

Steve Rice

From: TPCallin [TPCallin@mfe.govt.nz]  
Sent: Thursday, 4 October 2007 9:14 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 9:10:57 p.m.  
To: boisub@notowers.co.nz  
Subject: Grid Upgrade Submissions  
Auto forwarded by a Rule

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Name: David & Charlotte Short  
Phone: 07 8267763  
Email: d.c.short@extra.co.nz

Yes:

submitter: David & Charlotte Short

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: 222.154.148.207

Date: 04 October 2007

Address:

253 Taniwha rd RD1

Te Kauwahata

Reasons:

We are completely opposed to the proposal by Transpower of the construction of a 400kv transmission line for the following reasons:

- 1) The ability of the Electricity Commission to carry out an investigation in a fair and robust manner was circumvented by the sacking of Rob Hemmingway and the investiture of 'political appointments' which has prevented the conduction of a free and independent analysis.
- 2) There are serious doubts about the actual need of this line. Transpower have conveniently avoided examining the proposals for new power generation capacity likely to be constructed in the Auckland region within the next 40 years. The power failures last year (due to poor maintenance) have allowed them to capitalise on this assumed 'inadequate' power supply.
- 3) We do not feel that the full environmental impact of this project has been properly considered. These towers are enormous, requiring 20-30 tons of concrete, 20 tons of steel and up to 300 truck movements, per tower. These will be a hideous blot on the landscape, not just for a few kilometres, but for 200km down the centre of our beautiful country. They will be a continual reminder that we are not the 'clean green' country that we pride ourselves on, or use as our main marketing tool overseas. Once constructed there is no going back; we will be stuck in a time warp of outdated technology and we will be the laughing stock of the world if we allow this hideous monstrosity to proceed.

4) There are better ways of securing supply into Auckland which have much less of an environmental impact. The HVDC line is a safer and more acceptable alternative; as well as under grounding the entire line. These engineering efforts are now entirely possible and are taking place in more progressive parts of the world. Of course Transpower immediately rules this out on the grounds of cost, but they have totally underestimated the cost of compensation for an over head line.

5) The route selection process has been and remains fatally flawed. It is ridiculous to pass all of the transmission lines for a major city through a small energy corridor. Even the Transpower engineer admitted the selection process had been a debacle and that the chosen route was 'quite unsuitable'. The alternative selection route was a complete red herring. As such we remain vehemently opposed to the energy corridor. We have to 'carry the can' for the entire Auckland area; we do not wish to be responsible for this, or forced into a situation from which there is no alternative. We already have four power lines running through our property, for which we have never received a single cent in payment.

6) If the line is constructed we will have a total of ONE MILLION volts running over our land. We oppose such large scale HVAC lines being built on a narrow 65 metre wide easement because of serious concerns over EMF emissions from this line, which have been linked to many diseases, including brain tumours, childhood leukaemia and depression. A report by the Stakeholder Advisory Group on Extremely Low Frequency Electromagnetic Fields by Dr Gerald Draper suggested that children under 15 living near high voltage power lines could have a 69 percent increased risk of getting leukaemia.

7) For the above reasons we continue to be totally opposed to the construction of this line and hope this submission will encourage thorough investigation of all the points covered.

Therefore:

I seek the following decision from the Board of Inquiry. That the application for Notices of Requirement and Resource Consents should be turned down completely, and Transpower directed to investigate generation, conservation and transmission alternatives that will avoid this line being built under any circumstances.

I explicitly do not want the Board of Inquiry to approve the applications subject to conditions - I want the applications turned down in whole.