



ELECTRICITY PRICE REVIEW

SUBMISSION FORM

How to have your say

We are seeking submissions from the public and industry on our first report into the state of the electricity sector. The report contains a series of questions, which are listed in this form in the order in which they appear. You are free to answer some or all of them.

Where possible, please include evidence (such as facts, figures or relevant examples) to support your views. Please be sure to focus on the question asked and keep each answer short. There are also boxes for you to summarise your key points on Parts three, four and five of the report – we will use these when publishing a summary of responses. There are also boxes to briefly set out potential solutions to issues and concerns raised in the report, and one box at the end for you to include additional information not covered by the other questions.

We would prefer if you completed this form electronically. (The answer boxes will expand as you write.) You can print the form and write your responses. (In that case, expand the boxes before printing. If you still run out of room, continue your responses on an attached piece of paper, but be sure to label it so we know which question it relates to.)

We may contact you if we need to clarify any aspect of your submission.

Email your submission to energymarkets@mbie.govt.nz or post it to:

Electricity Price Review

Secretariat, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

15 Stout Street

rPO Box 1473

Wellington 6140

Contact details

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Use of information

We will use your feedback to help us prepare a report to the Government. This second report will recommend improvements to the structure and conduct of the sector, including to the regulatory framework.

We will publish all submissions in PDF form on the website of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE), except any material you identify as confidential or that we consider may be defamatory. By making a submission, we consider you have agreed to publication of your submission unless you clearly specify otherwise.

Release of information

Please indicate on the front of your submission whether it contains confidential information and mark the text accordingly. If your submission includes confidential information, please send us a separate public version of the submission.

Please be aware that all information in submissions is subject to the Official Information Act 1982. If we receive an official information request to release confidential parts of a submission, we will contact the submitter when responding to the request.

Private information

The Privacy Act 1993 establishes certain principles regarding the collection, use and disclosure of information about individuals by various agencies, including MBIE. Any personal information in your submission will be used solely to help develop policy advice for this review. Please clearly indicate in your submission whether you want your name to be excluded from any summary of submissions we may publish.

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Summary of questions

Part three: Consumers and prices

Consumer interests

1. *What are your views on the assessment of consumers' priorities?*

There is none

2. *What are your views on whether consumers have an effective voice in the electricity sector?*

There is none

3. *What are your views on whether consumers trust the electricity sector to look after their interests?*

No trust

Prices

4. *What are your views on the assessment of the make-up of recent price changes?*

These changes are the cause of price risers

5. *What are your views on the assessment of how electricity prices compare internationally?*

Why should our prices be compared to over seas

6. *What are your views on the outlook for electricity prices?*

With the present system they will only rise

Affordability

7. *What are your views on the assessment of the size of the affordability problem?*

People can't afford them now

8. *What are your views of the assessment of the causes of the affordability problem?*

Too many fingers in the pie

9. *What are your views of the assessment of the outlook for the affordability problem?*

Too many involved

Summary of feedback on Part three

10 *Please summarise your key points on Part three.*

No trust in electricity system as it is now

Solutions to issues and concerns raised in Part three

11 *Please briefly describe any potential solutions to the issues and concerns raised in Part three.*

Part four: Industry

Generation

12 *What are your views on the assessment of generation sector performance?*

Ok have not had any major issues yet

13 *What are your views of the assessment of barriers to competition in the generation sector?*

There cant be any

14 *What are your views on whether current arrangements will ensure sufficient new generation to meet demand?*

Will not meet demand

Retailing

15 *What are your views on the assessment of retail sector performance?*

Dog eat dog

16 *What are your views on the assessment of barriers to competition in retailing?*

Vertical integration

17 *What are your views on the assessment of vertical integration and the contract market?*

Should not happen

18 *What are your views on the assessment of generators' and retailers' profits?*

Too high

Transmission

19 *What are your views on the process, timing and fairness aspects of the transmission pricing methodology?*

Distribution

20 *What are your views on the assessment of distributors' profits?*

TOO HIGH

21 *What are your views on the assessment of barriers to greater efficiency for distributors?*

NONE

22 *What are your views on the assessment of the allocation of distribution costs?*

Causes high prices

23 *What are your views on the assessment of challenges facing electricity distribution?*

Can only get worse

Summary of feedback on Part four

24 Please summarise your key points on Part four.

Too many involved

Solutions to issues and concerns raised in Part four

25 Please briefly describe any potential solutions to the issues and concerns raised in Part four.

Combine all into one unit

Part five: Technology and regulation

Technology

26 *What are your views on the assessment of the impact of technology on consumers and the electricity industry?*

Could be ok but will increase price

27 *What are your views on the assessment of the impact of technology on pricing mechanisms and the fairness of prices?*

Will increase price

28 *What are your views on how emerging technology will affect security of supply, resilience and prices?*

It wont

Regulation

29 *What are your views on the assessment of the place of environmental sustainability and fairness in the regulatory system?*

30 *What are your views on the assessment of low fixed charge tariff regulations?*

Could be ok would like to see it happen

31 *What are your views on the assessment of gaps or overlaps between the regulators?*

Should be none

32 *What are your views on the assessment of whether the regulatory framework and regulators' workplans enable new technologies and business models to emerge?*

33 *What are your views on the assessment of other matters for the regulatory framework?*

Summary of feedback on Part five

34 *Please summarise your key points on Part five.*

Solutions to issues and concerns raised in Part five

35 *Please briefly describe any potential solutions to the issues and concerns raised in Part five.*

Additional information

36 *Please briefly provide any additional information or comment you would like to include in your submission.*

Having more line and retailers will never reduce pricing. All these problems seemed to come up when the electricity department was split and sold. We knew that the muck up was going to happen before we were made redundant. The Waikato river can only be run as one unit so that the Waikato river has constant flow. This will happen with other rivers when there is more than one power station on it. When stations have a mix of owners, confusion reigns. The only solution is to go back to when before splitting and selling when prices were a lot cheaper.

But I guess that would be as hard as getting cheaper power with the present system.

The set up now seems to be so complicated, no wonder prices are high. There must be an easier way. Like cutting the numbers of line and retailers, combining Transpower and all the generators into one company as before. Reduce the number of Line companies and retailers. This should reduce the cost of electricity to consumers.