Submission: Electricity Authority 2025 Green Paper 01-A

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Question 1

Answer: Yes.

An excellent outline that covers the basics of a decentralized electricity system in understandable language.

Question 2

Answer: Yes.

We agree with the three energy outcomes of affordability, security and decarbonisation. However, would add resilience.

Figure 4 is an excellent diagram of the concept and key outcomes. We will use the diagram in public meetings on the Electrifying Waiheke project.

Question 3

Answer: Yes.

We are concerned that the supply issue is to a large extent a result of poor planning and decision-making. For example, the eight data centres planned for Auckland which increase the areas power needs by more than 20 per cent and places an undue burden on the electricity system – generation and distribution – and on tax and ratepayers. This supply/demand fact needs to be mentioned.

The failure of the New Zealand electricity model should be stated. The New Zealand electricity market with generators of electricity also able to be retailers is unique in the OECD. As a result there is no incentive for the firms to prioritize energy affordability or decarbonisatio.

Government can and should support electricity decentralization.

Question 4

Answer: Yes.

Question 5

Answers:

a) Comfortable with the description of a decentralized electricity system

b) In agreement with the potential benefits

c) Would like to see a statement about central and local government changing building regulations to make rooftop solar compulsory on all new builds on appropriate sites.

Suggest the issue of incentives for line companies to become progressive in supporting a more decentralised electricity system could be raised. Unfortunately, many line companies see their customers only as consumers not as consumers and producers. This needs to change.

PS. Many thanks for the excellent Green Paper. It demonstrates what can be done.