

Jacob Paget

From: Jess Hollis
Sent: Monday, 12 June 2023 4:06 pm
To: Fast Track Consenting
Cc: Dhilum Nightingale
Subject: [COMMERCIAL]Fwd: Southland Wind Farm - requiring authority for transmission infrastructure [BUD-LIVE.FID1224836]
Attachments: Southland Wind Farm - requiring authority for transmission infrastructure

Hi Jake

For filing please, including the attached email.

Dhilum - FYI only.

Regards
Jess Hollis

From: Brigid Buckley s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 4:02 PM
To: Jess Hollis s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Matthew Cleland s 9(2)(a); Steve Harding s 9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: Southland Wind Farm - requiring authority for transmission infrastructure [BUD-LIVE.FID1224836]

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This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

Kia ora Jess,

Thank you for the call today.

s 9(2)(a)

Ngā mihi,
Brigid Buckley
Resource Management – Senior Specialist
Corporate Affairs
s 9(2)(a)



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From: David Randal s 9(2)(a)
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Brigid Buckley s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Thaddeus Ryan s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Southland Wind Farm - requiring authority for transmission infrastructure [BUD-LIVE.FID1224836]

Kia ora Brigid,

I understand that Ministry for the Environment officials have queried the approach of Contact Energy being identified, in the fast-track referral application for the Southland Wind Farm, as the requiring authority in respect of transmission-related infrastructure that may ultimately be owned by Transpower.

In my experience, it is standard practice for the relevant generation company to seek the requisite RMA permissions for new electricity generation infrastructure to be built. In parallel, the generator goes through various processes involving Transpower to confirm ultimate ownership of transmission assets and the connection of the new generation to the national grid.

As I say, this is very much standard practice for projects like this, and I am unaware of any generation consenting process where Transpower has been the co-applicant for RMA permissions.

I understand that the recently-referred Tauhei Solar Farm project isn't being promoted on that basis – rather, the referral order requires that applicant to update the Expert Consenting Panel on the progress of discussions with Transpower (see clause 6 here: [COVID-19 Recovery \(Fast-track Consenting\) Referred Projects Order 2020 \(LI 2020/255\) \(as at 09 June 2023\) Schedule 42 Tauhei Solar Farm – New Zealand Legislation](#)).

Further, my assumption would be that Transpower, if asked, would likely decline to be a co-applicant for RMA permissions, and instead would require the generator to obtain those permissions for the project as a whole. That is because, legally speaking, it is unnecessary for Transpower to take on the role of co-applicant, because RMA permissions can readily be transferred to Transpower at the right time.

In the case of the Southland Wind Farm, the relevant RMA permissions will take the form of designations obtained by Contact over the land to be used for transmission infrastructure. Section 180 of the RMA makes it straightforward for responsibility over the designation to be transferred "*where the financial responsibility for a project or work or network utility operation is transferred from one requiring authority to another*".

I hope this assists.

Ngā mihi
Dave

**BUDDLE
FINDLAY**

Dave Randal (he • him) ⓘ
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s 9(2)(a)
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