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Contact supports Government efforts to cut carbon; offers to assist business

Contact Energy Limited is backing a Government call for businesses to use innovative technologies to cut greenhouse gas emissions and has launched a video series to explain its own decarbonisation programme.

The Government has offered funding for new technologies to reduce carbon output as part of its Technology Demonstration programme run by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA). Contact's Chief Generation & Development Officer James Kilty says it is keen to work with companies to come up with new ideas.

"New Zealand has a big opportunity to leverage its renewable electricity resources to decarbonise the economy and we are working with customers to help them to take practical steps towards a lower carbon future," Mr Kilty said.

Over the last few years, Contact has invested more than \$1 billion in more flexible and renewable generation. And it closed a fossil fuel-burning plant in Ōtāhuhu. As a result, Contact has reduced its carbon emissions by more than half.

Mr Kilty said Contact is actively working with energy-intensive business customers to help them identify opportunities to transition to efficient, low carbon energy solutions and welcomes conversations with other organisations that are keen to be involved.

"The Government has an ambitious goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. To help achieve that, we can support Kiwi businesses to look at the way they are using energy, while at the same time looking at our own decarbonisation programmes."

Through technology trials across the country, Contact is working with customers to truly understand the opportunities for customers in pairing solar energy, battery storage, and smart hot water control technology with app-based, real-time control. Contact is also supporting electric vehicles and initiatives designed to increase their use in New Zealand and is electrifying its own vehicle fleet.

Contact has put together a series of videos looking at our low-carb future. <u>Click here</u> to learn more about what Contact is doing to help New Zealand transition to a low-carb future.

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