

## **Media Release**

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## Roadmap a valuable first step to NZ's hydrogen network

Refining NZ welcomes the publication of the <u>H2 Taranaki Roadmap</u> as a valuable step towards a national hydrogen strategy.

Launched last week by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Energy and Resources Minister Megan Woods, the report outlines a future based on the potential of green Hydrogen in Taranaki for export, for use in industrial processes and to transition jobs beyond oil and gas.

"I commend the Government for progressing work on the opportunities hydrogen presents as New Zealand transitions to a low-carbon economy," says Refining NZ CEO Mike Fuge.

Refining NZ considers developing New Zealand's hydrogen infrastructure up and down the country will be critical to achieving the Government's goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.

"This Taranaki Roadmap is a valuable step towards a network of green hydrogen hubs across the country, including at Marsden Point,

"Green hydrogen, produced with zero emissions and using a renewable energy source, has enormous potential for Northland and for greening New Zealand's overall transport fuel supply. Adding green hydrogen to the refining process would immediately improve the carbon footprint of the fuel products we make," says Mr Fuge.

Refining NZ is the largest producer of pure hydrogen in the country and is planning a facility capable of generating green hydrogen from solar energy. This new energy source has the potential to power the refining process, fuel the logging trucks that arrive at Northport every two minutes and provide export to Japan or other markets.

"Our aim with this facility is to ensure the skills that our talented engineers, operators and maintenance crew bring to maintaining the refinery can stay in the region and transition to the next generation of renewable energy for New Zealand while generating robust shareholder returns for the next 60 years and beyond,

"Hydrogen can make a significant contribution to our aspirations for a low carbon economy but for that to be meaningful industry and government need to be willing and able to build a network of hubs in Taranaki, in Northland and elsewhere as soon as we can,

"The H2 Taranaki Roadmap offers an important model for transition to a low carbon economy, a model that should be central to regional growth plans throughout the country," says Mr Fuge.

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