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From: Sian Smith [<mailto:sian.smith@dbh.govt.nz>]
Sent: Friday, 28 September 2007 2:27 p.m.
To: Public Submissions - Electricity
Cc: Robert Murray
Subject: 2013 review

The Department of Building and Housing has considered your discussion paper (August 2007) on this review.

The continued supply of electricity is relevant to the Department's Existing Building Quality Project. As part of this project we have developed proposed "Quality Targets" for existing housing. The Targets address crucial health and safety conditions in houses built before 1992. One of the proposed targets is:

Energy source

The quality targets for heating, hot water, cooking and artificial lighting ... must have a safe and functional energy source to operate properly. For most houses this means they must be connected to an electricity supply, although other energy sources such as solid fuel, gas, solar or wind power may also be sufficient, either alone or in combination. Connection or availability of the supply is all that is required. For example, if energy is not available solely due to the fact the occupant has not paid their bill, that does not constitute a failure to meet the quality target.

The Quality Targets are intended to be "performance based", so while the Target (above) suggests line-supplied electricity will be the main source of energy for most households, the Target is clear that any source is acceptable.

Accordingly the Department has no specific comment to make on the discussion document.

Please feel to telephone me if you wish to discuss any of the above.

Regards

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