

IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT

ENV-2018-CHC-108

IN THE MATTER

of an appeal under clause 14(1) of
the First Schedule of the Resource
Management Act 1991

AND IN THE MATTER OF

the Proposed Queenstown Lakes
District Plan Stage 1

BETWEEN

AURORA ENERGY LIMITED

Appellant

AND

**QUEENSTOWN LAKES
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Respondent

**NOTICE PURSUANT TO SECTION 274
OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991**

To: The Registrar
Environment Court
Christchurch

TAKE NOTICE that Federated Farmers of New Zealand (Inc) gives notice pursuant to s274 of the Resource Management Act 1991 that it wishes to appear as a party to the above proceedings.

This Notice is made upon the following grounds:

1. Federated Farmers of New Zealand (Inc) lodged a submission and Further submission to the Proposed District Plan to which this appeal relates and/or has an interest in these proceedings that is greater than the public generally.
2. Federated Farmers of New Zealand (Inc) is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308D of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Extent of interest

3. Federated Farmers has an interest in all aspects of the proceedings. The following reasons are key concerns raised by the Otago membership:
 - a. Federated Farmers is a representative of farmers, many with electricity transmission assets situated on their land;
 - b. The location, maintenance, development and (particularly) upgrading of electricity transmission assets can significantly impact a farming operation, where these assets are located on that farming operation;
 - c. Farms are often geographically isolated, meaning the capacity and reliability of local transmission lines are of importance;
 - d. Federated Farmers considers the weighting between the efficient and effective operation of electricity networks, and the potential impacts of this on adjoining land, landowners and alternative land uses was considered in the formulation of the National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission (NPSET);
 - e. In the NPSET, clear delineation was made between the National Grid as a matter of national significance, and other electricity transmission infrastructure not deemed similarly significant;
 - f. While there is provision for 'minor upgrading' in the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement (which the Proposed District Plan must 'give effect to', this provision is not specific, and must be balanced against the impacts of any such upgrade on adjoining landowners within the District;
 - g. In particular, the Proposed District Plan is not the only, and often not the most efficient mechanism, for providing for effective interaction between Aurora Energy as owner and operator of local transmission and the landowners impacted by any maintenance or upgrade;
 - h. In our submissions and further submissions Federated Farmers consistently expressed concern that the PRPS should not go beyond what is required by the NPSET, and not unnecessarily hinder other land use (or the rights of other land users or landowners);
 - i. The majority of the appellant's appeal points relate to these concerns.
4. Federated Farmers of New Zealand (Inc) agrees to attend mediation and/or dispute resolution in regard to these proceedings.

Dated the 10th day of July 2018.



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