

In the Environment Court of New Zealand  
at Christchurch

I mua i te Kōti Taiao o Aotearoa  
I te rohe o Ōtautahi

ENV-2025-CHC-000117

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*under:* the Resource Management Act 1991

*in the matter of:* an appeal pursuant to clause 14(1) of the First Schedule  
to the Resource Management Act 1991

*between:* **The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of  
New Zealand Incorporated**  
*Appellant*

*and:* **Buller District Council**  
*Respondent*

*and:* **Grey District Council**  
*Respondent*

*and:* **Westland District Council**  
*Respondent*

Notice of Transpower New Zealand Limited's wish to be party to  
proceedings

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Dated: 2 February 2026

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**NOTICE OF TRANSPOWER NEW ZEALAND LIMITED'S WISH TO BE PARTY TO PROCEEDINGS**

*Section 274, Resource Management Act 1991*

**To** The Registrar  
Environment Court  
Christchurch

- 1 Transpower New Zealand Limited (*Transpower*) wishes to be a party to appeal ENV-2025-CHC-000117 (*Appeal*) by the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (*Forest and Bird*) against parts of a decision of the Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils (*Councils*) on Te Tai o Poutini Plan, being the proposed combined District Plan for the West Coast, covering Buller, Grey and Westland districts (*Proposed Plan*) (*Decision*).
- 2 Transpower made a submission (number 299) and further submission (number 110) about the subject matter of these proceedings.
- 3 Transpower is also a person who has an interest in the proceedings that is greater than the public generally, in that it is the State-Owned Enterprise that plans, builds, maintains, owns and operates New Zealand's electricity transmission network – the National Grid. The national significance of the electricity network must be recognised, protected and provided for under the National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks 2008 (*NPSEN*).
- 4 Transpower is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 5 Transpower is interested in all parts of the Appeal that seek changes that are inconsistent with the relief sought in Transpower's Appeal or that will affect Transpower's ability to operate, maintain, develop and upgrade the electricity transmission network, including relief in relation to:
  - 5.1 Part 2 – ENG – Energy;
  - 5.2 Part 2 – ECO - Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity;
  - 5.3 Part 2 - NFL Natural Features and Landscapes; and
  - 5.4 Part 2 - NC Natural Character and Margins of Waterbodies.
- 6 More specifically Transpower opposes relief sought in relation to:

- 6.1 ENG-O3;
- 6.2 ENG-P1;
- 6.3 ENG-P2;
- 6.4 ENG-P4;
- 6.5 ENG-P5;
- 6.6 ENG-P7;
- 6.7 ENG-P8;
- 6.8 ENG-R7;
- 6.9 ENG-R12;
- 6.10 ECO-P3;
- 6.11 ECO-P8;
- 6.12 ECO-P10;
- 6.13 ECO-P11;
- 6.14 ECO Rules – General;
- 6.15 NFL Rules – General;
- 6.16 NC-O3;
- 6.17 NC-P2;
- 6.18 NC-P3; and
- 6.19 NC-R2.

7 Transpower opposes the relief to the extent it is not consistent with Transpower’s interests, or the relief sought in Transpower’s appeal and:

- 7.1 Does not give effect to the NPSEN, the Objective of the NPSEN which requires the national significance of the electricity network is recognised, protected and provided for, and the accompanying policies.
- 7.2 Does not give effect to the West Coast Regional Policy Statement. Specifically, Chapter 6 (Policies 2 and 7) and Chapter 9 (Policy 2) which among other directions, require the Proposed Plan to provide for the development, operation, maintenance and upgrading of National Grid infrastructure.

- 7.3 Does not promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources.
  - 7.4 Does not promote the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources, particularly the National Grid.
  - 7.5 Does not meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations.
  - 7.6 Does not result in the most appropriate provisions in terms of section 32 of the RMA.
- 8 Transpower agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.

**Signed** for and on behalf of Transpower New Zealand Limited by its solicitors and authorised agents Chapman Tripp



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Luke Hinchey  
Partner  
2 February 2026

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