

**Before the Proposed Central Hawke's Bay District Plan Hearings
Panel**

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act)

In the matter of the Proposed Central Hawke's Bay District Plan –
Hearing Stream 7:

Energy, Infrastructure, and Transport:

**Network Utilities, Noise (Network Utilities), Signs
(Network Utilities), Renewable Energy, Transport,
and Designations**

Between **Central Hawke's Bay District Council**
Local authority

And **Transpower New Zealand Limited**
Submitter 79 and Further Submitter FS18

**Statement of evidence of Pauline Mary Whitney for Transpower New
Zealand Limited**

Dated: 30 November 2022

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1. As outlined in my Hearing Stream 3 Evidence, Transpower owns and operates the National Grid, which transmits electricity throughout New Zealand from energy generation sources to distribution networks and direct-connect customers. The need to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network is recognised as a matter of national significance through the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008 ('NPSET').
- 1.2. Transpower's submission on the Proposed Central Hawke's Bay District Plan ('PDP') was largely in support of the proposed provisions, with specific refinements sought as opposed to wholesale changes.
- 1.3. This is the third hearing at which Transpower has appeared. Through the hearing Streams 3 and 5, Transpower has largely agreed with the recommendations of the reporting officer, noting that the suite of National Grid provisions work as a collective, and the support (or agreement) expressed in evidence to the officer recommendations are dependent on the provisions subject to Hearing Stream 7. In particular, the evidence at Hearing Stream 5 accepted/supported the officer recommendations in relation to SUB-O4¹, SUB-P17² and SUB-P18³ on the basis of amendments to policy NU-P5 which is addressed at this hearing.
- 1.4. Specific to Hearing Stream 7, Transpower lodged 68 submission points (58 original and 10 further points) allocated to Hearing Stream 7 with the majority of points relating to Network Utilities (and associated definitions). The single Transpower designation within the district is also addressed, as are three points relating to renewable energy and seven points on miscellaneous matters.
- 1.5. Specific to **Network Utilities**, in its submission Transpower largely supported the associated network utility definitions. Specific to objective and policies, the overall tenure of the submission was that the PDP does not give effect to the NPSET and the most efficient and effective way to achieve this is through specific National Grid policies. Two specific policies were sought, one relating to the effects of the National Grid, and one specific to the effects on the National Grid. Should new policies not be provided, Transpower sought amendment to the notified policies to give effect to the NPSET. Specific to rules, the Network Utilities chapter provides rules relating to the

¹ S79.073

² S79.074

³ S79.075

operation, maintenance, upgrade and development of the National Grid whereas rules relating to the effects of other activities on the National Grid are provided in the zone chapter. While opposed in the submissions, the location of specific rules is not being pursued through this evidence. The rules relating to the National Grid were largely supported, noting the NESETA regulates the operation, maintenance and upgrade of existing National Grid assets. The methods were also largely supported, subject to refinements.

- 1.6. Specific to the **miscellaneous** matters, Transpower sought clarification as to the relationship of the network utilities provisions and chapter to the Natural Hazards Ecosystem, Natural Feature and Landscapes and Coastal Environment chapters. The relocation of National Grid rules relating to earthworks was also sought (nothing that this is not being pursued in hearing evidence). In order to provide consistency with the definitions, a minor amendment was sought to the planning maps to refer to 'National Grid Transmission Line' as opposed 'National Grid Corridor' to avoid confusion to National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor definitions.
- 1.7. I have reviewed the s42A Report recommendations and largely support or accept the officer recommendations. However, there are two outstanding matters, being:
 - provision of a new National Grid specific 'seek to avoid' policy to consider the effects of the planning and development of the National Grid, and
 - a confined amendment to policy NU-P5 (manage the effects of other activities on the National Grid) to delete the wording 'To the extent reasonably possible'. The balance of the officer recommendation on NU-P5 is supported.
- 1.8. I have also very briefly commented on the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 as it applies to the National Grid within matters addressed at this hearing.
- 1.9. Attached as Appendix B to my evidence is a table outlining all the Transpower submission points relevant to Hearing Stream 7.

Table of Contents

- 1 Executive Summary
 - 2 Qualifications and Experience
 - 3 Scope of Evidence
 - 4 The National Grid Policy Framework
 - 5 Relationship to Previous Hearings
 - 6 Summary of Hearing Stream 7 Submission Points
 - 7 Response to the Section 42A Report Recommendations
 - Network Utilities – Definitions
 - Network Utilities – Issues, Objectives and Policies
 - Network Utilities – Rules, Methods and Anticipated Results
 - Relationship between Plan Chapters
 - Mapping and Designations
 - 8 Conclusion
- Appendix A - National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008
- Appendix B - Summary Table - Response to s42A Report Officer Recommendations
- Appendix C - Plan examples of National Grid specific 'Seek to avoid' policy

2. Qualifications and Experience

- 2.1. My full name is Pauline Mary Whitney.
- 2.2. For my qualifications and experience and other introductory comments, please refer to paragraphs 2.1 – 2.8 of my statement of evidence for Hearing Stream 3 (“Hearing 3 Evidence”), dated 31 May 2022. I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses contained in the Environment Court Consolidated Practice Note (2014), and I agree to comply with it.

3. Scope of Evidence

- 3.1. My evidence will address the following:
 - 3.1.1. A brief outline of the National Grid Framework and Transpower’s interests in Hearing Stream 7; and
 - 3.1.2. Responses to the officer recommendations, focusing on two outstanding submission points.

4. The National Grid Policy Framework

- 4.1. As outlined in my Hearing 3 Evidence, Transpower owns and operates the National Grid which transmits electricity throughout New Zealand from energy generation sources to distribution networks and direct-connect customers. The need to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network is recognised as a matter of national significance through the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008 (‘NPSET’). This significance applies universally across the country regardless of the nature of the specific National Grid asset.
- 4.2. In my Hearing 3 evidence I outlined the three broad aspects to the NPSET which must be given effect to in local authority policies and plans, being:
 - Enabling the National Grid,
 - Managing the effects of the National Grid; and
 - Managing the effects on the National Grid.
- 4.3. The national significance of the National Grid is further recognised in the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities) Regulations 2009 (“NESETA”) in that it acknowledges the importance of

investment in the maintenance and upgrade of the existing transmission infrastructure. Under NESETA, “existing transmission lines” include a transmission line (which includes associated support structures and devices) that was operational when the NESETA came into effect (14 January 2010).

5. Relationship to Previous Hearings

- 5.1. This is the third hearing at which Transpower has appeared. For the avoidance of doubt, my earlier evidence to previous hearings stands and is applicable to this hearing.
- 5.2. Through Hearing Streams 3 and 5, Transpower has largely agreed with the recommendations of the reporting officer, noting that the suite of National Grid provisions work as a collective, and the support (or agreement) expressed in evidence to the officer recommendations are dependent on the provisions subject to Hearing Stream 7. In particular, the evidence at Hearing Stream 5 accepted/supported the officer recommendations in relation to SUB-O4⁴, SUB-P17⁵ and SUB-P18⁶ (which relate to the effects of activities on network utilities) on the basis of amendments to policy NU-P5 (which is addressed at this hearing). The officer recommendation on rule SUB-R1⁷ was also accepted subject to the wider policy context.
- 5.3. While Transpower generally supported the provisions which apply to all network utilities, it submitted they are not sufficiently directive in relation to the National Grid to give effect to the NPSET. Hearing 3 addressed the relationship between the Network Utilities Chapter and other Part 2 District Wide Matters.

6. Summary of Hearing Stream 7 Submission Points

- 6.1. Specific to Hearing Stream 7, Transpower lodged 68 submission points (58 original and 10 further points) allocated to Hearing Stream 7 with the majority of points relating to Network Utilities (and associated definitions). The single Transpower designation within the district is also addressed, as are three points relating to renewable energy and seven points on miscellaneous matters.
- 6.2. Specific to **Network Utilities**, in its submission Transpower largely supported the associated network utility definitions. Specific to objective and policies, the overall

⁴ S79.073

⁵ S79.074

⁶ S79.075

⁷ S79.075, Addressed in para 6.16 Hearing 5: Statement of Evidence of Pauline Whitney for Transpower NZ Ltd

tenure of the submission was that the PDP does not give effect to the NPSET and the most efficient and effective way to achieve this is through specific National Grid policies. Two specific policies were sought, one relating to the effects of the National Grid, and one specific to the effects on the National Grid. Should new policies not be provided, Transpower sought amendment to the notified policies to give effect to the NPSET. Specific to rules, the Network Utilities chapter provides rules relating to the operation, maintenance, upgrade and development of the National Grid whereas rules relating to the effects of other activities on the National Grid are provided in the zone chapter. While opposed in the submissions, the location of specific rules is not being pursued through this evidence. The rules relating to the National Grid were largely supported, noting the NESETA regulates the operation, maintenance and upgrade of existing National Grid assets. The methods were also largely supported, subject to refinements.

- 6.3. Specific to the **miscellaneous** matters, Transpower sought clarification as to the relationship of the network utilities provisions and chapter, to the Natural hazards Ecosystem, Natural Feature and Landscapes, and Coastal Environment chapters. The relocation of National Grid rules relating to earthworks was also sought (nothing that this is not being pursued in hearing evidence). In order to provide consistency with the definitions, a minor amendment was sought to the planning maps to refer to 'National Grid Transmission Line' as opposed 'National Grid Corridor'.
- 6.4. Transpower lodged a further submission⁸ opposing the relief sought by other submitters in relation to the definition of National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor, and policies and rules NU-I3, NU-O3, NU-P3, NU-P4, NU-P5, and NU-R3.

7. Response to the Section 42A Report Recommendations

- 7.1. The following section responds to the Hearing Stream 7 s42A Report recommendations on Transpower's submission points.
- 7.2. For clarity, attached as **Appendix B** is a table outlining all the submission points relevant to Hearing Stream 7, and my response. I note Transpower concurs with my reasoning and response as provided in Appendix B.
- 7.3. The Transpower submission points can be broadly categorised under five 'topics':

⁸ Transpower Further Submission points FS18.2 – FS18.12

- Network Utilities – Definitions
- Network Utilities – Issues, Objectives and Policies
- Network Utilities – Rules, Methods and Anticipated Results
- Relationship between Plan Chapters
- Mapping and Designations

7.4. These are addressed in turn noting that I either accept or support the majority of the officer recommendations and as outlined earlier, the outstanding matters to Hearing Stream 7 relate to:

- provision of a new National Grid specific ‘seek to avoid’ policy to consider the effects of the planning and development of the National Grid, and
- a confined amendment to policy NU-P5 (manage the effects of other activities on the National Grid) to delete the wording ‘To the extent reasonably possible’. The balance of the officer recommendation on NU-P5 is supported.

Network Utilities – Definitions

7.5. The officer recommendations on the definitions (as outlined in Appendix B) are supported. Of specific relevance to Transpower are the definitions relating to National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor. For the reasons outlined in the primary evidence of Mr Cartwright to Hearing Stream 3⁹ and Hearing Stream 5¹⁰ the yard and corridor are spatially defined and based on engineering advice.

7.6. Specific to the definition of National Grid Subdivision Corridor, I support the definition as notified and as outlined in my evidence to Hearing Stream 5, I accepted a controlled activity status for subdivision within the Corridor¹¹, dependent on the definitions as notified. No evidence has been provided to support the request by submitters for removal of reference to towers from the definition¹².

7.7. Specific to the definition of National Grid Yard, in response to the submissions¹³ seeking the setback from poles be amended from 12m to 10m and 8m, the issue of

⁹ Statement of evidence of Benjamin Roy Cartwright for Transpower New Zealand Limited, Dated 31 May 2022, Section 12

¹⁰ Statement of evidence of Benjamin Roy Cartwright for Transpower New Zealand Limited, Dated 24 August 2022, Section 7

¹¹ Statement of evidence of Pauline Mary Whitney for Transpower New Zealand Limited, Dated 24 August 2022, Para 6.17

¹² As sought in submission point S121.241 Federated Farmers of NZ Ltd

¹³ Submission S81.021, Horticulture NZ Ltd and submission point S121.242 Federated Farmers of NZ Ltd

setback from poles was well canvassed at Hearing Stream 3 and the evidence of myself¹⁴ and that of Mr Cartwright¹⁵ stands. My response¹⁶ to Panel Minute 9 provides a detailed assessment of setback from support structures with the assessment finding that all the District Plans (either operative or proposed) in the last five years adopt a common approach in that all the rules provide that buildings and structures must be set back 12m from support structures (whether they are poles or towers). As noted in my evidence response to Hearing Stream 3, the setback from the centreline of poles is different than the setback from the support structures themselves.

Network Utilities – Issues, Objectives and Policies

- 7.8. I support the officer recommended retention (with amendment) of issues NU-I1, NU-I2 and NU-I3.
- 7.9. I also support the officer recommended retention of objective NU-O1 (with amendment), NU-O2 and NU-O3. In response to submission point S81.052¹⁷ seeking reference to “to the extent reasonably practicable” within NU-O3¹⁸, I remain opposed to the sought insertion and support the officer recommendation to not amend the objective. As noted in the Transpower further submission¹⁹, the relief sought would change the policy directive from a clear directive to ensure that network utilities are not compromised to a subjective assessment in that it introduces consideration of “to the extent reasonably possible”.
- 7.10. Specific to the policies, Transpower submitted on network utility policies NU-P1 to NU-P5, and the provision of a specific National Grid policy²⁰. These policies are addressed in turn.

¹⁴ Hearing 3: Statement of Evidence of Pauline Whitney for Transpower New Zealand Ltd, 31 May 2022, paragraphs 8.22.1 – 8.22.4 and

¹⁵ Statement of evidence of Benjamin Roy Cartwright for Transpower New Zealand Limited, Dated 31 May 2022, Section 12

¹⁶ Hearing 3 – Response to Direction 9 – from Transpower New Zealand Ltd, Evidence of Pauline Whitney July 2022, refer paragraph 1.6 and accompanying table.

¹⁷ Horticulture NZ Ltd

¹⁸ NU-O3 The safety, maintenance, upgrade or development of network utilities is not compromised by incompatible subdivision, land use or development, including the potential for reverse sensitivity effects.

¹⁹ Further submission point FS18.6 Transpower NZ Ltd

²⁰ Sought new Policy *NU-PXX*

Manage the adverse effects of the planning and development of the National Grid by:

- 1. Considering the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection process.*
- 2. Having regard to the functional and operational needs of the network.*
- 3. Seeking to avoid adverse effects on identified High Natural Character Areas, Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, Significant Natural Areas, Significant Amenity Features, and areas of high recreational value or high amenity in rural areas.*
- 4. Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects on other areas of natural character and other natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment.*

Policies NU-P1 and NU-P4

- 7.11. Policies NU-P1 and NU-P4²¹ were supported as notified and the officer recommendation to retain the policies is supported.

Policies NU-P2, P3 and new National Grid specific policy

- 7.12. As part of its submission Transpower sought a new National Grid specific policy to apply to the consideration of the effects of the planning and development of the National Grid. Policies NU-P2 and NU-P3 were supported²² subject to the provision of a new National Grid specific policy. The officer has recommended to retain NU-P2 (with a minor amendment), retain NU-P3 with an amendment to recognise constraints, and to not provide a new National Grid specific policy. I support in part the recommendations but remain opposed to the lack of provision of a National Grid specific policy.
- 7.13. The need to operate, maintain, upgrade and develop the electricity transmission network is recognised as a matter of national significance through the NPSET. This significance applies universally across the country regardless of the nature of the specific National Grid asset. The NPSET Objective recognises that the network itself potentially gives rise to adverse effects, and that other activities can potentially adversely affect the network. The NPSET policies give direction on how to achieve the objective by providing for the recognition of the benefits of electricity transmission, as well as the management of the environmental effects of electricity transmission and the adverse effects of other activities on the transmission network. As such, the NPSET policies impose obligations on both decision-makers and Transpower itself.
- 7.14. One of the aspects within the NPSET which must be given effect to in district plans is are provisions relating to enabling the National Grid. Policies and plans must provide for the effective operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid. Associated with the development of National Grid assets is the potential for adverse environmental effects. Policies 2 to 9 relate to management of the environmental effects of electricity transmission. In particular, Policy 2 states: "*In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must recognise and provide for the*

5. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects.

In the event of any conflict with any other objectives and policies within the Plan, Policy NU-Pa takes precedence.

²¹ Submission points S79.025 and S79.029 Transpower NZ Ltd

²² Submission points S79.027 and S79.028 Transpower NZ Ltd

effective operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the electricity transmission network.”

- 7.15. Policies 3 to 5 contain matters which decision-makers must consider, including technical and operational constraints, the route, site and method selection process, and operational requirements.
- 7.16. Policy 6 of the NPSET seeks to reduce existing adverse effects where appropriate, while Policies 7 and 8 relate to effects on urban and rural environments respectively. Policy 9 specifically relates to health standards. Given the nature of existing assets within the district and very confined nature of existing settlements, the policy approach proposed by Transpower is focused on Policy 8 of the NPSET which relates to rural areas as opposed to Policy 7 (urban areas).
- 7.17. In particular, Policy 8 of the NPSET provides that rather than applying a strict ‘avoid’ approach, the National Grid should ‘seek to avoid adverse effects on outstanding natural landscapes, areas of high natural character and areas of high recreation value and amenity and existing sensitive activities’.
- 7.18. In summary, the NPSET requires the District Plan to include objectives and policies that:
- Allow for the consideration of the technical constraints and operational requirements under which the National Grid operates, for example the linear nature of the transmission lines.
 - Have regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated through the route, site and method selection.
 - Ensure new planning and development seeks to avoid adverse effects on more sensitive areas.
- 7.19. While policies NU-P2 and P3 have the reference to recognising constraints, I have concerns that such ‘recognition’ does not carry any weight in context of the avoid directive within the policies. Furthermore, the PDP policies do not reference the route, site and method selection or provide a seek to avoid directive. As notified NU-P2 and NU-P3 are more onerous than that directed under the NPSET. Or, to put it another way, insofar as the NPSET is intended to be enabling of the National Grid, the proposed wording would dilute that direction.

- 7.20. Transpower's more recent experience is that Councils have tended to adopt standalone National Grid specific policies and rules to recognise the national significance of the National Grid and give effect to the NPSET. Such an approach is supported by Transpower as it ensures the NPSET is given effect to. As such, while Policies NU-P2 and NU-P3 provide a policy framework for addressing the effects of network utilities, they do not give effect to the NPSET in terms of recognising the clear policy directives in respect of the National Grid. Examples of other districts where a 'seek to avoid' or stepped policy approach specific to the National Grid has been adopted is provided in Appendix C²³.
- 7.21. One provision sought in the Transpower specific policy is to include specific reference to the Coastal Environment. The RMA provides for a hierarchy of policy statements and plans. Both the NPSET and the NZCPS sit at the top of that hierarchy with neither document prevailing over the other. Instead, users must give effect to both policy statements. I acknowledge that there is a potential tension between the NZCPS policies for the protection of high value natural areas (Policies 11, 13, 15 – an "avoid" approach), and the NPSET policies for managing the effects of the National Grid on high value natural areas (Policy 8 - a slightly more flexible "seek to avoid" approach). Policy 8 of the NPSET provides that rather than applying a strict 'avoid' approach, the National Grid should 'seek to avoid adverse effects on outstanding natural landscapes, areas of high natural character and areas of high recreation value and amenity and existing sensitive activities'.
- 7.22. Transpower's favoured approach to manage the policy tensions within the above national policy documents is to provide a National Grid specific policy framework for the Coastal Environment. The sought policy approach does not 'allow' the National Grid to be located within the Coastal Environment, but rather sets the policy framework for the effects of the National Grid in the Coastal Environment to be assessed in a considered manner.
- 7.23. The following provides an overview of the policy as sought in the Transpower submission and amendments I support (as outlined in the box below):
- Clause 1. would give effect to NPSET Policy 4. When considering the development of a new line or major upgrades, Transpower undertakes route, site and method selection as part of its options assessment to assess and evaluate various

²³ Included are extracts from district plans made operative recently, as well as proposed plan provisions (noting these have yet to proceed through the hearings process).

transmission options. As outlined in the evidence of Mr Hamilton, this is a very robust and comprehensive process that is undertaken by Transpower in relation to the development of the National Grid. Consideration of this assessment when assessing the environmental effects is therefore an important policy consideration. Clause 1. would make it clear that the key consideration is the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided remedy or mitigated. Clause 1. is not specifically addressed within Policy NU-P2 or NU-P3 and is appropriately included within an effects policy.

- Clause 2. would give effect to NPSET Policy 3. When considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects, decision makers must consider the constraints imposed on achieving those measures by the technical and operational requirements of the network. An amendment is sought to clarify that the considering of constraints is not confined to operational and functional needs as a conjunctive. Given the definition of 'functional need', there may be instances where there is not a functional need. The amendment would give effect to NPSET Policy 3 which refers to "technical and operational requirements". Clause 2. is addressed within Policy NU-P2 and NU-P3 but is more appropriately included within an 'effects' management policy as framed in NPSET Policy 3.
- Clauses 3 and 4. give effect to NPSET Policy 8. Policy 8 provides a 'seek to avoid' approach within more valued areas. I have outlined amendments to reflect/align with the features provided in NU-P2 and NU-P3.
- Clause 4. also reconciles the NPSET and the NZCPS by providing a policy framework specific to the coastal environment (not covered by clause 3). Specific reference is included the NZCPS policy 11(b). The amended wording I have proposed below enables a case-by case merits assessment of specific National Grid projects in the coastal environment, through the resource consent process. This approach will allow decision-makers to have proper regard to both the NPSET and the NZCPS.
- Clause 5. is a general avoid, remedy or mitigate clause, while recognising that all effects cannot always be avoided, remedied or mitigated.
- The qualifier at the end of the policy assists in plan interpretation in terms of clarifying the relationship between plan chapters.

7.24. In response to the request in the Transpower submission that should a National Grid specific policy not be provided, policy NU-P2 and NU-P3 be amended. On reflection, I do not consider policies NU-P2 and NU-P3 can be amended so that they give effect to

the NPSET. For clarity, I do support the officer recommended amendment to policy NU-P3 but do not consider this adequately gives effect to the NPSET.

- 7.25. Based on the above I support the provisions of a specific National Grid policy as follows: (text sought in the Transpower submission is shown as blue text and additional provisions I support through my evidence are shown as green text).

Policy NU-Pa

Manage the adverse effects of the planning and development of the National Grid by:

1. Considering the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection process.
2. Having regard to the functional ~~and~~ or operational needs of the network.
3. Seeking to avoid adverse effects on identified High Natural Character Areas (in CE-SCHED7), Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes (in NFL-SCHED6), Significant Natural Areas (in ECO-SCHED5), Significant Amenity Features (in NFL-SCHED6),; and areas of high recreational value or high amenity in rural areas; Historical Heritage Items (in HH-SCHED2) and Notable Trees (in TREE-SCHED4); and Wāhi Tapu, Wāhi Taonga and Sites and Areas of Significance to Māori (in SASM-SCHED3).
4. Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects on other areas of natural character, ~~and~~ other natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment, and indigenous biodiversity values that meet the criteria in Policy P11(b) of the NZCPS.
5. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects to the extent practicable.

In the event of any conflict with any other objectives and policies within the Plan, Policy NU-Pa takes precedence.

- 7.26. I do note that since notification of the PDP and commencement of hearings, the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land 2022 (“NPS-HPL”) has been gazetted²⁴. I have read the legal submission²⁵ to the Council on the NPS-HPL and

²⁴ 17 October 2022

²⁵ Legal Submissions for Central Hawke’s Bay District Council in relation to the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land 2022 Dated 9 November 2022, Asher Davidson

application to the PDP. I note the legal advice in paras 24 and 34²⁶ regarding the consistency of the NPS-HPL with the PDP and giving effect to the NPS-HPL. Specific to the National Grid, Clause 3.9(2) is of specific relevance in that it outlines the exception circumstances in relation to the use or development of highly productive land, with clause 3.9(2) (j)(i) of particular relevance to the National Grid (in that the National Grid is defined as 'specified infrastructure'.)

(2) A use or development of highly productive land is inappropriate except where at least one of the following applies to the use or development, and the measures in subclause (3) are applied:

(j) it is associated with one of the following, and there is a functional or operational need for the use or development to be on the highly productive land:

(i) the maintenance, operation, upgrade, or expansion of specified infrastructure:

7.27. Clause 3.9(3)²⁷ requires that territorial authorities take measures to ensure that any use or development minimises or mitigates any actual loss or potential cumulative loss of the availability and capacity of highly productive land, and that avoids, if possible, or otherwise mitigates, any actual or potential reverse sensitivity effects on land use primary production activities from the use or development.

7.28. The NPS-HPL requires that territorial authorities must include objectives, policies and rules in their District Plan to give effect to the NPS-HPL (2 years from when the land is mapped in the RPS by the Regional Council). Notwithstanding the PDP RPROZ provisions, as required, I anticipate Council will review the District Plan in light of the NPS-HPL. Specific to the National Grid and the submission points subject to Hearing 7, I would support amendment to the above National Grid specific ('seek to avoid') policy NU-Pa to include reference to highly productive land as defined in LUC1, 2 or 3 land as identified in the New Zealand Land use Resource Inventory (which I understand largely aligns with the Rural Production zoned land in the PDP), in the

²⁶ Para 25: *Importantly the changes to the District Plan outlined above are to be made using the Schedule 1 process, within 2 years of the Regional Council mapping becoming operative. As noted above, it is reasonable to expect the regional mapping plan change to take at least 5 years to reach an operative stage. Therefore the Panel's focus in this hearing should, in my view, be to making decisions on submissions that reflect the direction of the NPS-HPL where there is scope to do so, rather than on fully implementing the requirements in clauses 3.11, 3.12 and 3.13.*

Para 34: *As stated above, the Panel do not need to, and cannot, fully implement the NPSHPL at this stage, however I have identified some areas where better consistency could be achieved within the scope of submissions*

²⁷ (3) *Territorial authorities must take measures to ensure that any use or development on highly productive land:*
(a) minimises or mitigates any actual loss or potential cumulative loss of the availability and productive capacity of highly productive land in their district; and
(b) avoids if possible, or otherwise mitigates, any actual or potential reverse sensitivity effects on land-based primary production activities from the use or development.

absence of more detailed and particular mapping within the district and until a plan change is enacted to give effect to the NPS-HPL.

- 7.29. I anticipate a more fulsome application of the NPS-HPL to the district plan will be forthcoming and in the interim, the NPS-HPL will be applied (on a case by case basis) as gazetted.

Policy NU-P5

- 7.30. Policy NU-P5 relates to the effects of other activities on the network utilities. Clause 6 is specific to the National Grid. In its submission²⁸ Transpower sought refinements to the policy including:

- to ensure clarity in the application of the policy, inclusion of reference to earthworks and vertical holes
- replacement of the uncertain term “subdivision near the National Grid’ with ‘National Grid Subdivision Corridor”
- removal of reference to ‘designated Transpower substation’ on the basis Transpower is not seeking restrictions beyond the designation boundary; and
- inclusion of a directive to avoid reverse sensitivity effects and ensure the grid is not compromised.

- 7.31. The officer has recommended amendments to the policy both in the upfront section and within clauses 6 and 7. I support the recommended amendments to clause 6 on the basis they reflect the relief sought in the Transpower submission and give effect to Policy 10 of the NPSET. While the sought directive to ‘avoid reverse sensitivity effects” has been included in the chapeau as opposed to the National Grid specific clauses 6 and 7, I accept the placement of the directive.

- 7.32. My outstanding concern with the policy relates to the recommended text at the start of the policy “To the extent reasonably possible...”. While I accept the term is used within the NPSET Policy 10, within context of Policy NU-P5 I do not consider the wording has any benefit or assists in the interpretation of the policy. In my opinion the policy would equally work with the starting directive “To manage...” The PDP has a clear and defined corridor management framework in which to manage the effects on the National Grid. Through the corridor framework it is possible to manage the effects and therefore the wording as recommended by the reporting officer is not required. Parties

²⁸ Submission point S79.0230Transpower NZ Ltd

could argue that it is not reasonably possible to not locate their dwelling or packing shed within the National Grid Yard as there is no alternative site available. Such a proposition is contrary to the NPSET and clear directive within policies 10 and 11.

- 7.33. Based on the above I would support amendment to policy NU-P5 as follows (amendment proposed by the S42A report are shown as red text, and amendments supported in this evidence are shown as green text):

Policy NU-P5

To ~~the extent reasonably possible, m~~Manage protect network utilities from the adverse effects of subdivision, use and development to avoid adverse reverse sensitivity effects on network utilities where it~~that~~ may constrain or compromise the safe, effective, secure and efficient operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of network utilities, ~~and the safety and amenity values of people and the community~~, including by:

.....

6. managing land use development (including sensitive activities), buildings, earthworks, vertical holes and structures ~~and subdivision near the National Grid, within the National Grid Yard, and subdivision within the National Grid Subdivision Corridor, or around a designated National Grid substation~~ to ensure the electricity transmission network is not compromised;

7. managing land disturbance, earthworks and vertical holes, land use development and buildings to maintain safe electrical clearance distances under electricity distributions lines and support structures; and

Network Utilities – Rules, Methods and Anticipated Results

- 7.34. The officer recommendations on the rules, methods and anticipated environmental results are supported.
- 7.35. Specific to Rule NU-R3, Transpower sought²⁹ a minor amendment to the rule to make the conditions relating to access a condition in its own right as opposed to being linked to the exemption. The officer recommendation (to amend the rule as sought) on this point is supported.

²⁹ Submission point S79.034 Transpower NZ Ltd

- 7.36. In response to the submission points seeking amendment to rule NU-R3, Transpower supports the amendment as sought by submission point S81.057³⁰. The response to the submission point S64.025³¹ is neutral, noting that the standards within NU-S1 and NU-S3 would apply to activities captured by rule NU-R3 and included in the standards are size and height restrictions within ONFL's. Matters over which discretion is reserved in rule NU-R3, include the matters within policies NU-P2 and NU-P6 which include effects on ONFL's. On the basis of these provisions, I am not clear or convinced an amendment is required to the rule and therefore I support the officer recommendation on the rule.
- 7.37. In relation to methods NU-M2, M4, M6 and M7, these are supported, noting the officer has recommended minor corrections to NU-M4 and NU-M6 as sought in the Transpower submission.
- 7.38. The final submission point relating to rules and methods was in relation to the last paragraph of the Principal Reasons with an amendment sought to give effect to Policy 10 of the NPSET to ensure the National Grid is not compromised. I support the officer recommendation to amend the reasoning. While I accept the Principal Reasons have no statutory weight, in my opinion they should accurately reflect the effects and issues to be managed by the policy and rule framework, noting that policy NU-P5 makes specific reference to ensuring the network utilities are not compromised and the officer recommended amendments to clause 6 of the policy also make reference to 'compromise'.

Relationship between Plan Chapters

- 7.39. In my evidence to Hearing Stream 3 I noted the relationship between the plan changes is not abundantly clear. Clarity was sought as to the relationship with the Natural Hazards Chapter³², the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiverse Chapter³³, the Natural Features and Landscapes Chapter³⁴ and the Coastal Environment Chapter³⁵. On the basis the policies the other chapters apply to Network Utilities, I support a clear policy directive that the National Grid specific policy prevails as outlined in my evidence

³⁰ Horticulture NZ Ltd

³¹ Director-General of Conservation

³² Submission point S79.056 Transpower NZ Ltd

³³ Submission point S79.061 Transpower NZ Ltd

³⁴ Submission point S79.067 Transpower NZ Ltd

³⁵ Submission point S79.086 Transpower NZ Ltd

(paragraph 7.23) relating to the provision of a National Grid specific 'seek to avoid' policy.

Mapping and Designations

7.40. For completeness, I note I concur with the officer recommendations relating to the mapping and designations³⁶.

8. Conclusion

8.1. The National Grid is recognised as a matter of national significance through the NPSET, which seeks to ensure a nationally consistent approach to managing this important national resource.

8.2. Specific to Hearing Stream 7, Transpower lodged 68 submission points (58 original and 10 further points), relating to the Energy, Infrastructure, and Transport provisions.

8.3. I have reviewed the s42A Report recommendations and largely support or accept the majority of the officer recommendations. The primary outstanding matters relate to the Transpower sought new policy to consider the effects of the planning and development of the National Grid, and the sought amendment to policy NU-P5 (manage the effects of other activities on the National Grid) to delete the wording 'To the extent reasonably possible'. The balance of the officer recommendation on NU-P5 is supported.



Pauline Mary Whitney

30 November 2022

³⁶ Transpower Submission Points S79.128 and S79.127.

Appendix A

National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008

NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT

on Electricity Transmission

Issued by notice in the Gazette on 13 March 2008

CONTENTS

Preamble

1. Title
2. Commencement
3. Interpretation
4. Matter of national significance
5. Objective
6. Recognition of the national benefits of transmission
7. Managing the environment effects of transmission
8. Managing the adverse effects of third parties on the transmission network
9. Maps
10. Long-term strategic planning for transmission assets

Preamble

This national policy statement sets out the objective and policies to enable the management of the effects of the electricity transmission network under the Resource Management Act 1991.

In accordance with section 55(2A)(a) of the Act, and within four years of approval of this national policy statement, local authorities are to notify and process under the First Schedule to the Act a plan change or review to give effect as appropriate to the provisions of this national policy statement.

The efficient transmission of electricity on the national grid plays a vital role in the well-being of New Zealand, its people and the environment. Electricity transmission has special characteristics that create challenges for its management under the Act. These include:

- Transporting electricity efficiently over long distances requires support structures (towers or poles), conductors, wires and cables, and sub-stations and switching stations.
- These facilities can create environmental effects of a local, regional and national scale. Some of these effects can be significant.
- The transmission network is an extensive and linear system which makes it important that there are consistent policy and regulatory approaches by local authorities.
- Technical, operational and security requirements associated with the transmission network can limit the extent to which it is feasible to avoid or mitigate all adverse environmental effects.
- The operation, maintenance and future development of the transmission network can be significantly constrained by the adverse environmental impact of third party activities and development.
- The adverse environmental effects of the transmission network are often local – while the benefits may be in a different locality and/or extend beyond the local to the regional and national – making it important that those exercising powers and functions under the Act balance local, regional and national environmental effects (positive and negative).
- Ongoing investment in the transmission network and significant upgrades are expected to be required to meet the demand for electricity and to meet the Government’s objective for a renewable energy future, therefore strategic planning to provide for transmission infrastructure is required.

The national policy statement is to be applied by decision-makers under the Act. The objective and policies are intended to guide decision-makers in drafting plan rules, in making decisions on the notification of the resource consents and in the determination of resource consent applications, and in considering notices of requirement for designations for transmission activities.

However, the national policy statement is not meant to be a substitute for, or prevail over, the Act’s statutory purpose or the statutory tests already in existence. Further, the national policy statement is subject to Part 2 of the Act.

For decision-makers under the Act, the national policy statement is intended to be a relevant consideration to be weighed along with other considerations in achieving the sustainable management purpose of the Act.

This preamble may assist the interpretation of the national policy statement, where this is needed to resolve uncertainty.

1. Title

This national policy statement is the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008.

2. Commencement

This national policy statement comes into force on the 28th day after the date on which it is notified in the *Gazette*.

3. Interpretation

In this national policy statement, unless the context otherwise requires:

Act means the Resource Management Act 1991.

Decision-makers means all persons exercising functions and powers under the Act.

Electricity transmission network, electricity transmission and transmission activities/assets/infrastructure/resources/system all mean part of the national grid of transmission lines and cables (aerial, underground and undersea, including the high-voltage direct current link), 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.

National environmental standard means a standard prescribed by regulations made under the Act.

National grid means the assets used or owned by Transpower NZ Limited.

Sensitive activities includes schools, residential buildings and hospitals.

4. Matter of national significance

The matter of national significance to which this national policy statement applies is the need to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network.

5. Objective

To recognise the national significance of the electricity transmission network by facilitating the operation, maintenance and upgrade of the existing transmission network and the establishment of new transmission resources to meet the needs of present and future generations, while:

- managing the adverse environmental effects of the network; and
- managing the adverse effects of other activities on the network.

6. Recognition of the national benefits of transmission

POLICY 1

In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of sustainable, secure and efficient electricity transmission. The benefits relevant to any particular project or development of the electricity transmission network may include:

- i) maintained or improved security of supply of electricity; or
- ii) efficient transfer of energy through a reduction of transmission losses; or
- iii) the facilitation of the use and development of new electricity generation, including renewable generation which assists in the management of the effects of climate change; or
- iv) enhanced supply of electricity through the removal of points of congestion.

The above list of benefits is not intended to be exhaustive and a particular policy, plan, project or development may have or recognise other benefits.

7. Managing the environmental effects of transmission

POLICY 2

In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must recognise and provide for the effective operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the electricity transmission network.

POLICY 3

When considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects of transmission activities, decision-makers must consider the constraints imposed on achieving those measures by the technical and operational requirements of the network.

POLICY 4

When considering the environmental effects of new transmission infrastructure or major upgrades of existing transmission infrastructure, decision-makers must have regard to the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection.

POLICY 5

When considering the environmental effects of transmission activities associated with transmission assets, decision-makers must enable the reasonable operational, maintenance and minor upgrade requirements of established electricity transmission assets.

POLICY 6

Substantial upgrades of transmission infrastructure should be used as an opportunity to reduce existing adverse effects of transmission including such effects on sensitive activities where appropriate.

POLICY 7

Planning and development of the transmission system should minimise adverse effects on urban amenity and avoid adverse effects on town centres and areas of high recreational value or amenity and existing sensitive activities.

POLICY 8

In rural environments, planning and development of the transmission system should seek to avoid adverse effects on outstanding natural landscapes, areas of high natural character and areas of high recreation value and amenity and existing sensitive activities.

POLICY 9

Provisions dealing with electric and magnetic fields associated with the electricity transmission network must be based on the International Commission on Non-ionising Radiation Protection *Guidelines for limiting exposure to time varying electric magnetic fields (up to 300 GHz)* (Health Physics, 1998, 74(4): 494-522) and recommendations from the World Health Organisation monograph *Environment Health Criteria* (No 238, June 2007) or revisions thereof and any applicable New Zealand standards or national environmental standards.

8. Managing the adverse effects of third parties on the transmission network

POLICY 10

In achieving the purpose of the Act, decision-makers must to the extent reasonably possible manage activities to avoid reverse sensitivity effects on the electricity transmission network and to ensure that operation, maintenance, upgrading, and development of the electricity transmission network is not compromised.

POLICY 11

Local authorities must consult with the operator of the national grid, to identify an appropriate buffer corridor within which it can be expected that sensitive activities will generally not be provided for in plans and/or given resource consent. To assist local authorities to identify these corridors, they may request the operator of the national grid to provide local authorities with its medium to long-term plans for the alteration or upgrading of each affected section of the national grid (so as to facilitate the long-term strategic planning of the grid).

9. Maps

POLICY 12

Territorial authorities must identify the electricity transmission network on their relevant planning maps whether or not the network is designated.

10. Long-term strategic planning for transmission assets

POLICY 13

Decision-makers must recognise that the designation process can facilitate long-term planning for the development, operation and maintenance of electricity transmission infrastructure.

POLICY 14

Regional councils must include objectives, policies and methods to facilitate long-term planning for investment in transmission infrastructure and its integration with land uses.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the national policy statement but is intended to indicate its general effect

This national policy statement comes into force 28 days after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*. It provides that electricity transmission is a matter of national significance under the Resource Management Act 1991 and prescribes an objective and policies to guide the making of resource management decisions.

The national policy statement requires local authorities to give effect to its provisions in plans made under the Resource Management Act 1991 by initiating a plan change or review within four years of its approval.

Appendix B

Summary Table - Response to s42A Report Officer Recommendations

Original submission points by Transpower are shown as black text, and further submission points by Transpower reshown as blue text

Plan Provision	Sub Point	Position	Summary of Reasons	Summary of Decision Requested	S42A response	Transpower's response to S42A recommendation
Strategic Directions						
Statutory Context	S79.001	Support	Transpower supports reference to the National Instruments.	Retain the 'Statutory Context' section.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 5.2.1	Support the recommendation to retain the reference as sought in the Transpower submission
Definitions						
Minor upgrading Definitions	S79.006	Amend	A new definition for Minor Upgrading is sought on the basis it would provide clarity for plan users as to what constitutes minor upgrading, and therefore assists in plan interpretation and application. It is noted the NESETA provides specific provisions for upgrade works to the National Grid which prevail over the PDP rules.	Add a new definition for 'Minor Upgrading'	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.25 – 14.3.27	Support the recommendation to provide a definition, noting the NESETA provides specific provisions for upgrade works to the National Grid which prevail over the PDP rules.
Functional Need Definition	S79.004	Support	Given the term 'Functional need' is used within the plan, Transpower supports the provision of the definition as provided in the mandatory directions within the National Planning Standards.	Retain the definition of 'Functional Need'.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.2 – 14.3.3	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
Maintenance Definition	S79.005	Support	The definition is supported on the basis it provides clarity for plan users as to what constitutes maintenance, and therefore assists in plan interpretation and application. It is noted the NESETA provides specific provisions for maintenance works to the National Grid which prevail over the PDP rules.	Retain the definition of 'Maintenance', and specifically in relation to network utilities.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.24	Support the recommendation. The amendments are accepted.
National Grid Definition	S79.007	Support	The definition of 'National Grid' is supported as it provides clarity for plan users as to what is the National Grid. The alignment to the reference shown on the planning maps is supported.	Retain definition of 'National Grid'.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.2 – 14.3.3	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
National Grid Subdivision Corridor Definition	S79.008	Support	Transpower supports the definitions for National Grid Subdivision Corridor (and the National Grid Yard) as the provision of such definitions give effect to the NPSET. The 'National Grid Subdivision Corridor' width within Central Hawke's Bay is based on the distance from the centreline	Retain definition of 'National Grid Subdivision Corridor'.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.33 – 14.3.35	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.

			between the support structures to a point where the conductor would swing under possible high wind conditions, and is the swing of the 95 th percentile span across the country, as well as other variables. It is important that the swing of conductors can be taken into account in the subdivision process so that the allotment(s) can be safely developed and used. This is why differing widths are provided for different voltage lines. In essence the Corridor is wider than the Yard, and the corridor and Yard overlap.			
National Grid Subdivision Corridor Definition	S121.241 Federated Farmers of New Zealand	Oppose original submission Transpower FS18.2	Federated Farmers seek amendment to the definition to remove clause b. relating to towers. Transpower acknowledges the only towers on the Fernhill-Woodville A and B lines are those associated with crossing rivers. There are four such river crossings, resulting in eight towers. Given such towers exist, it is appropriate the subdivision setback remain at 32m for those towers, noting the setback acts as a restricted discretionary activity trigger for resource consent. In relation to the diagram, the definition itself is independent of the diagram and the text stands. The diagram provides a visual aid to interpret and apply the National Grid Yard and Corridor definitions.	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.33 – 14.3.35	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
National Grid Yard Definition	S79.009	Support	Transpower supports the definitions for the National Grid Yard (and National Grid Subdivision Corridor) as the provision of such definitions give effect to the NPSET. They clearly articulate the framework in which to manage potential adverse effects on the National Grid.	Retain definition of 'National Grid Yard'.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.36 – 14.3.40	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
National Grid Yard Definition	S81.021 Horticulture New Zealand	Oppose original submission Transpower FS18.3	Hort NZ seeks to replace the definition of 'National Grid Yard' as follows: The area located within: - 12m in any direction from the visible outer edge of a National Grid tower; or - 10m in any direction from a National Grid single pole or pi-pole; or - the area located within 10m either side of the centreline of	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.36 – 14.3.40	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.

			<p>any overhead 110kV National Grid line on single or pi-pole; or - the area located within 12m either side of the centre line of any overhead National Grid line on towers.'</p> <p>Transpower opposes the submission point as the only difference between the definition as notified and that sought by Horticulture NZ is that the submitter seeks a 10m setback in any direction from a National Grid single pole or pi-pole, whereas the notified version requires 12m.</p> <p>Transpower opposes the relief sought. The “National Grid Yard” setback is based on the position of the conductors in normal everyday wind conditions, as well as space to allow the support structures and conductors to be accessed and provide sufficient space for most (but not all) maintenance activities. A 12m setback around each support structure is also sought for access, maintenance and safety purposes. The approach proposed within the Proposed District Plan reflects the nationwide transmission corridor approach.</p>			
National Grid Yard Definition	S121.242 Federated Farmers of New Zealand	Oppose original submission Transpower FS18.4	<p>The submitter seeks amendment to the setback from a pole support structure from 12m to 8m.</p> <p>Transpower opposes the relief sought. The “National Grid Yard” setback is based on the position of the conductors in normal everyday wind conditions, as well as space to allow the support structures and conductors to be accessed and provide sufficient space for most (but not all) maintenance activities. A 12m setback around each support structure is also sought for access, maintenance and safety purposes. The approach proposed within the Proposed District Plan reflects the nationwide transmission corridor approach. The submitter has referred to NZECP34 as the basis for establishing setbacks from pole support structures. Transpower does not support reliance on NZECP alone to give effect to the NPSET. NZECP34 also applies to all electricity lines and is not specific to the National Grid. As such it does not</p>	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.36 – 14.3.40	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.

			<p>recognise the significance of the National Grid. Furthermore, the scope and purpose of NZECP34 is confined to safety. It is the Code of Practice that sets minimum safe distances to primarily protect persons, property, vehicles and mobile plant from harm or damage from electrical hazards and is focused only on minimum safety standards. As such, the 8m referred to in NZECP34 provides guidance on safety distances only and does not provide for access, operation, maintenance and development relating to the Transmission Network, or distances to manage the adverse effects of third party activities. To go closer than 12m to the support structures does not allow sufficient space for access, operation, maintenance and development.</p> <p>Minimum safety requirements in the Code do not seek to protect the integrity of the National Grid from the effects of third parties. Nor does it provide for all access, work space, step and touch hazards where activities or infrastructure cause restrictions or create unsafe situations, especially during work activities on either Transpower’s assets or works by a member of the public under or near a line.</p> <p>On this basis, reliance on NZECP34 and the request to provide an 8m setback from support structures does not give effect to or achieve the requirements of the NPSET “to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the National Grid”.</p>			
Nationally Significant Infrastructure (Definition)	S79.010	Oppose	<p>The definition of ‘Nationally significant infrastructure’ is used within assessment matters CE-AM2 and NFL-AM2.3, and Rule ECO-P92.</p> <p>While Transpower does not have a position on the definition of ‘Nationally Significant Infrastructure’, there may be benefit in providing a definition for certainty.</p>	On the basis the relief sought in Transpower’s other submission points are given effect to, Transpower is neutral on the definition.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities Section 14.4.2	Support the recommendation to retain the definition. The recommended amendment is of no consequence to Transpower.

Network Utility Operator- or Network Utility Operation Definition	S79.011	Support	Transpower supports the definition as it reflects the mandatory direction definition provided in the National Planning Standards.	Retain definition of 'Network Utility Operator or Network Utility Operation'.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.2 – 14.3.3	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
Operational Need Definition	S79.012	Support	Transpower supports the provision of the definition and notes it reflects the mandatory direction within the National Planning Standards.	Retain definition of 'Operational Need'.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 14.3.2 – 14.3.3	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission.
Renewable Electricity Generation Activities Definition	S79.014	Support	The definition is supported as it provides clarity for plan users as to what are Renewable Electricity Generation Activities. Specifically, the reference to the National Grid is supported as it acknowledges renewable generation activities requires transmission and connections to the National Grid.	Retain definition of 'Renewable Electricity Generation Activities'.	Accept Refer s42A Renewable Energy para 4.4.2	Support the recommendation to retain the definition as sought in the Transpower submission
Natural Hazards						
NH – Natural Hazards	S79.056	Amend	The application and relevance of the Natural Hazards provisions to Transpower's assets is not clear as: -The note to the rules section within the Network Utilities Chapter does not provide specific reference that the Natural Hazards chapter applies. -The rules within the Natural Hazards chapter all apply to "buildings" which do not capture the support structure and transmission line components of the National Grid assets (as these are defined as 'structures' within the proposed plan). However substation would be considered a 'building'. Clarity as to the relationship between the chapters and whether the Natural Hazard provisions apply would assist with plan interpretation.	Clarify whether the 'NH – Natural Hazard' provisions apply to network utility structures.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Accept the recommendation. Given the wide application of the Network Utilities Chapter, the recommendation is accepted.
Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity						
ECO – Ecosystems and	S79.061	Amend	Relationship between chapters and the application and relevance of the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity chapter to Network Utilities is not clear given the statements within the Network Utilities chapter regarding the stand-alone	Clarify whether the 'ECO - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity'	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Accept the recommendation. Given the wide application of the Network Utilities Chapter,

Indigenous Biodiversity			nature of the 'NU-Network Utilities' chapter. Clarification would assist with interpretation.	provisions apply to network utilities.		the recommendation is accepted.
Natural Features and Landscapes						
NFL – Natural Features and Landscapes	S79.067	Amend	As outlined in earlier submission points, the application and relevance of the Natural Features and Landscapes chapter to Network Utilities is not clear given the statements within the Network Utilities chapter regarding the stand-alone nature of the network utility provisions. Clarification would assist within plan interpretation.	Clarify whether the NFL - Natural Features and Landscapes' chapter provisions apply to network utilities.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Accept the recommendation. Given the wide application of the Network Utilities Chapter, the recommendation is accepted.
Coastal Environment						
CE – Coastal Environment	S79.086	Amend	The application and relevance of the Coastal Environment provisions to Transpower's assets is not clear as the note to the rules section within the Coastal Environment chapter does not provide specific reference that the Coastal Environment chapter applies. Clarity as to the relationship between the chapters and whether the coastal environment provisions apply would assist with plan interpretation. There are also no specific rules in the Coastal Environment chapter, rather reference is made to Natural Hazard rules for the Tsunami Hazard Area. It is presumed there are no additional rules for network utility activities within the coastal environment and therefore in relation to network utilities, the Network Utility chapter provisions apply. Clarification within the chapters as to the relationship between chapters and provisions would assist.	Clarify the relationship between chapters and whether the 'CE - Coastal Environment' chapter provisions apply to network utilities.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Accept the recommendation. Given the wide application of the Network Utilities Chapter, the recommendation is accepted.
Earthworks						
EW – Earthworks	S79.090	Amend	Transpower's preference is for a standalone set of provisions within the Network Utility chapter as it avoids duplication and provides a coherent set of policies and rules. A standalone set of provisions is also consistent with the National Planning Standards, mandatory direction in Planning Standard 7. Specific to the Earthworks Chapter, Policy NU-P5 (as sought to be amended) within the Network Utilities chapter provides the policy framework for earthworks (and vertical holes) within the National Grid Yard. However, the associated rules are provided	Relocate the relevant National Grid rules in the 'EW - Earthworks' chapter to the 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Accept the recommendation. As outlined at other hearings, Transpower is no longer seeking the relocation of the Grid provisions.

			within the Earthworks Chapter (Rule EW-R5). This disconnect is potentially confusing to plan users.			
Maps						
Maps	S79.128	Amend	Transpower supports the identification of the National Grid on the planning maps as it provides clear guidance for plan users as to the location of the National Grid and will assist in plan interpretation. However, it is recommended the map legend and maps be amended to refer to "National Grid Line" as opposed to "National Grid Corridor" as shown on the legend, as the term "National Grid Corridor" has the potential for confusion with the National Grid Subdivision Corridor, which is defined in the PDP. The term "National Grid Line" would also reflect the wording and planning map annotation in the National Planning Standards.	Amend the notation of 'National Grid Corridor' on the planning maps as follows: 'National Grid Corridor Transmission Line '	Accept in part Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 13.3	Support the recommendation to amend the planning map annotation "National Grid Line".
Network Utilities						
NU – Network Utilities	S79.017	Amend	Transpower is supportive of a specific Network Utilities Chapter as the provision of a chapter reflects the mandatory direction in the National Planning Standards. As proposed, the majority of the provisions do not specifically address the National Grid, rather group all Network Utilities together. Transpower is not opposed to such an approach. However, in order to give effect to the NPESSET, Transpower seeks provisions specific to the National Grid.	Retain 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter, subject to the relief sought in other Transpower submission points, and also seeks provisions specific to the National Grid, as outlined in Transpower submission.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 5.3.1	Support the recommendation to retain the chapter noting specific changes are made.
NU - Introduction	S79.018	Amend	Transpower largely supports the introductory statement which outlines the role, and importance of network utilities. The reference to the NESs is supported, as it clarifies that the NESs prevail (which is the case for the NESETA). Transpower also supports paragraph 4 of the Introduction. This makes it clear that the operation, maintenance, upgrade and development of the National Grid is to be solely addressed in the NU chapter. This approach is supported. However, the statement is potentially confused by references to rules in addition to the provisions in this chapter. These clauses are confusing in light of the earlier clause saying the NU provisions are stand alone.	Amend paragraphs 4/5 of 'NU - Introduction' as follows: '... Because many network utilities are lineal, and traverse many parts of the District, it is considered appropriate that a single set of rules are provided which apply across the District.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities Section 6.3	Accept the recommendation. As outlined in other hearings, Transpower is no longer seeking the relocation of the Grid provisions. In respect of the relationship between chapters, Transpower accepts the officer recommendation and additional wording.

			<p>Transpower's preference is for a standalone set of provisions within the Network Utilities Chapter as it avoids duplication (in terms of the zone rules) and provides a coherent set of rules which applicants can refer to. A standalone set of provisions as provided in the notified plan is also consistent with the National Planning Standards, Standard 7.</p>	<p>Provisions to manage the effects of other activities on network utilities (including state highway and rail corridors, the National Grid, and gas transmission pipelines) are contained within the Network Utilities provisions of the plan.</p> <p>elsewhere in the District Plan, in the respective zones in Part 3 of the District Plan, and the NOISE – Noise chapter of the District Plan...</p> <p>And provide clarity as to the relationship of the 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter to other chapters in the Proposed Plan and make amendments to the Proposed Plan to clarify the provisions and make the 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter stand alone.</p>		
NU-I1	S79.019	Support	<p>Transpower supports the issue as it articulates the benefits and importance of network utilities, but also recognises there may be adverse effects on the environment.</p>	Retain NU-I1.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 7.3.1 – 7.3.4	Support the recommendation to amend the issue.
NU-I2	S79.020	Support	<p>Transpower is supportive of the recognition of technical requirements or constraints, and that a balanced approach is required.</p>	Retain NU-I2.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 7.3.5 – 7.3.7	Support the recommendation to amend the issue.

NU-I3	S79.021	Support	Transpower supports recognition of the effects of other party activities on network utilities, and in particular the potential for some activities to constrain and compromise network utilities. The issue appropriately recognises that that the issue of adverse effects on the network is wider than solely that of reverse sensitivity. Specific recognition of the National Grid is supported.	Retain NU-I3.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 7.3.8 – 7.3.10	Support the recommendation to retain the issue as notified.
NU-I3	S129.016 Kāinga Ora -Homes and Communities	Oppose original submission Transpower FS18.5	The submitters seeks insertion to “where not appropriately managed”. While Transpower understands the intent of the submission point and relief sought, it does not consider the amendment necessary or required. The associated policies and rules provide the framework for considering appropriateness.	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 7.3.8 – 7.3.10	Support the recommendation to retain the issue as notified.
NU-O1	S79.022	Support	Transpower supports the objective as it recognises the importance and role of network utilities. While not specific to the National Grid, Transpower supports the general application of the objective. The objective is given effect to in policies, specifically policy NU-P1 which references benefits. The objective gives effect to the NPSET. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Retain NU-O1. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 8.3.5 – 8.3.8	Support the recommendation to retain the objective, noting the recommended amendments are accepted.
NU-O2	S79.023	Support	Transpower supports the objective as it recognises the functional and operational needs (which include constraints) of network utilities. While not specific to the National Grid, Transpower supports the general application of the objective. The objective gives effect to the NPSET. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Retain NU-O2. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 8.3.11 – 8.3.18	Support the recommendation to retain the objective, as sought in the Transpower submission
NU-O3	S79.024	Amend	The provision of an objective specific to effects on network utilities is supported. In particular, Transpower supports recognition that it is not only reverse sensitivity effects which can compromise network utilities, but also the direct adverse effects of subdivision, land use and development. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Retain NU-O3. Should the objective be amended, Transpower would support a specific objective to give effect to the NPSET.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 8.3.19 – 8.3.25	Support the recommendation to retain the objective, as sought in the Transpower submission

NU-O3	S81.052 Horticulture New Zealand	Oppose original submission Transpower FS18.6	<p>The submitter seeks insertion “ to the extent reasonably practicable”.</p> <p>Transpower concurs with the submitter that the objective “is rather absolute”. Such an approach is supported as it gives effect to the NPSET. Policy 10 directs activities to be managed, not qualifying the extent to which operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid can be compromised.</p> <p>The relief sought is opposed on the basis it changes the policy directive from a clear directive to ensure network utilities are not compromised, to a subjective assessment in that it introduces consideration of “to the extent reasonably possible”. It does not give effect to Policy 10 of the NPSET.</p>	The whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 8.3.19 – 8.3.25	Support the recommendation to retain the objective, as sought in the Transpower submission
NU-PXX (new policy)	S79.026	Amend	<p>Transpower would support the provision of a policy relating to managing the effects of the National Grid electricity transmission network. Such a policy would give effect to Sections 6 and 7 (policies 1 - 8) of the NPSET. In particular: Policy 8 of the NPSET. Given the nature of existing assets within the district and very confined nature of existing settlements, the policy approach by Transpower is focused on Policy 8 of the NPSET which relates to rural areas as opposed to Policy 7 (Urban areas). Clause 1 would give effect to NPSET Policy 4. Clause 2 would give effect to NPSET Policy 3. Clauses 3 and 4 give effect to NPSET Policy 8. Policy 8 provides a 'seek to avoid' approach within more valued areas. Clause 4 also reconciles the NPSET and the NZCPS by providing a policy framework specific to the coastal environment. Clause 5 is a general avoid, remedy or mitigate clause. While Policies NU-P2 and NU-P3 provide a policy framework for addressing the effects of network utilities, they do not give effect to the NPSET in terms of recognising the clear policy directives in respect of the National Grid.</p>	<p>Add a new policy to the 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter as follows:</p> <p>‘Manage the adverse effects of the planning and development of the National Grid by: 1. Considering the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection process. 2. Having regard to the functional and operational needs of the network. 3. Seeking to avoid adverse effects on identified High Natural Character Areas, Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes,</p>	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities para .3.1	Oppose the recommendation. Refer para 7.12 – 7.24 of the hearing evidence. A National Grid specific policy is sought.

				Significant Natural Areas, Significant Amenity Features, and areas of high recreational value or high amenity in rural areas. 4. Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects on other areas of natural character and other natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment. 5. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects. In the event of any conflict with any other objectives and policies within the Plan, Policy NU-Pa takes precedence.'		
NU-P1	S79.025	Support	The recognition of the benefits of Network Utilities is supported, and gives effect to Policy 1 of the NPSET. The remainder of the policy gives effect to Policies 2, 3, and 5 of the NPSET. Should the policy be amended, Transpower would support a specific policy to give effect to the NPSET.	Retain NU-P1. Should the policy be amended, Transpower would support a specific policy to give effect to the NPSET.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.3.13 – 9.3.15	Accept the recommendation as it reflects the relief sought in the Transpower submission
NU-P2	S79.027	Amend	Given the specific wording and intent of the NPSET, Transpower seeks a specific National Grid policy as sought. The NPSET recognises the national significance of the National Grid and provides a suite of specific policies which are required to be given effect to in the district plan. While Policies NU-P2 and NU-P3 provide a policy framework for addressing the effects of network utilities, they do not give effect to the NPSET in terms of recognising the clear policy directives in respect of the National Grid.	If a new specific National Grid policy is not provided [as per submission point S79.026], amend NU-P2 to give effect to the NPSET, including the 'seek to avoid' approach within Policy 8 of the NPSET.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.3.16 – 9.3.29	Oppose the recommendation in part. Refer para 7.12 – 7.24 of the hearing evidence. A National Grid specific policy is sought.
NU-P3	S79.028	Amend	Given the specific wording and intent of the NPSET, Transpower seeks a specific National Grid policy as sought. The NPSET recognises the national significance of the National Grid	If a new specific National Grid policy is not provided [as per submission point	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities	Oppose the recommendation in part. Refer para 7.12 – 7.24 of the

			and provides a suite of specific policies which are required to be given effect to in the district plan. While NU-P2 and NU-P3 provide a policy framework for addressing the effects of network utilities, NU-P3 does not give effect to the NPSET.	S79.026], amend NU-P3 to give effect to the NPSET, including the 'seek to avoid' approach within Policy 8 of the NPSET.	para 9.3.30 – 9.3.43	hearing evidence. A National Grid specific policy is sought.
NU-P3	S129.023 Kāinga Ora -Homes and Communities	Support in part original submission Transpower FS18.7	The submitter seeks deletion of NU-P3. In its submission Transpower sought a specific policy framework to give effect to the NPSET. Should this relief not be granted, Transpower supports the relief sought by Kāinga Ora for deletion of the policy. As noted by the submitter, “the terms 'high natural character areas' and 'significant amenity features' are not defined within the plan, and it is presumed that these areas do not meet the threshold for consideration as 'outstanding natural landscapes and features'. Given the lack of clarity around what constitutes a 'high natural character area' or a 'significant amenity feature', it is unclear to what degree the plan should have regard to these matters within an RMA context”.	Transpower seeks the submission point be allowed if the relief sought in Transpower’s submission on NU-P3 is not granted.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.3.30 – 9.3.43	Oppose the recommendation in part. Refer para 7.12 – 7.24 of the hearing evidence. A National Grid specific policy is sought.
NU-P4	S79.029	Support	Transpower supports Policy NU-P4. In particular it supports clauses 3, 4 and 5 as: - Clause 3 'encourages' undergrounding but also recognises that undergrounding is not always technically or commercially viable. It is noted the policy has limited relevance to Transpower given existing National Grid assets are located outside the zones listed in the policy. - Clause 4 recognises co-siting, but also recognises that co-siting and sharing is not always practicable. This is particularly relevant to the National Grid which has specific technical, operational and safety requirements which mean co-siting is often not appropriate. - Clause 5 'encourages' removal. It is noted the policy has limited relevance to Transpower given the removal of existing National Grid assets is regulated by the NPSET.	Retain NU-P4.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.2.52 – 9.2.60	Accept the recommendation as it relates to the relief sought in the Transpower submission
NU-P4	S64.024	Neutral	The submitter seeks retention of NU-P4. In its submission Transpower supported NU-P4. As such, the submission point by the Director-General of	No specific relief sought.	Accept in part FS Refer s42A Network Utilities	Accept the recommendation as it relates to the relief

	Director-General of Conservation	Transpower FS18.8	Conservation is supported. However, it is not clear how the policy “appropriately reflect Policy 8 of NPS-ET” (as stated in the reasoning for the submission point).		para 9.2.52 – 9.2.60	sought in the Transpower submission
NU-P5	S79.030	Amend	<p>Transpower is generally supportive of the policy in that it recognises the adverse effects of subdivision, land use and development on the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid. Such policy recognition largely gives effect to Policies 10 and 11 of the NPSET. The policy is also supported in that it recognises that in addition to reverse sensitivity effects, subdivision, land use and development can also compromise the National Grid through activities such as access to the National Grid assets being blocked, buildings and structures being located close to assets, or the location of buildings and activities, including 'sensitive activities' beneath or in close proximity to lines and/or structures can limit Transpower's ability to maintain, upgrade and develop the National Grid. Earthworks (and vertical holes) are an activity which can also adversely affect and compromise the National Grid. It is noted the policy references 'land disturbance' but not earthworks. Given the confined definition of 'land disturbance in the PDP, Transpower seeks specific reference within the policy to earthworks. It is noted earthworks within the National Grid Yard are managed in the Earthworks chapter (as part of the General District-Wide Matters). However, while there are rules in the EW chapter, there is no specific policy support. Transpower therefore seeks specific policy recognition within NU-P5. Transpower supports reference to subdivision within policy NU-P5. However, for clarity amendment is sought to also include reference to the National Grid Subdivision Corridor as the corridor, not the yard, manages subdivision. The reference to 'near the National Grid' is deleted as the term is vague, uncertain and not required. Instead the policy relies on the defined National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor. The reference to "around a designated National Grid substation" is also Transpower is not</p>	<p>Amend NU-P5 as follows: 'To protect network utilities from the adverse effects of subdivision, use and development that may constrain or compromise the safe, effective, secure and efficient operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of network utilities, and the safety and amenity values of people and the community, including by: 1. 6. managing land use development (including sensitive activities), buildings, earthworks, vertical holes and structures and subdivision near the National Grid, within the National Grid Yard, and subdivision within the National Grid Subdivision Corridor, or around a designated National Grid substation, to avoid reverse</p>	<p>Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.3.51 – 9.3.64</p>	<p>Oppose in part the recommendation. Refer para 7.30 – 7.33 of the hearing evidence. While the majority fo the officer recommendation is supported, the opening wording ‘to the extent reasonably possible” is not.</p>

			seeking restrictions around its substation beyond the designation boundary itself.	sensitivity effects and ensure the electricity transmission network is not compromised; 7. managing land disturbance, earthworks and vertical holes , land use development and buildings to maintain safe electrical clearance distances under electricity distributions lines and support structures; and 8. ensuring subdivision of sites containing a network activity retain the ability for the network utility operator to access, operate, maintain, repair and upgrade the network utility.'		
NU-P5	S81.053 Horticulture New Zealand	Oppose Transpower FS18.9	The submitter seeks to amend NU-P5. Specific to the National Grid, Transpower opposes the relief sought on the basis it changes the policy directive from a clear directive to 'protect' network utilities, to a subjective assessment in that it introduces consideration of "to the extent reasonably possible". Such a policy directive is not supported as it does not give effect to the NPSET.	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be disallowed.	Accept in part FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 9.3.51 – 9.3.64	Oppose in part the recommendation. Refer para 7.30-7.33 of the hearing evidence.
NU-P5(6)	S81.055 Horticulture New Zealand	Support original submission Transpower FS18.10	The submitter seeks to amend NU-P5(6) Transpower supports the relief sought. The amendment sought reflects that sought in Transpower's submission.	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be allowed.	Accept in part FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 5.3.1	Accept the recommendation as it relates to the relief sought in the Transpower submission

NU - Rules	S79.031	Amend	<p>In relation to the Rules Notes, Transpower supports the reference to the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities (2009) within the Note as it highlights the standards to plan users. As proposed, the structure of the PDP provides for activities undertaken by Transpower to be managed within the Network Utilities section, whereas activities undertaken by other parties within the National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor are managed in the respective activity or zone chapter (i.e. for earthworks, subdivision and in the zone chapters).</p> <p>Transpower's preference is for a standalone set of provisions within the Network Utilities Chapter as it avoids duplication (in terms of the zone rules) and provides a coherent set of rules which applicants can refer to. Specific to other matters addressed within the Note, Transpower supports the attempt at clarity regarding the relationship of various provisions in the plan. However, as noted in an earlier submission point, the cross references to other provisions are confusing.</p>	<p>Relocate the relevant National Grid provisions in other sections of the Proposed Plan to the 'NU - Network Utilities' chapter. And</p> <p>Insert the following into the Rules Notes section: '...Rules relating to the operation, maintenance, upgrade and development of network utilities are addressed in the NU- Network Utilities chapter of the district plan and reference is not required to other chapters.</p> <p>Rules relating to subdivision and land development involving network utilities and other activities addressed in this chapter are contained in the SUB - Subdivision chapter of the District Plan.</p> <p>Rules relating to earthworks associated with activities addressed in this chapter are contained in the EW - Earthworks chapter of the District Plan. Rules relating to subdivision, land development and</p>	<p>Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.1 – 10.3.3</p>	<p>Accept the recommendation. As outlined in other hearings, Transpower is no longer seeking the relocation of the Grid provisions.</p>
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				<p>earthworks within the National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor are addressed in this chapter.Rules for activities addressed in this chapter that are located within the identified ONL and ONFs are contained in this chapter.</p> <p>The construction, operation, maintenance, replacement, removal and upgrading of cycleways or walkways located within road reserve are subject to the rules of this chapter. Cycleways and walkways located outside road reserve fall within the definition of 'Community Facilities' and are subject to the relevant zone chapter rules. It is important to note that in addition to the provisions in this chapter, a number of other Part 2- District-Wide Matters chapters also contain provisions that may be relevant to network utilities (e.g. TRANS—Transport, HH—Historic Heritage, ECO—Ecosystems & Indigenous Biodiversity, SUB—</p>	
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				Subdivision, EW – Earthworks, LIGHT – Light, and NOISE – Noise).		
NU-R1	S79.032	Support	Specific to the National Grid, the NESETA provides for various works as permitted activities. Given the NESETA prevails over the district plan provisions, Rule NU-R1 is of limited relevance to the National Grid. Notwithstanding it is of limited relevance, the provision of a permitted activity rule for the ongoing operation, maintenance, replacement and removal of existing network utilities is supported as it recognises existing infrastructure and provides for its ongoing use. The permitted activity status reflects that provided within the NESETA. The default restricted discretionary (and non-complying in respect of radio frequency and electric magnetic fields) is also supported.	Retain NU-R1.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.4 – 10.3.5	Support the recommendation to retain the rule as notified.
NU-R2	S79.033	Support	Specific to the National Grid, the NESETA provides for various works as permitted activities. Given the NESETA prevails over the district plan provisions, Rule NU-R1 is of limited relevance to the National Grid. Notwithstanding it is of limited relevance, the provision of a permitted activity rule for the ongoing operation, maintenance, replacement and removal of existing network utilities is supported as it recognises existing infrastructure and provides for its ongoing use. The permitted activity status reflects that provided within the NESETA. The default restricted discretionary (and non-complying in respect of radio frequency and electric magnetic fields) is also supported.	Retain NU-R2.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.6	Support the recommendation to retain the rule as notified.
NU-R3	S79.034	Amend	Transpower supports the provision of a rule specific to network utilities within the National Grid Yard. The default non-complying activity status is considered the most effective means of giving effect to the NPSET's objective of managing the adverse effects of the network and managing the adverse effects of other activities on the network. While conditions a) and b) are not specific to the National Grid, Transpower is not opposed to their inclusion. A minor amendment is sought to	Amend NU-R3 as follows: '1. Activity Status: PER Where the following activity conditions are met: a.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.27 – 10.3.35	Support the recommendation to amend the rule as sought in the Transpower (and S81.057) submissions.

			the numbering to make clause (d)(iii) a condition in its own right as opposed to being linked to the 12m setback from a support structure.	d. The activity is located a minimum distance of 12 metres from the outer visible foundation of any National Grid support structure and associated stay wire, unless it: i. is a building or structure where Transpower has given written approval in accordance with clause 2.4.1 of the NZECP 34:2001 ISSN 0114-0663; or ii. is a network utility (other than for the reticulation and storage of water for irrigation purposes) or any part of electricity infrastructure undertaken by a network utility operator that connects to the National Grid; and iii. e. does not permanently physically impede existing vehicular access to a National Grid support structure.'		
NU-R3	S64.025 Department of Conservation	Neutral Transpower FS18.11	The submitters seeks permitted standards and matters of discretion. Rule NU-R3 is specific to network utilities within the National Grid Yard. Transpower acknowledges the concerns of the submitter but is neutral on the relief sought.	No specific relief sought.	Reject FS Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.27 – 10.3.35	Support the recommendation to amend the rule as sought in the Transpower (and S81.057) submissions but otherwise retain it.
NU-R3	S81.057	Support	Subject to the retention of other National Grid specific rules within the plan, Transpower has no objection to the deletion of the wording as shown in the submission.	Transpower seeks the whole of the submission point be allowed.	Accept FS Refer s42A Network Utilities	Support the recommendation to amend the rule as sought in the

	Horticulture New Zealand	Transpower FS18.12			para 10.3.27 – 10.3.35	Transpower (and S81.057) submissions.
NU-R4	S79.035	Support	Transpower supports the provision of a rule specific to network utilities outside the National Grid Yard. The new rule would apply to new National Grid assets and while the permitted activity conditions are unlikely to be met, the default restricted discretionary activity status is supported.	Retain NU-R4.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.36 – 10.3.40	Support the recommendation to retain the rule as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-R9	S79.036	Support	While it is not clear what activities Rule RU-R9 would apply to (given the default rule RU-R5) Transpower supports the discretionary rule.	Retain NU-R9	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities para 10.3.44	Support the recommendation to retain the rule as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-S1	S79.037	Support	Transpower supports the provision of standards.	Retain NU-S1.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities para 11.3.1 – 11.3.11	Support the recommendation to retain the standard as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-S2 NU-S3 NU-S4	S79.038 S79.039 S79.040	Support Support Support	Transpower supports the provision of standards. Transpower supports the provision of standards. Transpower supports the provision of standards	Retain NU-S2. Retain NU-S3. Retain NU-S4.	Accept in part Refer s42A Network Utilities Section 11.3	Support the recommendation to retain the standards as sought in the Transpower submission. The amendments are accepted.
NU-S5 NU-S6 NU-S7 NU-S8 NU-S9	S79.041 S79.042 S79.043 S79.044 S79.045	Support Support Support Support Support	Transpower supports the provision of standards. Transpower supports the provision of standards	Retain NU-S5. Retain NU-S6. Retain NU-S7. Retain NU-S8. Retain NU-S9.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities Section 11.3	Support the recommendation
NU-AM2	S79.046	Support	Transpower supports the discretionary activity assessment matters and in particular clause 4. Notwithstanding Transpower's support for the matters, it is unclear when the assessment matters would apply given the default rule (NU-R3 and NUR4) have a restricted discretionary activity status.	Retain NU-AM2.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Support the recommendation to retain the assessment matters.

NU-M1	S79.047	Oppose	While Transpower does not oppose the listing of other relevant sections of the plan, the list provided appears to cover all other chapters of the plan. This would appear contrary to the intent of the National Planning Standards Mandatory Directions for provisions relating to Infrastructure, as well as the Introduction to the NU - Network Utilities chapter (specifically paragraph 4) which provides that a single set of rules are provided. In particular clause 6 is not clear in terms of how the ONFL provisions apply to Network Utilities. Plan interpretation and application would benefit from clear linkages between the plan provisions. An amendment is sought in other submission points to clarify the above.	Delete NU-M1.	Reject Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Accept the recommendation noting an amendment is proposed to delete NU-M1 clause 6. This is supported.
NU-M2	S79.048	Support	As outlined earlier in this submission relating to higher level policy documents, the district plan is required to give effect to the NPSET. Reference as a method is supported.	Retain Nu-M2.	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Support the recommendation to retain the method (with amendment), as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-M4	S79.049	Amend	Transpower supports reference to the NPSET. The NPSET provides specific provisions for maintenance and upgrade works to the National Grid which prevail over the district plan rules. An amendment is sought to correct the title.	Retain NU-M4, subject to amendment to the title as follows: ' NU-M4 Resource Management (National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission-) 2008'	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Support the recommendation to retain the method (with amendment), as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-M6	S79.050	Amend	Transpower supports reference to NZECP34:2001. Compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZCEP 34:2001) is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities regulated by NZECP34:2001, including buildings, structures, earthworks and the operation of mobile plant, must comply with that regulation. On this basis, reference as a method within the district plan is supported.	Retain Method NU-M6, subject to a minor reference correction in the title as follows: 'NU-M6 New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safety Distances 2001 (NZECP34:2001)'	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Support the recommendation to retain the method (with amendment), as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU-M7	S79.051	Support	Transpower supports reference to the Tree Regulations.	Retain NU-M7.	Accept	Support the recommendation to retain

					Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	the method as sought in the Transpower submission.
NU - Principal Reasons	S79.052	Amend	Transpower supports the reasoning provides as it reflects the policy and rule framework provided. However, a minor amendment is sought to include reference to ensuring the grid is not compromised.	Retain the 'NU - Principal Reasons' section, but include a reference at the end of the final paragraph as follows: '... To protect the adjoining activities and the ongoing operation of the utilities, various degrees of control will be implemented in the District Plan to avoid or mitigate potential reverse sensitivity effects and ensure the network utility is not compromised. '	Accept Refer s42A Network Utilities section 12.3	Support the recommendation to retain the Reason (with amendment), as sought in the Transpower submission.
Renewable Energy						
RE - Introduction	S79.053	Support	Transpower supports recognition in the third paragraph of 'RE - Introduction' that renewable electricity generation will require connections to the National Grid.	Retain 'RE - Introduction'	Accept Refer s42A Renewable Energy para 4.4.2	Support the recommendation to retain the Introduction, as sought in the Transpower submission.
RE-M1	S79.054	Amend	Transpower has no position on RE-M1 but questions whether it is relevant to the Renewable Energy chapter. A minor amendment is sought to RE-M1 to reflect the NPSET also manages effects on the transmission network.	Review the appropriateness of RE-M1 within the 'RE - Renewable Energy' chapter. Amend RE-M1 as follows: 'Sets out an objective and policies to enable the management of the effects <u>on and</u> of the electricity transmission network under the RMA.'	Accept Refer s42A Renewable Energy para 5.3.7 – 5.3.10	Support the recommendation to retain the method with amendment as sought in the Transpower submission.

RE-M2	S79.055	Amend	Transpower has no position on RE-M2 but questions whether they are relevant to the Renewable Energy chapter.	Review the appropriateness of RE-M2 within the 'RE - Renewable Energy' chapter.	Accept in part Refer s42A Renewable Energy para 5.3.10	Support the recommendation to retain the method
Designations						
TPR - Transpower	S79.127	Support	Transpower support the rollover designation for the Electricity Substation on Onga Onga Road. The substation forms part of the National Grid and is essential infrastructure.	Retain TPR-1 (Electricity Substation) designation.	Approve Refer s42A Designations	Support the recommendation to rollover the designation.

Appendix C

Plan examples of National Grid specific 'Seek to avoid' policy

Plan	Relevant Policy Framework
<p>Queenstown Proposed Lakes District Plan</p> <p>Note: Objective 30.2.8 and Policy 30.2.8.1 are from the Updated Joint Memorandum of Parties in Support of Consent Order Topic 1 Subtopic 4 (Regionally Significant Infrastructure) dated September 2019</p>	<p><i>30.2.8 Objective - The national significance of the National Grid is recognised by the facilitation of the ongoing operation, maintenance, development and upgrading of the National Grid, while the adverse environmental effects of the National Grid, and on the National Grid, are managed.</i></p> <p><i>Policies</i></p> <p><i>30.2.8.1 Recognise the benefits of the National Grid by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. enabling the operation and maintenance of the National Grid;</i> <i>b. providing for the upgrade and development of the National Grid, while managing its adverse effects by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. seeking to avoid adverse effects on the values and attributes of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A. Scheduled Significant Natural Areas, and those other areas that meet the criteria in Policy 33.2.1.8;</i> <i>B. Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Features;</i> <i>C. Rural Character Landscapes and other amenity landscapes;</i> <i>D. Wahi Tupuna identified in the District Plan maps.</i> </i> <i>ii. where avoiding adverse effects on the values and attributes of the areas listed in (b)(i) above is not practicable, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects on those values and attributes;</i> <i>iii. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects;</i> </i> <i>c. when considering the adverse effects on the upgrade and development of the National Grid, having regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. the extent to which measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects may be constrained by functional needs;</i> <i>ii. the extent to which adverse effects have been addressed through site, route or method selection;</i> <i>iii. opportunities to reduce existing adverse effects;</i> <i>iv. offsetting for residual adverse effects on indigenous biological diversity.</i> </i> <p><i>30.2.8.2 In the event of any conflict with:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. the objectives and policies in chapters 3, 6, 23, 24 and 33;</i> <i>b. Objectives 7.2.6, 8.2.5 and 9.2.6; or</i> <i>c. Policies 30.2.6.1 and 30.2.7.1; Policy 30.2.8.1 takes precedence. The Assessment Matters (Landscape) in chapters 21 and 23 in this plan are relevant when implementing the policy.</i>
<p>Greater Wellington Regional Council Proposed Natural Resources Plan (Appeals Version – 2022) Decided by consent Order</p>	<p><i>Policy P14: The National Grid</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(a) Recognise and provide for the benefits of the National Grid.</i> <i>(b) Enable the operation, maintenance or upgrade of existing National Grid assets.</i> <i>(c) Where the National Grid has a functional need or operational requirement to locate in the coastal environment, lakes, rivers or wetlands, manage the adverse effects of its activities on natural character, natural features and natural landscapes, and indigenous biodiversity by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) Seeking to avoid adverse effects of new development or major upgrades on values of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. outstanding natural character,</i> <i>2. natural attributes and characteristics of outstanding natural features and landscapes,</i> <i>3. indigenous biodiversity values of the aquatic ecosystems, habitats, species and areas listed in Policy P38(a).</i> </i> <i>(ii) Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects of new development or major upgrades on:</i> </i>

	<p>1. other areas of natural character in the coastal environment,</p> <p>2. natural attributes and characteristics of other natural features and landscapes in the coastal environment,</p> <p>3. indigenous biodiversity values that meet the criteria in Policy P11(b) of the NZCPS.</p> <p>(iii) Having regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated:</p> <p>1. through the route, site and method selection process, and Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region – Appeals Version Final 2022 71</p> <p>2. given the constraints imposed by the activity’s operational requirements.</p> <p>(iv) Recognising there may be some areas in the coastal environment where:</p> <p>1. avoidance of adverse effects is required to protect the values, natural attributes and characteristics identified within (c)(i) 1, 2, and 3 above.</p> <p>2. avoidance of significant adverse effects is required to protect the values, natural attributes and characteristics identified within (c)(ii) 1, 2, and 3 above.</p> <p>(d) Remedy or mitigate any adverse effects from the operation, maintenance, upgrade, major upgrade or development of the National Grid which cannot be avoided.</p> <p>In the event of any conflict with any other objectives and policies in the Plan relating to indigenous biodiversity within Policy P38, natural character, and natural features and natural landscapes, Policy P14 takes precedence.</p>
<p>Operative South Taranaki District Plan (Updated 4th October 2022)</p>	<p><i>Policies</i></p> <p>2.10.19 Recognise the locational, operational and technical constraints associated with developing, operating and maintaining large-scale renewable electricity generation activities and their requirements to connect to distribution networks and the National Grid.</p> <p>2.11.5 Manage the location, scale and design of the development or upgrading of network utilities (including in relation to the National Grid), and consider the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection process.</p> <p>2.11.11 Manage any adverse effects of subdivision, land use and development of the National Grid including substations by ensuring that:</p> <p>(a) Areas are identified in the Plan to establish buffer distances for managing subdivision, development and land use near the National Grid;</p> <p>(b) Sensitive activities and large-scale structure are restricted from establishing within the National Grid Yards and are appropriately managed around substations;</p> <p>(c) Subdivision is managed within the National Grid Subdivision Corridor to avoid subsequent land use activities from restricting the operations, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid; and</p> <p>(d) Changes to existing activities within a National Grid Yard and around National Grid substations do not further restrict the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid.</p> <p>2.11.12 Promote the design of subdivisions and land use development or redevelopment in a manner that enables the efficient use of land within the identified National Grid Yard, National Grid Subdivision Corridor and around substations without introducing sensitive activities or structures that would inhibit the operation, access, maintenance or upgrade of the National Grid infrastructure.</p>
<p>Whangarei District Plan (operative 15 September 2022)</p>	<p>LAN.1.3 Policies</p> <p>13. To recognise and provide for major upgrades of existing and the development of new National Grid Electricity Infrastructure in an Outstanding Natural Landscape or on an Outstanding Natural Feature by managing adverse effects:</p> <p>On the qualities and characteristics of Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features.</p> <p>By:</p> <p>a. Ensuring route, site and method selection demonstrates that, to the extent practicable having regard to the functional, operational and technical needs of the National Grid, in order of preference:</p> <p>i. Infrastructure will be located:</p>

	<p>a) Outside of Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features, or if not then; b) Outside of any part of an Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features within the Coastal Area.</p> <p>ii. Infrastructure will be located in the more compromised parts of the areas in (i); iii. Techniques (such as structure selection) will be used to avoid adverse effects; iv. Adverse effects that cannot be avoided will be remedied or mitigated.</p> <p>While</p> <p>b. Recognising that:</p> <p>i. In some circumstances, adverse effects on the identified qualities and characteristics of Outstanding Natural Landscapes and Outstanding Natural Features will need to be avoided. ii. A minor or transitory effect may not be an adverse effect; iii. There may be more than minor cumulative effects from minor or transitory effects; and iv. Many areas contain ongoing use and development that was present when the area was identified as Outstanding or have subsequently been lawfully established</p>
<p>Operative Opotiki District Plan 2021</p>	<p><i>Policies</i></p> <p>17.2.2.4 New National Grid infrastructure (and major upgrades) within the Coastal Environment and outstanding natural landscapes and features, and areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna outside of the Coastal Environment should:</p> <p>(a) ensure that the route, site and method selection demonstrates that as far as practicable given the constraints imposed by the technical, locational or operational requirements of the network:</p> <p>(i) For areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna, outstanding natural character areas and outstanding natural landscapes and features, in order of preference:</p> <p>(A) Infrastructure will be located outside of the areas in (i); (B) Infrastructure will be located in more compromised parts of the areas in (i), where that reduces adverse effects on the values of the areas in (i); (C) Techniques (such as structure selection) will be used to avoid adverse effects on the areas in (i); (D) Adverse effects on the areas in (i) that cannot be avoided, will be remedied or mitigated; and</p> <p>(ii) For areas in the Coastal Environment referred to in policies 11(b), 13(1)(b) and 15(b) of the NZCPS, in order of preference:</p> <p>(A) Infrastructure will be located to avoid significant adverse effects on the areas in (ii); (B) Techniques (such as structure selection) will be used to avoid significant adverse effects on the areas in (ii); (C) Significant adverse effects on the areas in (ii) that cannot be avoided, will be remedied or mitigated; and</p> <p>(b) Avoid, remedy or mitigate other adverse effects; (c) Consider offsetting for residual adverse effects on indigenous biodiversity.</p> <p>while recognising that, in some circumstances, adverse effects on the values of the areas in (a)(i) and significant adverse effects on the values of the areas in (a)(ii), will need to be avoided.</p> <p><i>Explanation: Policy 17.2.2.4 is intended to provide a comprehensive regime for the management of National Grid activities in the Coastal Environment, and in Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, and areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna outside of the Coastal Environment.</i></p>
<p>Proposed Waikato District Plan – Decisions Version (January 2022)</p>	<p><i>Policies</i></p> <p>AINF-P18 Environmental effects.</p> <p>(1) Manage the environmental effects of the development or upgrades (other than minor upgrades) of the National Grid, by:</p> <p>(a) Recognising and providing for the national, regional and local benefits of sustainable, secure and efficient electricity transmission;</p>

	<p>(b) Considering the extent to which any adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection;</p> <p>(c) Seeking to reduce the existing adverse effects as part of any substantial upgrade;</p> <p>(d) Considering the effects on urban amenity (including town centres), areas of high recreational or amenity value and existing sensitive land uses;</p> <p>(e) Within urban environments, addressing the adverse effects on any heritage values, cultural values, town centres, areas of high recreation value and existing sensitive activities including the avoidance of adverse effects where practicable; and</p> <p>(f) <i>Within rural environments, seeking to avoid adverse effects on identified heritage values, cultural values, outstanding natural landscapes, outstanding natural features, significant natural areas, areas of outstanding or high natural character, areas of high recreation value and existing sensitive activities.</i></p>
<p>Dunedin Second Generation District Plan Appeals Version (November 2022)</p>	<p>Policy 5.2.X.2</p> <p>a. Provide for the development of, major upgrades to, and new National Grid infrastructure, and any ancillary activities including earthworks and vegetation clearance, while managing the adverse effects of these activities by all of the following:</p> <p>i. recognising there may be some areas in the coastal environment where avoidance of adverse effects is required to protect the identified special values of those areas;</p> <p>ii. <i>seeking to avoid adverse effects</i> on the values of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna (including but not limited to scheduled Areas of Significant Biodiversity Value); 2. outstanding natural features and outstanding natural landscape overlay zones; 3. outstanding natural coastal character overlay zones; and 4. scheduled heritage items and heritage precincts; <p>iii. where it is not practicable to avoid adverse effects on the values of the areas listed in ii. Above because of the functional needs and operational needs of the National Grid, remedy and mitigate adverse effects on those values;</p> <p>iv. avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects, including effects on the values of areas not covered in clause ii above; and</p> <p>v. consider offsetting for residual adverse effects on indigenous biological diversity.</p> <p>b. Where there is a conflict, this Policy prevails over other policies in Section 5, and all policies in Section 10 and Section 13.</p> <p>Policy 5.2.X.3</p> <p>In implementing Policy 5.2.X.2, have regard to:</p> <p>a. the extent to which adverse effects have been addressed through site, route or method selection; and</p> <p>b. for major upgrades, opportunities to reduce existing adverse effects.</p>
<p>Proposed Waitomo District Plan (October 2022)</p>	<p>Policy NU-P22.</p> <p>Provide for the development of the national grid:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In urban zoned areas, development should minimise adverse effects on urban amenity and should avoid material adverse effects on the commercial zone, areas of high recreational or amenity value and existing sensitive activities; and 2. <i>Seek to avoid the adverse effects</i> of the national grid within overlays, scheduled sites and features; and 3. Where the national grid has a functional need or operational need to locate within the coastal environment, manage adverse effects by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) <i>Seeking to avoid adverse effects</i> on areas identified in SCHED6 - significant natural areas, SCHED7 – outstanding natural landscapes, SCHED8 - outstanding natural features, and SCHED10 – areas of outstanding natural character; and (ii) Where it is not practicable to avoid adverse effects on the values of the areas identified in SCHED6 – significant natural areas, SCHED7 - outstanding natural landscapes, SCHED8 - outstanding natural features, and SCHED10 – areas of outstanding natural character because of the functional needs or operational needs of the national grid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on those values; and

	<p><i>(iii) Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. SCHED11 – areas of high/very high natural character, SCHED9 – landscapes of high amenity value and SCHED12 – karst overlay; and</i> <i>ii. SCHED1 - heritage buildings and structures, SCHED2 - significant archaeological sites, SCHED3 and SCHED 4 - sites of significance to Māori; and</i> <i>iii. indigenous biodiversity values that meet the criteria in Policy 11(b) of the NZCPS 2010; and</i> <i>iv. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating other adverse effects to the extent practicable; and</i> <p><i>4. When considering the adverse effects in respect of NU-P22.1 - NU-P22.3 above;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(i) Have regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection and techniques and measures proposed; and</i> <i>(ii) Consider the constraints arising from the operational needs and or functional needs of the national grid, when considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects.</i> <p><i>5. Other than policies relating to the coastal environment, in the event of any conflict with any other policies within the plan, NUP20, NU-P21 and NU-P22 take precedence.</i></p>
<p>Proposed West Coast District Plan (2022)</p>	<p><i>ENG - P7</i></p> <p><i>Recognise and provide for the national, regional and local benefits of the National Grid, including by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. Enabling the operation, maintenance and minor upgrading requirements of existing National Grid assets;</i> <i>b. Providing for other upgrades and the effective development of new National Grid assets; and</i> <i>c. When considering measures to avoid, remedy and mitigate adverse effects of National Grid activities, have regard to:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. The technical and operational constraints of the National Grid; and</i> <i>ii. The extent to which proposals have avoided, remedied and mitigated effects through the route, site and method selection.</i> <p><i>ENG - P8</i></p> <p><i>Manage the adverse effects of the National Grid by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a. Where appropriate, using substantial upgrades as an opportunity to reduce existing adverse effects</i> <i>b. Seeking to avoid adverse effects on areas identified in Schedules;</i> <i>c. Where the National Grid has a functional or operational need to locate within the Coastal Environment, manage adverse effects by:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. Seeking to avoid adverse effects on Overlay Chapter areas and where it is not practicable to avoid, to remedy or mitigate;</i> <i>ii. Seeking to avoid significant adverse effects on other areas of natural character, natural attributes and character of natural features and landscapes and indigenous biodiversity values that meet the criteria in Policy 11(b) of the NZCPS 2010; and</i> <i>d. Recognise that there may be some areas within the sites and areas identified in Schedules where avoidance of adverse effects is required to protect the identified values and characteristics.</i>
<p>Proposed Porirua District Plan (2020)</p>	<p><i>INF-P6</i></p> <p><i>Upgrading of the National Grid</i></p> <p><i>Provide for the upgrading of the National Grid that is not permitted by the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities, while:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Having regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated;</i> <i>2. Recognising the constraints arising from the operational needs and functional needs of the National Grid, when considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects;</i> <i>3. Applying the mitigation hierarchy in ECO-P2 and assessing the matters in ECO-P4, ECO-P11 and ECO-P12 when considering any upgrade within an area identified</i>

in SCHED7 - Significant Natural Areas;

4. *Recognising the potential benefits of upgrades to existing transmission lines to people and communities;*
5. *In urban areas, minimising adverse effects on urban amenity and avoiding adverse effects on the City Centre Zone, Open Space and Recreation Zones and existing sensitive activities;*
6. *Seeking to avoid adverse effects on areas identified in SCHED9 - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes, SCHED11 - Coastal High Natural Character Areas, SCHED7 - Significant Natural Areas, SCHED10 - Special Amenity Landscapes and Open Space and Recreation Zones; and*
7. *Considering opportunities to reduce existing adverse effects of the National Grid as part of any substantial upgrade.*

INF-P7

Development of the National Grid

Provide for the development of the National Grid, while:

1. *In urban areas, minimising adverse effects on urban amenity and avoiding adverse effects on the City Centre Zone, Open Space and Recreation Zones and existing sensitive activities;*
2. *Seeking to avoid the adverse effects of the National Grid within areas identified in SCHED9 - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes outside of the Coastal Environment, SCHED10 - Special Amenity Landscapes and Open Space and Recreation Zones;*
3. *Avoiding the adverse effects of the National Grid within areas identified in SCHED9 - Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes in the Coastal Environment;*
4. *Applying the mitigation hierarchy in ECO-P2 and assessing the matters in ECO-P4, ECO-P11 and ECO-P12 when considering the effects of the National Grid in an area identified in SCHED7 - Significant Natural Areas; and*
5. *When considering the adverse effects in respect of 1-4 above;*
 - a. *Having regard to the extent to which adverse effects have been avoided, remedied or mitigated by the route, site and method selection and techniques and measures proposed; and*
 - b. *Considering the constraints arising from the operational needs and functional needs of the National Grid, when considering measures to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects.*