



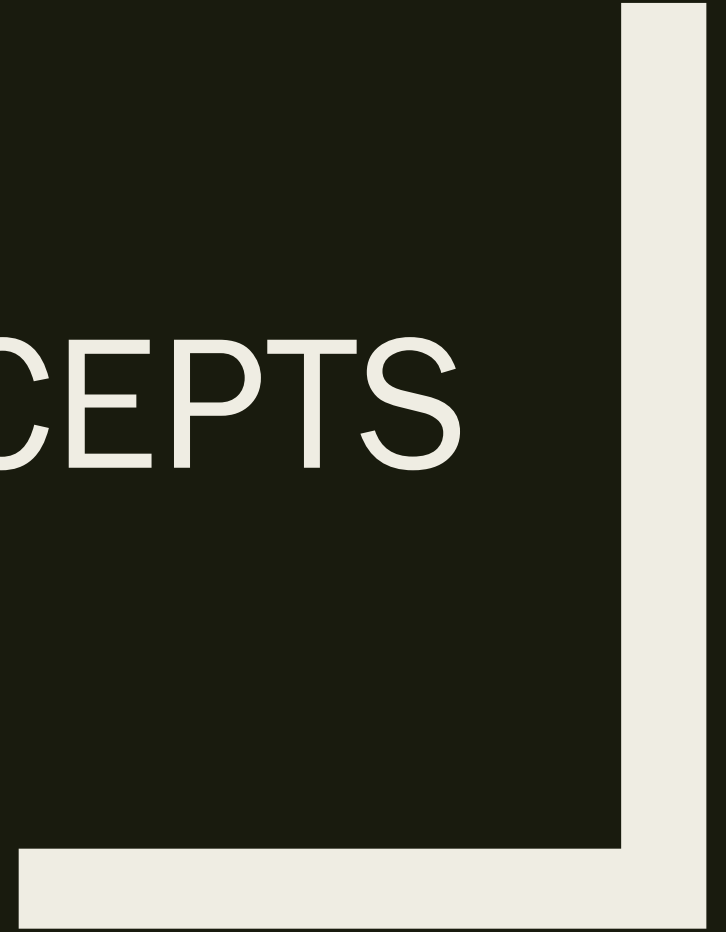
# COMMUNITY ENERGY IN AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

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# CONTEXT & CONCEPTS

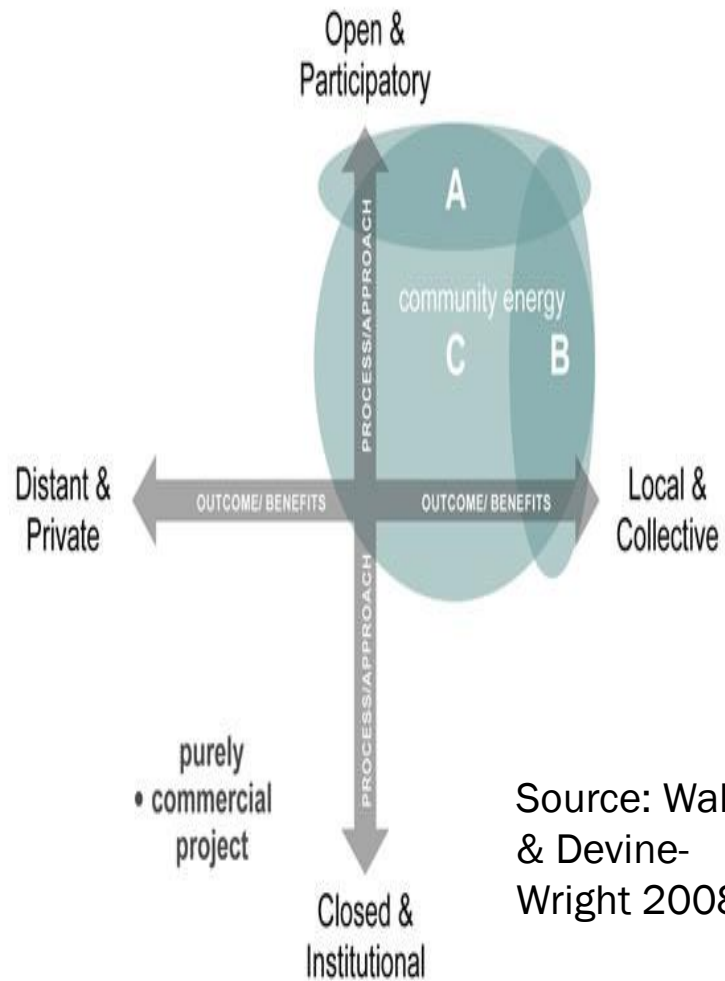


# Energy democracy

- Participation
  - *planning and decision making, through citizens fora, policy co-design initiatives and public consultation on new energy strategies and initiatives (Burke and Stephens 2017)*
- Control
  - *local and community energy ownership, remunicipalization of utilities*
- 3 Rs
  - **Resisting** fossil fuel industry expansion;
  - **Reclaiming** public ownership of energy assets and planning, and
  - **Restructuring** energy systems to increase renewables, conservation and the development of low-carbon employment options (Sweeny 2013)



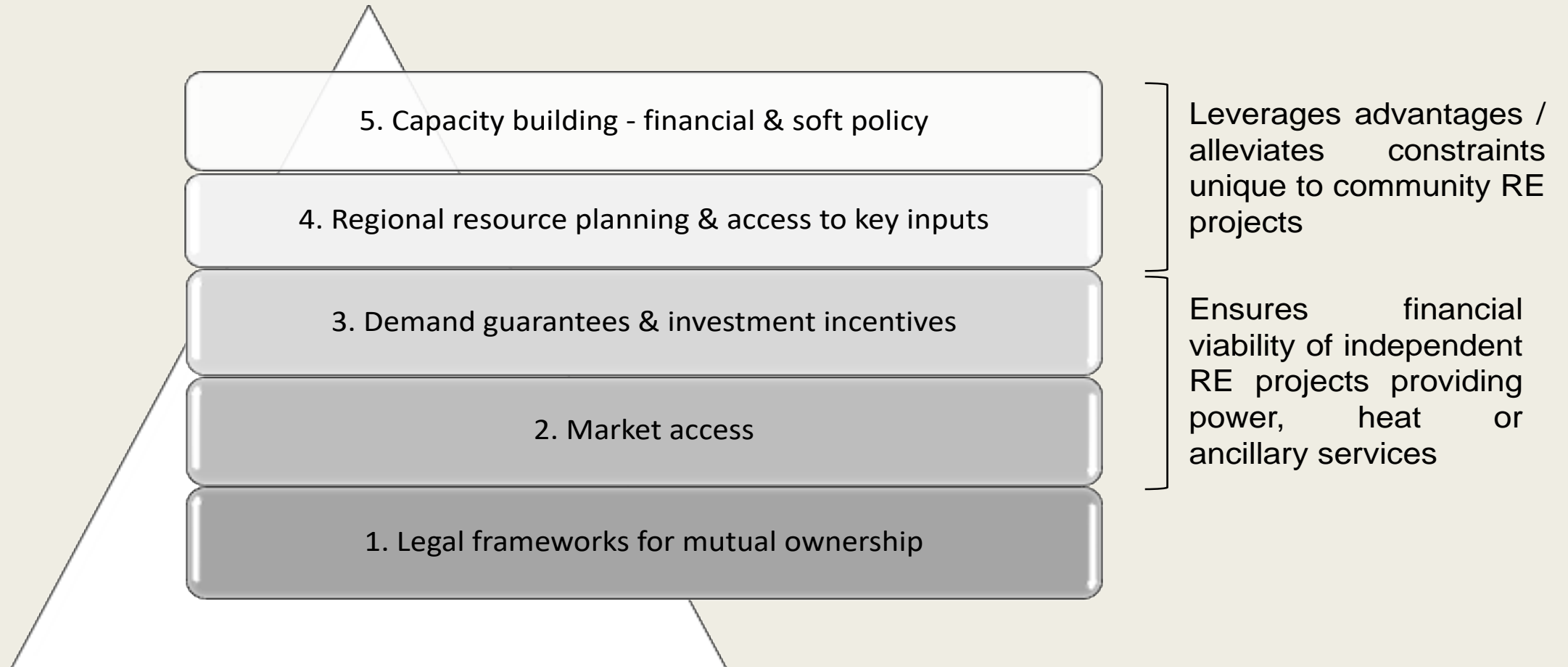
# Local & community energy



Source: Walker & Devine-Wright 2008



# Enabling policy layers for local ownership



Source: Anna Berka, Julie MacArthur and Claudia Gonnelli, “Explaining inclusivity in energy transitions: local and community energy in Aotearoa (New Zealand)” *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions* 2020

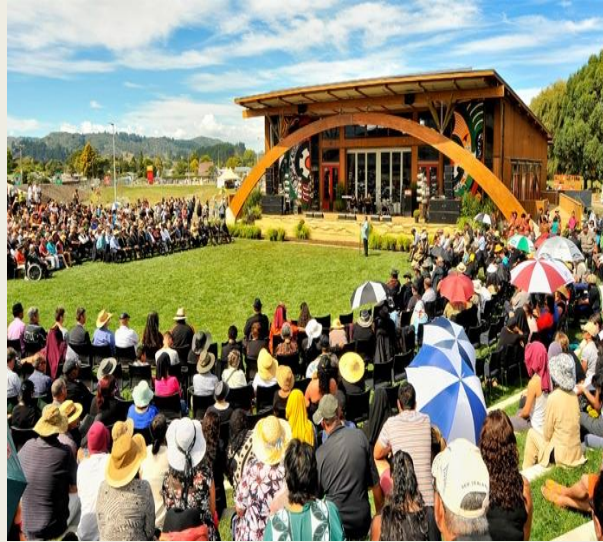


# COMMUNITY ENERGY IN NEW ZEALAND



# Sector overview - NZ

- New environmental organisations
- Local authorities
- Māori owned energy organisations
- Locally owned consumer trusts and co-operatives



Te Kura Whare



Distribution – Eastern Bays Energy Trust



Generation - Mokai (Tuaropaki Trust)

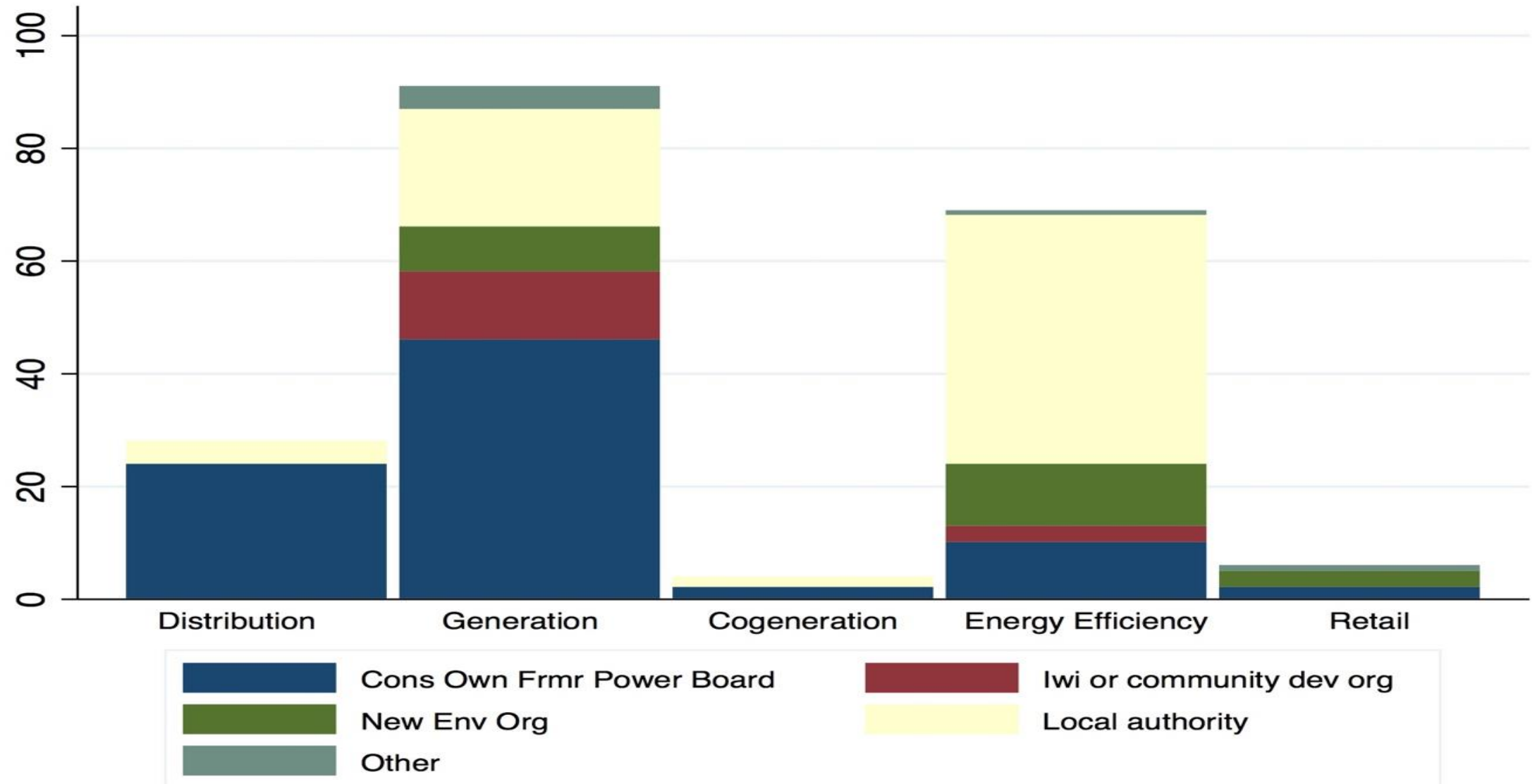


Blueskin Resilient Communities Trust

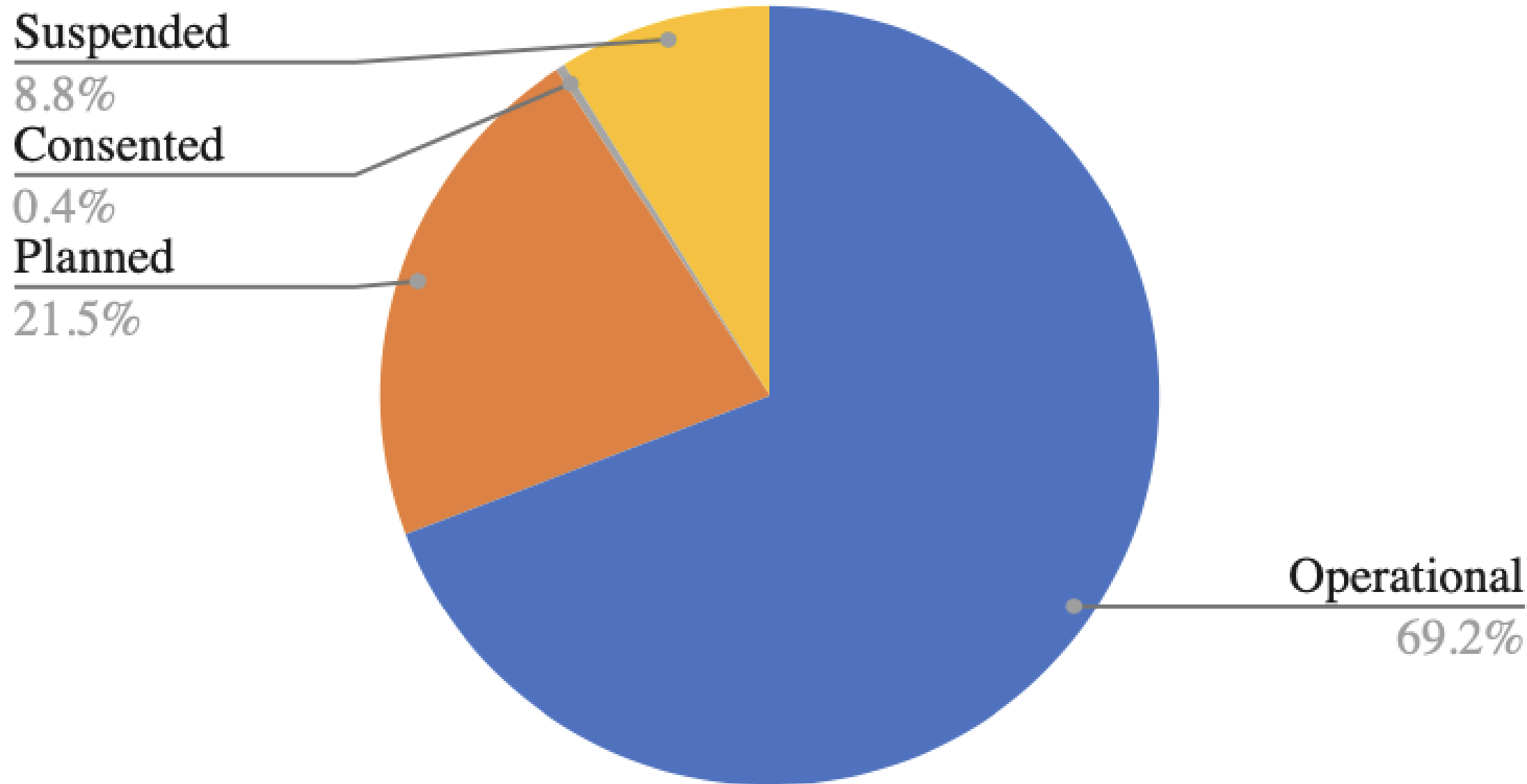


Energy Efficiency and Retrofits – Awarua Synergy

# Sector overview – New Zealand

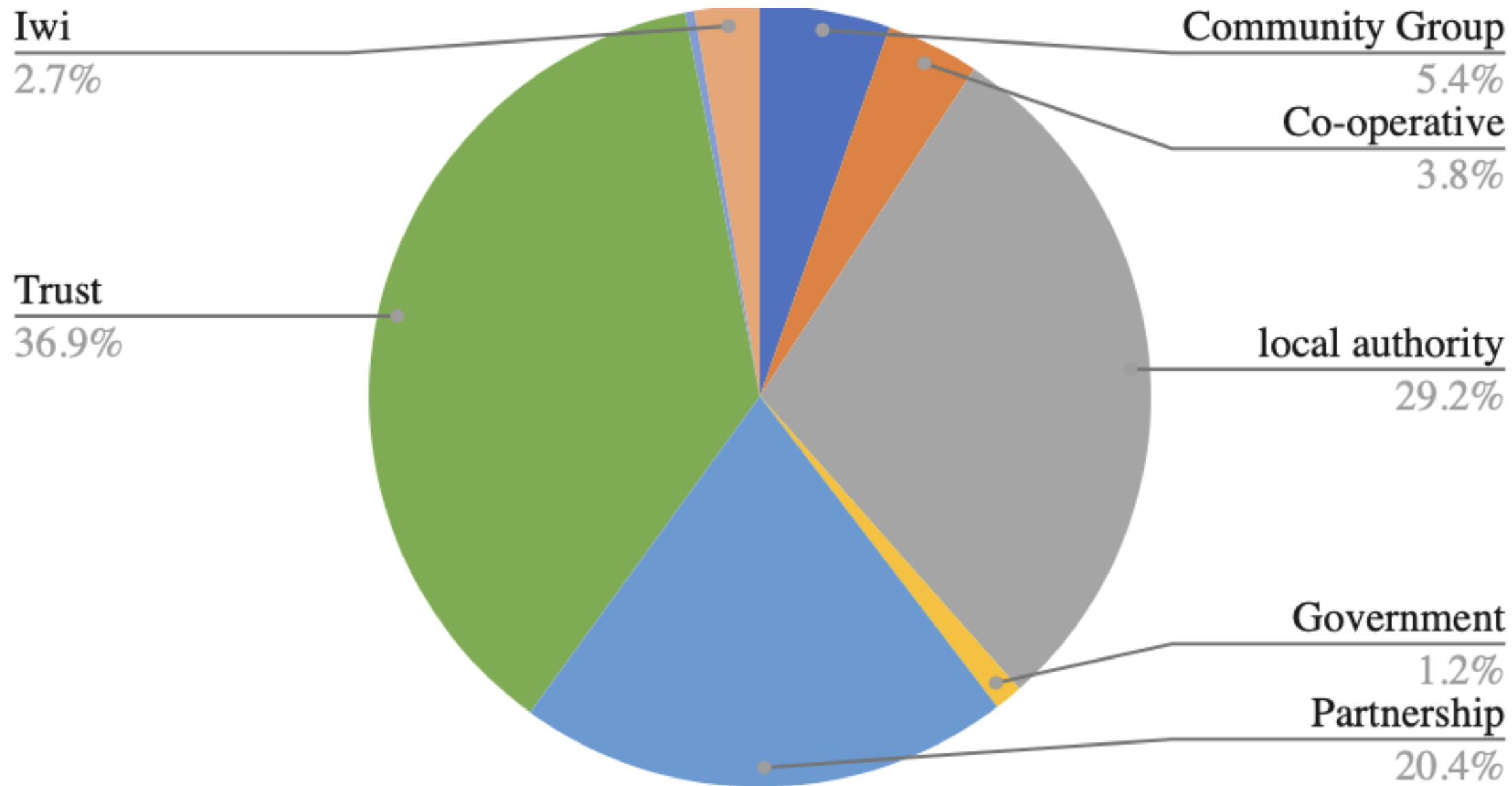






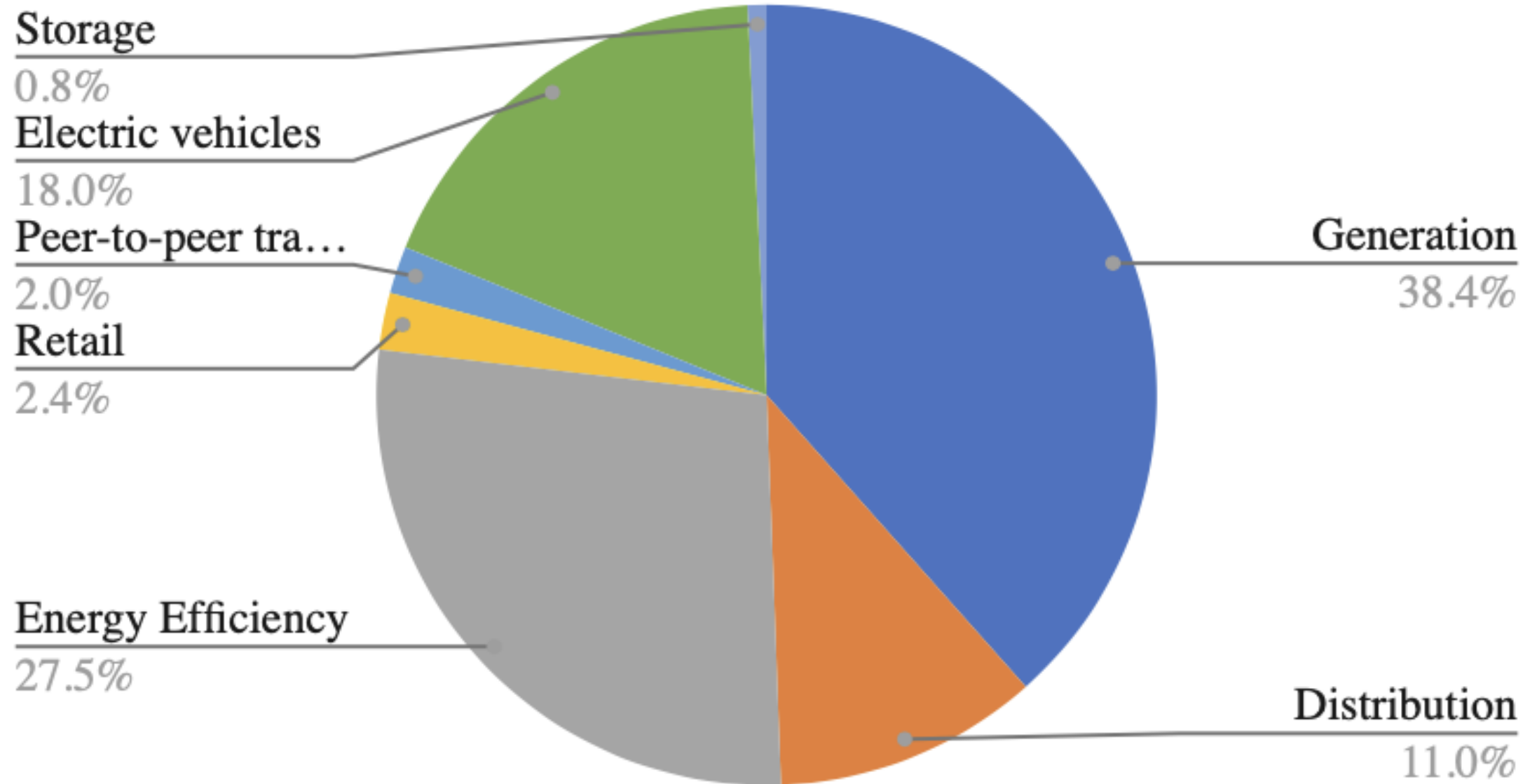
Source: See online Aotearoa New Zealand Community Energy Dataset (NZCED 2020)

<https://www.communityenergy.org.nz/community-energy-data/new-zealand-aotearoa-community-energy-dataset/>



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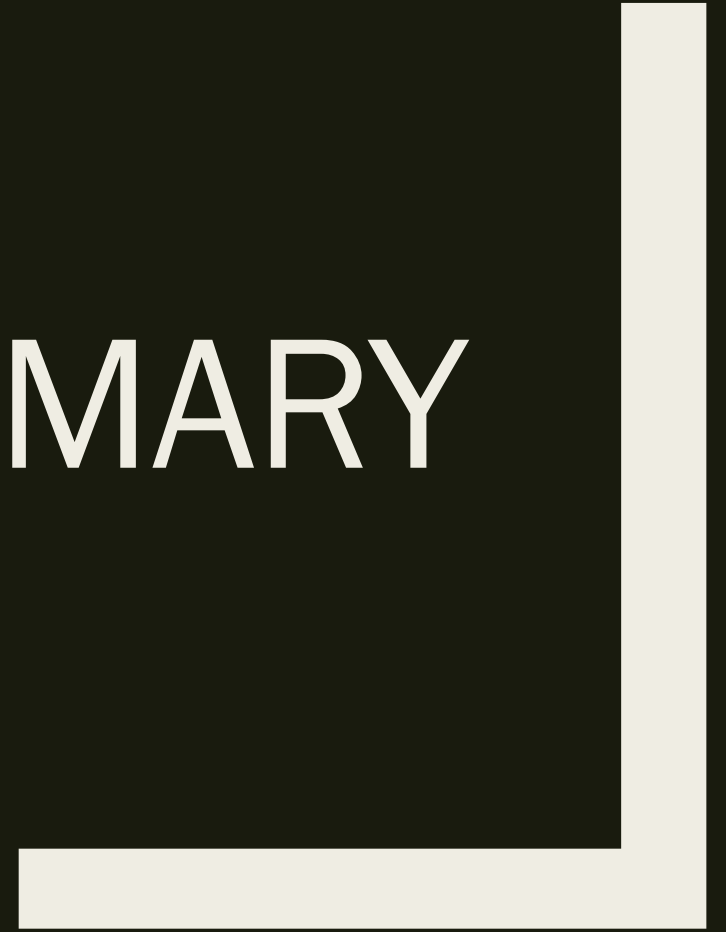
Source: See online Aotearoa New Zealand Community Energy Dataset (NZCED 2020)

<https://www.communityenergy.org.nz/community-energy-data/new-zealand-aotearoa-community-energy-dataset/>

Profile	Legal status	Activity	Motivation	Level of engagement	Outcome
Iwi energy organisations	Settlement trusts	Generation	Normative (Self-sufficiency, self-empowerment); Instrumental (Employment, community development)	Consent, Voting rights, Partnership	Education and employment for Iwi beneficiaries
	Charitable Trust	Energy efficiency			Local community
Consumer trusts and co-operatives in distribution	(Charitable) Trusts	Distribution; Generation	Instrumental (member material benefit, lower cost of energy, community development)	Voting rights	Consumers
	Co-operative	Distribution	Instrumental (member material benefit, lower cost of energy)	Voting rights	Consumer members
New environmental organisations	Charitable trusts	Generation; Energy efficiency	Normative (environmental stewardship, local ownership)	Citizen control	Local community
	Co-operatives	Generation, Retail	Normative (environmental stewardship, local ownership)	Citizen control	Local community
Local authorities		Energy efficiency, Generation	Instrumental (Local energy supply resilience)	Informing, consultation	



# SUMMARY



# Summary

- Participation and democracy are not automatic elements of an energy transition. Need for broad and diverse coalitions.
- State actors emphasizing individual and ‘prosumer’ elements of community power rather than collectivist ones
- Local communities playing diverse roles around the world beyond power generation and small projects. Driven by policy but not always intentionally.
- Organizational structure (profit, ownership, participation) crucial to sustainability outcomes and impacts. Dependent on local culture, history and resources.
- Partnerships have been key for groundbreaking projects, particularly with city councils and utilities.
- Treaty settlements have been important catalyst, but far more work and support is needed.



# Questions?

