
SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF ANDREW CLIFFORD SCHOLLUM

Scope of supplementary statement

1. In paragraph 6.2 of her statement to the Board of Inquiry Ms Ryder of the Ministry of Economic Development noted that the Ministry for the Environment is the lead agency for the development of national policy statements and, as such, should answer the following question from the Board of Inquiry:

“What are the likely implications (for the renewable electricity NPS) of the electricity transmission NPS?”

2. I will address that question in this supplementary statement.

“What are the likely implications (for the renewable electricity NPS) of the electricity transmission NPS?”

3. In paragraph 20 of my primary statement I quote the opinion of the Minister for Environment’s Technical Advisory Group (convened to provide advice to the Minister during the Government’s first phase of resource management reform) that:

“... if central government wishes to determine issues through national instruments, then there is a collateral responsibility on it to ensure that such instruments are clear in purpose and intent and that inconsistencies between instruments are resolved”.

4. Because the two national policy statements address a fundamentally correlated system – the electricity system – the scope, structure, phraseology and implementation timelines of the already gazetted Transmission NPS will have implications for proposed NPS which, in order to promote clarity, consistency and efficient implementation, should be drafted to complement the Transmission NPS.
5. The Proposed National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (the proposed NPS) went through its final development stages in early to mid 2008 – after the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (the Transmission

NPS) was issued by notice in the Gazette¹, and was drafted with its provisions in mind.

6. The Transmission NPS relates to the national grid of transmission lines and cables, stations and sub-stations and other works used to connect grid injection points and grid exit points to convey electricity throughout the North and South Islands of New Zealand. The proposed NPS relates to structures associated with the generation of renewable electricity, including the system of electricity conveyance required to convey electricity to the local electricity distribution network and/or the national grid. The scope of the proposed NPS was designed to avoid uncertainty and overlap between the two policy statements.
7. Local authorities are required to notify and process under the First Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991 a plan change or review to give effect to the provisions of the Transmission NPS within four years of its approval. The general structure, wording and implementation timelines of the proposed NPS were aligned with those of the Transmission NPS to promote clarity and to enable efficient implementation.

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Andrew Clifford Schollum

¹ 13 March 2008