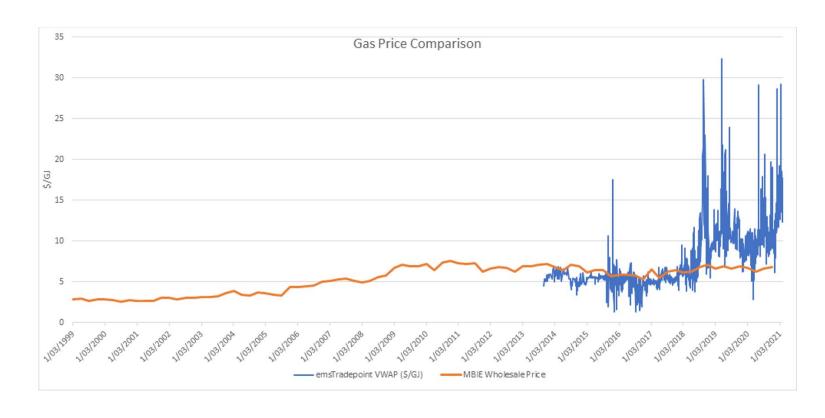
About a third is used to generate electricity.

Methanex is New Zealand's largest energy user





Gas Prices



Most gas (~95%) is sold under long-term contracts.

Spot prices are mainly only for balancing.

Since the 2000s, wholesale gas has generally been priced around \$6-8/GJ



Gas for Electricity Security of Supply

The electricity market currently assumes gas availability but doesn't pay for gas to be available for dry year security.

Our 2021 Gas Market Settings Investigation found a key uncertainty is: Who pays for stand by gas to be available for a dry year?

- Storage?
- Demand response?

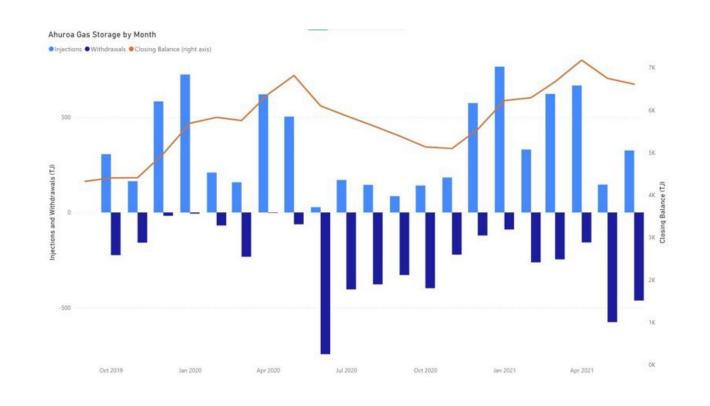


Ahuroa is New Zealand's only gas storage facility, it stores gas underground

Ahuroa can theoretically store up to 18 PJ (about the size of Lake Onslow).

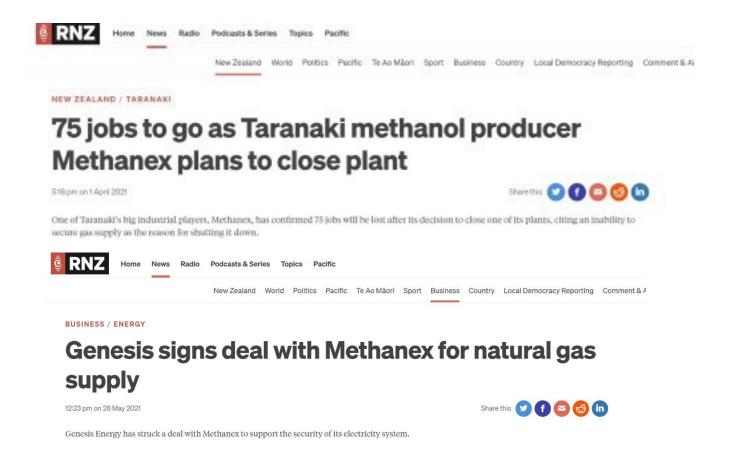
In 2021, Ahuroa had about 6-7PJ of gas in storage. Withdrawals more or less match injections.

It has never been full.





Flexibility provided by Methanex literally keeps the lights on



ENERGY

Gas market crisis averted as Methanex cuts production



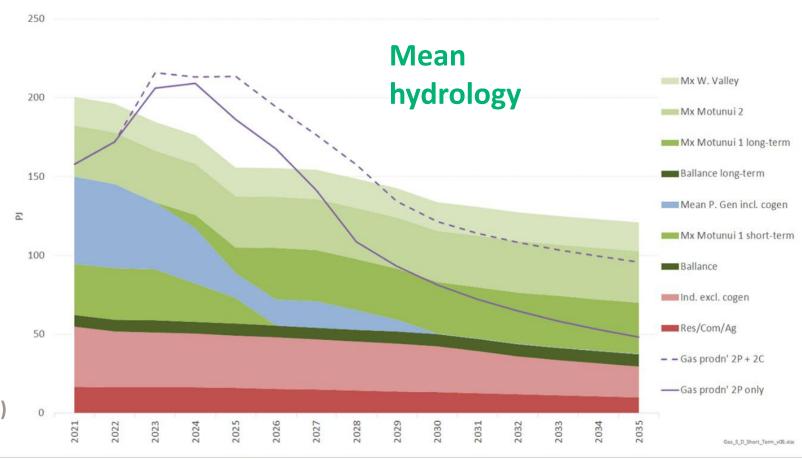
Pattrick Smellie Fri, 28 May 2021



Gas from Methanex was arranged by contract, not traded through the spot market



Gas Supply and Demand Forecast



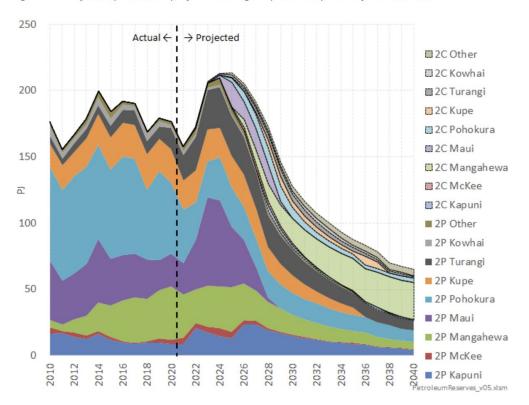
MBIE estimated New Zealand's 2P gas reserves at 2,139PJ (1 Jan 2021)



Long term investment must be incentivised

Reserves are brought to market as demand requires it, and as the required investment occurs.

Figure 17: Projected production profile including simple development of 2C resources



*Figure 17 from Gas supply and demand projections 2022 update

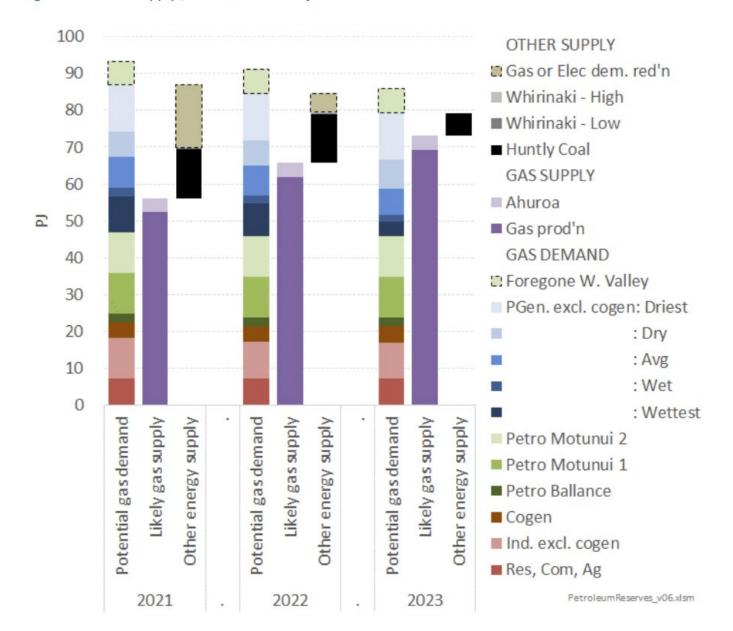
Long term contracts underwrite field development.

Without long term contract, gas fields in New Zealand do not get developed because the producer has no certain market.

2P reserves still require investment to maintain deliverability, and 2C reserves also require technical or economic barriers to be overcome



Figure 6: Winter supply / demand balance for 2021 to 2023⁵



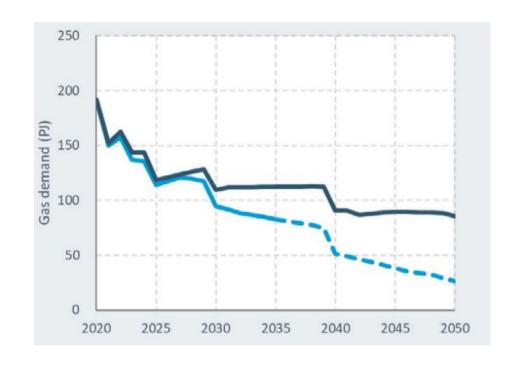
*Figure 6 from Gas supply and demand projections 2022 update







Climate Change Commission demonstration pathway



Demand for natural gas will significantly reduce as the transition progresses.

Gas is significant in 2035 and remains in energy mix in net zero.

Emissions reduction pathway implies 50 - 110 PJ annual demand in 2035 and 26 - 50 PJ in 2050.

Gas Transition Plan

- Transition pathways for natural gas, with focus on first 3 carbon budgets.
- Set out uncertainties and decisions that need to be made around infrastructure (pipelines) and costs.

 Develop a cohesive view on renewable gas market developments.

 Consider the role for green hydrogen, biomethane, renewable Liquid Petroleum Gas, and CCUS.

Pillar one



Pillar two



