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Amazon and Mercury NZ Announce First Corporate Power Purchase Agreement for Renewable Energy Between an Energy Company and Technology Provider in Aotearoa, New Zealand

Amazon's first renewable energy project in Aotearoa will enable the Amazon Web Services upcoming data centers in Auckland to operate on renewable energy when they launch in 2024

AUCKLAND, New Zealand – April 4, 2023 – Today, Amazon and Mercury NZ announced a new long-term corporate power purchase agreement (PPA) for Turitea South, a 103-megawatt (MW) wind farm under construction in Manawatū near Palmerston North, New Zealand. Once operational, Turitea South is expected to generate 370 gigawatt hours (GWh) of new renewable energy per year. Amazon will purchase approximately 50% of the renewable energy capacity of Turitea South, which is more than what will be required to power the upcoming Amazon Web Services (AWS) Asia Pacific (Auckland) Region data centers at launch. This is Amazon's first renewable energy project in New Zealand, and the first corporate PPA between an energy company and technology provider in the country.

Mercury is the largest wind energy generator in Aotearoa, New Zealand. When commissioned in June 2023, Turitea Wind Farm (Turitea North and Turitea South together) will be the country's largest wind farm, with 33 turbines in Turitea North, and 27 turbines in Turitea South. Mercury NZ worked with local iwi Rangitāne o Manawatū, government agencies and specialist ecologists throughout the pre-construction, construction and post-construction phases to ensure that the concept of *kaitiakitanga* (guardianship and protection) was adhered to throughout the project lifecycle.

With this long-term commitment, Amazon supports the development of new renewable energy capacity in New Zealand. The Amazon renewable energy strategy prioritises purchasing renewable energy from beyond the country's existing grid mix. Having AWS as a guaranteed consumer for Turitea South means the project is well supported for the long-term.

"Our agreement with Amazon helps us shift the dial on decarbonisation in New Zealand, and we are proud to power their operations here to support further renewable generation," says Vince Hawksworth, chief executive, Mercury NZ. "We're committed to delivering on our strong pipeline of new renewable generation and this long-term arrangement helps us get there faster."

"I'm excited to share Amazon's first renewable energy project in New Zealand with Mercury NZ, which will enable us to operate our AWS Auckland Region using renewable energy when it launches in 2024, supporting the development of additional renewable energy for Kiwis," said Tiffany Bloomquist, country manager for commercial operations at AWS in New Zealand. "New Zealand already has a high mix of renewable energy, and it's always been our intention to add to this, by generating net new renewable energy for the national grid. Our customers and partners expect us to demonstrate our commitment to sustainability, and transitioning to renewable energy is one of the highest-impact ways to immediately lower emissions. I am particularly excited that we have signed this PPA with an energy company that also uses AWS cloud services, demonstrating how digitalisation and decarbonisation are mutually beneficial. Alongside our investments into cloud infrastructure with the AWS Auckland Region, this long-term renewable energy project reflects Amazon's deep and long-term commitment to supporting a sustainable future for New Zealand."

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The new AWS Asia Pacific (Auckland) Region is scheduled to launch in 2024, and will consist of three Availability Zones (AZs). The Region will enable even more developers, startups, and enterprises as well as government, education, and nonprofit organisations to run their applications, and serve end users from data centers located in New Zealand, ensuring that customers who want to keep their data in New Zealand are able to do so. Mercury NZ has also worked with AWS for the past eight years, leveraging AWS services to support its cloud strategy and services, and most recently to support Trustpower's Amazon Connect contact center environment. Mercury acquired Trustpower in May 2022.

Amazon co-founded [The Climate Pledge](#) in 2019, committing to reach net-zero carbon by 2040—10 years ahead of the Paris Agreement. The Pledge now has more than 400 signatories spanning 55 industries and 35 countries, including [Xero Limited](#) from New Zealand. As part of The Climate Pledge commitment, Amazon is on a path to powering its operations with 100% renewable energy by 2025 – five years ahead of its original 2030 target. Amazon now has a total renewable energy portfolio of more than 20 gigawatts (GW) across more than 400 renewable energy projects in 23 countries. In 2022, Amazon set a new corporate record for the most renewable energy announced by a single company in one year – 8.3 GW across through 133 new projects in 11 countries. These projects also support hundreds of jobs locally while providing hundreds of millions of dollars of investment in local communities.

One way that Kiwi businesses and organisations are able to move toward meeting their sustainability goals is by migrating to AWS. According to a [report by 451 Research](#), if companies and public sector organisations in Asia Pacific (APAC) move their IT workloads to the cloud from on-premises infrastructure today, they could potentially reduce their carbon emissions by up to 80%. This is from the scale, energy efficiency gains, and reduced emissions from reduced energy use offered by cloud over typical on-premises data centres. This increases even further the closer that AWS gets to meeting its 100% renewable energy goals across the region. AWS also helps customers improve their sustainability in the cloud through tools such as the [Sustainability Pillar for the AWS Well-Architected Framework](#) and the [AWS Customer Carbon Footprint tool](#), which provide insights on the carbon savings of the services they use, and how to apply best practices to reduce these impacts. AWS also helps customers harness the innovation power of cloud technology to transform sustainably through the use of the broadest and deepest set of capabilities in artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), Internet of Things (IoT), data analytics, and computing to reach their sustainability goals.

About Amazon Web Services

Since 2006, Amazon Web Services has been the world's most comprehensive and broadly adopted cloud. AWS has been continually expanding its services to support virtually any workload, and it now has more than 200 fully featured services for compute, storage, databases, networking, analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), mobile, security, hybrid, virtual and augmented reality (VR and AR), media, and application development, deployment, and management from 99 Availability Zones within 31 geographic regions, with announced plans for 15 more Availability Zones and five more AWS Regions in Canada, Israel, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Thailand. Millions of customers—including the fastest-growing startups, largest enterprises, and leading government agencies—trust AWS to power their infrastructure, become more agile, and lower costs. To learn more about AWS, visit aws.amazon.com.

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About Amazon

Amazon is guided by four principles: customer obsession rather than competitor focus, passion for invention, commitment to operational excellence, and long-term thinking. Amazon strives to be Earth's Most Customer-Centric Company, Earth's Best Employer, and Earth's Safest Place to Work. Customer reviews, 1-Click shopping, personalized recommendations, Prime, Fulfillment by Amazon, AWS, Kindle Direct Publishing, Kindle, Career Choice, Fire tablets, Fire TV, Amazon Echo, Alexa, Just Walk Out technology, Amazon Studios, and The Climate Pledge are some of the things pioneered by Amazon. For more information, visit amazon.com/about and follow @AmazonNews.

About Mercury NZ Limited

We generate electricity from 100% renewable sources: hydro, geothermal and wind. Our electricity generation sites are located along the Waikato River (hydro), the nearby steamfields of the northern part of the Central Plateau (geothermal) and in the Manawatū, South Taranaki and Otago regions (wind). We are currently building our Turitea wind farm in the Tararua Ranges of the Manawatū region, which will be New Zealand's largest wind farm once complete, and Kaiwera Downs I in the South Island near Gore. We have a pipeline of future wind development sites across the country. We are also a multi-product utility retailer of electricity, gas, broadband and mobile services through our retail brands (Mercury, Trustpower and GLOBUG), and are focussed on delivering wonderful solutions for New Zealanders at home, at work and on the move. Our mission, which guides us in what we do and why, is Energy Freedom for all. This is about Aotearoa New Zealand being stronger economically and more sustainable through better use of homegrown, renewable energy. We're listed on the New Zealand Stock Exchange and the Australian Stock Exchange with foreign exempt listed status. The New Zealand Government (the Crown) holds a legislated 51% shareholding in the Company.

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