

National policy statements and national environmental standards assessment of the project

NPS / NES	Assessment
National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management & National Environmental Standard For Freshwater	A river estuary, dune lakes and wetlands with threatened habitat and fauna is adjacent to the project area. While most of the high value habitat lies outside of the site boundary and is actively avoided, some of the habitat extends into the site. The project works to date have been designed to avoid adverse effects on the freshwater environment and on wetlands.
National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land	A small part of the project which may have solar panels installed is on land classified as Highly Productive (Class 2 soils). The site under solar will be grazed with sheep to maintain the production value of the site and to manage grass fire risk.
National Policy Statement For Indigenous Biodiversity	The Project will limit removal of indigenous biodiversity where possible, and if necessary, compensate with additional planting and habitat restoration on site to result in no net loss of significant indigenous biodiversity habitat.
National Policy Statement For Renewable Electricity Generation	Meridian's core business is the generation, marketing, trading and retailing of electricity and the management of associated assets and ancillary structures in New Zealand. In addition to being New Zealand's largest generator of electricity, Meridian is the country's largest generator of renewable electricity and is wholly committed to generating electricity from 100% renewable sources. This project will make a significant contribution to increasing renewable electricity production which is consistent with the NPSREG objective and associated policies.
National Policy Statement On Electricity Transmission & National Environmental Standard For Electricity Transmission Activities	The project will connect to the existing Transpower operated transmission grid. This will involve the construction of a terminal substation, transmission lines and support structures. The transmission connection will be designed to effectively manage the adverse environmental effects of the grid connection and the transmission corridor.
National Environmental Standard For Assessing And Managing Contaminants And Soil To Protect Human Health	The current land use of the site is mixed including dairy farming, sheep and beef, quarrying, and forestry. There is no evidence of contamination on site. A Site Investigation will be undertaken to determine this and to design suitable responses, if required.
New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement	The project will be sited outside of the Coastal Environment, therefore the NZCPS provisions will not apply.