The Power Company Limited

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019



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The Power Company Limited Approval by Directors

31 March 2019

Approval by Directors

The Directors have approved the Financial Statements of The Power Company Limited for the year ended 31 March 2019 on pages 3 to 28.

For and on behalf of the Board.

Douglas William Fraser Chairperson

26 June 2019

Duncan Varnham Fea Director

26 June 2019

The Power Company Limited Statement of Service Performance

For the year ended 31 March 2019

The objectives of The Power Company Limited for this financial year are specified in the Statement of Intent, which was set in consultation with the Shareholders. The performance targets and measures identified in the Statement of Intent, along with the performance achieved during the financial year, are detailed below.

Performance Targets

J	Target 2019	201	GRO Achieve		18
		Inclusive of	Exclusive	Inclusive of	Exclusive of
Financial Measures EBIT % before Tax and Fair Value Adjustments to Assets before Fair Value		Discount	Discount	Discount	Discount
Adjustments	3.47 %	2.84 %	3.95 %	3.36 %	4.33 %
NPAT % before Fair Value Adjustments on Equity	2.83 %	2.44 %	4.56 %	3.11 %	5.04 %
Gearing Ratio	40.0%	39	9.5%	39	0.3%
Interest Cover Ratio	5.18	5	.35	5	.91
Health & Safety					
The Power Company Limited contracts F employs no staff, therefore PowerNet Limite					pany Limited
TRIFI	3.6		4.6		4.4
Serious Harm	0.0		0.0		0.0
System Average Interruption Duration In The average total time in minutes each cus		to the network is	s without supply.		
SAIDI	182.81	19	9.39	20	2.55
System Average Interruption Frequency The average number of times each custom	Index (SAIFI) er connected to t	he network is wi	thout supply.		
SAIFI	2.84		2.73		2.69
Supplementary Information				Achieve 2019	ement 2018
Network Statistics					
Length of overhead line*				8,461 Km	8,457 Km
Length of underground cable*				392 Km	369 Km
Total number of interruptions				1,174	1,216
Faults per 100km of line				6.43	6.51
Transformer capacity MVA				446	433
Maximum demand MVA				145	141
Energy into network GWh				785	759

^{*} Excluding conductor lines under constuction.

Total Consumers

July.

36,089



35,799

The Power Company Limited Statement of Financial Performance

For the year ended 31 March 2019

		GR	OUP
	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Gross Revenue from Contracts with Customers	2	67,701	64,797
Discount to Consumers	2 _	(7,532)	(6,740)
Net Revenue from Contracts with Customers		60,169	58,057
Operating Expenses	4	(57,798)	(56,175)
Other Income	_	5,050	5,010
Operating Profit Before Fair Value Gains/(Losses)		7,421	6,892
Fair Value Adjustments			
Unrealised (Loss)/Gain on Derivatives	4	(4,321)	(2,013)
(Loss)/Gain on Onerous Contract	4 _	(2,439)	49
Fair Value Gains/(Losses)		(6,760)	(1,964)
Operating Surplus		661	4,928
Finance Costs		(9,125)	(8,474)
Shares of Profits of Associates and Joint Ventures	_	11,783	15,375
Net Surplus Before Taxation	-	3,319	11,829
Taxation Expense	5 _	(624)	(2,735)
Net Surplus After Taxation	_	2,695	9,094

The accompanying notes on pages 9 to 28 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

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The Power Company Limited Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 March 2019

			GROUP
	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Net Surplus After Taxation		2,695	9,094
Total Comprehensive Income		2,695	9,094
Total Comprehensive Income Attributable to Minority Interests	11	(19)	13
Total Comprehensive Income Attributable To Parent		2,714	9,081

The accompanying notes on pages 9 to 28 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

The Power Company Limited Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 March 2019

		G	ROUP
	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Total Comprehensive Income Net Surplus for the Year comprising: Parent Interest Minority Interest	11	2,714 (19) 2,695	9,081 13 9,094
Changes in Accounting Policy - Discount Changes in Accounting Policy - Contributions		(5,063) (609)	-
Changes in Equity for the Year		(2,977)	9,094
Equity at Beginning of Year comprising: Parent Interest Minority Interest	11	334,286 	325,205 1,569 326,774
Equity at End of Year comprising: Parent Interest Minority Interest	11 6	331,328 1,563 332,891	334,286 1,582 335,868

The accompanying notes on pages 9 to 28 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.

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The Power Company Limited Statement of Financial Position

As At 31 March 2019

		G	ROUP
	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	369	298
Receivables and Prepayments	8	8,445	7,865
Inventories Provision for Tax		161	161
Total Current Assets		9,206	8,324
Non Current Assets			
Advances to Joint Ventures		32,169	28,505
Investments in Joint Ventures	9	184,092	184,051
Investment in Other Entities		239	239
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	433,287	423,930
Capital Work in Progress Deferred Tax Asset	45	17,368	16,732
Total Non Current Assets	15	6,421 673,576	3,730 657,187
		010,010	007,107
Total Assets		682,782	665,511
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and Accruals	12	21,238	14,699
Onerous Contract Interest Rate Derivatives	16	705	600
Current Tax Liabilities		255	148 227
Contract Liabilities	13	1,120	1,770
Total Current Liabilities		23,318	17,444
Non Current Liabilities			
Term Loans	14	232,889	229,128
Deferred Tax Liabilities	15	66,556	63,989
Onerous Contract Interest Rate Derivatives	16	11,822	9,488
Contract Liabilities	13	13,808 1,498	9,594
Total Non Current Liabilities		326,573	312,199
Total Liabilities		349,891	329,643
Net Assets		332,891	335,868
EQUITY			
Contributed Equity	6	70,160	70,160
Other Reserves	6	97,394	97,465
Retained Earnings	6	163,774	166,661
Group Equity		331,328	334,286
Minority Interest	11	1,563	1,582
Total Equity		332,891	335,868

The accompanying notes on pages 9 to 28 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.



The Power Company Limited Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 March 2019

	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash was Provided From:			
Receipts from Customers Interest Received		63,500	61,528
Interest Received	•	1,301 64,801	1,171 62,699
Cash was Disbursed To:			
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		34,694	37,754
GST Paid/(Received)		(192)	243
Income Tax Paid Interest Paid		1,205	1,532
Interest Paid		9,021 44,728	8,389 47,918
Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities	18	20,073	14,781
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Cash was Provided From: Property, Plant and Equipment Sales		60	92
Distributions Received from Joint Ventures		69 11,743	82 13,784
Repayment of Advances by Joint Ventures		9,264	2,392
		21,076	16,258
Cash was Applied To:			
Property, Plant and Equipment Purchases		31,922	37,912
Advance to Joint Venture		12,929	-
		44,851	37,912
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Investing Activities		(23,775)	(21,654)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Cash was Provided From:			
Term Loans		3,773	6,638
		3,773	6,638
Net Cash Flows (Used in) Financing Activities		3,773	6,638
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents Held		71	(235)
Add Opening Cash Brought Forward		298	533
Closing Cash and Cash Equivalents To Carry Forward	7 .	369	298

The accompanying notes on pages 9 to 28 form part of and should be read in conjunction with these financial statements.



1 Statement of Accounting Policies

Reporting Entity

The Power Company Limited, is a profit oriented limited liability company that was incorporated on 30 October 1990 and the address of its registered office is 251 Racecourse Road, Invercargill. The Company is wholly owned by a Consumer Trust (Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust) and is registered under the Companies Act 1993. The Group consists of The Power Company Limited, its subsidiaries, and its interest in jointly controlled entities referred to in Note 20.

The principal activity of The Power Company Limited is the provision of electricity distribution services.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 June 2019.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand ('NZ GAAP'). They comply with New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ('NZ IFRS') and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as applicable for profit oriented entities.

The Group is eligible and has elected to report in accordance with Tier 2 for profit accounting standards, NZ IFRS Reduced Disclosure Regime (NZ IFRS RDR) on the basis that it has no public accountability and is not a large for profit public sector entity.

In adopting NZ IFRS RDR, the Group has taken advantage of a number of disclosure concessions.

New Standards Adopted

The Group has applied the following standards for the first time for their annual reporting period commencing 1 April 2018:

- NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments
- NZ IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The Group had to change its accounting policies and has adopted the new standards retrospectively. NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments has had no material effects on the financial statements but NZ IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts has resulted in the following changes:

- Capital Contributions There has been a change in revenue recognition for capital contributions received from directly billed customers. Under NZ IFRS 15 contracts entered into at or around the same time should be combined. All consideration received under the delivery services agreement and capital contribution agreement is therefore linked to a single performance obligation related to the delivery services agreement and is recognised over the term of the delivery services agreement. Previously contributions from directly billed customers were recognised when the assets were commissioned. This has resulted in a transition adjustment to opening retained earnings of \$609,000.
- Consumer Discount The discount is based on consumption for the previous 12 months and has been considered variable consideration when determining the transaction price. The discount relates to the period from 1 August to 31 July. This has resulted in a transition adjustment to opening retained earnings of \$5,063,000, which amounts to the portion of the discount that would have been accrued for under NZ IFRS 15.

The financial statements also have a reclassification of prior year balances to align with the current year classification under the new accounting standards for comparability. These reclassifications have not resulted in a change to opening retained earnings.

Specific Accounting Polices

The following specific accounting policies which materially affect the measurement of financial performance and financial position have been applied:

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(a) Principles of Consolidation

(i) Joint Ventures

Joint Ventures are those entities over which the Group has joint control established by contractual agreement. The financial statements include the Group's share of the joint venture entities' total recognised gains and losses on an equity accounted basis, from the date that joint control commences to the date that joint control ceases.

(ii) Transactions eliminated on consolidation

All significant inter-company transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised gains arising from transactions with associates and jointly controlled entities are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the entity. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the assets transferred.

(b) Revenue with Contracts with Customers

(i) Electricity Delivery Services

Electricity delivery service revenue relates to the provision of electricity distribution services to both electricity retailers and directly contracted customers in the Southland Region. Electricity retailer delivery services are performed on a daily basis and considered a series of distinct goods and services provided over time. Prices are regulated and retailers are charged based on the published schedule and quantities delivered.

Since 2001, the Company has provided a discount to consumers. The discount is typically credited to consumers in or around August each year, when consumers tend to have higher power bills. This discount is based on consumption for the previous 12 months and has been considered variable consideration when determining the transaction price.

Revenue is recognised over time using an output method based on the actual delivery services provided on a daily basis less a portion of the discount allocated overtime.

For directly billed customers, the Group has determined that the new investment and electricity delivery services promises within the contractual arrangement relate to a single performance obligation, to provide the required delivery service to the customer. The performance obligation has been assessed as being satisfied over time based on the duration of the contractual arrangement. The transaction price is fixed per year, billed monthly and includes all charges outlined in the arrangement. Revenue is recognised over time based on an output method, as the performance is satisfied on a straight line basis over the term of the contract commencing when the assets are commissioned.

(ii) Capital Contributions

Capital contributions revenue relates to contributions received from customers, excluding delivery service customers who are directly billed, for construction activities relating to the establishment of new connections or upgrades of an existing connection. The subsequent electricity distribution is contracted separately, interposed through a retailer, and is therefore not considered to impact the assessment of the customer or performance of the obligations of the capital contribution contracts. Pricing is fixed and contributions are paid prior to an assets being connected to the network. Capital contributions are recognised as revenue at the point in time when construction activities are completed and the asset is connected to the network.

(c) Other income

(i) Metering Rental Income

Metering rental income represent amounts invoiced to customers based on their usage of the metering assets owned by the Group.

(ii) Interest revenue

Interest income is recognised on a time proportion basis using the effective interest method.

(d) Finance Costs

Finance costs comprise interest expense on borrowings, changes in the fair value of financial assets through the Statement of Financial Performance and impairment losses recognised on financial assets (except for trade receivables). All borrowing costs are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance using the effective interest method, unless they are directly related to the construction of a qualifying asset, when they are capitalised.

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(e) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost using weighted average cost price, and net realisable value. Obsolete items of inventory (if any) are written off as identified.

(f) Property, Plant and Equipment

All property, plant and equipment is recognised at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The cost of purchased property, plant and equipment is the fair value of the consideration given to acquire the assets and the value of other attributable costs including borrowing costs which have been incurred in bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for their intended service.

The Group recognises in the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing part of such an item if, when that cost is incurred, it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other costs are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance as an expense as incurred.

The electricity distribution network is valued at fair value. Fair value is determined on the basis of a periodic valuation at a maximum of every five years, based on discounted cash flow methodology. The fair values are recognised in the financial statements of the Group and are reviewed at the end of each reporting period to ensure that the carrying amount of the distribution network is not materially different from its fair value.

Any revaluation increase arising on the revaluation of assets is credited to the Asset Revaluation Reserve, except to the extent that it reverses a revaluation decrease for the same asset previously recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance, in which case the increase is credited to the Statement of Financial Performance to the extent of the decrease previously charged. A decrease in carrying amount arising on revaluation is charged as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance to the extent that it exceeds the balance, if any, held in the Asset Revaluation Reserve relating to a previous revaluation of that asset.

When a revalued asset is sold or retired the attributable revaluation surplus remaining in the Asset Revaluation Reserve, net of any related deferred taxes, is transferred directly to Retained Earnings.

Easements

Easements obtained in relation to access, construction and maintenance of network assets are capitalised. Such easements represent a right in perpetuity and are not depreciated and are carried at cost.

(g) Use of Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of financial statements to conform to NZ IFRS requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and associated assumptions have been based on historical experience and other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In particular estimates and assumptions have been used in the following areas:

- Property, Plant and Equipment (note 10)
- Recoverable Amount from Cash Generating Units
- Onerous Contract (note 15)
- Joint Arrangement Classification
- Revenue

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, management has made the following judgements, estimates and assumptions that have the most significant impact on the amounts recognised in these financial statements.

The Group operates extensive integrated electricity distribution networks comprising large numbers of relatively minor individual network asset components. These components are replaced over time as part of an ongoing maintenance/refurbishment programme, consistent with the Group's approved network asset management plans. The costs associated with recording and tracking all individual components replaced and removed from the networks substantially outweigh the benefits of doing so. Management has estimated the quantities and the carrying values of components removed from the networks in each reporting period. Any errors in the estimates of such removals are corrected at the next asset revaluation, and are not considered to be material on either an annual or a cumulative basis with respect to either reported net surpluses or carrying values of the networks.

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Every five years, the company obtains a valuation of their electricity distribution network, determined by independent valuers, in accordance with their accounting policy. The valuation of the Company's electricity distribution network was performed as at 1 April 2016. The best evidence of fair value is discounted cash flow methodology. The major assumptions used include discount rate, growth rate and future cash flows. Changes in future cash flows arising from changes in regulatory review may result in the fair value of the electricity distribution network being different from previous estimates. The fair value measurement of the distribution network is categorised under Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Other areas where judgement has been exercised in preparing these financial statements are in relation to calculating the recoverable amounts from Cash Generating Units and the amounts of employee entitlements.

(h) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged to the Statement of Financial Performance on a combination of straight line and diminishing value bases on all property, plant and equipment with the exception of land and easements, at rates calculated to allocate the assets' fair value, less any residual value, over their useful lives. The primary annual rates used are:

Buildings	2.0-13.5%	Straight line/Diminishing value
Network Assets (excluding land)	1.8-10.0%	Straight line/Diminishing value
Metering Assets	6.7-14.4%	Straight line/Diminishing value
Plant and Office Equipment	5.0-50.0%	Straight line/Diminishing value

(i) Impairment

At each reporting date the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its assets and assesses them for indications of impairment. If indications of impairment exist, then the assets' recoverable amounts are estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment. The recoverable amounts are the higher of fair value (less costs to sell) and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future pre-tax cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects the market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the assets involved. If the estimated recoverable amount of the asset is less than its carrying amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance, except to the extent that the impairment loss reverses a previous revaluation increase for that asset to the extent of that revaluation increase. When the asset does not generate cash flows independent of other assets, the cash generating unit (CGU) to which the asset belongs is tested for impairment.

Goodwill is tested for impairment annually and whenever there is an indication that it may be impaired. Any impairment of goodwill cannot subsequently be reversed.

(j) Capital Work in Progress

Capital Work in Progress is stated at cost and is not depreciated. It includes an accrual for the proportion of work completed at the end of the period.

(k) Intangible Assets

(i) Goodwill

All business combinations are accounted for by applying the purchase method. Goodwill (if it exists) has been recognised in the acquisitions of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures. In respect of business acquisitions since 1 April 2006, Goodwill represents the difference between the cost of the acquisition and the fair value of the net assets acquired.

In respect of acquisitions prior to this date, Goodwill is included on the basis of its deemed cost, which represents the amount recorded under previous NZ GAAP at the transition date to NZ IFRS. The classification and accounting treatment of business combinations that occurred prior to transition were not reconsidered in preparing the Group's opening NZ IFRS Balance Sheet as at 1 April 2006.

Goodwill is stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Goodwill is allocated to CGUs and is no longer amortised but tested annually for impairment. In respect of Associates, the carrying amount of Goodwill is included in the carrying amount of the investment in the associate.

Negative Goodwill arising on an acquisition is recognised directly in the Statement of Financial Performance.

(ii) Software

Under NZ IFRS computer software is classified as an intangible asset and amortised on a straight line/diminishing value basis over its estimated useful life.

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(iii) Research and Development

Research costs are expensed in the year in which they are incurred. Development costs are capitalised to the extent that future benefits (exceeding the costs) are expected to accrue.

(iv) Amortisation

Amortisation is charged to the Statement of Financial Performance on a straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of intangible assets, other than goodwill, from the date that they are available for use. The estimated amortisation rates for current and comparative periods are as follows:

Software

12.5-48%

Straight line/Diminishing value

(I) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

All amounts in the financial statements are shown exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are shown inclusive of GST.

(m) Taxation

Income tax on the profit or loss for the period presented comprises current tax and additional or reversed deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in Equity, in which case it is recognised in Equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at Balance Sheet date, and any adjustments to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is recognised using the Balance Sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The deferred income tax is not accounted for if it arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction, other than a business combination, that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxation profit or loss.

Deferred tax is recorded using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at the Balance Sheet date and which are expected to apply when the related deferred tax asset is realised or the deferred tax liability is settled. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

Deferred income tax is provided on temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures, except where the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference is controlled by the Group and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

(n) Operating Leases

Leases where the lessor effectively retains substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased items are classified as operating leases. Payments under these leases are recognised in the periods when they are incurred.

(o) Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of salaries and wages, annual leave and long service leave when it is probable that they will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

Provisions made in respect of employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected at the time of settlement.

Provisions made in respect of employee benefits that are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the Group in respect of services provided by employees up to balance date.

(p) Seasonality

The Group's revenues and profits are generally evenly distributed throughout the year hence the results are not subject to seasonality.

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(q) Financial Assets

From 1 April 2018, the Partnership classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

- a) those to be measured subsequently at fair value and
- b) those to be measured at amortised cost.

The classification depends on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual terms of the cash flows. The Group reclassifies financial assets when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

Measurement

At initial recognition, the Group measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs for such financial assets are expensed in profit or loss.

Subsequent measurement of debt instruments depends on the Group's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristics of the asset. There are three measurement categories into which the group classifies its debt instruments:

-Amortised cost: Assets that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest are measured at amortised cost. Interest income from these financial assets is included in finance income using the effective interest rate method. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition is recognised directly in profit or loss and presented in other gains/(losses) together with foreign exchange gains and losses. Impairment losses are presented as separate line item in the statement of profit or loss.

-FVPL: Assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or FVOCI are measured at FVPL. A gain or loss on a debt investment that is subsequently measured at FVPL is recognised in profit or loss and presented net within other gains/(losses) in the period in which it arises

Financial liabilities at amortised cost consist of trade and other payables and borrowings. Financial liabilities at amortised cost are measured using the effective interest rate method. Due to their short term nature, trade and other payables are not discounted.

The Group has not designated any derivatives as hedges for financial reporting purposes. Derivatives are subsequently measured at fair value, with movements recognised in profit or loss.

Transition

On 1 April 2018 (the date of initial application of NZ IFRS 9), management has assessed which business models apply to the financial assets held by the Group and has classified its financial instruments into the appropriate NZ IFRS 9 categories. There have been no changes to the initial or subsequent measurement of financial assets or liabilities as a result of adopting NZ IFRS 9.

The Group has applied NZ IFRS 9 retrospectively, but has elected not to restate comparative information. As a result, the comparative information provided continues to be accounted for in accordance with the Partnership's previous accounting policy. Financial assets were previously classified as follows under NZ IAS 37:

(i) Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading which are acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term with the intention of making a profit. Derivatives are also categorized as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges.

(ii) Loans and Receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise when the Group provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention of selling the receivable. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the Statement of Financial Position date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in receivables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through Statement of Financial Performance are subsequently carried at fair value. Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets at fair value through profit or loss' category, including interest and dividend income, are presented in the Statement of Financial Performance within Other Income or Other Expenses in the period in which they arise.

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(r) Financial Instruments

(i) Derivative Financial Instruments

The Group enters into interest rate swaps. These transactions are undertaken within board approved policies and limits for the primary purpose of managing exposure to fluctuations in interest rates arising from financing activities. While these financial instruments are subject to the risk that market rates may change subsequent to the acquisition of the financial instrument, such changes would generally be offset by opposite effects on the items being hedged. The Group does not engage in speculative transactions or hold derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

The Group has not designated any derivatives as hedges. Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date the derivative is entered into. Subsequent to any initial recognition derivatives are revalued to their fair value at each reporting date. The resulting gain or loss is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

The fair value of interest rate swaps is the estimated amount that the Group would receive or pay to terminate the swap at the Statement of Financial Position date, taking into account current interest rates and the credit worthiness of the swap counterparties

(ii) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant amount of risk of changes in value

(iii) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables are stated at amortised cost.

(iv) Receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for goods sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. They are generally due for settlement within 30 days and therefore are all classified as current. Trade receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional unless they contain significant financing components, when they are recognised at fair value. The Group holds the trade receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The Group applies the simplified approach to providing for expected credit losses prescribed by NZ IFRS 9, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision for all trade receivables.

During the year, the following gains/(losses) were recognised in profit or loss in other expenses in relation to impaired receivables:

- Impairment losses
- Individual receivables written off directly
- Movement in provision for impairment

In the prior year, the impairment of trade receivables was assessed based on the incurred loss model. Individual receivables which were known to be uncollectible were written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. The other receivables were assessed collectively, to determine whether there was objective evidence that an impairment had been incurred but not yet been identified.

(v) Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of any transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently stated at amortised cost; any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability at least 12 months after balance date.

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2 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

2 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	G	ROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Electricty Delivery Services (including discount) Capital Contributions Total Income	58,699 1,470 60,169	56,303 1,754 58,057
Timing of revenue recognition		
Over time At a point in time Total Revenue	58,699 1,470 60,169	56,303 1,754 58,057
3 Other Income		
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Interest Subvention Income	1,301 169	1,171
Rental Income	429	183 409
Metering Rental Income	3,025	3,059
Sundry Income	126	188
Total Other Income	5,050	<u>5,010</u>



4 Expenses

- принава	G	ROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Expenses Include:		
Auditors' Fees Audit of Financial Report - PwC Information Disclosure - PwC Regulatory & Advisory - PwC	63 54 8	45 43 -
Depreciation Buildings Plant and Office Equipment Metering Assets Network Assets Total Depreciation	70 6 1,188 20,066 21,330	72 6 881
Bad Debts Written Off Directors' Fees	29 276	- 246
Finance Expense Interest Expense Unrealised Loss/(Gain) on Derivatives Total Finance Expense	9,125 <u>4,321</u> 13,446	8,474 2,013 10,487
Loss/(Gain) on Onerous Contract Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment Network Costs Operating Lease Expenses Transmission Costs	2,439 529 16,338 48 15,040	(49) 696 14,763 41 16,031

5 Taxation

Current Tax

Current tax expense is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year.

Current tax for the current and prior periods is classified as a current liability to the extent that it is unpaid. Amounts paid in excess of amounts owed are classified as a current asset.

Deferred Tax

Deferred tax expense arises from the origination and reversal of temporary differences.

	(GROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) Before Income Taxation Prima Facie Taxation at 28% Permanent Differences Prior period adjustment Tax Expense	3,319 929 (474) 169 624	11,829 3,312 (753) 176 2,735
Made up of: Current Tax Deferred Tax Tax Expense	747 (123) 624	2,116 619 2,735



6 Equity

The authorised and issued share capital comprises 70,160,000 ordinary shares which are fully paid up and are not subject to a par value. All shares have the same rights and privileges.

to a particular the control and game and privileges.		GR	OUP
	Notes	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Share Capital Opening Balance Shares Issued		70,160	70,160
Closing Balance		70,160	70,160
Minority Interest		1,563	1,582
Asset Revaluation Reserve Opening Balance Revaluation Revaluation Reversal due to Asset Disposal Closing Balance		97,465 - (71) 97,394	97,622 (157) 97,465
Retained Earnings Opening Balance Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year Change in Accounting Policy - Contributions Changes in Accounting Policy - Discount Revaluation Reversal due to Asset Disposal Closing Balance		166,661 2,714 (609) (5,063) 71 163,774	157,423 9,081 - - 157 166,661
Total Equity		332,891	335,868
		332,091	335,000
7 Cash and Cash Equivalents			
		GF	ROUP
		2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Current Account Total Cash and Cash Equivalents		369 369	298 298
8 Receivables and Prepayments			
		GF	ROUP
		2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
GST Receivable Trade Debtors Prepayments		522 7,725	621 7,065
Total Receivables and Prepayments		198 8,445	179 7,865



9 Investments in Joint Ventures

The Group has a participating interest in the following joint ventures through its wholly owned subsidiary Last Tango Limited.

Joint Ventures	Country of Residence	Percenta By Gr	0	Balance Date
PowerNet Limited Group (i) OtagoNet Joint Venture Roaring Forties Energy Limited Partnership (ii)	New Zealand New Zealand New Zealand	2019 50% 75.1% 50%	2018 50% 75.1% 50%	31 March 31 March 31 March

- (i) In April 2017 PowerNet Limited acquired an additional 38.62% shareholding in PowerNet Central Limited, increasing the PowerNet shareholding to 90.32%
- (ii) Roaring Forties Energy Limited Partnership has a 50% interest in Southern Generation Limited Partnership.

Interests in Joint Venture Entities are as follows:	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Carrying Amount at Beginning of Year	184,051	182,319
Investment in Joint Ventures Share of Equity Accounted Earnings of Joint Ventures Increase in OtagoNet goodwill Less Drawings Carrying Amount at End of Year	11,783 - (11,742) 184,092	15,375 141 (13,784) 184,051

The Group's advances to joint ventures of \$32,169,000 (31 March 2018: \$28,505,000) are repayable on demand but with a 13 month notice period. The advances incur interest between 2.00% and 2.50% above the 90 day bank bill rate.

On April 2015 the Group took a 25% interest in the Southern Generation Limited Partnership. This partnership was formed to invest in electricity generation opportunities. In 2016, the partnership completed the acquisition of the Mount Stuart and Flat Hill wind farms and in 2017 the Aniwhenua Hydro Station. In August 2017 the partners also entered in a conditional agreement to purchase the assets relating to Matiri and Upper Fraser Hydro Stations. The expected generation output of these two hydrostations is about 58 GWh, with Upper Fraser contributing 30 GWh and Matiri 28 GWh.

In 2019, a fair value assessment was performed by Southern Generation Limited Partnership associated with the fixed price electricity contracts associated with the generation of Flat Hill and Mt Stuart windfarms, and the Aniwhenua Hydro Station power purchase agreement with Nova Energy. The fair value assessment at 31 March 2019 is based on forecasted market assumptions and may fluctuate over time with any changes in market conditions during the term of the electricity price contracts and agreements. Our share of the impact of these fair value adjustments is a decrease of \$2,613,000 in the Share of Equity Accounted Earnings of Joint Ventures, and therefore the Group Net Surplus for the year.



10 Property, Plant and Equipment

Cost or Valuation	Network Assets \$'000	Meters \$'000	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Plant and Office Equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 April 2017	464,622	12,695	236	4,784	107	482,444
Additions Revaluation	30,504	5,071 -	245	56 -	-	35,876 -
Disposals Balance at 31 March 2018	(670) 494,456	(495) 17,271	481	4,840	107	(1,165)
Balance at 51 March 2010	454,450	17,271	401	4,040	107	517,155
Balance at 1 April 2018	494,456	17,271	481	4,840	107	517,155
Additions Revaluation	26,767	4,511	2	4	-	31,284
Disposals	(708)	(234)	-	-	-	(942)
Balance at 31 March 2019	520,515	21,548	483	4,844	107	547,497
Depreciation and Impairment Losses Balance at 1 April 2017 Depreciation for Year	(69,772)	(3,232)	-	(181)	(20)	(73,205)
Revaluation	(19,446)	(881)	-	(72)	(6)	(20,405)
Disposals	178	207				385
Balance at 31 March 2018	(89,040)	(3,906)	-	(253)	(26)	(93,225)
Balance at 1 April 2018 Depreciation for Year Revaluation	(89,040) (20,066)	(3,906) (1,188)	-	(253) (70)	(26) (6)	(93,225) (21,330)
Disposals	257	88				345
Balance at 31 March 2019	(108,849)	(5,006)		(323)	(32)	(114,210)
Carrying Amount/Book Value						
Book Value at 31 March 2018	405,416	13,365	481	4,587	<u>81</u>	423,930
Book Value at 31 March 2019	411,666	16,542	483	4,521	<u>75</u>	433,287
Carrying amounts of property, plant and eq	uipment had th	ey been reco	gnised under	the cost mod	del:	
31 March 2019	392,414	16,542	482	4,520	73	414,031
31 March 2018	277,542	13,364	481	4,587	81	296,055

Valuation

The network assets of The Power Company Limited were revalued to fair value using discounted cash flow methodology on 1 April 2016 by Ernst & Young who are an independent valuer. This resulted in a revaluation movement of \$21,504,000.

The following valuation assumptions were adopted;

- The free cash flows were based on the Company's three year business plan and asset management plan adjusted for non-recurring or non-arms length transactions and for transactions that arose from expansionary growth in the network after the date of the valuation.
- •The corporate tax rate used was 28%.
- •The weighted average cost of capital (WACC) used was 5.5%.
- •The sustainable growth adjustment used was 0.6%.
- •The CPI increases used were 1%.

The next valuation is due to be performed during the year ended 31 March 2020.



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	GR	OUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Opening Balance Minority Interest Share of Net Surplus Closing Balance	1,582 (19) 1,563	1,569 13 1,582
The Minority Interest relates to Electricity Southland Limited,		
12 Creditors and Accruals	GR	OUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Trade Creditors Accruals Revenue in Advance	9,826 11,412	9,865 4,834
Total Creditors and Accruals	21,238	14,699

	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Contract Liabilities are as follows:		
Carrying Amounts at the Beginning of Year	1.770	1.906
Accounting Policy change	610	-
Received in Current Year	1,861	1,618
Recognised as Revenue in Current Year	(1,623)	(1,754)
Carrying Amount at End of Year	2,618	1,770

Made up of:		
Current Contract Liabilities Non-Current Contract Liabilities	1,120 1,498	1,770

Contract Liabliities are capital contributions received but not yet recognised as the asset has not yet been commissioned or the contractual obligation spans multiple years.

14 Term Loans

11 Minority Interest

13 Contract Liabilities

		GROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
ANZ Committed Cash Advance Westpac Revolving Cash Advance Advance – Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust Advance – Electricity Invercargill Limited	96,390 130,000 2,264 4,235 232,889	143,415 80,000 2,276 3,437 229,128

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The Power Company Limited Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2019

(continued)

The Group has a Committed Cash Advance Facility of \$110 million (31 March 2018: \$160 million) with ANZ. The facility has a revolving three year term and is extendable annually by agreement between the Group and ANZ.

The Group has a Revolving Cash Advance Facility of \$130 million (31 March 2018: \$80 Million) with Westpac. The facility has a revolving three year term and is extendable annually by agreement between the Group and Westpac of whihch \$80 million is for renewal on 20 October 2019.

The facilities provide for drawdowns to be made ranging from overnight to six months and are subject to interest rates at Bank Bill Buy Rates plus a margin. The facilities are unsecured and subject to a Deed of Negative Pledge.

At balance date the Group had active interest rate swaps on the above facilities which total \$147 million (31 March 2018: \$95 million) at interest rates between 2.57% and 4.78%, excluding bank margins.

Advance - Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust

The Group has an unsecured, interest bearing Advance with the Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust which is repayable on demand with a 13 month notice period. Interest is payable at 7% and if demanded is added to the loan.

Advance - Electricity Invercargill Limited

The Minority Interest share of the Advance that Electricity Southland Limited has with Electricity Invercargill Limited is repayable on demand but with a 13 month notice period. Interest on the Advance is paid quarterly at 3.00% above the 90 day bank bill rate.

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15 Deferred Taxation

10 Deferred Taxation	G	ROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
The balance comprises temporary differences attributable to:		
Opening Balance	60,259	59,640
Charged to Income Statement:		
Fixed Assets Capital Contributions Received Line Charge Discount Prior Period Adjustment Provisions Tax Losses Utilised/(carried forward) Charged to Equity: Total Deferred Taxation Liability	1,149 (101) 1,418 (692) (1,898) (124)	1,220 109 - (554) 13 (169) 619
Represented by:		
Total Deferred Tax Asset Total Deferred Tax Liability	(6,421) 66,556	(3,730) 63,989

The primary component of the deferred tax balance is related to property, plant and equipment assets and software assets. There is not expected to be any significant reversal of deferred taxation in the next 12 months.

16 Provision for Onerous Contract

	(GROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Provision for Onerous Contract		
Current Portion	705	600
Non-current Portion	11,822	9.488
Provision for Onerous Contract	12,527	10,088

A liability had been recognised in relation to the Group's obligations under an onerous contract agreement. A provision of \$12,527,000 (2018: \$10,088,000) has been established for this onerous contract. A Deferred Tax Asset of \$3,507,000 (2018: \$2,824,000) has also been recognised in relation to this onerous contract.

The following valuation assumptions were adopted;

- The discount rate used was 6.39% being derived from the long term nominal risk free rate provided by Treasury for accounting valuation purposes used as an input into a weighted average cost of capital calculation.
- The CPI increases used were 1.52%
- The corporate tax rate used was 28%
- The sustainable growth adjustment used was 0.5%

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17 Commitments

(a) Capital Commitments

The Group has capital expenditure contracted for but not provided for in the financial statements.

	(GROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Capital Commitments	10,593	14,339
Total Capital Commitments	10,593	14,339
	(GROUP
(b) Operating Lease Commitments	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Operating Lease Commitments are payable as follows:		
Not later than one year Later than one year and not later than two years Later than two years and not later than five years Later than five years	48 48 144 1,580	41 41 124 1,398
Total Operating Lease Commitments	1,820	1,604

Operating leases consist of vehicle leases, office equipment leases, tenancy leases and Transpower leases.

(c) Investment Commitments

In August 2017, the Group entered into a conditional agreement with the partners of Southern Generation Limited Partnership to purchase the assets of two hydro generation developments upon completion of construction. The Upper Fraser hydro station is expected to generate 30GWh annually from July 2019, and the Matiri hydro station is expected to generate approximately 28GWh annually from February 2020.

(d) Other Commitments

The Group has a conditional commitment as at 31 March 2019 of \$825,000 (2018: \$825,000). This relates to an agreement with Smart Co, for the Group to provide a subordinated loan to Smart Co once a number of terms have been met.

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18 Reconciliation of Net Surplus After Taxation with Net Operating Cash Flows

The following is reconciliation between the Net Surplus After Taxation shown in the Statement of Financial Performance and the Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities.

	GR	OUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Net Surplus After Taxation		
Plus/(Less) Non Cash Items:	2,695	9,094
Depreciation	21,330	20,405
Deferred Taxation	(123)	616
Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	529	696
Interest Rate Derivatives	4,321	2,013
Net SEPSCT Transactions	(12)	(69)
Onerous Contract	2,439	(49)
Share of Profit of Associates and Joint Ventures	(11,783)	(15,374)
	16,701	8,238
Plus/(Less) Net Movements in Working Capital:		
Creditors and Accruals	1,476	(2,971)
Receivables, Prepayments and Work in Progress	(580)	(227)
Contract Liabilities	239	-
Inventories	•	60
Income Tax Payable	<u>(458)</u>	<u>587</u>
	<u>677</u>	(2,551)
Net Cash Flows From Operating Activities	20,073	14,781

19 Financial Instruments

The Group has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- -Credit risk
- -Liquidity risk
- -Market risk

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Group's risk management framework.

Credit Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Group to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash and short-term investments and trade receivables. Cash and short-term investments are placed with banks with high credit ratings assigned by international credit-rating agencies, or other high credit quality financial institutions.

The Group manages its exposure to credit risk from trade receivables by performing credit evaluations on all customers requiring credit whenever possible, and continuously monitoring the outstanding credit exposure to individual customers. The Group does not generally require or hold collateral against credit risk.

The Group is exposed to a concentration of credit risk with regard to the amounts owing by energy retailers at balance date for Line Charges as disclosed in Note 8 Receivables and Prepayments (amongst Trade Debtors). However, these entities are considered to be high credit quality entities

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the Group's ability to meet its contractual obligations.

The Group evaluates its liquidity requirements on an ongoing basis. In general the Group generates sufficient cash flows from its operating activities to meet its contractual obligations arising from its financial liabilities and has credit lines in place to cover potential shortfalls.



Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments.

The Group uses interest rate swap agreements to manage its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings. The treasury policy set by the Board requires that interest rate swap agreements are in place to ensure adequate hedging is maintained within a series of time periods.

The interest rate agreements are held with independent and high credit quality financial institutions. The credit risk is limited because the counterparties are banks with high quality credit ratings assigned by international credit rating agencies.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Group is not subject to foreign exchange risk.

Fair Value

The estimated fair value of the Group's financial instruments are represented by the carrying values.

Capital Management

The Group's capital includes share capital and retained earnings. The Company's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain investor, creditor and market confidence and to sustain future development of the business.

The Board seeks to maintain a balance between the higher returns that might be possible with higher levels of borrowing and the advantages and security afforded by a sound capital position.

20 Transactions With Related Parties

The Power Company Limited has an interest in the PowerNet Limited Joint Venture, the OtagoNet Joint Venture, Electricity Southland Limited, and the Southern Generation Limited Partnership through their wholly owned subsidiary company Last Tango Limited. PowerNet Limited has an interest in PowerNet Central Limited.

No related party debts have been written off or forgiven during the year.

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Material transactions the Group have had with the abovementioned parties during the year are as follows:

		GROUP
	2019 \$'000	2018 \$'000
Goods and Services Supplied to: PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture)	1,745	1,631
Receivables Outstanding at Balance Date (GST incl): PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture) OtagoNet Joint Venture	417 5	342 5
Goods and Services Supplied by: PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture) OtagoNet Joint Venture	47,238 4	47,824 -
Creditors Outstanding at Balance Date (GST incl): PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture) OtagoNet Joint Venture	13,252 3	7,513
Advances Provided to: Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture) OtagoNet Joint Venture	171 12,499 430	234 8,850
Advances Provided from: Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust PowerNet Limited (Joint Venture) OtagoNet Joint Venture	159 8,834 430	164 11,385

Other Related Parties

There have been no material transactions between The Power Company Limited Group and Directors with the exception of the following:

PowerNet Limited and The Power Company Limited use Findex as their tax advisors of which Duncan Fea is a Principal. The Power Company Limited's share of fees for taxation advice paid to Findex during the year amounted to \$13,300 excl GST (31 March 2018: \$12,000) of which \$4,805 incl GST (31 March 2018: \$4,000) is owing at balance date.

All transactions between The Power Company Limited, PowerNet Limited, OtagoNet Joint Venture, AWS Legal and Findex relate to normal activities.

The Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust owns 100% of the shares in The Power Company Limited. The Power Company Limited has a \$2,264,000 unsecured interest bearing loan with the Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust.

During the year expenses were paid out on behalf of the Trust totalling \$171,000 (31 March 2018: \$234,000). The expenses paid by The Power Company Limited on behalf of the Southland Electric Power Supply Consumer Trust have been deducted from the loan and interest of \$159,000 (31 March 2018: \$164,000) has been added to the loan.



The Power Company Limited Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2019

(continued)

Key Management Personnel

Compensation of the Directors and Executives, being the key management personnel of the entities, is set out below:

GROUP

2019 2018 \$'000 \$'000

Directors fees, Salaries and Short-term Employee Benefits

Executive staff remuneration comprises salary and other short-term benefits. PowerNet executives appointed to the boards of related companies do not recieve directors' fees personally. There have been no other transactions with the Directors.

21 Subsequent Events

There have been no subsequent events impacting on these financials statements.

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Independent auditor's report

To the shareholder of The Power Company Limited

We have audited the consolidated financial statements which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at 31 March 2019;
- the statement of financial performance for the year then ended;
- the statement of comprehensive income for the year then ended;
- the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, which include a statement of accounting policies.

Our opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements of The Power Company Limited (the Company), including its subsidiaries (the Group), present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group as at 31 March 2019, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime (NZ IFRS RDR).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements* section of our report.

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

We are independent of the Group in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (PES 1) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Our firm carries out other services for the Group in the areas of compliance with the Electricity Distribution (Information Disclosure) Determination 2012 and other regulatory requirements of the Commerce Act 1986 as well as regulatory advisory services and tax pooling. The provision of these other services has not impaired our independence as auditor of the Group.

$Information\ other\ than\ the\ consolidated\ financial\ statements\ and\ auditor's\ report$

The Directors are responsible for the annual report. Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information included in the annual report and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material



misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard, except that not all other information was available to us at the date of our signing.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the consolidated financial statements

The Directors are responsible, on behalf of the Company, for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with NZ IFRS RDR, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements is located at the External Reporting Board's website at:

https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards-for-assurance-practitioners/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-7/

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

ricewaterhouse Coopers.

Who we report to

This report is made solely to the Company's shareholder. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's shareholder for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Elizabeth Adriana (Adri) Smit.

For and on behalf of:

Chartered Accountants 27 June 2019

Christchurch