

SUBMISSION ON TRANSPOWER'S NOTICES OF REQUIREMENT AND APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENTS

*Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991*

The Minister for the Environment  
Freepost Grid Upgrade Submissions P O Box 4405  
Hamilton East  
HAMILTON 3247

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And

Transpower  
Freepost 182915  
PO Box 10021  
WELLINGTON

Submitter's details

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Adrienne, myself and our daughter live at 126 Brownhill Rd, Whitford. Our property is 8 acres in size and over looks , with an elevated view of the property owned by Transpower at 149 Brownhill Rd.

The Transpower proposal which we are apposed to has overhead lines stretching across the property (149 Brownhill road ) along with two pylons, Transition station and the substation located on the property which we look out over.

Reason for our submission

We acknowledge the need for Auckland and Northland to have a secure and reliable supply of electricity.

We do not support the Transpower proposal to use overhead lines and lattice-work towers to provide a 400kV capable upgrade to the national grid between Whakamaru and Brownhill Rd in Manukau City nor the substation to be located at Brownhill Rd.

Whilst we fully support the submissions of the Manukau City Council and the Auckland Regional Council our submission relates to the following notices of requirement:

- (a) Manukau City Council:
  - (i) Pakuranga Substation (27619)
  - (ii) Otahuhu Substation (27619)
  - (iii) Brownhill Substation (27619).
  - (iv) Overhead Line – Brownhill to Franklin District (27619).
- (b) Franklin District Council – Overhead Line (LO7089).
- (c) Waikato District – Overhead Line (DES0011/07).
- (d) Matamata-Piako District – Overhead Line (RMR200621).
- (e) Waipa District – Overhead Line (DN/0006/07).

- (f) South Waikato District – Overhead Line (240/021).
- (g) Taupo District:
  - (i) Overhead Line (RM070209).

We consider that:

1. Transpower's proposed upgrade to a 400kV capable circuit is not justified on current demand growth forecasts.
2. Insufficient emphasis has been given to additional generation capacity in the Auckland and Northland areas that could become available within the timeframe of upgrading from 220kV to 400kV.
3. Transpower needs to more fully investigate all alternative sites for the termination of the overhead lines in the South Auckland area.
4. Insufficient consideration has been given to the environmental, social and amenity value impact of the proposed upgrade and the impact it has on district policy statements and plans.
5. The proposed easement width of 65 meters is insufficient given the tower height of up to 70 meters.

The effect of the proposal to our lifestyle-

- We will be looking out at two pylons and the GIS substation. The pylons and substation will be in our direct view of our normal daily indoor and out door activities , mitigation of this could only be minimal as we are elevated with a sharp valley between our home and the proposal.

### Proposed solution to substation location

- The Dodd family (143 Brownhill road) have generously offered there block for the location of the substation. This solution reduces the number of pylons required and positions the proposed substation away from our view and the view of the other residents at the end of Brownhill Rd.
- In addition to this the substation will not be seen from the Manukau City Council Scenic Drive nor the residents on the extension of Redoubt Rd or Umbria Lane.
- Transpower have had a report prepared by Maunsell Limited that indicates a higher cost to build on our property however the cost estimates have a level of accuracy of 50%.
- We would ask the Board of Inquiry to request of Transpower that they release the costing detail to us so that we may be better informed as to what factors have been taken into account in the costing.
- We and the other residents of the area affected by the pylons and substation believe the benefits that accrue from this proposal will far exceed any additional costs.

### We seek the following relief:

1. That the current proposal be declined.
2. That, if the proposal is not declined then the proposal be approved subject to the following conditions.

- a) The maximum design capacity be based on 220kV lines rather than 400kV lines.
- b) Replace the proposed lattice-work towers with shorter and less visually intrusive monopole and /or compact design structures with a maximum capacity of 220Kv.
- c) The easement width should be reflective of the pylon height and that no restrictions be applied to property outside the easement.
- d) Underground the line as far south as the likely residential development area of South Auckland.

We wish to be heard in support of our submission however if other parties make a similar submission we would consider presenting a joint case with them at any hearing.

Gary and Adrienne Holder

Dated 03/10/2007