

# Counties Energy Trust

## Candidate Statements

### 2025 Election of Trustees



#### Andrew Murray KAY

As a proud Franklin local and elected member of the Franklin Local Board, I'm standing for the Counties Energy Trust because I believe in strong, community-led governance of our essential infrastructure. The Trust exists to represent electricity consumers, protect our ownership of Counties Energy, and ensure that benefits like the annual electricity discount continue to be

delivered fairly and sustainably.

With a background in local government with my work in banking & years of experience advocating for our people, I bring the skills and knowledge needed to monitor performance, appoint effective directors and guide Counties Energy to act in the best interests of our communities.

The Trust exists to protect your stake in our local energy company. As a Trustee, I'll make sure we invest wisely, return value directly to consumers, and keep our power infrastructure strong, safe and local. Vote Andrew Kay - Proven Leadership. Community Voice. Franklin First.



#### Abdul NISHAR

JP CMInstD

As a proud Papakura local, I'm standing for election to the Counties Energy Trust to ensure our community's interests are strongly represented in the governance of our 100% consumer-owned energy provider.

With over 15 years' experience in the energy, utilities, and technology sectors across New

Zealand and Australia, I bring deep expertise in infrastructure resilience, digital transformation, and climate adaptation. As a Chartered Member of the Institute of Directors and an active community leader, I'm committed to ethical, forward-thinking governance.

My strengths include strategy, risk, innovation, tangata whenua engagement, and data-driven decision-making. Counties Energy Trust plays a vital role in ensuring Counties Energy remains aligned with community needs. I will bring integrity, energy, and collaboration to the board, advocating for local reinvestment, sustainability, and equitable energy access. Your vote is a vote for experienced, community-focused leadership—dedicated to securing a resilient, efficient, and sustainable energy future for all.



#### David TOMPKINS

I'm David – Clarks Beach resident, husband, father and proud grandparent. My roots within this community fuel my passion for ensuring our electricity network remains safe, reliable, cost-effective and proudly consumer-owned.

I have 27 years experience in the energy sector, 12 of those in senior leadership roles with Vector including Divisional CEO of the Auckland and

Wellington electricity networks, and Group GM of Asset Investment. Internationally, I've led major power station developments across Canada/USA.

My governance experience includes board roles with the Electricity Networks Association, Electricity Supply Industry Training Organisation, and the past 10 years on the Counties Energy Board – giving me strong insight and sector expertise. I also hold Bachelor and Masters degrees in Engineering, plus Diplomas in Business Management/Finance.

I'm committed to driving innovation, improving customer service and resilience, and supporting local community and energy hardship initiatives. I'd be honoured to earn your support.



#### Tom VAN DER LAAN

I am standing for election to the Trust because I care about community and effective provision of affordable electricity for all residents. I have a strong interest in renewable energy and in my time as Principal at Waiuku College I was proud that we were the school with the highest number of Board owned solar panels in New Zealand. I have panels and battery storage on

my own home in Bombay and believe that home solar should be encouraged by energy providers and networks.

I have Trust Board experience, having served 2 terms on the Wiri Licensing Trust and was proud to be part of a team that returned value to the community. I also served terms on a Community Board and a number of School Boards. I hope to see Counties Energy continue as a positive and prominent contributor to the Counties community.