

## Before the Proposed Porirua District Plan Hearings Panel In Porirua

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Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (the Act)

In the matter of the Proposed Porirua District Plan – Hearing Stream 4:  
Strategic Directions, Energy, Infrastructure and Transport,  
General District-Wide Matters

Between **Porirua City Council**  
Local authority

And **Transpower New Zealand Limited**  
Submitter 60 and Further Submitter FS04

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### Summary Statement of Rebecca Mary Eng for Transpower New Zealand Limited

Dated 14 February 2022

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## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 If agreeable to the panel, I will speak to my summary and happy to respond to questions at any stage. I note that there were no matters raised in the evidence of other submitters or in legal submissions that require additional comment or elaboration on my original brief.
- 1.2 My full name is Rebecca Eng. I have the qualifications and experience set out in my statement of evidence on Hearing 4. I am Technical Lead - Policy, employed by Transpower NZ Ltd.

## **2 Summary**

- 2.1 This summary sets out an overview of my primary evidence (dated 21 January 2022).
- 2.2 Under the RMA, the majority of Transpower's existing transmission lines are regulated by the National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission Activities 2009, which I refer to here as NESETA. The NESETA does not include any provisions that regulate subdivision, land use and development near the National Grid. Nor does it authorise the establishment of new transmission lines.
- 2.3 The National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission recognises that these activities have the potential to compromise the National Grid and it establishes a policy framework for regulating the activities of third parties within a buffer corridor. Transpower relies on local authorities (primarily District Councils in consultation with Transpower) to give effect to this policy framework within their district plans.
- 2.4 Within the Proposed Porirua District Plan, Transpower supports a buffer corridor framework in the form of the National Grid Yard and National Grid Subdivision Corridor. The approach it supports in submissions for Porirua is generally consistent with that adopted in other jurisdictions for the last decade, including in operative district plans within the Wellington Region.
- 2.5 Transpower has developed a systematic process known as "ACRE" for developing and upgrading the transmission network. The progressive filtering approach enshrined within the ACRE methodology ensures that Transpower explores all practicable options for avoiding or reducing the effects of new transmission assets.

**3 In conclusion**

- 3.1 In my opinion, the policy and rule framework, as proposed in the PPDP and recommended to be refined through the Transpower submission and the evidence of Ms Whitney, gives effect to the NPSET.

**Rebecca Eng**

**14 February 2022**