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*Sarah Shand
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19 August 2026

North West Rapid Transit Fast-track Application
Environmental Protection Authority
Private Bag 63002
Waterloo Quay
Wellington 6140

C/- substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

Re: Notice of application by New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, and release of draft decision and conditions

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft conditions released by the Panel on 12 August 2026 for the Northwest Rapid Transit application by New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA).

Transpower had provided comments on the application regarding the potential effects of the Northwest Rapid Transit Project (the Project) on the National Grid, identified the strong direction in the National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission (NPS-EN), and sought a specific condition be imposed on Notices of Requirement 3 and 7.

Transpower has reviewed the Panel's draft decision and acknowledges that the NPS-EN has been appropriately considered, including advancing the request for a condition on the designation to address Transpower's concerns that the National Grid assets are protected.

Comments on the draft conditions

Transpower acknowledges the continued engagement NZTA has undertaken with Transpower to understand the effects of the Project on its National Grid assets since submitting its application, including after Transpower lodged comments on the application.

Transpower has recently signed a Project Agreement with NZTA specific to the Northwest Rapid Project. Transpower is satisfied that the terms of this Project Agreement provide sufficient protections for the National Grid assets and is consistent with the NPS-EN.

Therefore, Transpower respectfully requests that condition 38 for a Transpower Construction Management Plan is removed from NoR 3 and 7.

While a Project Agreement has been reached for this project, there will be instances where this is not suitable and conditions on NoRs will remain Transpower's preferred method to ensure that effects on the National Grid are appropriately managed.

Accordingly, we make no further comments on the Project.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Shand', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sarah Shand
Senior Environmental Planner