

Working on your behalf

LineTrust South Canterbury trustees



Grant Eames



Joy Paterson



Karen McCrostie



Hugh Perry



Peter Binns

Following the election in October we welcome two new trustees, Hugh Perry (Timaru) and Joy Paterson (Mackenzie) who both bring considerable expertise to your Trust.

Late last year the trustees had to give urgent attention to the proposal by Timaru District Council to sell its shareholding in Alpine Energy. If the Council did resolve to proceed, then the Trust had to be ready to move, to do its best for Consumers. A sub-committee was formed to work on the issue. Numerous meetings were held with appropriate expert advice being obtained. The trustees did their very best to be ready no matter what the Council decision was. As is now known, in the end the Council resolved not to sell their shareholding.

All the trustees appreciated the strong support from Consumers at the AGM on 7 December. At that meeting a decision was unanimously supported to delay the customary Christmas-time rebate on consumers' power bills, pending Timaru District Council's decision on their share sale. Consumers should now have their rebate, or expect it very soon.

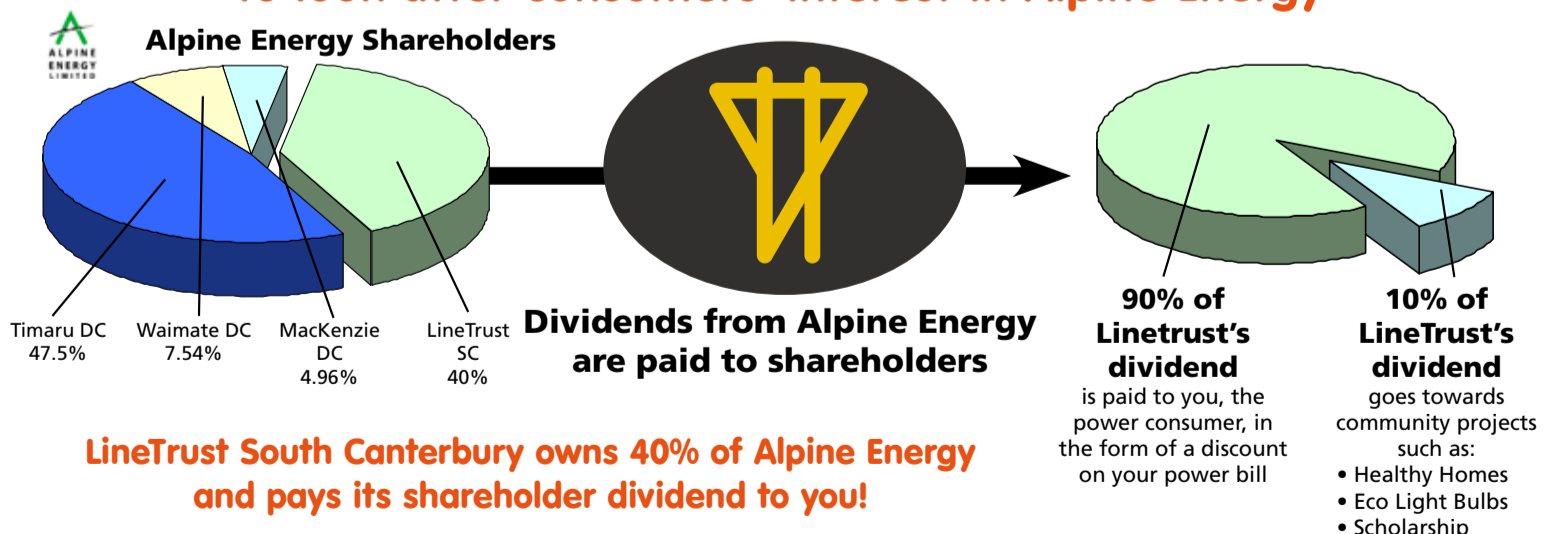
Since 2002 your Trust has distributed over \$40 million (90% of its dividend from Alpine Energy) to South Canterbury consumers, in the form of rebates. The remaining 10% has largely gone to the Healthy Homes programme, which has now seen over 5000 houses insulated. This will bring long-term benefits for health and wellbeing, plus savings on those consumers' power bills. The Christmas ballot for 20 homes for free insulation was fully subscribed. We expect to run a similar mid-winter ballot, as we did last year.

As responsible shareholders we have engaged with Alpine Energy following the recent warning to the Company from the Commerce Commission. Our priority, as always, is a reliable and resilient power supply. We will continue to monitor the situation closely, meeting regularly with Alpine management and directors, and with the other shareholders.

Looking to the future, we will again this year offer a financial scholarship to successful local candidates to study by way of a degree in Computer Science or Master of Science or similar. In this way you, the consumer, through your Trust, can assist with developing more efficient ways to produce and distribute electricity locally and nationally.

Looking to the wider industry, we will be making submissions to the government's current Electricity Price Review. Through Energy Trusts of New Zealand Inc., we will align with consumer trusts nation-wide to pursue and protect our common interests and assets.

Formed in 1992, LineTrust South Canterbury was established to look after consumers' interest in Alpine Energy



For more information about LineTrust South Canterbury visit

www.linetrustsc.co.nz

