



meridian

Release

Stock exchange listings: NZX (MEL) ASX (MEZ)

Meridian Energy monthly operating report for July 2015

27 August 2015

Attached is Meridian Energy Limited's monthly operating report for the month ended 31 July 2015.

Highlights this month include:

- National storage increased to 113% of historical average by 21 August 2015
- Meridian's July 2015 monthly inflows were 125% of historical average
- South Island storage now sits at 113% of average and North Island storage at 114% of average
- Meridian's Waitaki catchment storage increased from 109% to 119% of average by 31 July 2015
- Electricity demand in July 2015 was 0.3% higher than the same month last year
- Demand in the last 12 months is 2.6% higher than preceding 12 months

ENDS

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Better energy future

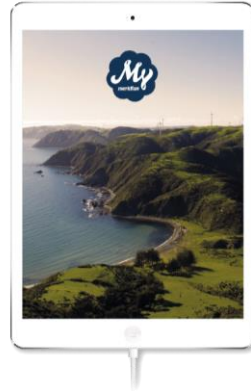


July highlights



In the five weeks to 21 August, national hydro storage increased from 111% to 113% of historical average

South Island storage now sits at 113% of average and North Island storage at 114% of average



Meridian's July 2015 monthly inflows were 125% of historical average

Meridian's Waitaki catchment increased from 109% to 119% of historical average by the end of July 2015



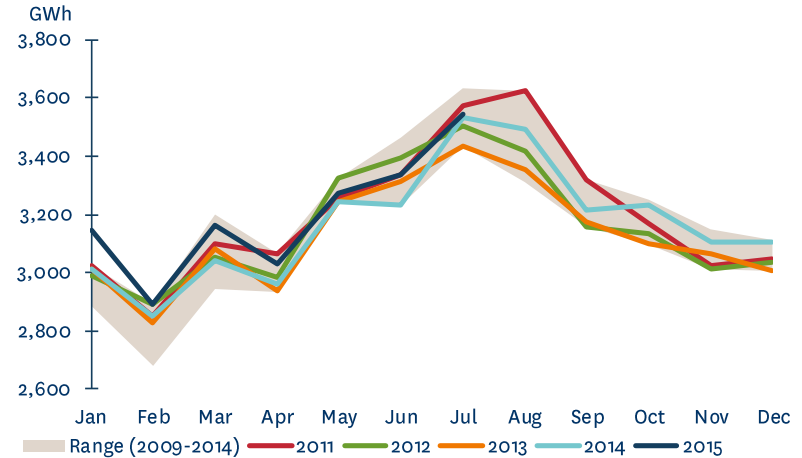
National electricity demand in July 2015 was 0.3% higher than the same month last year

Demand in the last 12 months is 2.6% higher than the preceding 12 months

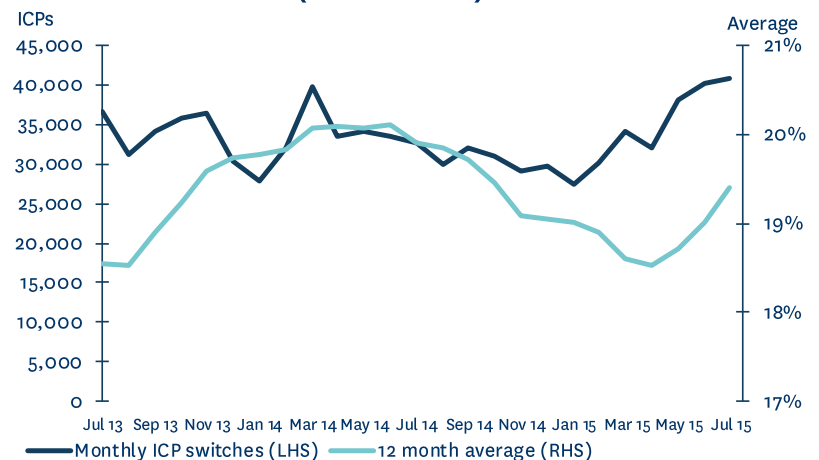
Market data

- National electricity demand in July 2015 was 0.3% higher than the same month last year
- Demand in the 2015 calendar year is showing 2.3% growth compared to the same seven months last year
- Demand in the last 12 months is 2.6% higher than the preceding 12 months
- New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's average load was slightly below the 572MW base quantity of the NZAS agreement
- The number of switches for all retailers in July 2015 was 1.5% higher than the previous month and 24.5% higher than July 2014
- The 12 month average switching rate for all retailers was 19.4% at the end of July 2015

NATIONAL DEMAND

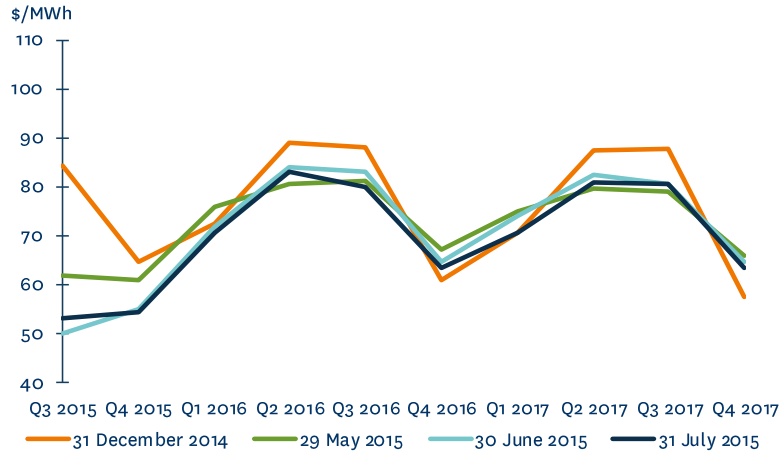


MARKET ICP SWITCHING (ALL RETAILERS)

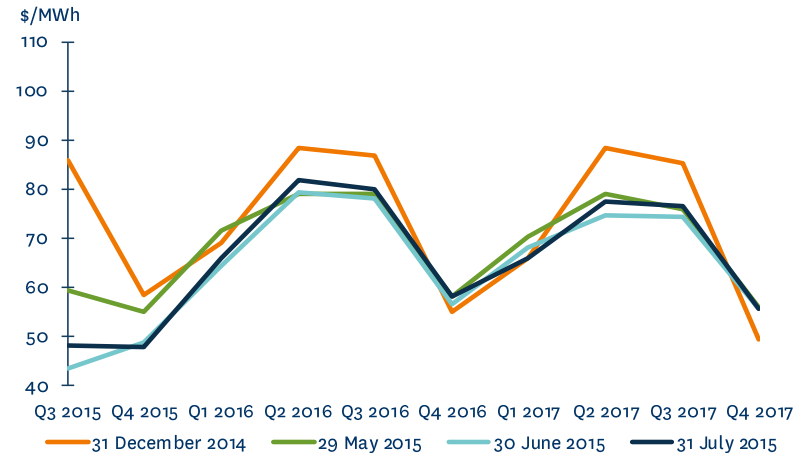


Market data

OTAHUHU ASX FUTURES SETTLEMENT PRICE

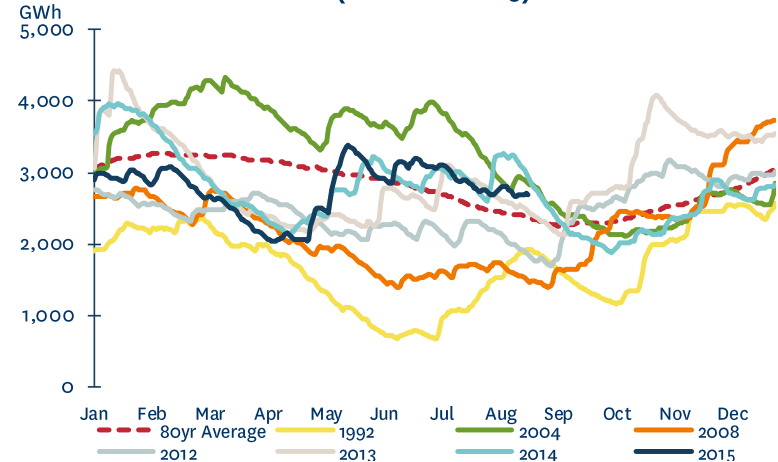


BENMORE ASX FUTURES SETTLEMENT PRICE



- July 2015 saw little change in ASX futures prices from previous months
- The significant upward movement in ASX prices in August 2015 will be commented on in next month's operating report
- National storage increased from 111% of the 80 year average on 13 July 2015 to 113% of average by 21 August 2015
- South Island storage was unchanged at 113% of historical average by 21 August 2015. North Island storage increased to 114% of average

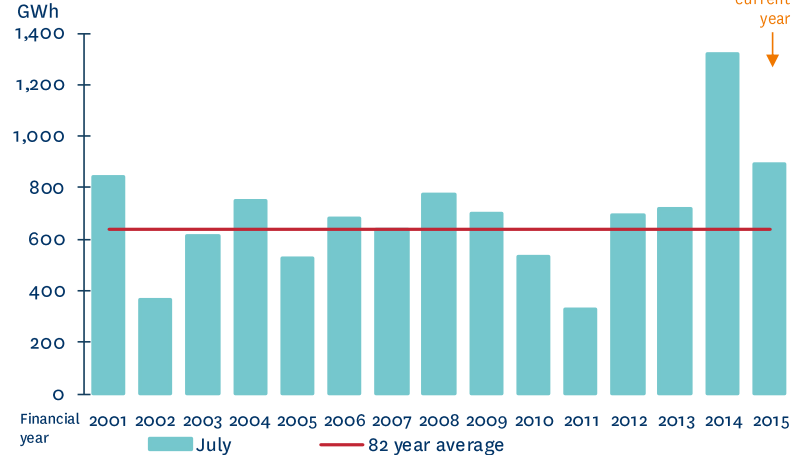
NATIONAL HYDRO STORAGE (21 AUGUST 2015)



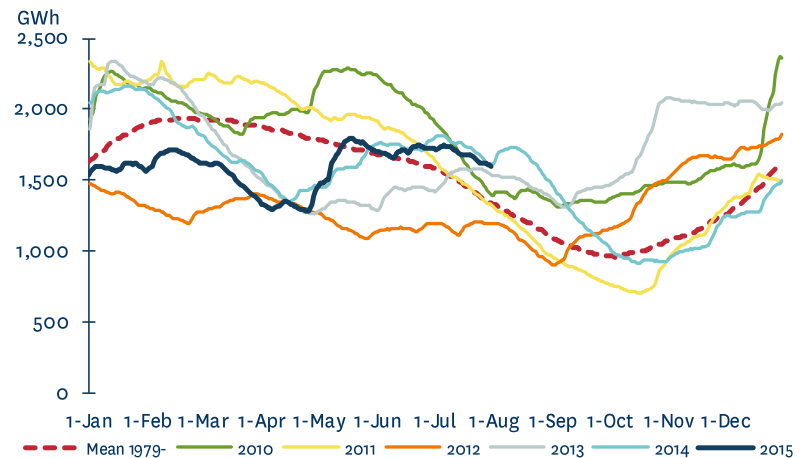
Meridian operating information

- July monthly inflows were 125% of historical average
- Meridian's Waitaki catchment storage moved from 1,724GWh to 1,594GWh during July 2015
- Storage at the end of July 2015 was 119% of historical average, compared with the position a month earlier, where storage was at 109% of historical average
- Waitaki storage at the end of June 2015 was 1% lower than the same time last year
- Storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment also declined during July 2015

MERIDIAN'S COMBINED CATCHMENT INFLOWS



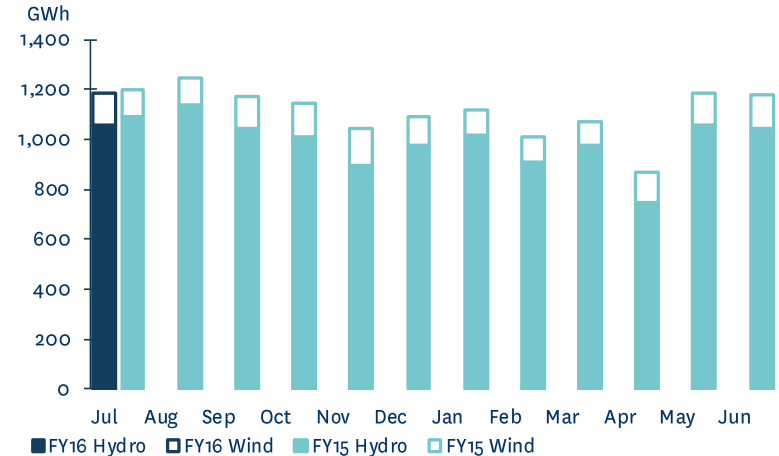
MERIDIAN'S WAITAKI STORAGE



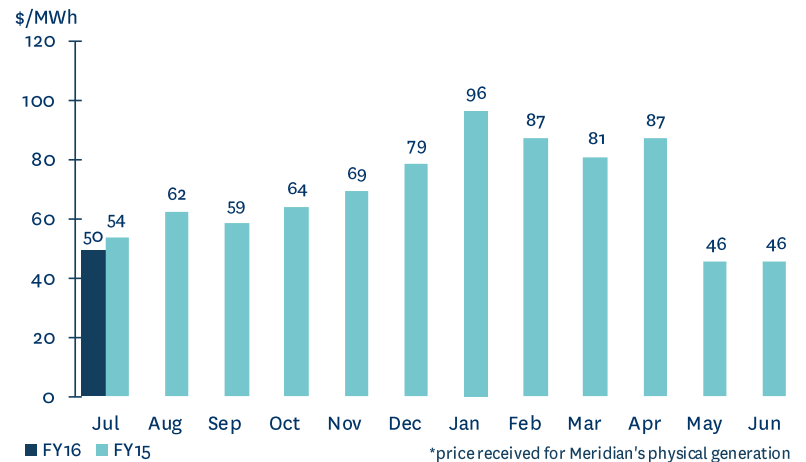
Meridian operating information

- Meridian's New Zealand generation in July 2015 was 1.5% lower than the same month last year
- This reflected lower hydro generation and a 15.3% increase in wind generation
- The average price Meridian received for its generation in July 2015 was 8.0% lower than the same month last year
- The average price Meridian paid to supply contracted sales in July 2015 was 9.0% lower than the same month last year

MERIDIAN'S NEW ZEALAND GENERATION



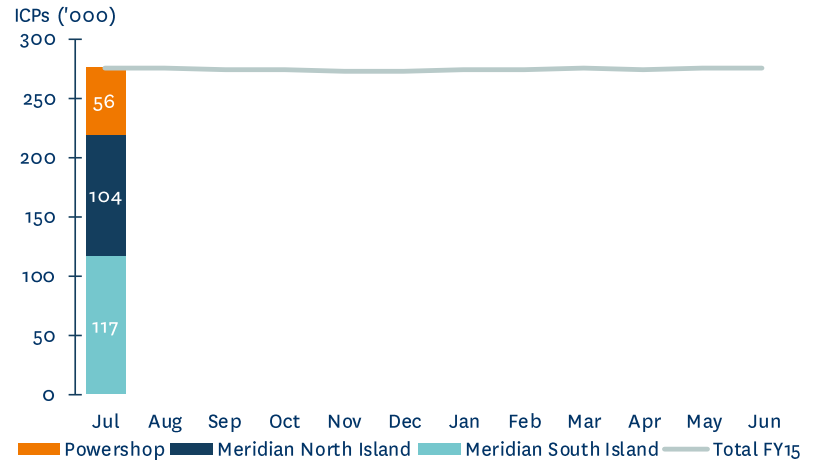
MERIDIAN'S AVERAGE GENERATION PRICE*



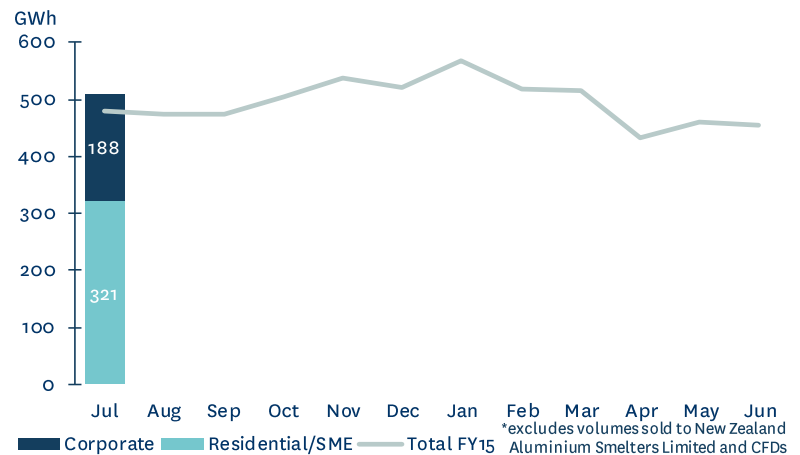
Meridian operating information

- Meridian's New Zealand total customer connection numbers decreased slightly during July 2015
- Retail sales volumes in July 2015 increased by 6.0% compared to July 2014
- Compared to July 2014, residential/SME sales volumes increased by 7.2% and corporate sales volumes increased by 3.8%

MERIDIAN'S NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS



MERIDIAN'S RETAIL SALES VOLUMES*



Meridian operating information

	July 2015 month	July 2014 month	June 2015 month	May 2015 month
New Zealand Contracted Sales¹				
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	509	481	479	460
Average retail contracted sales price (\$/MWh)	\$120.9	\$117.3	\$122.9	\$117.0
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	412	426
Sell side derivative volumes ² (GWh)	140	95	100	209
Wholesale contracted sales average price (\$/MWh)	\$50.7	\$50.2	\$51.0	\$49.0
Total New Zealand customer connections ³	276,366	276,413	276,446	275,360
Powershop Australia customer connections ⁴	<i>not disclosed</i>	<i>not disclosed</i>	48,208	<i>not disclosed</i>
New Zealand Generation				
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,060	1,095	1,043	1,057
Wind generation volume (GWh)	123	106	136	132
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,183	1,201	1,179	1,189
Average generation price ⁵ (\$/MWh)	\$49.7	\$54.0	\$45.7	\$45.6
Acquired generation volume ⁶ (GWh)	144	142	77	194
Cost of acquired generation (\$/MWh)	\$82.2	\$87.6	\$91.7	\$60.6
Acquired generation revenue average price (\$/MWh)	\$50.4	\$54.4	\$48.3	\$47.9
Future contract close outs (\$m)	(\$0.1)	(\$2.4)	(\$0.5)	(\$1.8)
Contracted sales supply volume (GWh)	1,092	1,022	1,024	1,132
Cost to supply contracted sales (\$/MWh)	\$52.6	\$57.9	\$48.7	\$48.7

1. Contracted sales volumes and volume weighted average price received from contracted customers less distribution costs

2. Excludes the sell-side of virtual asset swaps

3. Meridian Retail and Powershop New Zealand installation control points (ICPs), excluding vacants

4. Financially responsible market participants, excluding vacants

5. Volume weighted average price received for Meridian's physical generation

6. Excludes the buy-side of virtual asset swaps

MERIDIAN ENERGY LIMITED Monthly operating report for July 2015

Meridian operating information

	Jul 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	May 2015	Jun 2015
New Zealand Contracted Sales												
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	481	475	474	505	538	521	568	519	514	434	460	479
Average retail contracted sales price (\$/MWh)	\$117.3	\$113.0	\$107.3	\$95.6	\$93.4	\$87.6	\$91.5	\$92.7	\$94.6	\$110.4	\$117.0	\$122.9
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	411	426	412	426	426	384	426	412	426	412
Sell side derivative volumes (GWh)	95	170	125	87	69	61	74	50	49	11	209	100
Wholesale contracted sales average price (\$/MWh)	\$50.2	\$50.7	\$50.7	\$50.4	\$51.0	\$50.4	\$53.6	\$53.6	\$52.1	\$49.8	\$49.0	\$51.0
Total New Zealand customer connections	276,413	275,410	274,821	274,319	273,970	273,572	274,052	274,673	275,488	274,881	275,360	276,446
Powershop Australia customer connections	not disclosed	not disclosed	21,776	not disclosed	not disclosed	28,353	not disclosed	not disclosed	35,138	not disclosed	not disclosed	48,208
New Zealand Generation												
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,095	1,141	1,046	1,010	894	979	1,020	907	977	745	1,057	1,043
Wind generation volume (GWh)	106	108	124	134	153	113	95	102	95	121	132	136
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,201	1,249	1,170	1,144	1,047	1,092	1,115	1,009	1,072	865	1,189	1,179
Average generation price (\$/MWh)	\$54.0	\$62.4	\$58.5	\$64.2	\$69.2	\$78.9	\$96.4	\$87.4	\$81.0	\$87.1	\$45.6	\$45.7
Acquired generation volume (GWh)	142	120	114	48	56	51	39	59	40	114	194	77
Cost of acquired generation (\$/MWh)	\$87.6	\$84.8	\$86.3	\$77.5	\$76.5	\$79.4	\$79.1	\$85.2	\$80.1	\$86.6	\$60.6	\$91.7
Acquired generation revenue average price (\$/MWh)	\$54.4	\$65.0	\$54.4	\$67.3	\$74.4	\$87.1	\$99.9	\$92.2	\$79.9	\$81.3	\$47.9	\$48.3
Future contract close outs (\$m)	(\$2.4)	(\$2.1)	(\$0.9)	(\$0.7)	(\$0.2)	(\$0.3)	(\$2.1)	(\$0.7)	(\$1.5)	(\$1.6)	(\$1.8)	(\$0.5)
Contracted sales supply volume (GWh)	1,022	1,083	1,053	1,060	1,046	1,037	1,110	984	1,001	866	1,132	1,024
Cost to supply contracted sales (\$/MWh)	\$57.9	\$70.7	\$60.4	\$68.2	\$73.2	\$84.0	\$100.8	\$91.0	\$83.2	\$91.2	\$48.7	\$48.7

Meridian operating information

	Jul 2013	Aug 2013	Sep 2013	Oct 2013	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014
New Zealand Contracted Sales												
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	479	470	463	448	509	516	492	498	482	479	462	455
Average retail contracted sales price (\$/MWh)	\$114.7	\$120.8	\$109.1	\$97.8	\$91.7	\$85.6	\$98.4	\$92.2	\$91.9	\$112.1	\$116.0	\$118.4
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	411	426	412	426	426	384	426	412	426	412
Sell side derivative volumes (GWh)	38	29	36	82	129	122	97	88	80	53	57	88
Wholesale contracted sales average price (\$/MWh)	\$52.6	\$50.4	\$51.4	\$49.3	\$47.7	\$48.5	\$51.4	\$52.1	\$51.1	\$54.7	\$54.6	\$55.2
Total New Zealand customer connections	272,972	272,638	275,303	275,870	276,403	276,564	277,059	277,226	277,404	277,810	277,412	276,708
Powershop Australia customer connections	not disclosed	not disclosed	529	not disclosed	not disclosed	1,106	not disclosed	not disclosed	5,879	not disclosed	not disclosed	13,426
New Zealand Generation												
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	989	954	892	953	1,059	1,145	1,200	1,056	907	785	915	1,049
Wind generation volume (GWh)	127	98	117	132	86	99	113	86	90	93	103	100
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,116	1,052	1,009	1,085	1,145	1,244	1,313	1,142	997	878	1,018	1,149
Average generation price (\$/MWh)	\$48.6	\$45.2	\$52.3	\$25.4	\$25.5	\$42.5	\$57.1	\$113.5	\$122.9	\$100.9	\$55.1	\$48.0
Acquired generation volume (GWh)	157	158	119	82	77	71	28	21	123	165	146	121
Cost of acquired generation (\$/MWh)	\$87.5	\$86.6	\$83.7	\$76.7	\$68.7	\$83.7	\$83.0	\$86.4	\$87.3	\$90.1	\$89.2	\$90.4
Acquired generation revenue average price (\$/MWh)	\$52.9	\$55.0	\$60.3	\$40.0	\$61.1	\$49.4	\$104.4	\$72.3	\$116.4	\$90.3	\$59.2	\$49.0
Future contract close outs (\$m)	(\$2.4)	(\$1.0)	(\$1.6)	(\$0.3)	(\$0.2)	(\$0.1)	(\$0.3)	(\$0.9)	(\$0.8)	(\$0.1)	(\$0.9)	(\$2.1)
Contracted sales supply volume (GWh)	958	933	921	963	1,078	1,089	1,064	980	1,045	968	967	991
Cost to supply contracted sales (\$/MWh)	\$50.0	\$50.3	\$56.5	\$28.2	\$28.5	\$46.9	\$59.1	\$122.0	\$125.1	\$103.8	\$58.6	\$51.1

Glossary

Acquired generation 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
Combined catchment inflows	combined water inflows into Meridian's Waitaki and Waiau hydro storage lakes
Cost of acquired generation	volume weighted average price Meridian pays for derivatives acquired to supplement generation
Cost to supply contracted sales	volume weighted average price Meridian pays to supply contracted customer sales
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
FRMP	financially responsible market participant
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 81 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	Transpower's Daily Demand reporting, adjusted for embedded generation from Meridian's Te Uku, White Hill and Mill Creek wind farms
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
Sell side derivatives	sell-side electricity derivatives excluding the sell-side of virtual asset swaps
Virtual Asset Swaps (VAS)	CFDs Meridian has with Genesis Energy and Mightly River Power. They do not result in the physical supply of electricity