

In the Environment Court of New Zealand
at Auckland

I mua i te Kōti Taiao o Aotearoa
I te rohe o Tāmaki Makaurau

ENV-2020-AKL-000132

under: the Resource Management Act 1991

in the matter of: an appeal pursuant to clause 14(1) of the First Schedule
to the Resource Management Act 1991

between: **the New Zealand Transport Agency**
Appellant

and: **Whangarei District Council**
Respondent

Notice of Transpower New Zealand Limited's wish to be party to
proceedings

Dated: 4 August 2020

REFERENCE: Luke Hinchey (Luke.Hinchey@chapmantripp.com)
Nicola de Wit (Nicola.deWit@chapmantripp.com)

Chapman Tripp
T: +64 9 357 9000
F: +64 9 357 9099

23 Albert Street
PO Box 2206, Auckland 1140
New Zealand

www.chapmantripp.com
Auckland, Wellington,
Christchurch



NOTICE OF TRANSPOWER NEW ZEALAND LIMITED'S WISH TO BE PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS

Section 274, Resource Management Act 1991

- To** The Registrar
Environment Court
Auckland
- 1 Transpower New Zealand Limited (*Transpower*) wishes to be a party to appeal ENV-2020-AKL-000132 by the New Zealand Transport Agency (*Transport Agency*) against parts of the decision of Whangarei District Council (*Council*) on the Urban and Services Plan Changes to the Whangarei District Plan (*Plan Changes*).
 - 2 Transpower made a submission and further submission about the subject matter of these proceedings.
 - 3 Transpower is also a person who has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the public generally, in that it is the State Owned Enterprise that plans, builds, maintains, owns and operates New Zealand's electricity transmission network – the National Grid. The need to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network is a matter of national significance under the National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission 2008 (*NPSET*).
 - 4 Transpower is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
 - 5 Transpower is interested in the parts of the proceedings that relate to *DGD-P16 – New Regionally Significant Infrastructure* and *DGD-P17 – Managing Adverse Effects of Existing Regionally Significant Infrastructure*.
 - 6 Transpower is interested in the issues raised by the appeal that may affect its ability to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the National Grid.
 - 7 Transpower supports the relief sought because:
 - 7.1 The intention of the appeal is to allow a fair and balanced assessment of new regionally significant infrastructure, particularly for major upgrades to existing regionally significant infrastructure. The National Grid is regionally significant infrastructure.
 - 7.2 The Plan Changes must give effect to the NPSET, including by recognising and providing for the efficient operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid (Policy 2).
 - 7.3 The Plan Changes must give effect to the Northland Regional Policy Statement (*RPS*). Policy 5.3.2 of the RPS requires particular regard to be had to the significant benefits of regionally significant infrastructure. Policy 5.3.3 of the RPS requires decision-makers to give weight to any constraints that limit the

design and location of the activity and the extent to which adverse effects of the activity can be practicably reduced.

7.4 The current drafting of DGD-P16 and DGD-P17 gives rise to a policy gap in relation to some upgrading activities.

8 Transpower agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

Signed for and on behalf of Transpower New Zealand Limited by its solicitors and authorised agents Chapman Tripp



Luke Hinchey
Partner
4 August 2020

Address for service of person:

Transpower New Zealand Limited
c/- Nicola de Wit
Chapman Tripp
Level 34
PWC Tower
15 Customs Street West
PO Box 2206
Auckland 1140

Email address: Luke.Hinchey@chapmantripp.com / Nicola.deWit@chapmantripp.com