

Pathway to renewable gases

Gas remains an important part of New Zealand's energy mix

With energy costs rising and changing policies, it's an uncertain time for consumers – especially those using gas. Some say New Zealand should go fully electric, while others worry about dwindling gas supplies. However, with electricity prices climbing and weather conditions affecting energy reliability, gas remains a crucial part of our country's energy mix, helping to support our renewable electricity supply when it's needed most.

Why is natural gas important?

Gas powers New Zealand's electricity generation and is the preferred energy choice for over 300,000¹ Kiwi homes, businesses, and industries. It steps up when the wind doesn't blow, the sun doesn't shine, and lake levels run low – helping to keep the lights on. People love cooking, heating their homes, and enjoying instant hot water with gas, while restaurants rely on it to craft delicious meals. In industry, gas delivers the intense energy needed to produce essential materials like cement, glass, and steel.

What is the Government and the gas sector doing?

New Zealand has enough natural gas reserves for at least the next two decades², and the Government, along with gas producers, large gas users and industry, are ensuring these resources are available for even longer. In addition, the country's gas infrastructure is well-developed, with pipelines and storage facilities that ensure a continuous supply of gas to consumers.

Our renewable gas journey

As New Zealand continues efforts to transition to a lower emissions energy system, gas remains essential in keeping our energy reliable. This gives us the time to develop and expand lower-emissions gas energy solutions while ensuring a secure and stable energy supply for everyone.

Clarus company First Renewables, in partnership with Ecogas have built New Zealand's first biogas to biomethane upgrading facility that turns kerbside food waste and other feedstocks into renewable gas.

The renewable gas is then blended into the Firstgas pipeline and will supply the equivalent of 7,200 homes when fully operational³.

References:

1 Data sourced from: Natural Gas Switching active ICPs in April 2025: gasindustry.co.nz/data/switching/

2 gasnz.org.nz/news/availability-of-gas

3 7,200 houses at an average residential gas demand of 22GJ p.a. = 160TJ p.a. (estimated annual biomethane injected at Broadlands).

Renewable gas in action

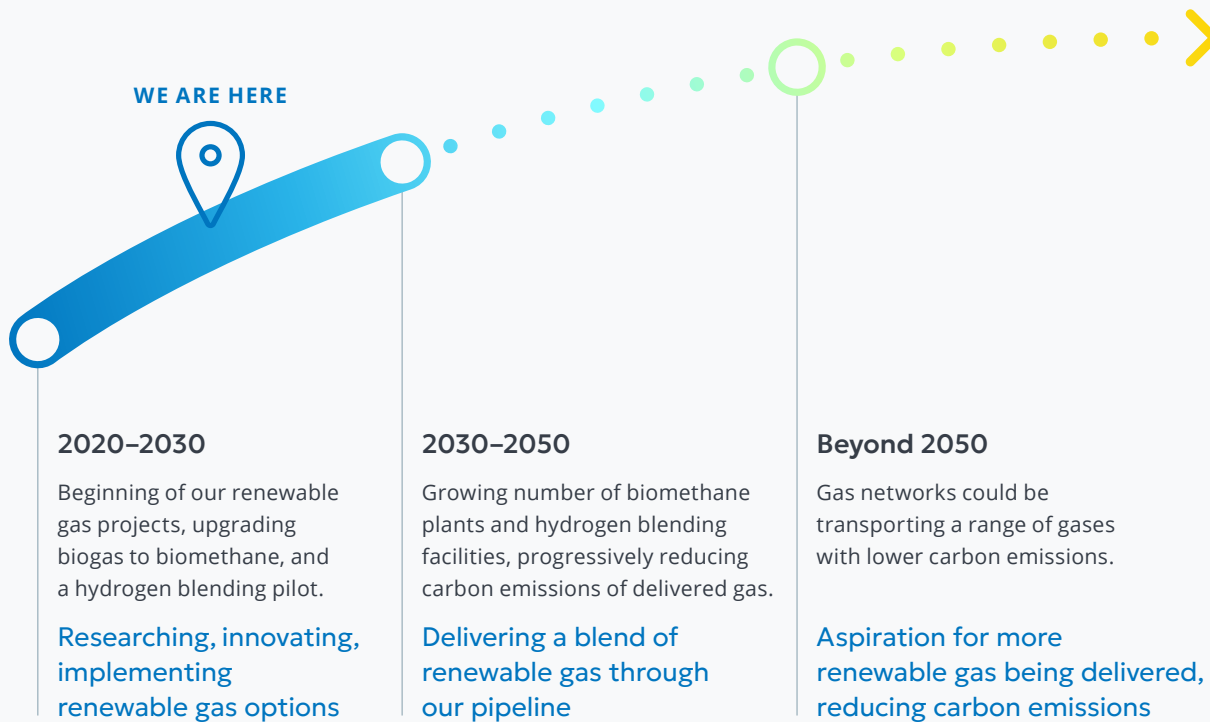
NZ's first gas biomethane upgrading facility completed

Food waste converted into renewable gas

Success for NZ's first hydrogen blending pilot



Renewable gas pathway



To learn more visit our website:
firstgas.co.nz/about-us/future-of-gas

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