



Better together.

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APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENTS – TRUSTPOWER LIMITED’S MOTUKAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME

Lodgement of Application

The Motukawa Hydro-Electric Power Scheme (“**Scheme**”) is owned and operated by Trustpower Limited (“**Trustpower**”) and is located within the Manganui River catchment, southeast of New Plymouth.

The current resource consents for the Scheme were granted by the Taranaki Regional Council in 2001 and are due to expire in June 2022. Pursuant to sections 88, 124 and the 4th Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991, please see attached, by way of lodgement, an electronic copy of Trustpower’s application and Assessment of Environmental Effects (“**AEE**”) for various resource consents required for the ongoing operation of the Scheme. The initial application fee of \$31,625.00 was paid on 20 November 2021 through TRC Online Payment. Please quote purchase order PO-MX70363 on any future invoicing.

Kindly confirm at your earliest convenience receipt of this application.

Background to the Scheme

The Scheme has been in operation for over 90 years and currently generates electricity by:

- Damming and diverting / taking water from the Manganui River via a diversion weir and intake structure;
- The damming and use of water in the Motukawa Race for hydro-electricity generation via an in-race generator;



- The damming of the Mako Stream to form Lake Ratapiko and the regulating of levels in the lake; and
- The diversion / take of water from Lake Ratapiko via a tunnel and penstock for the purpose of hydro-electricity generation at the Motukawa Power Station (and subsequent discharge to the Makara Stream, a tributary of the Waitara River).

The Scheme plays an important regional role in the production of renewable electricity and has an installed generation capacity of 5 MW which generates approximately 22 GWh of electricity per annum. Through its connection to Powerco's electricity distribution network in New Plymouth, the Scheme contributes positively to the security of regional electricity supply and the Government's strategic targets for the generation of renewable electricity in New Zealand, including as set out in the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation.

Assessment of Environmental Effects

Trustpower has commissioned an extensive set of independent expert technical assessments that thoroughly assess the actual and potential effects associated with the continued operation of the Scheme. Those assessments have concluded that the effects are acceptable, although additional mitigation measures are proffered including (but not limited to) the provision of a residual flow regime for the Manganui River, additional flow releases in summer for the health of the Manganui River, and the enhancement of the existing indigenous fish trap and transfer programmes that operate throughout the Scheme.

Overall, the technical assessments conclude that the continued operation of the Scheme can be undertaken in a manner that will appropriately sustain the key environmental values and health of the Manganui River catchment.

Consultation and Cultural Impact Assessment

Trustpower commenced engagement with key stakeholders in 2018 with Taranaki Regional Council staff, Fish & Game, and the Department of Conservation. Engagement with iwi and hapu has resulted in the formulation of an iwi forum in 2019 which includes representatives of 11 iwi and hapu. The above stakeholders have been provided site visits, and presentations from some of the authors of the technical reports and access to the authors for queries and discussion. A two-day senior leadership forum and workshop with all of Trustpower's technical experts and the iwi forum was also planned to take place at the Pukerangiora Marae on 20 - 21 August 2021 but was unfortunately



postponed due to COVID-19. Trustpower is working with the forum to reschedule a workshop in early 2022 when appropriate health and safety protocols can be confirmed.

Trustpower has incorporated and acknowledged much of the feedback received from stakeholders to date into the AEE and the proposed consent conditions.

While the cultural effects are addressed in the AEE principally in the context of the relevant statutory planning documents including the relevant provisions of the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management 2020, such as Te Mana o Te Wai, Trustpower is working closely with the iwi forum to develop a Cultural Impact Assessment to be drafted in 2022. Trustpower will update the Council regularly on the progress of this work.

Should you have any queries in the meantime, please contact me at any time.

Regards

Trustpower Limited

Lisa Mead

Lisa Mead

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