

7 July 2026



29 Bowler Avenue, Gore 9710
PO Box 8, Gore 9740

Phone 03 209 0330
Email info@goredc.govt.nz
www.goredc.govt.nz

Dear 

Thank you for your email dated 11 May 2026 in which you requested information regarding the 1927 Penny Power electricity deed. On 8 June 2026, the Council subsequently extended the time required to respond to your request.

With this extension of time, the Council can provide the following information, and responds to each of your questions in turn.

1. *Capped Volume*

What is the current capped number of gigawatt hours (GWh) per annum that can be supplied under the penny-per-unit rate? Please also provide the date and document that established or last varied this cap.

The 1927 Deed sets no cap in GWh and has not been amended since.

2. *Aquatic Centre Usage*

How many GWh did the Gore Aquatic Centre use per annum for each of the last three financial years (2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25)?

3. *Ice Rink Usage*

What percentage (%) of the electricity supplied under the Penny Power deed is used by the ice rink? Please also provide the actual GWh used by the ice rink for each of the last three financial years.

4. *Council's Total Electricity Costs*

What was Gore District Council's total electricity expenditure (in dollars) for each of the last three financial years (2022/23 to 2024/25)? Please break this down between:

- *Electricity supplied under the 1927 Penny Power deed, and*
- *Electricity purchased at market rates.*

5. *Actual Savings from Penny Power*

What are the actual estimated annual savings delivered by the 1927 Penny Power agreement compared to purchasing the same volume of electricity at current market rates? Please provide the Council's calculation or best estimate for each of the last three financial years, including the methodology used.

The table below provides a breakdown of power usage and costs for the Aquatic Centre, Ice Rink and the Councils total electricity costs for the financial year ending June 2025.

Gore District Council — Electricity by supplier, year ended 30 June 2025

Actual cost supplied under the 1927 penny deed, shown alongside the potential cost if that same electricity were bought at market/wholesale rates. All amounts exclude GST.

Retailer	ICPs	kWh	Energy \$	Lines \$ (net)	Total \$ (actual)	At theoretical wholesale \$
TPC — Aquatic Centre (penny portion)	1	2,452,723	\$20,358	—	\$20,358	\$382,922
TPC — Ice rink (wholesale, same ICP)	0	817,574	\$121,671	—	\$121,671	\$121,671
TPC — Other penny-deed sites	38	3,283,990	\$27,257	—	\$27,257	\$526,681
Meridian	17	149,235	\$31,969	\$28,797	\$60,766	\$54,687
Contact	12	73,097	\$21,006	\$29,573	\$50,579	\$45,523
COUNCIL TOTAL	68	6,776,619	\$222,261	\$58,370	\$280,631	\$1,131,484

Theoretical benefit of the penny deed	\$850,853
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The Council has supplied to you information for the financial year 2025/26 only, as to supply you with a further two previous financial years would require a substantial amount of manual collation as the information is not easily retrievable from our systems. Therefore, the remaining two financial years are refused, at this time, under section 17(f) of the Act. The Council has already extended the time available to us to provide to you one financial year.

The Council can offer to you a charge so that workloads can be re-arranged with the use of a contractor to fulfil your request.

If you wish to proceed with this, the Council can provide to you a quote for the compilation of the additional two financial years.

6. Context of Amalgamation (optional but recommended)

Have any reports or briefings been provided to elected members since 1 January 2023 regarding the potential impact of local government reorganisation or amalgamation on the continuation of the 1927 Penny Power deed?

There have been verbal informal discussions held with elected members.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact the Governance Team via governance@goredc.govt.nz

Yours sincerely



David Bainbridge-Zafar
Acting Chief Executive