LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD RATE PWC FACILITIES IF PWC CHARGE THEM

Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says that if Power and Water want to charge council for the maintenance of street lights then Local Government should rate properties owned by Power and Water as well as charge them for the use of their roads to carry power lines, water mains and sewer lines.

Gerry says that if the Government now regards Power and Water as operating as a company in a commercial world then Power and Water should also pay the costs associated with the commercial world and therefore pay rates on the following:

- Channel Island, Weddell Power Station and other power stations
- Darwin River and Manton Dam water storage areas
- Electrical substations
- Buildings owned by power and water such as Glen Hammond
- Water storage (McMinns) areas and overhead water tanks
- Water bore areas in the rural area
- Sewerage ponds
- And anything else owned by Power and Water in local government areas

As well they should pay rental to local government for the use of council road reserves to carry Power and Water services – electricity, water, and sewer.

Gerry says the move by Power and Water to shift costs will backfire if councils can recover the charges by rating Power and Water and all that will happen will be case of robbing Peter to Pay Paul.

Gerry said Power and Water should stop, have a cold shower and stop trying to shift unfair costs onto to local Government and therefore onto ratepayers. They are just cost shifting.