



**Electrical Workers
Registration Board**

SAFETY | COMPETENCY | COMPLIANCE

Electrical Workers Registration Board

Annual Report 2024/2025



Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

MORE INFORMATION

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Role and functions of the Board

The Electrical Workers Registration Board (the Board) was established under section 148 of the Electricity Act 1992 (the Act). The Board's main functions are set out in section 149 of the Act. The Board currently has seven members, five of whom are registered electrical workers. All members are appointed by the Minister for Building and Construction.

The Board's primary functions are to register and license electrical workers and to ensure their competency to promote public safety. It does this by ensuring a minimum standard of competence for issuing and retaining a licence, holding disciplinary hearings about complaints, prosecuting individuals who carry out unauthorised prescribed electrical work (PEW), and undertaking other activities that support safe and compliant PEW.

The Occupational Regulation team within the Market Integrity branch of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (the Ministry) provides, among other things, operational support for registering and licensing electrical workers on behalf of the Registrar. The Registrar acts under delegation from the Board.

2024/2025 Presiding Member's Report

Tēnā koutou

I am pleased to share this annual report update.

This year, we welcomed Lucy Wright, Truc Tran, and Simon Rogers to the Electrical Workers Registration Board (EWRB). Their appointments enhance the Board's ability to meet its statutory responsibilities and reflect our ongoing commitment to diverse, skilled, and informed governance.

We farewelled Mel Orange, whose long-standing contribution to the Board has been greatly appreciated. We thank Mel sincerely for his dedication and leadership.

The Board also welcomed Briana Rae to our Future Board Member programme. This initiative gives aspiring electrical workers insight into Board operations and governance. Participants receive training, attend selected meetings, and are mentored by a current Board member. While Future Members do not hold voting rights, they are encouraged to contribute to discussions during their one-year term.

As part of our annual strategic review, the Board engaged with key stakeholders to help shape our priorities and initiatives. These conversations continue to inform our direction and reinforce our commitment to improving processes and effectiveness.

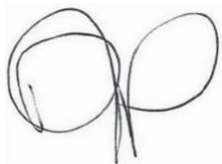
Over the past year, the Board managed a range of complaints and disciplinary matters with diligence and fairness. Our processes remain robust, transparent, and guided by principles of natural justice. We held 52 disciplinary hearings into the conduct of registered electrical workers, resulting in 38 disciplinary outcomes. The Board continues to see cases where electrical workers submit false or misleading certification documents or fail to renew their practising licences on time - resulting in unlicensed work and disciplinary breaches.

We are pleased to resume our "Meet and Greet" schedule in 2025. These events give electrical workers a chance to engage directly with the Board, receive updates and ask questions. Feedback has been positive and will continue to shape our engagement approach.

We've made significant progress in implementing new registration and licensing requirements to improve clarity and safety within the Electrical Worker Scheme. Key developments include new endorsed classes, updated competency pathways, and the rollout of digital licences with real-time verification. Grandparenting arrangements have supported a smooth transition, and further updates to registration class limits are expected in the second half of 2025.

Finally, I'd like to thank my fellow Board members, the Registrar, and Ministry staff for their ongoing efforts and contributions throughout the year.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Russell Keys

Presiding Member

2024/2025 at a glance



Registrations

2,979 new registrations granted.



Online Examinations

6,709 electrical worker online examinations held.



Complaints

52 hearings were held and 38 resulting in a disciplinary outcome.



Prosecutions

5 successful prosecutions for unauthorised prescribed electrical work.



Electron

4 issues of Electron Newsletter published reaching 35,000 subscribers.



Standards

103 standards available in an electronic format to electrical workers.

Letter of Expectations

The Board operates according to a Letter of Expectations with the Minister for Building and Construction. The table below summarises how the Board has delivered on those expectations.

GOVERNANCE		
EXPECTATION	PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTPUT
The Board meets all obligations under relevant legislation, including reporting under the Act.	All legislative obligations are met and performance against its obligations is reported in its Annual Report.	Policies, systems, and procedures are in place to ensure operational decisions are consistent with legislative requirements.
The Board's complaint and disciplinary hearing process is robust.	The complaint and disciplinary process from beginning to end is regularly reviewed.	The complaints and disciplinary process was regularly reviewed. The Board met with the Ministry to discuss complaints and disciplinary matters.
The Board has robust planning processes that identify strategies for improving the carrying out of the functions and obligations of the Act – including the registration and licensing system, and the promotion, monitoring and review of electrical worker competence and safe working practices.	The Board annually reviews its strategic plan, identifies risks, opportunities, and strategies for achieving the Board's strategic goals.	The Board reviewed and reaffirmed its strategic plan. It held a strategic planning day, to align its work programme with its goals.
Appropriate delegations to the Registrar are in place.	Delegations are reviewed by 31 March each year to inform for consideration of the next Delegations Agreement.	The Board reviewed and issued new delegations.
Develop, implement and monitor a Service Level Agreement that sets out the expected service levels to be provided by the Ministry to meet the Board's delegations to the Registrar and to deliver on the Board's strategic plan.	Performance against the agreed service levels is reviewed by 31 March each year to inform for consideration of the next Service Level Agreement.	An enduring Service Level Agreement is in place and monitored regularly. The Board and Ministry meet quarterly to review service levels.
The Board undertakes an annual self-appraisal of its performance and provides a summary to the Ministry.	A summary of the self-appraisal is received by 31 October each year, identifying areas which are working well for Board members, areas for improvement, and actions the Board intends to take as a result.	The Board completed its self-appraisal.
Board members undertake professional development.	Training is available for Board members for at least four half days of development per annum.	In 2024/2025 one Board member attended the Council of Australasian Tribunals (COAT) Conference.

Industry Engagement

- The Board resumed its meet and greet schedule in 2025, holding events in Auckland, Dunedin, and Wellington. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for electrical workers to engage directly with the Board, hear updates, and ask questions.
- The Electron newsletter was published throughout the 2024/2025 year, providing regular updates and key information to electrical workers.
- The Board regularly engaged with industry associations to provide updates on the implementation of the new Stepped Licensing registration framework.
- The Board continued to engage with Waihanga Ara Rau to ensure New Zealand qualifications met registration requirements.
- The Board engaged with key stakeholders as part of its annual strategic review and key strategic initiatives.

Strategic Projects

STEPPED LICENSING – UPDATE

Significant progress was made on implementing new registration and licensing requirements to improve clarity and safety of the Electrical Worker Scheme. This follows the publication of two Notices in 2023 that introduced:

- new endorsed classes of registration for electrical workers supervising more than two people carrying out PEW, and for electrical workers working in higher-risk work areas
- changes to registration and competency programme requirements
- new for career progression pathways.

Grandparenting arrangements helped experienced electrical workers transition smoothly to the new endorsed registration classes, with around 2,800 applications received.

The Ministry worked with Waihanga Ara Rau to recommend core competencies that electrical workers must demonstrate to meet the endorsed supervision registration requirements.

After considering industry advice, the Board commenced work updating the Notice that sets out registration class work limits and requirements. This work is expected to be completed in the second half of 2025.

All electrical workers upgraded to real time digital licences that they can download from the Electrical Workers portal at any time. Each licence includes a QR code to the electrical worker's profile on the public register.

Licensing Statistics

LICENSED ELECTRICAL WORKERS

As of 30 June 2025, there were **35,199** licensed electrical workers.

REGISTRATIONS BY CLASS

The following table lists the number of licensed electrical workers, broken down by class of registration. Some electrical workers may hold more than one registration class.

REGISTRATION CLASS	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS
Associated Tradesperson	170
Cable Jointer	531
Distribution Line Mechanic	2,511
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson	1,523
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (Endorsed)	346
Electrical Engineer	988
Electrical Inspector	2,446
Electrical Inspector (Endorsed Mining)	60
Electrical Installer	124
Electrical Service Technician	4,875
Electrician	22,705
Electrician (Endorsed Mining)	127
Substation Maintainer	31
Traction Line Mechanic	68
Transmission Line Mechanic	255
Total Registrations	36,760

EMPLOYER LICENCES

As of 30 June 2025, there were **12** active Employer Licences.

NEW REGISTRATIONS GRANTED

During the 2024/2025 year, **2,979** new registrations were granted. This is a 16% increase from 2023/2024 when 2,571 new registrations were granted.

The following table lists the number of new registrations by registration class.

REGISTRATION CLASS	NUMBER OF NEW REGISTRATIONS
Associated Tradesperson	19
Cable Jointer	58
Distribution Line Mechanic	176
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson	71
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (Endorsed)	30
Electrical Engineer	116
Electrical Inspector	201
Electrical Installer	26
Electrical Service Technician	399
Electrician	1,814
Electrician (Endorsed Mining)	4
Traction Line Mechanic	19
Transmission Line Mechanic	44
Substation Maintainer	2
Total Registrations	2,979

EXAMINATIONS

During the 2024/2025 year **6,709** examinations were held. This is a 4.8% decrease from 2023/2024 when 7,046 examinations were held.

Of the 2024/2025 examinations held, **3,733** successfully passed.

The following table details the examinations held and passed by registration class.

REGISTRATION CLASS	EXAMINATIONS HELD	EXAMINATIONS PASSED
Associated Tradesperson	52	38
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson	125	80
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (Endorsed)	138	83
Electrical Service Technician	749	471
Electrical Installer	24	9
Electricians Theory	3,177	1,632
Electricians Regulations	2,202	1,240
Electrical Inspector	242	180
Total	6,709	3,733

LIMITED CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO NEW ZEALAND TRAINEES

During the 2024/2025 year, **3,774** Limited Certificates were issued to New Zealand trainees. This is a 4% increase from 2023/2024 when 3,614 were issued.

The following table lists the number of Limited Certificates issued to New Zealand trainees by registration class.

REGISTRATION CLASS	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS
Cable Jointer	29
Distribution Line Mechanic	133
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson	183
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (Endorsed)	31
Electrical Engineer	122
Electrical Installer	60
Electrician	2,471
Electrician (Endorsed Mining)	1
Electrical Service Technician	681
Substation Maintainer	2
Traction Line Mechanic	24
Transmission Line Mechanic	37
Total	3,774

LIMITED CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO OVERSEAS TRAINED APPLICANTS

During the 2024/2025 year, a total of **855** Limited Certificates were issued to overseas-trained applicants. This was a 13% decrease from 2023/2024 when 982 were issued.

The following table lists the number of Limited Certificates issued to overseas-trained applicants by registration class.

REGISTRATION CLASS	NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS
Cable Jointer	4
Distribution Line Mechanic	8
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson	14
Electrical Appliance Serviceperson (Endorsed)	4
Electrical Engineer	44
Electrical Installer	16
Electrician	695
Electrician (Endorsed Mining)	1
Electrical Service Technician	53
Substation Maintainer	6
Traction Line Mechanic	1
Transmission Line Mechanic	9
Total	855

Complaints Statistics

NEW COMPLAINTS

Registered Electrical Workers	98
Non-Registered Electrical Workers	49
Total Complaints Received	147

INVESTIGATIONS COMPLETED

Registered Electrical Workers	70
Non-Registered Electrical Workers	40
Total Investigations Completed	110

BOARD DETERMINATIONS (REGISTERED)

Upheld at Hearing	38
Not Upheld at Hearing	14
Total Registered Heard and Determined	52

BOARD PROSECUTIONS (NON-REGISTERED)

Board decided to file charges	6
Board decided the case did not meet prosecution threshold	23
Total Non-Registered Board Decisions	29
Court decided guilty	5
Current matters before the Courts awaiting outcomes	7

Members of the Board

RUSSELL KEYS (PRESIDING MEMBER)

Russell is a self-employed registered electrical inspector based in the Wairarapa where he and his wife own and operate their electrical contracting business currently employing a team of six. He is also a volunteer firefighter with 27 years' service.

THOMAS WISEMAN (DEPUTY PRESIDING MEMBER)

Thomas is a registered electrical inspector with more than 10 years' experience within the electrical industry across a range of activities. He has also completed additional study in hazardous areas and instrumentation/control.

Thomas' experience includes general electrical contracting, hazardous areas, major hazard facilities maintenance, and committee work reviewing the training requirements for electrical and gas workers.

Thomas is a director of both a large instrumentation/electrical business and a hydrogen solutions business.

SARAH CAMERON

Sarah is a registered electrician. Her background encompasses various facets, including participation in commercial projects, teaching pre-trade courses, involvement in electronics assembly and engagement in switchboard construction.

JOHN HUTTON

John is a registered electrical inspector with more than 42 years' experience within the electrical industry across a range of activities. John's experience includes general electrical contracting, apprentice training and assessment, technical help for electrical workers, committee work for various electrical standards and review of training requirements for electrical workers.

TRUC TRAN

Truc is a barrister at Riverbank Chambers with experience in civil/commercial litigation and regulatory matters, having worked as a litigator for the Financial Markets Authority and as a Crown prosecutor.

He serves as Deputy Chair of both the Social Security Appeal Authority and the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal, bringing experience in regulatory oversight and administrative decision-making to the Electrical Workers Registration Board.

LUCY WRIGHT

Lucy is a self-employed barrister with expertise in health and safety. She has previously worked as a Crown prosecutor, as inhouse lawyer for WorkSafe New Zealand, as an independent reviewer and as a tribunal member.

SIMON ROGERS

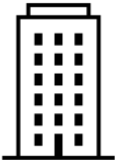
Simon is a registered electrician with over 40 years' experience in the electrical industry, including time spent working in New Zealand, the UK, and South Africa. He co-founded a Wellington-based electrical contracting business in 1988, which continues to provide general electrical services across the region.

Simon has a strong focus on industry training and has supported the development of over 100 apprentices through his business.

Statement of Performance

The Electrical Workers Registration Board is a statutory Board created under the provisions of the Electricity Act 1992. The Board’s revenue and expenses are managed by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment.

How to contact us



**Electrical Workers
Registration Board**
15 Stout Street
Wellington 6011



0800 661 000



PO Box 1473
Wellington 6140



www.ewrb.govt.nz
info@ewrb.govt.nz



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