Northpower

Use of System Agreement Monitoring Programme

Information disclosure by Northpower (Updated 12 March 2018)

1. Purpose

Appendix A of an Information paper published by the Electricity Authority dated 11 September 2012 entitled "Standardisation of distribution arrangements – model use-of-system agreements" outlines the monitoring programme being implemented by the Electricity Authority in relation to adoption of more standardised terms and conditions relating to the provision for distribution services. A component of that programme is the information the Authority requires to be published on each electricity distributor's website in respect to the current Use of System Agreements.

2. Background

At the time of the industry reforms that commenced in 1998, Northpower initially entered into a Use-of-System Agreement (UoSA) with the single incumbent retailer. This UoSA was utilised as a template for other retailers who commenced trading on the Northpower network in 1999 and 2000.

In 2005, the former Electricity Commission published a Model Use-of-System Agreement (MUoSA) which was the result of several years of industry consultation. Northpower utilised this 2005 MUoSA in negotiations with major retailers to derive an updated UoSA for the Northpower network. Three of the major retailers were successfully signed up on new UoSA's derived from the 2005 MUoSA. Unfortunately, negotiations with two other retailers already trading on the Northpower network broke down when staff changes within the retailer organisations halted the process.

The UoSA's derived from the 2005 MUoSA were utilised as templates for signing UoSA's with new entrant retailers.

3. Next steps

In 2012, the Electricity Authority published an updated MUoSA. In cooperation with a group of North Island distributors, Northpower prepared a new UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA and commenced negotiations with one of the existing retailers to update from their current UoSA to a new UoSA. Although negotiations with the existing retailer are ongoing, six new-entrant retailers have subsequently signed up on the Northpower UoSA which was derived from the 2012 MUoSA. Northpower's intention is to offer the new UoSA to all existing retailers, once it has been signed with one existing retailer.

4. Current UoSA's status

The following table records details of Northpower's current UoSA's with electricity retailers supplying consumers on the Northpower network in the form specified in A17 of Appendix A of the Electricity Authority's paper.

Retailer	Signed	Form of agreement	Origin of agreement
Contact Energy including Empower	January 2008	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	Updated UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA to replace the original UoSA dating from network/retail separation.
Ecotricity	September 2015	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Electric Kiwi	June 2016	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Flick Electric	November 2017	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
ID power	May 2017	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Genesis Energy including Genesis Energy On-Line	September 2007	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	Updated UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA to replace the original UoSA dating from network/retail separation.
Meridian Energy	December 2006	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	Updated UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA to replace the original UoSA dating from network/retail separation.
Mighty River Power (Mercury Energy + Glo-bug)	December 1999	Interposed UoSA.	Original UoSA dating from the time of network/retail separation. *Note that Mighty River Power recently changed its name to Mercury Energy.*
Nova Energy	June 2013	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Opunake Hydro	December 2013	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.

Pioneer Energy	April 2017	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Plus Energy (trading as Community Power)	April 2017	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Power Direct	March 2018	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Powershop	June 2016	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Prime Energy	October 2015	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Pulse Utilities NZ (trading as Just Energy)	December 2009	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Simply Energy	November 2007	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2005 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Supercharged Energy	December 2017	Interposed UoSA. Includes provision for some direct contracts.	UoSA derived from the 2012 MUoSA for the new entrant retailer.
Switch Utilities	November 2016	Interim Agreement	Pending finalising the 2016 UoSA
TrustPower	November 1999	Interposed UoSA and a separate RMSA for direct contracts.	Original UoSA and RMSA dating from the time of network/retail separation.

UoSA = Use-of-System Agreement; MUoSA = Model Use-of-System Agreement; RMSA = Reconciliation & Metering Services Agreement