

**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 section 146 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

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**EIGHTH MEMORANDUM OF COUNSEL FOR MIGHTY RIVER POWER LIMITED REGARDING THE DESIGN REFINEMENT PROCESS**

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***Solicitors***

ChanceryGreen  
11 Bacons Lane Chancery Square  
P O Box 106 202  
Auckland Central 1143  
p +64 9 357 0600  
f +64 9 357 0340

Solicitor: K R Price [karen.price@chancerygreen.com](mailto:karen.price@chancerygreen.com)

***Counsel Acting***

Nicholas Davidson QC  
Bankside Chambers  
Level 22, 88 Shortland Street  
Auckland 1010  
PO Box 825  
Christchurch 8140  
p + 64 9 379 0802  
f + 03 366 7653

## **MAY IT PLEASE THE BOARD:**

### **Further update on design refinement process**

- 1.1 Further to our memorandum circulated on 23 December 2009, the following provides the next update as to progress of the design refinement process thus far:
  - (a) Mighty River Power is currently consulting with key stakeholders regarding the revised layout. Given the relevant timeframes, priority is being given to those parties most affected by amendments to the project. Discussions have already been held with the Department of Conservation, and Palmerston North City Council, as well as Te Rangimarie Marae Trustees, Tanenuiarangi Manawatu Incorporated and some submitters resident to the north of the proposed wind farm. Further meetings with relevant landowners and other parties are scheduled to occur over the next week.
  - (b) Mr Brown has made contact with Mr Anstey to discuss the revised layout in advance of the exchange of information in this regard on 1 February 2010, as requested by Mr Maassen in an earlier judicial conference call.
  - (c) A “mini” assessment of effects for the revised layout is being prepared, incorporating the respective assessments that have been undertaken in this regard by Mighty River Power’s wider project team. The mini AEE will be circulated to parties on 1 February 2010 in conjunction with evidence on behalf of Mighty River Power regarding the revised layout and the latest revised proposed conditions, in accordance with the Board’s directions.
  - (d) Given the nature of the revised layout, and advice received from the wider project team to date, it is now anticipated that Mighty River Power’s evidence regarding the project amendments will comprise three briefs, focusing in particular on landscape and procurement issues.

- (e) As indicated in our memorandum of 23 December 2009, all residents of Greens Road and Kahuterawa Road have been invited to attend a meeting on 27 January 2010, to undertake consultation regarding traffic issues. Those residents that have already RSVPd to this invitation are being sent an information pack that includes the latest draft of the proposed traffic consent conditions agreed by the traffic experts via caucusing and other relevant background information.
- (f) New plans showing the detail of the refined layout are currently being prepared, but cannot be finalised until after the conclusion of the various stakeholder meetings noted above. These revised plans will accordingly also be circulated on 1 February 2010.

### **Process Timeline**

- 1.2 In light of the above, Mighty River Power considers the various process timeframes outlined in our fifth update memorandum remain achievable. It is expected that this will be the last update memorandum filed regarding the design refinement process, prior to the circulation of Mighty River Power's evidence and other information in this regard on 1 February 2010.



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K R Price  
**Counsel for Mighty River Power Limited**  
**20 January 2010**