



23 September 2026

s 9(2)(a)

R001642: Response to your request about the implementation of the Solar review

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 7 September 2026 to the Ministry for Regulation. You requested the following, concerning the Solar Regulatory Review:

- 1. Has Cabinet agreed to implement the review's recommendation to exempt accredited installers from independent inspection for solar installations up to 100 kW, or has it agreed only to further work on a risk-based inspection model? I would appreciate being pointed to the Cabinet paper or minute if it has been proactively released.*
- 2. If an exemption of that kind is progressed, what is the indicative timetable, and what instrument would give effect to it — an amendment to the Electricity (Safety) Regulations 2010, or something else?*
- 3. What accreditation scheme is contemplated as the gateway to any such exemption? Is an existing scheme in view, or would a new one be established, and by whom?*
- 4. Which agency will lead implementation — the Ministry for Regulation, WorkSafe / Energy Safety, MBIE, or the Electricity Authority — so that I direct further questions to the right place?*
- 5. Is there a mailing list, consultation register or update page a small installer can join to be notified as this progresses?*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

Decision on your request

I have decided to partially grant your request.

Items 1, 2, 3 and 4

The information you have requested is publicly available on the Ministry for Regulation website:

- <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/about-us/our-publications/cab-26-min-0267-information-release-residential-and-small-and-medium-scale-solar-regulatory-review/>

A table with the location of the information within the cabinet minute and paper is listed below:

Item	Relevant document(s)	Relevant paragraph(s)
1.	Cabinet minute; Cabinet paper	Minute: 14 – 17; Paper: 26-28
2.	Cabinet minute; Cabinet paper	Minute: 14; Paper: 28, 34
3.	Cabinet minute; Cabinet paper	Minute: 16; Paper: 28
4.	Cabinet paper	28

Items 1-4 of your request are therefore refused under section 18(d) of the OIA, as the information is publicly available.

Item 5

You asked if there is a mailing list or register available to join. I can confirm that there is no such register currently active. Updates concerning the Solar Review are published on the Ministry's website:

- <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/regulatory-reviews/residential-and-small-to-medium-scale-solar-review/>

Publication of this response

Please note that we may publish this response (with your details removed) on the Ministry for Regulation website.

Right of review

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please contact hello@regulation.govt.nz.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision.

Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ngā mihi

s 9(2)(a)



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Ministry for Regulation