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21 May 2009

Horizons Regional Council
Private Bag 11025
Manawatu Mail Centre
PALMERSTON NORTH 4442

Att: Robyn Harrison

Dear Robyn

Re: One Plan Hearing – Infrastructure, Energy & Waste

Please find enclosed evidence supporting Vectors submission to be tabled before the hearing scheduled to commence in June 2009.

As previously discussed we will unfortunately be unable to attend the hearing.

If you have any queries regarding Vector's evidence or submissions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. McMillan".

Darryl McMillan
Land Management
darryl.mcmillan@vector.co.nz

IN THE MATTER

of the Resource Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER

by **VECTOR GAS LIMITED** on the
Infrastructure, Energy and Waste section
of the Proposed One Plan by Horizons
Regional Council

EVIDENCE TO BE TABLED - VECTOR GAS LIMITED

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Vector Gas Limited ("Vector") made an initial written submission on 28 August 2007 to the Horizons Regional Council Proposed Combined Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan ("One Plan").

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Vector is the owner, operator and manager of approximately 2500km of high pressure transmission gas pipelines and associated above ground station sites throughout the North Island. Of these pipelines approximately 358km are located within the Wanganui-Manawatu Region. The transmission gas pipelines supply natural gas to the Region's distribution networks and provide a vital link in delivering natural gas to the distribution networks that supply towns and cities within the Hawke's Bay and Wellington Regions. The transmission gas pipeline network is an extensive, linear and connected system of pipelines. Activities undertaken in any one part of the network can affect the remainder of the network.

- 2.2 A map indicating the location of the transmission gas pipeline and Delivery Points¹ within the Wanganui-Manawatu Region is shown in the attached map "Lower North Island Gas Transmission Pipelines".

3. HIGH PRESSURE GAS PIPELINES

- 3.1 High pressure gas pipelines are required to meet the safety and operational requirements of the operating code, Standard NZ/AS2885 Pipelines – Gas & Liquid Petroleum. This standard requires the pipeline to be operated and maintained in accordance with the requirements detailed in the standard. Vector works closely with developers, other utility operators and local and regional councils to ensure that the protection and integrity of the pipelines we manage are maintained to these requirements.
- 3.2 Activities which may adversely affect the transmission gas pipeline infrastructure should be avoided to ensure the integrity of the gas pipelines and the safety of the public and the environment. If these activities cannot be avoided, remedial or mitigation measures should be provided to ensure the continued safe operation and protection of the pipeline. To ensure adverse effects are recognised and, either avoided, remedied or mitigated appropriately, Vector considers that notification to the infrastructure owner or operator is essential while also giving effect to the operating code; Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZ/AS2885). This code standard provides for the requirements, such as pipeline protection, for activities which may affect the integrity of transmission gas pipelines.
- 3.3 Vector's gas transmission pipeline is nationally significant infrastructure. The continued efficient and effective functioning and development of Vector's gas transmission infrastructure in the Wanganui-Manawatu Region is of critical

¹ An above ground pressure regulating station site which delivers gas from high pressure transmission pipeline to medium to low pressure distribution pipeline network.

importance to the social well-being and economy of the Wanganui-Manawatu Region and New Zealand.

4. VECTOR'S SUBMISSIONS

4.1 Vector lodged a submission on 28 August 2007 to the proposed One Plan which included particular submissions on Chapter 3 - Infrastructure, Energy and Waste.

4.2 Vector's submissions to Chapter 3 are out-lined below with reference given to submitter number and point.

115/4 Insert a new paragraph (a (viii) to Section 3.4.1 Infrastructure, Policy 3-1: Benefits of infrastructure as follows:

(a) All persons exercising functions and powers under the RMA shall recognise the following infrastructure within the region as being physical resources of regional and national importance:

(viii) pipelines and associated facilities used for the transmission of natural or manufactured gas.

115/5 Amend Section 3.4.1 Infrastructure, Policy 3-2: Adverse effects of other activities on infrastructure to read as follows:

Adverse effects from other activities on infrastructure shall be avoided by using the following mechanisms:

(e) giving effect to the operating code standard for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZ/AS2885), when establishing rules and considering applications for buildings, structures and other activities near transmission gas pipelines

(f) ensuring that any planting does not interfere with existing infrastructure, including giving effect to the Electricity (Hazards from Trees) Regulations 2003 promulgated under the Electricity Act 1992 and Section 6.4.4 External

Interference Prevention of the operating code standard for Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum (NZ/AS2885).

115/3 Amend the definition of "Infrastructure" within the Glossary to read as follows:

Infrastructure (in section 30 of the RMA) means:

(a) pipelines that distribute or transmit natural or manufactured gas, petroleum, or geothermal energy, including above-ground stations that support these pipelines

5. FURTHER SUBMISSIONS

- 5.1 Further submissions in relation to Vector's submissions were received from Powerco Limited. These further submissions supported in part submission 115/4 and supported fully submission 115/5.
- 5.2 No further submissions were received objecting to any of Vector's submissions.

6. PLANNING EVIDENCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT – INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND WASTE

- 6.1 Vector commends the structure and evaluation of submissions within the Planners Evidence and Recommendations Report dated July 2008.
- 6.2 The evaluations and recommendations, in particular, recommended changes to provisions under part 4.10.4.1 and 4.11.3.1 are fully supported by Vector. These recommendations give effect to the relief sought by Vector under submissions 115/4 and 115/5, further submissions received by Powerco Limited to Vector's submissions and are consistent with the intent of the provisions of the Plan.
- 6.3 The recommendation to reject Vector's submission 115/3 is accepted by Vector.

7. CONCLUSION

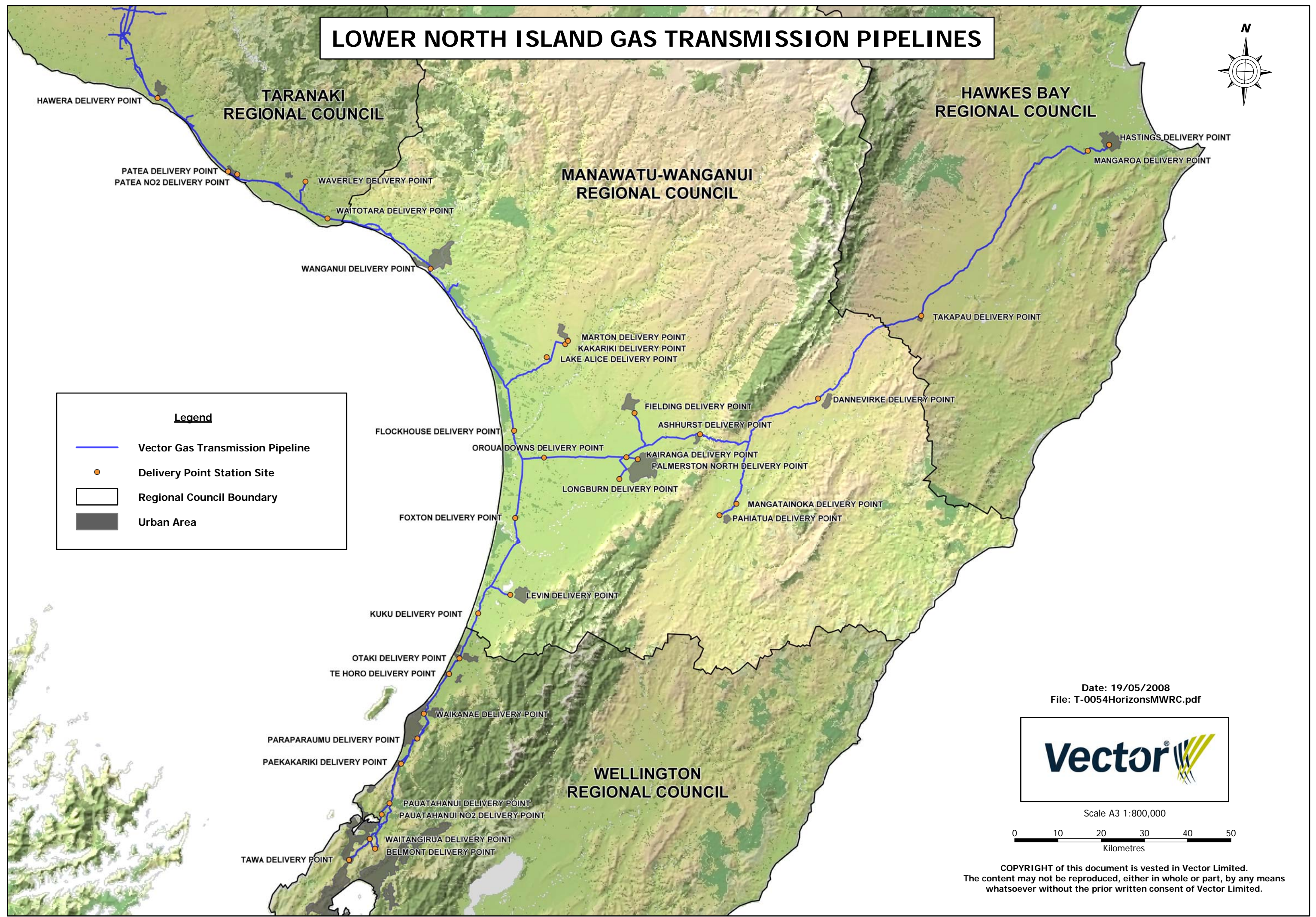
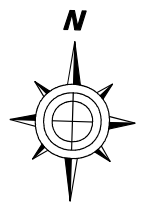
- 7.1 Considering Vector's comments in this tabled evidence we seek that the Hearing Committee accept the recommendations under parts 4.10.4.1 and 4.11.3.1 of the Infrastructure, Energy and Waste Planning Evidence and Recommendations Report dated July 2008.

21 May 2009







Darryl McMillan
Vector Gas Limited

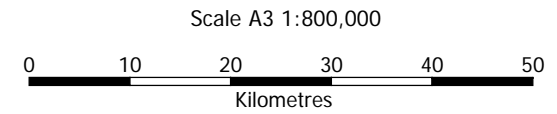
LOWER NORTH ISLAND GAS TRANSMISSION PIPELINES



Legend

-  Vector Gas Transmission Pipeline
-  Delivery Point Station Site
-  Regional Council Boundary
-  Urban Area

Date: 19/05/2008
 File: T-0054HorizonsMWRC.pdf



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