

Steve Rice

From: TPCallin [TPCallin@mfe.govt.nz]
Sent: Thursday, 4 October 2007 9:47 p.m.
To: rice-resources-ltd@clear.net.nz
Subject: FW: Grid Upgrade Submissions

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- 4 OCT 2007

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From: anonymous@createhosting.net.nz [SMTP:ANONYMOUS@CREATEHOSTING.NET.NZ]
Sent: Thursday, 4 October 2007 9:43:33 p.m.
To: boisub@notowers.co.nz
Subject: Grid Upgrade Submissions
Auto forwarded by a Rule

Name: Neil David Goodin
Phone: 07 8267702
Email: goodinnd@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: Neil Goodin
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: 210.55.45.121
Date: 04 October 2007

Address:

60 Goodin Rd

R D 1

Te Kauwhata

Reasons:

I am completely opposed to Transpower's intention to build this line. Demand growth projections of the Electricity Commission (2007 SOO) do not justify its construction. Other options which utilise existing infrastructure and the use of less intrusive forms of transmission coupled with generation alternatives closer to point of use, make the proposed line a bad environmental and economically questionable idea. Unfortunately no organisation has the responsibility to look at the whole picture.

Transpowers model to determine the line and its alignment has scant regard for environmental impact but is instead largely an economic model to get transmission lines from point A to B as cheaply as possible. The latter point was confirmed by a Transpower representative at a meeting at Maramarua Hall - "start with lowest cost alternative and go from there". Minor changes have taken place to the alignment of the line but this, in my view, has largely been undertaken to show that "Transpower has listened to people and made changes accordingly". Environmental and social impacts have not been a conscience to Transpower short of running the line down State Highway 1 and through major towns along the way! An engineer working on behalf of Transpower said at a meeting on our farm on 14 September 2005 that he wouldn't have placed the line through the middle of the valley, where it has been determined to go. His role was to advise of proposed placement of pylons. While this was just his opinion it concurs with my view that the line could have been better positioned to minimise its

visual impact.

The Electricity commissions approval has been gained by

1. Removal of the previous chairman
2. Transpower manipulating their proposal to fit the Grid Investment Test

Serious questions arise regarding their proposed compensation for easements i.e what valuation methodology has been used. Transpower have used a narrow width easement as a way of minimising their liability in respect of this.

Health issues have not been completely and accurately assessed. The easement width needs to be wider to minimise the risk to people living near the lines.

Transpower have noted they believe there are positive effects on the environment from the removal of the existing Ari-Pak A line. While this is true I liken the difference between the two lines as being similar to removing a motorbike from the road and replacing it with a bus! The existing Ari-Pak line is less than half the height of the proposed line. While visible at a distance of 500 metres the Aripak line is similar in height to many trees, the skyline is not usually interrupted because of the landscape, and having been built in 1945 has had 62 years of weathering to assist it to blend with the countryside. The proposed line has none of these things in its favour. I conclude that the environmental impact of the proposed line to be 10-20 times that over the removal of the Ari-pak A line = small gain for big loss.

Transpowers use of a narrow easement is also designed to minimise their liability under injurious affection. Many landowners just outside the narrow easement area will not be compensated and yet suffer from permanent depreciation of the value of their land. They will also have the ever present eyesore and risks around their health and noise disturbance issues to contend with.

Many people in my view choose to live in an area because of the features in that area and try to protect their outlook by having a natural area surrounding them. Transpower should not be allowed to build a skyscraper on the next door boundary! This is the protection the RMA should give landowners.

Transpower is also seeking to reimburse directly affected landowners by way of purchase of properties (although I believe this option is no longer available unless already under negotiation) or through an easement agreement with a 'one-off' payment. Transpower is wanting rights of exclusive occupation and easement rights to operate and maintain the line once erected. These should be viewed as separate requirements regarding appropriate compensation for each individually.

I oppose Transpowers application because it does not have social, environmental and economic benefits over alternatives.

Therefore:

I seek the Board of Inquiry to turn down the Notices of Requirement and Resource Consents and Transpower directed to investigate generation, conservation and transmission alternatives.