HOLD OFF DAVE

Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says he is calling on the Treasurer to hold off bringing the Power and Water legislation before Parliament this week.

He says there are too many unknowns about the effect of this legislation which the Government has not answered.

Gerry says the Government seems to have sidestepped the hard questions such as

- how much PWC revenue will the Government lose if there is a big new customer in the market place – such as Northern Power?
- what effect will that have on the Essential Indigenous Services subsidy as there will be less revenue from Power and Water available – higher remote prices or more tax payer subsidy?
- what will happen to Government power plants that are redundant because of new competitors leaving PWC with a stranded asset?
- if there is already sufficient generation capacity to at least 2020 why would help competitors into the market who will cheery pick industry meaning the burden of payment will move from industry to householders*?
- what proof is that PWC generating is operating inefficiently when some in PWC say it already operates efficiently against industry norms?
- how much will the separation of power and water cost?
- is PWC being set up to fail? And then sold off?

Gerry says that at a briefing he recently had with the government it was mentioned that it wasn’t essential for these bills to passed by 1st July, so why the rush?

Gerry says the Government has refused to send these bills off to a committee for proper scrutiny.

He says the only hope is for the Treasurer to put a halt to proceedings so that a real in depth analysis of the effects of these bills is tested.

Hold off, Dave.