MAJOR ELECTRICITY USERS' GROUP

29 September 2006

Jenny Walton
Electricity Commission
By email to info@electricitycommission.govt.nz

Dear Jenny

Submission on key assumptions, forecasts and scenarios for the Statement of Opportunities

1. This is a submission by the Major Electricity Users' Group (MEUG) on the Electricity Commission (the "Commission") consultation paper, *Key assumptions, forecasts and scenarios for the Statement of Opportunities – Opportunity to provide feedback,* dated 8 September 2006.

2. MEUG commissioned Dr Brent Layton, Director of the New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER) to undertake an independent report on the Commission consultation paper, additional information posted on the web and material discussed at the Commission seminar last Friday. Attached to this submission is the report of NZIER titled, *Grid Planning Assumptions – Opportunity to Provide Feedback*, dated 29 September 2006.

3. MEUG members were consulted on a draft of the NZIER report. MEUG agree with the analysis, conclusions and recommendations in the NZIER report.

4. I addition MEUG congratulate the Commission in conducting such a wide spread and comprehensive consultation on assumptions and methodologies to be used in preparing a draft Statement of Opportunities next year. Even though there is a vast amount of information being consulted on, the layout of material on the web and use of seminars for presentations and discussion has been very helpful.

Yours sincerely

Ralph Matthes
Executive Director

PO Box 8085, Level 8, Wakefield House, 90 The Terrace, Wellington, New Zealand
T +64-4 494 0996, F +64-4 494 0997, info@meug.co.nz , www.meug.co.nz