

CONSULTING OUR COMMUNITY

***These information sheets are provided to assist you -
please read them before completing the two surveys***

ABOUT THE EASTERN BAY ENERGY TRUST

Why was the Trust established?

In 1994, as part of the electricity industry reforms, the government announced that shares in Bay of Plenty Electricity were to be distributed to electricity consumers.

The Trust was set up to retain a portion of the local electricity company in community ownership, and it was given 25% of the shares in Bay of Plenty Electricity as its initial Trust Fund.

What has happened since then?

During the next round of industry reforms, the generation and electricity retailing part of Bay of Plenty Electricity and the name, was sold.

The network (lines) part of the company was renamed Horizon Energy Distribution Limited.

The Trust increased its shareholding and now owns 77.3% of Horizon Energy Distribution Limited.

Who are the beneficiaries and where do they live?

The Trust's beneficiaries are: any person or organisation in the Trust's region, to whom electricity is distributed by Horizon Energy Distribution Limited.

The Trust's region includes the Kawerau, Opotiki and Whakatane District Council areas, and Kaingaroa Village.

What is the Trust's purpose?

The Trust Deed states that the Trust was established to enable the Trustees to apply the Trust Fund for or towards energy related purposes for consumers.

What are the Energy Related Purposes?

Purposes which relate to some aspect of the beneficial use, application or enjoyment in the District, of New Zealand's energy resources:

- Improvements to the safety of the general public by removing road and overhead hazards caused by above ground electricity supply support systems in the District;
- Improvements to the supply of electricity to the general public in rural or remote areas in the District by replacing inadequate or unreliable supply systems;
- Avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of energy related activities on the environment in the District;
- Promoting research into more efficient ways of producing and distributing electrical energy for the benefit of the general public in the District, including the awarding of research scholarships or prizes or the funding of research and development;
- The provision of financial assistance to persons in the District to enable them to make better use of energy resources available to them or to subsidise the cost to such persons of existing supplies of energy.

Who are the Trustees?

The Trust's beneficiaries are represented by six Trustees – four elected Trustees and two appointed Trustees.

The two elected Trustees who currently represent the Whakatane District Council area and Kaingaroa Village are **Peter Patterson** and **Rex Wilson**.

The Trustee elected to represent the Opotiki District Council area is **Kevin Hennessy**. The Trustee elected to represent the Kawerau District Council area is **Brian Ponting**.

The Trust Deed allows the appointment of two Trustees with skills or experience that will balance the makeup of the Trust. The two appointed Trustees are **Donna Smit** and **Robin Wray**.



Kevin Hennessy
Opotiki Trustee
Chairman



Brian Ponting
Kawerau Trustee
Deputy Chairman



Rex Wilson
Whakatane Trustee



Peter Patterson
Whakatane Trustee



Donna Smit
Appointed Trustee



Robin Wray
Appointed Trustee

What do the Trustees do?

The Trust Deed tells the Trustees what they can and cannot do.

The Trustees are responsible for managing the Trust Fund in an efficient and economic manner, and for distributing the Trust's income to the Trust's beneficiaries, within the requirements of the Energy Related Purposes.

They must manage the Trust's assets in the best interests of all the beneficiaries, both now and into the future.

To do this, they must focus on forward business / strategic thinking, and continually monitor Trust policies and performance.

The Trustees must also consult with the Trust's beneficiaries. They do this each year by meeting with electricity consumers, or organisations that represent consumers.

When a major decision is to be made on the Trust's future direction, it is important that all Trust beneficiaries are consulted.