

**From:** energymarkets@mbie.govt.nz  
**To:** [Energy Markets](#)  
**Subject:** Electricity Price Review submission  
**Date:** Wednesday, 20 February 2019 1:23:39 p.m.

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**Name (full)**

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**Company (if applicable)**

**Email**

9(2)(a)

**Contact number**

9(2)(a)

**Region**

Waikato

**Category**

Consumers, Consumer Groups and Advocates

**Do you accept these terms & conditions?**

Yes

**A1. Establish a new consumer advisory council**

Yes

**A2. Ensure regulators listen to consumers**

Yes

**B1. Establish a cross-sector energy hardship group**

yes

**B2. Define energy hardship**

yes

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

Privacy may be a concern ,example, if on a disability allowance will any hardship \*payment\* if such is given be counted as income therefore counterproductive. And would access be required to benefit details

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

most households already run with less power than in the past as seen by the decline in power useage

**B5. Offer extra financial support for households in energy hardship**

Definatly

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

Yes

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

Yes, have to watch those on prepay plan as previously I got stung with a huge fee and was disconnected when the amount left owing for the month was just cents and the next payment was going in to their plan in 5 days

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

possibly

**C1. Make it easier for consumers to shop around**

seems easy except for THE LINES COMPANY, now that we cannot switch from and I have had some very bad experience under their NEW pricing system. Lines charges more than actual electricity usage, and 10-50 times my old bill

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

Try to get The Lines Company to explain why they charge more for delivery than users pay in Power charges

**C3. Make it easier to access electricity usage data**

Yes

**C4. Make distributors offer retailers standard terms for network access**

Yes

**C5. Prohibit win-backs**

yes

**C6. Help non-switching consumers find better deals**

maybe

**C7. Introduce retail price caps**

yes

**D1. Toughen rules on disclosing wholesale market information**

maybe

**D2. Introduce mandatory market-making obligations**

maybe

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

yes

**D4. Monitor contract prices and generation costs more closely**

yes

**D5. Prohibit vertically integrated companies**

yes

**E1. Issue a government policy statement on transmission pricing**

yes

**E2. Issue a government policy statement on distribution pricing**

yes

**E3. Limit price shocks from distribution price increases**

Absolutely

**E4. Phase out low fixed charge tariff regulations**

Not sure how this would affect people, but if better for overall prices then yes

**E5. Ensure access to smart meter data on reasonable terms**

yes

**E6. Strengthen the Commerce Commission's powers to regulate distributors' performance**

yes

**E7. Make more information available to beneficiaries of energy trusts**

yes

**E8. Require smaller distributors to amalgamate**

yes

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

yes

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

yes

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

yes

**F3. Give regulators environmental and fairness goals**

Goals depend on the whim of Governments , not sure if required

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

yes

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

yes

**F6. Establish an electricity and gas regulator**

long time overdue

**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**