

In the Environment Court of New Zealand
Wellington Registry

I te Kōti Taiao o Aotearoa
Ki te Whanganui-a-Tara

ENV-2024-WLG-000050

Under cl 14 of Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991
("RMA")

In the matter of an appeal against parts of a decision of the Greater Wellington
Regional Council on Change 1 and Variation 1 to the
Wellington Regional Policy Statement

Between **Transpower New Zealand Limited**

Appellant

And **Greater Wellington Regional Council**

Respondent

**Notice of Meridian Energy Limited's wish to be party to proceedings pursuant to
section 274 of the RMA**

9 December 2024

Section 274 party's solicitors:

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**anderson
lloyd.**

To the Registrar

Environment Court

Wellington

- 1 Meridian Energy Limited gives notice it wishes to be party to the following proceedings:

Transpower New Zealand Limited v Greater Wellington Regional Council (ENV-2024-WLG-000050) being an appeal under clause 14 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**), against parts of the decision of the Greater Wellington Regional Council (**GWRC**) on Change 1 and Variation 1 to the Wellington Regional Policy Statement (**RPS**).

- 2 Meridian Energy Limited:
 - (a) made a submission and a further submission about the subject matter of the proceedings; and
 - (b) is a person with an interest in the proceedings which is greater than the general public, being a Crown majority-owned publicly listed company undertaking renewable electricity generation activities, and with a special interest in implementing national direction under the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (**NPS-REG**).
- 3 Meridian Energy Limited is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the RMA.
- 4 Meridian Energy Limited is interested in those parts of the proceeding identified in Attachment 1, concerning the issues identified in Attachment 1, and seeks the relief in Attachment 1 and any ancillary relief to that identified in Attachment 1.
- 5 Meridian Energy Limited agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

Dated this 9th day of December 2024

m. Juleta.

Michael Garbett/Rebecca Kindiak
Counsel for the Meridian Energy Limited

This document is filed by Michael Garbett, solicitor for the Section 274 party,
of the firm Anderson Lloyd.

The address for service of the Section 274 party is
Level 12, Otago House, 477 Moray Place, Dunedin 9016.

Documents for service on the filing party may be left at that address for service
or may be:

- (a) posted to the solicitor at Private Bag 1959, Dunedin 9054; or
- (b) left for the solicitor at a document exchange for direction to DX Box
YX10107 Dunedin; or
- (c) transmitted to the solicitor by fax to + 64 3 477 3184; or
- (d) emailed to michael.garbett@al.nz and ellie.taffs@meridianenergy.co.nz.

Advice

If you have any questions about this notice, contact the Environment Court in
Auckland, Wellington, or Christchurch.

Attachment 1: Specific provisions of Transpower New Zealand Limited's appeal in which Meridian has an interest

Provision in which Meridian has a s274 interest	Relief sought by the Appellant	Meridian supports or opposes the appellant's relief sought	Reason for Meridian's support or opposition
Policy 24	<p>Amend Policy 24 as follows:</p> <p>...(b)Policy 24C and Policy 24CC to manage adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity values in the coastal environment; and</p> <p>(c) Policy 24D to manage the adverse effects of REG activities and ET activities on significant indigenous biodiversity values <u>in the terrestrial and coastal environments</u> (these activities are not subject to Policy 24A, <u>parts of</u> Policy 24B, <u>and 24C</u>).</p> <p>Alternatively, amend Policy 24D as described below, and make consequential amendments to Policy 24 to clarify that Policies 24A, 24B, 24C and 24CC do not apply to electricity transmission activities.</p>	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.
Policy 24B	<p>Amend Policy 24B (including the title and explanation) to clarify that clause 3(e) applies to existing electricity transmission activities outside the coastal environment.</p> <p>Alternatively, amend Policy 24D so that it provides the same support for existing electricity transmission activities as is provided for by Policy 24B(3)(e).</p>	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.

24C	<p>Amend Policy 24C to clarify that it does not apply to electricity transmission activities.</p> <p>In addition, amend the explanation to Policy 24C as follows:</p> <p>Policy 24D which applies to REG activities and ET activities in terrestrial, freshwater and coastal environments.</p>	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.
24CC	<p>Amend Policy 24CC as follows:</p> <p>As soon as reasonably practicable, and by no later than 4 August 2028, district and regional plans shall include policies, rules and methods to consider providing provide for the operation, maintenance ...</p> <p>...(3) The activity provides for the maintenance and, where practicable, the enhancement or restoration of the affected significant indigenous biodiversity values and attributes at, and in proximity to, the affected area, taking to account any consultation with the Wellington Regional Council, the Department of Conservation and mana whenua.</p> <p><u>If the activity provides for the reasonable operational, maintenance or minor upgrade requirements of the electricity transmission network, (1) to (3) do not apply and the activity must be enabled.</u></p> <p><u>Alternatively, amend Policy 24D as described below, and make consequential amendments to Policy 24CC</u></p>	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.

	<u>so that it does not apply to electricity transmission activities.</u>		
24D	Amend Policy 24D to provide comprehensive direction on the management of effects of all electricity transmission activities (including existing activities, minor upgrades, major upgrades and new assets) and in all locations (including the coastal and terrestrial environments).	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.
Policy 47	Amend Policy 47 so that it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only applies to indigenous ecosystems and habitats with significant biodiversity values; and • Includes consequential amendments resulting from the amendments to Policies 24, 24B, 24C, 24CC and 24D described above. 	Neither supports or opposes	The implications of the relief sought on Meridian's interests are unclear.
Policy IE.2A	Amend Policy IE.2A as follows: ... (a) avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of REG activities and ET activities to the extent where <u>where</u> practicable... ... (b) managing any significant adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity from any other proposed activity, <u>except for REG and ET activities,</u> by applying the effects management hierarchy; and	Opposes	The addition of the words 'except for REG and ET activities' is not necessary. This amendment conflicts with the clear direction for REG and ET in (a).

	<p>...(c) managing all other adverse effects, <u>apart from adverse effects of REG activities and ET activities,</u> on indigenous biodiversity to achieve at least no overall loss in indigenous biodiversity within the Wellington Region or district as applicable...</p> <p>Alternatively, amend Policy IE.2A so there is no duplication with Policy 24D (as amended as a result of this appeal).</p>		
Objective 22	<p>Amend Objective 22 as follows:</p> <p>...(m) the safe and efficient operation <u>maintenance, upgrading and development</u> of regionally significant infrastructure is <u>not compromised and</u> protected from reverse sensitivity effects.</p>	Support in part	The requested relief potentially enhances the protection for RSI including REG.

