

Release

Stock Exchange Listings NZX (MEL) ASX (MEZ)

Meridian Energy monthly operating report for January 2024

16 February 2024

Attached is Meridian Energy Limited's monthly operating report for the month of January 2024.

Highlights this month include:

- In the month to 14 February 2024, national hydro storage increased from 84% to 101% of historical average
- South Island storage increased to 95% of average and North Island storage increased to 145% of average by 14 February 2024
- Meridian's January 2024 monthly total inflows were 118% of historical average
- Waiau catchment inflows in January 2024 were 128% of historical average
- Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage at the end of January 2024 was 93% of historical average
- Snow storage in Meridian's Waitaki catchment was 26% of average at the beginning of February 2024
- Water storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment was 141% of average at the end of January 2024
- National electricity demand in January 2024 was +2.6% higher than the same month last year
- January 2024 was warm and dry for most of the country. Much of the country experienced below normal rainfall, except across central and eastern parts of the North Island and the west of the South Island
- New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's average load during January 2024 was 575MW
- Meridian's retail sales volumes in January 2024 were +8.3% higher than January 2023
- Compared to January 2023, segment sales increased in residential +3.0%, small medium business +7.0%, large business +11.1%, agriculture +19.2% and corporate +4.3%

ENDS

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Meridian.

Monthly Operating Report

January 2024

January highlights

In the month to 14 February 2024, national hydro storage increased from **84%** to **101%** of historical average

South Island storage increased to **95%** of average and North Island storage increased to **145%** of average by 14 February 2024

Meridian's January 2024 monthly total inflows were **118%** of historical average

Waiau catchment inflows in January 2024 were **128%** of historical average

Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage at the end of January 2024 was **93%** of historical average

Snow storage in Meridian's Waitaki catchment was **26%** of average at the beginning of February 2024

Water storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment was **141%** of average at the end of January 2024

National electricity demand in January 2024 was **+2.6%** higher than the same month last year

January 2024 was warm and dry for most of the country. Much of the country experienced below normal rainfall, except across central and eastern parts of the North Island and the west of the South Island

New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's average load during January 2024 was **575MW**

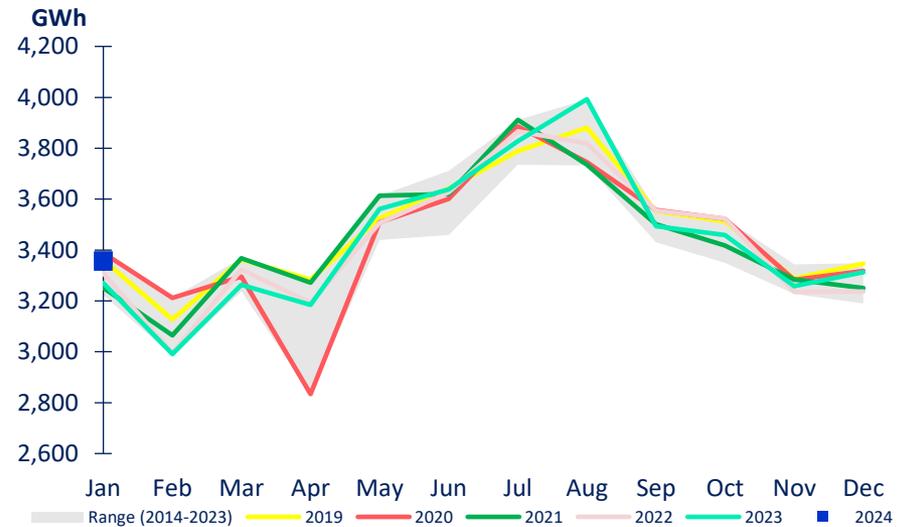
Meridian's retail sales volumes in January 2024 were **+8.3%** higher than January 2023

Compared to January 2023, segment sales increased in residential +3.0%, small medium business +7.0%, large business +11.1%, agriculture +19.2% and corporate +4.3%

Market data

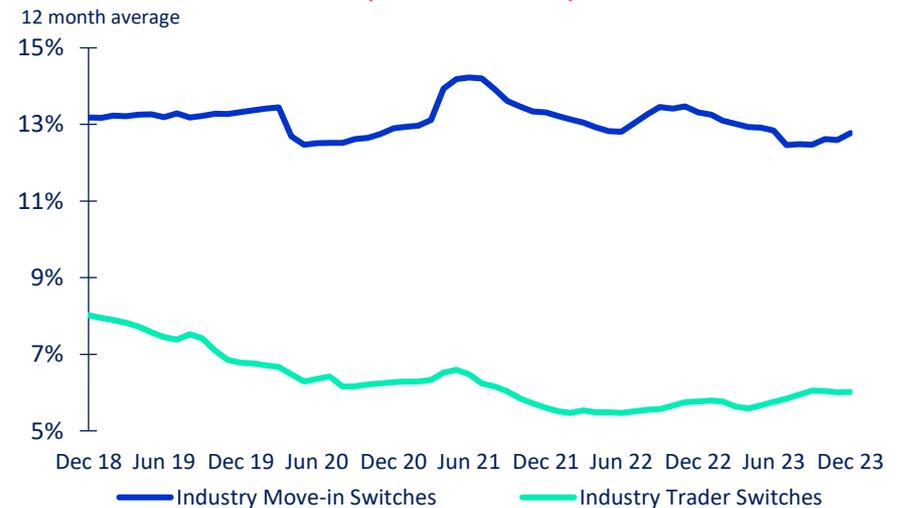
- National electricity demand in January 2024 was +2.6% higher than the same month last year
- January 2024 was warm and dry for most of the country. Much of the country experienced below normal rainfall, except across central and eastern parts of the North Island and the west of the South Island
- Demand in the last 12 months was +0.4% higher than the preceding 12 months
- New Zealand Aluminium Smelter’s average load during January 2024 was 575MW
- 12-month average switching rate of customers changing retailers but not moving (“trader” switch) was 6.0% at the end of December 2023
- 12-month average switching rate of customers moving and changing retailers (“move-in” switch) was 12.8% at the end of December 2023

NATIONAL DEMAND



Source: Electricity Authority (reconciled demand)

MARKET ICP SWITCHING (ALL RETAILERS)

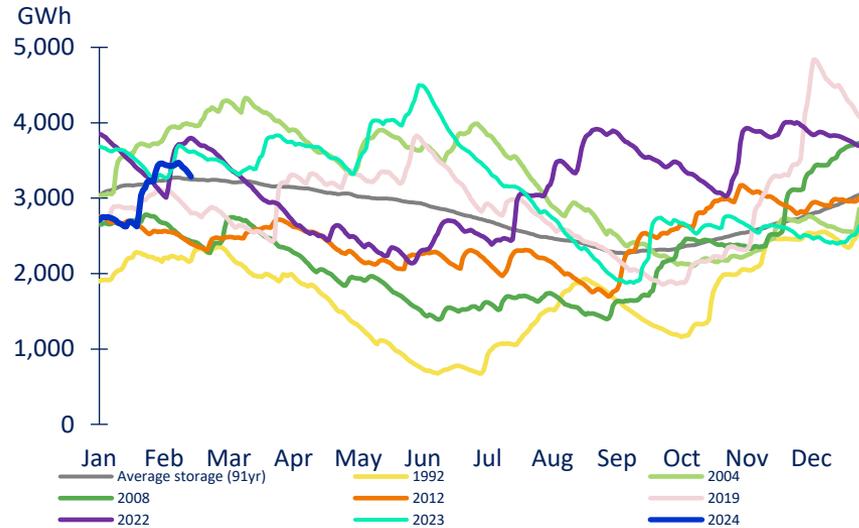


Source: Electricity Authority

Market data

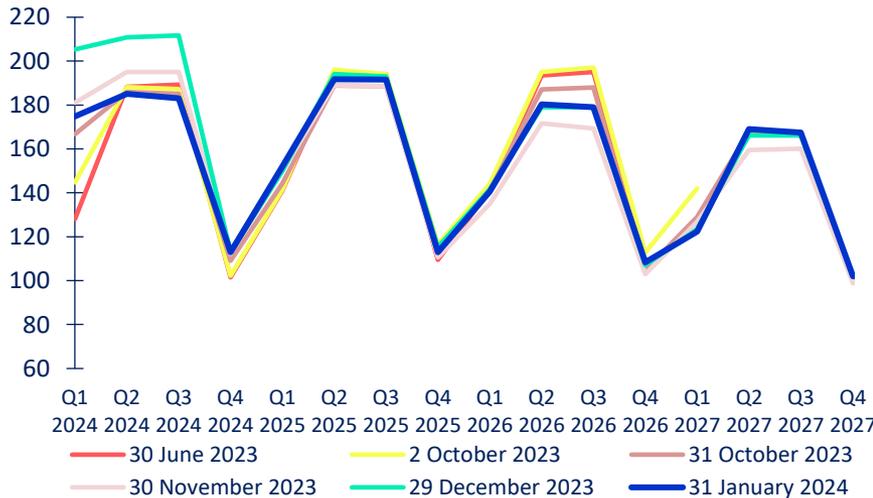
- Near term ASX electricity futures decreased, with longer dated prices staying steady during January 2024
- National storage increased from 84% of average on 12 January 2024 to 101% of average on 14 February 2024
- South Island storage increased to 95% of historical average by 14 February 2024. North Island storage increased to 145% of average

NATIONAL HYDRO STORAGE (14 February 2024)



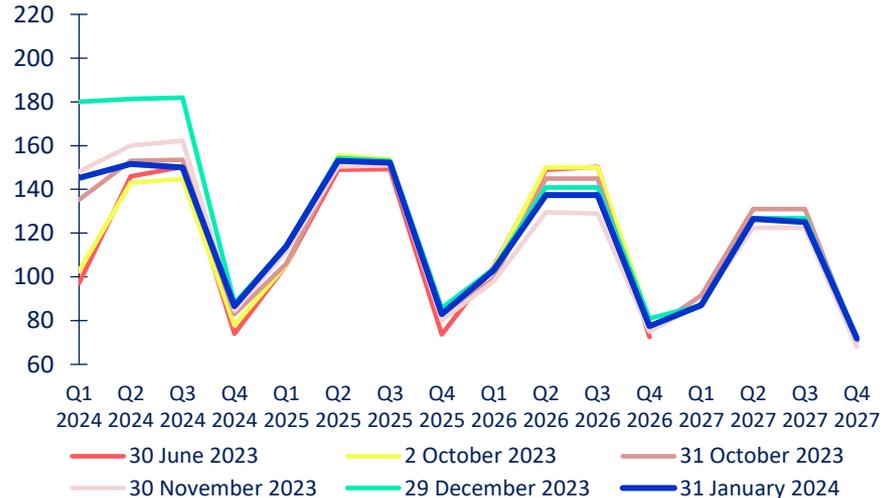
Source: NZX

OTAHUHU ASX FUTURES SETTLEMENT PRICE \$/MWh



Source: ASX

BENMORE ASX FUTURES SETTLEMENT PRICE \$/MWh



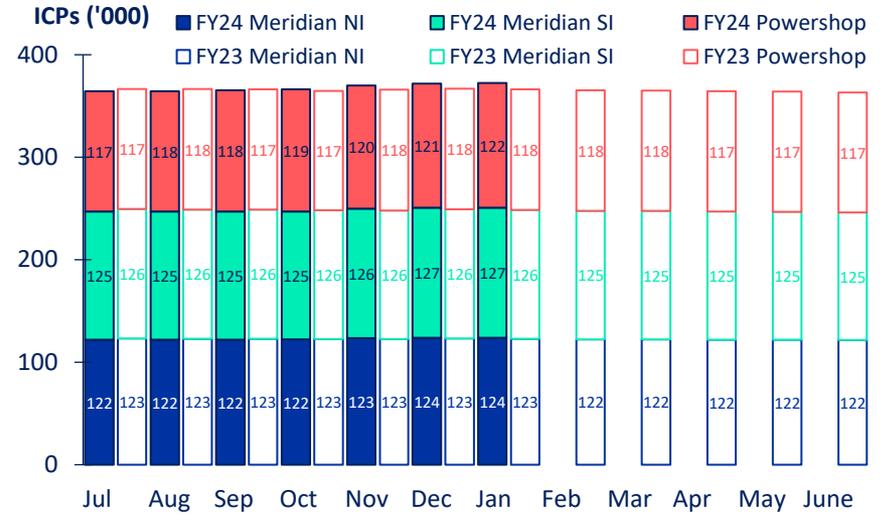
Source: ASX

Meridian retail

- Meridian’s customer connection numbers increased +0.2% during January 2024 and have increased +2.6% since June 2023
- Retail sales volumes in January 2024 were +8.3% higher than January 2023
- Compared to January 2023, segment sales increased in residential +3.0%, small medium business +7.0%, large business +11.1%, agriculture +19.2% and corporate +4.3%
- To date this financial year, retail sales volumes are +3.7% higher than the same period last year
- This reflects increased segment sales in small medium business +1.3%, large business +6.9%, agricultural +11.0% and corporate +3.5%, with a decrease in residential of -0.4%

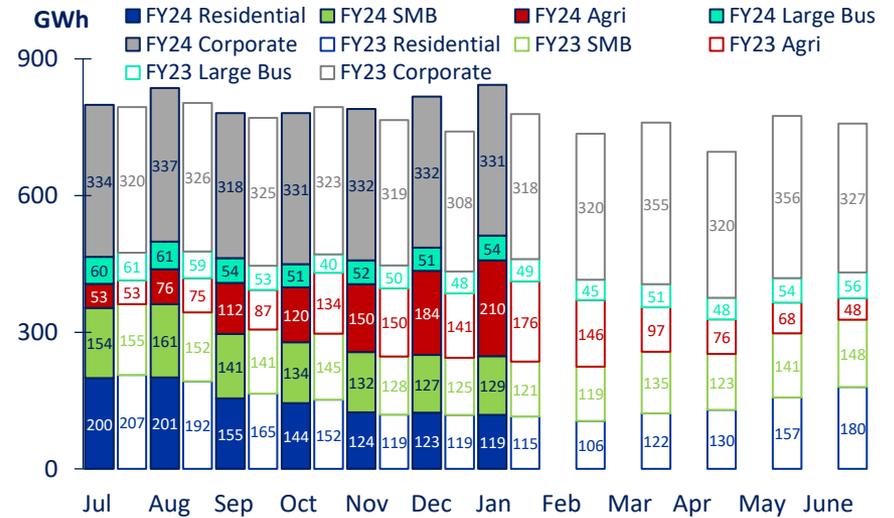
*excludes volumes sold to New Zealand Aluminium Smelters and CFDs

MERIDIAN'S CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS



Source: Meridian

MERIDIAN'S RETAIL SALES VOLUME*

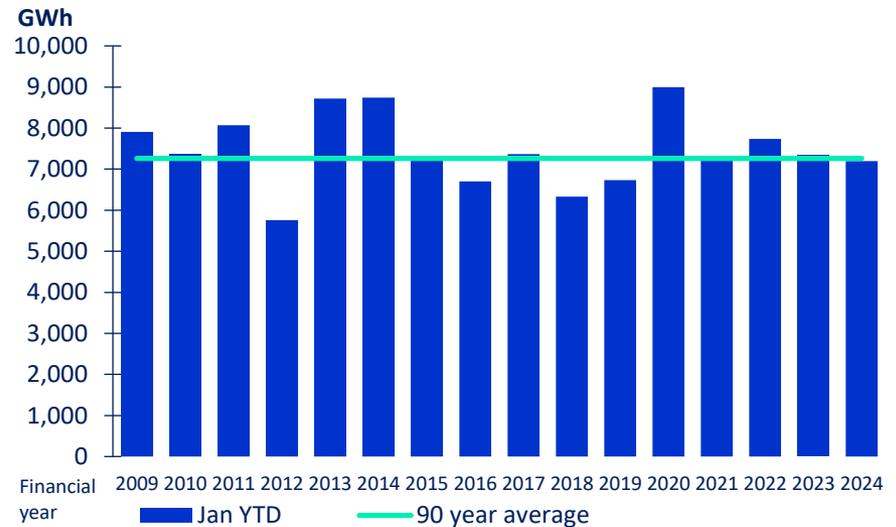


Source: Meridian

Meridian inflows and storage

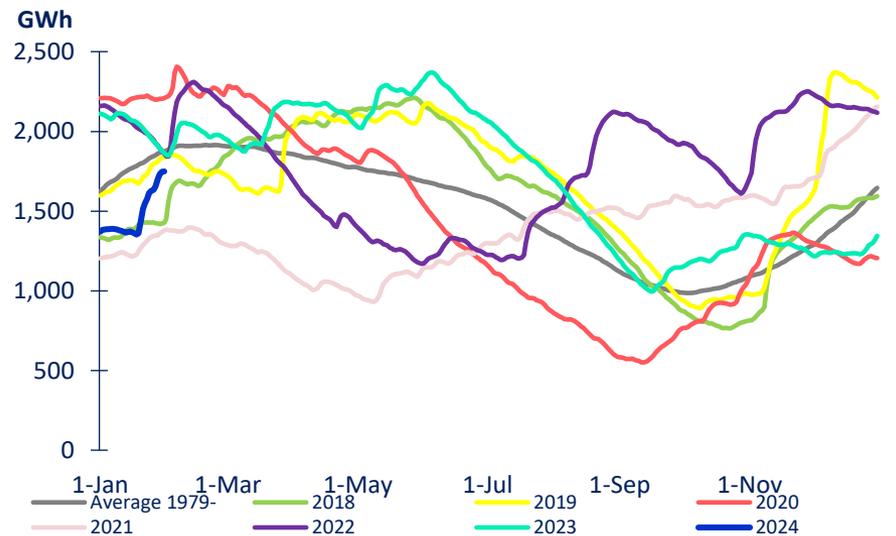
- January 2024 monthly inflows were 118% of historical average
- Waiau catchment inflows in January 2024 were 128% of historical average, higher than the same time last year
- To date this financial year, inflows are 99% of historical average
- Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage moved from 1,346GWh to 1,750GWh during January 2024
- Waitaki water storage at the end of January 2024 was 93% of historical average and 6% lower than the same time last year
- Snow storage in Meridian's Waitaki catchment was 26% of average at the beginning of February 2024
- Water storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment was 141% of average at the end of January 2024

MERIDIAN'S COMBINED CATCHMENT INFLOWS



Source: Meridian

MERIDIAN'S WAITAKI STORAGE

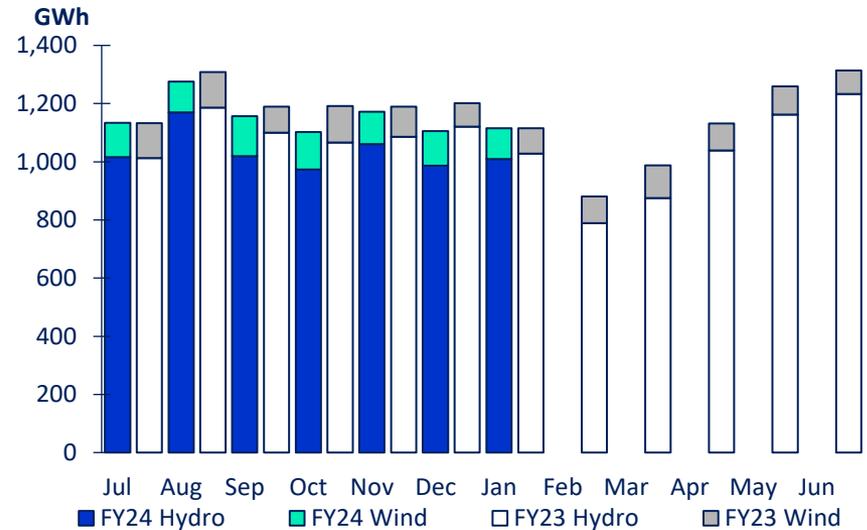


Source: Meridian

Meridian generation

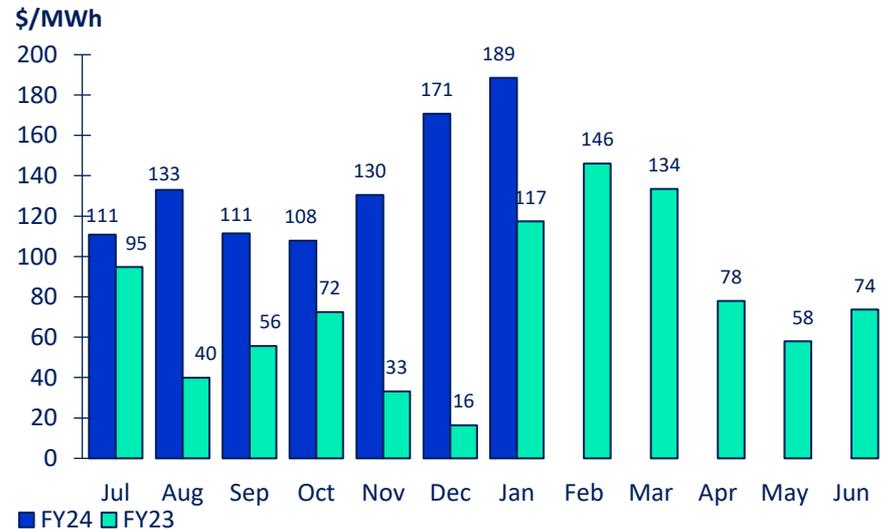
- Meridian’s generation in January 2024 was +0.1% higher than the same month last year, reflecting lower hydro generation and higher wind generation
- To date this financial year, Meridian’s generation is -3.2% lower than the same period last year, reflecting lower hydro generation and higher wind generation
- The average price Meridian received for its generation in January 2024 was +60.6% higher than the same month last year
- The average price Meridian paid to supply customers in January 2024 was +55.8% higher than the same month last year
- To date this financial year, the average price Meridian received for its generation is +125.4% higher than the same period last year and the average price paid to supply customers is +109.6% higher

MERIDIAN'S GENERATION



Source: Meridian

MERIDIAN'S AVERAGE GENERATION PRICE*



*price received for Meridian’s physical generation

Source: Meridian

Monthly operating information

	JANUARY 2024 MONTH	JANUARY 2023 MONTH	DECEMBER 2023 MONTH	NOVEMBER 2023 MONTH	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2024	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2023
New Zealand contracted sales						
Residential sales volume (GWh)	119	115	123	124	1,066	1,070
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	129	121	127	132	979	967
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	210	176	184	150	905	815
Large business sales volume (GWh)	54	49	51	52	384	359
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	331	318	332	332	2,315	2,238
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	843	779	818	790	5,649	5,449
Average retail contracted sales price ¹ (\$NZ/MWh)	\$136.4	\$126.3	\$125.9	\$130.1	\$139.0	\$128.2
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	426	412	2,951	2,949
Financial contract sales volumes ² (GWh)	275	308	212	250	2,038	1,740
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price ³ (\$NZ/MWh)	\$75.0	\$72.4	\$57.5	\$61.9	\$69.9	\$59.6
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	884	804	879	838	5,991	5,769
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$201.4	\$124.7	\$186.1	\$143.3	\$150.9	\$71.5
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$187.1	\$123.4	\$171.4	\$128.5	\$135.1	\$60.8
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$181.8	\$125.8	\$166.7	\$127.1	\$132.3	\$70.6
Total New Zealand customer connections ⁴	372,604	366,362	371,800	370,087		

See page 10 for footnotes

Monthly operating information

	JANUARY 2024 MONTH	JANUARY 2023 MONTH	DECEMBER 2023 MONTH	NOVEMBER 2023 MONTH	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2024	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2023
New Zealand generation						
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,010	1,028	987	1,061	7,237	7,602
Wind generation volume (GWh)	106	87	119	111	826	727
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,116	1,115	1,106	1,172	8,063	8,329
Average generation price ⁵ (\$NZ/MWh)	\$188.6	\$117.4	\$170.8	\$130.4	\$135.8	\$60.3
New Zealand hedging						
Hedging volume ⁶ (GWh)	504	396	458	404	3,364	2,656
Hedging cost average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$127.4	\$117.0	\$110.1	\$105.6	\$124.6	\$113.7
Hedging spot revenue average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$192.6	\$142.0	\$179.4	\$144.7	\$144.3	\$72.6
Future contract close outs (\$NZm)	\$2.1	-\$2.5	\$1.0	-\$0.9	\$20.1	\$48.7

See page 10 for footnotes

Monthly operating information

	JANUARY 2024 MONTH	JANUARY 2023 MONTH	DECEMBER 2023 MONTH	NOVEMBER 2023 MONTH	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2024	7 MONTHS TO JANUARY 2023
New Zealand costs						
Employee and Operating Costs (\$m)	20	18	24	24	159	139
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$m)	6	2	5	7	36	24
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$m)	12	20	13	54	145	169
Total Capital Expenditure (\$m)	18	22	18	61	181	193

Footnotes

- Contracted sales volumes and volume weighted average price received from contracted customers less distribution costs
- Derivatives sold excluding the sell-side of virtual asset swaps
- Average price of both NZAS sales volume and derivative sales volumes
- Meridian Retail and Powershop New Zealand installation control points (ICPs), excluding vacants
- Volume weighted average price received for Meridian's physical generation
- Over the counter and ASX contract volumes excluding the buy-side of virtual asset swaps

FY24 operating information

	Jul 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Q1 FY24	YoY change	Q2 FY24	YoY change	Q3 FY24	YoY change	Q4 FY24	YoY change
New Zealand contracted sales																				
Residential sales volume (GWh)	200	201	155	144	124	123	119						555	-9	392	+2				
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	154	161	141	134	132	127	129						457	+9	393	-5				
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	53	76	112	120	150	184	210						241	+27	454	+29				
Large business sales volume (GWh)	60	61	54	51	52	51	54						175	+2	155	+17				
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	334	337	318	331	332	332	331						989	+19	995	+45				
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	800	836	781	781	790	818	843						2,417	+48	2,389	+88				
Average retail contracted sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$149.2	\$151.2	\$148.2	\$131.5	\$130.1	\$125.9	\$136.4						\$149.6	+\$15.5	\$129.1	+\$6.4				
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	411	426	412	426	426						1,262	+1	1,263	+1				
Financial contract sales volumes (GWh)	338	371	371	221	250	212	275						1,080	+433	683	-101				
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$78.6	\$78.4	\$76.4	\$56.2	\$61.9	\$57.5	\$75.0						\$77.8	+\$18.9	\$58.5	+\$3.0				
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	845	892	825	829	838	879	884						2,561	+61	2,546	+82				
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$128.6	\$144.9	\$123.3	\$124.3	\$143.3	\$186.1	\$201.4						\$132.6	+\$57.9	\$151.9	+\$101.1				
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$109.2	\$132.9	\$110.7	\$105.1	\$128.5	\$171.4	\$187.1						\$117.7	+\$55.0	\$135.0	+\$97.2				
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$109.5	\$132.6	\$115.5	\$105.8	\$127.1	\$166.7	\$181.8						\$119.5	+\$41.4	\$132.5	+\$89.8				
Total New Zealand customer connections	364,389	364,631	365,453	366,320	370,087	371,800	372,604						365,453	-3,294	371,800	+4,864				
New Zealand generation																				
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,016	1,170	1,020	974	1,061	987	1,010						3,206	-94	3,022	-252				
Wind generation volume (GWh)	118	107	138	128	111	119	106						362	+31	358	+49				
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,134	1,276	1,157	1,102	1,172	1,106	1,116						3,567	-63	3,380	-203				
Average generation price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$110.8	\$133.0	\$111.4	\$107.8	\$130.4	\$170.8	\$188.6						\$119.0	+\$56.8	\$136.3	+\$95.7				
New Zealand hedging																				
Hedging volume (GWh)	505	539	458	496	404	458	504						1,502	+297	1,358	+304				
Hedging cost average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$142.4	\$132.3	\$139.1	\$110.9	\$105.6	\$110.1	\$127.4						\$137.8	+\$14.0	\$109.1	+\$8.2				
Hedging spot revenue average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$115.7	\$134.3	\$121.2	\$123.7	\$144.7	\$179.4	\$192.6						\$124.1	+\$51.1	\$148.8	+\$102.7				
Future contract close outs (\$NZm)	\$14.0	\$3.2	\$1.4	-\$0.7	-\$0.9	\$1.0	\$2.1						\$18.6	-13.7	-\$0.6	-19.5				
Meridian Group																				
Employee and Operating Costs (\$NZ m)	23	24	22	22	24	24	20						\$69	+9	\$71	+9				
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	3	6	4	4	7	5	6						\$13	+3	\$16	+5				
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	16	20	15	16	54	13	12						\$51	+20	\$83	-36				
Total Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	19	26	19	20	61	18	18						\$64	+23	\$99	-31				

FY23 operating information

	Jul 2022	Aug 2022	Sep 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Apr 2023	May 2023	Jun 2023	Q1 FY23	YoY change	Q2 FY23	YoY change	Q3 FY23	YoY change	Q4 FY23	YoY change
New Zealand contracted sales																				
Residential sales volume (GWh)	207	192	165	152	119	119	115	106	122	130	157	180	564	-8	390	-0	343	+2	467	-3
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	155	152	141	145	128	125	121	119	135	123	141	148	448	+52	398	+44	375	+14	411	+12
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	53	75	87	134	150	141	176	146	97	76	68	48	214	+12	425	+38	419	+31	191	-15
Large business sales volume (GWh)	61	59	53	40	50	48	49	45	51	48	54	56	173	+33	137	+11	144	+16	157	+17
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	320	326	325	323	319	308	318	320	355	320	356	327	970	+30	950	+7	993	-33	1,003	-15
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	795	804	771	795	766	741	779	736	761	696	775	759	2,369	+119	2,301	+100	2,275	+30	2,230	-14
Average retail contracted sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$133.3	\$134.2	\$134.9	\$124.0	\$121.5	\$122.5	\$126.3	\$127.5	\$134.3	\$144.5	\$151.5	\$123.6	\$134.1	+\$10.9	\$122.7	+\$14.4	\$129.3	+\$15.0	\$139.8	+\$13.7
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	425	411	426	411	425	426	384	426	412	426	412	1,262	-1	1,262	-1	1,236	+0	1,250	+18
Financial contract sales volumes (GWh)	190	281	176	257	251	277	308	179	190	310	338	342	647	-81	785	-78	677	-96	989	+389
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$65.4	\$60.4	\$50.5	\$56.5	\$55.8	\$54.2	\$72.4	\$66.8	\$66.1	\$77.5	\$78.5	\$75.3	\$58.9	-\$13.5	\$55.5	-\$4.3	\$68.7	+\$5.0	\$77.1	+\$7.1
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	835	843	823	847	825	793	804	775	818	704	839	769	2,501	+138	2,465	+127	2,396	+39	2,312	-63
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$110.6	\$49.1	\$64.5	\$82.8	\$44.2	\$23.6	\$124.7	\$159.5	\$151.5	\$97.5	\$67.2	\$95.2	\$74.7	-\$75.6	\$50.8	-\$24.1	\$145.1	-\$25.3	\$85.7	-\$114.0
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$97.6	\$40.2	\$49.7	\$70.7	\$29.7	\$12.7	\$123.4	\$154.7	\$143.3	\$78.1	\$55.5	\$71.3	\$62.7	-\$51.7	\$37.8	-\$19.7	\$140.0	-\$25.9	\$68.1	-\$129.1
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$120.6	\$58.7	\$63.1	\$73.7	\$33.7	\$22.2	\$125.8	\$135.8	\$125.3	\$84.4	\$72.4	\$74.5	\$78.1	-\$54.9	\$42.7	-\$28.0	\$128.3	-\$24.9	\$76.9	-\$115.7
Total New Zealand customer connections	366,518	366,599	366,285	364,700	365,946	366,936	366,362	365,444	365,260	364,537	364,148	363,335	366,285	+11,475	366,936	+8,586	365,260	+1,830	363,335	-2,011
New Zealand generation																				
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,013	1,187	1,101	1,066	1,086	1,121	1,028	789	876	1,039	1,162	1,233	3,300	+170	3,274	+1	2,693	-321	3,434	+579
Wind generation volume (GWh)	120	122	89	126	103	81	87	92	113	92	97	81	331	-39	310	-30	291	+27	270	-42
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,133	1,308	1,190	1,192	1,190	1,202	1,115	881	988	1,131	1,259	1,314	3,631	+131	3,583	-29	2,984	-293	3,705	+537
Average generation price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$94.7	\$39.9	\$55.7	\$72.4	\$33.1	\$16.3	\$117.4	\$146.1	\$133.5	\$77.9	\$58.0	\$73.7	\$62.2	-\$62.0	\$40.6	-\$22.4	\$131.2	-\$21.5	\$69.6	-\$118.4
New Zealand hedging																				
Hedging volume (GWh)	428	425	352	350	347	358	396	429	450	378	413	440	1,205	+231	1,054	+51	1,276	-7	1,232	+117
Hedging cost average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$131.4	\$122.0	\$116.7	\$103.3	\$100.2	\$99.1	\$117.0	\$142.1	\$125.4	\$136.6	\$135.2	\$134.7	\$123.8	-\$0.0	\$100.8	+\$1.5	\$128.4	+\$14.4	\$135.4	+\$2.9
Hedging spot revenue average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$113.0	\$39.6	\$64.7	\$77.2	\$35.8	\$25.5	\$142.0	\$146.1	\$136.1	\$93.9	\$66.6	\$89.9	\$73.0	-\$70.6	\$46.0	-\$31.2	\$82.0	-\$90.1	\$83.3	-\$109.8
Future contract close outs (\$NZm)	-1.1	12.7	20.7	\$5.4	13.7	-0.2	-2.5	-2.8	-0.9	-1.0	0.4	1.6	32.4	+32.9	18.9	+19.7	-6.2	-9.5	1.0	-5.8
Meridian Group																				
Employee and Operating Costs (\$NZ m)	19	20	20	21	21	21	18	19	23	20	24	24	60	+8	62	+15	60	+6	68	+3
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	3	4	4	3	4	4	2	4	4	3	6	6	11	+1	11	-1	10	+4	15	+3
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	9	9	12	11	50	59	20	44	25	31	18	12	30	-6	119	+85	90	+67	61	+20
Total Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	12	13	16	14	54	62	22	48	29	34	24	17	41	-5	130	+84	99	+70	76	+23

Glossary

Hedging volumes	buy-side electricity derivatives excluding the buy-side of virtual asset swaps
Average generation price	the volume weighted average price received for Meridian’s physical generation
Average retail contracted sales price	volume weighted average electricity price received from retail customers, less distribution costs
Average wholesale contracted sales price	volume weighted average electricity price received from wholesale customers (including NZAS) and financial contracts
Combined catchment inflows	combined water inflows into Meridian’s Waitaki and Waiau hydro storage lakes
Cost of hedges	volume weighted average price Meridian pays for derivatives acquired
Cost to supply contracted sales	volume weighted average price Meridian pays to supply contracted customer sales and financial contracts
Contracts for Difference (CFDs)	an agreement between parties to pay the difference between the wholesale electricity price and an agreed fixed price for a specified volume of electricity. CFDs do not result in the physical supply of electricity
Customer connections (NZ)	number of installation control points, excluding vacants
GWh	gigawatt hour. Enough electricity for 125 average New Zealand households for one year
Historic average inflows	the historic average combined water inflows into Meridian’s Waitaki and Waiau hydro storage lakes over the last 85 years
Historic average storage	the historic average level of storage in Meridian’s Waitaki catchment since 1979
HVDC	high voltage direct current link between the North and South Islands of New Zealand
ICP	New Zealand installation control points, excluding vacants
ICP switching	the number of installation control points changing retailer supplier in New Zealand, recorded in the month the switch was initiated
MWh	megawatt hour. Enough electricity for one average New Zealand household for 46 days
National demand	Electricity Authority’s reconciled grid demand www.emi.ea.govt.nz
NZAS	New Zealand Aluminium Smelters Limited
Retail sales volumes	contract sales volumes to retail customers, including both non half hourly and half hourly metered customers
Financial contract sales	sell-side electricity derivatives excluding the sell-side of virtual asset swaps
Virtual Asset Swaps (VAS)	CFDs Meridian has with Genesis Energy and Mercury New Zealand. They do not result in the physical supply of electricity