

## FORM OF INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT

### To the Commissioners of the New Zealand Commerce Commission

We have audited the Schedules of Requirement Information (the Schedules) of [Company Name] on pages [XX] to [XX], which comprise the Schedules A to A6 and \*[B] for the year ended [insert date]. The Schedules have been prepared in accordance with the Commerce Commission's requirements issued by notice in writing to [Company Name] under section 53ZD of the Commerce Act 1986 on [insert date](the Notice).

\*Delete if inapplicable.

### *Board of Directors' Responsibility for the Schedule*

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the Schedules in accordance with the Notice and for such internal control as the Board of Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Schedules that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's Responsibilities*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Schedules based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Schedules are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Schedules. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Schedules, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of Schedules 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, as well as the overall presentation of the Schedules.

In relation to the Notice, our assurance procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to each item of information in the Schedules. Specifically, our assurance procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence to support the information in the Schedules, examination of internally and externally generated documents and records relevant to the information, interviewing selected personnel, and such other procedures as we considered necessary.

These procedures included:

- a. reviewing the methodologies used in preparing the information in the Schedules and confirming that they are in accordance with the methodologies set out in the Commerce Act (Electricity Distribution Services Input Methodologies) Determination 2010 (IM Determination) and the requirements set out in the Notice, and evidence that the underlying assumptions used are reasonable;
- b. testing whether the calculations are mathematically correct;
- c. identifying key inputs to the information in the Schedule and reconciling or agreeing them to source documents and systems.



In performing the procedures noted above, we have placed reliance on [Company Name]'s underlying systems and business records from which inputs were sourced for the preparation of the information in the Schedules.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Independence**

Other than in our capacity as auditor and [insert relationship and/or interests], we have no relationship with or interests in [Company Name].

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion,

- the recorded evidence and explanations we have obtained are sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our independent opinion on [Company Name]'s compliance with the Notice;
- where relevant, the information used in the preparation of the Schedules has been properly extracted from [Company Name]'s accounting records, sourced from its financial systems;
- where relevant, the information in the Schedules and its inputs have been prepared consistent with the principles of GAAP, amended by the Notice and IM Determination as required; and
- the information in the Schedules has been calculated by [Company Name] in all material respects, in accordance with the Notice.

### **\*[Qualification on Opinion]**

\*[Our opinion is qualified as follows:]

\*[Insert the nature of and reason(s) for the qualification together with the estimated impact on the information provided in the Schedules]

\* Delete if inapplicable.

### **Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use**

The Schedules have been prepared to meet the requirements of the Notice. They may not be suitable for other purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Commerce Commission. This report is not be used for any other purpose, recited or referred to in any document, copied or made available (in whole or in part) to any other person without our prior written express consent. We accept or assume no duty, responsibility or liability to any other party in connection with the report or this engagement.

[Signature of auditor]

[Name of auditor]

[Name of firm]

[Address of firm]

[Date]