

HAVE YOUR SAY

1045406

Submission Form

Submissions close at 12 noon on 2 May 2024. Late submissions may not be accepted.

Thank you for your feedback.

Your details

First Name:

Carvin

Last name:

Turner

Organisation (if applicable):

Post Code*:

9092

Phone:

Email:

* When making a submission, please include your post code. If you do not know your post code, please include your suburb. Council is keen to understand which part of Otago submissions are coming from.

Which option do you prefer? Tick one box.

Option One – the preferred option – Sale of Aurora Energy

Council to approve a sale of Aurora Energy Limited, on the basis that the proceeds are used:

- To repay Aurora Energy's debt (forecast to be \$576 million by mid next year); and
- To establish a diversified investment fund worth many hundreds of millions of dollars to create income for Council.

✓ Option Two – the alternate option – Keep Aurora Energy

Council to keep Aurora Energy. If Council keeps Aurora Energy, then it will likely increase in value over time, but a regular income to Council is uncertain. If Aurora Energy was to pay dividends (income) to Council, this would probably be funded by debt.

Further comment

See Appendix 1

HEARINGS

Do you want to speak to the Councillors at the Hearings? Please tick your preferred time.

Tuesday 14 May	Morning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	Evening
Wednesday 15 May	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday 16 May	Morning	Afternoon	

If you wish to speak at the Hearings, please ensure you provide your contact details. Normally, speakers will be allocated five minutes but depending on how many people wish to speak, time limits may be adjusted.

Where to send your submission

Drop your submission to any Dunedin City Council library or service centre.

Or mail to: Dunedin City Council
Aurora Proposal
PO Box 5045
Dunedin 9054

Privacy Statement

Your name and feedback will be made public as part of the Council's decision-making process. If you provide the name of your organisation, please note this may be made public too. The information you provide may be included in papers for the public and the media and will be used for the purpose of the Dunedin City Council proposal on Aurora Energy consultation. The provision of your personal information is optional. Council will collect, store, and use your information in accordance with the Privacy Policy. This can be found on the Council website: dunedin.govt.nz/privacy-policy

Appendix 1

The sale of Aurora energy is an absolute no brainer for the rate payers of Dunedin, that is it is a great idea for everybody with no brain.

Has nothing been learned from the outcome of the Bradford reforms of 1998/1999, since the ownership of much of our country's power generation, transmission and retail is now in commercial non governmental ownership and inflation adjusted prices have increased by over 35% (consumer nz "The Bradford reforms 25yrs on), It would be expected that the same would happen with new owners of Aurora.

Selling Aurora would be an insidious defacto transfer of debt/ownership from Dunedin rate payers (allowing DCC to spend more (short term lowering of DCC's borrowing and allowing more borrowing in future)) whilst still making these same rate payers fund the new owners of Aurora through their electricity accounts, giving the new owners their expected dividend. There is no upside for rate payers, any savings from the paying down of Aurora's debt and the dividend from a fund set up from excess funds would be offset on our electricity accounts.. There is no such thing as a free lunch.

Not selling Aurora would curtail DCC spending through LGFA cap on interest (30% of rating revenue), Aurora also attracts extra income from outside the Dunedin area from areas serviced by Aurora. Giving a larger income base than that of Dunedin alone.

The debt situation of Aurora is council created and high current maintenance costs are also council created by many years of substandard repairs and upgrades to the network. Dividends funded by borrowing (still being talked about in the DCC proposal to sell Aurora) is akin to financial suicide and shows how councils in the past have operated and is part of the current debt problem, but it is not a problem that needs to be rectified by the sale of Aurora.

If Selling Aurora is DCHL's best option, I suggest that we need to replace the DCHL board with people who work for the rate payers of Dunedin and not just in DCHL's best interests.

P.s my NZ super went up by \$781.04 this year, my proposed rates increase is \$621.90, I'll have \$160 left to cover other increases.. DCC current spending is not sustainable and will not be fixed the sale of Aurora and the possibility of future borrowing by the council.