

## **Independent Auditor's Report**

### **To the Directors of Westpower Limited and to the Commerce Commission**

The Auditor-General is the auditor of Westpower Limited (the company). The Auditor-General has appointed me, John Mackey, using the staff and resources of Audit New Zealand, to provide an opinion, on her behalf, on whether Schedules 1 to 4, 5a to 5g, 6a and 6b, 7, the SAIDI and SAIFI information disclosed in Schedule 10 and the explanatory notes in boxes 1 to 12 in Schedule 14 ('the Disclosure Information') for the disclosure year ended 31 March 2015, have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Electricity Distribution Disclosure Information Determination 2012 (the 'Determination').

#### **Directors' responsibility for the Disclosure Information**

The directors of the company are responsible for preparation of the Disclosure Information in accordance with the Determination, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Disclosure Information that is free from material misstatement.

#### **Auditor's responsibility for the Disclosure Information**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the Disclosure Information has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Determination.

#### **Basis of opinion**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) 3000: Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information issued by the External Reporting Board and the Standard on Assurance Engagements 3100: Compliance Engagements issued by the External Reporting Board.

These standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform our audit to provide reasonable assurance (which is also referred to as 'audit' assurance) about whether the Disclosure Information has been prepared in all material respects in accordance with the Determination.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Disclosure Information. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Disclosure Information, whether due to fraud or error or non-compliance with the Determination. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation of the Disclosure Information in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.

An audit also involves evaluating:

- the appropriateness of assumptions used and whether they have been consistently applied; and

- the reasonableness of the significant judgements made by the directors of the company.

## **Use of this report**

This independent auditor's report has been prepared for the directors of the company and for the Commerce Commission for the purpose of providing those parties with independent audit assurance about whether the Disclosure Information has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Determination. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any person other than the directors of the company or the Commerce Commission, or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

## **Scope and inherent limitations**

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit engagement, and the test basis of the procedures performed, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected.

We did not examine every transaction, adjustment or event underlying the Disclosure Information nor do we guarantee complete accuracy of the Disclosure Information. Also we did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the Disclosure Information.

The opinion expressed in this independent auditor's report has been formed on the above basis.

## **Independence**

When carrying out the engagement we followed the independence requirements of the Auditor-General, which incorporate the independence requirements of the External Reporting Board. We also complied with the independent auditor requirements specified in the Determination.

The Auditor-General, and her employees, and Audit New Zealand and its employees may deal with the company and its subsidiaries on normal terms within the ordinary course of trading activities of the company. Other than any dealings on normal terms within the ordinary course of business, this engagement and the annual audit of the company's financial statements, we have no relationship with or interests in the company and its subsidiaries.

## **Opinion**

In our opinion:

- As far as appears from an examination of them, proper records to enable the complete and accurate compilation of the Disclosure Information have been kept by the company;
- The information used in the preparation of the Disclosure Information has been properly extracted from the company's accounting and other records and has been sourced, where appropriate, from the company's financial and non-financial systems; and

- The company has complied with the Determination, in all material respects, in preparing the Disclosure Information.

In forming our opinion, we have obtained sufficient recorded evidence and all the information and explanations we have required.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Mackey', with a stylized flourish.

John Mackey  
Audit New Zealand  
On behalf of the Auditor-General  
Christchurch, New Zealand  
31 August 2015