

Waitomo District Council

Hearing on submissions on the Proposed Waitomo District Plan

Report and Decisions of the Independent Hearing Commissioners

Decision Report:

Chapter 18. National Electricity and Gas
Transmission

19 June 2025

Commissioners

Greg Hill (Chair)

Wikitōria Tāne

Allan Goddard

Phil Brodie

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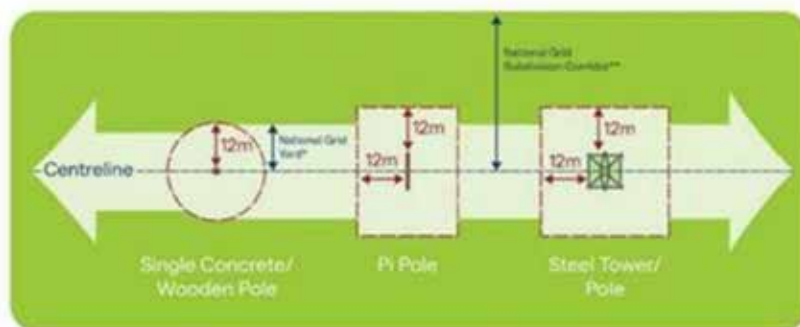
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1 Introduction

1. This Decision Report relates to all the submissions received by the Waitomo District Council (Council) on Chapter 18 National Electricity and Gas Transmission (NEGT).
2. The National Grid and gas transmission network perform a critical function and are **integral to the effective and efficient operation of New Zealand's economy as well** as making a vital contribution to community health and safety.
3. The National Grid is owned by Transpower NZ Ltd and traverses a north-south alignment located in the eastern parts of the District. The gas transmission network traverses an east-west alignment through the centre of the District.
4. The NEGТ applies to activities and structures within the National Grid Yard which is defined in the PDP as follows:

national grid yard

means the area located 12 metres in any direction from the outer edge of a **national grid support structure** (including where towers are replaced with tubular steel monopoles), and the area located 12 metres either side of the centreline of any overhead **national grid** line. The national grid yard does not apply to underground cables or any transmission lines (or sections of line) that are designated.



- * National Grid Yard: 10m for single concrete/wooden pole lines, 12m for all other line types
- ** National Grid Subdivision Corridor: 14m, 32m, 37m or 39m depending on line voltage

Measurement of the **setback** distances from **national grid** transmission lines must be undertaken from the centre line of the **national grid** transmission line and the outer edge of any support **structure**. The centre line at any point is a straight line between the centre points of the two support **structures** at each end of the span.

5. The chapter also addresses activities in close proximity to the gas transmission pipelines, although the distance from the gas transmission lines is established in the rules rather than by way of a definition.
6. The NEGТ chapter does not manage all activities associated with and in close proximity to the National Grid or the gas transmission line. Activities undertaken by Transpower NZ Limited and First Gas Limited as the network operators are addressed in the network utilities chapter. Subdivision in close proximity to the National Grid is managed in the Subdivision chapter, and relies on the National Yard Corridor to manage the spatial extent of those rules. Similarly, subdivision in close proximity to the gas transmission line also is managed in the Subdivision chapter.

2 Hearing arrangements

7. The hearing was held in person and online on 27 November **2024 in Council's** offices at 15 Queen Street, Te Kuiti. All of the relevant information pertaining to this hearing (i.e., section 42A reports, legal submissions and evidence) is **contained on Council's website**.
8. The following parties submitted on this chapter.

Submission No	Submitter
02	New Zealand Helicopter Association
27	Horticulture New Zealand
31	Transpower New Zealand Ltd
39	First Gas
46	Federated Farmers of New Zealand
47	Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand
FS05	Federated Farmers of New Zealand
FS13	New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association
FS23	Te Nehenehenui

9. Evidence was filed by Rebecca Eng (corporate) and Pauline Whitney (planning) on behalf of Transpower New Zealand Limited (Transpower), but they did not attend the hearing as the matters in contention had been resolved by the time of the hearing.

3 Submitter evidence

10. Ms Whitney's **evidence** supported or accepted the majority of the recommendations in the s42A report for the following provisions:
- Definition for National Grid Yard: supports the recommendation in the s42A report to retain this definition.
 - Definition for Transmission sensitive activity(ies): supports the recommendation of the s42A report, but noted that '**Tourism facilities**' was erroneously struckthrough in the s42A report when it should have been retained as sought in the Transpower submission.
11. Ms Wratt clarified that "**tourism facilities**" was deleted in error from the definition of "**sensitive activity(ies)**" when these should have been retained due to the potential for large numbers of people to congregate.¹ Ms Wratt recommended these errors be corrected.² Consequently Transpower considered that all its issues

¹ s42A Supplementary evidence in response to expert evidence filed by submitters, Carolyn Wratt, 18 November 2024, paragraph 55.

² s42A Supplementary evidence in response to expert evidence filed by submitters, Carolyn Wratt, 18 November 2024, paragraph 56-57.

associated with the NEGТ chapter and its attendant definitions had been resolved and therefore did not attend the hearing.

4 Panel decision

12. The Panel agrees **with Ms Wratt's recommendations** for the following provisions relating to the National Grid:³
 - a. Retain the definition for National Grid Yard; and
 - b. Amend the definition for Transmission sensitive activity(ies).
13. For all other matters concerned with the NEGТ provisions not otherwise covered above, the Panel has adopted the recommendations in the Section 42A Report and the further amendments recommended in the Section 42A Addendum Report on this chapter (which are discussed above).

5 Conclusion

14. The Panel accepts the recommendations in the section 42A report. The reasons for this are those set out in the section 42A reports, the evidence, and provided in this Decision; collectively forming the section 32AA assessment informing this Decision.
15. Overall, the Panel is satisfied that the provisions of the NEGТ chapter, as amended, will provide a suitable framework for managing activities in close proximity to the National Grid and gas transmission lines. The Panel considers these will be effect at preserving the safety and integrity of these vital networks and minimise the potential for reverse sensitivity effects.
16. The Panel accepts, accepts in part, or rejects the submissions as set out in the section 42A reports.

For the Hearing Panel



Greg Hill, Chair

Dated: 19 June 2025

³ s42A Supplementary evidence in response to expert evidence filed by submitters, Carolyn Wratt, 18 November 2024, Appendix 1.

1. Appendix 1 – Submission Table

NATIONAL ENERGY AND GAS TRANSMISSION

Submission no	Submitter	Support / in part / oppose	Plan section	Plan provision	Relief sought	Accept/Accept in part/Reject
02.13	NZHA	Support	18. National energy and gas transmission	NEGT-P2	Retain the policy as notified.	Accept in part
FS13.13	New Zealand Agricultural Aviation Association	Support			Retain the policy as sought	Accept in part
27.09	Hort NZ	Oppose with amendment	9. Definitions	National grid yard	<p>Amend the definition of 'National grid yard' to read:</p> <p><u>The area located within:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>12m in any direction from the visible outer edge of a National Grid tower; or</u> • <u>10m in any direction from a National Grid single pole or pi-pole; or</u> <p><u>The area located within 10m either side of the centreline of any overhead 110kV National Grid line on single or pi-pole; or</u></p> <p><u>The area located within 12m either side of the centre line of any overhead National Grid line on towers.</u></p>	Reject
27.16	Hort NZ	Support	9. Definitions	Transmission sensitive activities	Retain as notified.	Accept in part
27.28	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National energy and gas transmission	NEGT-O1	<p>Amend NEG-T-O1 as follows:</p> <p>The national significant and benefits of the national grid are recognised and</p>	Accept in part

					provided for and the national grid is protected from other activities <u>and other</u> <u>activities are managed to ensure that the</u> <u>national grid is not compromised.</u>	
27.29	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-O2	Delete NEG-T-O2.	Accept in part
27.30	Hort NZ	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P1	Amend NEG-T-P1 as follows: 1. Protect <u>Provide</u> for the national significance of the national grid	Accept in part
27.31	Hort NZ	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P2	Amend NEG-T-P2 (5) as follows: <u>Avoid, to the extent reasonably possible,</u> the potential for reverse sensitivity effects on the National Grid.	Accept
27.32	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P3	Delete NEG-T-P3.	Reject
FS05.49	Federated Farmers	Support			Grant the relief sought	Reject
27.33	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P4	Delete NEG-T-P4.	Reject
27.34	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National electricity and gas transmission	Delete NEG-T-P5	Delete NEG-T-P5.	Reject
27.35	Hort NZ	Oppose with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R1	Amend NEG-T-R1 activity status where compliance not achieved to restricted discretionary. And Delete from NEG-T-R1 (2 i)	Accept in part

					'other than for the reticulation and storage of water for irrigation purposes'	
27.36	Hort NZ	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R2	Delete from NEG-T-R2 (1 iv) 'other than for the reticulation and storage of water for irrigation purposes' And Add to NEG-T-R2 (1) <u>vi: a building or structure where Transpower has given written approval in accordance with clause 2.4.1 of NZECP34:2001.</u>	Reject
27.37	Hort NZ	Oppose	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R5	Delete NEG-T-R5.	Reject
31.06	Transpower	Support	9. Definitions	National Grid	Retain the definition for ' National Grid ' and capitalise the first letter of each term. And Any consequential amendments.	Accept
31.07	Transpower	Support	9. Definitions	National grid subdivision corridor	Retain the definition of ' National Grid Subdivision Corridor ' and capitalise the first letter of each term. And Any consequential amendments.	Accept
31.08	Transpower	Support	9. Definitions	National grid yard	Retain the definition of ' National Grid Yard ' and capitalise the first letter of each term.	Accept
31.12	Transpower	Amend	9. Definitions	Transmission sensitive activity(ies)	Retain the definition of ' Transmission sensitive activity(ies) ', And Amend the definition of ' Transmission sensitive activity(ies) ' as follows:	Accept

					<p>(f) Educational (including childcare) facilities.</p> <p>(h) Tourism facilities, outdoor education activities and recreational hunting.</p> <p>...</p> <p>(i) Other venues or areas where larger numbers of people are intermittent and in larger numbers than the general location or area.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential amendments.</p>	
FS09.05	Kainga Ora	Oppose			Disallow	Reject
FS23.45	Te Nehenehenui	Oppose			<p>Te Nehenehenui seeks to enhance the protection and maintenance of its people and taonga within the taiao as guided by Ko Tā Maniapoto Mahere Taiao – Maniapoto's Environmental Management Plan.</p> <p>Where submission points do not align with this, or have the potential to negatively impact on iwi, hapu, whanau cultural values, sites, the taiao and all taonga within TNN area of interest, TNN opposes and requests that Waitomo District Council consider this when finalising the review.</p>	Reject
31.21	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	National Electricity and Gas Transmission	<p>Retain Chapter 18 National Electricity and Gas Transmission subject to the amendments outlined in subsequent submission points.</p> <p>And</p>	Accept in part

					Any consequential amendments.	
31.22	Transpower	Amend	18. National electricity and gas transmission	Overview	<p>Amend paragraph two of the Overview text in Chapter 18. National Electricity and Gas Transmission as follows:</p> <p>How land is used within and adjacent to these corridors can significantly affect network operation, maintenance, and access. These networks can be sensitive to a range of actual and potential effects generated by adjacent activities. Conversely, locating some activities within close proximity to these corridors must be avoided to minimise risks to people's health and safety. There are three Sites or Areas of Significance to Māori and one site zoned Māori Purpose Zone that is on land within the identified <u>gas transmission</u> corridors. Provisions have been added to this Chapter to ensure activities in these locations are not unintentionally restricted.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential amendments.</p>	Accept
31.23	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-O1	Retain NEG-T-O1.	Accept in part
31.24	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P1	Retain NEG-T-P1.	Accept in part
31.25	Transpower	Amend	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P2	<p>Retain NEG-T-P2.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Retain NEG-T-P2. AndAdd a new clause to NEG-T-P2 as follows: NEG-T-P2 Manage activities, buildings, structures and earthworks for any other activity within the National Grid Yard to: ...</p>	Accept

					<p>5. Avoid potential for reverse sensitivity effects on the National Grid; <u>and</u></p> <p>6. <u>Achieve compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34:2001).</u></p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential amendments.</p>	
31.26	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P6	Retain NEG-T-P6.	Accept
31.27	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	<p>Clarification note: The rules in NEG-T - Table 1 apply within the National Grid Yard and within specified distances from the gas transmission pipelines and network. To undertake an activity, it must comply with all the rules listed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEG-T - Table 1 - Activities Rules; and • Any relevant provision in Part 2 District-Wide Matters; and <p>Any relevant provision in Part 3 Area Specific Matters;</p>	Retain introductory text to the rules in NEG-T-Table 1.	Accept

31.28	Transpower	Amend	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R1	<p>Amend NEG-T-R1 as follows:</p> <p>NEGT-R1. Earthworks, vertical holes or land disturbance within the National Grid Yard.</p> <p>Activity status: PER Where:</p> <p>1. Earthworks, vertical holes or land disturbance within the National Grid Yard must not:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Nothing in this rule shall limit Māori cultural and customary uses and burials in sites or areas of significance to Māori or in the Māori purpose zones identified on the planning maps.</p> <p>Activity status where</p> <p>compliance is not achieved:</p> <p>NC And</p> <p>Any consequential</p> <p>amendments.</p>	Accept
FS23.113	Te Nehenehenui	Oppose			<p>Te Nehenehenui have stated support for other submitters submission points that may conflict with several aspects of this submission, therefore TNN oppose the points of this submission that are not aligned to our Taiao and cultural values, or those we have noted support for</p>	Reject
31.29	Transpower	Amend	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R2	<p>Amend NEG-T-R2(3) as follows:</p> <p>NEGT-R2. Buildings structures within the National Grid Yard</p> <p>Activity status: PER Where</p> <p>:</p> <p>...</p> <p>3. For the avoidance of doubt, any building or structure used for the handling or storage</p>	Accept in part

					<p>of Class 1-4 Substances (Hazard Classification) Notice 2020 Regulations 2001 with explosive or flammable intrinsic properties is a non-complying activity, except this does not apply to the accessory use and storage of hazardous substances in domestic scale quantities.</p> <p>3. Activity status: NC where compliance is not achieved: NC <u>Where:</u> (i) <u>Compliance with NEGT-R2.1 and NEGT-R2.2 is not achieved;</u> <u>The building or structure within the National Grid Yard is used for the handling or storage of Class 1-4 hazardous substances (Hazardous Substances (Hazard Classification) Notice 2020) with explosive or flammable intrinsic properties (except this does not apply to the accessory use and storage of hazardous substances in domestic-scale quantities);</u> (ii) <u>The building or structure proposed within the National Grid Yard is a wintering barn, commercial greenhouse, immovable protection canopy, produce packing facility or milking shed;</u> (iii) <u>The proposal is for any building or structure not otherwise provided for.</u></p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential amendments.</p>	
FS05.51	Federated Farmers	Oppose			Decline the relief sought	Accept in part
31.30	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas	NEGT-R3	Retain NEGT-R3.	Accept

			transmission			
31.31	Transpower	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R4	Retain NEG-T-R4.	Accept
39.02	Firstgas	Support	9 Definitions	Gas Transmission Network	Retain the definition of 'Gas Transmission Network' as notified.	Accept
39.04	Firstgas	Amend	9 Definitions	Gas Transmission Pipeline	Add a new definition for 'Gas Transmission Pipeline' as follows: <u>Gas Transmission Pipeline:</u> <u>means any high-pressure gas pipeline to convey natural gas at a gauge pressure exceeding 2,000 kilopascals.</u>	Accept
39.06	Firstgas	Support	9. Definitions	Transmission sensitive activities	Retain as notified.	Accept in part
39.08	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-O2	Retain NEG-T-O2 as notified.	Accept in part
39.09	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P3	Retain NEG-T-P3 as notified.	Accept
39.10	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P4	Retain NEG-T-P4 as notified.	Accept
39.11	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P5	Retain NEG-T-P5 as notified.	Accept
39.12	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-P6	Retain NEG-T-P6 as notified.	Accept
39.13	Firstgas	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R5	Amend NEG-T-R5 to read: NEG-T-R5 Earthworks within 20m <u>10m</u> of the gas transmission network. ... 1. The earthworks are within 20m <u>10m</u>	Accept

					of the gas transmission network and do not include:	
FS05.54	Federated Farmers	Support			Grant the relief sought	Accept
FS23.154	Te Nehenehenui	Oppose			Te Nehenehenui have stated support for other submitters submission points that may conflict with several aspects of this submission, therefore TNN oppose the points of this submission that are not aligned to our Taiao and cultural values, or those we have noted support for	Reject
39.14	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R6	Retain NEG-T-R6 as notified.	Accept
39.15	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R7	Retain NEG-T-R7 as notified.	Accept
39.16	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R8	Retain NEG-T-R8 as notified.	Accept
39.17	Firstgas	Support	18. National electricity and gas transmission	NEGT-R9	Retain NEG-T-R9 as notified.	Accept
39.84	Firstgas	Amend	Planning Maps		Add the Gas Transmission Pipeline, as well as above ground infrastructure to the planning maps (see submission for details). Or similar relief to achieve this submission.	Accept
46.19	FF	Support	18. National electricity and Gas Transmission – NEG-T	Entire chapter	Retain chapter 18 National Electricity and Gas Transmission – NEG-T as notified.	Accept in part
47.41	F&B	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	General	Retain the scope of chapter 18 National Electricity and Gas Transmission to address the effects of other land use activities on these networks.	Accept
47.42	F&B	Support with	18. National electricity and gas	General	Amend Chapter 18 National Electricity and Gas Transmission to clarify that the NEG-T	Reject

		amendment	transmission		<p>rules apply to other activities within the National Grid yard and adjacent to the gas transmission network; that is activities other than those associated with the operation, maintenance etc. of those networks.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential changes or alternative relief to achieve the relief sought.</p>	
47.43	F&B	Support with amendment	18. National electricity and gas transmission	General	<p>Add a statement at the start of the rules that chapters 17 ENGY and 19 NU include specific provisions for these networks and that other Part 2 chapters also apply.</p> <p>And</p> <p>Any consequential changes or alternative relief to achieve the relief sought.</p>	Reject

2. Appendix 2 – Decisions Version of the Chapter

ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE & TRANSPORT

National Electricity and Gas Transmission | Te Tuku Hiko me te Kapuni ā-Motu

Overview

Parts of the nationwide electricity and gas transmission network are located within Waitomo district. These networks perform a critical function and are integral to the effective **and efficient operation of New Zealand's economy** as well as making a vital contribution to community health and safety. The provisions of this chapter manage activities near these networks.

How land is used within and adjacent to these corridors can significantly affect network operation, maintenance, and access. These networks can be sensitive to a range of actual and potential effects generated by adjacent activities. Conversely, locating some activities within close proximity to these corridors must be avoided to minimise risks **to people's** health and safety. There are three **Sites or Areas of Significance to Māori** and one **site zoned Māori Purpose Zone that is on land within the identified** gas transmission corridor. Provisions have been added to this Chapter to ensure activities in these locations are not unintentionally restricted.

The National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008 recognises the national significance of the electricity transmission system. It requires, to the extent possible, the management of adverse effects on the network from other activities. Although there is no national policy statement specific to the gas transmission network, this plan recognises these assets as having similar values, a similar linear extent and performing a similar function.

Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato - Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River 2010 is a significant document for part of the district. Reference to the Strategic directions sections of this **plan is required in respect of this matter. Ko Tā Maniapoto Mahere Taiao** Environmental Management Plan 2018 and Waikato-Tainui Environmental Management Plan 2013 also contain directions and outcomes to be achieved in respect of the provision of infrastructure. Applicants are directed to these documents when planning or undertaking works within the district.

Subdivision proximal to these networks is managed in the [subdivision chapter](#). The provisions of the [network utilities chapter](#) manage the operation, maintenance, replacement, upgrading and development of these assets.

Other relevant regulations

Additional regulatory requirements and approvals separate to this plan, are also relevant to network utilities, including:

1. Compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP) 34:2001 is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities

regulated by the NZECP, including any activities that are otherwise permitted by the plan, must comply with this code of practice.

Objectives

Refer also to the relevant objectives in Part 2 District-Wide Matters

- NEGT-O1. The national significance and benefits of the National Grid are recognised, protected and provided for.
- NEGT-O2. The regional significance of the gas transmission network is recognised, and is not compromised by other activities.

Policies

Refer also to the relevant policies in Part 2 District-Wide Matters

NEGT-P1. Within the National Grid yard avoid the establishment or expansion of transmission sensitive activities and buildings or structures used for these purposes in order to:

1. Avoid the potential for reverse sensitivity effects on the National Grid; and
2. Reduce exposure to health and safety risks; and
3. Ensure the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, repair, upgrading and development of the National Grid is not compromised.

NEGT-P2. Manage activities, buildings, structures and earthworks for any other activity within the National Grid yard to:

1. Ensure the safe and efficient operation, maintenance, repair, upgrading or development of the National Grid is not compromised; and
2. Provide security of supply and/or integrity of National Grid assets; and
3. Maintain ongoing access to conductors and support structures for maintenance and upgrading works; and
4. Manage all activities to avoid exposure to health and safety risks from the National Grid; and
5. Avoid, to the extent reasonably possible, the potential for reverse sensitivity effects on the National Grid; and
6. Achieve compliance with the New Zealand Electrical Code of Practice for Electrical Safe Distances (NZECP 34: 2001).

NEGT-P3. Manage land use activities in proximity to the gas transmission network to:

1. Provide security of supply and/or integrity of the gas transmission network; and
2. Avoid potential exposure to health and safety risks from the gas transmission network; and
3. Maintain ongoing access for maintenance, repair and upgrading works; and
4. Reduce the potential for reverse sensitivity effects.

NEGT-P4. New residential activities and transmission sensitive activities must be appropriately located and setback from the gas transmission network.

NEGT-P5. Maintain the integrity and stability of the gas transmission network by managing earthworks, including the planting of trees, in proximity to the gas transmission network.

NEGT-P6. Manage the use of explosives in proximity to the gas transmission network and hazardous substances in proximity to the National Grid yard, in order to avoid the potential for high-risk events which would impact **people's** health and safety, cause property damage and disruption to supply.

Rules

The rules in NEG-T - Table 1 apply within the National Grid and within specified distances from the gas transmission pipelines and network. To undertake any activity, it must comply with the rules listed in:

- NEG-T - Table 1 - Activities Rules; and
- Any relevant provision in Part 2 District-Wide Matters; and
- Any relevant provision in Part 3 Area Specific Matters.

Where an activity breaches more than one rule, the most restrictive status shall apply to the activity.

[Refer to Part 1 - How the Plan Works](#) for an explanation of how to use this plan, including activity status abbreviations.

NEG-T - Table 1 - Activities Rules

Unless specifically stated otherwise, the rules in this table apply to all zones, precincts, all roads and new roads approved by resource consent Rules NEG-T-R1 to NEG-T-R4 apply to the National Grid yard Rules NEG-T-R5 to NEG-T-R9 apply to the gas transmission network	
NEG-T-R1.	Earthworks , vertical holes or land disturbance within the National Grid yard
Activity status: PER Where: 1. Earthworks, vertical holes or land disturbance within the National Grid yard must not: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Exceed 300 mm depth within 6m of the outer edge of the visible foundation of any National Grid support structure; and (ii) Exceed 3 m depth where located between 6m and 12 m of the outer edge of the visible foundation of any National Grid support structure; and (iii) Compromise the stability of any National Grid support structure; and (iv) Permanently physically impede existing vehicular access to any National Grid support structure; and 	Activity status where compliance with Rule NEG-T-R1.1 (i) or NEG-T-R1.1 (ii) is not achieved: RD IS Matters over which discretion is restricted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Impacts on the operation, maintenance, upgrading and development of the National Grid; (b) The risk to the structural integrity of the affected National Grid support structure(s); (c) Any impact on the ability of the National Grid owner

<p>(v) Result in a reduction of the existing ground to conductor clearances as required in Table 4 of the NZECP;</p> <p>AND</p> <p>2. NEGT-R1(i) and (ii) do not apply to the following earthworks, vertical holes or land disturbance:</p> <p>(i) Earthworks undertaken by a network utility operator (other than for the reticulation and storage of water for irrigation purposes). See the network utilities chapter for earthwork provisions; and</p> <p>(ii) Earthworks undertaken for cultivation or repair or sealing of a road, pedestrian accessways, walkways, cycleways, driveways or farm tracks; and</p> <p>(iii) Vertical holes not exceeding 500 mm in diameter that are located at least 1.5 m from the outer edge of a National Grid pole or stay wire, or are a post hole for a farm fence or horticulture structure more than 6 m from the visible outer edge of a National Grid tower foundation; or</p> <p>(iv) Earthworks subject to a dispensation from Transpower New Zealand Limited under the NZECP.</p> <p><i>Note: This rule prevails over the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry) Regulations 2017.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Transpower New Zealand Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.</i></p>	<p>(Transpower) to access the National Grid;</p> <p>(d) The risk of electrical hazards affecting public or individual safety, and the risk of property damage;</p> <p>(e) Technical advice provided by the National Grid owner (Transpower NZ Ltd); and</p> <p>(f) Any effects on National Grid support structures including the creation of an unstable batter.</p> <p>Activity status where compliance is not achieved with Rules NEGT-R1(1)(iii), NEGT-R1(1)(iv) or NEGT-R1(1)(v): NC</p>
NEGT-R2.	Buildings and structures within the National Grid yard
<p>Activity status: PER</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>1. The following building and structures are permitted within the National Grid yard:</p> <p>(i) Non-habitable buildings or structures for farming activities (excluding intensive indoor primary production, commercial greenhouses, milking sheds and buildings storing hazardous substances); and</p> <p>(ii) Ancillary stockyards and platforms, including those associated with milking sheds; and</p> <p>(iii) Artificial screens and fences no more than 2.5 m in height as measured from ground level, where these are located at least 5 m from the outer visible edge of any National Grid support structure; and</p> <p>(iv) Artificial crop protection structures or crop support structures not exceeding 2.5 m in height where located</p>	<p>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: NC</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>(a) Compliance with NEGT-R2.1 and NEGT-R2.2 is not achieved;</p> <p>(b) The building or structure is for intensive indoor primary production, commercial greenhouses, milking sheds or buildings storing hazardous substances; or</p> <p>(c) The building or structure is not otherwise provided for in the National Grid yard.</p>

at least 8m from a National Grid transmission line pole that:

- i. Is removable or temporary to allow a clear working space of 12 m; and
- ii. Allows all weather access to the pole and a sufficient area for maintenance equipment including a crane; and
- (v) Where undertaken by a network utility operator, infrastructure (other than for the reticulation and storage of water for irrigation purposes) or any part of electricity infrastructure that connects to the National Grid. See the [network utilities chapter](#);

AND

- 2. All buildings and structures listed in NEG-T-R2.1 must comply with the following:
 - (i) Except for NEG-T-R2.1 (iii), (iv) and (v), no building or structure must be located closer than 12 m from the outer visible foundation of any National Grid support structure); and
 - (ii) No building or structure may permanently physically impede existing vehicular access to any National Grid support structure; and
 - (iii) All buildings and structures must comply with the NZECP under all National Grid transmission line operating conditions.

Note: Transpower New Zealand Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.

Note: NZECP is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities regulated by NZECP, including buildings, structures, earthworks and the operation of mobile plant, must comply with that regulation. Activities should be checked for compliance even if they are permitted by the Plan.

NEG-T-R3.

New [transmission sensitive activities](#) including the erection or relocation of [buildings](#) for [transmission sensitive activities](#)

Activity status: NC

Where:

- 1. The following activities propose to locate within the National Grid yard:
 - (i) Establishment of a transmission sensitive activity in an existing or new building or structure; or
 - (ii) Construction of a new building or relocation of a building to accommodate a transmission sensitive activity; or

Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A

<p>(iii) Any change of land use to a transmission sensitive activity; or</p> <p>(iv) Additions or alterations to an existing building or structure for a sensitive activity that involves an increase in the building or structure height or footprint.</p> <p><i>Note: Transpower New Zealand Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.</i></p> <p><i>Note: NZECP is mandatory under the Electricity Act 1992. All activities regulated by NZECP, including buildings, structures, earthworks and the operation of mobile plant, must comply with that regulation. Activities should be checked for compliance even if they are permitted by the Plan.</i></p> <p><i>Note: Vegetation to be planted around the National Grid should be selected and/or managed to ensure that it will not result in that vegetation breaching the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003.</i></p>	
NEGT-R4.	Quarrying activities
<p>Activity status: PR</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>1. The activity is a quarrying activity, farm quarrying or forestry quarrying within the National Grid yard.</p> <p><i>Note: This rule prevails over the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry) Regulations 2017.</i></p>	<p>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: N/A</p>
NEGT-R5.	Earthworks within 10 m of the gas transmission network
<p>Activity Status: PER</p> <p>Where:</p> <p>1. The earthworks are within 10 m of the gas transmission network and do not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A change to the ground contour or ground level; or (ii) The planting of trees within 10 m of the gas transmission pipeline; or (iii) Soil loading over the gas transmission pipeline; or (iv) The use of heavy vehicle or machinery, except where required to undertake cultivation; <p>AND</p> <p>2. This rule does not apply to cultivation and domestic gardening (except for the planting of trees); and</p>	<p>Activity status where compliance is not achieved: RDIS</p> <p>Matters over which discretion is restricted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Measures taken during earthworks to maintain slope stability or prevent exacerbation of any pre-existing deep-seated land instability; and (b) The risks of hazards affecting public or individual safety and the risk of property damage; and (c) Measures proposed to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects on the gas transmission network; and

3. A minimum of five working days prior to the commencement of earthworks, written advice of the work must be provided to the gas transmission pipeline owner and operator.

Nothing in this rule shall limit Māori cultural and customary uses and burials in Sites or Areas of Significance to Māori or in the Māori purpose zones identified on the planning maps.

Note: This rule prevails over the Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry) Regulations 2017.

Note: First Gas Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.

Note: For any works within a gas pipeline easement area, a Pipeline Easement Permit must be obtained.

- (d) Technical advice provided by the owner and operator of the gas transmission network, including on the assessment of risk; and
- (e) The outcome of any consultation with the owner and operator of the gas transmission network.

NEGT-R6.	New residential activities located within 20 m of any gas transmission pipeline at a gauge pressure exceeding 2,000 kilopascals
NEGT-R7.	New residential activities located within 60 m of any above ground structure associated with the gas transmission network
NEGT-R8.	New transmission sensitive activities (other than provided for in NEG-T-R6 and NEG-T-R7) located within 60 m of the gas transmission network

Activity status: RDIS

Where:

1. No activity or structure may permanently physically or legally impede existing access to the gas transmission pipeline and/or the gas transmission network.

Matters over which discretion is restricted:

- (a) The extent to which the proposed activities are likely to compromise the stability or integrity of the gas transmission network and/or the gas transmission pipeline and their operation, maintenance and upgrading; and
- (b) The risks of hazards affecting public or individual safety and the risk of property damage; and
- (c) Measures proposed to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects on the gas transmission pipeline or network; and
- (d) Within the Māori purpose zone, the positive benefits for Māori from the use and development of land; and
- (e) Technical advice provided by the owner and operator of the gas transmission network, including on the assessment of risk; and
- (f) The outcome of any consultation with the owner and operator of the gas transmission network; and
- (g) Whether the activity could be located at a greater distance from the gas transmission network.

Activity status where compliance is not achieved: DI S

Note: First Gas Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.
Note: Above ground structures associated with the gas transmission network may include sales gates, scraper stations, compressor stations, MVLs and offtakes.

NEGT-R9.	The use of explosives within 250 m of the gas transmission network
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Activity Status: RDIS

Matters over which discretion is restricted:

- (a) The extent to which the proposed activities are likely to compromise the stability or integrity of the gas transmission network and/or the gas transmission pipeline and their operation, maintenance and upgrading; and
- (b) The risks of hazards affecting public or individual safety and the risk of property damage; and
- (c) Measures proposed to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects on the gas transmission pipeline and/or the gas transmission network; and
- (d) Technical advice provided by the owner and operator of the gas transmission network, including on the assessment of risk; and
- (e) The outcome of any consultation with the owner and operator of the gas transmission network and/or gas transmission pipeline; and
- (f) Whether the use of explosives could be located a greater distance from the gas transmission pipeline and/or gas transmission network.

Note: First Gas Ltd will be considered an affected party in accordance with section 95E of the Act.

NEGT - Table 2 - Performance Standards

There are no Performance Standards

3. Appendix 3 – Section 32AA Evaluation

17. There were no additional changes requiring a Section 32AA evaluation. The section 32AA evaluation is enclosed with the section 42A Report and section 42A Addendum.