

**WEL Networks Limited - Hearing Evidence**  
**Proposed Waikato District Plan: Designations**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 My name is Karleen Broughton and I am Commercial Legal Counsel at WEL Networks Limited (“WEL”). I hold Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Auckland.
- 1.2 I have worked as a solicitor for 23 years, almost 14 of those within the electricity industry. Since 2017, I have worked in-house in the electricity distribution sector.

**2. WEL**

- 2.1 WEL is an electricity distributor operating under the Electricity Act 1992, who owns, operates and develops electricity distribution infrastructure in the Waikato Region to provide line function services to approximately 91,000 installation connection points. This includes the distribution of electricity to residences and businesses within the Waikato District.
- 2.2 WEL, as a network utility operator under the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”), has the responsibility of providing a secure and efficient supply of electricity to the community within WEL’s distribution network area. WEL is also an approved requiring authority pursuant to section 167 of the RMA for its lines network functions.

**3. WEL’s position on Proposed Waikato District Plan**

- 3.1 WEL is generally supportive of the approach and overall content of the Proposed Waikato District Plan (“Proposed Plan”).
- 3.2 WEL’s electricity and telecommunication infrastructure supports the sustainable management and efficient use of natural and physical resources as promoted in Part 2 of the RMA.
- 3.3 A fundamental part of enabling people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing under section 5 of the RMA is the provision of a secure and efficient supply of electricity and telecommunications.
- 3.4 The benefits of WEL’s electricity and telecommunication infrastructure in achieving sustainable management are also enshrined in the RMA through section 7(b) and 7(ba) that, in achieving the purpose of the RMA, requires particular regard be given to “the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources” and “the efficiency of the end use of energy”.

3.5 While being generally supportive of the Proposed Plan's approach and overall content, WEL submits that minor amendments are required to enhance the provisions within the Proposed Plan to provide for the importance of electricity and telecommunication infrastructure as provided in Part 2 of the RMA.

#### **4. Specific provisions supported by WEL**

4.1 WEL supports the Designation section of the Proposed Plan as recommended in the Council Planner's Section 42A Report and, more particularly, as set out in Table 1 in the attached schedule.

#### **5. Specific amendments sought by WEL**

5.1 WEL requests that minor amendments be made to Designations Q10 and Q17 to ensure that the sites are correctly identified in the Proposed District Plan (in accordance with WEL's submission) and as set out in Table 2 in the attached schedule.

#### **6. Conclusion**

6.1 WEL **supports** recommendations made in the Council Planner's Section 42A Report on the Proposed Plan as outlined in my evidence at Section 4 and Table 1 in the attached schedule.

6.2 WEL **supports in part** the recommendations made in the Council Planner's Section 42A Report subject to the requested amendments as outlined in my evidence at Section 5 and Table 2 in the attached schedule.

6.3 Overall, the Proposed Plan reflects sound resource management principle and practice and will achieve the purpose of the RMA.

Dated 27 March 2020



**Karleen Broughton**  
WEL Networks Limited

## SCHEDULE

**Table 1 - Provisions supported by WEL**

Des #	Purpose of Designation	Location	Area	Legal Description
Q1	Finlayson Substation	Finlayson Road, Kopuku	1008m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DP 359331
Q2	Ngaruawahia Substation	188A Ngaruawahia Road, Ngaruawahia	1595m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DP 392665
Q3	Huntly Point of Supply	Te Ohaki Road, Huntly	1146m <sup>2</sup>	Part of Lot 1 DPS 73530
Q4	Hampton Downs Substation	43 (old) Hampton Downs Road, Hampton Downs	1192m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DP 419130
Q5	Whatawhata Substation	Kakaramea Road, Whatawhata	1014m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DP 417339
Q7	Te Uku Wind Park Switching Station	Van Houtte Road, Te Uku	1.01 ha	Part of Sec 1 BLK VII Karioi SD
Q8	Transmission line corridor for an electricity line	Between Te Kowhai Substation and Te Uku Windpark Substation		
Q9	Te Kauwhata Substation	Wayside Road, Te Kauwhata	2431m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DPS 39290
Q11	Weavers Substation	Rotowaro Road, Huntly	1833m <sup>2</sup>	Part of Section 1, 17-18, 22, 24 Survey Office Plan 374718
Q12	Horotiu Substation	Horotiu Road, Horotiu	1435m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1-2 and Lot 4-5 DPS 83206
Q13	Gordonton Substation	1320 Gordonton Road	1115m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DPS 16335
Q14	Glasgow Substation	15 Glasgow Street, Huntly	4047m <sup>2</sup>	Part 1A DP 1188
Q15	Hoeka Substation	9 Hoeka Road, Matangi	1403m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 2 DP 461355
Q16	Wallace Substation	102 Wallace Road, Dinsdale	832m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DPS 6966

**Table 2 - Amendments sought by WEL**

<b>Des #</b>	<b>Purpose of Designation</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Legal Description</b>
Q10	Raglan Substation	2A Hills Road, <u>Raglan</u>	1362m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 2 DP 429135 and part of Lot 1 DP 429135
Q17	Te Uku Substation	State Highway 23, Te Uku	835m <sup>2</sup>	Lot 1 DPS 8209 <del>SA2B/252</del>

(Note: *italicised* and underlined text is new text inserted; 'strikethrough' text is deleted text)