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## **New Gas Transmission Access Code**

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Brigid McArthur and Will Hulme-Moir have recently acted as independent counsel to the gas industry co-regulator, Gas Industry Company Limited, on approval of a new Gas Transmission Access Code.

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The GTAC governs the terms of access to the high pressure North Island gas transmission pipeline systems owned by First Gas Limited, previously known as the Vector and Maui pipelines. Access to these pipelines has since the early 2000s been governed by separate industry codes. This separation has created operational inefficiencies particularly around capacity reservations, offtake management, gas balancing, reconciliation and liability for non-specification gas, amongst others. With the pipelines now under common ownership has come the opportunity for a rationalisation and reset in accordance with the Gas Act objectives.

Gas Industry Co's sanction of the new GTAC as "materially better" than the existing codes, comes after a lengthy period of engagement, consultation and extensive debate between different sectoral levels. The industry is presently engaged in IT systems and implementation processes.

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### **Specialist Expertise**

Energy & natural resources

### **Key lawyers involved**

Brigid McArthur  
William Hulme-Moir

### **Similar projects**

Tariki, Waihapa, Ngaere petroleum production assets and infrastructure