

# Electricity Transparency Bill

28 October 2015

Hon Christopher Finlayson QC, Attorney-General

## Consistency with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990: Electricity Transparency Bill

1. We have considered whether the Electricity Transparency Bill ('the Bill') is consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 ('the Bill of Rights Act').
2. The Bill amends the Electricity Industry Act 2010. Clause 4 introduces requirements for every electricity bill sent to domestic consumers to provide a breakdown of the amount and percentage of each component of the bill. This will allow consumers to see which parts of their power bill go to the generator, transmitter, distributor and retailer and which parts comprise GST and other Government levies. Clause 4 also requires electricity bills to indicate the percentage of electricity supplied from renewable sources.
3. The Bill further requires the Electricity Authority to set out the required format and methods of calculation in the Electricity Industry Participation Code to allow direct and easy comparison between different electricity retailers.
4. We have concluded that the Bill appears to be consistent with the rights and freedoms affirmed in the Bill of Rights Act.

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