

19 June 2009

Josie Beruldsen
Executive Officer to the Board of Inquiry
c/- Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
WELLINGTON

PO Box 4010
401 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Hamilton 3247
New Zealand

ph +64 7 859 0999
fax +64 7 859 0998
www.ew.govt.nz

Dear Josie

Requested information: Board of Inquiry 15 June 2009

Please find a package of information to assist the Board in its deliberations.

Requested tasks:

1. Amend the wording as necessary to allow for direct use of energy. I have attempted to add wording in, but consider this is problematic as the thrust of the entire policy package is directed towards electricity generation from renewable sources. I have therefore limited any proposed new wording to cover the situation where the NPS may override the more efficient direct use of energy. The following wording (underlined in italics) is offered for consideration by the Board.

“Objective

To recognise the national significance of renewable electricity generation by promoting the development, upgrading, maintenance and operation of new and existing renewable *energy sources either directly or through* electricity generation activities, such that 90 per cent of New Zealand’s electricity will be generated from renewable sources by 2025 (based on delivered electricity in an average hydrological year).

Recognising the national significance of the benefits of renewable electricity generation activities

Policy 1

The benefits of renewable electricity generation activities, at any scale, are of national significance. Decision-makers must have particular regard to the national, regional and local benefits relevant to renewable electricity generation activities. *This should not exclude the efficient direct use of renewable energy, e.g. heat from geothermal resources.* These benefits may include, but are not limited to:

- i. maintaining or increasing electricity generation capacity while avoiding, reducing or displacing greenhouse gas emissions
- ii. maintaining or increasing security of electricity supply at local, regional and national levels by diversifying the type and/or location of electricity generation.”

2. Identify wind farm sites in the Waikato region and their current status. In this task I have been assisted by a colleague (Mr Grant Blackie) and the text of a recent email is provided for the Board.

"...Listed below are the 5 wind farms sites within Environment Waikato region for which consents relating to earthworks etc have been sought from Environment Waikato.

Please note the actual authorisations for the turbines relate to the DC consent process running concurrent to the Environment Waikato processes - the info you are seeking is probably more correctly that held by the respective DC's in regard to consents /processes relating to actually erect wind turbines. That info we do not hold.

Contact Wind Ltd: Waikato Wind Farm, west coast Port Waikato to Raglan area, applications lodged with Environment Waikato for earthworks and ancillary activities in association with the construction of 180 turbines, lodged 27/6/08, called in by Minister for the Environment in August 2008 to a Board of Inquiry process, notified, hearing commenced 27/4/09, then a decision was made on 28/5/09 to adjourn the process for 12 months.

Meridian Energy Ltd, , Te Uku, Raglan, applications lodged with Environment Waikato for earthworks and ancillary activities in association with the construction of 28 turbines, lodged 22/3/07, notified process, Environment Waikato decision appealed and resolved without a hearing 3/11/08

Ventus Energy (NZ) Ltd : Taumatotara West Road - Te Anga , applications lodged with Environment Waikato for earthworks and ancillary activities in association with the construction of 22 turbines, lodged 22/12/05, notified process, Environment Waikato decision appealed and resolved without a hearing 14/6/08

Ventus Energy (NZ) Ltd : Taumatamaire Rd - Awakino, applications lodged with Environment Waikato for earthworks and ancillary activities in association with the construction of 10 turbines, lodged 11/2/05, non-notified process, Environment Waikato decision 30/6/05

Taharoa C Incorporated : Taharoa Road - Taharoa, applications lodged with Environment Waikato for earthworks and ancillary activities in association with the construction of 42 turbines, lodged 2/12/05, Environment Waikato decision appealed and resolved without a hearing 23/04/09

*cheers
Grant Blackie
Environment Waikato
PO Box 4010
Hamilton East
Phone +64 7 859 0723
Fax +64 7 859 0998
Cell phone 021 277 2798
Email: grant.blackie@ew.govt.nz"*

3. Provide copy of operative RPS Geothermal Chapter (Included as Item 1).
4. Provide copy of operative Geothermal Module to the Waikato Regional Plan (Included as Item2).
5. Provide copy of proposed Waikato Regional Plan Water Allocation Variation 6 – Hearings Committee Recommended Version including S32 analysis and three volumes of Hearings Committee reports (Included as Item 3).

I trust these will assist your Board in its deliberations.

If there are any further matters I can be of assistance with, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully


Blair Dickie
Programme Manager, Projects: RPS Review