

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

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

RECEIVED ON

- 5 OCT 2007

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To: Minister for the Environment
Freepost Grid Upgrade Submissions
PO Box 4405
Hamilton East
HAMILTON 3247

OR Email: tpcallin@mfe.govt.nz
Fax: 04 439 7700

[If you are emailing or faxing your submission, please make it for the attention of "Grid Upgrade Submissions"]

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 on the next page.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5 OCTOBER 2007

Title: Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust

My/Our Full Name(s): Jim Mylchreest

Postal Address: PO Box 476, CAMBRIDGE

Wk Ph: 07 823 7455 Hm Ph: Cell: 027 250 2790

Wk Fax: 07 823 7456 Hm Fax: Email: mail@maungatrust.org

Please tick the relevant boxes on the next page to identify whether you are making a submission on all notices of requirement and applications for resource consents or just some of them (please identify).

Please also indicate on the back of this form (✓) whether you support, oppose, or are neutral in relation to the notice(s) of requirement and applications for resource consents. If you are making a submission only on parts of a notice of requirement or application for resource consents, please note this when specifying the reasons for your submission.

The reasons for my/our submission are:

If you are attaching further information tick (✓) for yes

Y

Please use more pages if you need to.

I/we seek the following decision from the Board of Inquiry (provide precise details including the nature of any conditions sought):

1. That the provisions of the Waipa district plan be upheld to ensure the landscapes valued by the community are preserved and development strictly controlled.
2. Should approval be granted then Transpower be required to mitigate the adverse environmental effects particularly as they effect the Maungatautari Ecological Island Project.

Please use more pages if you need to.

Use a clear tick in the appropriate box below (✓)

I/we wish to be heard in support of my/our submission (to speak at the public hearing).

Y

I/we DO NOT wish to be heard and hereby make my/our submission in writing only.

Signature(s):

Date:

(Signature of submitter, or person authorised to sign on their behalf is required. Note signature is not required for electronic (email) submissions. If this is a joint submission by two or more individuals, each individual's signature is required.)

Use the tick boxes below to indicate the called-in notices of requirement and applications for resource consents that your submission concerns. Use a clear tick in the appropriate box or boxes (✓).

I/we make my/our submission concerning all notices of requirements and applications for resource consents below.

OR

My/our submission only concerns the notices of requirement and applications for resource consents that I/we have ticked below.

	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Manukau City Council			
Pakuranga Substation Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Otahuhu Substation Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Brownhill Substation Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Underground Cable – Pakuranga to Brownhill Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Underground Cable – Otahuhu to Brownhill Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 27619			
Franklin District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. L07089			
Waikato District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. DES0011/07			
Matamata-Piako District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. RMR200621			
Waipa District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. DN/0006/07		Y	
South Waikato District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. 240/021			
Taupo District Council			
Overhead Line Notice of Requirement. Reference No. RM070209			
Whakamaru and Whakamaru North Substation Notice of Requirement. Reference No. RM070209			
Auckland Regional Council – Resource Consents			
<i>Pakuranga to Brownhill Underground Cable Resource Consents</i>			
Application 34102: Land Use Consent for earthworks			
Application 34370: Discharge of Contaminants to land from ancillary activities that produce wastewater or washwater			
Application 34372: Works in the Bed of a Watercourse			
Application 34373: Diversion of Surface Water			
<i>Overhead Line and Brownhill Substation Resource Consents</i>			
Application 34711: Land Use Consent for earthworks			
Application 34712: Discharge of Contaminants to land			
Environment Waikato – Resource Consents			
<i>Overhead Line and Whakamaru North Substation Resource Consents</i>			
Application 116902: Land Use Consent for vegetation clearance and earthworks			
Application 116903: Discharge Permit for the composting of vegetation			
Application 116904: Land Use Consent for the drilling of tower foundation below the water table			
Application 116905: Discharge Permit for the discharge of site water and drilling fluids from drilling activities into surface water.			

NOTE: A copy of this submission form must be sent as soon as possible at:

North Island Grid Upgrade Project, Transpower Freeport 182915, PO Box 1021, Wellington
or email submissions@transpower.co.nz or fax 04 819 7624.

I/we make my/our submission concerning all notices of requirements and applications for resource consents below.

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

Attachment - The reasons for my submissions are:

The Maungatautari Ecological Island Trust was established to restore 3400ha of indigenous forest on Maungatautari to as close as possible into pristine condition prior to the arrival of humans 800-1,000 years ago. The project involves the construction of a 47km pest proof fence around 3,400ha of forest and then the removal of every introduced mammal from inside the fence.

Maungatautari is the largest and one of the only areas of indigenous forest left in the greater Waikato capable of supporting self sustaining populations of many of New Zealand's iconic and seriously threatened indigenous species.

The cost of the project to date has been \$15 million and ongoing operation and development costs are likely to be in the order of \$2.0m p.a. A significant proportion of the income required to pay for these costs is planned to come from visitors wishing to have a wilderness experience in a clean, green and unspoiled environment.

The Trust is concerned that the construction, operation and maintenance of that part of 400kv capable transmission line in the vicinity of Maungatautari and covered in reference number DN/006/07 will have an adverse impact on the Maungatautari Project for the following reasons:

1. The proposal is contrary to the special landscape character area established by the Waipa District Council to control development in sensitive landscape areas such as the slopes of Maungatautari. Failure to recognize and comply with these controls, which have been accepted by the community for many years, will lead to further development in the SLCA and a decline in the environmental and aesthetic values.
2. Any degradation of the environment may have an impact on visitor numbers and therefore an adverse effect on the capability of the Trust to sustainably manage the project area.