

SUBMISSION ON PROPOSED NATIONAL POLICY STATEMENT ON ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION

To: The Chairperson of the
Board of Inquiry
National Policy Statement of Electricity Transmission
Ministry for the Environment
P.O.Box 8270
Auckland
Tower Centre
Level 6
45 Queen St

1.Name of Submitter

The Onehunga Enhancement Society

2. Provisions of the Proposed National Policy that this submission relates to:

All provisions of the proposed national policy statement on electricity transmission

3.This submission opposes the Proposed National Policy Statement.

4.Reasons for opposing the Proposed National Policy Statement.

- (i) The Proposed National Policy Statement is inconsistent with the stated purposes of the Resource Management Act, as outlined in Section 5 of the Resource Management Act.
- (ii) The Proposed National Policy Statement is inconsistent with and overrides the meaning of “sustainable management” as outline by sub section (2) of Section 5 of the Resource Management Act, in particular but not restricted to the reference to enable “ people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety.”
- (iii) The Proposed National Policy Statement overrides and is in conflict with Section 5 (2) (c) of the Resource Management Act, where the stated purpose of the Act is to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effect of an activity on the environment

- (iv) The Proposed National Policy Statement definition of “ environment” is inconsistent with the definition of environment, as contained in Section 2 of the Resource Management Act. There is no reference in the Resource Management Act to local, regional or national environmental effects as discussed in the “ preamble” of the National Policy Statement.
- (v) The Proposed National Policy Statement is inconsistent with Section 45 of the Resource Management Act which states that the “ purpose of a Policy Statement are introduced to achieve the purposed of the Act”. There is no mention in the Proposed National Policy Statement, which makes specific reference to Section 5 of the Resource Management Act.
- (vi) Transmission Lines are not identified in Section 6 of the Resource Management Act, as a “ matter of national importance”. If the proposed objective is adopted it will require an amendment to the Resource Management Act, to include electricity transmission network as a matter of national importance (significance).
- (vii) That the proposed National Policy Statements breach the legal principle of natural justice, as Section 55 (2A) (b) of the Resource Management Act will require all local Authorities to include in their respective District Plans any specific provisions that the Ministry in charge of the National Policy Statement directs. Such provisions can be introduced without public notification. This also removes any individual property right or claim for compensation.
- (viii) That the Proposed National Policy Statement should include reference to the accepted International principle of “ prudent avoidance “ for any work, activity, upgrade, maintenance, installation associated with a Transmission line or new line Transmission Lines, in order to satisfy Section 5 of the Resource Management Act, relating to health and safety.
- (ix) The “explanatory note” attached to the proposed National Policy Statement is completely unacceptable because the current wording of the policy statement does override the responsibilities of local authorities and the provisions of the Resource Management Act

5. Changes and Amendments to the Proposed National Policy Statement

There is a need for the purpose and intent of the policy statement to be made clear and in effect the objective of the proposed policy statement is not as stated. The real reason for the introduction of the proposed policy statement is as outlined under proposed policy one.

The entire policy statement should either be completely rewritten to reflect its true reason for being introduced or rejected.

6. I do wish to be heard in support of my submission.

Signed:  James W Jackson Chairman

Date: 25-06-07

Signed:  Peter Gibson Vice Chairman

Date: 25/6/07

Signed:  Colin Tunncliffe Secretary

Date: 25 June 2007

7. Contact details

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