



CDC and Contact Energy to explore data centre at Stratford, Taranaki

10 August 2026 — CDC Data Centres and Contact Energy are working together to explore a potential data centre at Stratford, Taranaki, on land near Contact's former Taranaki Combined Cycle power station.

The Stratford site offers a strong combination of energy and connectivity infrastructure including diverse high-capacity fibre, both terrestrial and subsea, which connects the site to Auckland where New Zealand's international cables land.

CDC Founder and Chief Executive Greg Boorer said Stratford presented a rare opportunity to bring renewable energy and critical digital infrastructure together in one location.

"CDC builds the infrastructure that governments, health systems, emergency services, researchers and financial institutions depend on. This is where sovereign data is held, where critical systems stay online, and where the most sensitive information stays in country," Mr Boorer said.

"Stratford has the potential to bring together renewable generation, grid connection, fibre and a skilled technical workforce in a way very few places can. That combination is why we are looking at it seriously."

A facility at Stratford would be designed to support critical and sovereign workloads: government and public sector systems, healthcare and emergency services, scientific and research computing, banking and payments, and the communications networks that must remain available when other systems fail. CDC's New Zealand data centres are powered by 100 per cent renewable electricity and have been Toitū net carbon zero certified since their first year of operation. CDC has also achieved a Toitū Enviromark Diamond certification for the fourth year running which is the highest level within the Toitū Enviromark programme and recognises organisations that have embedded environmental management into the way they operate, make decisions and drive continual improvement.

It is intended that electricity for the proposed facility would be supplied under long-term contract, supported by new generation from Contact's renewable development pipeline. Large-scale, long-term demand of this kind can help underpin investment in new renewable generation and battery storage, strengthening the wider energy system rather than competing for existing supply.

CDC is extremely proud to use a closed-loop cooling system at all of its developed facilities. This system is filled once at construction, typically using captured rainwater, and recirculated for the life of the facility. CDC facilities do not draw on local water supplies, rivers or groundwater on an ongoing basis. For Stratford, CDC will explore a pathway to a net zero water-use cooling solution, including rainwater collection and reuse designed into the facility.

The project remains at an exploration stage. Any development would be subject to due diligence, consenting and commercial requirements and engagement with key stakeholders. Neither company has committed to construct a facility.

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About CDC Data Centres

CDC is the largest developer, owner and operator of highly secure, sovereign and interconnected data centre infrastructure across Australia and New Zealand. Its shareholders include Infratil, as well as government organisations such as the Future Fund (Australia's sovereign wealth fund) and Commonwealth Super Corporation. CDC provides the critical infrastructure that underpins government services, national critical infrastructure and the digital economy, where security, availability and resilience are fundamental requirements.

CDC's operations are differentiated by its fully integrated model, with in-house capabilities across site selection, design, construction and operations. This end-to-end approach, developed over more than 19 years, enables consistent delivery of highly secure, large-scale facilities and supports long-term operational performance across the asset lifecycle, reducing execution risk and supporting reliable delivery.

CDC integrates sustainability considerations into the design, construction and operation of its facilities. The company always looks to match electricity consumption with renewable energy, employs advanced closed-loop cooling technology that significantly minimises reliance on water resources, and continues to invest in efficient infrastructure that supports long-term resilience and performance. CDC also works closely with customers, industry partners, governments and local communities throughout the development and operational lifecycle of its facilities, with a focus on transparency, stakeholder engagement and delivering positive economic and community outcomes in the regions where it operates.

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About Contact Energy

Contact Energy is leading New Zealand's renewable energy future, operating 37 sites nationwide across geothermal, hydro, battery and thermal assets, and supporting more than 690,000 customer connections across electricity, gas, broadband and mobile.

Contact is building renewable energy infrastructure at pace, committing more than \$2.4 billion over the past five years, including three new geothermal power stations, two grid-scale batteries, and two solar farms. Since 2020, Contact has grown from a \$6 billion to a \$12 billion company, supporting jobs and businesses in almost every region of New Zealand.