

Geoff Mason - Web form submission

Critical Infrastructure Resilience

What is your name?

Geoff Mason

What is your email address?

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Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Individual

Do you consent for your submission (including identifying information) to be published and shared in lines with terms for this public consultation?

Yes

Do you consent for your submission (including identifying information) to be published and shared in lines with terms for this public consultation? - Please note what should be withheld and for what reasons.

[Nil]

Does more need to be done to improve the resilience of New Zealand's critical infrastructure system?

Yes.

Have you had direct experience of critical infrastructure failures, and if so, how has this affected you?

Yes loss of; roading access, power outages, communications outages

How would you expect a resilient critical infrastructure system to perform during adverse events?

Critical infrastructure should be resilient to common risks

Would you be willing to pay higher prices for a more resilient and reliable critical infrastructure system?

Yes.

The work programme's objective is to enhance the resilience of New Zealand's critical infrastructure system to all hazards and threats, with the intent of protecting New Zealand's wellbeing, and supporting sustainable and inclusive growth. Do you agree with these objectives? If not, what changes would you propose?

I agree.

Do you agreed with the proposed criteria for assessing reform options? If not, what changes you would propose?

Yes.

Do you think the megatrends outlined pose significant threats to infrastructure resilience?

Yes.

Are there additional megatrends that are also important that we haven't mentioned? If so, please provide details.

No.

Do you think we have described the financial implications of enhancing resilience accurately? If not, what have we missed?

Provide justification for the claim that "Increased investment costs will be more than offset by a reduction in expenses and asset value associated with infrastructure outages and failure."

How important do you think it is for the resilience of New Zealand's infrastructure system to have a greater shared understanding of hazards and threats?

For the application of resilience requirements in a regulatory environment the hazards and threats would need to be fully defined.

If you are a critical infrastructure owner or operator, what additional information do you think would best support you to improve your resilience?

[Nil]

What do you think the government should do to enable greater information sharing with, and between, critical infrastructure owners and operators?

[Nil]

Would you support the government having the ability to set, and enforce, minimum resilience standards across the entire infrastructure system?

The resilience standards should only be applied to critical infrastructure.

Would you support the government investing in a model to assess the significance of a critical infrastructure asset, and using that as the basis for imposing more stringent resilience requirements?

Clear definition of critical infrastructure assets and confirmation of inclusion in a resilience regime.

What criteria would you use to determine a critical infrastructure asset's importance? Investing in a model to assess a critical infrastructure asset's criticality, and using that as the basis for imposing resilience requirements that are more stringent on particularly sensitive assets?

Number of people affected by loss of a service, time that people can cope without the service, economic losses if the service fails.

Do you think there is a need for the government to have greater powers to provide direction or intervene in the management of significant national security threats against a critical infrastructure? - Is there a need for greater powers? If so, what type of powers should the government consider? What protections would you like to see around the use of such powers to ensure that they were only used as a last resort, where necessary?

Yes, powers to intervene in managing an incident and providing expertise.

Do you think there is a need for a government agency or agencies to have clear responsibility for the resilience of New Zealand's critical infrastructure system?

Ideally combine the function with an existing agency eg. Te Waihunga except for natural monopolies regulated by ComCom where the resilience function should be combined with the regulation.

Do you think there is a need for compliance and enforcement mechanisms (eg. mandatory reporting, penalties, offences) to ensure that critical infrastructure operators are meeting potential minimum standards?

Yes.

What additional comments do you have?

[Nil]