

Company Name	Vector
For Year Ended	31 March 2024

Schedule 14 Mandatory Explanatory Notes

(Guidance Note: This Microsoft Word version of Schedules 14, 14a and 15 is from the Electricity Distribution Information Disclosure Determination 2012 – as amended and consolidated 6 July 2023. Clause references in this template are to that determination)

1. This schedule requires EDBs to provide explanatory notes to information provided in accordance with clauses 2.3.1, 2.4.21, 2.4.22, and subclauses 2.5.1(1)(f), and 2.5.2(1)(e).
2. This schedule is mandatory—EDBs must provide the explanatory comment specified below, in accordance with clause 2.7.1. Information provided in boxes 1 to 11 of this schedule is part of the audited disclosure information, and so is subject to the assurance requirements specified in section 2.8.
3. Schedule 15 (Voluntary Explanatory Notes to Schedules) provides for EDBs to give additional explanation of disclosed information should they elect to do so.

Return on Investment (Schedule 2)

4. In the box below, comment on return on investment as disclosed in Schedule 2. This comment must include information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 1: Explanatory comment on return on investment

The return on investment (ROI) comparable to a vanilla WACC for Vector's Electricity Distribution Business is 6.21%. This is higher than the 67th percentile vanilla WACC of 4.57%, due to higher actual revaluation rate.

Actual CPI for RY24 was 4.02% which was higher than the Commission's forecast of 2%. This increases the ROI by 2%.

Regulatory Profit (Schedule 3)

5. In the box below, comment on regulatory profit for the disclosure year as disclosed in Schedule 3. This comment must include-
6. a description of material items included in other regulated income (other than gains / (losses) on asset disposals), as disclosed in 3(i) of Schedule 3
7. information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 2: Explanatory comment on regulatory profit

The value of “other regulated income (other than gains/ (losses) on asset disposals)” is zero.

There has been no re-classification of items in the disclosure year.

Merger and acquisition expenses (3(iv) of Schedule 3)

8. If the EDB incurred merger and acquisitions expenditure during the disclosure year, provide the following information in the box below-
9. information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2)
 - 9.1 any other commentary on the benefits of the merger and acquisition expenditure to the EDB.

Box 3: Explanatory comment on merger and acquisition expenditure

No merger or acquisition expenditure has been incurred during the disclosure year.

There has been no re-classification of items in the disclosure year.

Value of the Regulatory Asset Base (Schedule 4)

10. In the box below, comment on the value of the regulatory asset base (rolled forward) in Schedule 4. This comment must include information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 4: Explanatory comment on the value of the regulatory asset based (rolled forward)

Roll forward of regulatory asset base (RAB)

The value of the RAB has been determined by rolling forward the initial RAB with allowances made for additions, disposals, depreciation and revaluation in accordance with the current IM determination.

There were no reclassifications for the disclosure year.

Regulatory tax allowance: disclosure of permanent differences (5a(i) of Schedule 5a)

11. In the box below, provide descriptions and workings of the material items recorded in the following asterisked categories of 5a(i) of Schedule 5a-
 - 11.1 Income not included in regulatory profit / (loss) before tax but taxable;
 - 11.2 Expenditure or loss in regulatory profit / (loss) before tax but not deductible;

11.3 Income included in regulatory profit / (loss) before tax but not taxable;

11.4 Expenditure or loss deductible but not in regulatory profit / (loss) before tax.

Box 5: Regulatory tax allowance: permanent differences

There are no material items in the disclosure year.

Regulatory tax allowance: disclosure of temporary differences (5a(vi) of Schedule 5a)

12. In the box below, provide descriptions and workings of material items recorded in the asterisked category 'Tax effect of other temporary differences' in 5a(vi) of Schedule 5a.

Box 6: Tax effect of other temporary differences (current disclosure year)

There are no material items in the disclosure year.

Cost allocation (Schedule 5d)

13. In the box below, comment on cost allocation as disclosed in Schedule 5d. This comment must include information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 7: Cost allocation

There has been no re-classification of items in relation to cost allocation in the disclosure year.

The accounting-based allocation approach (ABAA) has been applied to allocate not directly attributable costs in the disclosure year in accordance with the IM determination.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE) and labour hours allocators are the key proxy allocators used to allocate not directly attributable corporate shared costs as causal factors are not available. A causal relationship cannot be established for the non-directly attributable costs because of the shared nature of these services. This means there is no single cost driver leading to a cost being incurred.

Labour hours

Vector has undertaken an internal survey of estimated time spent on regulatory activities for the purpose of regulatory cost allocation. Not all shared service functions are able to estimate time spent servicing each business due to their activities being ever changing or because activities are primarily provided on a group only basis.

PPE

A significant proportion of Vector's activities are focused on managing physical assets. Therefore, an assumption can be made that the greater the amount of physical assets a business has (measured by value), the greater share of corporate shared costs are required to support that business.

The rationale behind the use of each proxy allocation is based on a thoughtful analysis of each cost item.

After selling the metering business on 30 June 2023, Vector has divided shared costs for the 2024 disclosure year into two periods: pre-sale (3 months) and post-sale (9 months). These costs are allocated by different labour and PPE ratios for each period.

The pre-sale ratios are consistent with the RY23 electricity information disclosures, while the post-sale ratios are new.

Asset allocation (Schedule 5e)

14. In the box below, comment on asset allocation as disclosed in Schedule 5e. This comment must include information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 8: Commentary on asset allocation

Consistent with cost allocation, Vector applied ABAA to allocate non-directly attributable network asset values in the 2024 disclosure year in accordance with the IM determination.

Vector has determined and reported two allocators for shared network assets: a fair value ratio and a capacity ratio. The fair value ratio is determined by reference to an estimated fair value of the non-directly attributable portion of a shared network asset. The capacity ratio is an engineering-based ratio by reference to an asset's total service capacity. Determining which allocator to use involves an understanding of the nature of the shared network asset and the substance of the non-electricity distribution services that the asset provides.

These allocators are proxy allocators. A causal relationship sometimes cannot be established for the non-directly attributable network asset values because the shared nature of these assets means there is no single factor influencing the utilisation of the asset.

Determining the non-network fixed assets for the regulated and non-regulated businesses follows a similar process to the operating cost allocation.

There have been no material changes in asset allocations in the disclosure year.

Capital Expenditure for the Disclosure Year (Schedule 6a)

15. In the box below, comment on expenditure on assets for the disclosure year, as disclosed in Schedule 6a. This comment must include-
16. a description of the materiality threshold applied to identify material projects and programmes described in Schedule 6a;
 - 16.1 information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 9: Explanation of capital expenditure for the disclosure year

The materiality threshold applied to identify material projects is the level of audit materiality applied by Vector's regulatory auditors (\$8.6m).

There were no material projects or programmes in the disclosure year.

There has been no material re-classification of items in the disclosure year.

Operational Expenditure for the Disclosure Year (Schedule 6b)

17. In the box below, comment on operational expenditure for the disclosure year, as disclosed in Schedule 6b. This comment must include-
18. Commentary on assets replaced or renewed with asset replacement and renewal operational expenditure, as reported in 6b(i) of Schedule 6b;

19. Information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2);
20. Commentary on any material atypical expenditure included in operational expenditure disclosed in Schedule 6b, a including the value of the expenditure the purpose of the expenditure, and the operational expenditure categories the expenditure relates to.

Box 10: Explanation of operational expenditure for the disclosure year

Asset Replacement and renewal operational expenditure is largely incurred to rectify non-compliance with maintenance standards as identified from planned equipment inspections.

This expenditure includes the replacement of equipment components that do not extend the life of the asset. The major spend areas are maintenance on zone substations, subtransmission cables, and overhead lines.

Reclassified items

There have been no material reclassifications of items during the disclosure year, except for cyber services, which are now classified under business support instead of 'system operations and network support'.

Variance between forecast and actual expenditure (Schedule 7)

21. In the box below, comment on variance in actual to forecast expenditure for the disclosure year, as reported in Schedule 7. This comment must include information on reclassified items in accordance with subclause 2.7.1(2).

Box 11: Explanatory comment on variance in actual to forecast expenditure

CAPEX

Overall actual CAPEX expenditure was 9%, \$50.6m below forecast at \$484m with the key drivers being:

- Consumer connections were 22%, \$33.9m below forecast. This was predominantly due to the delays in the projects caused by the customer.
- System growth was 24%, \$24.6m below forecast. The primary drivers were the deferral of land purchases and the reclassification of distribution transformers from consumer connections being less than forecasted.
- Asset replacement and renewal was 17% \$27.0m above forecast, due to higher reactive works and the distribution asset replacement programme, and some capex being reclassified from other reliability, safety, and environment.
- Asset relocations were 25%, \$8.6m below forecast, which were third party driven.
- Reliability, safety and environment was 72%, \$18.2m below forecast, due to some capex being reclassified as asset replacement and renewal, and expenditure being less than forecasted.
- Non-network was 14%, \$7.6m above forecast, due to a new office lease and higher digital costs compared to what was projected.

OPEX

Overall actual OPEX expenditure was 5% or \$8.5m above forecast with key drivers being:

- Service interruptions and emergencies were 13%, \$2.0m below forecast, due to lower exceptional remedial maintenance.
- Vegetation management was 41%, \$2.3m above forecast. This increase was driven by efforts to remove vegetation issues in wildfire areas and additional work in the Warkworth to Wellsford region.
- System operations and network support was 7%, \$3.6m below forecast, due to cyber services now being classified as business support.
- Business support was 25%, \$12.0m above forecast, due to reclassification of cyber security costs, along with higher computer costs, professional fees, and personnel costs.

Information relating to revenues and quantities for the disclosure year

22. In the box below provide-

23. a comparison of the target revenue disclosed before the start of the disclosure year, in accordance with clause 2.4.1 and subclause 2.4.3(3) to total billed line charge revenue for the disclosure year, as disclosed in Schedule 8; and

23.1 explanatory comment on reasons for any material differences between target revenue and total billed line charge revenue.

Box 12: Explanatory comment relating to revenue for the disclosure year

Vector's target revenue for the year ended on 31 March 2024, as included in our 2024 Electricity Pricing Methodology Disclosure pursuant to clause 2.4.1(1) and 2.4.3(3) of the electricity Distribution Information Disclosure Determination 2012, was \$650m.

Total billed line charge revenue for the disclosure year ended on 31 March 2024 was \$663m, as disclosed in schedule 8 of this disclosure. The variance between total billed line charges and target revenue of approximately \$13m or 2% is mainly due to higher quantities, driven by colder weather.

Network Reliability for the Disclosure Year (Schedule 10)

24. In the box below, comment on network reliability for the disclosure year, as disclosed in Schedule 10.

Box 13: Commentary on network reliability for the disclosure year

The values of both SAIDI and SAIFI in RY24 were lower compared with last year, due to higher unplanned interruptions last year driven by severe weather events including January 2023 flooding and February 2023 Cyclone.

Vector has applied the 'multi-count' approach for SAIFI in the 2024 disclosure year, however, Vector is also required to disclose its SAIFI and SAIDI values as 'Transitional SAIFI' and 'Transitional SAIDI' values based on the old method used in the 31 March 2023 period.

Please refer to Schedule 15 for explanations of differences to the Electricity Compliance Statement.

Insurance cover

25. In the box below, provide details of any insurance cover for the assets used to provide electricity distribution services, including-
26. The EDB's approaches and practices in regard to the insurance of assets used to provide electricity distribution services, including the level of insurance;
27. In respect of any self insurance, the level of reserves, details of how reserves are managed and invested, and details of any reinsurance.

Box 14: Explanation of insurance cover

Vector Limited takes insurance cover for group assets. These policies cover material damage, business interruption and contract work insurance.

Insurance costs are allocated to the Electricity Distribution Business using the proportion these assets represent relative to Vector's overall insured assets.

In respect of the insurance cover the information reflects "insurance years" running from 1 September to 31 August each year and premium costs are allocated to the appropriate regulatory years to derive the premium values.

Amendments to previously disclosed information

28. In the box below, provide information about amendments to previously disclosed information disclosed in accordance with clause 2.12.1 in the last 7 years, including:
 - 28.1 a description of each error; and
29. for each error, reference to the web address where the disclosure made in accordance with clause 2.12.1 is publicly disclosed.

Box 15: Disclosure of amendment to previously disclosed information

N/A

Company Name Vector

For Year Ended 31 March 2024

Schedule 15 Voluntary Explanatory Notes

(In this Schedule, clause references are to the Electricity Distribution Information Disclosure Determination 2012 – as amended and consolidated 3 April 2018.)

1. This schedule enables EDBs to provide, should they wish to-
2. additional explanatory comment to reports prepared in accordance with clauses 2.3.1, 2.4.21, 2.4.22, 2.5.1 and 2.5.2;
3. information on any substantial changes to information disclosed in relation to a prior disclosure year, as a result of final wash-ups.
4. Information in this schedule is not part of the audited disclosure information, and so is not subject to the assurance requirements specified in section 2.8.
5. Provide additional explanatory comment in the box below.

Box 1: Voluntary explanatory comment on disclosed information

The opening deferred tax balance under clause 2.3.7(1)(c) of Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies Determination 2012 (IMs)

Vector has previously provided an explanation of how the opening deferred tax balance under GAAP is treated for assets with no regulatory tax asset value.

The difference between the closing deferred tax balance reported in RY23 and the opening deferred tax balance in RY24 is the tax effect of 2023's ROU commissioned assets.

Normalised SAIFI and SAIDI in Schedule 10

The disclosed SAIDI and SAIFI values under the current ID requirements are not aligned with those presented in Vector's 2024 Compliance Statement, which is based on the Electricity Default Price-Quality Path Determination 2020 (DPP3). The methodologies and formulae for ID and DPP3 are not comparable. The SAIDI and SAIFI values under DPP3 can be found here on Vector's website <https://www.vector.co.nz/about-us/regulatory/disclosures-electricity/price-quality-path>.

Energy efficiency and demand side management, reduction of energy losses (when known) in Schedules 6a and 6b

Vector has improved the efficient provision of electricity line services by

- (a) improving energy efficiency
- (b) encouraging demand side management
- (c) implementing initiatives that reduce electricity losses
- (d) implementing initiatives that reduce reactive power flows in the network

However, the costs have been included under other categories which are the primary driver of Vector performing the work. Therefore, the values of "Energy efficiency and demand side management, reduction of energy losses" are zero in Schedules 6a (ii) and 6b (ii) as the data is not recorded in a way where it can be separately reported from our financial systems.

Director fees and key management personnel

The Commission confirmed in its issues and guidance register (released on 29 February 2024), that director fees and key management personnel are considered as related party transactions. We have therefore disclosed these related party costs in Schedule 5B.

Other recoverable costs excluding financial incentives and wash-ups in Schedule 3(ii)

Vector has disclosed \$1.5 million in this category, consisting of \$0.7 million of fire and emergency levy and \$0.7 million of innovation allowance.