

# STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT

For the Period: 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Network Waitaki Limited 10 Chelmer Street PO Box 147, Oamaru 9444

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# 1. Function of the Statement of Corporate Intent and Introduction

This Statement of Corporate Intent for Network Waitaki Limited is submitted to the Waitaki Power Trust by the Board of Directors of Network Waitaki Limited and sets out the Directors' overall intentions and objectives for the Company for the financial year ending 31 March 2026 and the two succeeding financial years.

This statement assumes that the Company continues to operate primarily as an electricity network company while investigating business opportunities within the utilities sector. Any changes that may result from further electricity reforms or regulatory requirements initiated by Government legislation have not been factored in.

The Statement of Corporate Intent is submitted in accordance with the provisions of sections 39 and 40 of the Energy Companies Act 1992 (the "Act").

Network Waitaki Limited, and any Subsidiary and Relevant Subsidiary Companies (if any) are referred to as "the Company" throughout this Statement of Corporate Intent.

Network Waitaki Limited is an energy company (as that term is defined in the Energy Companies Act 1992). This Statement of Corporate Intent sets out the overall intention and objectives for the Company for the period 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026 and the two succeeding financial years and is prepared in accordance with Section 39 (2) of the Energy Companies Act 1992.

### 2. The objectives of the Company

#### Our vision

Powering a vibrant Waitaki

#### Our mission

Promoting regional growth and wellbeing through the provision of innovative and sustainable energy solutions for our customers

#### Our principal objectives

#### To preserve and grow the value of the business for the long-term benefit of consumers

#### Health and Safety

- To ensure that no harm comes to our people or members of the public as a result of our operations and assets;
- To maintain safe plant, equipment and systems of work to keep our people safe by elimination of risks, or where reasonably practicable or minimise them with effective management;
- To maintain an accredited public safety management system in accordance with NZS7901;
- To have programmes in place to ensure the health and wellbeing of our people.

#### Our people and culture

- To be the employer of choice in North Otago and amongst our industry;
- To be an equal opportunity employer promoting inclusiveness and diversity;
- To attract and retain top talent;
- To train and develop our people to meet current and future business needs;

#### Our customers and community

- To be the service provider of choice for our customers, providing safe, reliable, cost effective and innovative solutions;
- To maintain a positive profile in our community and ensure there is clear value in Trust ownership;
- To provide electricity consumers with a safe, efficient and reliable electricity distribution system;
- To be supportive of activities that provide economic growth and wellbeing in our network area;
- To consider and communicate price impacts to customers in line with Electricity Authority customer care guidance.
- To continue to build and maintain effective and respectful working relationships with mana whenua.

#### Building a sustainable future

- To operate the business in a commercially sustainable manner and use company resources in an efficient manner;
- To preserve and grow the value of the business for the long-term benefit of consumers;
- To provide dividends, discounts and community support activities reflecting our trust ownership;
- To promote the efficient use of energy as required under the Energy Companies Act 1992 clause 36 (2);

- To support and enable the decarbonisation and electrification of the New Zealand economy by supporting customers conversion to electricity; and connection of renewable energy sources to our distribution system.
- To adapt to climate change through improved understanding of the impact upon our business. Ensure the planning, design, maintenance and operation considers the environmental conditions;
- To operate in a way that minimises the impact on the environment and ensure compliance with the Resource Management Act;
- To comply with all obligations under relevant legislation and regulations.

These objectives demonstrate our wider commitment to community and environmental sustainability as well as long term economic responsibility. We will follow these principles as an integral part of our operations and governance to demonstrate we are fulfilling our obligations as a good corporate citizen.

### 3. The nature and scope of activities of the Company will be:

- to operate, maintain, upgrade and develop the Company's electricity distribution network and develop transmission connection assets to meet customer needs;
- to provide electrical construction and maintenance services;
- to own and operate a fibre optic network and develop this to meet customer requirements;
- to investigate, evaluate and undertake profitable additional business opportunities within the energy, utilities and infrastructure sectors, with a total investment level or financial exposure not exceeding \$5m;

Investments in activities other than those outlined above will be subject to receiving prior written consent from the majority of the Company's shareholders.

# 4. The ratio of Consolidated Shareholders' Funds to Total Assets and definitions of those terms.

The ratio of shareholders' funds to total assets shall be maintained at not less than 60 per cent. This ratio may be revised on receiving prior written consent from the majority of the Company's shareholders should the Company have the opportunity to invest or undertake major capital expenditure.

Total assets will comprise all the recorded tangible and intangible assets of the Company at their current book value as defined in the Company's Statement of Accounting Policies.

Consolidated shareholders' funds of the Company will comprise the total issued capital, the balance of undistributed profits and all revenue and capital reserves.

### 5. The Accounting Policies

The Company's accounting policies will comply with the legal requirements of the Companies Act 1993 and be consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. Financial Statements will conform to the Financial Reporting Standards as required by the Financial Reporting Act 2013.

Details of the current accounting policies and their application are contained in the Network Waitaki Company Annual Report for the year ending 31 March 2024.

### 6. The Risk Management Approach

The company will maintain a Risk Management system based on the ISO 31000, Risk Management – Guidelines, provides principles, a framework and processes for managing risk.

This will compliment adherent risk and hazard management obligations that include maintain an accredited public safety management system in accordance with NZS7901, HSWA 2015 and other relevant legislative and regulatory obligations.

Management will ensure that risk management practices adhere to the established Risk Management Policy with governance provided by the Board of Directors of Network Waitaki Limited.

# 7. The Company's Performance Targets and Other Measures

A summary of budgeted financial performance, financial position and other financial measures and performance statistics for the 2025-2026 financial year and the forecast for the following two financial years for Network Waitaki Limited are provided for in the following tables.

The Company accounts represent the financial performance of Network Waitaki Limited.

Network capital and maintenance expenditure are consistent with the estimates provided in the Asset Management Plan.

For readers' information, a summary capital expenditure and the funding of this expenditure is contained in Appendix B.

Network Waitaki Limited Profit and Loss						
		year ended 31 March				
		2026	2028			
Revenue						
Revenue excluding Customer Contributions		39,619,630	44,375,029	53,224,673		
Customer Contributions		1,600,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		
Total Revenue		41,219,630	45,375,029	54,224,673		
Operating Expenses						
Expenses excluding Depreciation		(22,544,397)	(25,213,308)	(32,268,922)		
Depreciation		(6,441,892)	(7,341,130)	(7,989,441)		
Total Operating Expenses	Γ	(28,986,290)	(32,554,439)	(40,258,362)		
Operating Profit		12,233,340	12,820,590	13,966,311		
Net Interest Income / Expense		(1,745,313)	(2,366,600)	(2,943,500)		
Sponsorship		(1,743,513)	(2,300,000)	(2,343,300)		
Discount		(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)		
Net Profit Before Tax		9,211,027	9,453,990	10,022,811		
Provision for Taxation		(2,579,088)	(2,647,117)	(2,806,387)		
		6,631,940	6,806,873	7,216,424		

Network Waitaki Limited Balance Sheet						
	year	year ended 31 March				
	2026	2027	2028			
Total Equity	125,879,358	132,553,037	139,619,461			
Current Assets Current Liabilities	9,756,194 (5,030,683)	10,740,382 (6,364,216)	11,485,709 (6,471,482)			
Working Capital	4,725,511	4,376,167	5,014,227			
Non-Current Assets Non-Current Liabilities	174,791,932 (53,638,085)	195,884,410 (67,707,540)	208,812,773 (74,207,540)			
Net Assets	125,879,358	132,553,037	139,619,461			

**Financial performance measures** – a core objective is to operate as a successful and financially sustainable business providing an agreed return to shareholders. We will continue to monitor our performance with regular benchmarking against our peers.

The key financial performance measures are outlined in the table below including the rate of return on shareholders funds under tax:

Network Waitaki Limited Key Financial Performance Measures						
	year ended 31 March					1
		2026 2027			2028	
NPBT to Shareholder Funds		7.32%		7.13%		7.18%
Net Assets per Share	\$	8.99	\$	9.47	\$	9.97
Earnings per Share before Tax	\$	0.66	\$	0.68	\$	0.72
Ratio of Shareholder Funds to Total Assets		68.21%		64.15%		63.38%
Rate of Return after Tax on Shareholder Funds		5.27%		5.14%		5.17%

**Health, safety and environmental measures** – a core business objective is to ensure that no harm comes to our people, members of the public or the environment from our assets and operations.

Our priority is to enhance performance by maintaining a highly skilled workforce, ensuring compliance to industry standards and effectively managing our critical health and safety risks to prevent or minimise serious harm to health and wellbeing.

Our goal is to achieve zero serious harm to our people, however we acknowledge that minor workplace injuries may occur which may result in some lost time to ensure an appropriate recovery. We are committed to controlling critical safety risks to ensure that no serious or life altering injuries arise from critical risk areas, and that workplace health exposures do no result in long term harm.

We have selected the following performance measures:

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Lost time incidents arising from critical safety risk areas	0	0	0
Health and Safety Management Systems	Maintain then review or replace <sup>1</sup> (ISO45001)	Review then maintain or replace	Maintain
External Field Work Assessments/Audits	2	2	2
Public Safety Management System certification (NZS7901)	Maintain	Maintain	Maintain
Environmental Management	No non compliance with resource consents	No non compliance with resource consents	No non compliance with resource consents

<sup>1</sup> Network Waitaki intends to review and evaluate the H&S management systems used by other EDBs to ensure we have the appropriate system.

**Reliability measures** – a core objective of an electricity distributor is to reliably distribute electricity to consumers. The most commonly used measures of network reliability are System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) and System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI).

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
SAIDI minutes (unplanned)	55	55	55
SAIDI minutes (planned)	105	105	105
SAIDI minutes total	160	160	160
SAIFI (unplanned)	1.3	1.3	1.3
SAIFI (planned)	0.5	0.5	0.5
SAIFI total	1.8	1.8	1.8

Note that the systems used to collect reliability data are manual in nature and as such have inherent limitations, but we believe they remain the most cost-effective method available to us at present. Manual systems are widely used throughout our sector and even with their inherent limitations they are still considered suitable to give an indication of network reliability.

# 8. Financial Distribution

# **Dividend Policy**

The policy on apportioning net profits distributed to the shareholders, who are the Trustees of the Waitaki Power Trust, will be determined by the directors from time to time in accordance with the yearly results and prevailing circumstances, with the objective of ensuring that the Company retains an appropriate level of earnings and funds for profitable investment in the Company's business.

The directors will include within their report on the operations of the Company (prepared after the end of each financial year) a statement recommending the maximum amount of dividend (if any) payable by the Company in respect of its equity securities.

The directors may distribute to the shareholders any financial surpluses not needed for the operation and development of the business or to ensure the security of the network in case of a disaster and to take advantage of investment opportunities.

# **Discount Policy**

Network Waitaki Limited will budget for an annual discount that meets the requirements of the Waitaki Power Trust Deed. A Statement of Intention to Pay Discount will be published on the company website prior to the commencement of each financial year. In setting the discounts the directors believe that the discounts will:

- will meet the requirements of the Waitaki Power Trust Deed;
- maintain the Company's line charges and associated profit level within the electricity industry requirements;
- promote consumer goodwill;
- encourage greater utilisation of Network Waitaki's electricity distribution network; and
- promote consumer perception of Network Waitaki as a corporate body which makes a positive contribution to the community.

# 9. Information to be provided to the Shareholders of the Company during the course of those financial years, including the information to be included in each Quarterly Report.

The directors will provide information to shareholders as required by the Companies Act 1993, the Financial Reporting Act 2013, the Energy Companies Act 1992 and New Zealand International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Company includes any relevant subsidiary of the Company.

A company is a Relevant Subsidiary of another company if:

- (a) That other company holds more than 20% of the issued shares of the company; *OR*
- (b) The company is a subsidiary of a company that is that other company's Relevant Subsidiary.

# The following information will be made available:

# Annual Report

The Annual Report for the Company, its subsidiaries and associated companies (if any) will be submitted to Shareholders within three months of the end of the financial year and will include:

- (a) a report by the directors of the operations of the Company, its subsidiaries (if any) and relevant subsidiaries (if any) during the financial year;
- (b) audited financial statements for the financial year in accordance with New Zealand International Financial Reporting Standards;
- (c) an Auditor's Report on the financial statements and the performance targets and other measures by which the performance of the Company has been judged in relation to the objectives.

The information to be contained in the above report shall be sufficiently detailed so as to enable an informed assessment to be made of the operations of the Company, its subsidiaries (if any), and relevant subsidiaries (if any) including a comparison of the performance criteria provided in the Company's Statement of Corporate Intent.

The audited consolidated financial statements will include:

- 1. Balance Sheet; and
- 2. Profit and Loss Statement; and
- 3. Statement of Cash Flows; and
- 4. Such other information as may be necessary to fairly reflect the financial position of the Company, its subsidiaries (if any) and relevant subsidiaries (if any).

# **Quarterly Report**

Three quarterly reports will be submitted to shareholders within eight weeks of the end of each quarter. These reports will provide shareholders with timely information on the financial position and operations of the Company with a comparison of actual results and forecasts. They will be un-audited and in an abbreviated form.

Further information or reports will be supplied to shareholders by the directors, concerning issues of interest and where the information required relates to a decision to be made by the shareholders.

# **Statement of Corporate Intent**

A draft Statement of Corporate Intent will be developed in consultation with the Waitaki Power Trust as shareholders of Network Waitaki Limited and delivered before the commencement of each financial year.

# 10. The procedures to be followed before the Directors of the Company subscribe for, purchase, or otherwise acquire shares in any company or other organisation.

The directors will only consider the acquisition of shares in other companies or organisations where such acquisition is consistent with the long-term commercial objectives of the Company.

The directors of the Company will consider an acquisition of shares in the following circumstances:

- a) to better manage risk in the best interest of the Company and its shareholders;
- b) where, in the directors' opinion, the acquisition is in the best interests of the Company in terms of creating wealth or potential wealth for the shareholders; and
- c) under other circumstances which, in the opinion of the directors, are in the best interests of the Company.

The directors will not authorise the Company to acquire shares in any other company or organisation without the prior written consent of the majority of shareholders in the Company.

# 11. Such other matters as are agreed by the Shareholders and the Directorate

### 11.1 **Procedure for acquisition and disposal of assets**

The directors of the Company will not make an acquisition or disposal of non-electricity distribution assets (by a transaction or series of related transactions) if the value of the assets is greater than \$5m without prior written consent from the majority of the Company's shareholders.

### 11.2 Community sponsorship, support and engagement

The Company is an integral part of the community - through its Trust ownership structure and also the significant role it plays in the community as both a service provider and employer. The Company may be involved in modest community sponsorship activities and the funding of community initiatives where these activities are related to the strategic objectives of the Company.

### **11.3 Appointment of Directors to Subsidiary Companies**

The Company will not appoint any person as a director of any subsidiary of the Company (if any) or relevant subsidiary (if any) of the Company (or remove any person from office as a director) without first receiving prior written consent from the majority of the Company's shareholders.

#### 11.4 Issue of shares

The directors will not authorise the issue of shares to any person or grant to any person options in respect of any share in Network Waitaki Limited, without first obtaining the approval of Trustees in accordance with the Waitaki Power Trust Deed Clause 9.11.

The directors will not authorise the issue of shares to any person or grant to any person options in respect of any share in any subsidiary of Network Waitaki Limited without receiving prior written consent from the majority of the Company's shareholders.

# Appendix A: Assumptions to the Financial Statements

- a) Financial forecasts are based on the Company continuing in its projected business structure and scope.
- b) Revenue and expenditure projections assume no extraordinary breakdowns in the Company's lines network system.
- c) Network, Fibre, Land and Building assets are valued at a deemed cost less any subsequent depreciation.
- d) No changes will occur from electricity reforms or regulatory requirements.
- e) Forecast revenues are based on the average of the three previous years' energy volumes transported plus forecast growth from new connections.

# Appendix B: Capital Expenditure

# **Projected Capital Works Programme**

The Company has a capital works programme to meet safety, reliability and increasing system demand. The Network Waitaki Asset Management Plan (AMP) details assumptions associated with capital expenditure and network activities.

The budgeted capital expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2026 is \$30,333,890.

Network Waitaki Limited Capital Expenditure						
		year ended 31 March				
	20	26	2027	2028		
System Growth	11,2	238,700	14,973,372	9,707,302		
RSE Quality of Supply	1,3	323,000	-	-		
RSE Legislative & Regulatory		-	-	-		
Replacement & Renewal	13,0	00,927	9,645,151	7,897,692		
Consumer Connection	1,7	11,155	1,811,685	1,907,938		
Asset Relocations		-	-	-		
Total Core Network Capital Expenditure	27,2	73,782	26,430,208	19,512,932		
Non Network Capital Expenditure	3,0	60,108	1,301,750	1,386,825		
Total Capital Expenditure	30,3	33,890	27,731,958	20,899,757		

Network Waitaki Limited Capital Funding					
	year ended 31 March				
	2026	2027	2028		
Network Capital Investment	27,273,782	26,430,208	19,512,932		
Non Network Capital Expenditure	3,060,108	1,301,750	1,386,825		
Total Capital Requirements	30,333,890	27,731,958	20,899,757		
Funded from					
Depreciation	6,441,892	7,341,130	7,989,441		
Retained Earnings (from current year)	6,631,940	6,806,873	7,216,424		
Total Funding from Current Year's Operations	13,073,832	- 14,148,003	15,205,864		
Working Capital	260,058	(416,045)	(806,108)		
Debt Funding	17,000,000	14,000,000	6,500,000		
Total Funding	17,260,058	13,583,955	5,693,892		