# DISTRIBUTION PRICING ROADMAP

**1 OCTOBER 2018** 





# CUSTOMER LED NEW ENERGY FUTURE

New breed of customer – new technology unlocks:

- New behaviours
- Need for new options
- Demand for increased resilience, lower costs and a reduction in carbon





Vector is enabling this new future:

- Data analytics
- Battery storage
- Peer-to-peer trading
- Integration of consumer-owned distributed generation
- Managed smart EV charging
- Smart load control
- New pricing



# MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE IS BUILDING IN THE INDUSTRY

"Restructuring distribution prices could be justified on the grounds of fairness, efficiency and better reflection of costs, but it would come with challenges" EPR Initial Report, Oct 2018

"Participants in the electricity sector have been highlighting their ongoing concerns on the [low user] regulations and the review is an opportunity to assess their role in the wider context of supporting New Zealanders to afford their energy bills." Megan Woods, Mar 2018



"Distributors need to act [on pricing] with ambition and some urgency" Electricity Authority, Oct 2018

"...we suggest the Commerce Commission could be charged with consulting on the future state of the distribution business model.." Transpower, Oct 2018



### THERE'S SIGNIFICANT COMPLEXITY IN IMPLEMENTING NEW PRICING MODELS





# CUSTOMER NEEDS TO BE AT THE CENTRE

Pricing structures need to satisfy customers rather than textbook economic theory

With the customer:

- Explain simply
- Get input
- Design around what customers value
- Test / trial
- Manage impacts





# WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS TELL US THEY VALUE





# WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS TOLD US ON PRICING

Key findings:

- They want options
- They briefly engage with electricity bill / pricing
- Have interest in new pricing plans
- Want control
- Like rewards not penalties
- Are interested in new technologies

#### Innovative Pricing Options:



Preferred by 30% of customers

#### Preferred by 20% of customers

Preferred by 32% of customers MOST POPULAR OPTION



## A TRIAL FOR PEAK TIME REBATES IS PLANNED FOR AUTUMN 2019





# OUR NEIGHBOURS ARE DOING IT



Curb Your Power is Powershop's <u>demand response</u> program, where Powershop customers can help reduce demand on the grid by curbing their power usage at certain peak demand times.





#### **ACTIONDR: HOW IT WORKS**



Living document – updated October 2018

Vector

# CUSTOMER-LED FUTURE PRICING APPROACH

Our pricing reform journey is customer-led

Brattle Group engaged to provide expert advice and an international perspective on best practice

Partnering with retailers where possible

Participation in wider industry debate on pricing reform

Trialling important in ensuring new pricing meets customer expectations

