

**BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENT COURT  
CHRISTCHURCH REGISTRY**

ENV-2018-CHC-56

**IN THE MATTER** of an appeal under to the  
Environment Court against  
decisions on the proposed  
Queenstown Lakes District Council  
District Plan (stage 1)

**BETWEEN** **UPPER CLUTHA  
ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY**

**Appellant**

**AND** **QUEENSTOWN LAKES  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Respondent**

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**SECTION 274 NOTICE: AURORA ENERGY LIMITED**

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**GALLAWAY COOK ALLAN  
LAWYERS  
DUNEDIN**

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To: The Registrar  
Environment Court  
Christchurch

1. Aurora Energy Limited (“Aurora”) wishes to be a party to the following proceedings:
  - (a) *Upper Clutha Environmental Society v Queenstown Lakes District Council* [ENV-2018-CHC-56]
2. Aurora made a submission and a further submission about the subject matter of the proceeding (original submission 635 and further submission 1121) and has an interest in the proceedings greater than the public generally. Aurora owns and operates the electricity distribution network within Queenstown Lakes District.
3. Aurora is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
4. Aurora is interested in the whole of the appeal which is the subject of this proceeding.
5. Aurora opposes the relief sought because:
  - (a) Aurora owns and operates an Electricity Distribution Network within Queenstown Lakes District, parts of which are identified as regionally significant within the Proposed Regional Policy Statement. The network spans significant distances to provide electricity to remote communities and customers.
  - (b) The relief sought by the Appellant would result in inappropriate constraints on the ability for Aurora to maintain, operate and upgrade its network;
  - (c) The relief would not give effect to the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement which recognises and protects Aurora’s

Electricity Sub-transmission Infrastructure and Significant Electricity Distribution Infrastructure.

- (d) It is inappropriate to rollover many of the objectives, policies and assessment matters in the Operative District Plan because the Proposed District Plan Stage 1 was formed after a significant consultation and review process.
  - (e) Aurora has an interest in the activities of third parties on electricity lines and structures being managed to the extent that it gives effect to the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances. The proposed relief does not address this issue.
6. Aurora agrees to participate in mediation or alternative dispute resolution.



**B Irving**

Counsel for the Applicant  
9 July 2018

Cc Upper Clutha Environmental Society; Julian Haworth

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Cc: Queenstown Lakes District Council

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