AUCKLAND ENERGY CONSUMER TRUST 2003

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustees present the financial statements of the Group for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003. These financial statements were approved for issue and are signed on the date below.

03 25 Date K A Sherry - Chair 03 VS Pr 9 bate J G Collinge - Deputy Chair 25/9/03 es G W Sturgess - Secretary Date

Directory for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003

Date Settled

27 August 1993

Trustees

Karen Annette Sherry (Chair) John Gregory Collinge (Deputy Chair) Michael Joseph Buczkowski Coralie Ann van Camp Pauline Alice Winter

Secretary and Executive Officer

Gary W Sturgess

Termination Date

27 August 2073

Accountant

Staples Rodway Limited P O Box 3899 Auckland

Auditor

KPMG P O Box 1584 Auckland

Legal Advisor

David Bigio P O Box 2133 Shortland Street Auckland

Banker

National Bank of New Zealand Limited P O Box 788 Auckland

Statements of Financial Performance for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003

		G	ROUP	PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002
		15 Months	12 Months	15 Months	12 Months
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Total operating revenue	1	528,764	245,116	44,578	51,965
Total operating expenses	3	(323,380)	(135,363)	(2,340)	(2,087)
Operating surplus before interest expense and income tax	men le nere	205,384	109,753	42,238	49,878
Interest expense	4	(124,437)	(11,623)	15	(69)
Operating surplus before income tax	2	80,947	98,130	42,253	49,809
Income tax expense	5	(33,708)	(35,674)	(1,785)	(716)
Operating surplus		47,239	62,456	40,468	49,093
Minority interest	10	115	320	-	-
Net surplus for the period	2	47,354	62,776	40,468	49,093

Statements of Movements in Trustees Funds for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003

		G	ROUP	P	PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002	
		15 Months	12 Months	15 Months	12 Months	
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	
Total recognised revenues and expenses						
Net surplus for the period:						
Parent		47,354	62,776	40,468	49,093	
Minority interest on acquisition of partnership	10	-	1,329		-	
Minority interest	10	(115)	(320)		-	
Movement in asset revaluation reserve	9	196,581	(76,422)		-	
Total recognised revenues and expenses for the period		243,820	(12,637)	40,468	49,093	
Distributions to beneficiaries						
Dividends	8	(42,918)	(46,658)	(42,918)	(46,658)	
Movements in trustees funds for the period		200,902	(59,295)	(2,450)	2,435	
Trustees Funds at beginning of the period		736,890	796,185	320,193	317,758	
Trustees' Funds at end of the period		937,792	736,890	317,743	320,193	

Statements of Financial Position as at 30 June 2003

		G	ROUP	P#	RENT
	Notes	2003 June \$000	2002 March \$000	2003 June \$000	2002 March \$000
Current assets					
Cash		5,498	12,313	4,200	6,185
Short Term Deposits		12,900	15,927	12,900	15,927
Receivables and prepayments	11	73,295	39,626	131	950
Income tax		22,485	748	1,404	748
Capitalised finance costs	12	8,188	-	-	-
Investments	13	8,220	-	-	-
Total current assets		130,586	68,614	18,635	23,810
Non-current assets					
Receivables and prepayments	11	1,500	1,000	-	-
Capitalised finance costs	12	19,274	-	-	-
Investments	13	3,777	-	300,000	300,000
Intangible assets	17	742,149	3,568	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	16	2,197,668	961,420	8	10
Total non-current assets		2,964,368	965,988	300,008	300,010
Total assets		3,094,954	1,034,602	318,643	323,820
Current liabilities					· .
Payables and accruals	18	98,438	52,079	900	3,627
Income tax		-	4,300	•	-
Borrowings	22	7,830	150,763	•	-
Total current liabilities		106,268	207,142	900	3,627
Non-current liabilities					
Borrowings	22	1,836,889	338	-	-
Payables and accruals	18	6,862	•	-	-
Deferred tax	7	207,143	90,232	•	-
Total non-current liabilities		2,050,894	90,570	-	-
Total liabilities		2,157,162	297,712	900	3,627
Trustees Funds					
Trustees Funds		382,204	377,768	317,743	320,193
Asset Revaluation Reserve	9	554,694	358,113	•	-
Attributable to trustees of the Trust		936,898	735,881	317,743	320,193
Attributable to minority shareholders of the Group	10	894	1,009	-	-
Total trustees' funds		937,792	736,890	317,743	320,193
Total trustees' funds and liabilities		3,094,954	1,034,602	318,643	323,820

Statements of Cash Flows for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003

		GROUP	P/	RENT
	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities Cash provided from:				
Receipts from customers	531,953	238,139		-
Interest received	5,223	3,371	1,809	2,688
Dividend received	100	-	42,800	48,000
Legal fee recoveries	882	417	882	417
	538,158	241,927	45,491	51,105
Cash applied to:				
Payments to suppliers and employees	309,748	101,007	2,683	2,526
Income tax paid	23,718	28,045	2,443	4,520
Distributions to beneficiaries	45,374	94,279	45,374	94,279
Interest paid on capital bonds	16,746	-	•	-
Interest paid	77,158	11,448		-
	472,744	234,779	50,500	101,325
Net cash from operating activities	65,414	7,148	(5,009)	(50,220)
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments	3,028 998,814 1,706 1 401	21,917 - 4,938	3,028 - -	21,917 - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments	998,814	- 4,938 -	3,028 - - -	21,917 - - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment	998,814 1,706 1,401 -	- 4,938 - 1,329	-	- - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest	998,814 1,706	- 4,938 -	3,028 - - - - 3,028	21,917 - - - 21,917
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest Cash applied to:	998,814 1,706 1,401 -	4,938 - 1,329 28,184	-	- - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest Cash applied to: Investment in subsidiary	998,814 1,706 1,401 - 1,004,949 -	- 4,938 - 1,329	-	- - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest Cash applied to: Investment in subsidiary Acquisition of UnitedNetworks Limited	998,814 1,706 1,401 - 1,004,949 - 1,513,297	4,938 - 1,329 28,184	-	-
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest Cash applied to: Investment in subsidiary Acquisition of UnitedNetworks Limited Bank overdraft acquired on acquisition of UnitedNetworks Limited	998,814 1,706 1,401 - 1,004,949 - 1,513,297 20,459	4,938 - 1,329 28,184 3,928 - -	- - - 3,028 - - - -	- - - 21,917 - - -
Cash provided from: Withdrawal of short term deposits Proceeds from sale of Eastern and Central assets Proceeds from sale of other property, plant and equipment Proceeds from sale of investments Contributions from minority interest Cash applied to: Investment in subsidiary	998,814 1,706 1,401 - 1,004,949 - 1,513,297	4,938 - 1,329 28,184	-	21,917 - - - 21,917 - - - 8 8 8 8

Statements of Cash Flows (CONTINUED) for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003

		GROUP	P	ARENT
	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000
Net cash from/(used in) financing activities				
Cash provided from/(applied to):				
Proceeds from borrowings	1,986,921	-	-	
Repayment of borrowings	(1,742,139)	(13,709)	-	
Proceeds from capital bonds issue	307,205	-	-	
Dividends paid	-	-	-	
Net cash used in financing activities	551,987	(13,709)		
Net increase in cash balances	(6,815)	(26,482)	(1,985)	(28,311
Cash balances at beginning of the period	12,313	38,795	6,185	34,496
Cash balances at end of the period	5,498	12,313	4,200	6,185
Reconciliation of net surplus to net cash flows from operating ac Net surplus for the period Distributions to beneficiaries	tivities 47,354 (42,918)	62,776 (46,658)	40,468 (42,918)	49,09 (46,658
Minority interest in deficit of partnership	(115)	(320)	(,)	(10,000
	4,321	15,798	(2,450)	2,43
Items classified as investing/financing activities				
Loss/(gain) on sale of property, plant and equipment	(229)	(1,900)		
Loss/(gain) on sale of investment	(1,401)	-		
Capitalised costs	(2,213)	(1,026)		
· · ·	(3,843)	(2,926)	-	
Non-cash items				
Depreciation and amortisation	103,281	31,677	5	4
Amortisation of the mark to market adjustment	(4,934)	-	-	
Increase/(decrease) in deferred tax	(3,814)	17,945	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(8,191)	-		-
Equity earnings	(414)	-	•	-
	85,928	49,622	5	4
Movement in working capital				
Decrease/(increase) in capitalised finance costs	(27,462)	-	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in payables and accruals	(19,302)	(48,729)	(471)	(50,097)
Decrease/(increase) in receivables and prepayments	11,575	1,419	819	(854)
Increase/(decrease) in income tax payable	16,452	(10,133)	(657)	(3,805)
Increase/(decrease) in provision for dividend	(245)	(694)	(245)	(694)
ncrease/(decrease) in unclaimed dividends	(2,010)	2,791	(2,010)	2,791
	(20,992)	(55,346)	(2,564)	(52,659)
Net cash from operating activities				

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

AUCKLAND ENERGY CONSUMER TRUST is a Discretionary Trust under the Trustee Act 1956.

Financial statements for AUCKLAND ENERGY CONSUMER TRUST (the "Parent") and consolidated financial statements are presented. The consolidated financial statements comprise the Trust, its subsidiaries and the Group's interest in associates and partnerships (the "Group").

Basis of Preparation

The general accounting policies as recommended by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand for the measurement and reporting of results and financial position under the historical cost method have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements. This ensures compliance with the Electricity Act 1992 and Amendments that required financial statements comply with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. The Trust Deed also stipulates that the financial statements of the Trust present a true and fair view.

The Group's principal activity during the period was the operation of a distribution network providing utilities in New Zealand.

In 2003 the Group changed its statutory reporting balance date to 30 June. These financial statements are prepared for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003. Comparatives for 2002 are for the 12 month period ended 31 March 2002.

Specific accounting policies

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice. The following specific accounting policies that materially affect the measurement of financial performance, financial position and cash flows have been applied:

a) Basis of consolidation

The changes imposed by the Electricity Amendment Act with regard to financial reporting require Energy and Consumer Trusts to comply with FRS 37: *Consolidating Investments In Subsidiaries* and in particular to prepare consolidated Financial Statements. Energy Trusts are therefore required to consolidate their financial statements with the Electricity company in which they hold shares.

The Trustees believe that while this adds costs, it does not provide any corresponding benefit to the beneficiaries. The Trustees have presented a submission in this regard proposing an exemption, however this was not granted.

Accordingly, to comply with legislation the Trust has presented both the Trust and consolidated financial statements for the current period and comparative.

Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities controlled, directly or indirectly by the Trust. The financial statements of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements using the purchase method of consolidation.

Associates

Associates are entities in which the Group has significant influence, but not control over the operating and financial policies. The Group's share of the net surplus of associates is recognised as a component of operating revenue in the statement of financial performance after adjusting for the amortisation of goodwill arising on acquisition and differences between the accounting policies of the Group and associates. The Group's share of other gains and losses of associates is recognised as a component of total recognised revenues and expenses in the statement of movements in equity. Dividends received from associates are credited to the carrying amount of the investment in associates.

Partnerships

Partnerships are those relationships that the Group has with other persons whereby the partners carry on a business in common with a view to generating a profit. The Group has joint and several liability in respect of all liabilities incurred by the partnerships. Where the Group has a controlling interest in a partnership it is accounted for in the consolidated financial statements as a subsidiary. Where the Group has significant influence over the operating and financial policies of the partnership it is accounted for in the consolidated financial statements as an associate.

Acquisition or disposal during the period

Where an entity becomes or ceases to be a part of the Group during the period, the results of the entity are included in the consolidated results from the date that control or significant influence commenced or until the date that control or significant influence ceased. When an entity is acquired all identifiable assets and liabilities are recognised at their fair value at acquisition date. The fair value does not take into consideration any future intentions by the Group. Where an entity that is part of the Group is disposed of the gain or loss recognised in the statement of financial performance is calculated as the difference between the sale price and the carrying amount of the entity.

Goodwill arising on acquisition

Goodwill arising on acquisition of a subsidiary or associate represents the excess of the purchase consideration over the fair value of the identifiable net assets acquired. Goodwill is amortised to the statement of financial performance on a straight line basis over the period during which benefits are expected to be derived up to a maximum of 20 years.

Transactions eliminated on consolidation

The effects of intra-group transactions are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

b) Income recognition

Income from the provision of utility services is recognised as services are delivered. Interest and rental income is accounted for as earned. Income from capital contributions is typically recognised on an as-invoiced or percentage of completion basis to match the conditions of the contract.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

c) Property, plant and equipment

The cost of purchased property, plant and equipment is the value of the consideration given to acquire the property, plant and equipment and the value of other directly attributable costs, which have been incurred in bringing the property, plant and equipment to the location and condition necessary for the intended service. All feasibility costs are expensed as incurred.

The cost of self-constructed property, plant and equipment includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project, costs of obtaining resource management consents, financing costs that are attributable to the project and an appropriate proportion of the variable and fixed overheads. Costs cease to be capitalised as soon as the property, plant and equipment is ready for productive use and do not include any inefficiency costs.

Subsequent expenditure relating to an item of property, plant and equipment is added to its gross carrying amount when such expenditure either increases the future economic benefits beyond its existing service potential, or is necessarily incurred to enable future economic benefits to be obtained, and that expenditure would have been included in the initial cost of the item had the expenditure been incurred at that time.

Distribution systems and some land and buildings are revalued by independent experts on the basis of depreciated replacement cost, while land and buildings are valued by reference to market information.

Valuations are performed based on highest and best use in accordance with FRS 3: Accounting For Property, Plant And Equipment. If the estimated recoverable amount of an asset is less than its carrying amount, the asset is written down to its estimated recoverable amount and an impairment loss is recognised in the statement of financial performance. Estimated recoverable amount is the greater of the estimated amount from the asset's future use and ultimate disposal, and its net market value. Annual impairment reviews are undertaken for all property, plant and equipment not subject to revaluations.

Revaluations of distribution systems and distribution land and buildings are carried out at least every three years.

d) Depreciation

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment, other than freehold land, is calculated so as to expense the cost of the property, plant and equipment, or the revalued amounts, to their residual values over their useful lives as follows:

Buildings	50 – 100 years
Distribution Systems	15 – 100 years
Motor Vehicles and Mobile Equipment	20% - 33% per annum diminishing value
Computer and Telecommunication Equipment	3 – 40 years
Other Plant and Equipment	4% - 60% per annum diminishing value

e) Receivables

Receivables are carried at estimated realisable value after providing against debts where collection is doubtful.

f) Income tax

The income tax expense recognised for the period is based on the operating surplus before taxation, adjusted for permanent differences between accounting and tax rules.

The impact of all timing differences between accounting and taxable income is recognised as a deferred tax liability or asset. This is the comprehensive basis for the calculation of deferred tax under the liability method.

A deferred tax asset, or the effect of losses carried forward that exceed the deferred tax liability, is recognised in the financial statements only where there is the virtual certainty that the benefit of the timing differences, or losses, will be utilised.

g) Inventories

Inventories are stated at lower of cost and net realisable value.

h) Goods and services tax (GST)

The statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows have been prepared so that all components are stated exclusive of GST. All items in the statement of financial position are stated net of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables, which include GST invoiced.

i) Leased assets

Finance leases

Property, plant and equipment under finance leases are recognised as non-current assets in the statement of financial position. Leased property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at the lower of the present value of the minimum lease payments or their fair value. A corresponding liability is established and each lease payment allocated between the liability and the interest expense. Leased property, plant and equipment are depreciated on the same basis as equivalent property, plant equipment.

Operating leases

Operating lease payments, where the lessors effectively retain substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the leased property, plant and equipment, are included in the determination of the surplus/(deficit) in equal instalments over the lease term.

The cost of improvements to leasehold property are capitalised and amortised over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the improvements, whichever is the shorter.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

j) Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the New Zealand rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. At balance date foreign monetary assets and liabilities not hedged by foreign currency derivative instruments are translated at the closing rate, and exchange variations arising from these translations are included in the statement of financial performance as operating items.

Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies at balance date hedged by foreign currency derivative instruments are translated at contract rates.

k) Financial instruments

The Group uses derivative financial instruments within predetermined policies and limits in order to reduce its exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates.

Derivative financial instruments that are designated as hedges of specific items are recognised on the same basis as the underlying hedged items.

The Group does not engage in speculative transactions or hold derivative financial instruments for trading purposes.

Fees incurred in raising debt finance are capitalised and amortised over the term of the debt instrument.

I) Investments

Non-current investments are stated at cost.

m) Provisions

Employee entitlements

Employee entitlements to salaries and wages, annual leave, long-term leave and other benefits are recognised when they accrue to employees.

The liability for employee entitlements is carried at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows.

Provision for claims

A provision for claims is recognised as a liability where the Group considers that a constructive or legal obligation to settle items under litigation may exist in the foreseeable future. Provision for claims are not recognised where the likelihood of a resultant liability is considered remote.

n) Statement of Cash Flows

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the statement of cash flows:

- Operating activities include all transactions and other events that are not investing or financing activities.
- Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of property, plant and equipment and of investments. Investments can include securities not falling within the definition of cash.
- Financing activities are those that result in changes in the size and composition of the capital structure. This includes both equity and debt not falling within the definition of cash. Dividends paid in relation to the capital structure are included in financing activities.
- Cash is considered to be cash on hand and current accounts in banks, net of bank overdrafts, and excluding short term deposits.

o) Discontinued operations

Discontinued operations are clearly distinguishable activities of the Group's business that have been sold or terminated before the earlier of three months after balance date and the date that the financial statements are approved. In order for the activities to be classified as discontinued, they must have a material effect on the nature and focus of the business and represent a material reduction in either operating facilities or turnover.

p) Dividends Received

Dividends received are recorded on an accrual basis and are shown net of imputation credits.

Changes in Accounting Policies

Property, plant and equipment

The Financial Standards Reporting Board recently issued a new standard FRS 3: Accounting For Property, Plant And Equipment. Revaluations have been stated at highest and best use without deducting disposal costs. Previously, revaluations were prepared on the basis of current use.

The effect of applying FRS 3 has been to increase the amount of the revaluation of property, plant and equipment at 31 March 2003 by \$155.1 million. Consequently, the increase in depreciation charged to the statement of financial performance for the three month period from 1 April 2003 to 30 June 2003 is estimated to be between \$1.0 million and \$1.5 million.

With the exceptions of the above change there have been no changes in accounting policies during the period and all policies have been applied on a basis consistent with those used in the prior period

Notes forming part of the financial statements

NOTES

1	OPERATING REVENUE	15	INVESTMENT IN ASSOCIATES
2	CONTINUING AND DISCONTINUED ACTIVITIES	16	PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT
3	OPERATING EXPENSES	17	INTANGIBLE ASSETS
4	INTEREST EXPENSE	18	PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS
5	TAXATION	19	PROVISION FOR CLAIMS
6	IMPUTATION BALANCES	20	PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS
7	DEFERRED TAX ASSET/LIABILITY	21	COMMITMENTS
8	DIVIDENDS	22	BORROWINGS
9	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	23	CAPITAL BONDS
10	MINORITY INTEREST	24	FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS
11	RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS	25	CONTINGENT LIABILITIES
12	CAPITALISED FINANCE COSTS	26	TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES
13	INVESTMENTS	27	SEGMENT INFORMATION
14	ACQUISITION OF SUBSIDIARY	28	EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

		GROUP		PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002
		15 Months	12 Months	15 Months	12 Months
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
1. OPERATING REVENUE					
Trading revenue:					
Rendering of services		502,511	230,511	-	
Investment income:					
Interest income		5,130	3,411	1,716	2,728
Dividend income		100	-	42,800	48,000
Equity accounted earnings of associate	15	414	-		
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		1,902	1,917	-	
Other revenue:					
Miscellaneous income		735	3,519	62	1,237
Capital contributions		17,972	5,758		
Total operating revenue		528,764	245,116	44,578	51,965

2. CONTINUING AND DISCONTINUED ACTIVITIES

Continuing activities				
Operating revenue	528,864	244,948	44,578	51,965
Operating surplus before tax	80,947	98,395	42,253	49,809
Net surplus for the period	47,354	63,041	40,468	49,093
Discontinued activities				
Operating revenue	-	268	•	-
Operating surplus before tax	-	(265)	-	-
Net surplus for the period	-	(265)	•	-
Totals				
Operating revenue	528,864	245,216	44,578	51,965
Operating surplus before tax	80,947	98,130	42,253	49,809
Net surplus for the period	47,354	62,776	40,468	49,093

In November 2002, UnitedNetworks Limited sold its Eastern region electricity network and Central North Island gas networks to Powerco Limited and Hawkes Bay Network Limited. The Group continues to provide electricity and gas services to other regions in New Zealand.

Continuing activities include net surplus of \$44.0 million relating to UnitedNetworks Limited, which was acquired in October 2002.

	GROUP		PARENT		
Notes	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	
3. OPERATING EXPENSES					
Operating expenses include:					
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment					
Distribution systems	60,787	24,391	-	-	
Leasehold improvements	1,156	466	-	-	
Motor vehicles	59	36	•		
Computer and telecommunications equipment	10,915	6,102	5	4	
Other plant and equipment	1,656	325	-	-	
Total depreciation	74,573	31,320	5	4	
Amortisation of goodwill 17	28,708	361	-		
Research costs	298	330		-	
Bad debts written off	401	869	-	-	
Increase/(decrease) in provision for doubtful debts	636	(120)	-	-	
Rental and operating lease costs	1,959	1,418	21	16	
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	272	-	-	-	
Donations	10	-	-	-	
Directors fees	399	245	-	-	
Trustees Remuneration	162	130	162	130	
Auditors remuneration					
Audit fees paid to principal auditors - KPMG	160	16	27	16	
Audit fees paid to other auditors - PwC, Ernst & Young	105	115	-	-	
Fees paid for other assurance services provided - PwC	120	59	-	-	
Fees paid for other non-assurance services provided - PwC	370	326	•	-	
4. INTEREST EXPENSE					
Interest paid and accrued	105,693	11,623	(15)	69	
Amortised facility fees	18,744	-		-	
Total interest expense	124,437	11,623	(15)	69	

		GROUP		P	PARENT	
·	Notes	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	2003 15 Months \$000	2002 12 Months \$000	
5. TAXATION						
Operating surplus before tax		80,947	98,130	42,253	49,809	
Prima facie tax @ 33%		26,713	32,383	13,943	16,437	
Plus/(less) tax effect of permanent differences:						
Deferred tax asset not previously recognised		(4,368)	(3,494)	-	-	
Prior period adjustment		92	212		-	
Other permanent differences		11,271	6,573	(12,158)	(15,721)	
Income tax expense		33,708	35,674	1,785	716	
The income tax expense is represented by:						
Current tax		37,522	17,729	1,785	716	
Deferred tax	7	(3,814)	17,945	-	-	
		33,708	35,674	1,785	716	

During the period, the Group prepaid tax of \$23.4 million.

A deferred tax asset of \$14.8 million (2002: \$18.3 million) has not been recognised as at 30 June 2003 as there is not virtual certainty of the utilisation by the Group.

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2003	2002	2003 June \$000	2002
	June	March		March
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
6. IMPUTATION BALANCES				
Balance at beginning of the period		-	-	-
Imputation credits received	-	-	17,687	10,420
Imputation credits distributed	-	-	(17,666)	(10,024)
Imputation credits reversed	-	-	173	-
Imputation credits utilised on trustee income		-	(194)	(396)
Balance at end of the period	•	-	-	-

		GR	OUP	PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002
		June	March	June	March
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
7. DEFERRED TAX ASSET/(LIABILITY)					
Balance at beginning of the period		(90,232)	(7,287)	-	
On surplus for the period	5	3,814	(17,945)	-	-
Fair value of deferred tax liability acquired		(120,725)	-	-	-
Deferred tax adjustment on revalued assets	9	-	(65,000)	-	-
Balance at end of the period	are and	(207,143)	(90,232)	-	

2003 2002 June March \$000 \$000	GROUP	& PARENT
\$000 \$000	2003	2002
\$000 \$000	June	March
	 \$000	\$000

8. DIVIDENDS

Distributions during the period:

Dividends paid to beneficiaries				42,918	46,658
Total				42,918	46,65
		GR	OUP	PAF	RENT
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002
· · ·		June \$000	March \$000	June \$000	March \$000
9. ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE					
Balance at beginning of the period		358,113	434,535	-	
Increase/(decrease) arising from revaluation of distribution system property, plant and equipment		194,887	(11,422)		
Increase/(decrease) arising from revaluation of telecommunications property, plant and equipment		1,694	-	•	
Deferred tax adjustment on revaluation reserve	7	-	(65,000)	•	
Balance at end of the period		554,694	358,113	•	
10. MINORITY INTEREST					
Balance at beginning of the period		1,009	-	-	-
Acquisition of interest in partnership		-	1,329	-	-
Share of deficit in partnership		(115)	(320)	-	-
Balance at end of the period		894	1,009	-	

Trade receivables	68,176	32,431	-	-
Provision for doubtful debts	(2,016)	-	-	-
	66,160	32,431		-
Other receivables	4,296	4,956	37	950
Prepayments	2,839	2,239	94	-
Total current receivables and prepayments	73,295	39,626	131	950
Other receivables	1,500	1,000	-	-
Total non-current receivables and prepayments	1,500	1,000		-

		GRC	GROUP		PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002	
		June \$000	March \$000	June \$000	Marcl \$00	
2. CAPITALISED FINANCE COSTS						
Total capitalised costs						
Capital bonds - cost		10,459	-	-		
Capital bonds - amortisation		(1,706)				
Other debt - cost		35,747	-	-		
Other debt - amortisation		(17,038)	-	-		
Balance at end of the period		27,462	-	-		
Current capitalised costs						
Capital bonds		2,541	-	-		
Other debt	·	5,647	-	•		
Balance at end of the period	······································	8,188	-			
Non-current capitalised costs						
Capital bonds		6,212	-	-		
Other debt		13,062	-	-		
Balance at end of the period		19,274	-	-		
13. INVESTMENTS						
Current investments						
Surplus property held for resale		8,220	-	.		
Balance at end of the period	<u> </u>	8,220	-	-		
Non current investments						
Investments in subsidiaries		•	-	300,000	300,00	
Investment in associates	15	2,284	-	-		
Other investments		1,493	-	-		
Balance at end of the period		3,777	-	300,000	300,00	

Property held for resale was independently valued on 31 March 2003 by Trevor Walker, a registered valuer with Telfer Young (Auckland) Limited. Trevor Walker is a member of the New Zealand Institute of Valuers. The basis of valuation was market value less the estimated costs of disposal, based on the properties' highest and best use.

In December 2002, the Group sold its investments in Morrinsville Trading Limited and Warkworth Trading Limited resulting in a profit on sale of \$1.4 million.

13. GROUP INVESTMENTS - CONTINUED

The Group's investment in subsidiaries comprises shares at cost. Significant investments in Group companies comprise:

	PERCENT/ June 2003	AGES HELD March 2002	PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
Significant subsidiaries – Parent			
Vector Limited	100%	100%	Utilities Network Provider
Significant subsidiaries - Group		,	
UnitedNetworks Limited	100%	-	Utilities Network Provider
Auckland Generation Limited	100%	100%	Holding Company
- MEL Silverstream Limited	100%	100%	Holding Company
- MEL Network Limited	100%	100%	Holding Company
- Mercury Geotherm Limited (in receivership)	65.1%	65.1%	Holding Company
- Poihipi Land Limited (in receivership)	65.1%	65.1%	Holding Company
Caduceus Equities No. 1 Limited	100%	100%	Holding Company
Tangent Limited	100%	100%	Telecommunication Network Provider
VECTOR Stream Limited	100%	100%	Holding Company
- Stream Information Limited	70%	70%	Agent for Partnership
- Stream Information	70%	70%	Partnership – Meter Services
Non-trading subsidiaries			
VECTOR Power Limited	100%	100%	Dormant
Auckland Network Limited	100%	100%	Dormant
Energy North Limited	100%	100%	Dormant
Acquired with UnitedNetworks Limited (effective 11 October 2002):			
Significant subsidiaries			
Salamanca Holdings Limited	74.9%	-	Investment
Broadband Services Limited	100%	-	Telecommunication Network Provider
Significant associates			
Treescape Limited	50%	-	Vegetation Management
Non-trading associates			
Pacific Energy Limited	37%	-	Dormant

All entities have a balance date of 30 June, apart from Treescape Limited, Salamanca Holdings Limited, Pacific Energy Limited, Mercury Geotherm Limited (in receivership) and Poihipi Land Limited (in receivership) which all have a balance date of 31 March.

14. ACQUISITION OF SUBSIDIARY

On 11 October 2002 the Group acquired a controlling interest in UnitedNetworks Limited, a company providing utility services in New Zealand. The acquisition of 100% of UnitedNetworks Limited was completed on 15 November 2002.

The contribution of UnitedNetworks Limited to the consolidated net surplus for the 15 month period ended 30 June 2003 was \$44.0 million (after the elimination of intra-group transactions).

The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method with the resulting goodwill being amortised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy.

The acquisition had the following effect on the consolidated financial position:

		G	ROUP
	Notes	2003	2002
		15 Months \$000	12 Months \$000
Fair value of assets and liabilities acquired:			
r an value of assets and namines acquired.			
Cash/(bank overdraft)		(20,459)	
Receivables and prepayments		82,364	
Investments		3,665	-
Payables and accruals		(63,227)	-
Deferred tax liability		(120,725)	-
Property, plant and equipment			
Eastern and Central assets		999,585	-
Retained assets		1,014,778	-
Surplus property	16	8,220	-
Borrowings		(1,157,854)	-
Net assets acquired		746,347	-
Goodwill arising on acquisition	17	752,899	-
Cash consideration paid		1,499,246	-
Costs incurred in acquisition	17	14,051	-
Bank overdraft acquired with subsidiary		20,459	-
Net cash impact of acquisition		1,533,756	-

In a separate transaction, the Eastern region electricity and Central North Island gas assets were sold to Powerco Limited and Hawkes Bay Network Limited.

Costs incurred in acquisition are professional fees paid to the Parent's professional advisors, of which \$2.2 million has been paid to other auditors (PwC).

GROUP		PARENT		
2003	2002	2003	2002	
			12 Months	
5000 5000	\$000	\$000		
	-			
1,970	-	-		
414	-	-		
(100)	-	-		
2,284	-	•	-	
618	-	-		
(204)	-	-	•	
414	-	-		
-	-	-		
414	-	•		
	2003 15 Months \$000 - 1,970 414 (100) 2,284 618 (204) 414 -	2003 2002 15 Months 12 Months \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 - - 1,970 - 414 - (100) - 2,284 - 618 - (204) - 414 - - -	2003 2002 2003 15 Months 12 Months 15 Months \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$000 \$1,970 - - \$144 - - \$15 \$000 - \$618 - - \$2,284 - - \$618 - - \$204) - - \$414 - - \$200 - -	

	GF	ROUP	PARI	ENT
	2003 June \$000	2002 March \$000	2003 June \$000	2002 March \$000
16. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT				
Freehold land at cost	3,733	2,212		
Freehold buildings at valuation	1,157	-	•	-
Leasehold improvements at cost	3,423	3,250	-	
Accumulated depreciation	(1,656)	(710)	•	
Net book value	1,767	2,540	-	
Distribution systems at valuation	2,026,011	879,684	-	
Distribution land at valuation	46,716	22,351	-	-
Distribution buildings at valuation	44,699	17,780	•	-
	2,117,426	919,815	•	-
Accumulated depreciation				
Distribution systems	(15,911)	(23,452)	•	-
Distribution buildings	(365)	(937)	•	-
	(16,276)	(24,389)	•	
Net book value	2,101,150	895,426		
Plant and equipment				
Motor vehicles and mobile equipment - at cost	495	371	-	-
Computer and telecommunications equipment – at cost	67,159	73,168	21	20
Computer and telecommunications equipment – at valuation	1,181	-	-	-
Other plant and equipment – at cost	9,669	9,237	•	-
	78,504	82,776	21	20
Accumulated depreciation				
Motor vehicles and mobile equipment	(315)	(227)	•	-
Computer and telecommunications equipment	(28,147)	(29,638)	(13)	(10)
Other plant and equipment	(4,265)	(4,269)	-	-
	(32,727)	(34,134)	(13)	(10)
Net book value	45,777	48,642	8	10
Capital work in progress	44,084	12,600	•	
Total net book value	2,197,668	961,420	8	10

The trustees consider that the fair value of land and buildings is equal to their book value.

The distribution assets were revalued to \$2,090.5 million as at 31 March 2003. Subsequent additions are stated at cost.

The basis of valuation was depreciated replacement cost. This valuation was undertaken in conjunction with Meritec Limited consulting engineers.

As indicated in the accounting policies interest and other costs are capitalised to property, plant and equipment while under construction. During the period \$2.2 million (2002: \$1.3 million) of interest and other costs were capitalised. Included in other plant and equipment are \$2.1 million of property, plant and equipment held under finance leases.

		GRO	GROUP		PARENT	
	Notes	2003	2002	2003	2002	
		June	March	June	March	
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	
17. INTANGIBLE ASSETS						
Goodwill						
Balance at beginning of the period		3,568	3,929	-	-	
Acquired in the financial period						
UnitedNetworks Limited	14	752,899	-	-	-	
Other		339	-	-	-	
Acquisition costs	14	14,051	-	-	-	
Amortisation in the financial period	3	(28,708)	(361)	-	-	
Balance at end of the period		742,149	3,568	•	-	

Goodwill is amortised over a period up to 20 years in accordance with the Group's accounting policy.

18. PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

Current					
Trade payables and other creditors		57,944	42,295	119	591
Provision for claims	19	15,179	2,020	-	-
Provision for dividends		-	245	•	245
Provision for unclaimed dividends		781	2,791	781	2,791
Mark to market adjustment		4,427	-	-	-
Interest payable		18,371	3,405	-	-
Employee entitlements	20	1,736	1,323	-	-
Total current payables and accruals		98,438	52,079	900	3,627
Non current Mark to market adjustment Total non current payables and accruals		6,862	-	-	-
19. PROVISION FOR CLAIMS					
Balance at beginning of the period		2,020	5,591		-
Additions		13,555	1,300	-	-
Utilised		(396)	(2,500)		-
Reversed		-	(2,371)		-
Balance at end of the period		15,179	2,020	-	

	GROUP		PARENT	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	June	March	June	March
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
20. PROVISION FOR EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS				
Balance at beginning of the period	1,323	1,343	-	-
Additions	413	-	-	-
Utilised	-	(20)	•	-
Balance at end of the period	1,736	1,323	-	-

21. COMMITMENTS

The following amounts have been committed to by the Group or Parent, but not recognised in the financial statements.

Capital expenditure commitments				
Estimated capital expenditure contracted for at balance date but not provided:	39,871	10,775	-	-
Operating lease commitments				
Within one year	3,329	1,172	•	-
One to two years	1,663	1,172	-	<u>-</u>
Two to five years	4,377	2,302		-
Beyond five years	3,864	113	-	-
Total	13,233	4,759	-	-

The majority of the operating lease commitments relate to premises leases. Operating leases held over properties give the Group the right to renew the lease.

22. BORROWINGS

Group June 2003	Notes	Weighted average interest rate	Total	Payable within 1 year	Payable between 1 and 2 years	Payable between 2 and 5 years	Payable after 5 years
		%	\$0	00 \$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Bank loans		5.95	760,0	- 00		760,000	. •
Working capital loan		5.75	7,0	00 7,000	-	-	-
Medium term notes – fixed rate NZ\$		6.50	198,9	33 -		198,933	
Medium term notes – floating rate A\$		5.30	569,0	18 -		319,018	250,000
Capital bonds	23	9.75	307,2	05 -	-	307,205	-
Other		5.09	2,5	63 830	-	1,678	55
		6.44	1,844,7	19 7,830	•	1,586,834	250,055

Group March 2002	Weighted average interest rate	Total	Payable within 1 year	Payable between 1 and 2 years	Payable between 2 and 5 years	Payable after 5 years
	%	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
CHF bond	7.10	104,810	104,810	-	-	-
Commercial paper	4.94	45,000	45,000		-	-
Other	1.99	1,291	953	-	338	-
	6.42	151,101	150,763		338	-

22. BORROWINGS - CONTINUED

The Parent has no borrowings during this period.

All borrowings are unsecured with all bank loans and medium term notes being subject to negative pledge arrangements. Interest rates for all bank loans are floating based on the bank bill rate plus a margin. Medium term notes – fixed rate NZ\$ mature April 2007 and are shown at the value of proceeds received after deducting the discount on issue (\$1.7 million) and adjusted for the amount amortised (\$0.6 million).

Medium term notes - floating rate A\$ mature April 2008 and April 2011.

Borrowings are classified between current and non-current dependent on repayment dates.

Bank loans are subject to various covenants. These have all been met for the 15 month period to 30 June 2003 and the 12 month period to 31 March 2002.

23. CAPITAL BONDS

On 5 November 2002 Vector Limited issued 307,205,000 capital bonds for \$307,205,000. The capital bonds have an initial term of 4 years from the date of issue. The capital bonds are convertible into Vector Limited Ordinary shares in certain limited circumstances and have a principal amount of NZ\$1.00 each.

The interest rate of 8.25% is fixed until the first election date of 15 December 2006, and thereafter will be reset at intervals determined by the Parent. If a Public Offer (which involves the quotation of Ordinary Shares on the New Zealand Stock Exchange and the issue of at least 24.9% of the total Vector Limited ordinary share capital to persons other than the Auckland Energy Consumer Trust) is not completed by 30 September 2003, the interest rate will be increased by 1.5% per annum as from 15 June 2003 (until the date on which a Public Offer is completed or the first election date, whichever date is earlier). Such an adjustment will be in addition to any adjustment to the interest rate as a result of a change to Vector Limited's credit rating.

The capital bonds are unsecured debt obligations of Vector Limited, which are subordinated to all other creditors of Vector Limited and are constituted by a Trust Deed entered into by Vector Limited and The New Zealand Guardian Trust Company Limited as Trustee dated 25 September 2002.

The capital bonds were issued to partially finance Vector Limited's acquisition of UnitedNetworks Limited.

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Group has a comprehensive treasury policy approved by the board of directors to manage the risks of financial instruments. The Parent has no short or long term borrowings.

Interest rate risk

The Group has long-term borrowings, which are used to fund ongoing activities. The Group actively manages interest rate exposures in accordance with Treasury Policy. In this respect, at least 40% of all term debt must be at fixed interest rates or effectively fixed using interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements, options and similar derivative instruments.

The weighted average rates of borrowings are as follows:

	200	3	200	2	
	Jun	e .	March		
Group	Weighted average interest rate	Face value	Weighted average interest rate	Face value	
	%	\$000	%	\$000	
Bank loans	5.95	760,000	. -	-	
Working capital loan	5.75	7,000	•	-	
CHF bond	-	-	7.10	104,810	
Commercial paper		-	4.94	45,000	
Medium term notes – fixed rate NZ\$	6.50	200,000	-	-	
Medium term notes – floating rate A\$	5.30	569,018	-	-	
Capital bonds	9.75	307,205	-	-	
Other	5.09	2,563	1.99	1,291	

The weighted average rates of interest rate swaps are as follows:

	200	2002		
	June	e	Marc	:h
Group	Weighted average interest rate	Face value	Weighted average interest rate	Face value
	%	\$000	%	\$000
Interest rate swaps				
Maturing in less than 1 year	7.16	111,250	-	-
Maturing between 1 and 2 years	6.97	135,000	7.17	20,000
Maturing between 2 and 5 years	6.94	542,500	7.12	50,000
Maturing after 5 years	6.69	172,500		-
Total	6.92	961,250	7.13	70,000
Cross currency swaps	5.30	569,018	7.10	104,810

Foreign exchange risk

The Group has, in this reporting period, conducted transactions in foreign currencies for the purposes of protecting the NZ\$ value of capital expenditure and for the issuance of A\$ medium term notes which have been hedged with cross currency swaps.

At balance date the Group has no significant exposure to foreign currency risk.

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS-CONTINUED

Credit risk

In the normal course of business, the Group is exposed to credit risk from energy retailers, financial institutions and trade debtors. The Group has a credit policy, which is used to manage this exposure to credit risk.

As part of this policy, the Group can only have exposures to financial institutions having at least a credit rating of A- long term from Standard & Poors (or equivalent rating). In addition, limits on exposures to financial institutions have been set by the Board of Directors and are monitored on a regular basis. In this respect, the Group minimises the credit risk by spreading such exposures across a range of institutions. The Group does not anticipate non-performance by any of these financial institutions.

The Group has some concentration of credit exposures with a few large energy retailers. To minimise this risk, the Group performs credit evaluations on all energy retailers and other electricity customers and requires a bond or other form of security where deemed necessary.

The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying value of each financial asset:

		GROUP		PARENT	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	
	June	March	June	March	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	
Cash and bank	5,498	12,313	4,200	6,185	
Short Term Deposits	12,900	15,927	12,900	15,927	
Trade receivables	68,176	32,431	•	-	

Fair values

The estimated fair value of financial instruments at balance date is:

	200	3	2002		
	Jun	June		ch	
Group	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value	
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	
Bank loans	760,000	760,000	104,810	104,810	
Working capital loan	7,000	7,000	-	-	
Commercial paper	•	-	45,000	45,000	
Medium term notes – fixed rate NZ\$	198,933	207,340	-	-	
Medium term notes – floating rate A\$	569,018	539,100	-	-	
Capital bonds	307,205	340,629	-	-	
Interest rate swaps loss/(gain)	12,275	45,481	-	(28,500)	
Cross currency swaps loss	-	25,558	-	-	
Other	2,563	2,563	1,291	1,291	

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of each class of financial instrument where it is practical to estimate that value:

Cash and short term deposits, loans and working capital

The carrying amount of these items is equivalent to their fair value. Bank overdrafts are set off against cash balances pursuant to right of set off.

Medium term notes

The fair value of NZ\$ notes is based on quoted market prices.

The fair value of A\$ notes is based on the face value converted at the exchange rate prevailing at the end of the period.

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS - CONTINUED

Capital bonds

The fair value of capital bonds is based on quoted market prices.

Derivative instruments

The fair value of interest rate swaps, forward rate agreements, interest rate options and other derivative instruments is estimated based on the quoted market prices for these instruments.

25. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Trustees are aware of claims that have been made against the Group and have recognised provisions for these within the financial statements. No other material contingencies have been identified.

26. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the period the Parent had the following transactions with Vector Limited, the Parent is the sole shareholder of Vector Limited:

٠	Receipt of dividend from Vector Limited	\$ 42.8 million	(2002: \$48.0 million)
٠	Payments made to Vector Limited	\$ 0.1 million	(2002: \$ 0.1 million)

Note 13 identifies all Group entities including associates and partnerships in which the Group has an interest. All of these entities are related parties of the Parent. Other than the Trustees and Directors themselves, there are no additional related parties with whom material transactions have taken place.

On 21 August 2003, the Directors of Vector Limited recommended a final dividend of 10.73 cents per Class A share (\$32.2 million), which has not been provided for in these financial statements. This dividend received by the Parent will then be distributed to the beneficiaries of the Trust at \$155 per beneficiary.

	GR	GROUP		PARENT		
	2003	2002	2003	2002		
	June	March	June	March		
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000		
Trustees Remuneration						
M Buczkowski	31	25	31	25		
J Collinge	80	25	31	25		
K Sherry	38	25	38	25		
C Van Camp	31	25	31	25		
P Winter	31	30	31	30		
Other Directors fees	350	245	-	-		
Total	561	375	162	130		

27. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group operates a distribution network providing utilities. All operations are carried out within New Zealand.

28. EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

Effective from 1 July 2003, UnitedNetworks Limited and Caduceus Equities No. 1 Limited were amalgamated with Vector Limited.

On 21 August 2003, the Directors of Vector Limited announced that a decision had been reached not to proceed with the Public Offer at this time (see note 25). The Group has accrued interest on capital bonds in these financial statements at a premium of 1.5% per annum from 15 June 2003 to allow for the additional interest payable should the Public Offer not be completed by 30 September 2003.

Hence no adjustments are required to these financial statements in respect of these events.



Audit report

To the Trustees of Auckland Energy Consumer Trust

We have audited the financial statements on pages 2 to 26. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance and financial position of the trust and group as at 30 June 2003. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 7 to 9.

Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the trust and group as at 30 June 2003 and the results of their operations and cash flows for the 15 month period ended on that date.

Auditors' responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the Trustees and report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements;
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the trust's and group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Partners and employees of our firm may also deal with the trust as consumers of Vector Limited. This has not impaired our independence as auditors of the trust and group. The firm has no other relationship with, or interest in, the trust and group.

Unqualified opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion:

- proper accounting records have been kept by the trust as far as appears from our examination of those records;
- the financial statements on pages 2 to 26:
 - comply with New Zealand generally accepted accounting practice;
 - give a true and fair view of the financial position of the trust and group as at 30 June 2003 and the results of their operations and cash flows for the 15 month period ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 25 September 2003 and our unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.

KAME

Auckland