

Programme for input methodologies review forum

29-30 July 2015

The forum is being conducted in the problem definition phase of the input methodologies review. The forum is being held to promote the sharing of ideas at this stage and to give stakeholders an opportunity to present on issues as they see them. The forum aims to allow open discussion and exchange of information between all parties. Therefore, the thinking we express at the forum will simply represent preliminary views for the purpose of stimulating discussion, rather than a formal Commission position at this stage.

Day 1

Time	Session								
9.00 – 9.15	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>Dr Mark Berry, Chairman, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Keston Ruxton, Manager, Input Methodologies Review, Commerce Commission</i></p>								
9.15 – 10.30	<p>Stakeholders' 5-minute statements</p> <p>Energy stakeholders to present their top three issues with the input methodologies.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Ralph Matthes, MEUG</i></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Alison Andrew, Transpower</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Richard Hale, MGUG</i></td> <td><i>Simon Mackenzie, Vector</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Richard Fletcher, Powerco</i></td> <td><i>Greg Skelton, Wellington Electricity</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>David Freeman-Greene, Orion</i></td> <td><i>Nathan Strong, Unison</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>Ralph Matthes, MEUG</i>	<i>Alison Andrew, Transpower</i>	<i>Richard Hale, MGUG</i>	<i>Simon Mackenzie, Vector</i>	<i>Richard Fletcher, Powerco</i>	<i>Greg Skelton, Wellington Electricity</i>	<i>David Freeman-Greene, Orion</i>	<i>Nathan Strong, Unison</i>
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10.30 – 10.45	MORNING TEA								
10.45 – 11.15	<p>Decision-making framework</p> <p>Commission staff will present initial thinking on a decision-making framework for the input methodologies review, and for considering changes to the input methodologies more generally. This follows the release of a discussion document sharing our initial thinking on these areas on Wednesday 22 July 2015. In presenting our initial thinking on framework matters, we hope to inform stakeholders' written submissions on our decision-making framework for the review.</p> <p><i>Susannah Sharpe, Senior Legal Counsel, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Scott Pearse-Smith, Senior Analyst, Commerce Commission</i></p>								
11.15 – 1.00	<p>Risk allocation mechanisms under price-quality paths</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to provide some context to help consider issues about risk allocation in a holistic way. We will set out our approach to risk allocation in a regulatory context. The panel will then present their views on specific mechanisms that have an influence on risk allocation, such as the form of regulatory control. We hope this will help stakeholders identify, challenge, and consider alternative views regarding the existing risk allocation, and possible changes to regulatory mechanisms that affect it.</p> <p><i>Calum Gunn, Principal Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>James Marshall, Senior Economist, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Megan Willcox, Regulatory Projects Manager, Wellington Electricity</i> <i>Greg Houston, HoustonKemp, on behalf of ENA</i> <i>Nathan Strong, General Manager Business Assurance, Unison</i> <i>Ralph Matthes, Executive Director, MEUG</i> <i>Richard Hale, Hale & Twomey, on behalf of MGUG</i></p>								

1.00 – 1.40	LUNCH
1.40 – 3.10	<p>Emerging technology – part 1</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to invite stakeholders to help us understand the potential future impact of emerging technologies in the sector, and how it is regulated. Our introduction will be followed by presentations from a diverse range of organisations. We hope this will help us all discover, challenge and moderate views regarding regulatory implications of ongoing technological developments.</p> <p><i>John Groot, Principal Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Diego Villalobos, Senior Economist, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Paul Atkins, Chair, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)</i> <i>John Hancock, Secretariat, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)</i> <i>Ryno Verster, Member, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)</i> <i>Glenn Coates, Strategic Planning Manager, Orion</i> <i>Andre Botha, Chief Networks Officer, Vector</i> <i>David de Boer, NZIER, on behalf of MEUG</i> <i>Greg Houston, HoustonKemp, on behalf of ENA</i> <i>Ross Parry, Regulatory Strategy and Pricing Manager, Transpower</i></p>
3.10 – 3.25	AFTERNOON TEA
3.25 – 3.55	<p>Emerging technology – part 2</p> <p>Question and answer session facilitated by the Commission and drawing on the presenters from Emerging technology – part 1, and any other participant attending the forum.</p>
3.55 – 4.55	<p>Complexity and compliance costs</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to discuss the potential to reduce unwarranted complexity and compliance costs in relation to the input methodologies.</p> <p><i>Grant Weston, Acting Team Leader, Market Assessment and Dairy, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Lynne Taylor, Director PwC, on behalf of ENA</i> <i>Jeremy Cain, Regulatory Affairs and Pricing Manager, Transpower</i></p>
4.55 – 5.30	<p>Wrap up from energy stakeholders</p> <p>Energy stakeholders to reflect on the day.</p> <p><i>Ralph Matthes, MEUG</i> <i>Richard Hale, MGUG</i> <i>Richard Fletcher, Powerco</i> <i>David Freeman-Greene, Orion</i></p> <p><i>Alison Andrew, Transpower</i> <i>Simon Mackenzie, Vector</i> <i>Greg Skelton, Wellington Electricity</i> <i>Nathan Strong, Unison</i></p>
5.30 – 6.30	NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY

Day 2

Time	Session
9.10 – 9.20	<p>Introduction to day 2</p> <p><i>Keston Ruxton, Manager, Input Methodologies Review, Commerce Commission</i></p>
9.20 – 10.20	<p>Interactions between DPPs and CPPs</p> <p>Discussion of issues relating to the substantive input methodologies for customised price-quality paths (CPPs) that are potential barriers for suppliers to consider a CPP. Key topics include the misalignment of the weighted average cost of capital for default price-quality paths (DPPs) and CPPs, and the potential for CPPs that are limited in scope (eg, single –issue CPP). We will also provide an update on our recent decision to fast track consideration of whether to align the weighted average cost of capital for CPPs with the weighted average cost of capital for DPPs.</p> <p><i>John Groot, Principal Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Ralph Matthes, Executive Director, MEUG</i> <i>Richard Hale, Hale & Twomey, on behalf of MGUG</i> <i>Greg Skelton, Chief Executive Officer, Wellington Electricity</i> <i>Jelle Sjoerdsma, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, Gas Transmission, Maui Development Limited</i> <i>Richard Fletcher, GM Regulation and Government Relations, Powerco</i></p>
10.20 – 10.35	MORNING TEA
10.35 – 12.05	<p>Cost-effectiveness of the rules and processes for CPP applications</p> <p>Discussion of issues relating to the rules and process requirements for customised price-quality path (CPP) proposals for the electricity distribution and gas sectors. A key topic is the complexity and costs associated with CPP information and process requirements, and how rules in this area might be better targeted to suit both the Commission and applicants, and promote the long-term benefit of consumers. We will also provide an update on our recent decision to fast track consideration of potential amendments to the process requirement input methodologies for CPPs for electricity distribution services and gas pipeline services.</p> <p><i>Simon Copland, Chief Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Dennis Jones, Industry Developments Manager (Commercial), Orion</i> <i>Geoff Brown, Geoff Brown & Associates Ltd</i> <i>Bill Heaps, Managing Director, Strata Energy Consulting Limited</i> <i>Oliver Vincent, Acting Regulatory Manager, Powerco</i> <i>Lynne Taylor, Director PwC, on behalf of ENA</i></p>
12.05 – 1.05	LUNCH
1.05 – 1.25	<p>Introduction to airports focused sessions</p> <p><i>John McLaren, Manager, Compliance and Performance Analysis, Commerce Commission</i></p>

1.25 – 1.55	<p>Stakeholders' statements Airports stakeholders to present their top three issues with the input methodologies.</p> <p><i>Charles Spillane, AIAL</i> <i>Martin Harrington, WIAL</i> <i>Michael Singleton, CIAL</i></p> <p><i>Craig Shrive, on behalf of NZ Airports</i> <i>Sean Ford, Air NZ</i> <i>Kristina Cooper, BARNZ</i></p>
1.55 – 2.30	<p>Profitability assessment – the challenge Our perspective on the challenges associated with assessing profitability, and the extent to which the current input methodologies can accommodate different pricing approaches.</p> <p><i>John McLaren, Manager, Compliance and Performance Analysis, Commerce Commission</i> <i>Hamish Groves, Commerce Commission</i></p>
2.30 – 2.45	AFTERNOON TEA
2.45 – 3.10	<p>Alternative depreciation – current rules and implications CIAL's perspective on its recent Price Setting Event, including the change from a rolling 20 year period where the return on capital varied over time, to a fixed pricing period with variations to the return of capital (depreciation profile) over time.</p> <p><i>Tim May, Chief Financial Officer, Christchurch International Airport Limited (CIAL)</i></p>
3.10 – 3.25	<p>Initial regulatory asset value for land Proposal from AIAL on how to determine the initial regulatory asset value for land following the High Court decision.</p> <p><i>Adrienne Darling, Aeronautical Pricing Manager, Auckland International Airport (AIAL)</i></p>
3.25 – 3.50	<p>Treatment of unforecast land revaluations Perspective from BARNZ on approaches airports have adopted to forecast changes in land values, the extent to which unforecast revaluation gains should be taken into account in profitability assessments, and—if so—when and how this could be achieved.</p> <p><i>Kristina Cooper, Legal and Regulatory Manager, Board of Airline Representatives (BARNZ)</i> <i>Aaron Schiff, Schiff Consulting, on behalf of BARNZ</i></p>
3.50 – 4.15	<p>Land held for future use as a second runway Perspective from AIAL on the potential regulatory treatment of land held for future use as a second runway.</p> <p><i>Simon Robertson, Chief Financial Officer, Auckland International Airport (AIAL)</i></p>
4.15 – 4.35	<p>Regulatory treatment of runway extension Perspective from WIAL on the potential regulatory treatment of the proposed runway extension.</p> <p><i>Martin Harrington, Chief Financial Officer, Wellington International Airport (WIAL)</i></p>
4.35 – 5.00	<p>Wrap up Reflections on the afternoon</p> <p><i>John McLaren, Manager, Compliance and Performance Analysis, Commerce Commission</i></p>

Next steps

Presentations will be published on the Commission's website following the forum.

A transcription of the forum will also be published on the Commission's website, as soon as practicable.

Written submissions on the invitation to contribute to problem definition paper are due on 21 August 2015.

Cross-submissions are due on 4 September 2015.

Following consideration of submissions and cross-submissions, the Commission will provide a process update in September.

Speakers' biographies

Alison Andrew, Chief Executive, Transpower

Alison joined Transpower in 2014. She has held a number of senior executive roles across various industry sectors including Global Head of Chemicals for Orica, Chief Executive of Lexicon Group, and has also been a Director for Genesis Energy. Prior to these roles, she held a number of senior roles at Fonterra Cooperative Group and Fletcher Challenge Energy. Alison has a MBA from Warwick.

Paul Atkins, Chair, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)

Paul is the inaugural Chair of the NZSGF and CEO of the National Energy Research Institute. He has held senior positions in the commercial, not-for-profit and government sectors, and holds post-graduate qualifications in physics, business management and marketing management.

Dr Mark Berry, Chairman, Commerce Commission

Dr Mark Berry was appointed Chairman in April 2009. His current term extends until 31 March 2019. Mark is a former partner of law firm Bell Gully and former consultant with Chapman Tripp. Mark has been in practice as a barrister sole since 2002 and holds a doctorate from Columbia University, New York.

Andre Botha, Chief Networks Officer, Vector

Andre's role as Chief Networks Officer oversees customer, commercial, engineering and regulatory aspects of Vector's regulated gas and electricity networks businesses. Andre's experience includes customer service, field services, capital projects, regulatory affairs, engineering, smart grids implementation, and work practices development & training for distribution and transmission networks. Andre has a proven track record of working successfully at an executive level in the energy sector, and has over 25 years' experience in the energy industry in South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

Geoff Brown, Geoff Brown & Associates Ltd

Geoff led the team that verified Orion's CPP application. He is an electrical engineer who has provided technical input into the economic regulation of electricity transmission and distribution businesses in New Zealand, Australia, and the Philippines and is also involved in rural electrification in developing countries.

Jeremy Cain, Regulatory Affairs and Pricing Manager, Transpower

Jeremy joined Transpower in 2012. He is a policy and regulatory specialist with a background in telecoms, spectrum policy and postal services. Jeremy joined Transpower from Telecom NZ (Spark/Chorus) and prior to that Jeremy worked in London for 7 years, most recently as a principal advisor with Ofcom, the UK's media and communications sector regulator.

Glenn Coates, Strategic Planning Manager, Orion

Glenn has been in the electricity sector for 25 years including 2 years with Transpower system operations. He has been responsible for Orion network planning since April 2004. In addition to traditional network planning functions, his role includes responsibility for the purchase of Transpower spur assets and providing strategic insight for Orion's demand side management systems. Glenn also provided a major contribution to Orion's post-earthquake CPP application. Glenn is a University of Canterbury qualified electrical engineer.

Kristina Cooper, Legal and Regulatory Manager, Board of Airline Representatives (BARNZ)

Kristina holds a legal degree and has been working with BARNZ on regulatory and pricing issues since 1998, steering BARNZ members through numerous consultations over charges and capital expenditure projects with New Zealand's international Airports, Avsec, CAA and Airways as well as through several Commerce Commission inquiries into airport pricing.

Simon Copland, Chief Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission

Simon is a Chief Adviser in the Regulation Branch and has worked with the Commerce Commission since 2008. He was formerly a director at PricewaterhouseCoopers and has 20 years of consulting experience in the public and private sectors. He is a Chartered Accountant and Certified Practising Accountant in New Zealand and Australia.

Adrienne Darling, Aeronautical Pricing Manager, Auckland International Airport (AIAL)

Adrienne has been with Auckland Airport for 10 years. She has been involved in the past two price setting events and has experience with Part 4 regulation as it applies to airports. Adrienne has previously worked in management consulting roles and holds a BCom (Hons) from the University of Auckland.

David de Boer, NZIER, on behalf of MEUG

David joined NZIER in February 2011 with nearly 15 years of experience as a consulting economist. He has a record of significant contribution to the success of major projects and developments in client companies. David has considerable commercial experience that provides a quality foundation from which his consulting career has grown. From 1989 to 1997 he was employed by Telecom New Zealand in a number of senior roles; as Pricing Manager he was responsible for matters relating to the economics of Telecom decisions regarding investments and products and services; as Financial Performance Manager he was responsible for the financial management of the business operations of Telecom in New Zealand and he was very influential in the business development of the internet in New Zealand. David has also conducted a broad range of economic research and in partnership with others has published a number of papers, mainly in the ICT field.

Richard Fletcher, General Manager Regulation and Government Relations, Powerco

Richard joined Powerco in 2011 as General Manager Regulation and Government Relations. He is responsible for managing policy interactions with the company's economic and technical regulators, as well as corporate relations with official stakeholders. Prior to joining Powerco, Richard was Regulatory Strategy and Pricing Manager at Transpower NZ Ltd and has worked in the United Kingdom, Middle East and South East Asia, initially as an environmental engineering consultant in various commercial management roles in the water and electricity regulated network sectors. From 2000 to 2005, Richard was Head of Economic Regulation at Welsh Water PLC. Richard has a Doctorate in chemical engineering from University of Cardiff.

Sean Ford, Manager Aeronautical Suppliers, Air New Zealand

Sean has been with Air New Zealand since 1999, and has been involved in airport pricing issues, both in New Zealand and offshore, for a number of years. This experience includes involvement in policy development leading to the inclusion of airports in the Part 4 regulatory regime in New Zealand as well as design of the input methodologies. Sean is a member of IATA's Airports Working Group which is tasked with developing strategy and priorities to guide IATA's work on airport charges and development globally. Prior to joining Air New Zealand, Sean worked on aviation policy issues for the Ministry of Transport.

David Freeman-Greene, General Manager Commercial, Orion

David leads Orion's commercial team, which manages regulatory matters and compliance, industry relationships, pricing, billing, investment analysis and customer relationships. David has a broad legal, commercial and regulatory background with over 13 years in the telecommunications sector and, prior to that, was in private practice as a lawyer.

John Groot, Principal Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission

John has worked with the Commerce Commission since 2010. He is a Chartered Accountant and Barrister and Solicitor. John's previous roles include at the Treasury on regulatory and tax policy, and monitoring of commercial enterprises, and in the finance team at Telecom.

Hamish Groves, Commerce Commission

Hamish has worked with the Commission on Part 4 regulation since 2008. His experience also includes assisting in the preparation of a 5 year regulatory expenditure proposal for Transpower. Hamish is a Chartered Accountant who has held local and international positions with PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Calum Gunn, Principal Adviser, Regulation, Commerce Commission

Calum has been with the Commerce Commission since 2003, and was involved in the project to set the original IMs. His previous experience includes working as an energy consultant in both NZ and the US, and he has post-graduate qualifications in economics and engineering.

Richard Hale, Hale & Twomey, on behalf of MGUG

Hale & Twomey Ltd is a New Zealand based consultancy providing strategic advice and services to the energy sector, with a focus on oil and gas. H&T also (jointly with Arete Consulting Ltd) provides representation and advocacy services for the Major Gas Users Group, a group comprising major industrials in New Zealand as consumers of natural gas. Members include Ballance Agri-Nutrients Ltd, Carter Holt Harvey Ltd, Fonterra Co-operative Group, New Zealand Steel Ltd and Refining NZ. Representation services extend to the regulatory framework for gas pipeline businesses, including Part 4 of the Commerce Act.

John Hancock, Secretariat, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)

John is the Secretariat to the NZSMG. He works as a consultant to utility companies and their suppliers and is also retained as the independent Chair of the Electricity Authority's Wholesale Advisory Group and has a 20 year career in the utilities industry including 14 years with Ernst & Young, Capgemini and Hewlett Packard in the Asia Pacific. John supported several NZ lines businesses managing the establishment and operation of the Part 4 regime since the Caygill Inquiry in 2000.

Martin Harrington, Chief Financial Officer, Wellington International Airport (WIAL)

Martin is the Chief Financial Officer for Wellington International Airport having joined the company in December 2008. His responsibilities include managing the regulatory affairs for the airport. Previously from London, he has over 25 years' experience across various industry sectors, including aviation, shipping, tourism, banking, and the financial services sector. He is a Chartered Accountant and holds a Bachelor of Science.

Bill Heaps, Managing Director, Strata Energy Consulting Limited

Bill Heaps is Managing Director of Wellington based Strata Energy Consulting. Bill is an electrical engineer, business executive and company director with broad experience in major infrastructure and energy supply businesses. Bill has held senior executive positions in the generation, transmission, distribution and retail businesses. His recent work has included regulatory reviews of transmission and distribution businesses in Australia, Singapore, and New Zealand.

Greg Houston, HoustonKemp, on behalf of ENA

Greg is a founding partner of HoustonKemp. He is an expert in the economics of competition, finance, policy and regulation. Greg has played a substantial role in regulatory regimes governing communications, energy, transport and water services in Australia and the Asia Pacific region. His clients include governments, regulators, suppliers and trade associations. Greg is a member of the Competition and Consumer Committee of the Law Council of Australia.

Dennis Jones, Industry Developments Manager (Commercial), Orion

Dennis Jones has been in the electricity sector for 42 years. Over that time he has been engaged in a wide variety of roles including commissioning and fault location on HV equipment, SCADA systems and metering systems before moving to a system planning role. This was followed by more commercially focused roles in development of retail and distribution pricing arrangements, purchase of energy and hedge products from a fledgling electricity market, advising major customers on energy efficiency including carrying out energy audits. Since the start of the energy market Dennis has become more involved in regulatory work and has been on a number of industry working groups. Dennis originally trained in Manchester and holds an honours degree in electrical engineering from the University of Canterbury.

Simon Mackenzie, Group Chief Executive, Vector

Simon was appointed Group Chief Executive in February 2008 and has been with Vector for 16 years. He has extensive experience in the infrastructure sector, including strategy, regulation, network management, information technology and telecommunications. In addition to international experience in the construction and consultancy sectors, Simon has tertiary qualifications in engineering, finance and business studies, and has completed the Advanced Management Program at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

James Marshall, Senior Economist, Regulation, Commerce Commission

James has been with the Commerce Commission since 2013. He works across different aspects of Part 4 regulation and was involved in setting the most recent default price-quality paths for electricity distributors. Previously he worked for a UK consultancy that specialises in economic and policy advice to the energy sector.

Ralph Matthes, Executive Director, MEUG

Ralph is the Executive Director of the Major Electricity Users' Group. He has previously worked for Ernst & Young as an energy consultant and the Ministry of Energy. Ralph has a B.Sc. from the University of Canterbury and a Diploma in Business Administration from Victoria University Wellington.

Tim May, Chief Financial Officer, Christchurch International Airport Limited (CIAL)

Tim joined Christchurch Airport in March 2012 in the role of Chief Financial Officer and for the past two years has had extensive involvement in the airport's Information Disclosure Regulation requirements under Part 4 regulation. Prior to joining Christchurch Airport, Tim was a partner of international accounting firm EY.

John McLaren, Manager, Compliance and Performance Analysis, Commerce Commission

John has been at the Commission since 2008. Originally John worked on establishing the input methodologies and more recently has been involved with the airports summary and analysis work. Prior to the Commission, John worked as an economist for the Scottish government.

Ross Parry, Regulatory Strategy and Pricing Manager, Transpower

Ross joined Transpower in 2012 as Regulatory Strategy and Pricing Manager, and has recently taken on a broader strategy and planning role within Transpower. He has a background in regulatory affairs, policy and engineering. Ross joined Transpower from Genesis Energy where he led a team of regulatory affairs and environmental policy specialists.

Scott Pearse-Smith, Senior Analyst, Commerce Commission

Scott has been with the Commerce Commission for over two years, working in the area of Part 4 regulation. He is a qualified lawyer, and was previously a solicitor at a leading New Zealand law firm.

Simon Robertson, Chief Financial Officer, Auckland International Airport (AIAL)

Simon has been the Chief Financial Officer of Auckland Airport since 2009, having joined the airport in 2005. He is responsible for managing the airport's corporate strategy, financial affairs and business technology. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce from The University of Auckland and is a chartered accountant.

Keston Ruxton, Manager, Input Methodologies Review, Commerce Commission

Keston has been with the Commerce Commission since 2009. Key projects she has been involved in include the setting of the IMs, reviewing Orion's CPP application, and project manager for the Telecommunications Final Pricing Principle – draft determinations for UBA and UCLL services.

Aaron Schiff, Schiff Consulting, on behalf of the Board of Airline Representatives (BARNZ)

Aaron is an independent consulting economist and has a PhD in economics from the University of Auckland. He has 13 years of consulting experience and has advised clients on a wide range of regulatory issues in the airports, electricity, and telecommunications sectors.

Susannah Sharpe, Senior Legal Counsel, Commerce Commission

Susannah joined the Commission's Regulatory Branch legal team this year. Prior to this she spent 6 years at Transpower in both corporate counsel and management roles. She has also held other in-house counsel roles in government and worked in civil litigation.

Craig Shrive, Partner, Russell McVeagh's, on behalf of NZ Airports

Craig is a Partner in Russell McVeagh's Public, Regulatory and Competition Group. He advised clients on the law reform process leading to the introduction of Part 4, and since then has assisted with their engagement on the development of input methodologies and other Part 4 projects. He will participate in the forum on behalf of NZ Airports.

Michael Singleton, General Manager Legal and Corporate Affairs, Christchurch International Airport

Michael joined Christchurch Airport in July 2012 and holds the role General Manager Legal and Corporate Affairs. Michael oversees all legal aspects of CIAL's activities and has responsibility for CIAL's regulatory strategy and compliance, insurance, company secretarial/board services and human resource functions.

Jelle Sjoerdsma, Manager of Regulatory Affairs, Gas Transmission, Maui Development Limited

Jelle is Manager of Regulatory Affairs for the Gas Transmission Business of Maui Development Limited since 2010. He previously worked in management consulting, corporate finance, and venture capital in the Netherlands, Belgium and Trinidad; including a secondment to the Telecommunications Directorate of the European Commission. He has an MSc degree (nuclear physics) from Delft University of Technology, an MBA ("with Honors") degree from the University of Chicago, and is a CFA charterholder.

Greg Skelton, Chief Executive Officer, Wellington Electricity

Greg has been Chief Executive of Wellington Electricity since 2009. Prior to this he was Chief Executive of Alpine Energy Ltd and held other senior management roles in the electricity industry. Greg has over 30 years of experience in the fields of production engineering, electrical engineering and business management. Greg holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering, a Master's degree in Business Administration and is a Fellow of the Institute of Professional Engineers of New Zealand.

Charles Spillane, General Manager Corporate Affairs and General Counsel, Auckland International Airport (AIAL)

Charles is the senior legal adviser and corporate secretary for Auckland Airport, with responsibilities that cover corporate communications, governance, government relations, share registry, risk management and insurance. Before joining the airport in 2002, Charles practised law at Russell McVeagh. He holds a BA and LLB (Hons) from The University of Auckland.

Nathan Strong, General Manager Business Assurance, Unison

Nathan Strong has over fourteen years' experience in electricity regulation including working for the Commerce Commission, CRA International, Vector and, latterly, Unison. A member of Unison's executive team, Nathan oversees risk management, business continuity, insurance, health and safety, legal, network pricing and regulatory management activities. He also chairs the Electricity Network's Association's Regulatory Working Group.

Lynne Taylor, Director PwC, on behalf of ENA

Lynne Taylor is a Director in PwC's Finance and Economic practice, specialising in utility regulation, valuation and pricing. She is also head of Energy Markets Strategy for PwC in New Zealand. Lynne has been involved in regulation of electricity lines and gas pipeline businesses since the initial information disclosure regimes in the 1990s and was actively involved in the 2010 Input Methodology consultation. Since then she has contributed to the subsequent IM amendments and information disclosure and price-quality determinations for electricity and gas businesses, including assisting Orion New Zealand with preparing its CPP application and in responding to the Commission's assessment of the proposal.

Ryno Verster, member, New Zealand Smart Grid Forum (NZSGF)

Ryno is the managing director of Sinika Ltd, advising on asset management strategy for energy utilities. He was previously the Acting Group General Manager: Asset Investment for Vector Ltd, responsible for the asset management and long-term network development plans. He is a member of the NZSGF and has served on several working groups for the Electricity Networks Association. Ryno has over 25 years energy industry experience, working internationally on large infrastructure projects, company and asset valuation, regulatory rule-setting and price determinations, and more recently on developing network strategies in response to what is likely to be a major transformation of the energy industry.

Diego Villalobos, Senior Economist, Regulation, Commerce Commission

Diego joined the Commission's economics team this year. Previously he worked on economic regulation and competition matters, first as a consultant at Oxera, and then at Ofgem. He trained as an economist in Spain and France, and has a Master in Public Policy from the University of Chicago.

Oliver Vincent, Acting Regulatory Manager, Powerco

Oliver is currently the Acting Regulatory Manager for Powerco and has been with the company since 2010. In his time at Powerco, Oliver has worked across a variety of analyst roles in the business and regulatory areas. His current focus is on providing regulatory support to Powerco with a focus on policy matters in both the gas and electricity distribution space.

Grant Weston, Acting Team Leader, Market Assessment and Dairy, Commerce Commission

Grant started at the Commerce Commission in 2010 when the IMs were first being determined. He has been closely involved in the setting of the price-quality paths for Transpower and Orion. He is now leading the work on the review of complexity and compliance costs and the effectiveness review of the IMs. Grant is a Chartered Accountant and before joining the Commission was a corporate tax partner for 20 years at PwC.

Megan Willcox, Regulatory Projects Manager, Wellington Electricity

Megan has been providing regulatory support to Wellington Electricity since 2012. She also provides regulatory support to Victoria Power Networks in Australia. Megan has also worked for the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and prior to that was employed by Ministry of Primary Industries with a focus on the Dairy Industry Restructuring Act. Megan has a Masters in Economics from Oxford University.