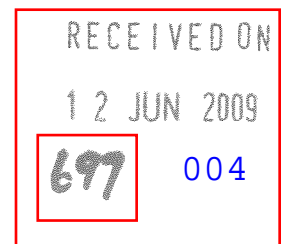


riceres/steve

From: Peter Rishworth [peter.rishworth@me.com]
Sent: Friday, 12 June 2009 9:09 a.m.
To: tpcallin@riceres.co.nz
Subject: Transpower Upper North Island Grid Upgrade Proposal



12 June, 2009

David Sheppard
Chairperson, Transpower Board of Inquiry

I refer to the draft report and decision for the above proposal which I received dated 26 May 2009.

I wish to make the following comments on this report and decision, as a resident of the Clevedon area, and being in close proximity to the power pylon route proposed.

I also request the three documents referred to in your letter.

There have been a lot of representations concerning the option to place the power pylons underground in the Clevedon, Brookby, Whitford areas, because of the density of residential properties, many schools and the tourist aspects of these areas, so close to Auckland City. The Manukau City Council has supported this option.

I believe this is a very sensible option and could be paid for by some minor addition to local power bills. I don't believe the Transpower Board of Inquiry looked into this option seriously and it appears it was just dismissed as too expensive. Has the Board canvassed the local residents as to whether they would be agreeable to a surcharge on their power bills, or looked at other ways to finance the undergrounding costs?

I would hope that the Transpower Board has some vision for the future and does not want to be associated with an enormous mistake that changes the character of these south-eastern communities for generations to come. Much has been written about the incredible lack of vision of Auckland's community leaders in the 1950's when some major transport infrastructure decisions were made without any insight or creativity, and the wider Auckland area continues to face the consequences. This latest Grid Upgrade decision appears to fall into the same category.

I would ask the Board to seriously consider the undergrounding option for the Clevedon, Brookby and Whitford areas, and find ways of spreading the associated costs evenly over the community.

Peter Rishworth
Quinn's Road, Clevedon
RD5, Papakura, 2585