

FLEXFORUM |

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To: Energy Markets Policy Team, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

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FlexForum advice on the proposal to expand the permitted voltage range for electricity supply

[FlexForum](#) exists to support coordinated and collaborative action across the electricity ecosystem and speed up progress to make it easy and routine for households, businesses, communities to maximise the value of their distributed and flexible resources. We are an incorporated society with 39 Members from across the electricity ecosystem.¹

Our touchstone is [Flexibility Plan 1.0](#) which is a whole-of-system list of the practical steps and actions that must be taken by the electricity ecosystem to make it easy for people to maximise the value of flexible resources and support the affordable and reliable operation of the electricity market and system.

Step #15 of the Flexibility Plan 1.0 is 'Review voltage limits to ensure they do not create a barrier to uptake of distributed energy resources', and observes that the existing limits are an unnecessary constraint on people and the economy maximising the value of investments in solar and other flexible resources.

The proposal to expand the permitted voltage range to 10% above and 6% below the nominal 230 Volts would remove the technical constraint and tick off step #15.

The FlexForum advice is to just do it. The change will allow more people to put more solar on the roof of their house, business and community buildings with the existing electricity networks, and this will contribute to a more affordable, reliable and resilient power system and economy.

This is FlexForum advice. Individual FlexForum Members will have their own perspectives and positions.

You can contact FlexForum at info@flexforum.nz with any questions and to arrange further discussion.



¹ The list of FlexForum Members is available [here](#). Members include: gentailers, retailers, metering services suppliers, electric vehicle charger manufacturers, energy management software firms, Transpower, distributors, solutions providers, universities, and some real people.