

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

Section 145 of the Resource Management Act 1991

RECEIVED ON

28 SEP 2007

0313

Submit to BOTH:

Minister for the Environment
Freeport Grid Upgrade Submissions
PO Box 4405
Hamilton East
HAMILTON 3247
Email: tpcallin@mfe.govt.nz
Fax: 04 439 7700

And Transpower
Freepost 182915
PO Box 1021
WELLINGTON
Email: submissions@transpower.co.nz
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/Our Full Name(s): John Leslie Welsford

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The reasons for my submission are:

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 reconductoring 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 1000 metre wide easement, free of houses and workplaces, should be required as a precautionary principle to reduce future health risks and environmental impacts. Note that a farm qualifies as a workplace.

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.

There is much information beginning to come from places such as Germany and England about the very long term effects of living in close proximity to high voltage electrical transmission lines, and I do not believe that sufficient consideration has been given to this.

I oppose these applications because Transpower has misrepresented or exaggerated much of the information used to justify the need for this line being built. I am informed from sources within Transpower and Mighty River Power that out of date and inaccurately high demand growth forecasts (2005 SOO), have been used, that some information has been taken out of context, and that Transpower has not included the cost of environmental impacts in their justifications, and that they are providing misleading and inaccurate costings of the real alternative options to this line that should be considered.

I believe that there is considerable opportunity to build generation capacity such as wind and tidal in Northland, and that doing so would greatly lessen the load on the lines from the Waikato to Auckland, and in time would provide additional supply into Auckland from the north.

Another opportunity is to regulate to require electricity suppliers to purchase generation from suppliers at a fixed proportion of retail price such as is the case in many American States and in much of Western Europe, this has led to much investment in generation from domestic houses with a few Photovoltaic panels on the roof sending a few watts back out through their supply lines, industry converting by product to electrical energy, the sawmill industry being one major player in this field, to farmers building substantial windfarms and biogas systems.

While individually these are usually small the cumulative difference is considerable.

The technical problems of managing these many small suppliers has been solved years ago in the above countries, and in spite of our existing generation and supply companies protestations that it is not difficult to manage the system so that it works well and effectively.

There is also the opportunity to convert Marsden B to coal which I do not think has been properly evaluated in the light of the latest emission controls available for coal burning furnaces.

I/we 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/we **wish to be heard** in support of my/our submission at the public hearing, and expect I will need between one and two hours to present my evidence. I would like the location of the portion of the hearing which will receive my evidence to be held in a local venue near to where I live.



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



Names(s):

John L Welsford, MRINA SNAME

Date:

28 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.)

