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**Media release: Contact to support Tiwai expansion**

Contact Energy today announced it has signed a financial contract with Meridian Energy to supply a portion of the additional 50 MW that will be sold to New Zealand Aluminium Smelters (NZAS).

The contract will facilitate additional production at Tiwai Point in Southland, with NZAS starting up a fourth potline at the smelter.

“We are pleased to be able to support greater production at Tiwai,” said Contact Energy CEO Dennis Barnes. “This is a clear example of how Contact uses its renewable generation to support the production of premium export products, in this case low-carbon aluminium.”

ENDS

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**About Contact**

Contact Energy is one of New Zealand's largest listed companies. We keep the lights burning, the hot water flowing and the BBQ fired up for over half a million homes and businesses across New Zealand. We're committed to a sustainable, low carbon energy future for New Zealand. To us, this means balancing our commitment to lower carbon, renewable energy, while maintaining reliable economic access to energy for our customers. We generate electricity from hydro, geothermal and gas and have one of the most flexible generation portfolios in the country. [www.contact.co.nz](http://www.contact.co.nz)