



MAJOR ELECTRICITY USERS' GROUP

Monday, 3rd August 2015

Press Release – For Immediate Release

Major Electricity Users Group (MEUG) appoints John Harbord as Chair

The Major Electricity Users Group (MEUG) has appointed John Harbord as Independent Chair following a rigorous selection process.

Acting Chair Lyndon Haugh of Carter Holt Harvey says the group is delighted to secure the services of someone with John's experience and skills:

“John brings significant government and legal expertise into MEUG at a critical time for the electricity sector and we are looking forward to working with him to ensure large electricity consumers are well represented.”

John Harbord has trained as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court and holds a Masters Degree in Political Studies. He is a Chief Crown Negotiator with the Office of Treaty Settlements and recently joined SenateSHJ as a specialist in its government relations practice. Previously he worked in a consulting role with commercial and public law firm Franks Ogilvie after serving as a senior advisor in the Office of the Prime Minister.

“MEUG is extremely well placed to advocate for New Zealand Inc., representing some of the largest employers in the country with members based from the far north to the deep south. MEUG's interests are the interests of all New Zealanders: an efficient, reliable and cost effective electricity system,” says John.

“I am looking forward to working with government, regulators and other industry participants to ensure we achieve the best outcomes for our economy now and in the future.”

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MEUG media release, John Harbord appointed as Chair, 03-Aug-15

ABOUT MEUG

MEUG is a trade association which works across regulatory regimes, parties in the supply chain and with consumers to improve New Zealand's electricity sector.

MEUG members collectively spend approximately \$850 million on electricity every year comprising \$740 million on energy and \$110 million on line services. Members contribute approximately \$15 billion to the Gross Domestic Product of New Zealand. It is critical to the good health of this country's economy that members can access electricity reliably and at a fair price.

It is MEUG's purpose to represent the interests of members so this can occur in the long term.

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