



TRANSPOWER

System Operator Industry Forum

13 January 2026



Today's agenda

- Key messages
- Market update
- NZGB update
- Outage update – next four weeks
- Operational update
- Consultations, publications and events
- Questions / Patai





Key Messages

- National hydro storage is high but has just dropped below nominal full levels.
- We are still seeing low levels of thermal generation and high levels of renewables.
- Annual HVDC pole outages coming up in February and March.



Market update

Energy: National hydro storage

National storage now sits below the nominal full levels and still very healthy. December Energy Security Outlook published

	Hydro storage level (% of mean ▲/▼)		
	New Zealand	South Island	North Island
Last forum	146%	147%	141%
Now	129% ▼	128% ▼	144% ▲

Note: these numbers include contingent storage, so they differ from those reported by NZX

New Zealand Energy Risk

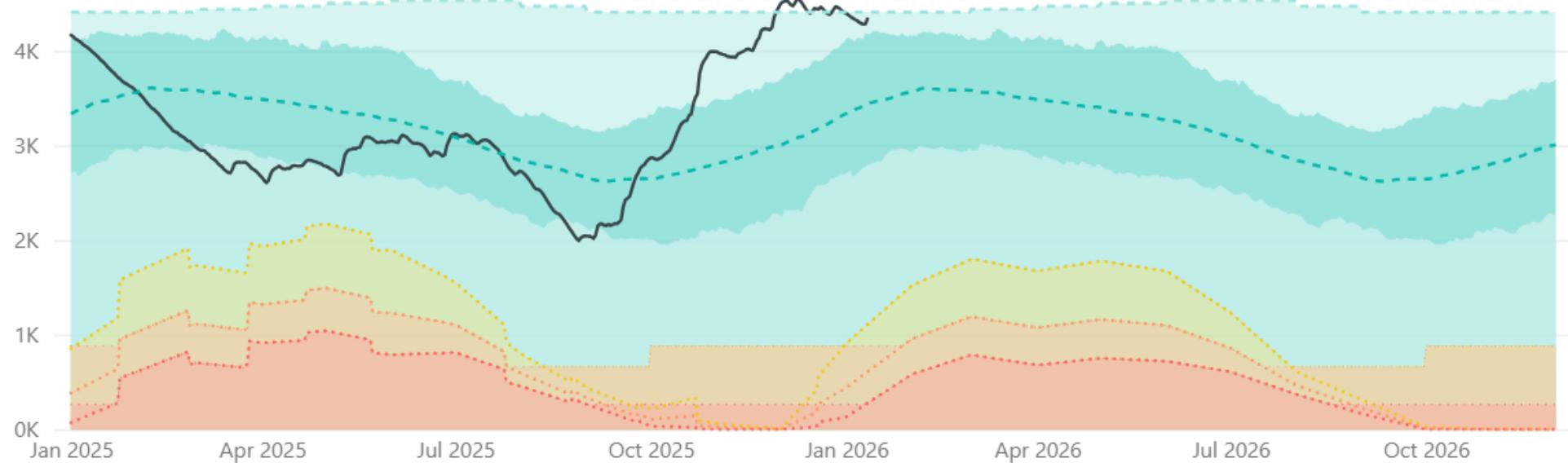


South Island Energy Risk

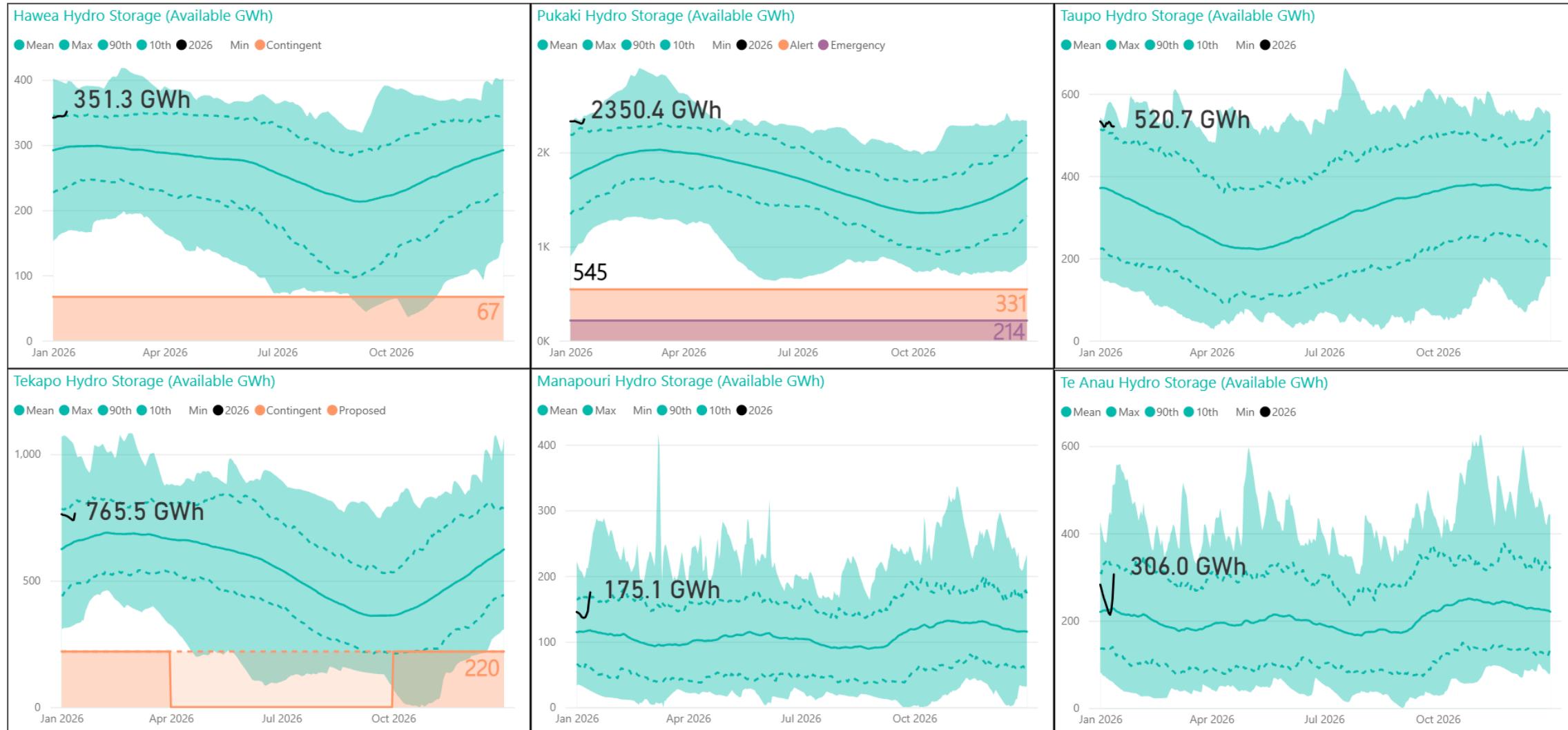


New Zealand Electricity Risk Status Curves (Available GWh)

● 10th to 90th Percentile ● Available NZ Hydro Storage ● Nominal NZ Full ● Mean NZ Storage ● Watch ● Alert ● Emergency ● 1% Risk ● 4% Risk ● 10% Risk



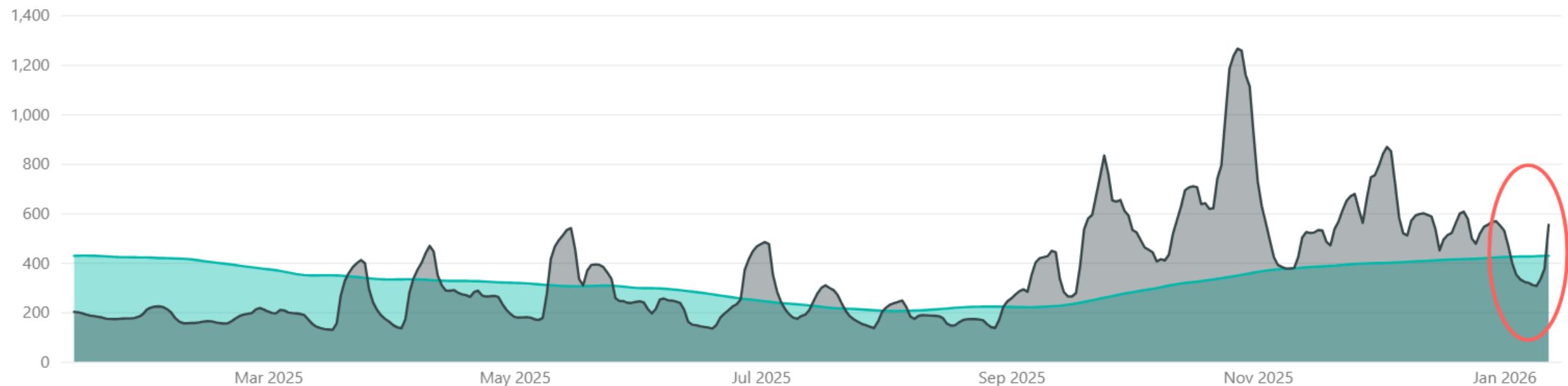
Hydro storage by catchment



Hydro inflows

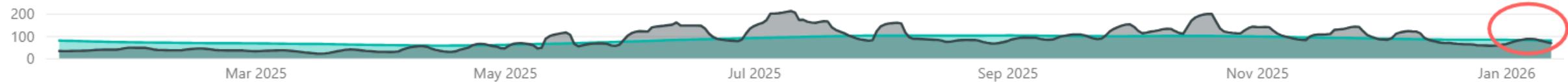
South Island Mean 7 Day Inflows (Available GWh)

● SI Inflows - Average ● SI Inflows



North Island Mean 7 Day Inflows (Available GWh)

● NI Inflows- Average ● NI Inflows



Hydro December Energy Security Outlook

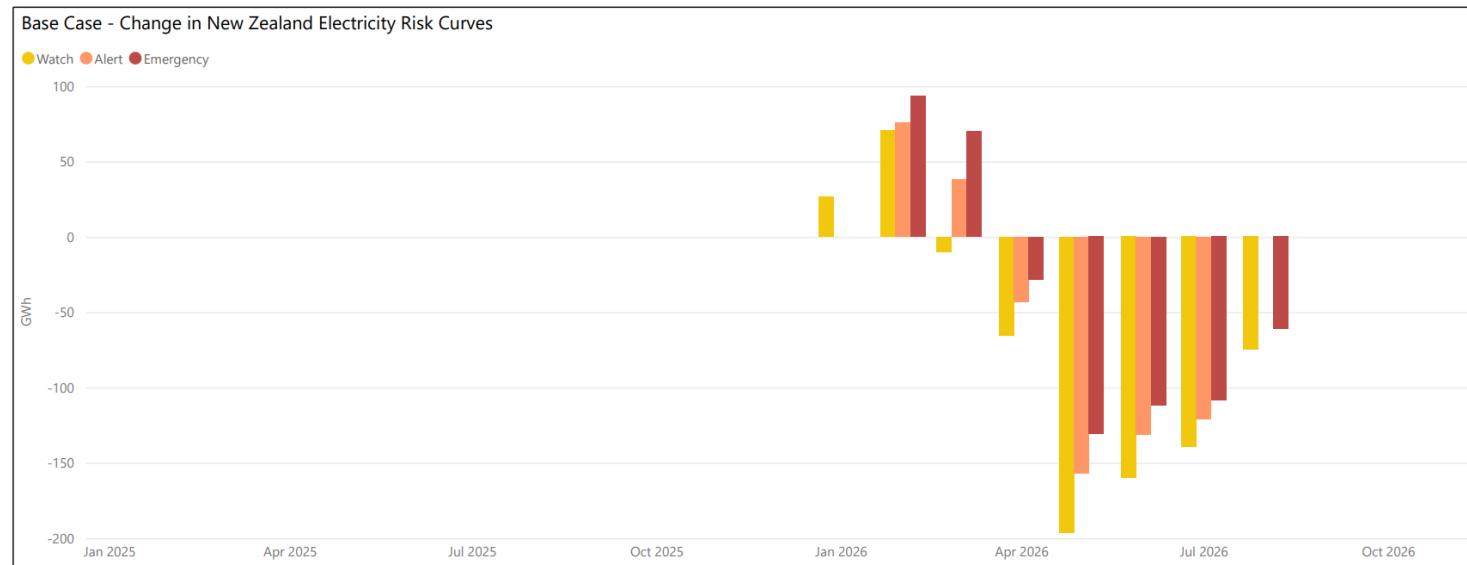
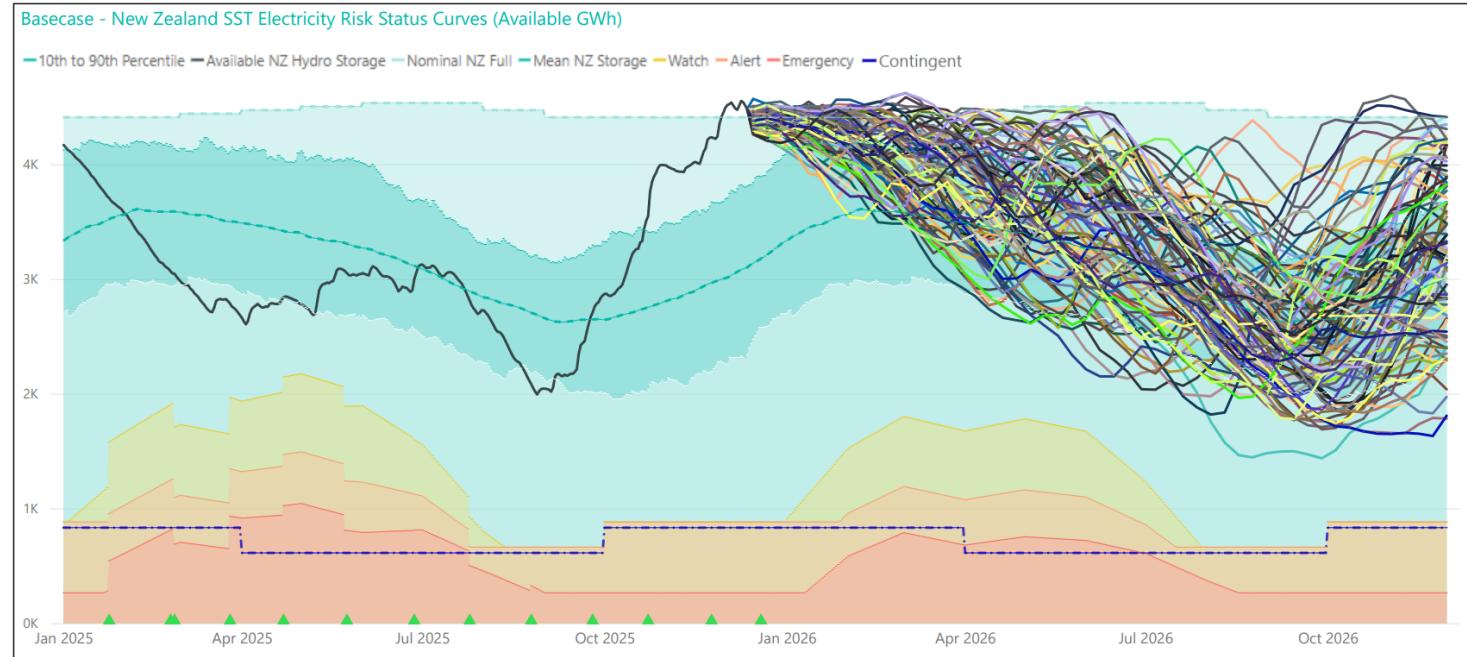
Changes this update:

- An increase in Ahuroa gas storage
- An increase in the gas production forecast
- Commissioning and scheduled outages (including HLY2 until April 2026)

Minor changes in curves from November update:

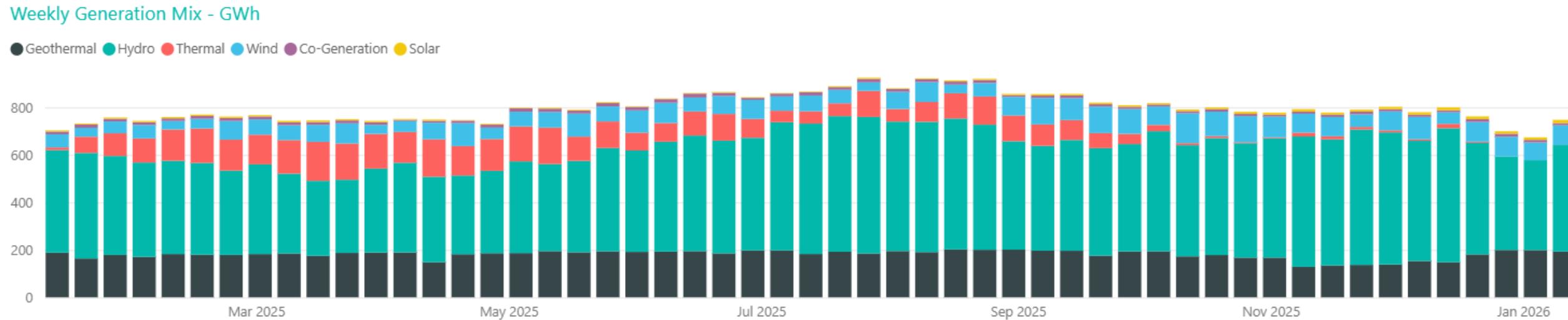
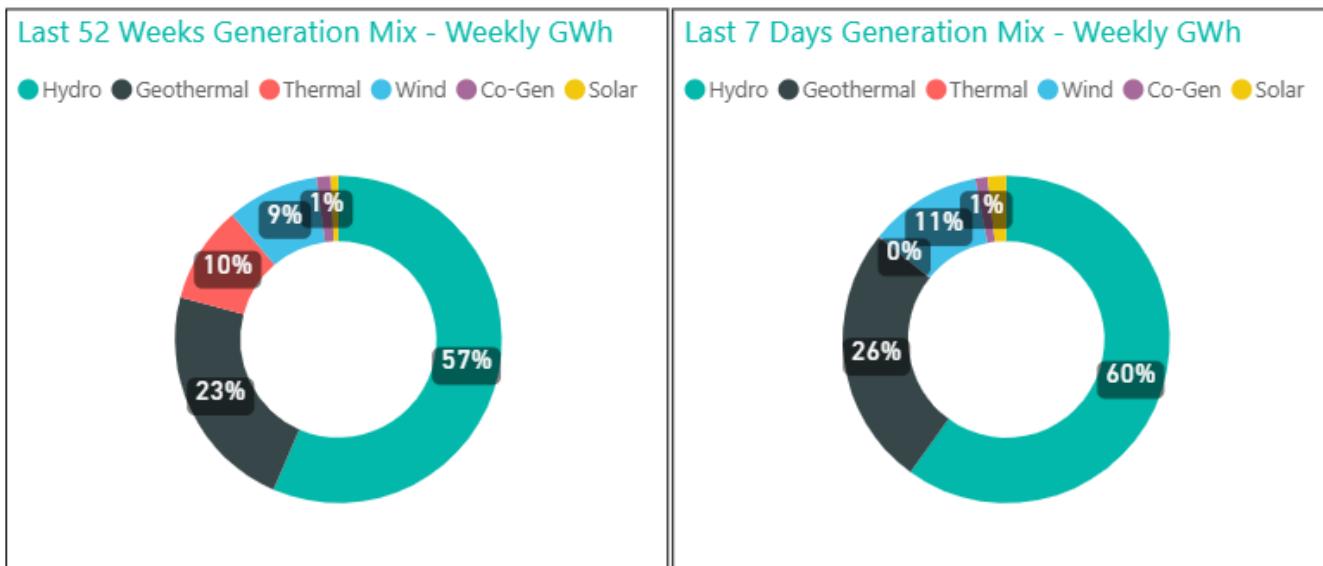
- -196 GWh Watch (May 2026)
- -131 GWh Emergency (May 2026)
- +70 GWh Watch (Feb 2026)

No SSTs cross any risk curves.



Generation mix

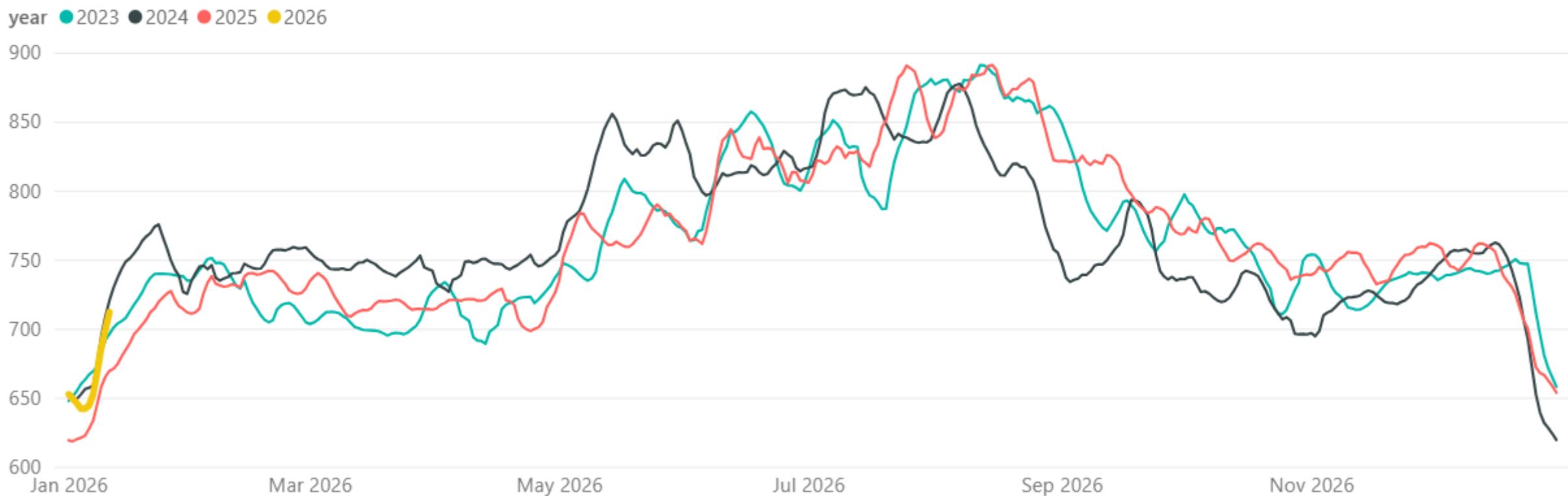
- Hydro generation share high at 60% last week
- Wind generation above average at 11%
- Thermal generation very low at almost 0%
- Geothermal generation high at 26%
- Renewable share >97% for the thirteenth week in a row
- Solar generation exceeded 200 MW during multiple trading periods last week. Peaked at 214 MW



Demand

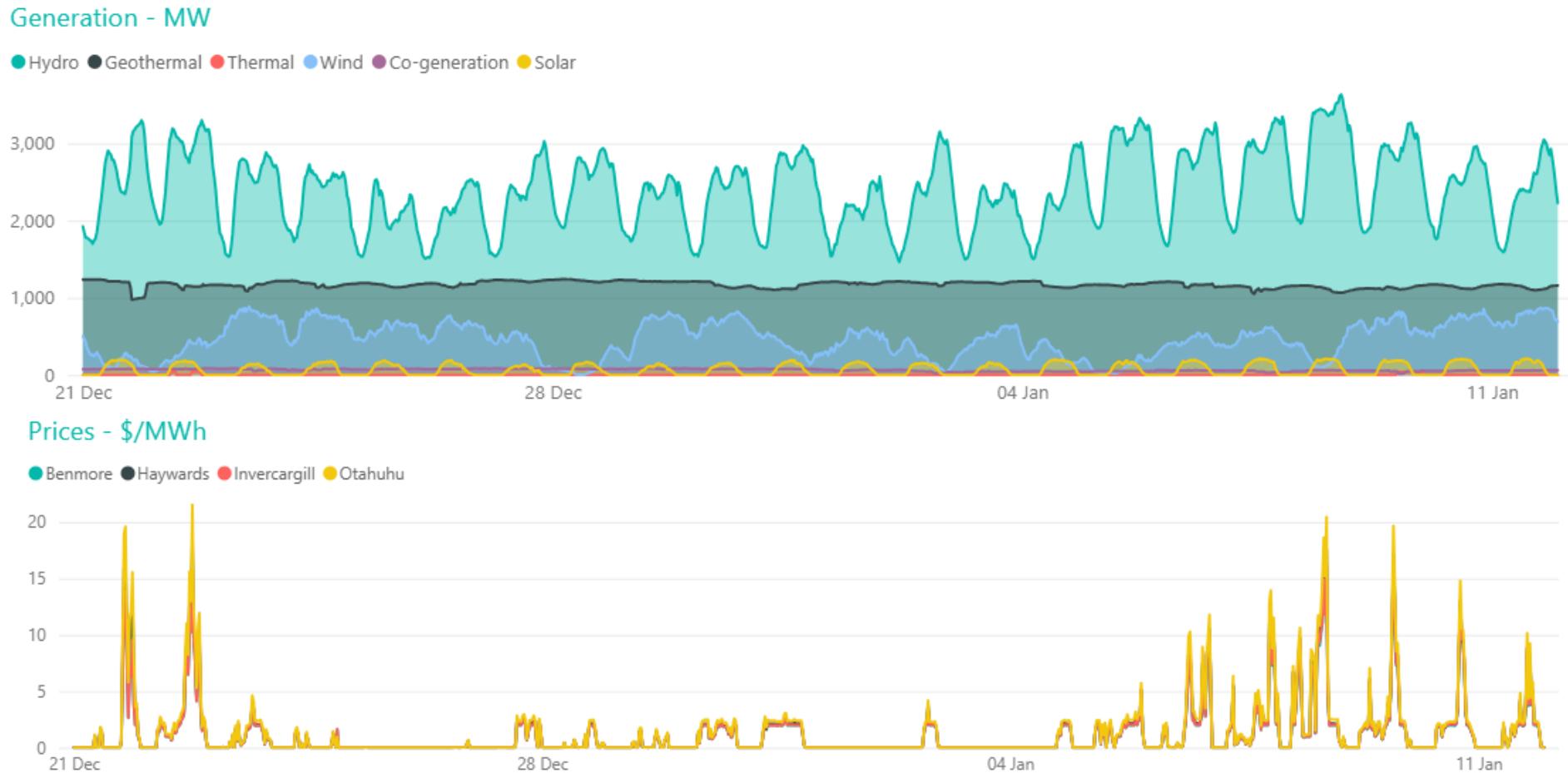
- Demand has been low and similar to previous years over the summer holiday.
- Higher industrial demand has caused greater demand levels than last year (2024/2025 holiday period)

National Weekly Demand - GWh - 7 Day Rolling



Pricing

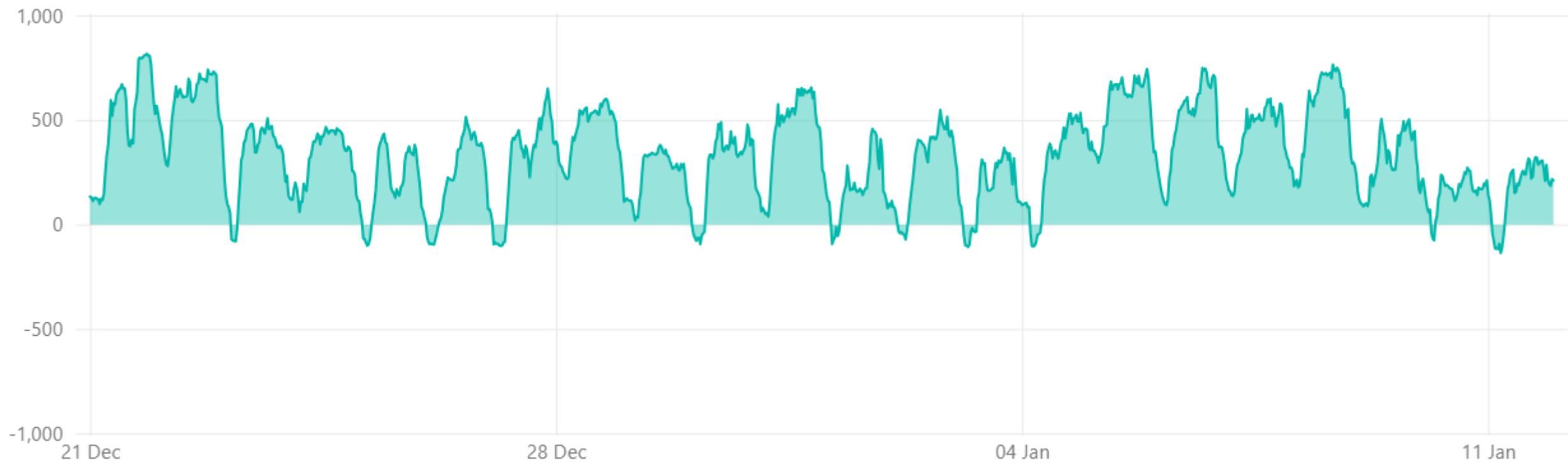
- Low wholesale price in line with low demand and high hydro storage
- Average Ōtāhuhu price was \$3/MWh last week, and \$1/MWh the week prior
- Peak of \$22/MWh at Ōtāhuhu, 6:30pm on 22 December.



HVDC transfer

- HVDC transfer has been majority northward. Some southward transfer overnight during periods of moderate wind generation
- Past fortnight 108 GWh sent north, 2 GWh sent south

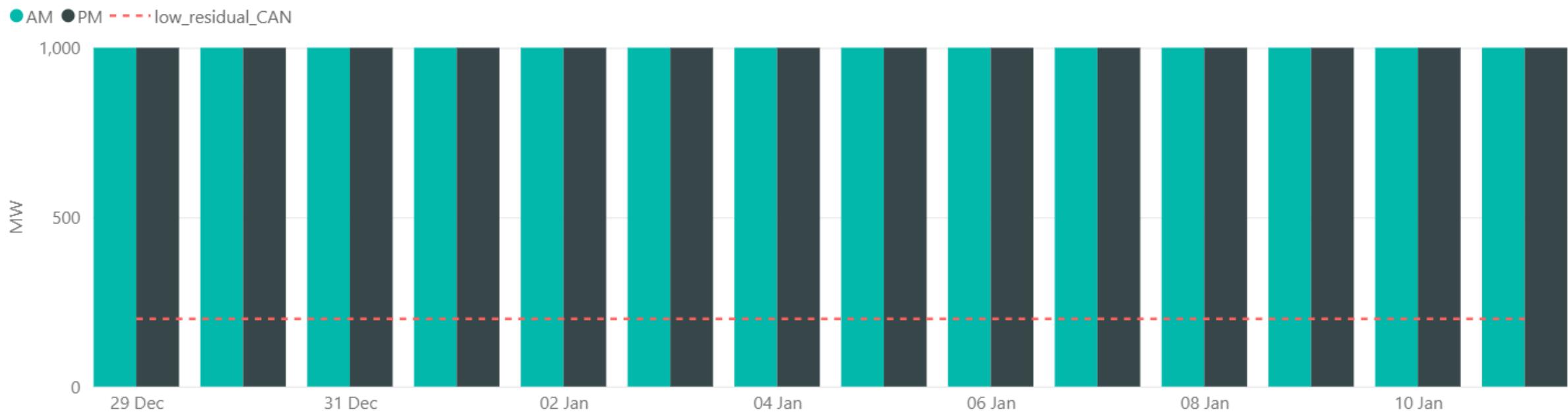
Net HVDC Transfer - MW (Northward positive)



Capacity residual margins

- Healthy residuals with lower demand
- Lowest residual 1039 MW (Thursday 8 January)

Lowest Residual Points - MW





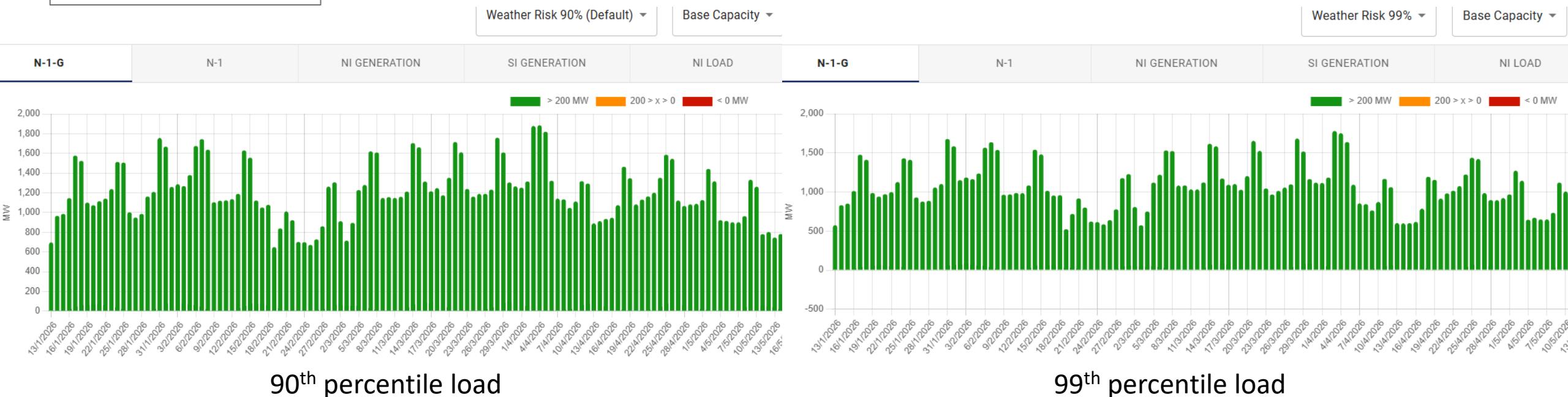
NZGB update

NZGB update: base capacity N-1-G

- N-1-G margins are currently showing healthy values
- Under the 99th percentile load, which we would expect under a cold snap, the margins drop but are still healthy

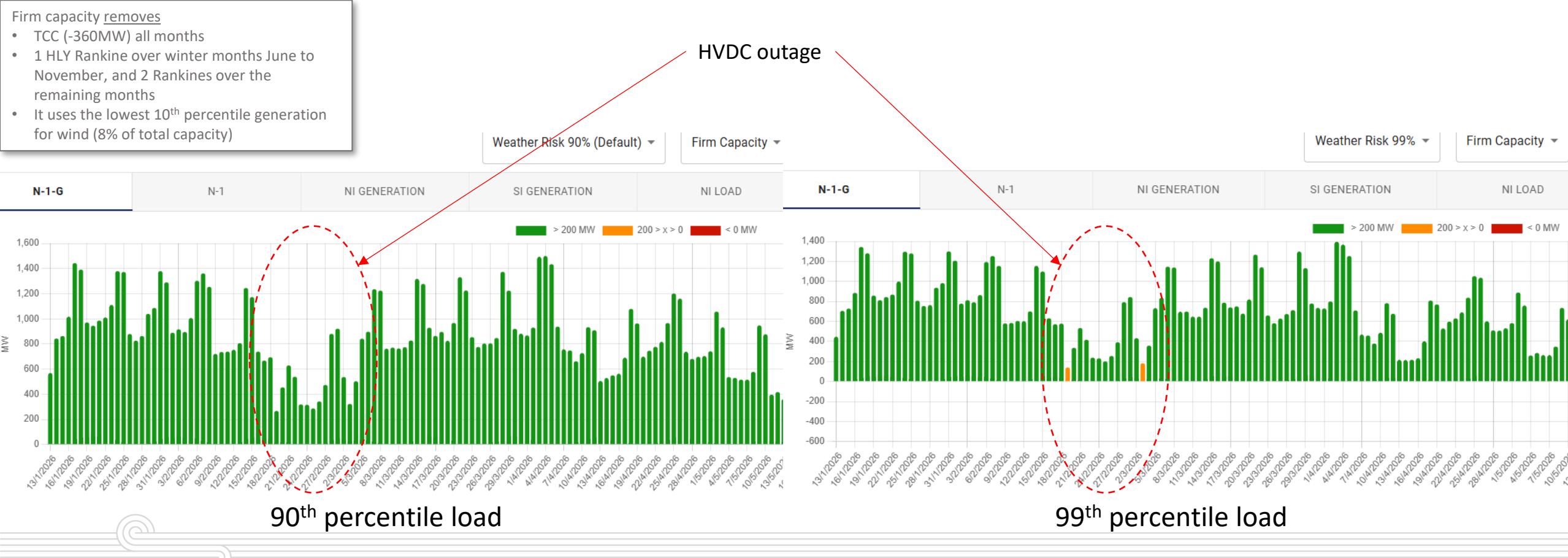
Base case capacity at 90%

- *This triggers the CAN process*
- Assumes all generation available in POCP is offered
- It uses 20% of total wind capacity
- TCC (-360MW) removed



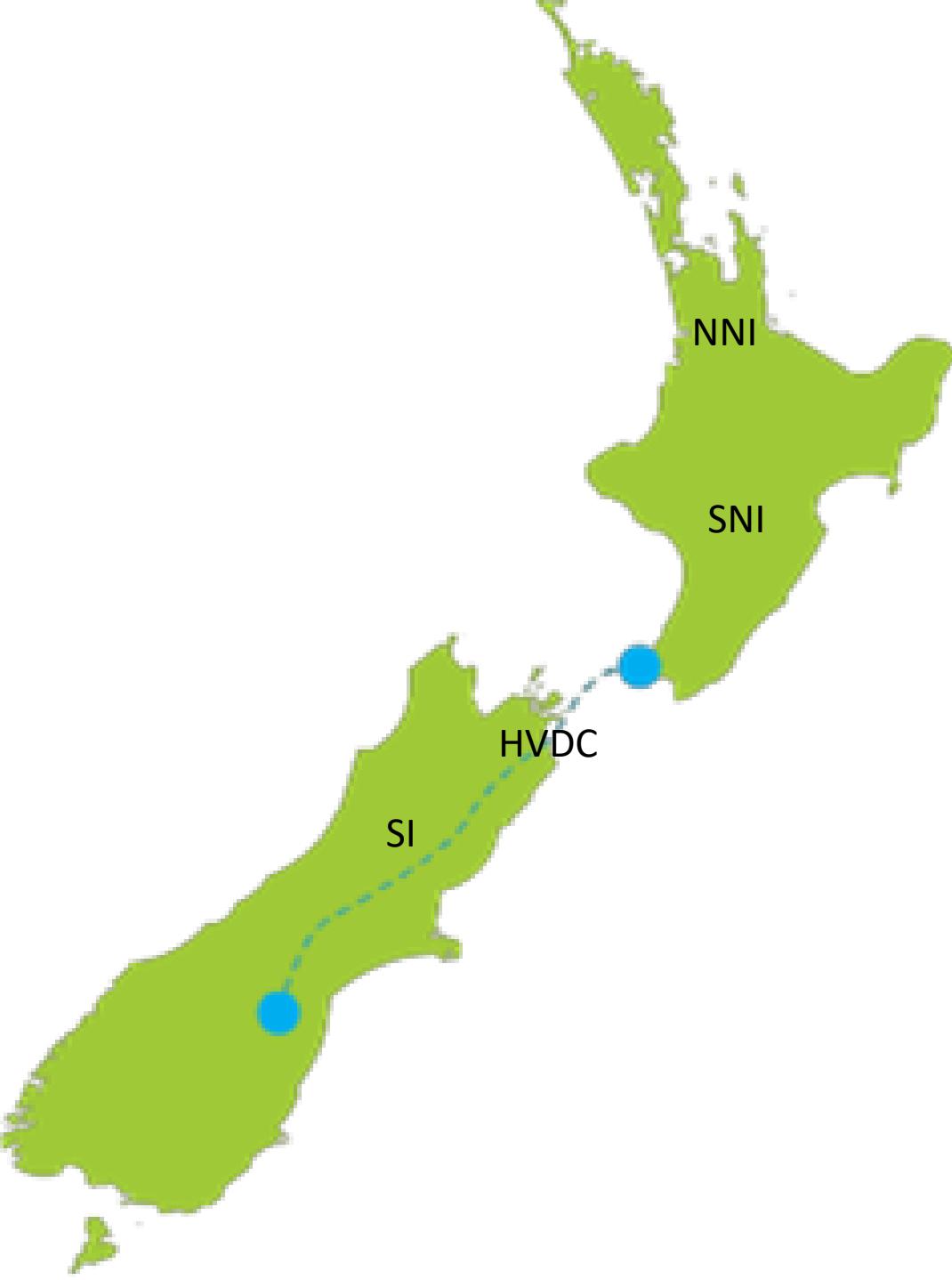
NZGB update: firm capacity only N-1-G

- Firm capacity scenario reflects units that historically operate for at least 90% of AM & PM peaks.
- Any shortfall or low margin periods highlight the potential reliance on these units to be available to cover N-1-G
- This means we are relying on the market to coordinate especially slow starting thermal units, to get through high peak load periods





Outages next 4 weeks



Outages

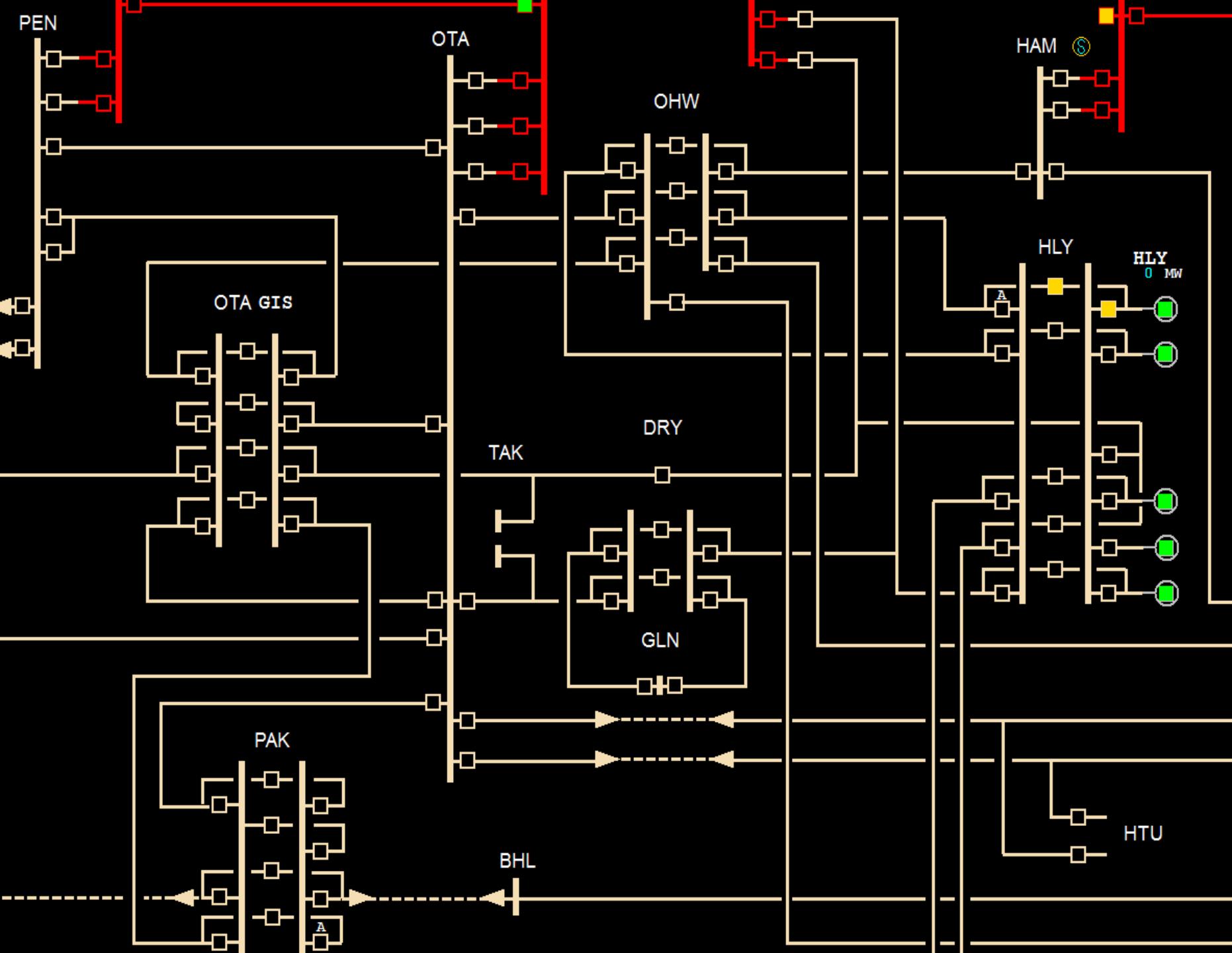
- NNI outages
- SNI outages
- SI outages

Asset owners

- Check in POCP for detailed dates
- Consider the impact on your own outages

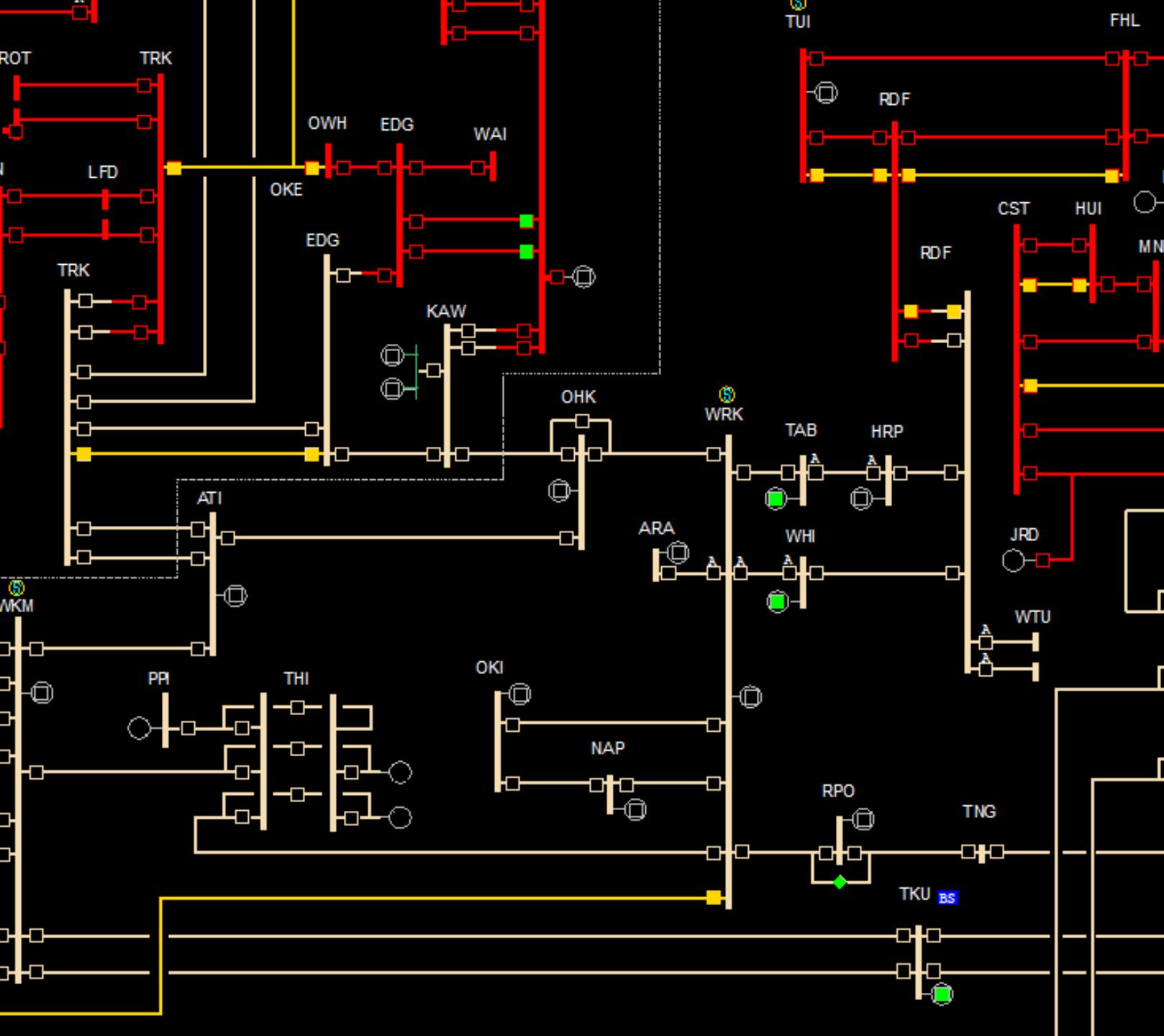
NNI Outages

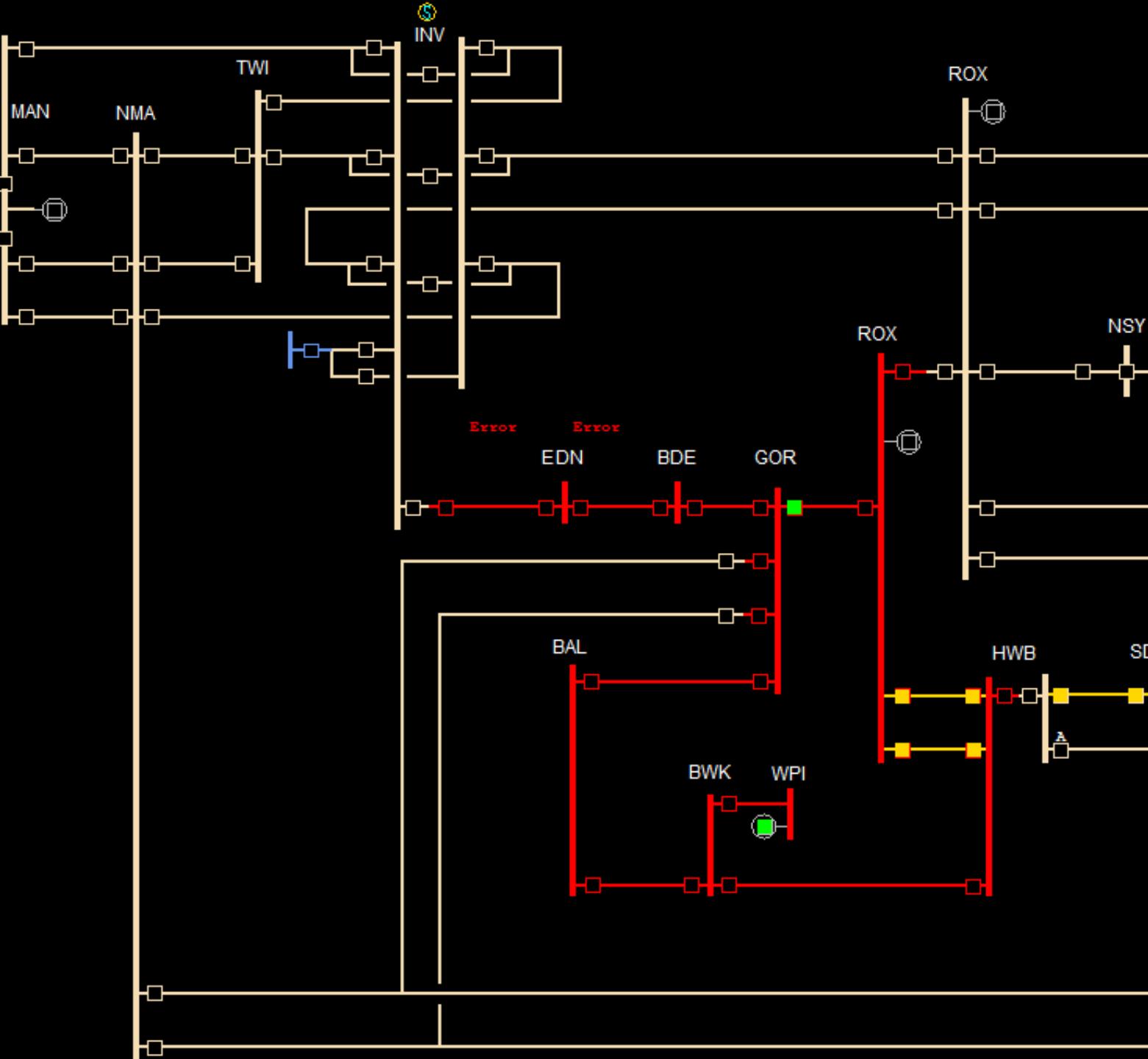
- Week of 19 Jan
 - OHW_WKM_1
 - OTA_PEN_6
- Week of 26 Jan
 - ALB_HPI_1
 - HPI_MDN_1
 - EDG_TRK_2
- Week of 2 Feb
 - MDN_T5
 - OHW_WKM_1
 - KMO_TGA_1
 - EDG_TRK_2
- Week of 9 Feb
 - BRB_HPI_1
 - HEN_HPI_1



SNI Outages

- TKU_WKM_2 (12 Jan – 15 May)
- Week of 19 Jan
 - RDF_TUI_1
 - FHL_RDF_1
 - HAY_WIL_LTN_1
 - BPE_BRK_2
- Week of 26 Jan
 - RDF_TUI_2
 - FHL_RDF_2
 - BPE_BRK_2
- Week of 2 Feb
 - BPE_BRK_1
- Week of 9 Feb
 - RDF_TUI_2
 - FHL_RDF_2
 - BRK_SFD_1





SI Outages

- Week of 19 Jan
 - BRY_ISL_1
 - NMA_TWI_1
 - NMA_GOR_TMH_1
- Week of 26 Jan
 - INV_TWI_2
 - BEN_OHC_2
- Week of 2 Feb
 - NMA_TWI_2
 - OHA_TWZ_2
- Week of 9 Feb
 - MAN_NMA_3
 - GOR_ROX_1
 - KIK_T2

HVDC North transfer limit

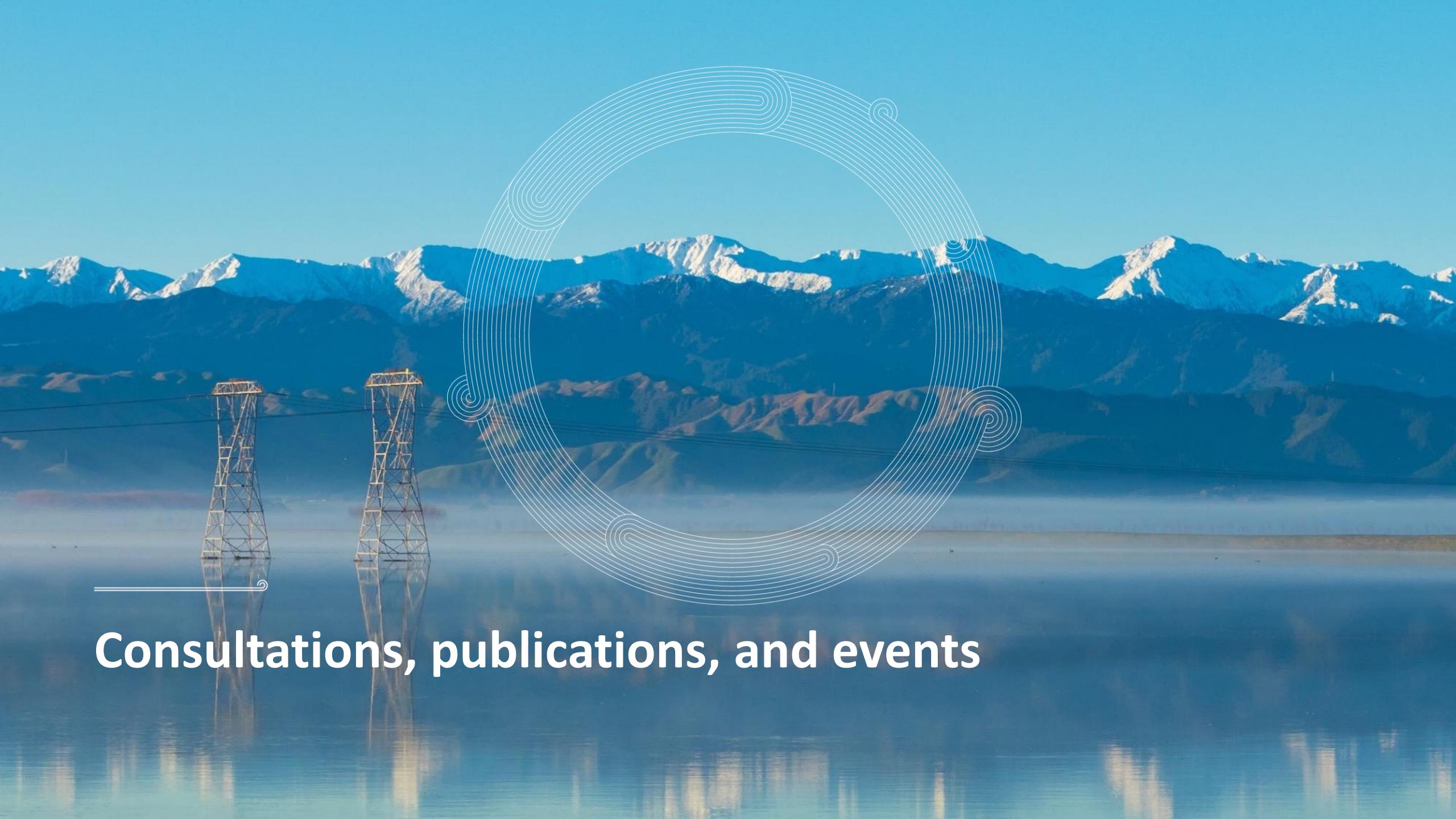
- HVDC Pole outages are starting in middle of February
 - Pole 3 – 19-20 February
 - Bi-pole – 21-22 February
 - Pole 2 – 23 February to 2 March
- The CAN will be sent out 2 weeks prior to the outage start date



Operational update

North Island ACCE risk during low prices

- During low prices SPD can optimise energy and reserve to reduce reserve costs
- Zero priced Geothermal Generation can be scheduled and dispatched below minimum safe operation
- Risk of under procuring reserve
- Previously a daily manual process to manage
- Change in Process (6 week trial only at this stage)
- Set default NI Min ACCE risk to 169MW (NZ's largest single shaft geothermal generator)
- Also protects the smaller geothermal generators
- Manage the exception's not the normal
- South Island no change (already has a default Min ACCE risk)



Consultations, publications, and events

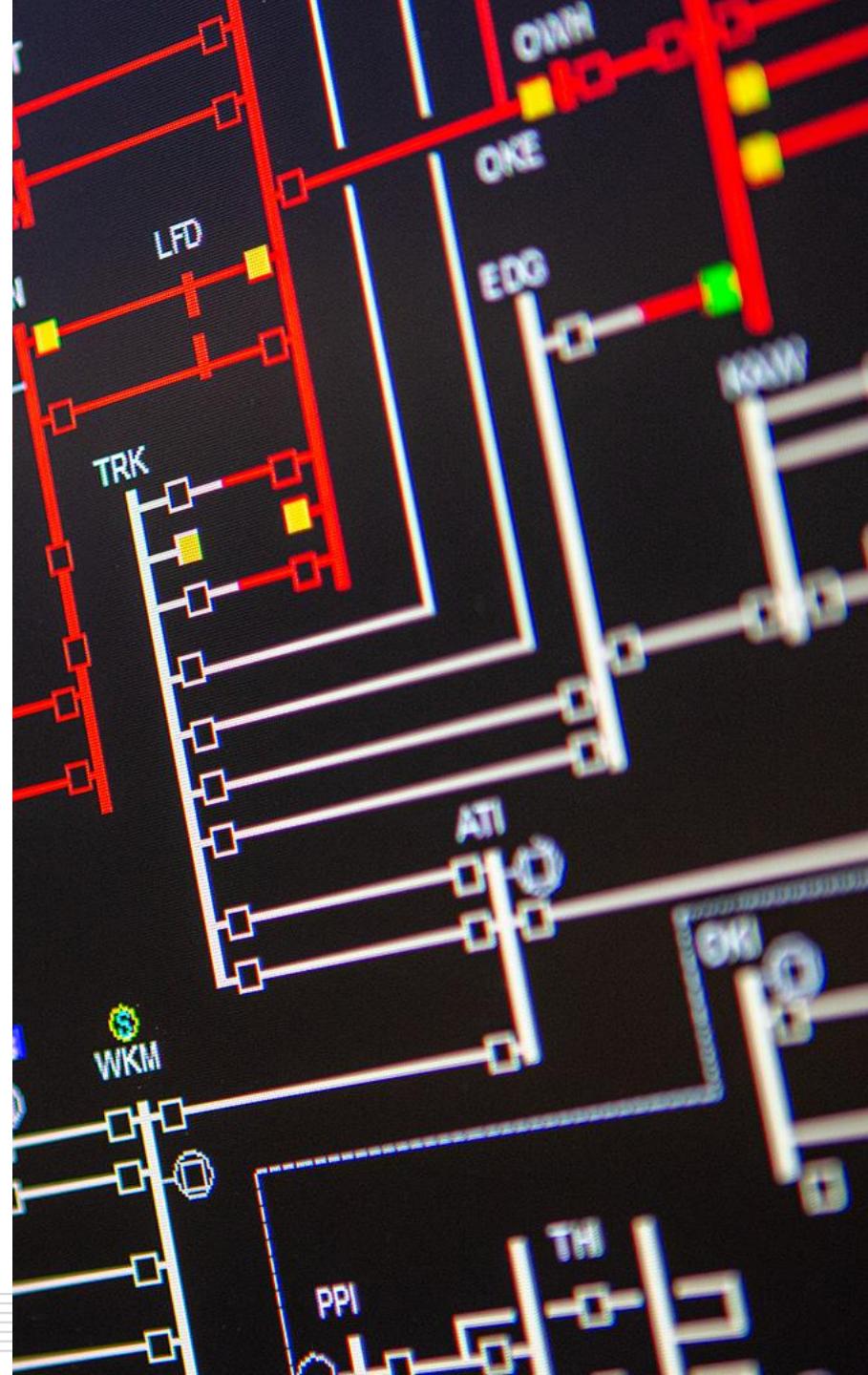
Consultations, publications, and events

In December we published our paper on [**Key Trends and Issues**](#) in the industry and invite feed back by 27 February to help inform the refresh of our **System Operator Strategy**.

The December [**Energy Security Outlook**](#) is available on our website.

We will publish our summary and response to the [**2026 SOSA reference case assumptions and sensitivities**](#) consultation this month.

On 26 February Transpower will host the Electricity Authority's **Reactive Power and Voltage Coordination** workshop. You can find more information and register for the workshop on the [**Authority's website**](#).



Questions / Patai

Please raise your hand

If you have feedback let us know via our [Feedback Form](#)

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