

Distributor involvement in the flexibility services market.

Once again I ask who has been consulted about this industry led initiative aside from "stakeholders" who have an economic imperative - self interest? Kiwi households should be the imperative. As you read this I am enquiring of EECA as follows;

"Please advise if any household consumer representative groups have made submissions or been consulted on their view of gas and or electricity supply to EECA in the past 5 years"

As might be expected EECA have requested me to more closely define the information I am seeking. They advise me (two writers to date) that the Official Information Act 1982 is being applied. Were I pre-judgmental or just mental I would be proclaiming their studies are flawed by reason of industry bias which permeates the organisation thinking. As an elderly household consumer

I know good things take time so I will wait quietly for the outcome of the formal OIA exercise.

Returning to Te Mana Hiko and the 48 hour response imperative today let me concur with this finding;

"The electricity system is changing rapidly. Renewable generation is growing, bringing greater variability and intermittency. At the same time, overall demand is projected to rise as gas supply declines, transport electrifies, and more industrial and commercial processes transition to electric..."

World events dictate that smaller nations must begin looking for self sufficiency and energy is a key part of that.

NZ has a reliable oversupply (by 10%) of hydro electricity 24/7 paid for by tax payers last century.

Maybe the Cook Strait cable needs an upgrade; but the technology to send off-peak energy to the city of Sydney Australia exists so why is an upgrade of the Cook Strait cable not being looked at as an option?

Who benefits from imported battery tech and short life (cf hydro generation and transmission)? The purveyors; not the consumers who are being induced (by hard sell promoters) to believe they will be better off being self sufficient. We know from the SolarZero/ Blackrock collapse in Auckland dependence on overseas control is too big a risk and one that should not be borne by household consumers.

It is not an urban myth that NZ in the war years and 1950's was largely self resilient and , using romantic terminology, had a number 8 wire mentality. I still have a coil in my garage and it is not for sale.

Finally it is my unresearched opinion that the electricity industry needs more input from consumer groups before it begins investing their future and money in unproven new technology.

I accept gas will be phased out. I do not however accept that NZ has insufficient hydro electricity generation capacity to get beyond the next two quinquinial Default Price-Quality Path resets.

Yours faithfully

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