
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 9/07/2020 9:34:05 p.m.
To: Feedback Aurora Plan [feedbackauroraplan@comcom.govt.nz]
Subject: Aurora Feedback

Although accepting that the Aurora Network is in desperate need of being upgraded, to pass on those costs to customers in our case for many years is not acceptable in my mind. I have been paying line charges on the understanding that it pays the running costs of the network along with keeping the network fit for purpose. As a requirement of the network owner, the Dunedin City Council, profits or loans were redirected to them. This was money that would have been available for network maintenance and upgrades.

It is apparent that future proofing, has not been occurring and that there has been no accountability by the boards and management in the past to ensure that the network is kept up to standard.

Having previously worked for [REDACTED], I often asked why equipment that was too dangerous to be operated or not adequate for the purpose it was destined for. The standard response was that it wasn't in the budget or there was no money available to fix the problem. I was never sure what would happen in the case of an emergency. After being retired for three years I still see some of this equipment, which I can only now assume is still operating in place, including the configuration at Clyde which has been in the news lately.

As an employee had I not performed my duties adequately I am sure I would have been told about it. With that in mind I found it interesting that when the Aurora issues went public, many of the well paid directors and management left.

There has been a lack of accountability now and in the past which has led to the situation we all find ourselves in. For those within the company, who say they were not aware of the situation, this is simply not true as a number of employees tried to communicate their concerns with management and were seemingly ignored.

I accept that the network must be improved, but how the costs can be recovered I am not sure. Maybe, money paid for the previously Dunedin City Council owned power stations which I believe is now in trust and used to benefit the community, could be used to assist Aurora's problems. It seems unjust that the present and future customers should be burdened with the bad decisions from the past.

Regards

[REDACTED]