

**Mayor and Councillors**  
COUNCIL

12 MAY 2016

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

## **POSSIBLE VOTING IN THE 2016 ELECTRA TRUST ELECTION**

### **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 This report seeks Council's decision on whether or not to exercise its voting right in the 2016 Electra Trust Election.

### **DELEGATION**

- 2 Only Council may make a decision on this matter.

### **BACKGROUND**

- 3 Electra is locally owned and controlled. The Trust represents the households and businesses in Kāpiti and Horowhenua who are connected to the local power lines provided by its operating company Electra Ltd. Electra is wholly-owned by its consumers (totalling around 43,000). The 'shares' are held on behalf of the consumers by the Trust, elected under a Trust Deed to represent the owners' interests and protect their asset.
- 4 In accordance with the provisions of the Electra Trust Deed two trustees are required to retire by rotation each year. The trustees are then required to call an election each year, to be held by postal vote.
- 5 Nominations for the candidacy will close on 29 April 2016 but Council is invited to consider in advance the question of whether or not to exercise its voting right. The closing date for voting is 16 June 2016.
- 6 In 2014 and 2015 Council decided not to vote.
- 7 For the 2016 election, as Council has 265 ICPs<sup>1</sup> it will receive 265 voting papers on which two votes each could be cast (or a total of 530 votes). For the year ending 30 June 2015 the Council spent \$2,000,455 excluding GST on electricity.

### **ISSUES AND OPTIONS**

#### **Issues**

- 8 If Council decides to vote it may wish to do so in a public excluded session to vote. The grounds for public exclusion could be under clause 7(2)(f)(i) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987: 'to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through...the free and frank expression of

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<sup>1</sup> ICP = Installation Control Point: the point of connection on a local network or embedded network that the distributor nominates as the point at which a trader will be deemed to supply electricity to a consumer.

opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority’.

- 9 If the Council decides not to exercise its right to vote no further action will be required.

## **CONSIDERATIONS**

### Policy considerations

- 10 There are no policy considerations.

### Legal considerations

- 11 There are no legal considerations.

### Financial considerations

- 12 There are no financial considerations.

### Tāngata whenua considerations

- 13 There are no tāngata whenua considerations.

## **SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT**

### Degree of significance

- 14 This matter has a low level of significance under Council policy.

### Consultation already undertaken

- 15 No consultation is required.

### Engagement planning

- 16 An engagement plan is not needed to implement this decision.

### Publicity

- 17 There will be public interest in this decision and so a media release will be prepared.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 18 That Council will exercise / will not exercise its right to vote in the 2016 Electra Trust Election.

<b>Report prepared by</b>	<b>Approved for submission</b>	<b>Approved for submission</b>
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