

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

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

**Submit to BOTH:**

Minister for the Environment  
Freeport Grid Upgrade Submissions  
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HAMILTON 3247  
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And Transpower  
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PO Box 1021  
WELLINGTON  
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Fax: 04 819 7624

Please note: you must forward a copy of this submission to BOTH Ministry for the Environment AND Transpower, by any means you wish (post, fax, email)

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 below.

**CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5 OCTOBER 2007**

My Full Name: Gina Whyte

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While I agree with and would like to add my voice to the following standard statement below, I will also add some comments of my own:

- 1- This line threatens the very core of the New Zealand rural lifestyle, especially when taken as a precedent for further lines in the future. A significant part of the rural lifestyle is the scenery and the environment, which is a huge part of the connection to the land of rural New Zealanders. Those people who don't mind living next to huge, ugly structures live in town.
- 2- Climate change and New Zealand's responsibility to reduce carbon emissions with regard to the Kyoto protocol is going to impact upon the way that electricity is produced in this country. Not only will more sustainable power sources be required closer to Auckland, but power stations such as Huntly, which currently burn fossil fuels will need to be decommissioned. This means that some of the electricity sources which this line is designed to carry electricity from will no longer be in use.
- 3- The proposed line represents a serious threat to New Zealand's 'clean green' reputation and as such, our tourism revenue.
- 4- The health impacts of 400KV lines are in question; surely the prudent course of action is to err on the side of caution.
- 5- Perhaps the most important reason that this line must not go ahead is the emotional impact on the people affected. To seize the land and livelihood of New Zealanders is simply wrong. No amount of compensation will ever heal the wounds created. The fact is that these people grew up on this land, they raised their children there. They planted trees, cleared weeds, worked and worked to make it into something they love. Owning a piece of paradise is the New Zealand dream; many of these people have struggled for decades to be able to live and work for themselves, the way they want to, in the place that they want to. To destroy that would be devastating. You need only to consider the reactions to the proposed line at the public meetings to understand the sentimental attachment that farmers have to their land; my impression of those meetings was a general sense of desperation and despair.

I am completely opposed to Transpower's intention to build this un-needed line, as the demand growth projections of the Electricity Commission (2007 SOO) do not justify its construction. The scale and capacity of this proposed 400kV capable line is completely out of alignment with the expected requirements for transmission capacity into Auckland to meet demand growth in the next 40 years. The potential new generation capacity likely to be constructed in the Auckland region in the next 40 years has been grossly underestimated in an attempt to justify this line as one of national significance and urgency.

Better equal benefit alternatives to this proposed line are available that have a much reduced environmental impact, such as more generation in the Auckland region, duplexing and re-conductoring of the Whakamaru A, B and C lines, use of HVDC transmission technology which will be less obtrusive and easier to underground, more extensive use of undergrounding of HVAC lines, and consideration of new conventional small scale 220kV transmission lines.

I oppose this line being built on a 65 metre wide easement, when a 600 metre wide easement, free of houses and workplaces, should be required as a precautionary principle to reduce future health risks and environmental impacts.

I oppose large scale HVAC transmission lines being built on narrow 65 metre wide easements because of the EMF emissions and ionized particle emissions that will come from this line, which have been proven to cause numerous diseases, including childhood leukaemia.

I oppose these applications because Transpower has falsely (and perhaps criminally) tried to justify the need for this line being built by using out of date and inaccurately high demand growth forecasts (2005 SOO), have not included the cost of environmental impacts in their justifications, and are providing misleading and inaccurate costings of the real alternative options to this line that should be considered.

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

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.

I make my submission concerning **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.



I have served a copy of my submission on the applicant by copy to Transpower as above.



**Names:** Gina Whyte

**Date:** 18/09/07

(Signature is not required for electronic (email) submissions.  
If this is a joint submission by two or more individuals, each individual's name is required.)

