

MINISTERIAL INQUIRY INTO THE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY 016

Mrs D Low
Three Mile Bush Road
RD1
KAMO 0131
February 26 00

The Manager

Before the so called reform” of the electricity industry, Northpower, our local supplier was efficiently run by a board of five (5) people who also managed to give their 44,000 customers rebates.

When Northpower was sold it became a State Owned Enterprise . In other words government forced the sale and then bought it back again - a bit of skulduggery illegal in most private industries. This was not the only fiddle perpetrated; the SOE was also overloaded with friends of government hangers on. Please see enclosed list.

Meridian Energy, as it then became, proceeded to hike prices up by around 13% presumably to pay for its offices in Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland and for the over \$5million spent on office refurbishment.

Along with many others I have applied to another company for my power supply.

What I would really prefer is that the people in Whangarei be allowed to buy back Northpower by raising shares between us thus running a locally owned power supply, cheaply and efficiently, not paying for a bunch of useless freeloaders.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) D Low

Below is a directory of the team in Meridian Energy as listed in their 1999 Annual Report.

Directors

Dr Francis Small (*Chairman*)

Steven Gentry

Philip Lough

Scott Perkins

Sir Tipene O'Reagan

Susan Sheldon

Joan Withers

Senior Management Group

Dr Keith Turner (*Chief Executive*)

Ray Aspey (*Power Marketing Director*)

Helen Bremner (*Knowledge and Enterprise Systems Director*)

Neil Cochrane (*Corporate Delivery Director*)

Alastair Scott (*Risk Portfolio Director*)

Ken Smales (*Generation Director*)

Carsten Thomsen (*Strategic Growth Director*)

21/12/99