

11 July 2024

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Tēnā koutou parties

ENV-WLG-2024-001- Meridian Energy Limited (Meridian) – Mt Munro Wind Farm – Further information supplied post-mediation

This letter contains some of the further information that Meridian agreed it would provide during court-assisted mediation, held in Palmerston North on 18 and 19 June 2024. This letter is limited to two items that the parties to mediation agreed would be provided prior to expert conferencing.

Old Coach Road Upgrade

1. Meridian agreed to complete work on identified constraints and to undertake additional analysis to understand the extent of works and constraints associated with the potential two-laning of Old Coach Road. This updated analysis has been circulated by email to the parties, and prompted the Tararua District Council (TDC) traffic reviewer to request a memorandum comparing the impacts of the Meridian's original proposal in the Traffic Assessment (TA) and TDC's proposal to widen along the length of the road.
2. This memorandum is attached as **Appendix A** to this letter, and as requested also includes an additional passing bay between Ch 400-650 within the original TA/s92 proposal. The conclusion of this memorandum is that:

Given that the TA/s92 original proposal (when combined with the Draft CTMP measures) has been demonstrated to provide a safe route for both construction and local residential traffic, then it is considered that widening OCR to the TDC proposed 10.6m does not offer any safety benefit and results in not only additional construction work but has a greater negative impact on the local environment and will be an overprovision once construction work has finished.

As requested, an additional passing bay between Ch 400-650 has been included within the original TA/s92 proposal and the impacts of this additional widening are largely the same as those for the original TA proposal.

'Super Bin' Ground Contamination Assessment

3. Meridian agreed to provide results from 'super-bin' investigations (attached as **Appendix B** to this letter). The Super Bin Ground Contamination Assessment found that:

The sample results in the area surrounding the super-bin show that there are no significant constraints, relating to contamination, for the development of the roadway in the proposed alignment, shown in Figure 1.1.

As the result of the samples collected from the area of the proposed roadway were found to be below the applicable background concentration for a rural scenario, the National Environmental Standards for Assessing and Managing Contamination in Soil to Protect Human Health¹¹ (NESC¹¹) will not apply to the development of the roadway in the proposed alignment.

4. This Assessment provides an indication that no consent is required if the road is built in the location indicated in the report, which is the likely position. However, Meridian will assess the final alignment against this assessment and seek consent if necessary.

Ngā Mihi | Kind regards,

Ellie Taffs

Senior Legal Counsel - RMA
Meridian Energy Limited



Enclosed:

- Appendix A: Memo Old Coach Road Widening – Comparison of Impacts of TA original proposal and TDC 10.5m widening proposal by Tonkin + Taylor dated 9 July 2024
- Appendix B: Super Bin Ground Contamination Assessment by Tonkin + Taylor dated 8 July 2024