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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2020 4:46:15 p.m.  
**To:** Feedback Aurora Plan [feedbackauroraplan@comcom.govt.nz]  
**Subject:** Aurora line charges

I am making this submission on behalf of Central Otago Greypower Association.

I attended the meeting in Alexandra on Monday 10th August and felt there was an agreement on the way people were feeling-- angry and let down.

I understand the limitations facing the Commerce Commission but the prices Aurora is expecting people to pay is unreasonable. Many people living in Central Otago are superannuitants and on fixed incomes. This year we have had quite substantial rate rises in some areas and this proposed increase in electricity is the last straw for many. They just cannot afford to pay. Many pensioner flats and townhouses are reliant solely on electricity. As a result people will stop heating their houses, have less showers and do less washing. All of these things are detrimental to good health.

With the worry of Covid 19 and the worry of huge electricity bills, the mental health of some of the older people is at risk.

I read that the line charges should be about 25-30% of the total electricity account. If you look at this proposal the percentage for us rises to well over 60%. There should not be a difference in the increase with Dunedin and Queenstown having a lower lines increase. If the funding model was on distances from the power source, that is from the dams, instead of population based maybe the increases would be different.

I would like to make four suggestions:

1. That Aurora go back to the drawing board and to the Dunedin City Council to find another way to raise the money needed to make the network safe.
2. That Aurora's efficiency be looked into. Not all workers need a separate vehicle to get to the same job.
3. That some help is made available to people on fixed incomes, either an increase in benefits or help from Central Lakes.
4. That the network be sold for \$1 to a company that can deliver what is needed at a reasonable price.

Mr Bradfod has a lot to answer to after pushing for deregulation in 1999. This was supposed to give cheaper electricity to all. What a joke!

I do hope the Commerce Commission will find a way to ease the burden on Aurora's customers

Sincerely

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[REDACTED]