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**From:** Ani Pahuru-Huriwai [mailto:hinerupe.marae@twor.ac.nz]  
**Sent:** Monday, 1 October 2007 9:59 a.m.  
**To:** Public Submissions - Electricity  
**Subject:** Late submission  
**Importance:** High

Kia ora

My apologies, please accept this late submission re: Review of Section 62 of the Electricity Act 1992.

I represent Te Aroha Kanarahi Trust, a charitable trust based in Hicks Bay on the East Cape. Section 62 is a concern for our people for the following reasons:

1. We are rurally remote – some 180 km from Gisborne – so we will fall into the “uneconomic” category for lines companies
2. the majority of our population are beneficiaries so will be severely disadvantaged if Section 62 takes effect
3. many of our community have had lines put in after the 1993 cut-off date so would also be severely disadvantaged

For the past 3 years we have taken a keen interest in this topic. In November last year we held an Energy Fest which was attended by 100+ local people from Ruatoria to Potaka, who were all concerned about what 2013 has in store for us. This year on November 10<sup>th</sup> we intend to host another Energy-Fest as a follow up to that initial meeting. Many families are in the process of relocating from the cities back to their homelands – access to electricity is one of their key concerns.

Many are in the process of building, and consequently are seeking the best solution for them, considering the uncertainty of future access to mains power.

In terms of the options identified in the report, we would favour:

- d. Continuance of obligation to maintain line function services expires but lines companies assist transition from lines supply to alternatives

for the following reasons

1. because of our remoteness and sparse population we would not be able to afford to pay to have the lines maintained
2. despite ongoing maintenance issues with alternative energy systems, the difference is, we would own them rather than constantly paying high line rental costs to power suppliers
3. NZ is becoming more inclined towards alternative energy so one would expect, over time that there will be more expert people available to remedy any maintenance issues

I also submit that lines companies also have an obligation to:

1. assist communities like ours to educate families in how to reduce energy consumption to ease the transition process
2. provide financial support to offset initial capital costs
3. provide tailored research for each community to assist families in making the best decisions for their specific needs
4. be proactive in supplying community organisations, schools and families with lists of reputable suppliers of alternative energy sources, so that they are not ripped off by cowboys
5. ensure the rights of their current customers are protected

Again I apologise for this late submission, and hope that it will still be accepted.

Naku iti nei  
Ani Pahuru-Huriwai

Te Aroha Kanarahi Trust  
Hicks Bay, East Cape  
Ph. 06 864 4407  
Cell. 021 885 602