

IN THE ENVIRONMENT COURT OF NEW ZEALAND
I MUA I TE KŌTI TAIAO O AOTEAROA

ENV-2024-CHC-23

IN THE MATTER of the Resource Management Act
1991 (“Act”)

AND

IN THE MATTER of an appeal under clause 14 Schedule
1 of the Act concerning the **Proposed
Otago Regional Policy Statement
2021**

BETWEEN

REAL GROUP LIMITED

Appellant

AND

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL

Respondent

RMA, S 274 NOTICE BY MERIDIAN ENERGY LIMITED
DATED 5 JUNE 2024

Instructing counsel:

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To The Registrar
Environment Court
Christchurch

I, **Meridian Energy Limited**, wish to be a party to the following proceeding:

- (a) The Environment Court appeal reference ENV-2024-CHC-23 concerning an appeal against Otago Regional Council decisions on the Proposed Otago Regional Policy Statement.

I am—

- (a) A person who made a submission about the subject matter of the proceeding, and
- (b) A person with an interest greater than the public because Meridian Energy Limited is a State-owned enterprise undertaking renewable electricity generation activities, and I have a special interest in implementing national direction under the NPS-REG;

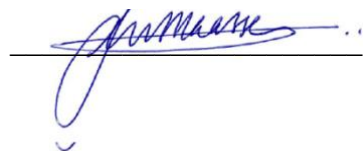
I am not a trade competitor for the purposes of [section 308C](#) or [308CA](#) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

I am directly affected by an effect of the subject of the appeal that—

- (a) Adversely affects the environment and
- (b) Does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

I am interested in those parts of the proceeding identified in **Attachment 1** concerning the issues identified in Attachment 1. I seek the relief necessary to achieve my position and address my reasons given in Attachment 1 and any ancillary relief to that identified in Attachment 1.

I agree to participate in mediation or other alternative dispute resolution of the proceedings.



J W Maassen
Counsel authorised to sign on behalf of Meridian Energy Limited

Date 5 June 2024

Address for service of person wishing to be a party:

Telephone: 03 357 9767

Fax/email: Ellie.Taffs@meridianenergy.co.nz

Contact person: Eleanor Taffs, In-house counsel

ATTACHMENT 1: SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF REAL GROUP LIMITED APPEAL IN WHICH MERIDIAN HAS AN INTEREST

| Provision in which Meridian has a s 274 interest | Relief sought by the Appellant | Meridian supports or opposes the appellant's relief sought | Reason for Meridian's support or opposition |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>NFL-P1 – Identification</p> | <p>NFL-P1 – Identification</p> <p>Identify the areas and values of outstanding natural features and landscapes in accordance with APP9 'Te Tangi a te Manu: Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines', Tuia Pito Ora New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects, July 2022, <u>in consultation with Kai Tahu, communities and stakeholders including affected landowners.</u></p> | <p>Oppose in part</p> <p>Support in part</p> | <p>Meridian opposes retention of APP9 and deletion of “Te Tangi a te Manu: Aotearoa New Zealand Landscape Assessment Guidelines', Tuia Pito Ora New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects, July 2022”. Meridian considers that the Institute’s landscape assessment guidelines are more comprehensive than APP9 and reference to the guidelines (rather than APP9) should be retained in NFL-P1.</p> <p>Meridian supports insertion of the requirement to consult with Kai Tahu, communities and stakeholders including affected landowners when identifying areas and values of outstanding natural features and landscapes.</p> |
| <p>NFL-P2 – Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes</p> | <p>Delete NFL-P2 (1A) (i.e. (1A) avoiding exceeding the landscape capacity of the natural feature or landscape), or add an explanation into the PORPS as to what 'landscape capacity of the natural feature or landscape' is intended to mean in the PORPS context;</p> | <p>Support in part</p> <p>Oppose in part</p> | <p>Meridian supports deletion of NFL-P2 (1A) as it could be applied in an unnecessarily restrictive manner, and it is not needed given the remaining subparts of this policy.</p> <p>The Appellant has sought inclusion of an explanation of what is meant by landscape capacity, but the appeal does not provide the explanation sought for inclusion. In the absence of such editing, the Appellant’s relief is too vague to determine the implications for Meridian’s interests and on this basis, Meridian opposes this part of the relief sought by the Appellant.</p> |
| <p>NFL-P2 – Protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes</p> | <p>Amend NFL-P2 (1) as follows, or to similar effect:</p> <p>(1) maintaining the values that make the contribute to the natural feature or landscape</p> | <p>Support</p> | <p>Meridian considers that the relief sought by the Appellant improves the clarity of NFL-P2 (1) and more appropriately focuses on maintaining the key values of natural features and landscapes.</p> |

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| | being considered natural and outstanding, even if those values are not themselves outstanding. | | |
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