

What would you rather?

Deborah Hart March 2024

Article 25.1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states:

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being."



Consumer concerns about affordability

58%

of households were concerned about the cost of power in 2022 65%

of households are concerned about the cost of power in 2023 7%

That's an increase of 7% since December 2022.

21%

of small businesses were feeling the pressure of power bills on their finances in 2022 28%

of small businesses were feeling the pressure of power bills on their finances in 2023 **7**%

That's an increase of 7% since December 2022.



What consumers say is most important





electricity for all New Zealanders 82% households 87% small businesses



Resilience to
extreme weather
events
78% households
87% small businesses



Replacing coal & gas plants with more efficient technology 60% households 64% small businesses



A focus on energy efficiency

Section 54Q of the Commerce Act states:

"the Commerce Commission must promote incentives, and must avoid imposing disincentives, for suppliers of electricity lines services to invest in energy efficiency and demand side management, and to reduce energy losses, when applying this Part in relation to electricity lines services."



Consumer views on new technology

71%

of households interested in new technology to help manage power bills 70%

of households interested in learning about new ways of generating, storing and distributing electricity 43%

of households consider themselves early adopters of new technologies

75%

of small businesses interested in new technology to help manage power bills 70%

of small businesses interested in learning about new ways of generating, storing and distributing electricity 45%

of small businesses consider themselves early adopters of new technologies



Who do we trust, and who can innovate?

47% of Kiwis *embrace green energy*.

of Kiwis think government lacks competence to regulate emerging innovations.

45% trust business to integrate innovation into society

trust government, 40% trusted NGOs and fewer trusted the media - 28%. *Less than global averages*.

53% say technology is changing too quickly.



Some easy wins ...

- Access to metering data gives choices.
- Voltage changes enables more solar.
- LED lightbulbs could light the way to savings.
- Electric vehicle batteries and smart chargers could save money and help the grid in an emergency.
- Incentivise more solar.



Principles for a healthy and functioning market

- 1. Fosters competition and incentivises the allocation of resources towards more renewable generation.
- 2. Has sufficient supply or demand control to meet the increased demand for renewable electricity at any time, including periods of peak demand and dry years.
- 3. The price of electricity must be fair and reasonable such that it is affordable for everyone; and
- 4. Must encourage New Zealand to move toward decarbonisation.



What would you rather?







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