

2018 Think Tank Programme

3 May 2018,
8.30am to 1pm (followed by lunch)
Rydges Hotel, Wellington



Interconnected Electricity Systems and Networks – What does the future look like?

The Topic

Rapid changes in technology and the increasing engagement of consumers investing in electricity generation and home storage is something we're all thinking about. This and other developments will result in shifts to the current distribution model which is largely centralised through existing transmission and distribution networks. The growth in behind the meter generation also has major potential implications for the future of new distributed and grid connected generation assets.

The Think Tank will consider:

- The technologies that increase customer control and independence.
- How in future, electricity is sourced by consumers whether from household / business generation, community initiatives, distributed or grid connected generation.
- The impacts of electric vehicles and other home battery storage solutions.
- The speed of change.
- The changes required to commercial systems and market structures to support the future.
- The risk of significant value loss from existing centralised distribution, transmission and generation assets becoming stranded.

The Approach

Bill Heaps (Strata Energy Consulting) will again facilitate the Think Tank.

The following hand-picked speakers will cover the areas of customer dynamics, infrastructure, commercial systems and markets and legal and regulatory to ensure a balanced perspective is provided of what the future looks like and what changes will be required:

- Jenny Cameron, ERANZ
- Gary Holden, Pulse Energy
- Stephen Jay, Transpower
- John Rampton, Electricity Authority
- Nick Russ, Commerce Commission
- Greg Skelton, Wellington Electricity
- Terry Surles, University of Hawaii and California Institute for Energy and Environment e
- Mike Underhill

After presentations there will be a panel discussion and Q & A session with the audience. This will be followed by a brief workshop where participants, in groups, answer 5 multi choice questions on the future of electricity systems and networks which is then consolidated and reported back to provide a snapshot view on the future. Following Bill's summary of the morning we close for lunch.

Post the Think Tank, the presentations and snapshot future view will be made available to broader stakeholders.

Programme

8.30- 8.40	Welcome and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Grenville Gaskell, NZWEA▪ Bill Heaps Strata Energy Consulting
8.40 - 10.20	Presentations
10.20 - 10.40	Morning Tea
10.40 -11.40	Presentations (continued)
11.40 - 12.00	Panel Discussion
12.00 - 12.30	Participant workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Considering multichoice questions in groups
12.30 - 12.50	Workshop Report Back <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Consolidated workshop responses - a view of the future
12.50 - 1.00	Summary and Close <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bill Heaps Strata Energy Consulting
1.00 - 2.00	Lunch

We would like to thank our sponsors for their support

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