

Kia ora

Powerco understands that an application will be made by NZTA (in the near future) utilising the fast-track process to seek approvals for the Takitimu North Link Stage 2 project which relates to the construction of a 4-lane, median divided highway to replace existing State Highway 2 corridor between Te Puna and Ōmokoroa, including an alteration of the existing designation. This project is a listed project under Schedule 2 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (*The Act*).

Powerco owns and operates an extensive network within this project area generally, which includes a designated substation (on land owned by Powerco) that, based on information provided to date, will need to be relocated if this project proceeds.

Powerco is concerned over the potential adverse effects on its networks and substation due to this project and respectfully asks that the panel and its advisors are made aware of these concerns when considering whether to invite comments from Powerco when the substantive application is lodged.

Powerco acknowledges that there is no specific provision to allow public or limited notification of substantive applications. However, s53(2)(h)&(l) of the Act would indicate that Powerco must be invited to provide written comments on the application as both an owner of land and requiring authority that has a designation on land to which the application directly relates (or is adjacent).

The Powerco substation is located at 24 Albert Lane, Whakamārama and is legally described as *Allotment 380 Parish of Te Puna and Section 1 Survey Office Plan 492478*. This site is designated by Powerco under the Operative Western Bay of Plenty District Plan, reference D240 (Omokoroa Zone Substation).

It would be appreciated if this email could be acknowledged and that a copy is placed on the file for consideration by the panel when the substantive application is lodged by NZTA. Our address for service is planning@powerco.co.nz.

Please let me know if you have any questions on the above.

Ngā mihi
Gary Scholfield
Senior Environmental Planner