

BEFORE THE BOARD OF INQUIRY

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of a Board of Inquiry appointed under s146 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to consider an application by Mighty River Power Limited for resource consents to construct, operate, and maintain a wind farm at Turitea

MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR MIGHTY RIVER POWER ON TURBINE HEIGHT

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MAY IT PLEASE THE BOARD:

1. By memorandum dated 14 September 2009, the Board has requested further advice from Mighty River Power as to the viability of using turbines with a hub height of lower than 80 metres, given that 68 metre turbines have been chosen at Makara. The Board has also requested that if towers lower than 80 metres are shown to be a viable option, Mighty River Power's current review of turbine layout include consideration of the impact of lower towers.
2. As outlined in its application, Mighty River Power sought resource consent for turbines with a *maximum* hub height of 80m, to preserve necessary flexibility in turbine selection during the procurement process.
3. Utilising turbines of a lower height has always been, and remains, a possible option.
4. Mighty River Power appreciates the sentiments expressed in the Board's Memorandum and will be responding as soon as possible in detail. It will address the competitive tender and procurement processes which are critical elements of viability. It has quickly actioned the Board's request and confirmed its instructions to all relevant experts (including the full landscape team) to consider incorporating lowered turbine heights in the design refinement process.



K R Price
Counsel for Mighty River Power Limited
17 September 2009