

## New Zealand to establish first nationwide network of hydrogen fuelling stations

**Government has backed \$20 million for Hiringa Energy to install eight hydrogen stations covering 95% of heavy freight routes in the North Island and 82% of the South Island.**

New Zealand is set to develop its first nationwide network of hydrogen stations from 2021 following the announcement from the government that it has provisionally approved \$20m for Hiringa Energy to establish the infrastructure.

The \$20m contribution from Infrastructure Reference Group will leverage a further \$49m from Hiringa Energy, joint venture partners and other private investors for the project such as Waitomo, TIL, and TR Group.

The initiative will involve the installation of eight hydrogen refuelling stations located in Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Taranaki, Manawatu, Auckland, Taupō, Wellington and Christchurch. These stations will provide refuelling for zero emissions heavy FCEVs (hydrogen-powered fuel cell electric vehicles) such as trucks and buses.

This initial network will provide coverage for about 95% of heavy freight routes in the North Island and 82% of the South Island.

“This is an exciting development that can kick start the use of hydrogen as a low-emissions transport fuel for New Zealand’s energy future,” said Energy and Resources Minister Megan Woods.

“This funding from the government plays a critical role in stimulating private investment in infrastructure and gives operators the certainty to invest in fuel cell vehicles. There will be a high multiplier effect from the government funds committed,” says Hiringa Energy’s Chairperson, Cathy Clennett.

As well as establishing the refuelling network, other Hiringa Energy projects include domestic production of hydrogen and assisting organisations transition their fleet or energy needs to clean hydrogen.