

31 October 2023

s9(2)(a)

By email: s9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe s9(2)(a)

Thank you for your request, received on 9 October 2023, for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- “1. The quarterly total number of disconnections of residential post-pay consumers for non-payment for 1 January 2022 through to 30 September 2023.*
- 2. The quarterly total number of disconnections of residential post-pay consumers for non-payment as a percentage of each retailer’s total residential consumers from 1 January 2022 through to 30 September 2023.*
- 3. Any information the Electricity Authority has on the number of automatic disconnections (also known as self-disconnections) of residential pre-pay consumers, preferably by quarter, from 1 January 2018 through to 30 September 2023.*

The Electricity Authority Te Mana Hiko (Authority) has identified 3 documents within scope of your request, these are attached to this letter. Two of the documents identified as Tables 1 and 2 have previously been [published on our website](#) as part of our response to a previous request under the Act. Tables 1 and 2 are included in this letter nevertheless for ease of reference.

Data collection

There are some limitations on the information we can provide to you. The Authority does not collect or hold:

- any data that differentiates between pre and post-pay consumers within a retailer;
- any data on reconnection of consumers who were previously disconnected for non-payment; or
- data on automatic disconnections (also known as self-disconnections).

The Authority has collected:

- Quarterly total number of domestic disconnections for non-payment by retailer provided voluntarily to the Authority by retailers,
- Quarterly residential disconnections for non-payment by retailer (collected under section 46 of the Electricity Industry Act 2010 during the COVID-19 pandemic), and
- Quarterly retailer financial stress residential disconnections for non-payment.

The methods of collection for this data are different. This data is presented in the 3 tables attached to this letter. The data in table 1 was collected voluntarily from retailers and collection of this information has now stopped. The data in table 2 was collected under section 46 of the Electricity Industry Act and therefore retailers had a mandatory obligation to supply it. The data in table 3 was collected under clause 2.16 of the Electricity Industry Participation Code 2010 (Code) and therefore retailers had a mandatory obligation to supply it. There is overlap and discrepancies

between the three tables. As the methodology for the collection for these three tables all differ, they cannot be used to make statistical inferences.

Please also note that a consumer that is disconnected multiple times within each quarter will have each disconnection counted as a separate disconnection within that quarter. Additionally, this data only reflects what retailers send at that moment in time. These figures can change retrospectively within retailers' systems, but we do not receive those updates.

Table 1: Quarterly total number of domestic disconnections for non-payment by retailer

This table shows the total number of disconnections for non-payment by retailer from Quarter 1 2022 to Quarter 1 2023.

This data was supplied on a voluntary basis and not all retailers are represented in this dataset. When a retailer has not submitted data for a particular period the relevant cell has been left blank to indicate missing data. The Authority has stopped collecting this data.

Please note, the data does not distinguish between prepay and post-pay consumers and does not include instances where a consumer is disconnected because they have not topped up their prepay meter (i.e. self-disconnections).

Historical records for this data can be found at <https://www.emi.ea.govt.nz/Retail/Datasets/Disconnections>

Table 2: Quarterly residential disconnections for non-payment by retailer

This table shows for each retailer the total number of disconnections for non-payment and the percentage of their residential consumers that were disconnected between Quarter 1 2022 and Quarter 3 2022.

This data was collected under section 46 of the Electricity Industry Act for the period 1 January 2019 - 30 September 2022 and only applied to a selected number of retailers.

This data does not distinguish between prepay or post-pay consumers.

Table 3: Quarterly retailer financial stress residential disconnections for non-payment:

This table shows the number of residential Installation Control Points (ICPs) that have been disconnected for non-payment for a period of more than 24 hours by retailer between Quarter 4 2022 and Quarter 3 2023.

This data was collected under clause 2.16 of the Code through a notice titled 'Retailer Financial Stress Notice' and only applied to retailers that have 1000 or more ICPs registered to them.

This data does not distinguish between prepay or post-pay consumers. Some quarters in the supplied dataset are missing one month of submission data for some retailers which is indicated in the 'Submission Count' column. This is due to delays in those retailers' submissions which prevented the data from being captured through the regular automated processes.

Your requests

In the light of the above, please find below the Authority's response to your requests.

Requests 1 and 2:

The information in tables 1, 2 and 3 can be used to calculate the quarterly total number of disconnections of residential consumers for non-payment for the period from 1 January 2022 to 30 September 2023 (request 1) and the quarterly total number of disconnections of residential

consumers for non-payment as a percentage of each retailer's total residential consumers from 1 January 2022 to 30 September 2023 (request 2). Please note that calculations made using this data would not be necessarily reflective of the entire retail market.

Request 3:

The Authority does not hold any specific data on the number of automatic disconnections (also known as self-disconnections). This request is therefore declined under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss this decision or any of the information we have provided to you with us, please feel free to contact us by emailing oia@ea.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Airihi Mahuika', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Airihi Mahuika
GM Legal, Monitoring and Compliance

Table 1: Quarterly total number of domestic disconnections for non-payment by retailer

This data was provided voluntarily to the Electricity Authority by retailers

	Bosco	Club Energy	Contact	Ecotricity	Electric Kiwi	EMH Trade	Energy On-line	Flick Energy	Genesis	Giving Energy	Glo-Bug	Hunet Energy	ID Power	King Country Energy	Meridian	Mercury	Nextgen	Nova Energy	Payless Energy	Pioneer	Plus Energy	Powershop	Pulse	Supercharged	Switch Utilities	The Lines Co	TrustPower	OurPower	Wise Pre Pay	Total for all retailers		
																														Number	%	
Q1 22			0.2 %		0.1 %		0.7 %	###	0.3 %		0.0 %	0.9 %			0.0 %	0.1 %		0.0 %		0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	6 %		0.0 %	Notlong er direct billing	0.1 %		#DI V/0!	3,464	0.18%	
Q2 22			0.2 %		###		0.3 %	###	0.2 %		0.0 %	0.1 %			###	0.0 %		0.0 %		#DI V/0!	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.5 %		0.0 %	Notlong er direct billing	0.1 %		#DI V/0!	2,421	#DIV/0!	
Q3 22			###		###		0.4 %	###	0.2 %		0.0 %	###			###	0.0 %		###		#DI V/0!	0.0 %	###	0.5 %		0.0 %	Notlong er direct billing	###		#DI V/0!	1,483	#DIV/0!	
Q4 22			###		###		0.4 %	###	0.2 %		0.0 %	###			###	0.1 %		###		#DI V/0!	###	###	###	###		0.0 %	Notlong er direct billing	###		#DI V/0!	1,196	#DIV/0!
Q1 23			0.0 %		0.0 %		0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %		0.0 %	0.0 %			0.0 %	0.0 %		0.0 %		0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %		0.0 %	Notlong er direct billing	0.0 %		0.0 %	1,147	0.00%	

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Table 2: Quarterly residential disconnections for non-payment by retailer

Collected under section 46 (COVID-19)

Quarter Started	Participant Code	Participant Name	Parent Code	Parent Name	Average Billed Res ICPs	Disconnections Less Than 24Hours	Disconnections Less Than 24Hours (%)	Disconnections Greater Than 24Hours	Disconnections Greater Than 24Hours (%)
1/01/2022	CTCT	Contact Energy	CTCT	Contact Energy	362144	238	0.066	358	0.099
1/01/2022	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	74638	17	0.023	24	0.032
1/01/2022	FLCK	Flick Electric	FLCK	Flick Electric	24010	5	0.021	34	0.142
1/01/2022	GENE	Genesis Energy	GENE	Genesis Energy	554646	762	0.137	772	0.139
1/01/2022	MEEN	Mercury	MEEN	Mercury	275100	62	0.023	168	0.061
1/01/2022	MERI	Meridian Energy	MERI	Meridian Energy	125819	10	0.008	32	0.025
1/01/2022	PSNZ	Powershop	MERI	Meridian Energy	100482	8	0.008	42	0.042
1/01/2022	SWCH	Switch	SWCH	Switch	41289	0	0	0	0
1/01/2022	HNET	Hunet Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	6764	0	0	0	0
1/01/2022	TODD	Nova Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	74150	2	0.003	3	0.004
1/01/2022	TRUS	TrustPower	TRUS	TrustPower	219957	31	0.014	16	0.007
1/01/2022	OPHL	Opunake Hydro	WNET	WEL Networks	0	0	0	0	0
1/01/2022	OURP	Ourpower	WNET	WEL Networks	2571	7	0.272	18	0.7
1/04/2022	CTCT	Contact Energy	CTCT	Contact Energy	369940	212	0.057	310	0.084
1/04/2022	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	78598	5	0.006	31	0.039
1/04/2022	FLCK	Flick Electric	FLCK	Flick Electric	22861	13	0.057	20	0.087
1/04/2022	GENE	Genesis Energy	GENE	Genesis Energy	555524	434	0.078	462	0.083
1/04/2022	MEEN	Mercury	MEEN	Mercury	269258	45	0.017	104	0.039
1/04/2022	MERI	Meridian Energy	MERI	Meridian Energy	128971	0	0	21	0.016
1/04/2022	PSNZ	Powershop	MERI	Meridian Energy	100302	8	0.008	28	0.028
1/04/2022	SWCH	Switch	SWCH	Switch	43790	0	0	0	0
1/04/2022	HNET	Hunet Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	6738	0	0	0	0
1/04/2022	TODD	Nova Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	70974	1	0.001	11	0.015
1/04/2022	TRUS	TrustPower	TRUS	TrustPower	66292	11	0.017	5	0.008
1/04/2022	OPHL	Opunake Hydro	WNET	WEL Networks	0	0	0	0	0
1/04/2022	OURP	Ourpower	WNET	WEL Networks	2748	9	0.328	15	0.546
1/07/2022	CTCT	Contact Energy	CTCT	Contact Energy	376694	288	0.076	358	0.095
1/07/2022	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	ELKI	Electric Kiwi	77045	12	0.016	30	0.039
1/07/2022	FLCK	Flick Electric	FLCK	Flick Electric	22733	16	0.07	42	0.185
1/07/2022	GENE	Genesis Energy	GENE	Genesis Energy	600682	600	0.1	443	0.074
1/07/2022	MEEN	Mercury	MEEN	Mercury	274416	13	0.005	68	0.025
1/07/2022	MERI	Meridian Energy	MERI	Meridian Energy	126984	5	0.004	31	0.024
1/07/2022	PSNZ	Powershop	MERI	Meridian Energy	103416	6	0.006	34	0.033
1/07/2022	SWCH	Switch	SWCH	Switch	45801	0	0	0	0
1/07/2022	HNET	Hunet Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	6832	0	0	0	0
1/07/2022	TODD	Nova Energy	TODD	Nova Energy	69952	8	0.011	11	0.016
1/07/2022	TRUS	TrustPower	TRUS	TrustPower	0	0	0	0	0
1/07/2022	OPHL	Opunake Hydro	WNET	WEL Networks	0	0	0	0	0
1/07/2022	OURP	Ourpower	WNET	WEL Networks	2873	24	0.835	32	1.114

Table 3: Quarterly retailer financial stress residential disconnections for non-payment

Quarter started	Participant Code	Participant Name	Submission Count	Disconnections Greater Than 24 Hours	Average Residential ICPs	Disconnections Greater Than 24 Hours (%)
2022-10-01	CTCT	Contact Energy Limited	3	413	382211	0.11
2022-10-01	ELKI	Electric Kiwi Limited	3	32	76884	0.04
2022-10-01	FLCK	Flick Energy Limited	3	36	23843	0.15
2022-10-01	FOGY	For Our Good	2	8	6033	0.13
2022-10-01	GENE	Genesis Energy Limited	3	493	452126	0.11
2022-10-01	CNIR	Manawa Energy Limited	3	0	233	0.00
2022-10-01	MRPL	Mercury NZ Limited	3	1474	525379	0.28
2022-10-01	MERI	Meridian Energy Limited	3	90	241233	0.04
2022-10-01	TODD	Nova Energy Limited	2	13	79030	0.02
2022-10-01	OCTO	Octopus Energy NZ Limited	3	3	5243	0.06
2022-10-01	OURP	Ourpower Limited	3	17	3103	0.55
2022-10-01	PRME	Prime Energy Limited	3	1	343	0.29
2022-10-01	PUNZ	Pulse Energy Alliance LP	2	62	76908	0.08
2022-10-01	SWCH	Switch Utilities Limited	3	128	45943	0.28
2023-01-01	CTCT	Contact Energy Limited	3	289	381301	0.08
2023-01-01	ELKI	Electric Kiwi Limited	3	30	74911	0.04
2023-01-01	FLCK	Flick Energy Limited	3	22	25764	0.09
2023-01-01	FOGY	For Our Good	3	30	7161	0.42
2023-01-01	GENE	Genesis Energy Limited	3	519	454093	0.11
2023-01-01	CNIR	Manawa Energy Limited	3	0	3	0.00
2023-01-01	MRPL	Mercury NZ Limited	3	1231	526927	0.23
2023-01-01	MERI	Meridian Energy Limited	3	37	239272	0.02
2023-01-01	TODD	Nova Energy Limited	3	0	77854	0.00
2023-01-01	OCTO	Octopus Energy NZ Limited	3	3	5988	0.05
2023-01-01	OURP	Ourpower Limited	3	15	3177	0.47
2023-01-01	PRME	Prime Energy Limited	3	1	361	0.28
2023-01-01	PUNZ	Pulse Energy Alliance LP	2	53	76406	0.07
2023-01-01	SWCH	Switch Utilities Limited	3	192	47609	0.40
2023-04-01	CTCT	Contact Energy Limited	3	381	383046	0.10
2023-04-01	ELKI	Electric Kiwi Limited	3	38	72189	0.05
2023-04-01	FLCK	Flick Energy Limited	3	62	28066	0.22
2023-04-01	FOGY	For Our Good	3	30	7875	0.38
2023-04-01	GENE	Genesis Energy Limited	3	718	457077	0.16
2023-04-01	CNIR	Manawa Energy Limited	1	0	1	0.00
2023-04-01	null	Manawa Energy Limited	2	0	null	null
2023-04-01	MRPL	Mercury NZ Limited	3	1685	534220	0.32
2023-04-01	MERI	Meridian Energy Limited	3	82	237404	0.03
2023-04-01	TODD	Nova Energy Limited	3	0	76080	0.00
2023-04-01	OCTO	Octopus Energy NZ Limited	2	0	6632	0.00
2023-04-01	OURP	Ourpower Limited	2	10	2670	0.37
2023-04-01	null	Ourpower Limited	1	0	null	null
2023-04-01	PRME	Prime Energy Limited	3	0	373	0.00
2023-04-01	PUNZ	Pulse Energy Alliance LP	3	89	76863	0.12
2023-04-01	SWCH	Switch Utilities Limited	3	172	48564	0.35
2023-07-01	CTCT	Contact Energy Limited	2	357	388709	0.09
2023-07-01	ELKI	Electric Kiwi Limited	2	26	68970	0.04
2023-07-01	FLCK	Flick Energy Limited	2	54	31762	0.17
2023-07-01	FOGY	For Our Good	2	0	8120	0.00
2023-07-01	GENE	Genesis Energy Limited	2	474	464059	0.10
2023-07-01	null	Manawa Energy Limited	1	0	null	null
2023-07-01	CNIR	Manawa Energy Limited	1	0	1	0.00
2023-07-01	MRPL	Mercury NZ Limited	2	500	537170	0.09
2023-07-01	MERI	Meridian Energy Limited	2	64	236303	0.03
2023-07-01	TODD	Nova Energy Limited	2	0	75033	0.00
2023-07-01	OCTO	Octopus Energy NZ Limited	2	1	6746	0.01
2023-07-01	PRME	Prime Energy Limited	2	0	377	0.00
2023-07-01	PUNZ	Pulse Energy Alliance LP	2	71	77478	0.09
2023-07-01	SWCH	Switch Utilities Limited	2	113	48141	0.23