

22 September 2011

Otago Regional Council Private Bag 1954 **DUNEDIN 9054**

Attention: Planning Department

OTAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL
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Dear Sir/Madam

RE: PROPOSED PLAN CHANGE 2 (REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT WETLANDS) TO THE WATER PLAN FOR OTAGO - FURTHER SUBMISSIONS

TrustPower Limited ('**TrustPower**') appreciates this opportunity to make further submissions on Proposed Plan Change 2 (Regionally Significant Wetlands) to the Water Plan for Otago ("Plan Change 2" / "the Plan Change"). TrustPower has previously provided feedback on the consultation draft for Plan Change 2 on the 24th of September 2010 and submitted on the proposed Plan Change on the 29th of July 2011. The enclosed further submissions follow on from TrustPower's previous comments and submissions pertaining to Plan Change 2.

TrustPower's electricity generation assets in the Otago Region confirms that TrustPower is considered to have an interest in the proposed plan change greater than the interest of the general public, and is permitted to make further submissions on this plan change.

Further Submissions

Please refer to TrustPower's further submissions which are attached as **Attachment 1**.

In summary, TrustPower:

- Supports submissions seeking to recognise and provide for human use influences in relation to wetlands.
- Opposes submissions by parties seeking to apply the Plan Change to wetlands that have not been classified as "regionally significant" by the Otago Regional Council ("ORC") or through the consultation process. Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the regionally significant wetland

provisions and TrustPower does not consider that they should be included. ORC has undertaken the rigorous task of identifying wetlands in Otago with regionally significant values. Stakeholders and submitters have had the opportunity to comment on the scheduled wetlands and seek that additional wetlands that contain regionally significant wetland values are awarded protection. Wetlands may be added to Schedule 9 and awarded protection through a formal plan change process if appropriate.

- Opposes submissions by parties who seek to include the importance of a wetland
 to the wider network of wetlands / wetland patterns in the criteria for assessing
 regionally significant wetlands. All wetlands are part of the wider hydrological
 system; therefore this is not an appropriate criterion for wetlands to be classified as
 "regionally significant", especially given only one criterion has to be triggered for a
 wetland to be classified as regionally significant.
- Opposes submissions seeking to make the removal or clearance of native plant material from any Regionally Significant Wetlands a non-complying activity. The existing discretionary activity status is wholly appropriate for the removal or clearance of native plant material it requires an assessment of the proposed activity, and enables applications to be declined where they are deemed unsustainable. In some cases indigenous vegetation removal is incidental to the establishment and/or necessary safe and efficient operation of authorised activities and generates minor or less than minor effects; such removal does not warrant non-complying activity status.
- Opposes additional permitted activity conditions and other assessment criteria
 proposed to be included in the rules by submitters that are too subjective to be
 adequately assessed, are inappropriate / too restrictive given the activity to which
 they relate, or are repetitive of rules and assessment criteria already included, or
 proposed to be included, in the Water Plan.
- Opposes submissions inconsistent with Section 5(2) of the Act; in particularly the Act does not provide for "no adverse effects".
- Opposes submissions inconsistent with Section 6(a) of the Act. The Act does not provide for the outright protection of wetlands – it provides for their protection from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.
- Opposes submissions that reverse the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC, including submissions seeking to reinstate Schedule 10.

Yours sincerely.

TRUSTPOWER LIMITED

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ATTACHMENT 1

Further Submissions

Part 1: Regionally Significant Wetlands and values

What is a Regionally Significant Wetland

7.139 Policy 10.4.1A - Definition of a Regionally Significant Wetland

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Treble Cone Investments Limited	2	Amend	Delete 10.4.1A(c).	•Remove provisions that relate to wetlands higher than 800m.	Support – this relief would satisfy TrustPower's concerns in relation to wetlands above 800m.
Solid Energy New Zealand Ltd	5	Amend	Remove 10.4.1A(c) and replace with: (c) A wetland higher than 800 metres above sea level which has been subjected to an evaluation confirming its ecological values against the ecological criteria detailed in Schedule 9.	 Definition of Regionally Significant Wetland is extremely broad given all 'wetlands' above a nominal 800m above sea level mark automatically trigger a regional significance status and subsequent protection. A nominal altitude of 800m above sea level is not an effective gauge of ecological significance, which may be confirmed by survey or ground-truthing. 	Support in part – this relief would satisfy TrustPower's concerns in relation to wetlands above 800m, providing it is amended to specifically refer to "confirming it has one or more of the regionally significant wetland values contained in Policy 10.4.1" (rather than to "confirming its ecological values against the ecological criteria detailed in Schedule 9"). In addition, TrustPower considers it would be preferable if all wetlands containing regionally significant values (including wetlands above 800m) have been identified and already scheduled as such in the Water Plan prior to the new Plan Change 2 provisions being adopted. This would enhance certainty for plan users, and would enable the arbitrary blanket protection pertaining to wetlands above 800m to be removed from the provisions.
Cardrona Alpine Resort	15	Amend	Delete 10.4.1A(c).	•Remove provisions that relate to wetlands higher than 800m.	Support – this relief would satisfy TrustPower's concerns in relation to wetlands above 800m.
Lake Waihola Waipori Wetlands Society Inc.	20	Amend	Amend to more clearly delineate between what is defined as aquatic, wetlands, and land.	 Lack of delineation between aquatic values and wetland values makes the proposal slightly confusing. Aquatic and wetland areas are distinct with quite different plant communities. This will make the rules work more clearly, and give greater guidance to people. 	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Oppose	That the definition of a Regionally Significant Wetland (which includes all wetlands over 800m above sea level) be not approved.	•Process classifying the wetlands as regionally significant was not robust. •Wetlands above 800m should not be automatically included if these are not accurately mapped/plotted and if no values assessment has been done on them.	Support – this relief would satisfy TrustPower's concerns in relation to wetlands above 800m.
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Amend: "A Regionally Significant Wetland is: [] (b) A wetland physically within a wetland management area listed in Schedule 9; or (c) A wetland higher than 800 metres above sea level."	Arbitrary classification on elevation; many wetlands will not meet habitat, flora, fauna or cultural values. More restrictive management is inappropriate given values not known.	Support – this relief would satisfy TrustPower's concerns in relation to wetlands above 800m.
Department of Conservation	42	Support	Retain with no amendments.	Consistent with Part 2 RMA. Gives guidance when considering activities in wetlands. Maintains flows in streams sourced from wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous threatened fish. Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater Management.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.

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New Zealand Railways	46	Amend	Add definition to the glossary section of the	•No definition of Regionally Significant Wetland	Support
Corporation	:		Water Plan which clarifies that those activities	in the Water Plan.	
			that occur on 'dry' land; such as land transport	•Where activities occur on 'dry' areas they	
			corridors located within the wider boundary area	should be permitted and the definition should	
			of the Regionally Significant Wetland shown in	clarify this.	
			the revised Maps accompanying Plan Change 2	Where activities occur on 'dry' areas they	
			are not intended to be affected by the new	should be permitted and the definition should	
			controls.	clarify this. Only those activities that impact on	
				wetlands should be captured by the new	
				controls.	

8 Policy 10.4.1B - Schedule 9

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Department of	42	Support	Retain with no amendments.	•Consistent with Part 2 RMA.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with
Conservation				•Gives guidance when considering activities in	TrustPower's submission.
				wetlands.	
				•Maintains flows in streams sourced from	
				wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous	
				threatened fish.	
				•Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater	
				Management.	

Regionally Significant Wetland values

6.14 Policy 10.4.1 - Definition of Regionally Significant Wetland values

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Amend	Add criterion: A10) Importance of this wetland within the wider network of wetlands within its catchment.	•Proposed plan only considers wetlands in isolation and doesn't consider networks of wetlands as important (e.g. for river flow stability).	Oppose, as all wetlands are part of the hydrological system the proposal is not an appropriate criteria for wetlands to be classified as "regionally significant".
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Support	Adopt the provision as proposed.	•Supports the incorporation of wetland values within one provision, and the addition of "significant" to value A9.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Amend policy 10.4.1: "A1 Habitat for <u>regionally</u> , nationally or internationally rare or threatened species or communities; A7 High diversity of indigenous flora and fauna; A8 Regionally significant habitat for waterfowl; and A79 Significant hydrological values including maintaining water quality or low flows, or reducing flood flows."		Support
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	In identifying significant wetlands, ensure adequate weight is given to the pattern of wetlands in maintaining corridors and feeding sites for waterfowl.	_	Oppose as all wetlands form part of the wider hydrological system which is interconnected this is not appropriate criteria for classifying wetlands as "regionally significant".

Department of	42	Support	Retain with no amendments.	Consistent with Part 2 RMA.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with
Conservation				•Gives guidance when considering activities in	TrustPower's submission.
				wetlands.	
				•Maintains flows in streams sourced from	
				wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous	
				threatened fish.	
				•Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater	
				Management.	
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend: "The regionally significant wetland	•Values inconsistent with case law, such as	Oppose. Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
Protection Society of New			values of Otago's wetlands that are identified in	criterion for representativeness.	regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
Zealand Inc			Schedule 9 are:"	•Significance criterion used to identify wetlands	not be included. Wetlands may be added to Schedule 9 and awarded protection
				in Schedule 9 is incomplete and it's possible not	through a formal plan change process if appropriate.
				all significant wetlands have been captured.	

Part 2: Protection of wetlands

Chapter 10 - Wetlands

5 Objective 10.3.1 - Maintain or enhance wetlands

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Delete Objective and replace with:	•Objective fails to form a framework to protect	Oppose. The existing Objective is more appropriate and sets a clear goal for the
Protection Society of New			"To recognise and provide for the protection of	wetlands and their margins, and set out all that	management of wetlands. The Act does not provide for the outright protection of
Zealand Inc			the natural character, biodiversity and other	is required by Part 2 RMA.	wetlands – it provides for their protection from inappropriate subdivision, use and
			values of wetlands in the regions."		development (Section 6(a)).

9 Policy 10.4.2 - Priority on avoiding adverse effects

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Support	Support for the preference of an "avoid" test where possible.	•Gives a strong signal the Regionally Significant Wetlands should be left alone.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Otago Conservation Board	27	Support	Strongly support the intention to avoid adverse effects on wetlands rather than to remedy or mitigate such effects.	•No longer acceptable to merely remedy or mitigate effects.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Delete policy 10.4.2 and replace with: "The adverse effects of activities on Regionally Significant Wetland shall be avoided where practicable and, otherwise, remedied or mitigated."	 Overly restrictive; fails to acknowledge remediation/mitigation may be more appropriate. Priority to avoid doesn't reflect intent of Objective 10.3.1; objective doesn't preclude remediation and mitigation. S 5(2)(c) RMA not a strict hierarchy. 	
Clutha District Council	34	Amend	Delete: "Remedying or mitigating effects will be considered only where those effects cannot be avoided."	•The requirement to avoid adverse effects where possible is too strict and inflexible.	

				effects can always be avoided by not doing anything.	
Department of	42	Support	Retain with no amendments.	•Consistent with Part 2 RMA. •Gives guidance	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with
Conservation				when considering activities in wetlands.	TrustPower's submission.
				•Maintains flows in streams sourced from	
				wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous	
				threatened fish. •Gives effect to the NPS	
				Freshwater Management.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Amend:	•Primacy should not be given to avoiding	Support
			"Priority will be given to the avoidance of	adverse effects, over remedying or mitigating	
			adverse effects of activities on Regionally	adverse effects.	
			Significant Wetlands and values. Remedying or	•Giving primacy to avoidance is inconsistent with	
			mitigating adverse effects will be considered	sustainable management as defined in RMA and	
			only where those effects cannot be avoided.	established case law.	
			Adverse effects on Regionally Significant		
			Wetlands and their regionally significant values		
			should be avoided, remedied or mitigated."		
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Support	Support. No change.	•Appropriately recognises preferability of	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with
Protection Society of New				avoidance of adverse effects.	TrustPower's submission.
Zealand Inc					

153 Chapter 10 general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Amend	Amend the objectives and policies to reflect that wetland boundaries are often indistinct and changeable. Suggested wording of new policy: "Due to the seasonal variability of wetlands and their changing boundaries, resource consent applications on or near defined regionally significant wetland boundaries with likely wetland characteristics will be assessed to ensure that they have no adverse effect on the functioning of the wetland as a whole."	wetland transition and seasonal variability. •Suggested change enables assessment of effects of activities adjacent to wetland boundary.	Oppose. Imprecise boundaries would make management of the regionally significant wetlands extremely difficult. Requiring "no adverse effects" is inconsistent with Section 5(2) of the RMA.
Te Ao Marama Inc	16	Amend	Include preservation of wetland, lake and river margins in the proposed plan change.	 Proposed change does not address this (as required by s 6 RMA). Would significantly strengthen the provisions proposed and help to achieve the purpose of RMA. A lot of inappropriate use and development has been carried out in the margins, with significant effects on wetlands, lakes, rivers and the coast. 	
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	Default position on rules and policies should be a conserved wetland rather than create permitted activities (To keep faith with the objective to "avoid").		Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend		•Relevant in establishing the boundaries and values ascribed to wetlands, and establishing the policy regime and the inventory.	1 .,

			their benefits.	•ORC is required to protect regionally significant infrastructure. •Would meet s 5 RMA.	
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Insert new policy and explanation: "Policy x.x.x: To recognise and protect wetlands that are shown to have significant values that are not identified on Schedule 9, and to protect those values by controlling activities in wetlands and their margins to ensure their ecosystem functioning, natural character and habitat values are sustained. Explanation:	•Plan change doesn't allow for further significant wetlands to be identified. •Significance criterion used to identify wetlands in Schedule 9 is incomplete and it's possible not all significant wetlands have been captured.	Oppose. ORC has undertaken the rigorous task of identifying wetlands in Otago with regionally significant values. Stakeholders and submitters have had the opportunity to comment on the scheduled wetlands and seek that additional wetlands that contain regionally significant wetland values are awarded protection.
			It is stated in the introduction to Schedule 9 that Schedule 9 is not exhaustive, and therefore not all wetlands with significant values have been identified. This policy recognises and provides for the protection of the values of those unidentified wetlands."		
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Insert new policy and explanation: "Unidentified wetlands will be assessed using the following ecological criteria: 1. Ecological context 2. Representative wetlands 3. Rarity 4. Distinctiveness Explanation: It is possible that not all wetlands with significant values have been identified on Schedule 9. This policy recognises and provides for the protection of these wetlands. The policy also introduces an ecological criteria (Appendix XX) that will be used when assessing those wetlands. Where an assessment of any wetlands is required for resource consent purposes it shall be carried out in accordance with the ecological criteria set out	•Values inconsistent with case law, such as criterion for representativeness. •Note: Appendix XX Ecological Criteria can be found in full in the original submission.	Oppose. ORC has undertaken the rigorous task of identifying wetlands in Otago with regionally significant values. Stakeholders and submitters have had the opportunity to comment on the scheduled wetlands and seek that additional wetlands that contain regionally significant wetland values are awarded protection. In the unlikely event that there are any "unidentified" wetlands, these may be added to Schedule 9 and awarded protection through a formal plan change process if appropriate.
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	in Appendix XX." Insert new policy and explanation: "Where an assessment has been undertaken on a wetland that is not identified on Schedule 9 and is shown to be significant these wetlands will be added to Schedule 9. Explanation: It is possible through resource consent processes that significant wetlands not included on Schedule 9 will be identified. It is appropriate that these significant wetlands are added to Schedule 9. In doing so the wetlands on	Possible not all significant wetlands have been captured in Schedule 9	Oppose. As per two above comments.

			Schedule 9 will be derived from two different processes (Policy 10.4.1 and Policy x.x.x (see policy directly above)) and this is appropriate because the management of these significant wetlands will be consistent. Changes to Schedule 9 to include wetlands will be the subject of a plan change process."		
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	Ar	mend	Insert new policy and explanation: "Policy x.x.x To recognise and provide for the protection of wetlands by managing adverse effects of activities on the values present, including natural character, ecosystem functioning, biodiversity, aesthetics or amenity values. Explanation: All wetlands are required to be managed sustainably in accordance with RMA, not just those are determined as being significant. Within Part 2 of the RMA wetlands are to be managed to protect biodiversity, natural character and other values.	•Many wetlands not scheduled, and all wetlands should be managed according to Part 2 RMA.	Oppose. The plan change clearly relates to regionally significant wetlands. Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should not be included. Wetlands may be added to Schedule 9 and awarded protection through a formal plan change process if appropriate.

Chapter 12 - Rules: Water Take, Use and Management

22 Rule 12.1.1A.1 - Take and use of surface water from any Regionally Significant Wetland

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Support	Support.	•Will help to protect wetlands into the future.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Otago Conservation Board	27	Support	Strongly support setting the default activity status of activities that affect wetlands as 'non-complying'.	•Essential that all remaining wetlands receive highest level of protection.	Oppose on the basis that the relief being sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Amend the activity status to a restricted discretionary activity.	•Unnecessary, and adds needless expense and time compared to restricted discretionary.	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	That the non-complying activity status proposed for activities controlled by Chapter 12 be not approved and that such activities remain as discretionary activities.	 Non-complying status is too onerous, especially given concerns on artificial wetlands, and the lack of robustness in the process classifying the wetlands as regionally significant Activity with an adverse effect on a wetland value may still be appropriate. Discretionary status allows robust examination, and the possibility of declining activities. 	Support
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend		of rivers or lakes; the rule should be explicit that only water taken directly from the area identified as Regionally Significant Wetland is non-	

Royal Forest and Bird	47	Support	Retain rule as proposed.	•Consistent with Part 2 and s 30 RMA.	Oppose, for reasons given in TrustPower's submission.
Protection Society of New					
Zealand Inc					

26 Rule 12.1.2.4 - Take and use of surface water for no more than 3 days

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New	47	Amend	Amend 12.1.2.4(b): "The water is not taken from and there is no		
Zealand Inc			change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the <u>indigenous</u> flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally	1	TrustPower's opposes all aspects of this submission except the inclusion of "indigenous" as this is consistent with the principles of the Act.
			Significant Wetland, or wetland that meets the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria."		TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "the water is not taken from" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in
		:	Add the following permitted rule conditions: "(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological values; and (b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands and their margins."		addition as this would be grossly inefficient. The proposed additional permitted rule conditions do not make sense in the context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to provide any certainty in compliance or otherwise with this rule.
					Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should not be included.

27 Rule 12.1.2.5 - Take and use of surface water general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend 12.1.2.5(a):	•Deletion of 'water is not taken from' alters intent	Oppose in part.
Protection Society of New			"The water is not taken from and there is no	of rule.	
Zealand Inc			change to the water level or hydrological	•Rule doesn't cover non-assessed and non-	TrustPower's opposes all aspects of this submission except the inclusion of
			function, or no damage to the indigenous flora,	scheduled wetlands.	"indigenous" as this is consistent with the principles of the Act.
			fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally		
			Significant Wetland, or wetland that meets the		The Rule is set up to be effects based; the inclusion of "the water is not taken
			significance criteria listed in Appendix XX		from" is inconsistent with the effects based approach.
			Ecological Criteria."		
					The proposed additional permitted rule conditions do not make sense in the
			Add the following permitted rule conditions:		context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.
			"(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological		Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			values; and		regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
			(b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands		not be included.
			and their margins."		

28 Rule 12.1.2.6 - Take and use of surface water for land drainage

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	NUMBER 47	Amend	Amend 12.1.2.6(a): "The water is not taken from and there is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the indigenous flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland, or wetland that meets the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria." Add the following permitted rule conditions: "(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological	of rule. •Rule doesn't cover non-assessed and non-scheduled wetlands.	Oppose in part. TrustPower's opposes all aspects of this submission except the inclusion of "indigenous" as this is consistent with the principles of the Act. TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "the water is not taken from" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in addition as this would be grossly inefficient. The proposed additional permitted rule conditions do not make sense in the context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.
			values; and (b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands and their margins."		Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should not be included.

37 Rule 12.1.4.8 - Take and use of surface water - restricted discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Add new discretionary matters: "(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological values; and (b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands and their margins." Amend (xvii): "Any effect on any Regionally Significant Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland value or any wetland that meets the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria."	Council responsibilities are greater than the identification of significant wetlands; need to consider adverse effects on all wetlands. Possible not all significant wetlands have been captured in Schedule 9. Gives effect to Part 2 RMA.	Matter (xii) provides for consideration of any adverse effect on any lawful take of water, if consent is granted and Matter (xvii) provides for consideration of any

45 Rule 12.2.1A.1 - Take and use of groundwater from any Regionally Significant Wetland

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Conservation Board	27	Support	Strongly support setting the default activity status of activities that affect wetlands as 'non-complying'.	_	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Amend the activity status to a restricted discretionary activity.	•Unnecessary, and adds needless expense and time compared to restricted discretionary.	Support, on the basis that the relief sought is consistent with TrustPower's submission.
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	for activities controlled by Chapter 12 be not		

	•Activity with an adverse effect on a wetland
	value may still be appropriate.
	•Discretionary status allows robust examination,
	and the possibility of declining activities.

48 Rule 12.2.2.5 - Take and use of groundwater for no more than 3 days

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend 12.2.2.5(b):	•Deletion of 'water is not taken from' alters intent	Oppose in part.
Protection Society of New			"The water is not taken from and there is no	of rule.	
Zealand Inc			change to the water level or hydrological	•Rule doesn't cover non-assessed and non-	TrustPower's opposes all aspects of this submission except the inclusion of
			function, or no damage to the indigenous flora,	scheduled wetlands.	"indigenous" as this is consistent with the principles of the Act.
			fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally		
			Significant Wetland, or any wetland that meets		TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function,
			the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX		or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements
			Ecological Criteria."		for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "the
					water is not taken from" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in
	!			:	addition as this would be grossly inefficient.
					Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
					regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
					not be included.

49 Rule 12.2.2.6 - Take and use of groundwater from Schedule 2C aquifer or within 100m of any wetland, lake or river

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend 12.2.2.6(a):	•Deletion of 'water is not taken from' alters intent	Oppose in part.
Protection Society of New			"The water is not taken from and there is no	of rule.	
Zealand Inc			change to the water level or hydrological	•Rule doesn't cover non-assessed and non-	TrustPower's opposes all aspects of this submission except the inclusion of
			function, or no damage to the indigenous flora,	scheduled wetlands.	"indigenous" as this is consistent with the principles of the Act.
			fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally		•
			Significant Wetland, or any wetland that meets		TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function,
			the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX		or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements
			Ecological Criteria."		for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "the
					water is not taken from" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in
					addition as this would be grossly inefficient.
					Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
					regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
					not be included.

50 Rule 12.2.2A.1 - Take and use of groundwater for community water supply - controlled activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend 12.2.2A1(g):	•Council responsibilities are greater than the	Oppose.
Protection Society of New			"Any effect on and Regionally Significant	identification of significant wetlands; need to	
Zealand Inc			Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland	consider adverse effects on all wetlands.	Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			value or any wetland that meets the significance	Possible not all significant wetlands have been	regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should

	criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological	captured in Schedule 9. •Gives effec	ct to Part 2	not be included.
	<u>Criteria</u> ."	RMA.		
				The proposed additional matters of control do not make sense in the context of
	Add new matters of control:			the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.
	"(h) Effects on biological diversity and ecological		Taxaban and taxaba	
	values; and			
	(i) Effects on the natural character of wetlands			
	and their margins."			

53 Rule 12.2.3.4 - Take and use of groundwater - restricted discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Federated Farmers of	29	Amend	Amend:	•Implementation uncertain; means standard	Support
New Zealand			"Any <u>adverse</u> effect on any Regionally	farming practices may be captured.	
			Significant Wetland or on any regionally		
			significant wetland value"		
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend (xiii):	•Council responsibilities are greater than the	Oppose.
Protection Society of New			"Any effect on and Regionally Significant	identification of significant wetlands; need to	
Zealand Inc			Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland	consider adverse effects on all wetlands.	Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			value or any wetland that meets the significance	•Possible not all significant wetlands have been	regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
			criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological	captured in Schedule 9. •Gives effect to Part 2	not be included.
			<u>Criteria."</u>	RMA.	
					The proposed additional matters of control do not make sense in the context of
			Add new matters of discretion:		the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.
			"(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological		
			values; and		
			(b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands		
			and their margins."		

60 Rule 12.3.1A.1 - Damming or diversion of water: Regionally Significant Wetland

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Conservation Board	27	Support	Strongly support setting the default activity status of activities that affect wetlands as 'non-complying'.		Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Amend the activity status to a restricted discretionary activity.	•Unnecessary, and adds needless expense and time compared to restricted discretionary.	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	for activities controlled by Chapter 12 be not	 Non-complying status is too onerous, especially given concerns on artificial wetlands, and the lack of robustness in the process classifying the wetlands as regionally significant Activity with an adverse effect on a wetland value may still be appropriate. Discretionary status allows robust examination, and the possibility of declining activities. 	
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Amend Rule 12.3.1A.1: "Unless covered by Rules 12.3.1.1 to 12.3.1.4, and 12.3.3.1(i): (i) The direct damming or diversion of water from	•Determination as to whether a diversion will 'affect' the water level requires subjective analysis and is not suitable for determining non-compliance.	1

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			or within any Regionally Significant Wetland; or	•Unclear why diversion is treated differently to	
			(ii) The damming or diversion of water that	(direct) take and use of surface water. Given	
,			affects the water level of any Regionally	many resource consents involve the take and	
			Significant Wetland;	diversion of water, inappropriate to treat	
			is a non-complying activity."	differently.	
				•Many Regionally Significant Wetlands form part	
				of rivers or lakes; the rule should be explicit that	
				only water diverted directly from/to the area	
				identified as Regionally Significant Wetland is	
				non-complying.	
				•Non-complying activity overly restrictive:	
				diversion may improve water flow enabling the	
				enhancement of wetland values.	
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Support	Retain wording as proposed.	No reason given	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
Protection Society of New					submission.
Zealand Inc					

63 Rule 12.3.2.1 - Damming or diversion of water general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Amend 12.3.2.1(e): "It is not within and there is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland; and"	within a Regionally Significant Wetland is not permitted.	TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "it is not within" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in addition as this would be grossly inefficient.
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Add new matters of discretion: "(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological values; and (b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands and their margins."	just those considered significant.	Oppose. The proposed additional matters do not make sense in the context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.

64 Rule 12.3.2.2 - Damming or diversion of water for land drainage

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Categorise the maintenance of an existing drain, including the clearing of any subsequent slumping, as a permitted activity.	 Land drainage has positive benefits, both locally and wider. Unmaintained drainage systems risk flooding, erosion and discharges. Requiring consent may deter maintenance. 	Support
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Amend 12.3.2.2(a): "The water is not diverted from and there is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland; and"	permitted.	TrustPower submitted that "no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat" does not meet the requirements for a permitted activity standard. TrustPower considers that the wording "the water is not diverted from" may replace this wording, but not that it applies in addition as this would be grossly inefficient.
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Add new matters of discretion: "(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological values; and (b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands	•Need to sustainably manage all wetlands not just those considered significant.	Oppose. The proposed additional matters do not make sense in the context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.

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and their margins.	

65 Rule 12.3.2.3 - Damming or diversion of water for erection, placement, repair or maintenance of structure

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Add new matters of discretion:	•Need to sustainably manage all wetlands not	Oppose. The proposed additional matters do not make sense in the context of
Protection Society of New			"(a) Effects on biological diversity and ecological	just those considered significant.	the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.
Zealand Inc			values; and		
			(b) Effects on the natural character of wetlands		
			and their margins."		

66 Rule 12.3.3.1 - Damming or diversion of water - restricted discretionary activity

10	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Amend: "Any <u>adverse</u> effect on any Regionally Significant Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland value"		Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Support	The restricted discretionary activity status for the damming of water that has previously been carried out remains a restricted discretionary activity (Rule 12.3.3.1(i)).	No reason given.	Support
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Amend 12.3.3.1(aa): "Any effect on and Regionally Significant Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland value or any wetland that meets the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria." Add new matters of discretion: "(o) Effects on biological diversity and ecological values."	•Matters of discretion don't address/protect non-scheduled wetlands.	Oppose. Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should not be included. The proposed additional matter does not make sense in the context of the specific Rule, and are too subjective to be included in any Rules.

156 Chapter 12 general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Support	Supports all rules within the proposed plan where the addition of the words "Regionally Significant Wetland" has been added to the previous rule which was related to lakes and rivers.		Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
Contact Energy Limited	30	Did not specify	The opportunity to mitigate or offset the effects of activities on Regionally Significant Wetlands be given recognition in the rules.	Wetlands can be relocated and enhanced. Concerned by hierarchy of avoid, followed by remedy or mitigate - not endorsed in RMA.	Support
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	Default position on rules and policies should be a conserved wetland rather than create permitted activities (To keep faith with the		Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.

			objective to "avoid").		
Department of	42	Support	For the following rules: 12.1.1A.1 - 12.1.1A.3;	•Consistent with Part 2 RMA. •Gives guidance	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
Conservation			12.1.2.4 - 12.1.2.6; 12.1.3.1; 12.2.1A.1;	when considering activities in wetlands.	submission.
			12.2.1A.2, 12.2.2.5; 12.2.2.6; 12.2.2A.1;	•Manages discharges, the damming and	
			12.2.3.1A; 12.2.3.2A; 12.2.3.4; 12.2.3.5;	diversion of water in a manner that protects the	
			12.2.4.1; 12.3.1A.1; 12.3.1A.2; 12.3.2.1 -	habitat of indigenous fish.	
			12.3.2.3; 12.3.3.1; 12.3.4.1; 12.4.1.1; 12.4.2.1;	•Maintains groundwater and surface flows in a	
			12.5.1.1; 12.5.2.1; 12.7.1.1; 12.8.1.1; 12.8.1.5;	manner that protects the habitat of indigenous	
			12.8.2.1; 12.9.1.1; 12.9.1.2; 12.10.1.1;	fish.	
			12.10.2.1; 12.11.2.1 - 12.11.2.3. Retain with no	•Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater	
			amendments.	Management.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Rules (or standards in rules) that seek to	•Do not enable compliance to be objectively	Support
			achieve no net change of any particular value(s)	assessed.	
			should not be included in the Water Plan.	Application is uncertain.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Amend or delete rules (or standards in rules) associated with a high degree of subjectivity.	No reason given.	Support
New Zealand Railways	46	Amend	Add to 12.3.3, 12.4.2, 12.5.2, 12.9.2 a criterion	•Criteria do not take into account location and	Support
Corporation			which recognises the importance of existing land	importance of regionally (and nationally)	
•			transport networks, such as rail where these are	important land transport networks which are, in	
			currently located within regionally significant	places, incorporated within the new Regional	
			wetlands such as: "Any positive effect derived	Significant Wetland boundaries.	
			from the function of the structure and/or activity	•No balancing criteria, other than those in Part 2	
			in this location" or similar. NB: Amending	RMA, which allow for the fixed location of land-	
			Schedule 1 as set out as requested would	based transport networks to be considered when	
			largely achieve the same relief.	they require replacement, or alteration along	
				their current alignments.	

Chapter 13 - Rules: Land Use on Lake or River Beds and Regionally Significant Wetlands

114 Rule 13.5.1.1 - Disturbance of the bed general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend (i):	,	Oppose, with the exception of the addition of "indigenous".
Protection Society of New			"Except for activities covered by Rules 13.2.1.5,	necessary control on potential adverse effects of	
Zealand Inc			13.2.1.6, or 13.2.1.8, there is no change to the	contaminant discharge.	Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			water level or hydrological function, or no		regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
			damage to the indigenous flora, fauna or its		not be included.
			habitat, in or on any Regional Significant		
			Wetland, or any wetland that meets the		
•			significance criteria listed in Appendix XX		
			Ecological Criteria"		
			Amend 13.5.1.1(f) as follows:		
1			"of sediment to the lake, river or wetland"		

119 Rule 13.5.2.1 - Extraction of alluvium - restricted discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	SUB NUMBER 47	Amend	Delete "or any Regional Significant" from the introduction to the rule Amend (aa): "Any effect on and Regionally Significant Wetland or on any regionally significant wetland value or any wetland that meets the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria." Amend (a)(ii): "The natural character of any affected water body and their margins" Add new matter of discretion:		
			"(m) Any effects on biological diversity and ecological values."		

120 Rule 13.5.3.2 - Alteration of Regionally Significant Wetland - discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Federated Farmers of	29	Support	Adopt 13.5.3.2 as proposed.	No reason given.	Support
New Zealand					

122 Rule 13.6.2.0 - Introduction or planting of New Zealand native plant

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Lake Waihola Waipori	20	Support	Supports rule in principle.	Allows for planting of native species in wetlands	Support
Wetlands Society Inc.				without resource consent being required	
Federated Farmers of	29	Support	Adopt 13.6.2.0 as proposed.	No reason given.	Support
New Zealand					
Clutha District Council	34	Amend	Either:	•Rule allows planting of any native plant, and	Oppose, it is not appropriate that in planting native species such criteria is
	The second secon		Restrict native plants to wetland species which	some native plants can be inappropriate in	required to be assessed.
			are native to the area; or	wetlands (e.g., non-wetland species which could	
	T ADDRESS OF THE STATE OF THE S		• Add new condition "(d) There is no change to	be invasive or encourage succession away from	
			the water level or hydrological function, or no	wetland species, or non-local genetic stock).	
			damage to the flora, fauna and its habitat, in or		
			on any Regionally Significant Wetland".		
Te Runanga o Moeraki,	38	Support	Supports addition:	•May assist in the future restoration of wetlands.	Support
Kati Huirapa Runaka ki			"The introduction or planting of any New		
Puketeraki, Te Runanga o			Zealand native plant to any Regionally		
Otakou, and Hokonui			Significant Wetland, is a permitted activity		
Runanga			providing: (a) "		

123 Rule 13.6.3.1 - Introduction or planting of vegetation - discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Amend:	•Current words do not provide Council with	Oppose.
Protection Society of New			"or any Regional Significant Wetland or any	necessary control on potential adverse effects of	
Zealand Inc			wetland that meets the significance criteria listed	contaminant discharge.	Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			in Appendix XX Ecological Criteria"		regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
					not be included.

124 Rule 13.7.1.2 - Removal or clearance of exotic plant material

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Support	Adopt 13.7.1.2 as proposed.	No reason given.	Support
Department of Conservation	42	Amend	Amend: "(c) The wetland alteration is limited to that which is necessary, the use of best practice methods, for the removal or clearance of the plant material."	clearance of exotic plant material cannot be used as a pretext to damage Regionally	
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Amend: "The removal or clearanceRegional Significant wetlands, is a permitted activity providing:" Add the following condition: "Damage to indigenous flora and habitats or indigenous fauna managed."		Oppose. The proposed additional condition is not necessary given the Rule already limits the wetland alteration to that which is necessary.

125 Rule 13.7.2.1 - Removal of pest plants - controlled activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Lake Waihola Waipori Wetlands Society Inc.	20	Amend	Amend to include; Reed Sweetgrass Glyceria maxima, Crack Willow Salix fragilis, Grey Willow Salix cinerea, Black Alder Alnus glutinosa, Red Alder Alnus rubra, Pine Pinus radiata.	•Makes consent always be granted for the removal of these species.	Support
Department of Conservation	42	Amend	Amend: "Except as provided for by Rules 13.7.1.1 (i) Lagarosiphon (Lagarosiphon major); or (ii) Eel Grass (Vallisneria spiralis); or (xv) Glyceria species (xvi) Alder (Alnus) species; (xvii) Crack willow; (xviii) Gray willow, from the bed of any lake or river, or from"	•The 4 species proposed for inclusion have potential to adversely effect Regionally Significant Wetlands and/or Regionally Significant Wetland Values. •Amendment is consistent with Part 2 RMA. •Amendment gives effect to NPS Freshwater Management.	

126 Rule 13.7.3.1 - Removal or clearance of plant material - discretionary activity

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Add the word exotic:	•Agrees may be a need for discretionary	Oppose. Discretionary activity status is appropriate for the removal of any plant
Protection Society of New			"Unless covered by Rules 13.7.1.1 to 13.7.2.1,	consents for some removal of exotic species	material from a regionally significant wetland that is not captured by the
Zealand Inc			removal or clearance of exotic plant material	from significant wetlands, but removal of	permitted or controlled activity rules.
			from any Regionally Significant Wetland, is a	indigenous vegetation should be avoided and	
			discretionary activity."	should be non-complying.	

155 Chapter 13 general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Support	Supports all rules within the proposed plan where the addition of the words "Regionally Significant Wetland" has been added to the previous rule which was related to lakes and rivers.	No reason given.	Oppose in part, for the reasons given in TrustPower's submission.
Contact Energy Limited	30	Did not specify	The opportunity to mitigate or offset the effects of activities on Regionally Significant Wetlands be given recognition in the rules.	•Wetlands can be relocated and enhanced. •Concerned by hierarchy of avoid, followed by remedy or mitigate - not endorsed in RMA.	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	That controls on the use of the beds of wetlands are not duplicated by the Regional and District Plans.	 Queries Chapter 13 rules applying to wetlands. Especially relevant to Central Otago District Plan. 	Support
Clutha District Council	34	Support	Strongly support the addition of Regionally Significant Wetlands into existing rules controlling activities in lake and river beds.	•Addresses existing gap between Regional Council and Territorial Authority functions, which allowed significant impacts on wetlands from activities such as the erection of structures, disturbance, planting and vegetation removal.	Support in part
Transpower New Zealand Limited	37	Amend	Provide for the "use" of existing structures in Rule 13.1.1.1 by including after the words "any lake or river" the word "or any Regionally Significant Wetlands".	of existing lawfully established structures in or	
Transpower New Zealand Limited	37	Amend	In relation to Rules 13.7.1.2, 13.7.2.1 and 13.7.3.1: Further consideration required in terms of adequate provision provided for vegetation removal around transmission lines.	•Vegetation trimming undertaken to protect lines,	
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	Default position on rules and policies should be a conserved wetland rather than create permitted activities (To keep faith with the objective to "avoid").	No reason given.	Oppose, for the reasons given in TrustPower's submission on Policy 10.4.2.
Department of Conservation	42	Support	For the following rules: 13.2.1.4 - 13.2.1.8; 13.2.2.1; 13.2.3.1; 13.3.1.1; 13.3.1.2; 13.3.2.1; 13.4.1.1; 13.4.2.1; 13.5.1.1; 13.5.1.3; 13.5.1.5A;	•Gives Regionally Significant Wetlands the same	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.

	···				
			13.5.1.6; 13.5.1.8; 13.5.2.1; 13.5.3.2; 13.6.2.0;	•Protects wetland flora	
			13.6.3.1 and 13.7.3.1. Retain with no	•Enables the maintenance and restoration of	
			amendments.	regionally significant wetlands.	
				Gives effect to NPS Freshwater Management.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Rules (or standards in rules) that seek to	•Do not enable compliance to be objectively	Support
			achieve no net change of any particular value(s)	assessed.	
			should not be included in the Water Plan.	Application is uncertain.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Amend or delete rules (or standards in rules)	No reasons given.	Support
			associated with a high degree of subjectivity.		
New Zealand Railways	46	Amend	Add to 13.2.2, 13.3.2, 13.4.2, and 13.5.2 a	Criteria do not take into account location and	Support
Corporation			criterion which recognises the importance of	importance of regionally (and nationally)	
			existing land transport networks, such as rail	important land transport networks which are, in	
			where these are currently located within	places, incorporated within the new Regional	
			regionally significant wetlands such as: "Any	Significant Wetland boundaries.	
			positive effect derived from the function of the	•No balancing criteria, other than those in Part 2	
			structure and/or activity in this location" or	RMA, which allow for the fixed location of land-	
			similar. NB: Amending Schedule 1 as set out as	based transport networks to be considered when	
			requested would largely achieve the same relief.	they require replacement, or alteration along	
				their current alignments.	
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend		•Fences shouldn't be erected in wetlands as	Oppose.
Protection Society of New			13.2.1.5; 13.2.1.6 and 13.2.1.8:	animals tend to congregate along them, and	
Zealand Inc			"Thebed of a lake or river, or any Regional		Council did not intend for non-scheduled wetlands to be included in the
			Significant W wetland is a permitted activity,		regionally significant wetland provisions and in TrustPower's view they should
			providing:"	cable placement can cause irreversible damage.	not be included.
				•Erection of structures over wetlands can	
			Add the following permitted activity conditions:	adversely affect them.	
			"(a) The structure is not in a Regionally		
	THE PARTY OF THE P		Significant Wetland or any wetland that meets		
			the significance criteria listed in Appendix XX		
			Ecological Criteria.		
			(b) Effects on biological diversity and ecological		
			values; and		
			(c) Effects on the natural character of wetlands		
			and their margins."	Down at a Continuous analytics about the	Our and The existing discontinuous activity status is appropriate for the remaind
Royal Forest and Bird	47	Amend	Add new non-complying rule:	•Removal of indigenous vegetation should be	
Protection Society of New			"Removal or clearance of native plant material	avoided and should be non-complying.	of indigenous vegetation. In some cases indigenous vegetation removal would
Zealand Inc			from any Regionally Significant Wetland, or any		be incidental to other activities and would generate minor or less than minor effects, and such removal does not warrant non-complying activity status.
			wetland that meets the significance criteria		enects, and such removal does not warrant non-complying activity status.
			listed in Schedule #; and is a non-complying		
			activity."		

Protection general

161 Protection general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Contact Energy Limited	30	Support	The opportunity to mitigate or offset the effects	•Wetlands can be relocated and enhanced.	Support
			of activities on Regionally Significant Wetlands	•Concerned by hierarchy of avoid, followed by	
			be given recognition in the objectives, policies,	remedy or mitigate - not endorsed in RMA.	
			and rules.		

162 Generic permitted activity condition for wetlands protection

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	Delete: "There is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland." In rules 12.1.2.4, 12.1.2.5, 12.1.2.6, 12.2.2.5, 12.2.2.6, 12.3.2.1, 12.3.2.2, 12.3.2.3, 13.4.1.1, 13.5.1.1, 13.5.1.3, 13.5.1.8.	Since other provisions control water in Regionally Significant Wetlands and wetlands are mapped, unsure of need for condition. Concerned that implementation of rule is uncertain near mapped areas.	Support
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Delete: "There is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitats, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland In rules 12.1.2.4, 12.1.2.5, 12.1.2.6, 12.2.2.5, 12.2.2.6, 12.3.2.1, 12.3.2.2, 12.3.2.3, 12.5.1.1 and 13.5.1.3	•Condition doesn't provide certainty to enable compliance to be objectively assessed (e.g., take of water affecting hydrological function or damaging habitat requires subjective analysis and not suitable as a permitted activity).	Support
Te Runanga o Moeraki, Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki, Te Runanga o Otakou, and Hokonui Runanga	38	Support	Support the addition throughout the Plan of: "There is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland."	•Note, want independent assessment to determine whether there are changes to regionally significant wetlands. •Want clarification on how an assessment would be done, who would do it, and whether the causes of these changes can be established. •Risk that cumulative effects are missed, and only marked changes are picked up.	
Te Runanga o Moeraki, Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki, Te Runanga o Otakou, and Hokonui Runanga	38	Amend	Add provision to all permitted activities where it concerns permanent structures in or possible effects on regionally significant wetlands: "That there is no change to the water level or hydrological function, or no damage to the flora, fauna or its habitat, in or on any Regionally Significant Wetland."	•There are now activities permitted within Regionally Significant Wetlands that may have a permanent impact.	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's submission.
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	13.4.1.1, 13.5.1.1 and 13.5.1.3:		

Financial contributions

10 Financial contributions policy (Policy 10.4.2A and Ch.17)

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Federated Farmers of	29	Oppose	Opposes in part 10.4.2A and the Introduction to	No reason given.	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
New Zealand			Chapter 17 in part.		submission

	7				
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	That the new policy 10.4.2A on financial contributions be amended to clarify that not every effect not avoided, remedied or mitigated is required to be addressed by way of financial contribution for environmental compensation, but only those residual effects above a certain threshold - being more than minor effects. Appropriate clarification of the circumstances, purpose and method of determining the contribution amount should also be provided.	Not every effect needs to be addressed. The policy implies a "no net loss" approach, which is not taken in RMA.	Support
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Amend the sixth paragraph of Section 17.1: "Works and services apply to remediation or mitigation activities, while financial contributions may apply to the offsetting of adverse effects that cannot be directly fully avoided, or completely remedied or, in the Council's opinion, adequately-mitigated, perhaps due to the nature of activity that needs to occur within the vicinity of the Regionally Significant Wetland."	be avoided, remedied or mitigated; not consistent with Policy 10.4.2A. •Given RMA is not a 'no effects' statute, 17.1 requires amendment to reflect direction provided	Support
Clutha District Council	34	Support	Supports the use of financial contributions to offset adverse effects	•Can help ensure the best environmental outcome.	Support
Department of Conservation	42	Support	Retain policy 10.4.2A with no amendments.	Consistent with Part 2 RMA. Gives guidance when considering activities in wetlands. Maintains flows in streams sourced from wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous threatened fish. Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater Management.	Support in part on the basis that the relief sought is consistent with TrustPower's submission.
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Delete policy 10.4.2A.		

165 Financial contributions rules

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Delete clause regarding the consideration of the need for a financial contribution and replace with: "In circumstances where adverse effects on Regionally Significant Wetlands cannot be avoided, remedied or mitigated, whether a financial contribution is necessary and the appropriate value of any contribution."	•Note: Relevant to Rules 12.1.4.8, 12.2.3.4, 12.3.3.1, 12.4.2.1, 12.5.2.1, 13.2.2.1, 13.3.2.1	Support
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Amend	Delete all provisions for financial contributions	•Financial contributions inappropriate given large-scale loss or modification of wetlands, and inconsistent with Part 2 RMA and NPS	

	Freshwater Management.	
	•Assessment criteria inadequate to assess	
	viability in any offsetting.	

Part 3: Schedules and maps

Mapping of Schedule 9 wetlands general 199 Mapping of Schedule 9 wetlands general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Otago Fish & Game Council	8	Amend	with cadastral boundaries of wetlands overlaid	 •Maps do not show level of detail needed to assess effect of changes, or to give effect to the proposed plan. •Maps in the Wetland Inventory will not be sufficient as it doesn't have legal force. 	
Otago Conservation Board	27	Amend	Detailed maps and their base aerial photographs should be used in the new Schedule.	•Wetlands are often small areas with complicated boundaries •1:50,000 maps inadequate	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Support	Supports all wetlands classified as Regionally Significant being accurately plotted/mapped before inclusion in the Regional Plan.	No reason given.	Support

Schedule 10 and non-Regionally Significant Wetlands

600 Schedule 10 and non-Regionally Significant Wetlands

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Save the Otago Peninsula Inc Society	21	Oppose	Oppose the deletion of Schedule 10.	 Deletion of Schedule 10 would contribute to the loss and degradation of small wetlands. Some small wetlands on the Otago Peninsula are collectively very important as habitat for wading birds - they are gradually being drained and filled. Wetlands at the head of Papanui Inlet were once on the Wetland of Ecological and National Importance database, and are now almost non-existent. 	Oppose as TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC.
Save the Otago Peninsula Inc Society	21	Amend	Include schedule of locally important wetlands in the Water Plan.	No reasons given.	Oppose as TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC
Otago Conservation Board	27	Amend	Schedule 10 areas which are not going to be added into Schedule 9 should be re-evaluated and, where appropriate, given protection.	•Not including will mean fewer wetlands protected.	Oppose as TrustPower understands the Schedule 10 wetlands have already been evaluated by ORC. TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC.
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	Would like to see as many as possible of the remaining wetlands, classified as significant or not, preserved.	 •Wetlands play important role in sustaining diverse ecology, filtering water and providing interest to our landscapes. •The extent of loss makes all remaining wetlands significant. 	Oppose as TrustPower understands the Schedule 10 wetlands have already been evaluated by ORC. TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC.
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Support	Supports repeal of Schedule 10.	•Streamlines wetland provisions, conducive to people using the Water Plan.	Support

Specific Schedule 9 wetlands

284 Schedule 9 - Loch Loudon Fen Complex (#84, Map F50)

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Department of	42	Support	That the inclusion in Schedule 9, and the extent	Consistent with Part 2 RMA, and reflects ORC's	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
Conservation			of the wetland be retained without amendment.	functions under s 30 RMA.	submission.

285 Schedule 9 - Loch Luella Fen Complex (#85, Maps F50 & F51)

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Department of	42	Support	That the inclusion in Schedule 9, and the extent	Consistent with Part 2 RMA, and reflects ORC's	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
Conservation			of the wetland be retained without amendment.	functions under s 30 RMA.	submission.

367 Schedule 9 - Waipori/Waihola Wetland Complex (#167, Maps F48 & F49)

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER			,	
Transpower New Zealand	37	Did not	Review the extent of the wetland complex at the	•From the maps looks like these are within the	Support
Limited		specify	location of transmission support structures for	wetland boundary.	
	,		the GOR-HWB 110kV and NMA-TMH 220kV	•Don't want to get unnecessary consent to	
			lines, and confirm that these structures are not	maintain/upgrade assets. Effects from such	
			contained within the Waipori/Waihola Wetland	works cannot be avoided, and do not want	
			Complex.	financial contributions to be required.	
				•Need to appropriately provide for the national	
				grid, recognise its benefits and be in accordance	
				with NPS Electricity Transmission.	

Part 4: Methods other than Rules

Promotion, information and funding

14 Policy 10.4.6 - Promotion of wetlands

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Department of	42	Support	Retain with no amendments, except amend "(e):	Consistent with Part 2 RMA.	Oppose on the basis that the relief sought is inconsistent with TrustPower's
Conservation			Providing information on wetlands and their	•Gives guidance when considering activities in	submission.
			values ecosystem services."	wetlands.	
				•Maintains flows in streams sourced from	
				wetlands which protects habitat of indigenous	
				threatened fish.	
				•Gives effect to the NPS Freshwater	
				Management.	
				•Monitoring of wetland condition is essential to	
				ensure ORC is fulfilling its functions under	
				section 30(1)(c)(iiia) RMA.	
				•Requests that the policy be amended to clarify	
				the values of and services provided by wetlands.	

Wetland values information and Wetland Inventory

151 Wetland Inventory

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Waitaki District Council	14	Support	Supports providing information in a non-regulatory inventory of wetlands.	•Allows the inventory to be more extensive, regularly updated, and freely accessible to all. •Inventory information will be useful to the Waitaki DC's Ecological Study.	
Federated Farmers of New Zealand	29	Amend	any changes or updating of any wetland inventory only occur in direct consultation with landowners concerned and that Council introduces a policy and method that provides for	Values could be changed without plan change process and public consultation process. Affected farmers should be able to submit on inventory contents, and appeal to Environment Court if necessary.	
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend		•Enables protection of physical resources in a way which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeing and for their health and safety	

400 Schedule 9 - Wetlands values in Schedule 9

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
River-Estuary Care: Waikouaiti-Karitane	13	Oppose	Certain sections of the Consultation Draft should be included in the final proposal, e.g. listing of the specific nature and values in each of the designated wetlands.	No reason given.	Support
Otago Conservation Board	27	Oppose	Information on wetland values should be retained and included in the new Schedule to be used for ongoing planning and protection.	•Planning decisions and protection improved by having ready access to values information.	Support
Contact Energy Limited	30	Oppose	·	•Removing values is ultra vires - allows non-public, non-contestable process to assign values to a wetland, removes certainty for plan users, and is not just - especially as these values trigger non-complying category.	Support
Hawksbury Lagoon Inc	39	Amend	Ensure there is an explicit requirement in the plan to keep wetland values up to date to use when considering applications for activities.	No reason given.	Support
OtagoNet Joint Venture	43	Amend	Include regionally significant wetland values ascribed to each Regionally Significant Wetland in Schedule 9.		

Part 5: General

Miscellaneous

150 RMA streamlining and simplifying

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB NUMBER	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
Save the Otago Peninsula Inc Society	21	Oppose	Opposes the deletion of 10.2.3	No reason given	Oppose
Gregory Kerr	35	Amend	Chapter 10's Introduction, Issues and Anticipated Environmental Results sections should be reinstated.	•Nationally 10% of wetlands remaining, with less than half protected.	Oppose as TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC.
Te Runanga o Moeraki, Kati Huirapa Runaka ki Puketeraki, Te Runanga o Otakou, and Hokonui Runanga	38	Support	Support the intent of "making provisions easier to read and understand", provided that important details are not lost through doing this.	No reason given.	Support
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc	47	Oppose	Retain issues, Explanations, Principle Reasons, Anticipated Results, and cross references.	 Removal doesn't make Plan easier to understand. These assist decision-makers individuals better understand the Plan, educates, and helps understand whether consents are required. 	Oppose as TrustPower supports the simplifying and streamlining that has been undertaken by ORC.

154 Plan general

SUBMITTER NAME	SUB	POSITION	DECISION REQUESTED	REASON FOR DECISION REQUESTED	TRUSTPOWER'S FURTHER SUBMISSION
	NUMBER				
Contact Energy Limited	30	Amend	That recognition be given to the fact that	•Concerned that wetland origin (natural or man	Support
			Regionally Significant Wetlands can be an	made) has not been appropriately considered in	
			outcome of legitimate resource development	classifying wetlands, and in writing provisions.	
			such as hydro power generation.	•Plan change does not make allowance for the	
				creation of new wetlands	
Meridian Energy Limited	32	Amend	Ensure there is an enabling policy framework for	•Electricity is vital to everyday life	Support
			renewable energy production when planning	•Reliability of supply is critical to economic	
			documents are being prepared and determined.	growth and social well-being.	