

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

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

RECEIVED ON

3 OCT 2007
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To: Minister for the Environment
Freeport 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: Mr & Mrs
My/Our Full Name(s): Mark & Rachel Spring
Postal Address: P.O.Box 176, Turanga 2149, Manukau
Wk Ph: 09 2503361 Hm Ph: 09 5309252 Cell: 0274 317157
Wk Fax: Hm Fax: 09 5309252 Email: mspring@ihug.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:

As set out on the attached material.

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):

As set out on the attached material.

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 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.

Reasons for Submission:

1. it fails to allow sufficient easement for both current and future land-use, both in terms of EMF and physical land-use constraints, thereby compromising not only the security of supply as intended, but also the health of those living and working in the vicinity;
2. the route and the scale of the towers along with the lines will have severe adverse visual effects in a rural area noted for high amenity values;
3. the construction of the proposal as currently outlined will curtail land-use development, important to the economic and social welfare of the region;
4. there is insufficient information and detail contained within the notice of requirement documentation to satisfy Transpower's request that the requirement for outline plans under section 176A of the Act be waived;
5. an underground line would better meet the objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement and the District Plan than an overhead line;
6. the proposal as approved by the Electricity Commission fails to take into account any or all of the social and environmental costs that will be caused by the 400kv option;
7. the implementation of this proposal will almost certainly have the effect of providing a disincentive to other generation alternatives, more suited to the long term intentions of the Act;
8. The location of the Brownhill Road Substation site is highly visible to residential dwellings. Improved landscaping is required to minimise the visual impact of this substation. An alternative site is available in the immediate vicinity that is not so visually obtrusive and moving the substation to that location would better meet the purposes of the Act.
9. Transpower have publicly stated that it will only be implementing the gas insulated substation option at this substation. That should be confirmed by a condition on the requirement
10. Transpower have publicly stated that it will only be implementing the Sandstone, Whitford Park, Brownhill Roads route. That should be confirmed by a condition on the requirement.
11. Rehabilitation of Brownhill Road post undergrounding should include landscape enhancement to better accord with the purpose of the Act.

Decision Sought:

1. Overhead Line Notice of Requirement in Manukau City (Reference No. 27619):
Decline the Notice of Requirement or alternatively modify it and impose conditions to require that the entire route of the line in Manukau City be placed underground.
2. Brownhill Substation Notice of Requirement (Reference No. 27619)
Decline the Notice of Requirement or alternatively impose conditions:
 - a) limiting the implementation of the Notice to the fully enclosed gas insulated substation option only;
 - b) mitigating the visual impacts of the substation by improved landscaping, including planting the remainder of the site, or alternatively moving to an alternate less visually obtrusive site.
3. Underground Cable – Pakuranga to Brownhill Notice of Requirement (Reference No. 27619):
Decline the Notice of Requirement or alternatively impose conditions:
 - a) limiting the implementation of the Notice to the Sandstone, Whitford Park and Brownhill Roads route;
 - b) requiring beautification of Brownhill Road.
4. Such other relief that satisfies the concerns raised herein.