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How to Save the World ... or at least take a step in the right direction!

(With thanks to Barack Obama, Al Gore, Nicholas Stern, Amory Lovins ...)

- (1) The Government must require all Power generators/retailers to actively pursue a policy of energy conservation and efficiency and exhaust all potential before building new capacity.
- (2) In return the Generators / retailers will receive carbon credits for the energy saved.
- (3) The generators and retailers will work with local communities and hardware, plumbing and other providers to audit/retrofit/audit each building (the 'Right House' model), paid through the Power account.
- (4) This will result in a smaller Power account so the balance of that account will be taken up in repaying the retrofit , over time.
- (5) At the same time a policy of 'Block" or progressive pricing, coupled with a fair allocation of power to meet the needs of the occupants, will be introduced to the account.
- (6) The account stays with the building.
- (7) The Community "Warm Homes" initiative still has an important ,but hopefully diminished, role to play.
- (8) As has been shown by research, warm , healthy homes directly improve the lives of the occupants, there are savings in the health Budget, better social and educational outcomes and local employment is retained and enhanced.
- (9) New Zealand's carbon footprint would be dramatically reduced, there would be less pressure on an ageing National Grid, and there would be greater emphasis on distributed energy and other creative community responses to ensure energy security of supply.
- (10) Hydroelectricity and Industrial Wind generation are not benign and have very significant environmental impacts so it is imperative that present installed capacity is used frugally and carefully. That can be done with little impact on our present lives.
- (11) The last of our "Wild "rivers and our amazing landscapes need not be sacrificed to satisfy wasteful consumption.