

**In the Environment Court of New Zealand
Christchurch Registry**

**I Te Kōti Taiao O Aotearoa
Ōtautahi Rohe**

ENV-2024-CHC-24

Under of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)
In the matter of an appeal under cl 14 of the RMA

Between
Aurora and Others
Appellant

And
Otago Regional Council
Respondent

**Notice of wish to be a party to an appeal on
behalf of Queenstown Lakes District Council**

MC.

Counsel acting:
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Notice of person's wish to be party to proceedings

To: The Registrar of the Environment Court at Christchurch

And to: The Respondent

Name of Person who wishes to be a Party

1 Queenstown Lakes District Council (**Council**) wishes to be a party to the following proceeding:

(a) An appeal by Aurora Energy Limited, Network Waitaki Limited, and Powernet Limited (**Appellant**) (ENV-2024-CHC-24) against the decision of Otago Regional Council on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement (**pORPS**).

2 The Council is a local authority.

Trade Competition

3 The Council is not a trade competitor for the purposes of section 308C or 308CA of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**).

The Proceeding

4 The Council is interested in the parts of the proceeding that relate to a bespoke policy framework for managing the effects of the electricity distribution network infrastructure outside the coastal environment.

Particular issues and reasons

5 The Council opposes the Appellant's relief for a new policy "*EIT-INF-PXX – Locating and managing effects of electricity distribution network infrastructure outside the coastal environment*", which will be the only effects management policy that applies to electricity distribution infrastructure.

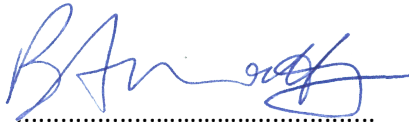
6 The Council opposes the relief sought on the basis that the bespoke policy does not address all important resource issues that are otherwise managed within the pORPS. The more permissive regime that it would establish for electricity distribution network infrastructure outside the coastal environment could fail to achieve the purpose of the Act, particularly in Queenstown Lakes District, where there are many significant natural areas, high value landscapes, natural features and water bodies, items of historic heritage and wāhi tupuna. More broadly, the Council is responsible for the preparation of a District Plan for the Queenstown Lakes District that gives effect to the pORPS. The Council has recently reviewed its District Plan and this process is ongoing.

7 Accordingly, the Council opposes the relief sought in the appeal and remains interested in the final form of the appealed provisions to ensure that there are no inappropriate outcomes that will limit the Council's ability to properly

manage the use, development, or protection of natural and physical resources in its district through the District Plan. Dispute Resolution

- 8 The Council agrees to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceeding.

Date: 7 June 2024



J C Campbell / B A Watts
Counsel for the Queenstown Lakes District Council

This document is filed by Brandon Andrew Watts of Meredith Connell, solicitor for the Appellant. The address for service on the Appellant is Level 7, MC Centre, 8 Hardinge St, Auckland, New Zealand.

Documents for service on the Appellant may be left at that address for service or may be:

- (a) posted to the solicitor at PO Box 90750, Victoria Street West, Auckland 1142, New Zealand;
- (b) left for the solicitor at a document exchange for direction to DX CP24063;
- (c) emailed to janette@campbell.legal, with a copy sent to brandon.watts@mc.co.nz