

Commission Update – 12 June 2009

Contents

Complaints resolution scheme – submissions analysis document	1
Appropriations report for 2009/10.....	1
Assignment of M-Co service provider agreements to NZX.....	2
Undesirable trading situation.....	2
Workshop on recent work on wind integration and hydrology	2
Workshop on principles or model approaches to distribution pricing.....	3
Advisory Group review and call for nominations	3
Consultation documents.....	3
Vacancies	3
Contacts	4
Commission Update subscription.....	4

Complaints resolution scheme – submissions analysis document

The Commission and the Gas Industry Co have operated a joint process over the last 18 months, guided by the Government Policy Statements on Electricity and Gas Governance, to achieve the goal of a single, energy-based complaints resolution scheme that meets the principles of accessibility, independence, fairness, accountability, efficiency, effectiveness, and community awareness.

In March 2009, the Commission and Gas Industry Co issued a joint consultation paper seeking submissions on a proposal by the Commission to approve, and Gas Industry Co to recommend that the Minister of Energy and Resources approve, the Electricity and Gas Complaints Commission, as the single energy-based complaints resolution scheme under the provisions of the Electricity Act 1992 and the Gas Act 1992 respectively.

Submissions on this consultation paper were received in April 2009 and the Commission and Gas Industry Co have published a submissions analysis paper that highlights a number of key issues that emerged from submissions; summarises other issues that arose from submissions, particularly in response to the questions contained in the consultation paper; and outlines the response of the Commission and Gas Industry Co on each of the issues that have been raised.

The submission analysis document is available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/opdev/retail/consumercomplaints>
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Appropriations report for 2009/10

The Commission has published its report to the Minister of Energy and Resources recommending appropriations for 2009/10. The report was provided to the Minister in March 2009 and the appropriations were subsequently finalised in the Estimates and have been included in the 2009-2012 Statement of Intent.

The report is available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/opdev/Corporate>

The Statement of Intent is available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/publications/index.html#soi>

The Estimates are available at:

- <http://www.treasury.govt.nz/budget/2009/estimates>
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Assignment of M-Co service provider agreements to NZX

M-co completed the sale of its energy business and assets to NZX on 9 June 2009. As part of that sale the Clearing Manager, Pricing Manager and Reconciliation Manager Service Provider Agreements were assigned by M-co to NZX. The Wholesale Information and Trading System Agreements between M-co and the Commission were also assigned to NZX.

The Commission's consent to these assignments was required under the agreements and the Commission granted its consent under a Deed of Novation dated 4 June 2009, following the provision of certain information by NZX.

The Deed of Novation appoints NZX as a service provider under the Electricity Governance Regulations and also makes some minor amendments to the service provider agreements.

A copy of the Deed is available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/opdev/servprovinform/servprocagree/index.html>

NZX have confirmed that they will make as few changes as possible throughout the integration process. All staff, except M-co's CEO, have transferred to NZX and are undertaking the same roles as they did under M-co's ownership. NZX will also continue to use the same system used by M-co for the provision of the services under the service provider agreements.

The Commission welcomes NZX as a new market participant and service provider.

Undesirable trading situation

The Board has considered Contact Energy's claim that an Undesirable Trading Situation (UTS) existed for trading period 16 of 19 May 2009, and found that no UTS existed. The Commission has published the Board's decision, and Pricing Manager's and System Operator's reports.

Details are available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/rulesandregs/uts/>
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Workshop on recent work on wind integration and hydrology

Good analysis needs good data. The Commission has an ongoing aim to improve access to quality information in the sector. The Commission is hosting a technical workshop on Thursday 25 June 2009, at which the following presentations on hydrology and wind data will be given:

- Synthetic wind data (Dr Richard Turner, NIWA)
- Lake level histories (Dr Jack McConchie, OPUS)
- Reconciliation of OPUS and Comit Hydro inflows (Dr Jack McConchie, OPUS)

Details, including how to enrol for the workshop, are available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/opdev/modelling/index.html>

Workshop on principles or model approaches to distribution pricing

As part of the consultation on the *Proposed model approach to distribution pricing methodology*, the Commission will run a workshop on principle or model approaches to distribution pricing to give interested parties an opportunity to present their views and to interact with the Board. The workshop will be held on 17 June 2009 at:

The Icon Room
Te Papa
Cable Street
Wellington

The Commission invites interested parties to register by sending names of attendees and contact details to info@electricitycommission.govt.nz with "Workshop on principles or model approaches to distribution pricing" in the subject line. The Commission has extended the deadline for registrations and will continue to accept registrations until room capacity has been reached.

Details, including the workshop agenda, are available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/opdev/transmis/distrib-pricing/index.html>

Advisory Group review and call for nominations

The Commission recently consulted on proposed changes to the structure and operation of its advisory groups.

Further details of the review outcomes are provided in the explanatory paper, which is available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/advisorygroups/index.html>

The Commission now seeks nominations for membership of the four new groups. Nominations information, an amended advisory group Charter, and Terms of Reference for each of the new groups are available at:

- <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/advisorygroups>

Nominations close at **5pm** on **26 June 2009**.

Please note; the Common Quality advisory group has also been disestablished. This information was omitted from the Commission Update 5 June 2009.

Consultation documents

- [Model approach to distribution pricing consultation paper](#)
Closes 3 July 2009
- [Marsden Substation investment proposal](#)
Closes 26 June 2009

Vacancies

- [Senior Investigator](#)

Contacts

Contact details for the Commission are at: <http://www.electricitycommission.govt.nz/contact>

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