

Steve Rice

From: TPCallin [TPCallin@mfe.govt.nz]
Sent: Thursday, 4 October 2007 9:05 p.m.
To: rice-resources-ltd@clear.net.nz
Subject: FW: Grid Upgrade Submissions

RECEIVED ON

- 4 OCT 2007

0881

From: anonymous@createhosting.net.nz [SMTP:ANONYMOUS@CREATEHOSTING.NET.NZ]
Sent: Thursday, 4 October 2007 9:01:16 p.m.
To: boisub@notowers.co.nz
Subject: Grid Upgrade Submissions
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Name: Louise Mary Bonnar
Phone: 078874881
Email: lou.and.earl@extra.co.nz
Yes: I/we wish to be heard in support of my/our submission at the public hearing, and expect I will need between one and two hours to present my evidence. I would like the location of the portion of the hearing which will receive my evidence to be held in a local venue near to where I live.
submitter: Louise Mary Bonnar
A: copy of this submission has been emailed to Transpower.
Scope: This submission covers all notices of requirements and applications for resource consents relating Transpower's applications that will be heard by this Board of Inquiry. The references are NORs 27619, L07089, DES0011/07, RMR200621, DN/0006/07, 240/021, RM070209, and resource consents 34102, 34370, 34372, 34373, 34711, 34712, 116902, 116903, 116904, 116905, and any other NORs or resource consent applications that may subsequently be filed or altered. We oppose all of these NORs and applications for resource consent.
Re: This submission relates to the notices of requirement and/or applications for resource consent, lodged by Transpower New Zealand Ltd for the North Island Grid Upgrade Project, and identified above.
Remote Name: 219.88.144.230
Date: 04 October 2007

Address:

1075 Tahuroa Road

RD1

Morrinsville

Reasons:

There are a number of reasons why I oppose this application to construct a new transmission line from Otahuhu to Whakamaru.

Of primary concern to myself and my family are the environmental and health issues surrounding the new line. I am not satisfied that a 65 metre easement is sufficient to provide adequate safety to those living very close to the line. While the proposed line placement at present is set to go very close to our house, we would be close to falling within the safer easement allocation of 600 metres. If the placement of the line were to be altered slightly however, I would not be satisfied that the safety of my family (including myself, my husband, our three young children and a baby on the way) could be assured. Even if the proposed line was not altered, it would still remain a concern, particularly for my husband and other staff employed on the farm, who would be working in close proximity to the line on a daily basis, as well as the rest of the family when helping on the farm or simply travelling to and from the house. There is also concern for friends, neighbours and generally other New Zealander's who would be exposed to the lines on a daily basis.

In terms of the environmental impact of this proposal, I am not sure that words alone could express what a disasterous impact the towers would have on New Zealand's 'Clean, Green' image, not to mention the daily visual impact presented to locals and visitors alike by the sheer size of them. I can't imagine why anyone would want to destroy our magnificent countryside by stringing a line of 70 metre high towers through the middle of it. In addition to this, a large chunk of highly fertile agricultural and horticultural land will be removed from production due to access issues and land management restrictions, as well as lowering property values.

Aside from these issues are the further issues relating to the actual need for such a line to be constructed in the first place and the economic viability of such a project. As far as I am aware, at this point there has been no new generation signed up to be carried along this line and there have been a number of reports indicating that Auckland is unlikely to even need the increased voltage within the next 2 - 3 decades. By the time Auckland's power consumption reaches such levels, it is highly likely that alternative energy sources, that are more enviromentally friendly and closer to Auckland itself, will have been established. Stability issues surrounding the use of a single line to deliver 400kV and the costs associated with the event of its failure raise serious viability issues. There are a number of viable alternatives which would secure a stable supply of power to Auckland without the economic, environmental and health impacts that the 400kV line would impose.

Therefore:

The decision I seek from the Board of Inquiry is to have the application for Notices of Requirement and Resource Consents rejected. I would like Transpower to be required to undertake a thorough and unbiased investigation into the other options available to them in terms of generation and transmission alternatives that would remove the need for such an imposing and costly line to be built.

I would not find it acceptable for the Board of Inquiry to approve the applications subject to conditions - I would like the applications turned down in whole.