

# COUNTIES POWER CONSUMER TRUST

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## **Levy Consultations 2020: Counties Power Consumer Trust submission**

Our trust supports the ETNZ submission on this issue. While Counties Power is exempt from Part 4 price-quality regulation, as a consumer-owned trust we have a focus on ensuring that regulation of New Zealand's electricity industry is efficient and cost-effective.

We endorse ETNZ's acknowledgement of the sensible and progressive effort the Commission has been making to develop workstreams and approaches that assist and empower consumers, and that also assist electricity distributors and asset owners. However, like ETNZ, we believe that countervailing savings should be considered to reduce the size of the levy proposed increases.

Reducing compliance costs to help offset any levy increases would be a positive move, and consultation on options for achieving this would be useful ahead of any such increases.

We note the emerging cost pressures facing electricity distributors that are identified in the Commission's consultation paper. Recognition that these pressures exist is a positive trend.

Yours faithfully,



Christine Rupp  
Chair