

From: energymarkets@mbie.govt.nz
To: [Energy Markets](#)
Subject: Electricity Price Review submission
Date: Thursday, 21 March 2019 6:21:04 p.m.

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Contact number

Region

Waikato

Category

Distribution Companies and Associations, Trusts, Transpower

Do you accept these terms & conditions?

Yes

A1. Establish a consumer advisory council

A2. Ensure regulators listen to consumers

B1. Establish a cross-sector energy hardship group

B2. Define energy hardship

Unbelievable How the "Lines Company" is able to charge exorbitant supply charges for holiday home owners in the Turangi area to help subsidise the cost to permanent resident power users. This is creating serious hardship to a portion of this community that, although not permanently based in the township, are regular and consistent power users.

My line charges have increased from ave \$67.10/ month to \$96.66 this month and I understand accounts will be higher in winter when there is higher usage. This is theft considering the powerstations are only a few kilometers away.

B3. Establish a network of community-level support services to help consumers in energy hardship

B4. Set up a fund to help households in energy hardship become more energy efficient

B5. Offer extra financial support for households in energy hardship

B6. Set mandatory minimum standards to protect vulnerable and medically dependent consumers

B7. Prohibit prompt payment discounts but allow reasonable late payment fees

B8. Seek bulk deals for social housing and/or Work and Income clients

C1. Make it easier for consumers to shop around

There is no option for Turangi power users to compare and choose any competitive supply companies ... The Lines company is the only option ... Monopoly in our area.

C2. Include information on power bills to help consumers switch retailer or resolve billing disputes

C3. Make it easier to access electricity usage data

C4. Make distributors offer retailers standard terms for network access

Standard terms should be mandatory so there is no discrimination between sectors of the community.

C5. Prohibit win-backs

C6. Help non-switching consumers find better deals

C7. Introduce retail price caps

D1. Toughen rules on disclosing wholesale market information

D2. Introduce mandatory market-making obligations

D3. Make generator-retailers release information about the profitability of their retailing activities

D4. Monitor contract prices and generation costs more closely

D5. Prohibit vertically integrated companies

E1. Issue a government policy statement on transmission pricing

The government should ensure the pricing structure is fair to all users.

E2. Issue a government policy statement on distribution pricing

Pricing should be fair to everyone, Government should make a ruling to ensure monopoly companies aren't manipulating their pricing structure to drive massive profits.

E3. Regulate distribution cost allocation principles

E4. Limit price shocks from distribution price increases

E5. Phase out low fixed charge tariff regulations

E6. Ensure access to smart meter data on reasonable terms

E7. Strengthen the Commerce Commission's powers to regulate distributors' performance

E8. Require smaller distributors to amalgamate

I think competition between distributors might be a better option but practicalities of small competing companies using the same network could be a major hurdle.

E9. Lower Transpower and distributors' asset values and rates of return

F1. Give the Electricity Authority clearer, more flexible powers to regulate network access for distributed energy services

F2. Transfer the Electricity Authority's transmission and distribution-related regulatory functions to the Commerce Commission

F3. Give regulators environmental and fairness goals

F4. Allow Electricity Authority decisions to be appealed on their merits

F5. Update the Electricity Authority's compliance framework and strengthen its information-gathering powers

F6. Establish an electricity and gas regulator

Someone needs to regulate these companies so discriminatory charges cannot be used to unfairly penalise any sector of our communities.

G1. Set up a fund to encourage more innovation

G2. Examine security and resilience of electricity supply

G3. Encourage more co-ordination among agencies

G4. Improve the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings