



# Welcome to the FlexTalk Project: Part A Webinar Please mute your mic and turn off your camera. Thank you to our presenters and to you our audience for your attendance. EEA value your support. Please note. This webinar will be recorded and shared on the EEA website.

**EEA.CO.NZ** 

## EEA & EECA

The Electricity Engineers' Association ("EEA") provides a focal point for collaboration and thought leadership in engineering, safety and asset management across the electricity supply industry.

The EEA enables members to continuously learn and develop in a dynamic and rapidly changing environment.

EECA is a Crown agency, established under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act 2000 to encourage, promote and support energy efficiency, energy conservation and the use of renewable sources of energy. EECA's purpose is to mobilise New Zealanders to be world leaders in clean and clever energy use. It strives for a sustainable energy system that supports the prosperity and well-being of current and future generations.



## Introduction

Today we will share our experience designing, implementing and trialing Flexibility services, utilizing Part A of the OpenADR communications protocol between EDB's & Flexibility Suppliers to achieve active managed charging of EV's



Stuart Johnston **EEA** 



Rodger Griffiths **ElectroNet** 



Terry Paddy Cortexo



Connie Dunbar **EEA** 





## Agenda

- Scene setting decarbonisation / EV growth
- Future Network Operations, The market model
- Why OpenADR has been selected for trial
- Our implementation of OpenADR (Technical)
- Our trial (customers, flexibility services)
- Our findings (event outcomes, customer experience, EDB experience)
- What did we learn? (wider flex learnings)
- What next?





## Speaker 01. Stuart Johnston



Dr Stuart Johnston

Principal Advisor – Engineering & Technical, EEA

#### Agenda:

 What challenges / opportunities do we face in the energy transition?





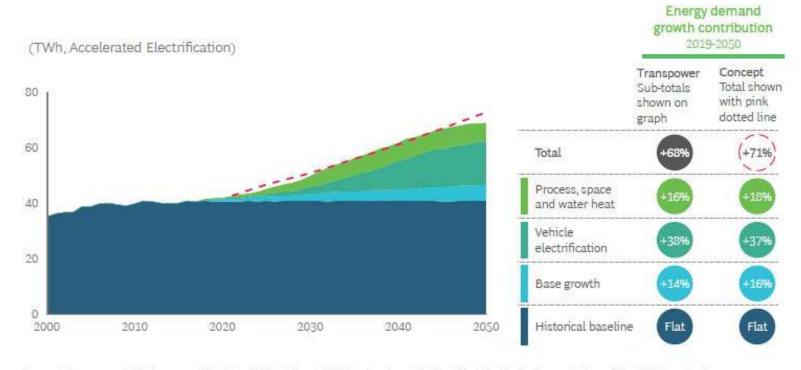
## Background

- Aotearoa's journey to meet our net zero by 2050 decarbonisation goals will be challenging.
- Electrifying transport and heat, and increasing renewable electricity, will be the most significant contributors to New Zealand achieving net zero carbon by 2050.
- One of the key enablers to support electrification will be the establishment and implementation of demand flexibility mechanisms.





# Increase in Aotearoa's Gross Electricity Demand by 2050

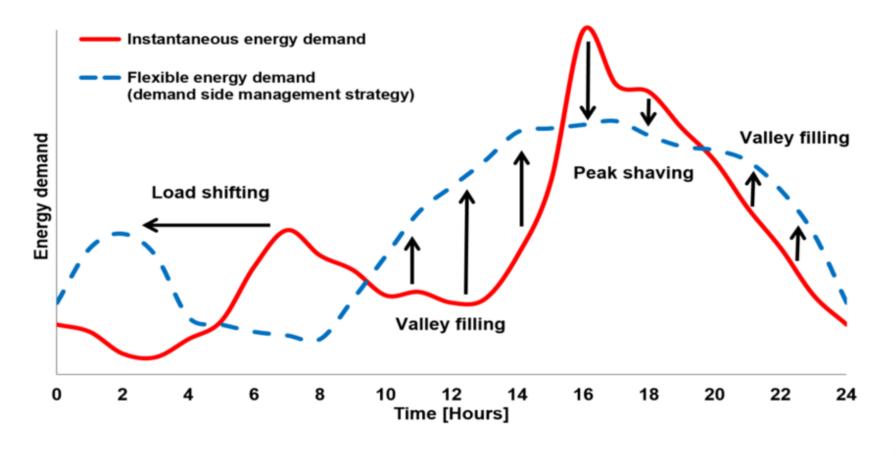


Source: Transpower Whakamama i Te Mauri Hiko (March 2020) - Accelerated Electrification Path; Concept Consulting, BCG analysis





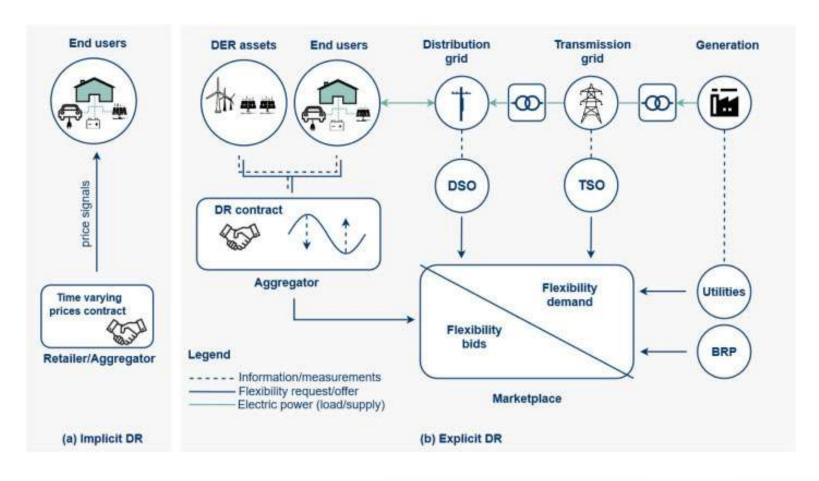
## Why is Developing Demand Flexibility Important?







## What is Demand Flexibility?







## Speaker 02. Rodger Griffiths

General Manager Generation & Technology, Westpower



#### Agenda:

Project background





# FlexTalk - The Demand Flexibility Common Communications Protocol Project

The project is a collaborative partnership between industry (represented by EEA) and EECA to evaluate the processes that need to be in place to apply the OpenADR 2.0 (2.0a and or 2.0b) communication protocol to achieve active managed charging of electric vehicles (EVs), enabling flexibility services to be utilised in the electricity sector in New Zealand.





## **Project Context**

- Open communication protocols are internationally acknowledged as a prerequisite to a fully demand flexible electricity system.
- The most successful (and widely adopted) open communication protocols are grounded in international standards.
- OpenADR as a 'dispatch' protocol is ideally designed to deliver an exemplar of functional demand flexibility in NZ.
- OpenADR is ideally configured to interface with the most common communication protocol used in EV chargers globally - OCPP v1.6 and above.





## Project Objectives

- 1. Determine the use cases for flexibility services to be communicated and create process maps for these.
- 2. Assess the advantages and limitations of OpenADR within the New Zealand context, including a high-level comparison against other communication protocols.
- 3. Demonstrate interoperability of communication protocols between EDB's, EV flexibility suppliers and consumers.
- 4. Assist industry participants in understanding the systems investment involved with utilising flexibility services.





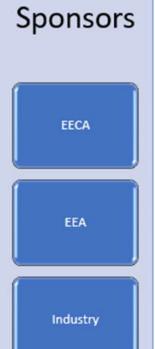
# OpenADR demonstration - alternate DER type

- The FlexTalk project has the opportunity to bring in wider learnings by including SolarZero as a delivery partner.
- Enables the testing of a battery programme to request flexibility with Solar PV between an EDB and Solar provider.
- Inclusion of Solar Zero allows demonstration of OpenADR with an alternate DER type (PV and batteries) and the ability to compare the API solution (alternate communications protocol)



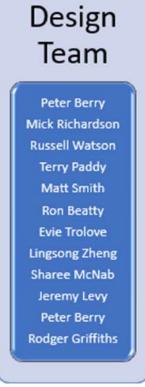
## Our Team

Project Manager Connie Dunbar





## Steering Group Brian Fitzgerald Glenn Coates Quentin Tahau Eric Pellicer Waqar Qureshi James Tipping **Bridget Abernathy**



Industry







## **Project Timeline**

Industry Engagemei	establishment Part A	Establishment Part B	Select Delivery Partners	Protocol Implementation	Template Development	Disseminate Learning
April '22	July '22	August '22	October '22	Part A: April '23 Part B: Dec '23	March '24	April '24
- Engaging with industry and regulators.	<ul> <li>Project team &amp; Steering group established</li> <li>Partner selection criteria developed</li> <li>Project timeline</li> <li>Industry survey</li> </ul>	- Industry committed to project and funding received.	- Select and develop agreements with the delivery partners, EDBs and Flexibility Suppliers.	<ul> <li>Phase one:     To achieve the     OpenADR 2.0     part A standard.</li> <li>Phase two:     To achieve the     OpenADR 2.0     part B standard.</li> <li>Industry     consultation</li> </ul>	- Template developed providing the industry with the approach and guidance.	- A series of webinars and training opportunities for the industry.
Stage gate 1 and 2	Stage gate 3 and 4	Stage gate 5 and 6	Stage gate 7	Stage gate 8	Stage gate 9	



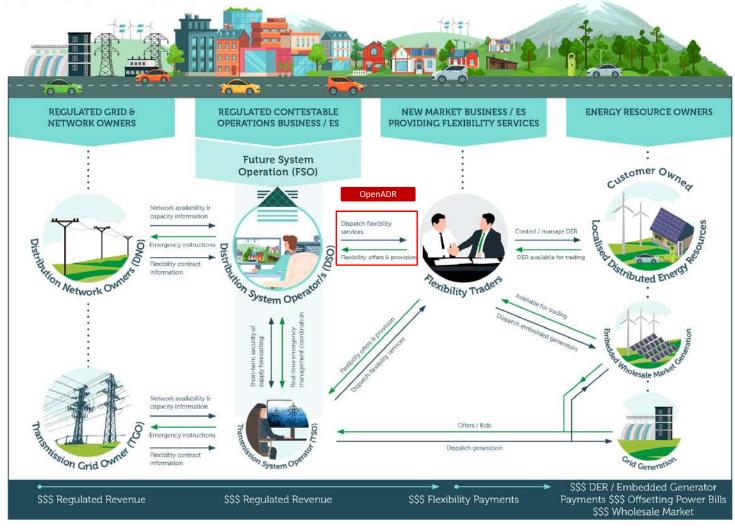
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#### A Market Led Model





## **Protocol Selection**

## OpenADR

Mature demand response protocol

More suited to interfacing EDB's and Flex Suppliers

Transpower already had an operational head end (VTN)

## IEEE 2030.5

Used in Australia for PV Management

Suitable for interfacing directly with flexibility hardware

Built on an IoT Concept





## Speaker 03. Terry Paddy

Managing Director, Cortexo



Terry Paddy

#### Agenda:

- Technical Implementation
- FlexTalk flexibility services (programmes)

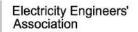










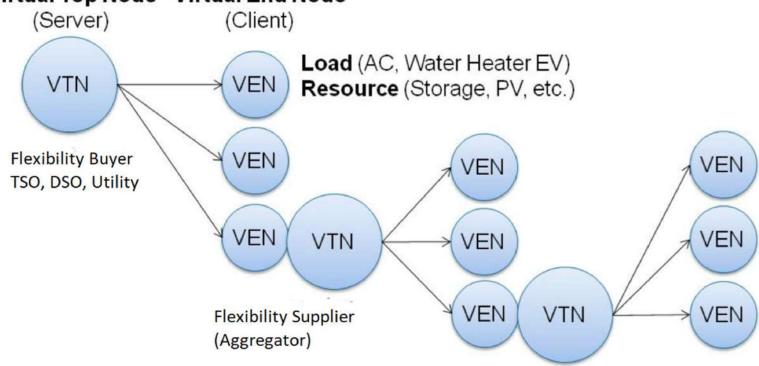






## OpenADR hierarchy

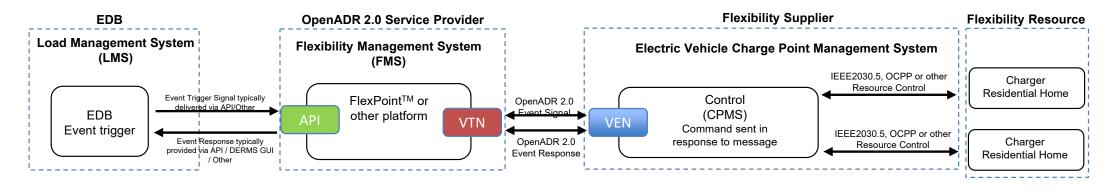
#### Virtual Top Node Virtual End Node

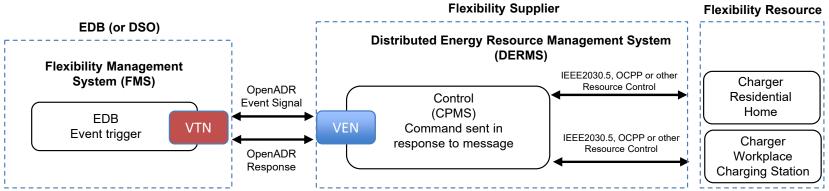






#### **Trial Configurations**

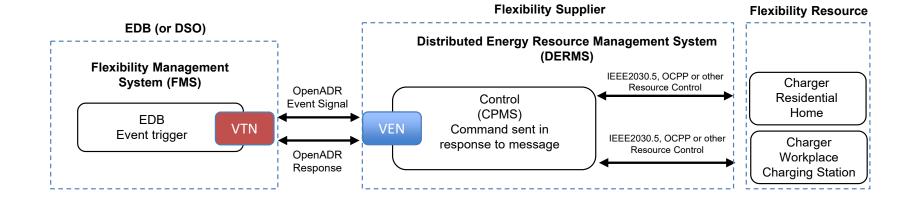








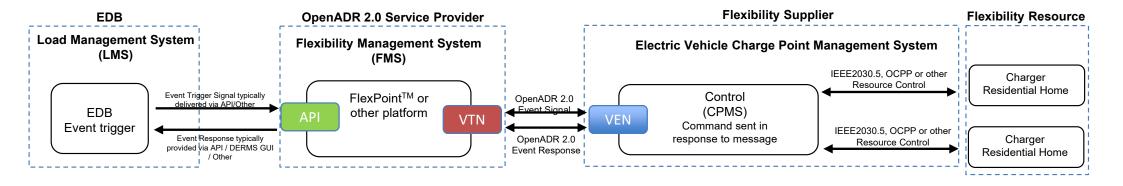
#### **Trial Configurations**







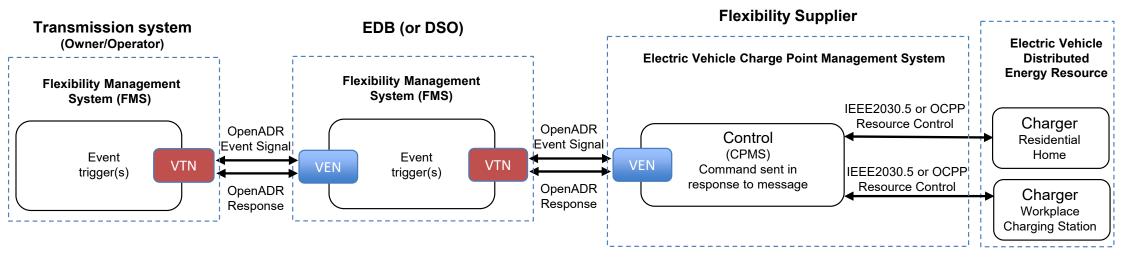
#### **Trial Configurations**







Possible Future State

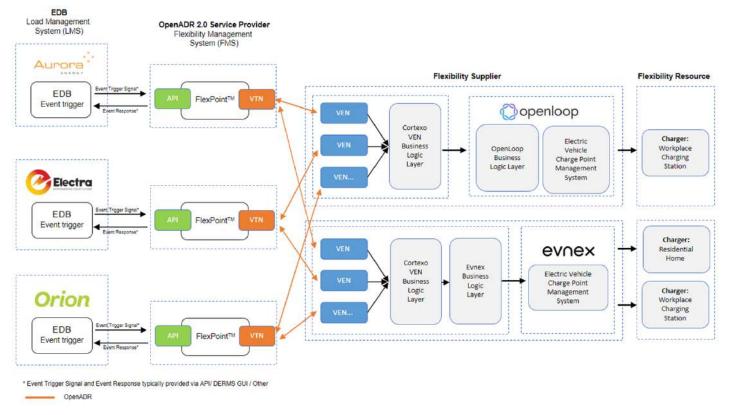






## **Technical Implementations**

#### EDB's / Flexibility Suppliers

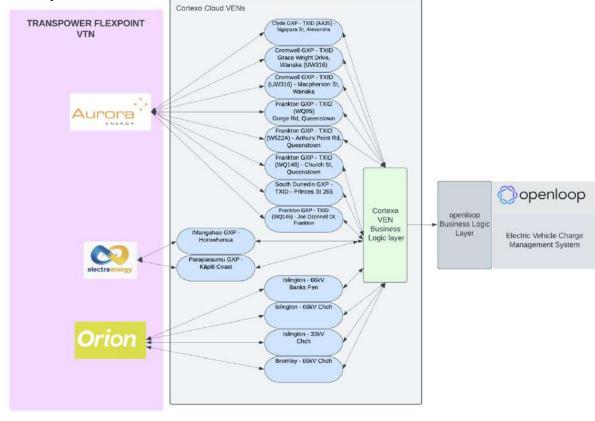






## Technical Implementations

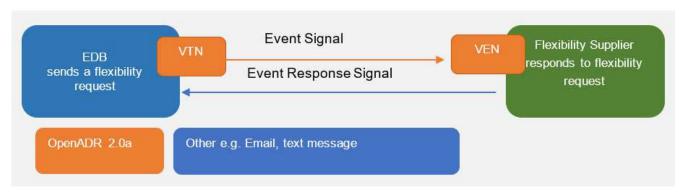
Using Transpower's Flexpoint®



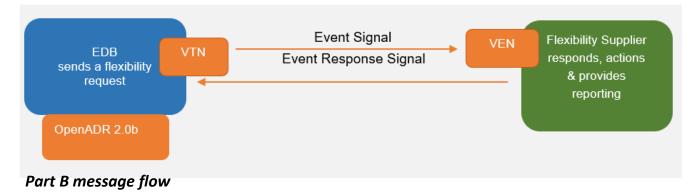




## Message Flow – Part A & B



#### Part A message flow







### Part A

SIMPLE SIGNAL

#### **OpenADR Simple Signal**

- 0 Do nothing
- 1 Low
- 2 Moderate
- 3 High

#### Meaning

- 0 Do nothing
- 1 50% reduction
- 2 75% reduction
- 3 100% reduction

Reduction from a set baseline capacity

## Part A Programmes

- 1. In Advance
- 2. Immediate (Dynamic)
- 3. Price Responsive Bid
- 4. Price Responsive Discovery





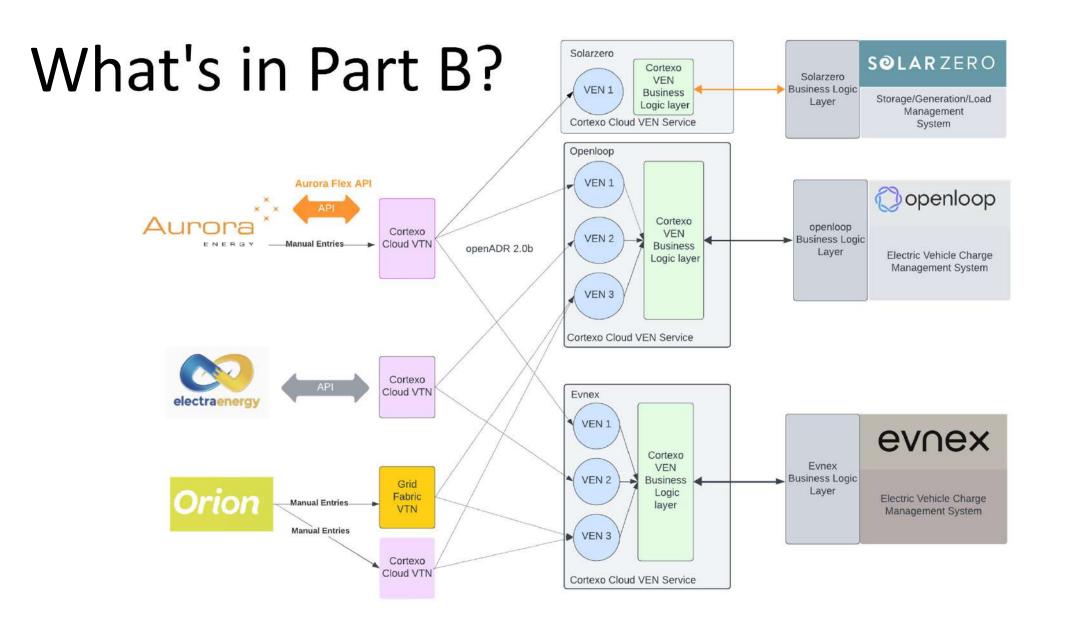
## Part A Programmes

Discuss dynamic and emergency programmes

PROGRAMME	ROGRAMME BASELINE		LEVEL 0	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3
Programme 02  Dynamic Short Term  Non-Price Responsive	Flex Capacity a.m.	Flex Capacity p.m.	0%	50%	75%	100%
Programme 03 Immediate Emergency Non- Price Responsive	Flex Capacity a.m.	Flex Capacity p.m.	0%	50%	75%	100%

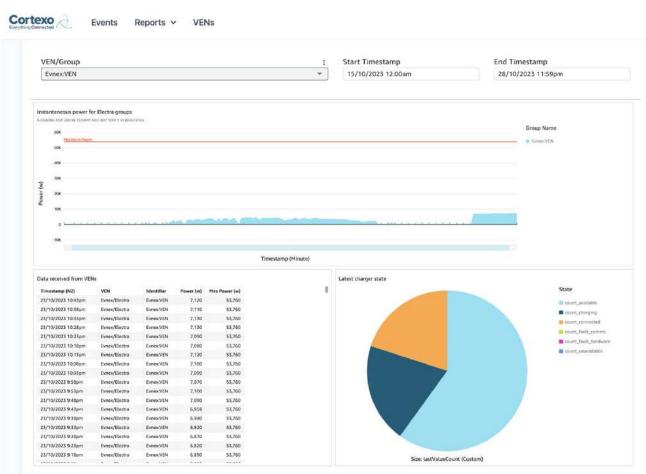






## Complex Signals, API & Reporting

- In Advance
  - Load Dispatch delta kW
- Immediate (Dynamic)
  - Load Dispatch delta kW
- Emergency
  - Simple 3 (!00%)
- PR Bid
  - Load Dispatch delta kW
  - Electricity Price \$/kWh
- PR Discovery
  - Load Dispatch delta kW
  - (optional) Electricity Price \$/kWh
- Dynamic Operating Envelope
  - Max import
  - Min import
  - Max export



## Speaker 04. Connie Dunbar

FlexTalk Project Lead, EEA



Connie Dunbar

#### Agenda:

- Part A Trial approach
- Part A Trial outcomes
- Wider Flexibility learnings





## Part A – Designing Flexibility Programmes

- IDT Workshops to determine flexibility programmes
- EDBs what do they need / want? (requirements for requesting flexibility)
- Flexibility suppliers what can they provide? (what flexibility, what data)
- Determined triggers, programme behaviour and the type of interactions actors would participate in





## Part A – Trial Approach

#### Customers

- 49 customers
- Mix of residential / commercial
- 89 chargers targeted during Part A







## Part A – Trial Approach

#### **Testing Schedule**

- 3-4 events deployed per week
- Trial schedule
- Learnings canvas
- Assessment of events against success criteria





## **Event Overview**

39 events triggered/sent to 89 separate VEN

70 successful VEN message received

17 unknown outcome at VEN\*

2 event messages not received at VEN\*\*

70 separate VEN confirmed receipt of DR event requests

37 default event opt out (message receipt test only)

27 events opted in at VEN

3 events required to opt out due to Load management system or business constraint

3 events opt in/out unknown

#### 27 DR events opted in at VEN

12 chargers accepted profile but not charging at time – no throttle

7 chargers successfully throttle charge as per event request

5 chargers accepted profile but already fully charged – no throttle

1 successful event test cancellation at 3 VEN – no throttle

2 chargers accepted profile but already charging below event threshold – no throttle

<sup>\*\*</sup>If the DR Level is not set in FlexPoint Flexibility Management System or the DR request is set to 0 kW, then no OpenADR events will be created.





<sup>\*</sup>Due to limitations with data capture

## Customer Feedback

Customer surveyed at conclusion of Part A to assess:

- Awareness of active managed charging
- Impacts on charging routine / behaviour
- Potential financial impacts
- Further participation in EV charging trials
- Residential and commercial question set with Y/N and ability to comment





## Customer Feedback

- No material impact reported, aware of throttle down but no disruption to charge availability
- Some customers mentioned the trial did impact their charging behaviour but didn't specifically call out how
- Commercial customers didn't notice a financial impact of participation in trial
- Residential customers did call out that the trial did impact their free hour of power
- Most respondents were willing to participate in demand flexibility events in future
- For commercial customers, they don't fully understand the commercial or customer value proposition





## **Delivery Partners Commentary**

Learning curve for Part A:

- Terminology
- Interpretation
- Learning systems (FlexPoint)
- Exploring integration approaches predominantly manual for Part A
- General call-out that the technology works but the wider implication of participation in demand flexibility need to be considered for this to be operationalised / scaled up





## **Delivery Partners Commentary**

"None of this has been what I would call hard, it's all work which needs doing and takes time and money, but the actual technical development has been a matter of working through a very familiar engineering process involving technical building blocks that I recognise from lots of other similar work. Scaling up will be much more a problem of commerciality and social license than a problem of technology"

- Tom Rose, Evnex





## What else did we learn?

#### **BUSINESS / COMMERCIAL**

 Contractual agreement design needs to be considered and will ultimately inform how actors participate in flex events

#### **CONSUMERS**

- Consumer buy-in, need to bring awareness to demand flexibility to gain social license
- Evidence from trial recruitment process suggests that some customer segments may be more sensitive to the impacts of demand flexibility.
- Customer privacy and obligations must be considered when designing data sharing approach. How do we balance customer data privacy with the availability of data to participate in flex events? E.g. Sharing ICP

#### **TECHNICAL**

- Need ability to access smart charging functions with all charger types. It was discovered during trial that troubleshooting required to access / control chargers for a key manufacturer.
- Load management building rules may impact the ability for charger to accept smart charging profiles and thus inhibit access to assets for demand flexibility
- It is essential that interpretation of terminology and behaviour is understood across actors participating in DF events.

#### // ARKET

 Work is needed to understand the end-to-end impact and understand the key roles in energy supply chain as well as the business models and business case for investment





## Where to next?

Protocol Implementation Template Development Disseminate Learning

#### Part A: April '23 Part B: Dec '23

- Phase one: To achieve the OpenADR 2.0 part A standard.
- Phase two:
   To achieve the
   OpenADR 2.0 part
   B standard.
- Industry consultation

#### March '24

- Template developed providing the industry with the approach and guidance.

#### April '24

 A series of webinars and training opportunities for the industry.

Stage gate 8

Stage gate 9

We are here





## Where can I learn more?

- Part A Report (EEA website)
- Asset Management Forum 2nd November, Christchurch





## Thank you





























































## Questions



Stuart Johnston **EEA** 



Rodger Griffiths **ElectroNet** 



Terry Paddy **Cortexo** 



Connie Dunbar **EEA** 











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