# Disruptive Technology: the case of electricity

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## Developments

- Distributed Generation: solar PV etc. All under intense R&D
- Batteries: provide the option of shifting electricity over space and time: under intense R&D
- Digital devices and communication, and automation of functionality
- Energy cost saving innovations
  - Substitution of DC for AC
  - LED Lighting
- Organisational
  - Smart micro-grids of various forms
  - Effect on the visible auctioneer (system operator functions)

#### **Is Change Underway?**

Economic Growth (Real GDP) 2011-2015: +12%

**Grid Throughput (Load)** 



#### **Current Market Structure and Regulation**



**Oligopoly** Competition law





#### Customers/retail

**Competitive** Competition law



Transmission



Distribution

Spot Market Operator **Natural monopoly** (National HV Grid) Part IV of the Com Act & NZEM Code

Natural monopoly (Local LV Grid) Part IV of the Com Act & NZEM Code

Centralised visible auctioneer: NZEM Code & Commerce Act

#### **To a more Decentralised System**



### **Incentive for Change:**

#### Typical Household Bill (EA 2016)



#### **Discussion**



Micro grids 
as small as households and as large as districts?

#### Some Sources

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