



18 August 2011

Sir John Hansen
Convenor
Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Review Panel
c/- Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
Private Bag 4999
CHRISTCHURCH 8140

Dear Sir John

Response to Request for Further Information - Canterbury Earthquake (Resource Management Act – Electricity Network Recovery) Order 2011 and Canterbury Earthquake (Reserves Act – Electricity Network Recovery) Order 2011

1. I wrote to you on 15 August 2011 attaching the draft Canterbury Earthquake (Resource Management Act – Electricity Network Recovery) Order 2011 and Canterbury Earthquake (Reserves Act – Electricity Network Recovery) Order 2011 (the Orders). I have received the following request for further information from the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Review Panel:
 1. *How temporary are the 66kV lines?*
 2. *Can it be confirmed that the new substation on Rawhiti Domain is to be a permanent fixture?*
 3. *Will the 66kV temporary line across Porritt Park have any substantial impact on the usability of the park?*

How temporary are the 66kV lines?

2. The Orders provide that any licence or resource consent granted for the temporary 66kV lines will expire on the expiry of the Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Act 2011, if not before. This is to provide sufficient time for permanent replacements to be made. Any permanent replacements to the 66kV lines will not be covered by the provisions of these Orders and will require any necessary authorisations to be granted by the relevant local authority.

Can it be confirmed that the new substation on Rawhiti Domain is to be a permanent fixture?

3. The new substation on Rawhiti Domain is to be a permanent fixture.

Will the 66kV temporary line across Porritt Park have any substantial impact on the usability of the park?

4. The route of the 66kV temporary line across Porritt Park was agreed between Orion and Christchurch City Council as the best engineering solution to provide power to the eastern suburbs. Christchurch City Council Parks and Sports Officers were involved in the design of the temporary lines route. Porritt Park, which is normally used for Hockey, has been closed for the season due to earthquake related earth disturbances. All hockey facilities have now been established elsewhere in Christchurch and there is no immediate impact of the temporary lines on the use of the park. While we are unsure on how the 66kV temporary lines will impact on the future of Porritt Park, Christchurch City Council Parks and Sports Officers have been involved and agreed on all aspects of these Orders in Council and the lines are only to be in place for a temporary period.

Conclusion

5. We look forward to receiving your recommendations so that regard can be had to them before the Minister for the Environment makes a recommendation on the draft Order. The key contact for this item of work is Laura Harding (laura.harding@mfe.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely



Kevin Currie
Director, Environmental Regulation
Ministry for the Environment