

Key Changes to the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme Consents under the Resource Management Act 1991

There are three resource consents held by Manawa Energy for the operation, use and maintenance of the Kaimai Hydro-Electric Power Scheme (Kaimai HEPS or the Scheme) relevant to the resource consents sought as part of this application. These are Resource Consents 02 0011, 02 3297 and 20195.

Within these resource consents, the key variations that have been granted under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) are summarised in order of occurrence as follows.

9 July 1993 – Resource Consent 20195

The variations granted below were for the construction of a new turbine at the tunnel five outlet power station (K5 power station) and for the use of water to generate electricity in this power station as follows:

- Add (c)(v) the “use of up to six cubic metres of water per second to generate electricity in the tunnel five outlet power station; and
- Add Condition 3.7 “The turbine at the tunnel five outlet power station shall be constructed as detailed in plan number 914 07 submitted with the application.

12 August 1993 – Resource Consent 02 3297

The following variations provided for recreational users of Lake McLaren, the Mangapapa River its tributaries:

- A variation of Condition 2.5 to increase the upper limit of Lake McLaren from 88.5 to 88.95 from midnight to 4.00 pm on days when water flows are being released in terms of condition 3.3;
- A variation of Condition 3.3 to increase the continuous flow figure of up to "twelve (12)" cubic metres per second, to "twenty five", and increasing the minimum flow figure of "twelve" cubic metres per second to "fourteen" in the Wairoa River immediately downstream of the McLaren Falls Power to provide compensation water for canoeists; and
- A new Condition 3.4 for alternative recreational flow release mechanisms at Lake McLaren to be commissioned and operational after 30 December 1994.

23 August 1994 – Resource Consent 02 3297

The purpose of these variations was to no longer release water into the McLarens Falls Power Station intake, and rather to discharge water into a gated channel from Lake McLaren into the original course of the Mangapapa River. The updates were as follows:

- Replace Condition (b)iii “divert up to 14.2 cubic metres of water per second into the McLarens Falls Power Station intake [...]” with “discharge of up to 25 cubic metres per second of water by a gated channel from Lake McLaren into the original course of the Mangapapa River [...]”;
- Replace words in Condition 2.3, the title of Section 3 conditions and Condition 3.1 "Power Station" with "Gated Channel Spillway", "penstocks" with "gated channel", and "50" (relating to screen spacing) with "30";
- Replace words in Condition 2.5 "except for the period from midnight to 4.00 pm on days when water flows are being released in terms of condition 3.3 of this right when the upper limit shall be 88.95 metres" with ".(full stop) Normal operating conditions and associated lake levels shall prevail during recreational water releases" in relation to water levels in Lake McLaren;

- Replace words in Condition 3.2 "installed and operated at the power station" with "operated prior to any opening of the gated channel spillway and be audible at the McLaren Falls Bridge" in relation to a sounds warning system at the McLaren Falls Gated Channel Spillway; and
- Replace words in Condition 3.3 "Power Station" with "Bridge".

In addition, these variations also reflected a change in operator from the Tauranga Joint Generation Committee to Kaimai Hydro Power as follows:

- Replace words in Condition 3.3 "the Tauranga Joint Generation Committee the committee" with "Kaimai Hydro Power, the company".

14 October 1997 – Resource Consents 20195

The purpose of these variations was for the construction of a new turbine at the tunnel 6 outlet power station and for the use of water to generate electricity in this power station as follows:

- Add (e)(v) the “use of up to 12 cubic metres per second water flow to generate electricity in the tunnel 6 outlet turbine power station; and
- Add Condition 5.6 “The turbine at the tunnel 6 outlet power station shall be constructed as detailed in Job No. K08-010 Sheet No. LO 1 submitted with the application.

Note: These changes were not implemented.

28 November 1997 – Resource Consents 02 0011, 02 3297 and 20195

These variations transferred the whole of resource consents 02 0011, 02 3297 and 20195 from Kaimai Hydro Power to Trustpower Limited.

4 May 1999 – Resource Consents 20195

This replaced the safety measure of a fence at Scott’s Dry Gully spillway with a sign warning of its dangers (Conditions 9.2).

21 November 2000 – Resource Consents 20195

The key variations on this date amended the Tauwharawhara Stream crest level from 312 to 312.8 metres (Conditions 2.1) and updated the Mangaonui Lake dam spillway range from 280.5-282 to 279.5-281.3 metres (Condition 5.2).

23 November 2000 – Resource Consent 02 3297

These variations lowered the maximum crest level of the dam across the Mangakarengorengo River from 95.9 to 95.3 metres (Conditions 1.1), and lowered the maximum crest level of the dam across the Mangapapa River to form Lake McLaren from 89 to 88.8 metres (Condition 2.2).

12 January 2006 – Resource Consent 02 0011

The variations to Condition 3.2 updated the range required for the maintenance of the water level at Lake Matariki from RL 121 and RL 123 metres to RL120 and RL 123.5 metres. The purpose of this change was to improve the efficiency of the power generation capability of the Scheme.

9 February 2009 – Resource Consent 02 3297

The purpose of this variation was to update the maintained water level in Lake Mangaonui and the times these are required, including time based monitoring of the lake levels and to document the koura population and monitor the effects of the lake level operating conditions on these populations (Condition 5.5).

5 May 2010 – Resource Consent 20195

This variation of Condition 5.2 was to change the spillway gate from a rubber gate to a hydraulic gate to allow the Mangaonui Reservoir to operate at the fully consented range.

13 March 2017 – Resource Consent 20195

The whole of this resource consent was varied to a new format on 13 March 2017 – at the request of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.