

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For immediate release

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### **Contact Energy welcomes Fourth Report of the Land and Water Forum**

Contact Energy CEO Dennis Barnes has welcomed the Fourth Report of the Land and Water Forum, and has expressed support for its recommendations intended to maximize the economic benefit of fresh water, and bring iwi into the water economy.

Dennis Barnes, Contact CEO said “the Forum’s objective is to develop a shared vision and a common way forward among all those with an interest in water, through a stakeholder-led collaborative process. We believe the report has achieved that, and Contact is supportive of the report and its recommendations.”

“I congratulate the Chair of the Land and Water Forum, Alastair Bisley for leading such a diverse group of stakeholders with energy, thoughtfulness and consideration.”

“What the report demonstrates is that a multi-stakeholder process can work. While there are bumps along the way, with patience and consideration of differing views, a common vision and way forward can be found.”

“On a personal note, I want to thank the Chair for his acknowledgement of those at Contact past and present who have contributed to the work of the Land and Water Forum, and who are remembered in the report,” said Mr Barnes.

**ENDS**

#### **About Contact:**

Contact is one of New Zealand’s largest electricity generators and retailers. We keep the lights burning, the hot water flowing and the BBQ fired up for around 562,500 customer across the country. Powering the country with electricity, natural gas and LPG, our team of around 1,050 lives, works and operates in communities throughout New Zealand.

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