

NEWS 6/4/06

It has been a busy time for Mirak over the last month. We have installed a number of systems in the North Otago area. Marty Costelloe of Coz Plumbing Services has been specifying Mirak systems for his customers in this area. We are getting some great feedback from Marty and from his customers about our systems and service. Check out our new 'customers' and 'installers' pages for more info.

More doom and gloom from the energy sector. Transpower has been generating most of the negative comments. These guys have a very difficult problem to manage, and everyone seems to have an opinion on how it should be rectified. So what is all the fuss about? Check out the following links for more info:

The power supply to Canterbury and the upper South Island is at risk of collapse by 2012 if nothing is done, Transpower has warned.

Vector signals power price hikes for winter.

The solution to the problem appears to be an upgrade to Transpowers lines and equipment. Some of this upgrade is already underway. So how will this work and equipment be funded? At Mirak we advised there was a possible increase coming in the near future in our last news article. (Looks like the crystal ball worked after all). Transpowers proposed 19% increase, which has made media headlines, is definitely a sizeable increase in transmission costs. Once the upgrade is complete, do not expect the price of transmission to be reduced!

Meridian, our largest Generating (and retailing) SOE is once again looking for resource consent for the Lower Waitaki scheme. This time the plan is to put the water through a tunnel. This would lower the visual impact a canal would have had, but it does not get around the main problem of the water consent. With all the work required before design of this scheme can even start, how can power prices not be affected?

Better get that solar water heating installed soon!