

29 October 2018

Provision of Financial Assistance under Employee Share Ownership Plan

In accordance with section 80 of the Companies Act 1993, Contact Energy Limited (**Contact**) is required to make the following disclosure in respect of financial assistance provided by Contact for the recent allocation to Contact employees under Contact's employee share ownership plan (**Contact Share**).

Contact established Contact Share by a trust deed dated 12 September 2013 to enable employees to acquire ordinary shares in Contact. Contact Share has been approved by Inland Revenue as a share purchase scheme for the purposes of the Income Tax Act 2007. Under Contact Share, Contact Energy Trustee Company Limited (**Trustee**) purchases \$1,000 of shares per participating employee on-market. Employees contribute \$0.01 per share towards the cost of the shares.

Under the trust deed, Contact has agreed to meet all of the Trustee's costs associated with Contact Share. The payment of such costs to the trustee constitutes the giving of financial assistance for the purpose of, or in connection with, the purchase of shares issued by the Company under section 76 of the Companies Act 1993.

The details of the financial assistance provided by Contact are as follows:

Shares in respect of which the financial assistance was provided	103,086 ordinary shares in Contact (Shares).
Consideration paid for the Shares	\$5.7221 per Share.
Recipients of the financial assistance	Employees of Contact who applied to acquire Shares under Contact Share. The Shares are held by the Trustee for the participants for a restricted period of 3 years.
Nature of financial assistance	The financial assistance was given in the form of a payment of (a) \$591,343.07 (including brokerage) to purchase the Shares and (b) approximately \$5,000 to cover the costs of operating Contact Share (pursuant to the trust deed).

Kirsten Clayton
Company Secretary