



## MEMO

TO Proposed Natural Resources Plan Hearing Panel  
FROM Miranda Cross  
DATE 19 June 2017

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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## Regionally Significant Infrastructure definition in the Regional Policy Statement

On Tuesday 13 June, the Hearing Panel requested copies of the decisions version of the Regional Policy Statement (RPS) related to the definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure (RSI) and relevant documents associated with subsequent appeals on this matter.

Copies of the decisions version were provided to the Hearing Panel on Tuesday 13 June.

Attached are relevant documents associated with subsequent appeals as follows:

- **Attachment A:** Sets out the definition of RSI in; the proposed RPS, the decisions version of the RPS and the operative RPS
- **Attachment B:** Sets out the relevant appeal points
- **Attachment C & D:** sets out agreement reached between parties
- **Attachment F:** sets out the consent order for the relevant sections of the RPS. Showing there was no change to the definition of RSI from the decisions version to the operative version.

**Miranda Cross**



## Regionally Significant Infrastructure Definition (proposed RPS, Decisions version, Operative version following appeals).

### Proposed RPS

Regionally significant infrastructure includes:

- pipelines for the distribution or transmission of natural or manufactured gas or petroleum
- strategic telecommunications facilities, as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001
- strategic radio communications facilities, as defined in section 2(1) of the Radio Communications Act 1989
- the national electricity grid, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003
- facilities for the generation and transmission of electricity where it is supplied to the national electricity grid
- the local authority water supply network and water treatment plants
- the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants
- the Strategic Transport Network, as defined in the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy 2007-2016
- Wellington City bus terminal and Wellington Railway Station terminus
- Wellington International Airport
- Commercial Port Areas within Wellington Harbour (including Miramar, Burnham and Seaview wharves) and adjoining land and storage tanks for bulk liquids.

### Decisions version

Regionally significant infrastructure includes:

- pipelines for the distribution or transmission of natural or manufactured gas or petroleum
- strategic telecommunications facilities, as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001
- strategic radio communications facilities, as defined in section 2(1) of the Radio Communications Act 1989
- the national electricity grid, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003
- facilities for the generation and transmission of electricity where it is supplied to the ~~national electricity grid~~ network, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003
- the local authority water supply network and water treatment plants
- the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants
- the Strategic Transport Network, as defined in the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy 2007-2016
- Wellington city bus terminal and Wellington Railway Station terminus
- Wellington International Airport
- Masterton Hood Aerodrome
- Paraparaumu Airport
- Commercial Port Areas within Wellington Harbour (~~including Miramar, Burnham and Seaview wharves~~) and adjoining adjacent land used in association with the movement of cargo and passengers and including bulk fuel supply infrastructure, and storage tanks for bulk liquids, and associated wharflines



## Operative RPS

Regionally significant infrastructure includes:

- pipelines for the distribution or transmission of natural or manufactured gas or petroleum
- strategic telecommunications facilities, as defined in section 5 of the Telecommunications Act 2001
- strategic radio communications facilities, as defined in section 2(1) of the Radio Communications Act 1989
- the national electricity grid, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003
- facilities for the generation and transmission of electricity where it is supplied to the network, as defined by the Electricity Governance Rules 2003
- the local authority water supply network and water treatment plants
- the local authority wastewater and stormwater networks, systems and wastewater treatment plants
- the Strategic Transport Network, as defined in the Wellington Regional Land Transport Strategy 2007-2016
- Wellington City bus terminal and Wellington Railway Station terminus
- Wellington International Airport
- Masterton Hood Aerodrome
- Paraparaumu Airport
- Commercial Port Areas within Wellington Harbour and adjacent land used in association with the movement of cargo and passengers and including bulk fuel supply infrastructure, and storage tanks for bulk liquids, and associated wharflines.

Number	Appellant	E. Co	GW Ap	Relevant Section of RPS	Relief sought	Section 274	Topic
83	Winstone	75	11	3.3 Section Introduction add paragraph	<u>Resource unavailability or inefficiencies in obtaining such resources (such as aggregates, steel), required to construct and maintain such infrastructure can detrimentally impact upon the development, management, use and maintenance of such infrastructure. This has the potential to significantly impact on the timely provision of regionally significant infrastructure and in particular new roading projects necessary to achieve a productive and vibrant Wellington economy.</u>	Aggregate and Quarry Association, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
19	Meridian	72	2	3.3 Section Issue 1 either or Submission point 72-3	The Wellington region is dependent on externally generated electricity and overseas-sourced fossil fuels and is therefore vulnerable to supply disruptions and energy shortages. In addition, demand for energy is increasing. However, significant renewable energy resources exist within the region. <u>Development of some of those resources, at appropriate locations within the region, is necessary to address that vulnerability. The development of renewable energy resources has the potential to create adverse effects and conflicts of values. Some compromises may be necessary in order to achieve a sustainable energy future.</u>	Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
84	Winstone	75	12	3.3 Section, Issue 2	Add to the end of the issue. <u>Or owing to resource unavailability or inefficiencies (i.e. increased costs) in obtaining such resources (e.g. aggregates, steel) . This should also be amended to include cross references to the mineral provisions</u>	Aggregate and Quarry Association, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
19	Meridian	72	3	3.3. Section Issue 1 and 2	Energy: The Wellington region is dependent on externally generated electricity and overseas-sourced fossil fuels and is therefore vulnerable to supply disruptions and energy shortages. In addition, demand for energy is increasing. However, significant renewable energy resources exist within the region. <u>Development of some of those resources, at appropriate locations within the region, is necessary to address that vulnerability.</u> Infrastructure: Infrastructure enables communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing. <u>The development of renewable energy resources has the potential to create adverse effects and conflicts of values. Some compromises may be necessary in order to achieve a sustainable energy future.</u> The management, use and operation of infrastructure can be adversely affected when incompatible land uses occur under, over, or adjacent.	Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
54	Meridian	72	41	10 Objective AER 1	Amend to be consistent with Policy 7 (as amended). It should refer to protecting regionally significant infrastructure from incompatible subdivision as well as land use.	Winstone Aggregates, Transpower NZ Ltd, Makara Guardians, Fish	Infrastructure and Energy
85	Winstone	75	13	10A Objective, new	<u>Resources required for infrastructure construction (such as aggregates, concrete and steel) are provided for and are able to be produced efficiently to reduce economic, social and environmental costs in infrastructure provision</u>	Aggregate and Quarry Association, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
28	Meridian	72	15	6 (b)(ii) Policy	Amend 'Reducing dependency on imported and <u>non-renewable</u> energy resources'	Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara	Infrastructure
26	Meridian	72	13	6 Policy	District and regional plans shall include policies, and/or rules and/or methods that recognise: .....Add point (c ) <u>the operational and technical constraints affecting the location of renewable energy development activities and regionally significant infrastructure which derive from the reliance of those activities on natural and physical resources or conditions that exist only in limited areas of the region.</u>	Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
27	Meridian	72	14	6 Policy Explanation	Amend the explanation to Policy 6 to reflect the amend approach set out in Policy 6	Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara	Infrastructure
45	Meridian	72	32	38 (c)Policy	The need for renewable electricity generation facilities to locate where these renewable energy resources exist <u>and the need for regionally significant infrastructure to locate where appropriate.</u>	Transpower NZ Ltd, Preserve Pauatahanui, Makara Guardians,	Infrastructure and Energy
128	Winstone	75	57	Amend definition of regionally significant infrastructure	To include an addition bullet point - <u>Aggregate resources and quarries such as those found within the Western Hills of the Hutt Valley, within river systems, coastal sites and elsewhere throughout the region.</u>	Aggregate and Quarry Association, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
55	Meridian	72	42	Definition 'Regionally Significant Infrastructure'	Make clear that consented or designated projects of the type specified in the regionally significant infrastructure definition (but which are not yet in existence or operational) form part of the definition. This could be done through an explanatory note or within the definition.	Transpower NZ Ltd, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
56	Meridian	72	43	Definition 'Regionally Significant Infrastructure'	Amend the reference to facilities for the generation and transmission of electricity in the definition of Regionally Significant Infrastructure so it reflects the relevant RMA infrastructure definition.	Transpower NZ Ltd, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy
57	Meridian	72	44	Definition 'Regionally Significant Infrastructure'	Clarify that the definition applies to electricity supplied to a local distribution network as well as the national grid.	Transpower NZ Ltd, Makara Guardians, Fish and Game	Infrastructure and Energy



## Miranda Cross

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**From:** Rachel Pawson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 30 August 2011 11:36 a.m.  
**To:** 'andrew.beatson@bellgully.com'; 'christine.foster@emslimited.co.nz'  
**Subject:** Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement Appeals - Definition of regionally significant infrastructure

Dear Andy and Christine,

In our previous meeting back in June Greater Wellington agreed to have a closer look at the definition of regionally significant infrastructure to confirm that it applied to electricity supplied to a local distribution network as well as the national grid. There were also concerns raised about the references to other legislation/documents in this definition.

I have gone back to the Electricity Governance Rules 2003 and pulled out the relevant definitions which are attached. I believe that it covers electricity supplied to a local distribution network as well as the national grid.

In respect of the references to other legislation/documents within this definition. The RMA definition also refers to other legislation/documents within the definition. Greater Wellington believes that reference to these other documents is appropriate.

I hope this satisfies your concerns about the definition, if not please let me know your specific concerns.

Regards

**Rachel Pawson** | Senior Policy Advisor, Environmental Policy  
**GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Te** *Pane* **Matua**  
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WGN\_DOCS-#96...



## Definitions

"**network**" means the **grid**, a **local network** or an **embedded network**;

"**grid**" means the system of transmission lines, substations and other works, including the HVDC **link** used to connect **grid injection points** and **grid exit points** to convey **electricity** throughout the North Island and South Island of New Zealand;

"**local network**" means lines, equipment and plant that is used to convey **electricity** between the **grid** and a **consumer** or **embedded generator** or **embedded network** who are connected to that **local network**;

"**embedded network**" means a system of lines, substations and other works used primarily for the conveyance of **electricity** from a connection with a **local network** or another **embedded network** to **points of connection** with **consumers** where there is a requirement under these **rules** for reconciliation of **electricity** purchases at the **network supply point** to that system of lines, substations and other works;

"**embedded generator**" means a **generator** who owns or operates one or more **embedded generating stations**;

"**consumer**" means any person who is supplied **electricity** for consumption and includes a **distributor**, **retailer** or **generator** where the **distributor**, **retailer** or **generator** is supplied with **electricity** for its own consumption;





## Miranda Cross

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**From:** Miranda Cross  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 13 June 2017 2:23 p.m.  
**To:** Miranda Cross; Lucy Harper  
**Subject:** FW: Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement Appeals - Definition of regionally significant infrastructure

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Red Category

**Miranda Cross** | Team Leader, Environmental Policy  
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**From:** Beatson, Andrew AJLB [<mailto:andrew.beatson@bellgully.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 September 2011 8:48 a.m.  
**To:** Rachel Pawson; 'christine.foster@emslimited.co.nz'  
**Cc:** Andrew Feierabend  
**Subject:** RE: Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement Appeals - Definition of regionally significant infrastructure

Hi Rachel,

We are happy with this response to our concern.

Thanks,

**Andrew Beatson** Partner

### **BELL GULLY**

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**From:** Rachel Pawson [<mailto:Rachel.Pawson@gw.govt.nz>]  
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**To:** Beatson, Andrew AJLB; 'christine.foster@emslimited.co.nz'  
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In respect of the references to other legislation/documents within this definition. The RMA definition also refers to other legislation/documents within the definition. Greater Wellington believes that reference to these other documents is appropriate.

(E)

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of appeals under clause 14 of Schedule 1  
to the Act

BETWEEN MERIDIAN ENERGY LIMITED

(ENV-2010-WLG-000072)

WINSTONE AGGREGATES

(ENV-2010-WLG-000075)

Appellants

AND WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL

Respondent

BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT

Environment Judge CJ Thompson sitting alone pursuant to section 279 of the Act.

IN CHAMBERS

### CONSENT ORDER

#### *Introduction*

[1] The Court has read and considered the appeals, the respondent's replies and the parties' memorandum received 8 October 2012.

[2] Transpower New Zealand Limited, Horticulture New Zealand, Winstone Aggregates, Makara Guardians Incorporated, Federated Farmers of New Zealand, Masterton District Council and Preserve Pauatahanui Incorporated have given notice of an intention to become a party under section 274 to the relevant parts of Meridian Energy Limited's appeal, and have signed the consent memorandum setting out the relief sought.



Makara Guardians Incorporated and the Aggregate and Quarry Association of New Zealand have given notice of an intention to become a party under section 274 to





the relevant parts of Winstone Aggregates' appeal, and have signed the consent memorandum setting out the relief sought.

[4] The Court is making this order under section 279(1)(b) of the Act, such an order being by consent, rather than representing a decision or determination on the merits pursuant to section 297. The Court understands for the present purposes that:

- (a) All parties to the proceedings have executed the memorandum requesting this order; and
- (b) All parties are satisfied that all matters proposed for the Court's endorsement fall within the Court's jurisdiction, and conform to relevant requirements and objectives of the Act, including in particular Part 2.

*Order*

[5] Therefore the Court orders, by consent, that the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region be amended by adding to the third paragraph of the introductory text relating to waste in section 3.3(c) as follows:

*(c) Waste*

...

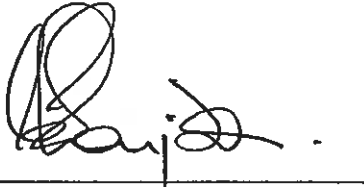
*The amount of waste needs to be reduced to ensure potentially valuable resources are used efficiently, reduce the need to develop new landfills and extend the life of existing landfills. Cleanfills are one way to extend the life of landfills by diverting clean inert waste from the landfill waste stream. In 2007 nearly 400,000 tonnes of material was sent to landfills in the Wellington region. At least 20 per cent and in some areas as much as 60 to 70 per cent could have been recycled or composted. This occurs because there is no market for the final product or there are no facilities in New Zealand to process the materials. While some materials are sent overseas for recycling or resource recovery, this option may not be viable in the long-term, so finding local solutions will become more important.*



Appeal ENV-2010-WLG-72 is otherwise dismissed. Appeal ENV-2010-WLG- otherwise dismissed.

[7] There is no order as to costs.

DATED at Wellington this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2012



C J Thompson

Environment Judge

