

Submission of French Pass Residents Incorporated to Discussion Paper:
Review of Section 62 of the Electricity Act 1992 "Continuance of Supply" (2013 review).

- 1 Farming is the fabric of rural society and, in many countries of the world; it is the main economic activity. The primary sector in New Zealand is contributing about 8.9% of the GDP to the economy.
- 2 Most of the generation of power is coming from sources in the Rural Environment, where the rural communities often have to deal with the impact of line networks and mega structures impeding on their environment.
- 3 Though not officially recognized, many of these impacts are compensated by socializing the costs across all electricity users. Power prices are independent from the location of the user whether they are highly profitable concentrated urban users or uneconomical rural users.
- 4 The Discussion Paper is deficient by not identifying the New Zealand fabric of rural and urban intertwined economical relations. The impact of generation, delivery and transport of electricity to the consumers is unevenly carried by the rural community.
- 5 Other businesses that are dependent on a reliable Rural Electricity network are Tourism, Fishing Industry and Forestry. All contribute a significant portion of the overall economy.
- 6 French Pass Area like many other parts of the Marlborough Sounds, are a part of the rural users in New Zealand and are potentially affected by changes in electricity supplies beyond 2013.
- 7 French Pass Residents choice is for a reliable long term secured power supply.
- 8 Where the residents would like to maintain their supply as is, alternatives with similar reliability can be considered. French Pass Resident's choice is for professional services for development and maintenance of these supplies to remain and do not see local involvement being an integrated part of that reliability.
- 9 Prices to be paid for alternative energy should be similar compared to main grid users.

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