

**Building DSO Capability in Aotearoa**

Tuesday, 22 September 2025 · 9am – 12:30pm

NZICC, Auckland

Distribution system operator (DSO) Workshop Agenda**9am – 9:20 | Welcome, Purpose and Progress Stocktake**

- Welcome and opening remarks — EEA Engineering and Technical Lead
- Introduction of roadmap, objectives, and overview of progress to date – Sheila Matthews & Geoff Parr, EA

9:20 – 9:50 | Objective 1: Design and Delivery of DSOs

- Two international speakers sharing lessons from global DSO journeys. This includes Ben Timmins from the UK's National Grid
- EEA facilitated interactive discussion focused on the lessons for Aotearoa

9:50 – 10:15 | Objective 2: Driving Efficiencies

- Case Study presented by Counties Energy
- EEA facilitated discussion focused on network visibility, interoperability, standards and digitalisation.

10:15 – 10:40 | Objective 3: Accelerating Flexibility

- Case Study presented by Powerco
- Facilitated discussion focused on flexibility markets, price-led versus contract-led approaches, and practical implementation experiences.

10:40 – 10:55 | Morning Tea (15 min)**10:55 – 11:10 | Objective 4: Connections and Pricing**

- Presentation by Dr Stuart Johnston showing how projects such as ELAM/BELAM, the LV Connection Guides, Dynamic Operating Envelopes and flexible connections are all enabling pieces of future DSO capability.

11:10 – 11:35 | Objective 5: Consumers

- Case study presented by Orion
- Facilitated discussion on consumer participation, trust, community energy and ensuring consumers receive value from the transition.

11:35 - 12:35 | Workshop on implementation priorities and challenges

EA facilitated round table workshops considering the five Roadmap Objectives and asking:

- What are the biggest implementation challenges
- What should be prioritised over the next two to three years
- Where is greater national coordination required

12:35 – 12:45 Group Playback and Closing Comments**12:45 | Close**