

**In the Environment Court of New Zealand
Wellington Registry**

**I Mua I Te Koti Taiao o Aotearoa
Te Whanganui-a-Tara**

ENV-2024- WLG-000043

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act)

In the matter of an appeal under Clause 14(1) of the First Schedule of the Act

And in the matter of the decisions by Wellington Regional Council in respect of Change 1 to the Wellington Regional Policy Statement.

Between **Porirua City Council**
Appellant

And **Wellington Regional Council**
Respondent

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

Dated 9 December 2024

DENTONS

40 Bowen Street
PO Box 10246
Wellington 6143

P +64 4 472 7877
F +64 4 472 2291
DX SP26517

Solicitor: N McIndoe/S Fowler
E nicky.mcindoe@dentons.com/samantha.fowler@dentons.com
12507954

To The Registrar
 Environment Court
 Auckland

1 Transpower New Zealand limited (**'Transpower'**) wishes to be a party to an appeal by Porirua City Council (**'Appellant'**) against the decisions of Wellington Regional Council (the **'Respondent'**) on Change 1 to the Wellington Regional Policy Statement (**'RPS'**) (ENV-2024-WLG-000043).

2 Transpower:

- a Is a person who has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the interest that the general public has. This is because Transpower is the State-Owned Enterprise that plans, builds, maintains and operates New Zealand's National Grid, and the Appellant's relief includes amendments to provisions that relate to these functions; and
- b Made a submission (number S10) and further submission (number FS23) about the subject matter of the proceedings.

3 Transpower is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.

4 Transpower is interested in part of the proceedings, being those aspects of the appeal that are set out below at paragraph 5 of this notice.

5 Transpower is interested in the following particular issues:

- a Amendments sought to Objective 22;
- b Amendments sought to Policy 29;
- c Amendments sought to Policy IE.2A;
- d Amendments sought to Policy 51;
- e Amendments sought to Policy 55;
- f Amendments sought to Policy 56;
- g Amendments sought to Policy 58; and
- h Deletion of Policy UD.5.

- 6 Transpower has set out its position in relation to the above provisions and its reasons in **Appendix A** to this notice.
- 7 Transpower agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

Dated 9 December 2024



Nicola McIndoe
Counsel for Transpower New Zealand Limited

Address for service of person wishing to be a party:

Dentons Kensington Swan
PO Box 10246
Wellington 6011
Telephone: +64 4 472 7877
Fax: +64 4 472 2291
Email: nicky.mcindoe@dentons.com
Contact person: Nicky McIndoe
Email: samantha.fowler@dentons.com
Contact person: Samantha Fowler

Appendix A Table of GWRC RPS provisions of interest

TABLE OF GWRC RPS CHANGE 1 PROVISIONS OF INTEREST		
PROVISION	POSITION	REASON
Objective 22	Oppose	Transpower opposes the amendments sought as the proposed wording does not give effect to Policies 10 and 11 of the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (' NPS-ET '). In particular, the proposed drafting does not require avoidance of reverse sensitivity effects, nor does it ensure that the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid is not compromised.
Policy 29	Neutral	While the Appellant's relief provides a pathway for development in high hazard areas where risk can be managed, the proposed relief does not recognise and provide for infrastructure with an operational or functional need to locate in high hazard areas. Transpower has an interest in how this appeal point is resolved.
Policy IE.2A	Neutral	Policy IE.2A provides specific directions for managing the adverse effects of electricity transmission (' ET ') activities on indigenous biodiversity in the terrestrial environment. Transpower is interested in amendments which could alter these directions.
Policy 51	Neutral	Transpower is interested in how the Appellant's relief could provide a pathway for development in high hazard areas where risk can be managed. This relief might overlap with Transpower's interests in relation to Policy 29, which recognises that some activities with an operational or functional need may need to locate in a high hazard risk area.
Policy 55	Oppose	Transpower opposes the relief sought as the Appellant's amendments would remove protection of regionally significant infrastructure (' RSI ') from incompatible and inappropriate activities.
Policy 56	Oppose	Transpower opposes the Appellant's relief as this does not acknowledge that infrastructure can be appropriate development in rural areas.
Policy 58	Oppose	Transpower opposes the Appellant's relief as it does not acknowledge that some infrastructure (such as the National Grid) traverses, rather than services, areas of subdivision, use and development.

TABLE OF GWRC RPS CHANGE 1 PROVISIONS OF INTEREST

PROVISION	POSITION	REASON
Policy UD.5	Oppose	Although Transpower agrees with the Appellant that clause (g) is inadequate as it appears to exclude reverse sensitivity effects, Transpower opposes the relief sought as the Appellant's amendments would remove protection of RSI from reverse sensitivity effects.