



**TRANSPOWER**

*Keeping the energy flowing*

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Queenstown Lakes District Plan Stage 3 Hearing Panel  
c/- Queenstown Lakes District Council  
Private Bag 50072  
Queenstown

24 June 2020

Attention: Katherine Robertson, Hearing Administrator ([dphearings@qldc.govt.nz](mailto:dphearings@qldc.govt.nz))

Dear Commissioners,

### **Stage 3 of the Queenstown Lakes Proposed District Plan Stage 3 – Streams 17 and 18**

Transpower New Zealand Limited (“Transpower”) writes in relation to its further submission on a submission made by Aurora Energy Limited (“Aurora”) on Stage 3 of the Queenstown Lakes Proposed District Plan (“Proposed District Plan”) that is to be considered by the Queenstown Lakes District Plan Stage 3 Hearing Panel (“Hearing Panel”) as part of Streams 17 and 18. In lieu of appearing at the hearing, Transpower seeks that this letter be tabled.

Aurora’s submission seeks the inclusion of the following advice note in the Three Parks Commercial Zone (2.3-19A.3 Other Provisions and Rules); General Industrial Zone (2.3-18A.3 Other Provisions and Rules) and Settlement Zone (2.3-20.3 Other Provisions and Rules) provisions (submission references OS3153.4, OS3153.15, OS3153.20):

“New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (“NZECP34:2001”)

Compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (“NZECP34:2001”) is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities, such as buildings, earthworks and conductive fences regulated by NZECP34: 2001, including any activities that are otherwise permitted by the District Plan must comply with this legislation.

To assist plan users in complying with NZECP 34(2001), the major distribution components of the Aurora network (the Electricity sub-transmission infrastructure and Significant electricity distribution infrastructure) are shown on the Planning Maps.

For the balance of Aurora’s network plan users are advised to consult with Aurora’s network maps at [www.auroraenergy.co.nz](http://www.auroraenergy.co.nz) or contact Aurora for advice.”

Transpower’s further submission does not support the wording of the advice note on the basis the advice note has the potential to confuse plan users. This is because the advice note explicitly identifies Aurora’s network but does not make the same or similar reference to the National Grid, to which NZECP34:2001 equally applies. Transpower considers that this may result in plan users concluding that NZECP34:2001 does not apply to the National Grid or seeking advice from Aurora in respect of Transpower assets.

The Section 42A Reports in respect of the General Industrial Zone (Chapter 18A Section 42A Report, page 61) and Three Parks Commercial Zone (Chapter 19A Section 42A Report, Page



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10) recommend that Aurora's submission be accepted in part and the following advice note be included in the provisions at 18A.3.2 and 19A.3.2 respectively:

*"Compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances ("NZECP34:2001") is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities, such as buildings, earthworks and conductive fences regulated by NZECP34: 2001, including any activities that are otherwise permitted by the District Plan must comply with this legislation. Chapter 30 (Energy and Utilities) part 30.3.2.c has additional information in relation to activities and obligations under NZECP43:2001."*

Transpower supports the inclusion of this advice note and considers that the wording proposed addresses the concerns raised in its further submission.

In respect of the Settlement Zone, the Section 42A Report (at page 23) recommends that Aurora's submission is accepted and includes the advice note as proposed by Aurora (and specific to Aurora) in the revised provisions. Transpower continues to oppose the wording of this advice note.

In response to the Section 42A Reports, Transpower's consultant planner (Ms Ainsley McLeod) has discussed the different wording of the NZECP34 advice notes between chapters of the Proposed District Plan with Ms Amy Bowbyes (as Section 42A Report author in respect of the Settlement Zone provisions). Ms McLeod confirmed Transpower's support for the advice note wording in 18A.3.2 and 19A.3.2 and suggested that, for consistency, the same generic wording be included in Chapter 20 (20.3.3.2). It is understood that Ms Bowbyes agrees that a consistent, more generic, advice note is appropriate in Chapter 20. It is on this basis that Transpower does not wish to be heard.

Transpower is available to respond to any questions, or provide further explanation, should this be required.

Yours sincerely,

Daniel Hamilton  
Environmental Regulatory Team Leader  
**Transpower New Zealand Limited**