
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/06/2020 11:39:52 a.m.
To: Feedback Aurora Plan [feedbackauroraplan@comcom.govt.nz]
Subject: Changes to lines charging for Central Otago.

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is very distressing for those of us residing in Central Otago, to read of the proposed, 18% increased power line charges, by Aurora.

While acknowledging that the network is obviously in need of on-going maintenance and repair, it is infuriating to realise that the company has been completely negligent over recent years, in its duty of care towards this critical aspect of its function.

What really irks, of course, is that the Dunedin City Council (as the overall owner of the company), has been taking a substantial annual dividend from Aurora, at the expense of the maintenance that should have been ongoing for many years. That we Central Otago residents are now expected to take a greater burden of their negligence, is disgraceful. We have, in effect, been subsidising Dunedin ratepayers for years! Add to this the debacle over “borrowings”, and “investments” made by the company in land purchases, and you have a litany of failure at management level.

Surely the “owner” should be held responsible for the shortfall in funds that the company now has, and should be forced to return these dividends, which were profits earned at the expense of Aurora’s customers? Surely any increases in charges should be shared equally over the whole of the network, especially given the rates advantage Dunedin has had for years?

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]