



**Six-monthly report on operation of the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery
Legislation Act 2023 since 13 October 2025**

**Presented to the House of Representatives by the Minister for Emergency Management
and Recovery pursuant to section 33 of the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery
Legislation Act 2023**

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Introduction

The Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023 (the Act) is the second Act passed in response to the heavy rain events in the upper North Island and Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle in January and February 2023. The single broad policy for the Act is to ensure that Government agencies and Crown entities, and affected local authorities and communities, can appropriately respond to, or recover from the severe weather events, or both, including by providing the Government with flexibility to facilitate, enable, and expedite the recovery.

The Act enables the Governor-General to make Orders in Council (Orders) to modify other statutes to provide those affected by the North Island severe weather events with relief from legislative requirements that are overly burdensome in this context. Modifications are also permitted where necessary to enable prompt action for an efficient and timely recovery. Prior to the finalisation of an Order, the Act requires the relevant Minister to provide a copy of the draft Order to the Regulations Review Committee and the Severe Weather Recovery Review Panel.

As the Minister responsible for the administration of the Act, I am also required under section 33 to present a report on the operation of the Act to the House of Representatives (the House) at least every six months. These reports must, for the period covered by that report, include a list of the Orders made under the Act during that period and a brief description of those orders. This report provides information on Orders made under the Act between commencement of the Act and the date this report is presented to the House, in accordance with section 33.

This is the last six-month period in which an Order can be made as the Act provided for Orders to be made until 31 March 2026.

Orders in Council enacted

No Orders in Council have been made during the period 13 October 2025 to 13 April 2026.

Orders in Council revoked

During the period 13 October 2025 to 13 April 2026, no Orders in Council were revoked.

During the previous reporting period (13 April 2025 to 13 October 2025), clause 5 of the **Severe Weather Emergency Recovery (Resource Management—Time Extensions) Order 2023** was revoked.

Clause 5 modified the limitation period for the Gisborne District Council and the Hawke's Bay Regional Council to prosecute certain environmental offences under section 338(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

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Rather than the legislated 12-month limitation period, these councils had 24 months from the date on which the contravention giving rise to the charge for the offence first became known, or should have become known, to the council.

This revocation on 21 September 2025 was not captured by the previous report of 13 October 2025 and is therefore included in the present report for completeness.