



To	Company Announcements Office	Facsimile	1300 135 638
Company	ASX Limited	Date	15 April 2013
From	Helen Hardy	Pages	8
Subject	CONTACT ENERGY LIMITED - MONTHLY OPERATIONAL DATA MARCH 2013		

Attached herewith is a copy of an announcement released to the NZX by Contact Energy today.

Origin Energy holds 53.09% of quoted ordinary shares in Contact Energy Limited.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen Hardy".

Helen Hardy
Company Secretary

02 8345 5441 - helen.hardy@originenergy.com.au



Monthly Operational Data

For the month ended 31 March 2013

March 2013

Highlights for March 2013

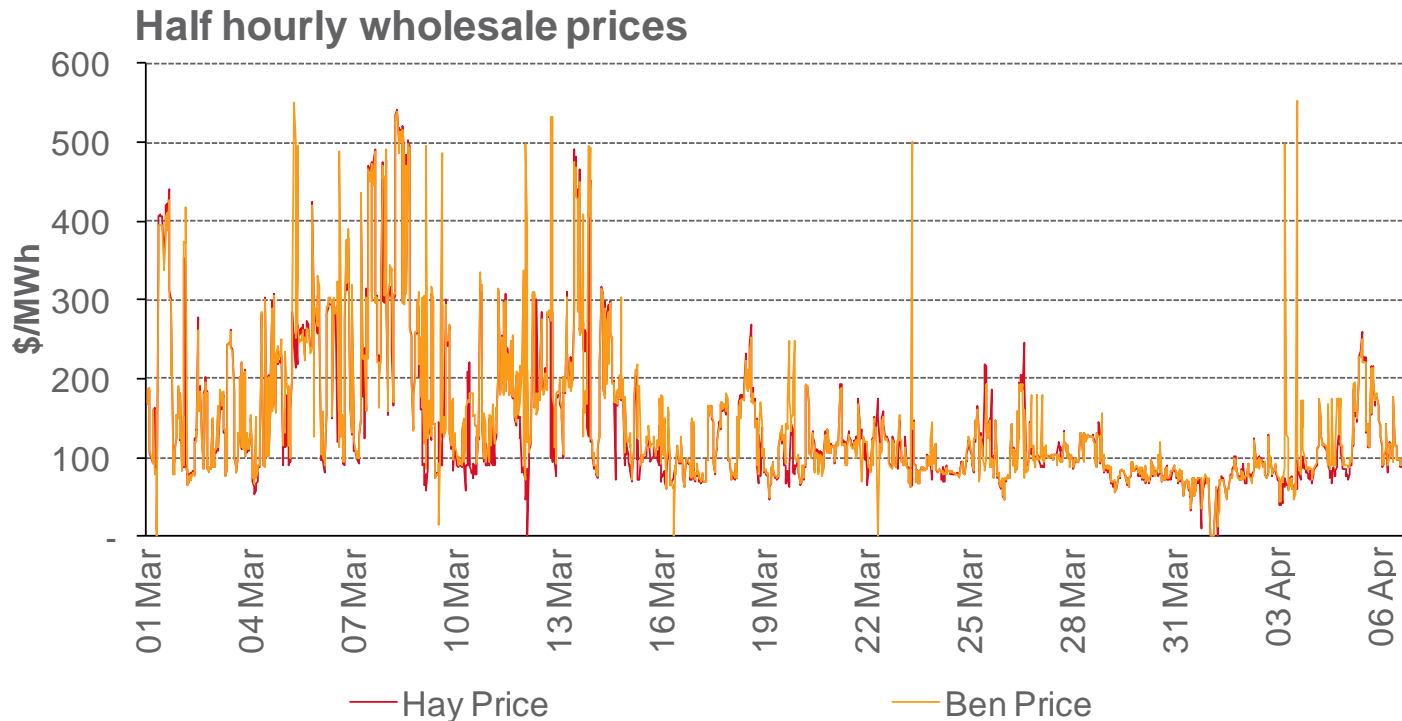


- **Hydro storage as at 31 March: South Island 78% of mean, North Island 50% of mean (p4)**
- **Average Haywards wholesale price for March 2013: \$146/MWh (p3)**
- **Otahuhu futures settlement wholesale price for 2st quarter 2013 (ASX) (p4):**
 - As at 10 April: \$104/MWh
 - As at 28 March: \$102/MWh
 - As at 28 February: \$94/MWh

Wholesale Electricity Prices



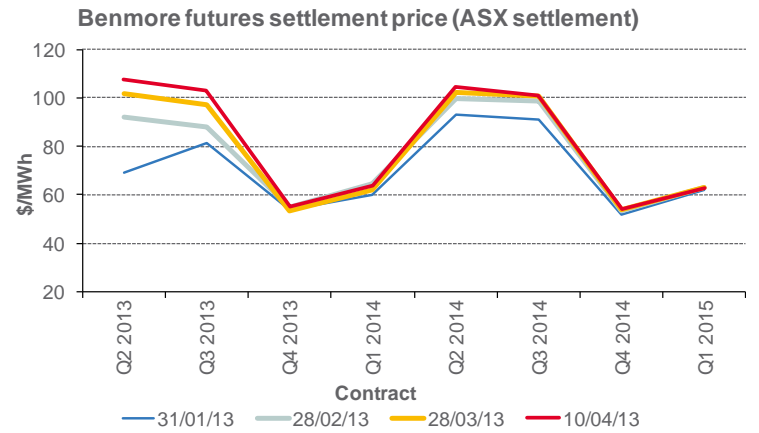
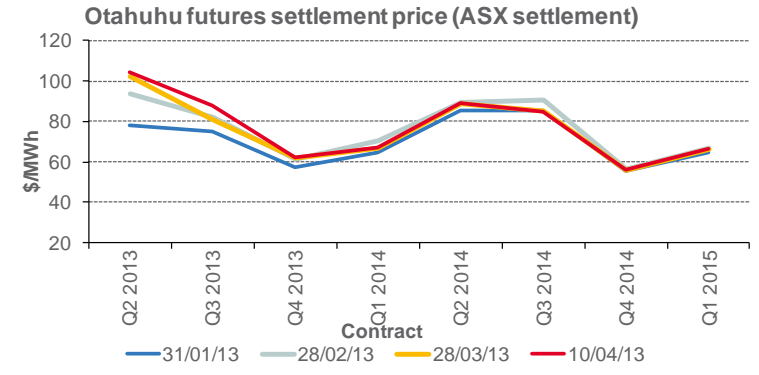
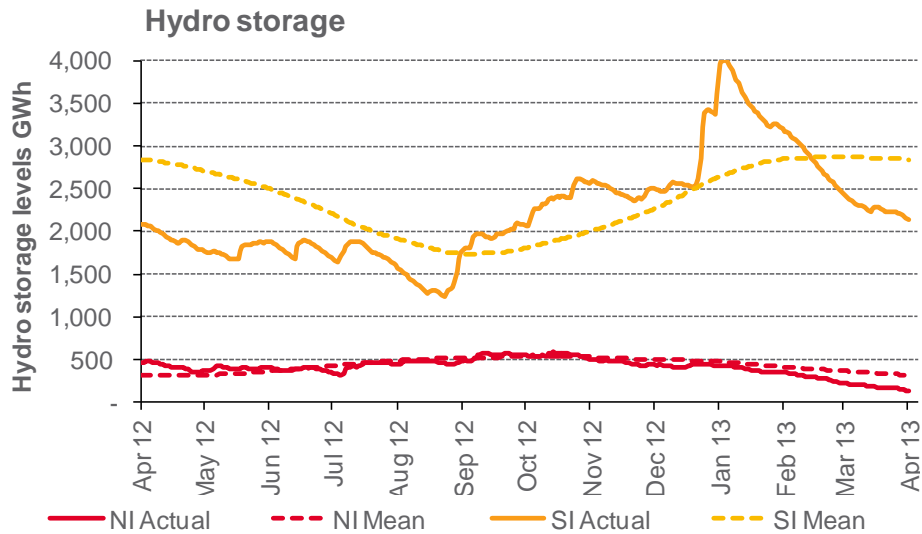
- The average price at Haywards (North Island) for the month of March 2013 was \$146/MWh while the average price at Benmore (South Island) was \$155/MWh.
- The average Haywards price from 1 March to 9 April 2013 was \$97/MWh. The average Benmore price over this period was \$105/MWh.



Storage levels and wholesale electricity prices

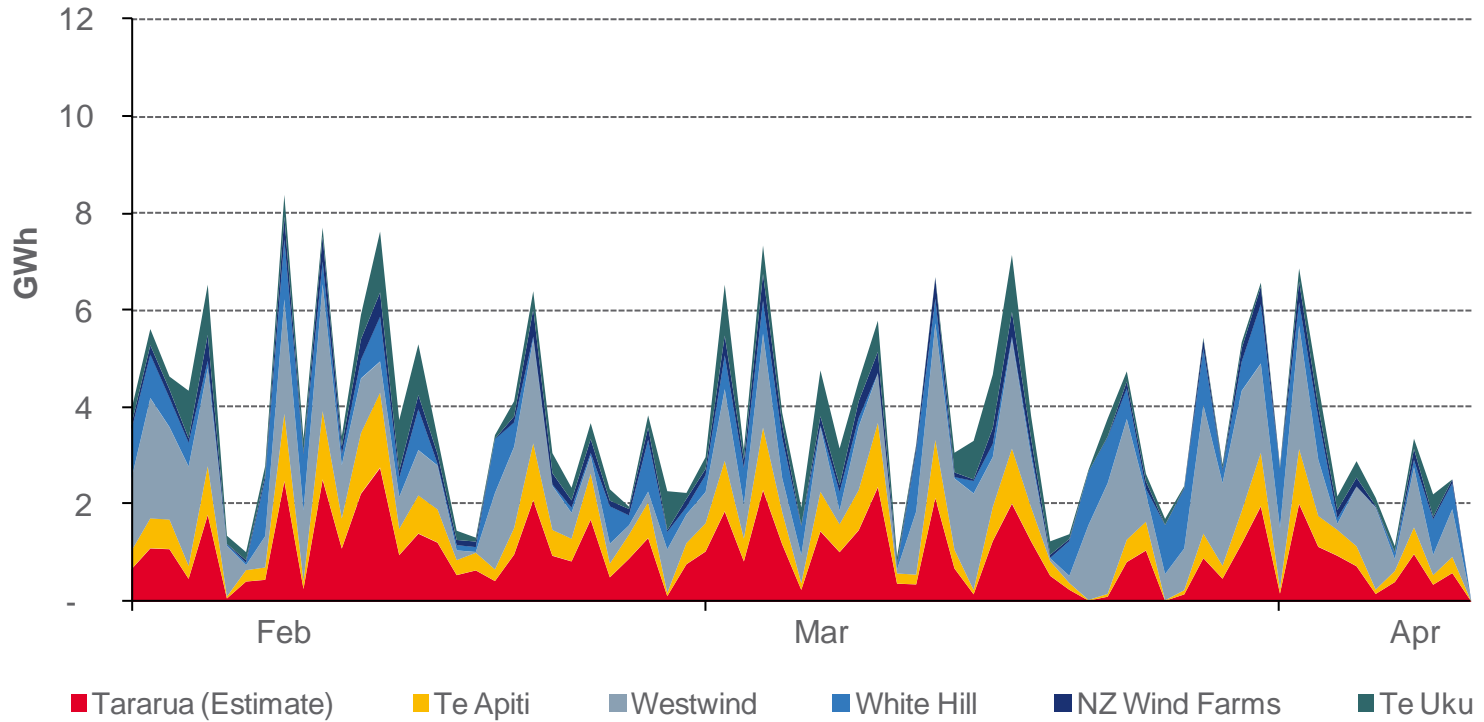


- At 31 March 2013, South Island storage was 78% of mean (28 February: 95%) and North Island storage was 50% of mean (28 February: 73%)
- As at 11 April 2013, storage was:
 - South Island: 75% of mean
 - North Island: 43% of mean





Daily wind generation (SCADA)



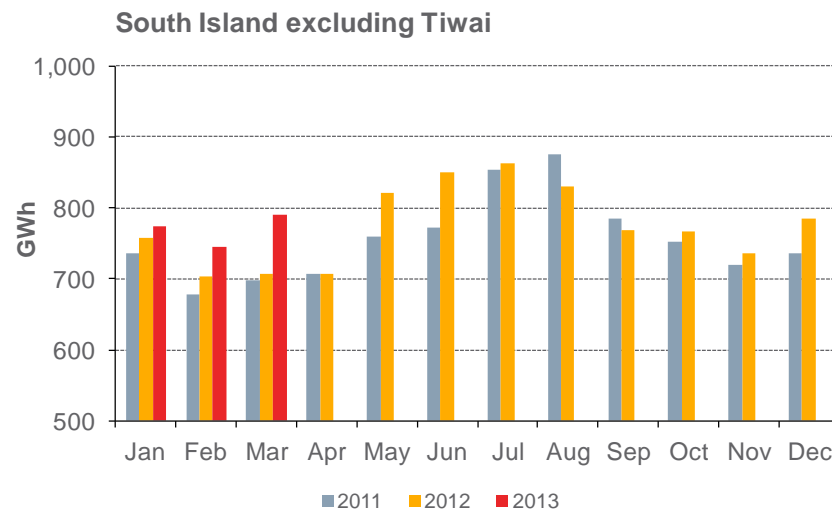
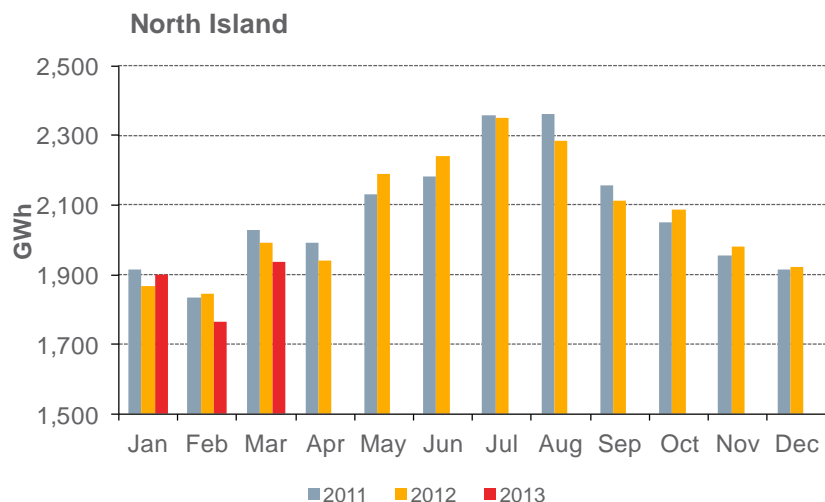
Monthly demand comparison



NIWA's National Climate Summary for March 2013 reports:

- The New Zealand national average temperature in March was 16.7°C (0.9°C above the 1971-2000 March average).

Demand	12 months to date			Growth rate		March demand			Growth rate	
	GWh			% p.a.		GWh			% p.a.	
	2013	2012	2011	1 year	2 year	2013	2012	2011	1 year	2 year
North Island	24,711	24,808	24,883	(0.4%)	(0.3%)	1,936	1,993	2,027	(2.9%)	(2.3%)
South Island excluding Tiwai	9,437	9,129	9,486	3.4%	(0.3%)	790	707	698	11.7%	6.4%
Total	34,147	33,937	34,368	0.6%	(0.3%)	2,726	2,700	2,725	1.0%	0.0%



Contact Netback, Net Purchase Cost and LPG Data



Data	Measure	The month ended 31 March 2013	The month ended 31 March 2012	The month ended 28 February 2013	Nine months ended 31 March 2013	Nine months ended 31 March 2012	
Netback	Mass market electricity sales	GWh	290	318	260	3,040	3,104
	Commercial & industrial electricity sales	GWh	378	358	330	3,108	3,106
	Retail gas sales	GWh	36	40	30	486	517
	Steam sales	GWh	43	66	46	509	555
	Total retail sales	GWh	747	783	666	7,142	7,282
	Average electricity sales price	\$/MWh	186.88	173.80	176.63	180.86	174.19
	Electricity direct pass thru costs	\$/MWh	62.80	63.19	71.84	68.18	63.11
	Electricity and gas cost to serve	\$/MWh	12.09	12.67	13.36	11.84	11.61
	Netback ¹	\$/MWh	104.49	89.01	84.30	91.20	89.15
	Actual electricity line losses	%	5%	2%	9%	5%	4%
	Retail gas sales	PJ	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.8	1.8
	Electricity customer numbers ⁶		441,500	444,000	443,000		
	Gas customer numbers ⁶		62,500	61,500	63,000		
Net Purchase Cost	Thermal generation	GWh	420	478	350	2,809	3,265
	Geothermal generation	GWh	194	207	176	1,707	1,777
	Hydro generation	GWh	224	249	267	2,665	2,226
	Spot market generation	GWh	838	933	793	7,181	7,268
	Swaption	GWh	-	31	-	198	469
	Spot electricity purchases	GWh	696	678	638	6,358	6,416
	CiD sales	GWh	172	202	150	682	404
	GWAP ²	\$/MWh	148.11	86.39	68.76	67.18	84.58
	LWAP ³	\$/MWh	159.30	91.65	73.71	73.65	90.20
	LWAP/GWAP	%	108%	106%	107%	110%	107%
	Gas used in internal generation	PJ	3.5	3.7	2.9	24.6	27.2
	Wholesale gas sales	PJ	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.1	1.9
	Gas storage net movement	PJ	(0.0)	(0.2)	(0.1)	(1.8)	1.6
	Unit generation cost ⁴	\$/MWh	52.90	48.89	47.19	47.46	50.29
	Net purchase cost ⁵	\$/MWh	51.61	18.65	40.01	44.33	45.61
LPG	LPG sales	tonnes	4,221	4,140	4,463	49,967	47,610
	LPG customer numbers (includes franchises) ⁶		64,000	60,500	64,000		

¹ Netback equates to: (retail electricity, gas and steam sales less direct pass thru and cost to serve costs) / (total retail sales volume).

² This is the price received by Contact for its spot generation. It excludes contracts for differences (including swaption) and direct sales.

³ This is the price paid by Contact for its spot electricity purchases. It excludes contracts for differences and other purchase costs.

⁴ Unit generation costs equates to: (total generation fuel, transmission and operating costs) / (Spot market generation). Excludes gas purchases for wholesale and retail gas sales

⁵ Net purchase cost equates to: (total wholesale revenue less unit generation costs and electricity & gas purchases) / (retail sales volume).

⁶ Data has been rounded to the nearest 500 and reflects numbers as at month end.