

Demand Side Management

Roger Sutton

Orion New Zealand Limited owns and operates the electricity distribution network in central Canterbury between the Waimakariri and Rakaia rivers and from the Canterbury coast to Arthur's Pass. Our network covers 8,000 square kilometres of diverse geography, including Christchurch city, Banks Peninsula, farming communities and high country. We transport electricity from 10 Transpower grid exit points to more than 190,000 homes and businesses. Orion charges electricity retailers for this delivery service, and electricity retailers then on-charge homes and businesses. Retailers also charge customers for the cost of generating electricity plus a retail charge. Orion's charges typically amount to about one third of a household's electricity bill.

Our shareholders are:

- Christchurch City Council 89.3%
- Selwyn District Council 10.7%

Over the last 15 years it has embarked on a range of demand side projects that have seen our peak demand on our network hardly grow while other networks have seen peak growth of between 2% and 3% per annum.

Roger's paper will outline how this has been achieved and where he sees the future for smarter load control, and how it will contribute to a more sustainable future.