

**Transpower notes for legal submissions – Waimakariri Proposed District Plan: Hearing Stream 5
22 August 2023**

1. Transpower is the owner and operator of the National Grid which ensures the reliable delivery of electricity from where it is generated to the rest of the country. Within the Waimakariri District Transpower's assets include 66, 220 and 350 kv lines as well as 3 substations.
2. Third party development and activities near the National Grid can compromise its efficient operation, maintenance, upgrading and development and give rise to reverse sensitivity effects. Transpower's ability to operate and maintain its existing assets must not be constrained by the adverse impacts of third party activities and development. Similarly, opportunities for upgrade or development of the National Grid must not be compromised by incompatible development.
3. Transpower acknowledges the high degree of support for its submission by the relevant section 42A reporting officers. It appreciates the pragmatic approach the officers have taken in considering Transpower's relief sought.
4. As set out in my legal submissions, in making its decision on the PDP, the Panel is required to "give effect to" any relevant national policy statement. The National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission acknowledges the importance of the National Grid, and recognises the need to protect and enable its development, and Transpower submits that significant weight should be placed on the NPSET.
5. The NPSET, through policies 10 and 11, requires local authorities to manage adverse effects and risk resulting from third party activities. The intent of these policies is to both protect the National Grid from adverse effects caused by development near high-voltage transmission lines and to manage the risk of injury or electrical hazard as a result of such development. In particular:
 - (a) Policy 10 requires local authorities to manage activities to avoid both reverse sensitivity effects and direct effects on the National Grid, to the extent reasonably possible.
 - (b) Policy 11 also requires local authorities to consult with Transpower to identify a buffer corridor where sensitivity activities will generally not be provided for or given consent. In my submission this policy is not qualified as it restricts sensitive activities from establishing under lines, regardless of whether or not they impact on the National Grid.
6. In relation to the PDP, at a high level, Transpower has sought the inclusion of an appropriate National Grid Yard and National Grid Corridor, and associated provisions to manage third party activities that may impact on the National Grid. This approach, which is supported by the reporting officers, in my submission meets the requirements of policies 10 and 11.

North and south views of tower 89 on the Islington to Southbrook A 66kV transmission line from Bradleys Road, Ohoka (double circuit on towers)

(within the area subject to Proposed Plan Change 31 to the Operative District Plan, along with rezoning requests in submissions on the Proposed District Plan and Variation 1)



North and south views of tower 68 on the Islington to Kikiwa B 220kV transmission line from Lehmans Road, Fernside (double circuit on towers)

(within an area subject to rezoning requests in submissions on the Proposed District Plan and Variation 1)



East and north east views of the Islington to Kikiwa B 220kV transmission line and the Islington to Kikiwa A 220kV transmission line from Lehmans Road, Fernside (towards the Rangiora Racecourse and Ashley River crossing)



