

# Monthly Operating Report March 2022

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#### March highlights

In the month to 12 April 2022, national hydro storage decreased from 102% to 81% of historical average

South Island storage decreased to 73% of average and North Island storage increased to 148% of average by 12 April 2022

Meridian's March 2022 monthly total inflows were 38% of historical average, the lowest March month inflows on record

Both Meridian's Waitaki and Waiau catchments recorded their lowest March inflows on record, with Waiau inflows only 22% of historical average

Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage at the end of March 2022 was 92% of historical average

Water storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment was 24% of average at the end of March 2022

National electricity demand in Meridian's New Zealand retail March 2022 was 1.3% lower than the same month last year

Meridian made calls under the Genesis swaption in March 2022 and early April 2022

March was a warm month for most of the country. Rainfall was generally below average, the notable exception was the east of the North Island

New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's average load during March 2022 was 572MW

sales volumes in March 2022 were **5.9%** higher than March 2021

Compared to March 2021, segment sales increased in residential +9.9%, small medium business +17.5%, large business +10.9% and corporate +10.8%. Agricultural volumes were -18.2% lower than March 2021



### Q3 highlights

Meridian's Q3 total inflows were 64% of historical average, 8% lower than Q3 last year

O3 Waiau catchment inflows were the lowest Q3 inflows on record

Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage at the end of Q3 was 55% higher than Q3 last year

Compared to Q3 last year, Meridian's New Zealand generation was 9.2% higher at New Zealand customer a **27.5%** lower average price

Q3 saw increases in futures prices across the forward curve

New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's sales volume in Q3 was the same as Q3 last year

National electricity demand in Q3 was 0.6% lower than Q3 last year

2021-22 summer (Dec-Feb) was the 5<sup>th</sup> warmest on record with above average rainfall, except for northern New Zealand and far South of the country

At the end of Q3, Meridian's numbers were **7.5%** higher than the same time last year Compared to Q3 last year, Meridian's NZ retail sales volumes were 4.9% higher at a **7.1%** higher average price

Sales increased in most segments, large business and agricultural volumes were lower

Compared to Q3 last year, total operating costs were 15.8% higher, largely reflecting timing of fortnightly payroll implementation

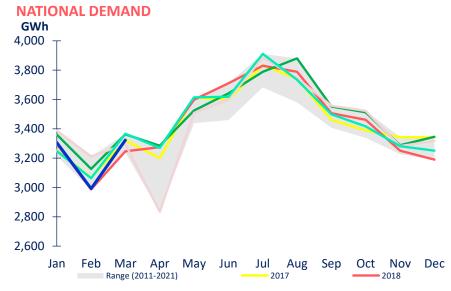
Compared to Q3 last year, total capital expenditure was 35.6% lower

Q3 2021 capex included the first payment to Siemens Gamesa under the Harapaki wind farm contract

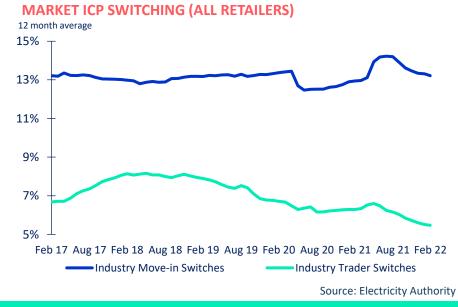


### Market data

- National electricity demand in March 2022 was 1.3% lower than the same month last year
- March was a warm month for most of the country. Rainfall was generally below average, the notable exception was the eastern North Island
- Demand in the last 12 months was 0.7% higher than the preceding 12 months
- New Zealand Aluminium Smelter's average load during March 2022 was 572MW
- 12-month average switching rate of customers changing retailers but not moving ("trader" switch) was 5.5% at the end of February 2022
- 12-month average switching rate of customers moving and changing retailers ("move-in" switch) was 13.2% at the end of February 2022



Source: Electricity Authority (reconciled demand)





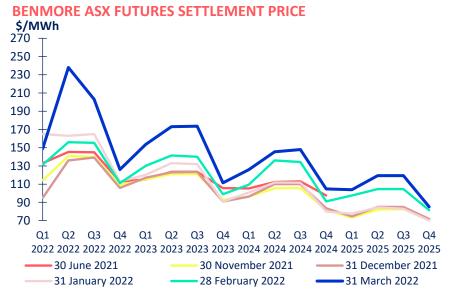
### Market data

- March 2022 saw increases in ASX prices
- National storage decreased from 102% of average on 10 March 2022 to 81% of average on 12 April 2022
- South Island storage decreased to 73% of historical average by 12 April 2022. North Island storage increased to 148% of average



#### NATIONAL HYDRO STORAGE (12 April 2022)



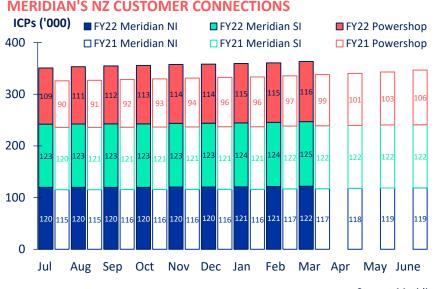


Source: ASX

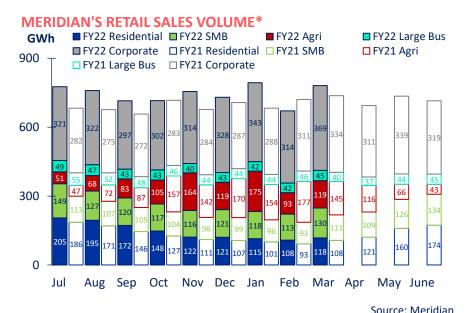


## New Zealand retail

- Meridian's New Zealand customer connection numbers rose 0.7% during March 2022 and have risen 4.8% since June 2021
- Retail sales volumes in March 2022 were 5.9% higher than March 2021
- Compared to March 2021, segment sales increased in residential +9.9%, small medium business +17.5%, large business +10.9% and corporate +10.8%. Agricultural volumes were -18.2% lower than March 2021
- To date this financial year, retail sales volumes are 7.0% higher than the same period last year
- This reflects increased segment sales in: residential +13.4%, small medium business +20.3%, and corporate +11.2%. Agricultural volumes are -15.0% lower and large business volumes are -5.7% lower



Source: Meridian



\*excludes volumes sold to New Zealand Aluminium Smelters and CFDs

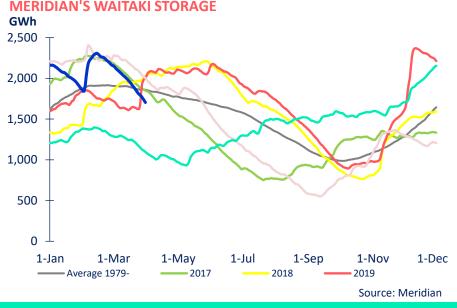


### **New Zealand storage**

- March 2022 monthly inflows were 38% of historical average, the lowest March month inflows on record
- Both Meridian's Waitaki and Waiau catchments recorded their lowest March inflows in record, with Waiau inflows only 22% of historical average
- To date this financial year, inflows are 100% of historical average
- Meridian's Waitaki catchment water storage moved from 2,165GWh to 1,705GWh during March 2022
- Waitaki water storage at the end of March 2022 was 92% of historical average and 55% higher than the same time last year
- Water storage in Meridian's Waiau catchment was 24% of average at the end of March 2022

#### MERIDIAN'S COMBINED CATCHMENT INFLOWS

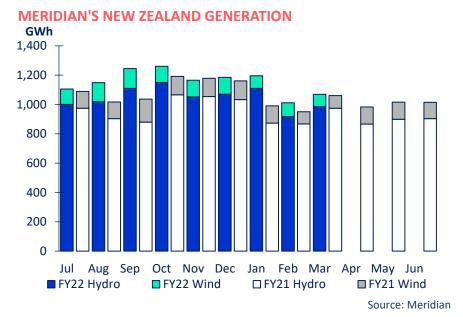






#### **New Zealand generation**

- Meridian's New Zealand generation in March 2022 was 0.8% higher than the same month last year, reflecting higher hydro and lower wind generation
- To date this financial year, Meridian's New Zealand generation is 7.3% higher than the same period last year, reflecting higher hydro and lower wind generation
- The average price Meridian received for its generation in March 2022 was 22.0% lower than the same month last year
- The average price Meridian paid to supply customers in March 2022 was 18.2% lower than the same month last year
- To date this financial year, the average price Meridian received for its generation is 22.0% lower than the same period last year and the average price paid to supply customers is 19.1% lower



#### MERIDIAN'S AVERAGE GENERATION PRICE\* \$/MWh





#### **New Zealand**

	MARCH	MARCH	FEBRUARY	JANUARY	9 MONTHS TO	9 MONTHS TO
	2022	2021	2021	2021	MARCH	MARCH
	MONTH	MONTH	MONTH	MONTH	2022	2021
New Zealand contracted sales						
Residential sales volume (GWh)	118	108	108	115	1,304	1,150
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	130	111	113	118	1,112	924
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	119	145	93	175	977	1,150
Large business sales volume (GWh)	45	40	42	42	394	418
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	369	334	314	343	2,910	2,618
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	781	738	671	793	6,698	6,260
Average retail contracted sales price <sup>1</sup> (\$NZ/MWh)	\$116.6	\$107.5	\$115.5	\$111.2	\$115.4	\$110.0
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	384	426	3,761	3,761
Financial contract sales volumes <sup>2</sup> (GWh)	249	197	244	280	2,363	1,467
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price <sup>3</sup> (\$NZ/MWh)	\$64.2	\$69.8	\$63.7	\$63.3	\$65.2	\$69.2
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	821	768	709	828	7,058	6,575
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$213.2	\$265.1	\$146.4	\$148.4	\$132.0	\$160.9
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$216.0	\$260.3	\$120.5	\$156.9	\$112.2	\$143.1
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$180.6	\$204.8	\$117.0	\$160.4	\$116.9	\$141.5
Total New Zealand customer connections <sup>4</sup>	363,430	338,051	360,780	359,550		

See page 11 for footnotes



#### **New Zealand**

MARCH	MARCH	FEBRUARY	JANUARY	9 MONTHS TO	9 MONTHS TO
2022	2021	2021	2021	MARCH	MARCH
MONTH	MONTH	MONTH	MONTH	2022	2021
986	974	918	1,110	9,416	8,627
84	87	94	86	973	1,052
1,070	1,061	1,012	1,196	10,389	9,679
\$198.1	\$253.8	\$121.8	\$138.4	\$111.9	\$143.4
459	431	421	404	3,262	2,804
\$120.0	\$127.0	\$117.0	\$104.1	\$112.4	\$105.7
\$205.9	\$219.0	\$138.8	\$168.3	\$134.4	\$151.1
\$10.0	-\$3.6	-\$1.5	-\$5.1	\$2.0	-\$19.7
	2022 MONTH 986 84 1,070 \$198.1 459 \$120.0 \$205.9	2022 2021   MONTH MONTH   986 974   986 974   84 87   1,070 1,061   \$198.1 \$253.8   459 431   \$120.0 \$127.0   \$205.9 \$219.0	2022 2021 2021   MONTH MONTH MONTH   986 974 918   986 974 918   84 87 94   1,070 1,061 1,012   \$198.1 \$253.8 \$121.8   459 431 421   \$120.0 \$127.0 \$117.0   \$205.9 \$219.0 \$138.8	2022 2021 2021 2021   MONTH MONTH MONTH MONTH   MONTH MONTH MONTH MONTH   986 974 918 1,110   84 87 94 86   1,070 1,061 1,012 1,196   \$198.1 \$253.8 \$121.8 \$138.4      404   \$198.1 \$127.0 \$117.0 \$104.1   \$205.9 \$219.0 \$138.8 \$168.3	2022 2021 2021 2021 2021 MARCH   MONTH MONTH MONTH MONTH 2022   986 974 918 1,110 9,416   84 87 94 86 973   1,070 1,061 1,012 1,196 10,389   \$198.1 \$253.8 \$121.8 \$138.4 \$111.9   459 431 421 404 3,262   \$120.0 \$127.0 \$117.0 \$104.1 \$112.4   \$205.9 \$219.0 \$138.8 \$168.3 \$134.4

See page 11 for footnotes



#### **New Zealand**

	MARCH 2022 MONTH	MARCH 2021 MONTH	FEBRUARY 2021 MONTH	JANUARY 2022 MONTH	9 MONTHS TO MARCH 2022	9 MONTHS TO MARCH 2021
New Zealand costs						
Employee and Operating Costs <sup>7</sup> (\$m)	21	17	17	15	151	145
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$m)	4	3	3	-1	28	26
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$m)	6	34	2	9	93	55
Total Capital Expenditure (\$m)	10	37	5	8	121	81

Following the Court of Appeal decision in the Metro Glass case, a \$6.8m provision in relation to holiday pay has been released, reducing FY22 YTD operating costs.

#### **Footnotes**

- 1. Contracted sales volumes and volume weighted average price received from contracted customers less distribution costs
- 2. Derivatives sold excluding the sell-side of virtual asset swaps
- 3. Average price of both NZAS sales volume and derivative sales volumes
- 4. Meridian Retail and Powershop New Zealand installation control points (ICPs), excluding vacants
- 5. Volume weighted average price received for Meridian's physical generation
- 6. Over the counter and ASX contract volumes excluding the buy-side of virtual asset swaps
- 7. Excludes electricity metering expenses, now reclassified into gross margin



### FY22 operating information

	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Q1	YoY	Q2	YoY	Q3	YoY	Q4	Yo
	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	FY22	change	FY22	change	FY22	change	FY22	change
New Zealand contracted sales																				
Residential sales volume (GWh)	205	195	172	148	122	121	115	108	118				572	+70	391	+45	341	+39		
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	149	127	120	117	116	121	118	113	130				396	+71	354	+55	362	+62		
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	51	68	83	105	164	119	175	93	119				202	-3	387	-81	388	-88		
Large business sales volume (GWh)	49	47	43	43	40	43	42	42	45				140	-16	126	-7	128	-1		
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	321	322	297	302	314	328	343	314	369				940	+111	943	+88	1026	+93		
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	776	759	715	716	755	731	793	671	781				2,250	+233	2,202	+99	2,246	+105		
Average retail contracted sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$122.6	\$124.0	\$123.2	\$109.9	\$109.8	\$105.2	\$111.2	\$115.5	\$116.6				\$123.2	+\$4.0	\$108.3	+\$3.8	\$114.4	+\$7.6		
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	411	426	412	426	426	384	426				1,262	+0	1,263	+0	1,236	+0		
Financial contract sales volumes (GWh)	197	297	234	374	280	208	280	244	249				728	+214	862	+376	773	+306		
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$73.2	\$78.4	\$65.1	\$62.3	\$56.9	\$59.8	\$63.3	\$63.7	\$64.2				\$72.5	-\$3.3	\$59.8	-\$8.9	\$63.7	+\$0.9		
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	816	795	752	764	798	776	828	709	821				2,363	+246	2,337	+123	2,358	+114		
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$190.3	\$165.3	\$91.0	\$74.6	\$92.7	\$57.2	\$148.4	\$146.4	\$213.2				\$150.3	+\$8.4	\$75.0	-\$40.8	\$170.4	-\$53.1		
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$162.7	\$115.9	\$62.6	\$51.2	\$76.5	\$45.5	\$156.9	\$120.5	\$216.0				\$114.3	-\$10.9	\$57.5	-\$36.4	\$165.9	-\$45.6		
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$159.9	\$137.5	\$104.8	\$66.0	\$78.8	\$68.2	\$160.4	\$117.0	\$180.6				\$133.0	+\$2.9	\$70.7	-\$34.0	\$153.2	-\$39.3		
Total New Zealand customer connections	350,961	353,357	354,810	355,760	357,521	358,350	359,550	360,780	363,430				354,810	+26,208	358,350	+25,763	363,430	+25,379		
New Zealand generation																				
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	1,000	1,020	1,110	1,150	1,052	1,071	1,110	918	986				3,130	+372	3,273	+119	3,014	+298		
Wind generation volume (GWh)	105	129	135	111	114	114	86	94	84				370	-16	339	-40	264	-23		
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,105	1,149	1,245	1,260	1,166	1,185	1,196	1,012	1,070				3,499	+356	3,612	+79	3,278	+275		
Average generation price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$166.2	\$136.1	\$75.8	\$57.1	\$78.9	\$53.4	\$138.4	\$121.8	\$198.1				\$124.1	-\$2.3	\$63.0	-\$38.2	\$152.8	-\$58.0		
New Zealand hedging																				
Hedging volume (GWh)	394	325	255	327	332	346	404	421	459				975	+122	1,004	+141	1,283	+195		
Hedging cost average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$129.6	\$121.5	\$117.7	\$93.6	\$94.8	\$109.3	\$104.1	\$117.0	\$120.0				\$123.8	+\$18.5	\$99.4	+\$5.2	\$114.0	-\$1.2		
Hedging spot revenue average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$164.1	\$140.7	\$115.6	\$74.4	\$88.3	\$69.2	\$168.3	\$138.8	\$205.9				\$143.6	+\$13.4	\$77.2	-\$32.5	\$303.7	-\$55.1		
Future contract close outs (\$NZm)	-0.7	0.1	0.2	-0.9	0.2	-0.1	-5.1	-1.5	10.0				-0.5	+5.9	-0.8	+2.8	3.3	+13.0		
Meridian Group																				
Employee and Operating Costs (\$NZ m)	16	17	18	18	20	8	15	18	21				51	+3	46	-3	54	+7		
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	3	3	4	3	6	2	-1	4	4				10	+1	11	+2	6	-2		
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	9	4	23	11	17	6	9	8	6				36	+25	34	+28	23	-14		
Total Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	12	7	27	15	24	7	8	11	10				46	+26	46	+30	29	-16		

FY21 operating	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Q1	YoY	Q2	YoY	Q3	YoY	Q4	Yo
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	FY21	change	FY21	change	FY21	change	FY21	chang
New Zealand contracted sales																				
Residential sales volume (GWh)	186	171	146	127	111	107	101	93	108	121	160	174	503	+31	345	+16	302	+2	455	+
Small medium business sales volume (GWh)	113	107	105	104	96	99	96	93	111	109	126	134	325	+34	299	+44	300	+39	369	+13
Agricultural sales volume (GWh)	47	72	87	157	142	170	154	177	145	116	66	43	205	+22	469	+60	476	-18	226	+4
Large business sales volume (GWh)	55	52	48	46	44	44	44	46	40	37	44	45	155	+26	134	+14	130	+12	126	+
Corporate and industrial sales volume (GWh)	282	275	272	283	284	287	288	311	334	311	339	319	829	+93	855	+117	933	+127	968	+21
Retail contracted sales volume (GWh)	683	677	657	717	678	707	683	721	738	694	736	715	2,017	+206	2,102	+252	2,141	+163	2,144	+40
Average retail contracted sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$120.4	\$119.3	\$118.1	\$106.0	\$103.1	\$104.2	\$104.1	\$108.7	\$107.5	\$114.7	\$123.2	\$118.9	\$119.3	+\$6.3	\$104.5	+\$3.6	\$106.8	-\$0.1	\$119.0	+\$8.
NZAS sales volume (GWh)	426	426	411	426	412	426	426	384	426	412	426	412	1,262	-110	1,263	-110	1,236	-123	1,250	-7
Financial contract sales volumes (GWh)	188	125	201	126	221	140	144	126	197	167	143	129	514	+40	487	+59	467	-339	439	-38
Average wholesale & financial contracts sales price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$82.0	\$70.4	\$74.2	\$69.4	\$69.9	\$66.8	\$59.6	\$58.0	\$69.8	\$76.8	\$75.2	\$74.1	\$75.7	+\$6.0	\$68.7	+\$3.9	\$62.9	-\$4.4	\$75.4	+\$9.
Retail customer supply volumes (GWh)	704	717	696	755	717	743	719	757	768	718	782	753	2,117	+229	2,215	+274	2,244	+163	2,253	+43
Cost to supply retail customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$165.1	\$120.6	\$140.3	\$126.9	\$101.0	\$118.8	\$143.9	\$256.7	\$265.1	\$285.5	\$301.9	\$272.2	\$141.9	+\$16.8	\$115.8	+\$16.6	\$223.4	+\$146.1	\$286.7	+\$178.
Cost to supply wholesale customers (\$NZ/MWh)	\$143.8	\$109.6	\$122.2	\$95.8	\$76.3	\$109.2	\$132.6	\$244.8	\$260.3	\$277.8	\$274.2	\$242.5	\$125.2	+\$10.5	\$94.0	+\$9.5	\$211.5	+\$158.5	\$264.9	+\$162.
Cost of financial contracts (\$NZ/MWh)	\$143.7	\$113.1	\$127.8	\$110.8	\$92.3	\$119.1	\$139.1	\$234.0	\$204.8	\$266.4	\$291.8	\$228.2	\$130.0	+\$16.3	\$104.7	+\$10.2	\$192.5	+\$137.7	\$263.5	+\$166.
Total New Zealand customer connections	326,148	327,125	328,602	329,710	331,240	332,587	333,367	335,580	338,051	340,178	343,015	346,830	328,602	+19,230	332,587	+18,988	338,051	+18,273	346,830	+22,57
New Zealand generation																				
Hydro generation volume (GWh)	975	904	879	1,066	1,054	1,034	874	868	974	867	900	903	2,758	-474	3,153	-22	2,716	-542	2,670	-42
Wind generation volume (GWh)	115	113	158	126	125	128	117	83	87	116	116	111	385	+8	379	-22	287	-52	344	-
Total generation volume (GWh)	1,089	1,017	1,037	1,192	1,179	1,162	991	951	1,061	983	1,016	1,015	3,144	-466	3,533	-44	3,003	-593	3,014	-42
Average generation price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$144.5	\$110.1	\$123.7	\$107.7	\$86.5	\$109.3	\$134.5	\$242.1	\$253.8	\$272.5	\$283.4	\$247.5	\$126.5	+\$11.5	\$101.2	+\$13.8	\$210.7	+\$153.0	\$267.8	+\$171.
New Zealand hedging																				
Hedging volume (GWh)	318	266	268	241	314	308	312	345	431	348	372	360	852	+436	863	+389	1,088	+23	1,079	+30
Hedging cost average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$109.3	\$104.6	\$101.2	\$96.2	\$93.6	\$93.2	\$98.5	\$115.6	\$127.0	\$110.3	\$116.7	\$119.0	\$105.3	+\$41.8	\$94.2	+\$28.9	\$115.2	+\$13.5	\$115.4	+\$35.
Hedging spot revenue average price (\$NZ/MWh)	\$133.4	\$123.8	\$132.6	\$114.4	\$94.0	\$121.9	\$136.8	\$235.0	\$219.0	\$260.2	\$285.0	\$237.6	\$130.2	+\$10.9	\$109.7	+\$15.6	\$358.8	+\$282.9	\$261.2	+\$161.
Future contract close outs (\$NZm)	-1.6	-1.9	-2.9	0.6	-2.9	-1.3	-1.5	-4.5	-3.6	-1.6	-2.1	9.7	-6.4	-4.2	-3.7	-1.1	-9.7	-9.1	\$6.0	\$14.
Meridian Group																				
Employee and Operating Costs (\$NZ m)	16	15	17	16	17	17	14	17	17	18	19	27	48	-17	50	-12	47	-15	64	-
Stay in Business Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	2	3	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	4	9	-2	9	-3	8	-2	11	
Investment Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	6	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	34	3	4	3	11	+6	6	+2	37	+32	10	+
Total Capital Expenditure (\$NZ m)	9	6	6	5	4	6	4	5	37		7	7	20		15	-1	46	+31	-	

# 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