



**TRANSPOWER**

*Keeping the energy flowing*

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26 May 2011

Environmental Protection Agency  
P O Box 10720  
The Terrace  
Wellington 6143

Attn: Kim Morgan

Dear Kim

## **NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT AND APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENTS – WATERVIEW MOTORWAY CONNECTION PROJECT**

I write in response to the Board of Inquiry's invitation to comment on its draft decision released on 25 May 2011.

Transpower's submission referred to the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008 (the NPSET). As noted in its submission Transpower owns electricity transmission infrastructure in close to the proposed motorway works, and this infrastructure comprises three transmission lines and 6 support structures (steel lattice towers).<sup>1</sup> The NPSET confirms that: "...the need to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network" is a matter of national significance.

The submission noted that the NPSET establishes national policy direction to recognise the benefits of electricity transmission, and more particularly that Policy 10 of the NPSET provides direction for managing the adverse effects of third parties on the transmission network.

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<sup>1</sup> Henderson to Otahuhu 220 kV (including Towers 81 to 84), Henderson to Hepburn Road 110 kV (including Tower 90) and Henderson to Mt Roskill 110 kV (including Tower 9) transmission lines.

Section 5 of the Board's draft decision relates to the "Statutory Framework for Deliberations", and notes that under section 171(1)(a)(i) of the Resource Management Act (the RM Act) "*particular regard must be had to any provisions of a National [sic] policy statement.*" Reference is also made to section 104(1)(b)(iii) of the RM Act which (in part) reads: "*... the consenting authority must, subject to Part 2, have regard to any relevant provisions of a national policy statement ...*".

In Section 9 of its draft decision the Board assesses the proposal with respect to 'National and Regional Policy'. The Board's assessment includes reference to the provisions of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. However, reference to the provisions of the NPSET appears to have been omitted from the Board's assessment, notwithstanding that the Board has indicated an intention to impose conditions to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects on the electricity network.

Transpower thanks the Board for the opportunity to comment on its draft report and suggests that consideration of the provisions of the NPSET, in terms of sections 171(1)(a)(i) and 104(1)(b)(iii) of the RM Act, has been omitted from the draft report.

Yours sincerely



Brian Warburton  
Environmental Advisor

cc: John Nicholson  
Deepak Rama

Lines Maintenance Manager, Transpower NZ Ltd  
Waterview Connection Project, NZ Transport  
Agency