

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

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

RECEIVED ON

- 4 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: Secretary, Pōhara Marae Committee

My/Our Full Name(s): Steven Lance Wilson, as secretary of Pōhara Marae Committee, on behalf of Pōhara Marae and its rohe and the beneficial owners of Maungatautari 3A 5J Section 1, Maungatautari 3A 5J Section 2 and Maungatautari 3A 5J Section 3 being more or less the area known as Pōhara Marae, Pōhara Urupā and Pōhara Farm.

Postal Address: PO Box 9496, Hamilton 3240

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Wk Fax: N/A Hm Fax: 07 8535194 Email: steven@maximize.co.nz

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:

See attachment

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

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):

See attachment

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).

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		✓	
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 Freepost 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.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mo te Taiao

Pōhara Marae – Transpower call in submission

05 October 2007

The reason for our submission is:

Pōhara Marae is one of two contemporary marae within the Ngāti Korokī Kahukura rohe. Pōhara Marae acknowledges that other hapū also claim tangata whenua status and have legal interests within our rohe and maunga (mountain), Maungatautari. Our rohe incorporates some of the current pylons and several of the dam along our awa tupuna, our ancestral river, the Waikato. The construction of the dams resulted in the inundation of part of the rohe of Ngāti Korokī Kahukura including wāhi tapu and sites of significance. For example, Taumata Wīwī is a rock formation where warriors were burned after death in a battle to prevent their bodies being defiled by the enemy. This place has been likened to our 'Pearl Harbour' and, similarly, it too is now under water. It is our view that the significance of this place has yet to be suitably recognised.

The building of the dams was for the national good and we recognise and do not dispute the necessity for the security of generation and supply of electricity. However, Pōhara Marae notes that this should not occur without suitable involvement and recognition of tangata whenua who are affected by such activities nor should it happen without suitable and agreed consultation methods to address concerns, mitigation or compensation measures.

The current pylons run over Pōhara Farm in between Pōhara Marae and its Urupā. It is understood that the current proposal involves following a similar path over our land and rohe.

Pōhara Marae, through Te Mana Taiao Environmental Trust and directly, has endeavoured to engage with Transpower on this matter since Pōhara Marae first became aware of the proposed National Grid upgrade project in 2005. Attempts have been fruitless with Transpower dictating to Pōhara Marae how it was to be consulted. There are a number of significant outstanding issues that have yet to be suitably addressed. These include, but are not limited to:

- The consultation process followed by Transpower;
- Our wish to engage directly with Transpower on these issues in a manner suited to Pōhara and that has been recognised as a best practice process by the Royal Commission on Genetic Modification;
- Our unresolved concerns with respect to the potential health issues associated with this project;
- We have seen artists' impressions of the proposed pylons and are extremely concerned about the visual pollution, the impact on our economic aspirations and general enjoyment of our rohe;
- The lines may impact the mauri of our whenua splitting the urupā from the marae;
- The lines running across our awa tupuna, Waikato;
- The lines run across general title land multiply owned by Māori; and
- The price that we of Ngāti Korokī Kahukura continue to pay in the best interests of the nation without recognition or appropriate compensation.

We contend, and this is a view that has been supported by the Waitangi Tribunal that Transpower is the Crown. It is our view that Transpower is therefore in breach of the principles of the Treaty of

Waitangi in the manner in which it has treated Pōhara Marae, specifically with respect to the principles of partnership, participation and protection. Reasonable cooperation has not been afforded Pōhara Marae.

We seek the following decision from the Board of Enquiry:

- A direction be given to Transpower to engage directly with Pōhara Marae in a mutually agreed consultation process with a focus on addressing the above issues and those that may arise as a result of the consultation process;
- That this consultation process be resourced by Transpower and includes, but not be limited to;
 - Independent facilitation of consultation meetings;
 - An initial hui with Pōhara Marae and other interested tangata whenua groups for Transpower to give a full update on the Grid Upgrade projects;
 - An independent, Pōhara approved, peer review of the information provided which will include recommendations for alternatives (e.g. undergrounding of power lines) or mitigation of concerns;
 - A discussion of alternatives to over land pylons through areas of spiritual, environmental and economic significance;
 - The involvement of other tangata whenua groups that wish to be part of this process; and
 - A robust discussion endeavouring to agree on any compensation or mitigation measures.

We note the current process that the Ministry for the Environment is engaged in with respect to climate change, another issue of national significance and request, at worst, an engagement process that reflects the current Ministry process. (e.g. independent facilitation, tangata whenua resourced to advertise and cater for hui, peer review and independent report of the impact of climate change policy on Māori and the Māori economy, participation and engagement at various levels of policy and decision making.)

Until the above issues are resolved we remain opposed to any and all activities by Transpower associated with the proposed Grid Upgrade project. We have been in contact with Waipā District Council and, though we have yet to view their submission, believe that there are many components within the Waipā District Council submission with which we may agree.

I confirm that we wished to be heard on this submission unless we advise otherwise.

We acknowledge recent contact from representatives of Transpower to attempt to restart the consultation process. However, Transpower's historical actions give a lack of credibility of their

willingness to engage effectively and so we are compelled to participate in the submission process until such time as relationship issues with Transpower are sustainably resolved.

Steven Wilson

Secretary

Pohara Marae Committee

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