RMA Reform: Challenges and opportunities

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Climate and targets

For New Zealand to meet its 2030 and 2050 emissions targets we need to start acting now



Paris Climate Agreement target

Reduce GHG emissions by 30 per cent below 2005 levels

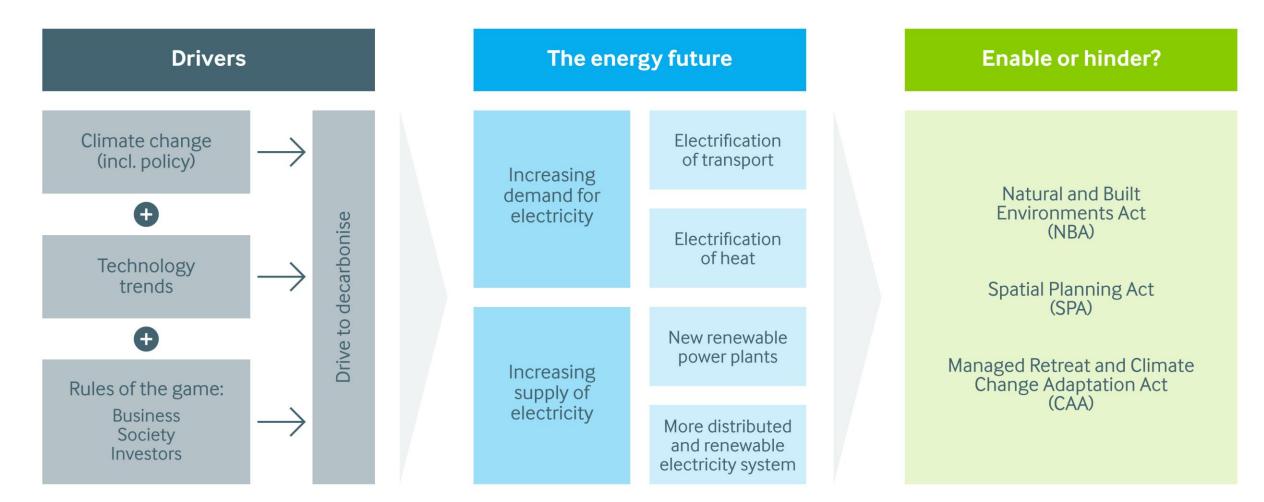


Zero Carbon Bill target

Net zero GHG emissions (excluding biogenic methane)

Aotearoa will not meet its targets without strong and decisive action now to drive low emissions technologies and behaviour change across all sectors.
Climate Change Commission

Electrification roadmap



The hierarchy and the jargon



Key issues with the current framework:

- Electrification not prioritised
- Weak national direction
- Protectionist national direction creating barriers
- Repeated debates for content of plans and policy statements

TRANSPOWER

- Lengthy consenting processes
- Lack of flexibility re technological changes
- Emphasis on / protection of amenity
- Wider regulatory issues beyond the RMA

What we know about the reforms so far:

- Review Panel Report
- Three pieces of legislation:
 - Natural and Built Environments Act (NBA)
 - Spatial Planning Act (SPA)
 - Managed Retreat and Climate Change Adaptation Act (CAA)

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN NEW ZEALAND



Key factors the reform is seeking to address:

Treaty obligations, role of mana whenua:

- Te Mana o te Taiao
- Strengthened role of the Treaty
- National policy statement
- More effective role for Māori in process
- Funding and support

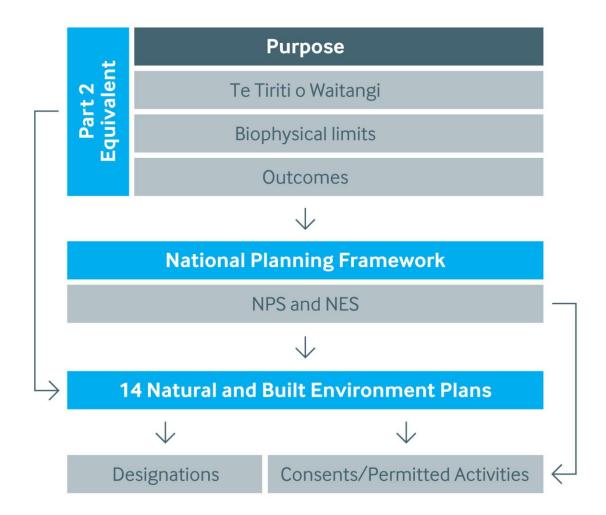
Improved environmental outcomes:

- Ensure the natural environment is protected
- Ecosystems are not further degraded and we halt our biodiversity loss
- Adequately respond to climate change

What are our opportunities?



Natural and Built Environment Act: what will it do?



NBA: issues

- Hierarchy
- Limits:
 - use and development within limits
 - Councils can impose more restrictive limits
- Outcomes:
 - Silent re the sector or infrastructure
 - Multiple directive / protectionist outcomes
- Speed and disconnectedness lack of opportunities to be involved



NBA: solutions

- Elevate electrification
- Strong sector content to National Planning Framework (NPF)
 - National Policy Statement
 - National Environmental Standard
 - Reconcile tensions with other National Policy Statements
- Designations

Spatial Planning Act (SPA): What will it do?

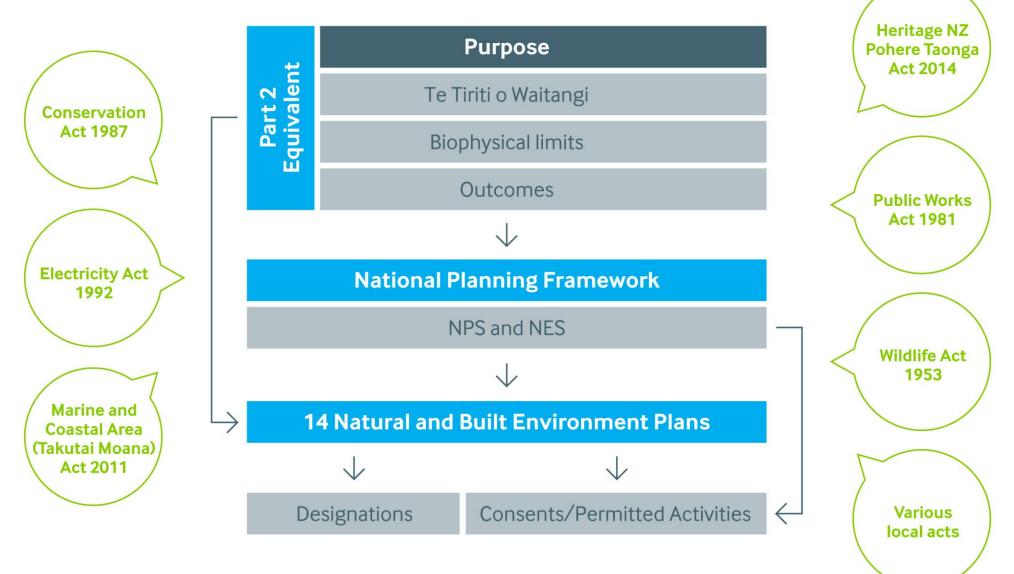
- Integrate with other key legislation:
 - Local Government Act
 - Land Transport Management Act
 - Climate Change Response Act
- Require long-term Regional Spatial Strategies
- Regional Spatial Strategies relevant to meeting NBA Outcomes



Managed Retreat and Climate Change Adaptation Act (CAA): What will it do?

- Complement the NBA
- Overlap with the SPA
- Existing workstreams:
 - National Adaptation Plan
 - National Climate Change Risk Assessment
- Expect CAA to address funding issues

Overarching challenges:



Will it work?

Get involved...

Timing	
May 2021	NBA Exposure Draft
May-September 2021	Select Committee Inquiry on Exposure Draft
December 2021	3 Bills introduced
December 2021-October 2022	Select Committee hearings
December 2022	3 Bills have final reading

Questions?

How it can work:

