

Definition of nationally or regionally important infrastructure

It is proposed that the definition of nationally or regionally important infrastructure used in ORC's partially operative Regional Policy Statement 2019 should now be also used in the Water Plan.

ORC's partially operative Regional Policy Statement 2019, defines "nationally and regionally significant infrastructure" as:

- Renewable electricity generation activities, where they supply the National Grid or local distribution network
- National Grid
- Electricity sub-transmission infrastructure
- Telecommunication and radiocommunication facilities

- Roads classified as being of national or regional importance
- Ports and airports and associated navigation infrastructure
- Defence facilities
- Rail infrastructure
- Municipal infrastructure

The Water Plan requires the adverse effects of an activity on a Regionally Significant Wetland or a regionally significant wetland value to be avoided.

Remediation or mitigation is only allowed in certain circumstances, including if the activity is nationally or regionally significant infrastructure and has specific locational constraints.

A Regionally Significant Wetland is any wetland that is:

- Listed in Schedule 9 and shown on maps F1-F63 of the Water Plan, or
- Within a wetland management area listed in Schedule 9 and mapped in maps F1-F63 of the Water Plan, or
- Higher than 800 metres above sea level.