

**In the Environment Court
I Mua I Te Kōti Taiao O Aotearoa**

Under the Resource Management Act 1991

and in the matter of the direct referral of an application for resource consents by Meridian Energy Limited in respect of the proposed Mt Munro wind farm under section 87G of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**).

Meridian Energy Limited
Applicant

and

Tararua District Council, Masterton District Council, Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council (Councils)
Consent Authorities

and

s 274 Parties

Statement Rebuttal Evidence of Nicholas Erskine Bowmar on behalf of Meridian Energy Limited

6 September 2024

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INTRODUCTION

1. My name is Nicholas Erskine Bowmar. I am a Renewable Development Programme Manager for Meridian Energy Limited (**Meridian**).
2. I have the qualifications and experience set out in my statement of evidence in chief dated 24 May 2024 (**EIC**). I repeat the confirmation given in that statement that I have read, and agree to comply with, the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses, to the extent it applies to my evidence.
3. I have read the evidence of the s 274 parties and on behalf of the Councils, and I respond particularly in relation to issues relating to consultation and engagement.
4. I also provide further information on:
 - (a) Engagement with neighbours to the windfarm since filing my EIC;
 - (b) The functional and operation need to locate the terminal substation on LUC3 land;
 - (c) Why the condition set does not include a decommissioning requirement for the terminal substation; and
 - (d) Engagement with Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Rangitāne o Wairarapa.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

5. Engagement with the community has continued from the update provided in my EIC, and from the Mediation process. I have included a brief update below:
 - (a) We responded to a number of suggestions made by the s274 parties at Mediation, including looking at alternative access routes, and the use of rail. These further materials are included in Section E of the common bundle.

- (b) Following mediation, Mr Girvan and Mr Hunt visited neighbours around the project site to update their visual amenity assessments (including for properties which they had previously been unable to access). They visited all properties identified by s.274 parties as requiring an updated or ground truthed assessment.
- (c) Meridian has engaged with residents of Old Coach Road, following the discussion between Mr Shields and Ms Fraser on the proposed roading upgrades; and
- (d) We continue to meet individually with neighbours, seeking to identify and address their concerns, and discussing and working towards agreement on potential mitigation options.

TERMINAL SUBSTATION - FUNCTIONAL AND OPERATIONAL NEED

- 6. I prepared a memorandum dated 16 August 2024 responding to two queries arising from the Joint Statement of Planning Experts (the **Planning JWS**). One of the matters covered in this memorandum was the functional and operational need for the terminal substation to be located across LUC3 land. The second matter addressed in this memorandum was the appropriate lapse period for the Project, and I note that Mr Telfar provides further explanation of this in his rebuttal evidence.
- 7. This memorandum is appended to the evidence of Ms Lauren Edwards. I confirm the content of this memorandum, including my conclusion that the substation and transmission line infrastructure located on it have a functional and operational need to be there. In terms of the operational need in particular, I confirm that the proposed internal transmission line route and substation location were chosen following a careful site selection process, taking into consideration terrain, constructability, planning and environmental factors, and ensuring the route and site would be accessible for construction and maintenance. This process also took into account various technical, logistical and operational factors, and has involved a long process of negotiation with landowners.

8. The other theoretical route to a location for a terminal substation which avoids crossing highly productive land would be subject to numerous constraints compared to the proposed site, and in my opinion and experience would not be a realistically feasible option to negotiate access for. These matters are set out in some detail in my memorandum. I note that this assessment has been accepted by Mr Damien McGahan, who agrees that there is an operational need for the Project for the purposes of the NPS-HPL, and that the terminal substation is an appropriate use of HPL in this location.¹

RESPONSE TO COUNCIL EVIDENCE

Terminal Substation Decommissioning

9. Mr McGahan notes in his evidence at paragraph 67 that, *“Meridian intend to provide more information on why the terminal substation was excluded from decommissioning conditions, which may further inform my view on how these policy tests are met”*.
10. For electricity generation projects, including for Mt Munro, a terminal substation is typically separated into two parts, which are separately owned and operated by Transpower and the renewable energy project owner. In very general terms, Transpower’s part of the substation contains the infrastructure that connects to and protects the wider network. While Meridian will have some control over decommissioning activities on its part of the terminal substation, it has no control of Transpower’s part. The terminal substation is an expensive installation, Transpower will be able to use it for additional purposes aside from the wind farm and it will afford some network resilience benefits. My understanding is that it is highly likely that this infrastructure will remain as a permanent part of the national grid beyond the life of the wind farm. Given this, it does not make sense for the Terminal Substation to

¹ Statement of Evidence of Damien McGahan from [62] onwards.

be subject to conditions on decommissioning, at the end of the wind farm life.

11. It is also relevant that the terminal substation will be sited in an unobtrusive location, behind a shelter belt of trees, and that Meridian has volunteered conditions to screen the remaining (and then only fleeting) views of this structure from north bound traffic travelling along SH2.²

Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Rangitāne o Wairarapa

12. Mr McGahan notes in his evidence at paragraph 33 that, *“In particular, I note that Rangitāne o Tāmaki nui-ā-Rua’s support is contingent on the completion of a Cultural History Assessment (as an update to its 2014 Cultural Values Assessment), which I understand has not yet been completed. The implications of this are unknown”*. Similar comments are made in the evidence of both Ms Edwards and Ms Alisha Vivian.
13. Meridian has engaged with both Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua and Rangitāne o Wairarapa to try to understand how the project affects any areas of cultural importance and cultural values and how such effects can be managed.
14. Each hapu wishes to continue to engage with Meridian as the project progresses through pre-construction, construction and into operations. Due to unfortunate circumstances, the Cultural History Assessment (CHA) which was being produced for them jointly has not yet been provided to Meridian. Meridian acknowledges that the position of support is conditional on the completion of this CHA (and adoption of recommendations put forward in the CHA).
15. During Meridian’s extensive engagement with both hapu to date, no matters of particular cultural significance or concern have been raised –

² See proposed condition WFL3 as attached to Mr Anderson’s reply evidence

other than the desire to complete a CHA and have input into the pre-construction, construction and operations phases.

16. Meridian has confirmed this should be prepared at Meridian's cost, but it has not yet been prepared, notwithstanding best efforts.
17. An early comment about relocating turbines off ridgelines has already been clarified and resolved, as discussed in my EIC, and as reflected in the email from Rangitāne, which was received on 16 April 2024:

I am the author of the Cultural History Assessment being prepared on behalf of Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua, and Rangitāne o Wairarapa. My report will talk about the relationship between Māori and the environment (Te Ao Mārama) and more importantly the relationship between Mount Munro, Pūkaha, Rangitūmau, Puketoi and the Tararua Ranges. My report is still in draft form, and is not yet available in a version which can be circulated for the Mt Munro hearing. For the purposes of understanding the Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua, and Rangitāne o Wairarapa position on the Project, I note that there will be nothing in my report which will conflict with the previous CVA, except that we have confirmed that siting wind turbines on ridgelines is not a concern.

18. In response to the CHA not yet being available, Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua (via Te Whare Taiao o Rangitāne) have been able to provide Meridian with a draft set of recommendations, and a letter to update the position of their Hapu (attached as **Appendix A**). This letter is dated 6 September 2024, and was provided following a review by Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua of the draft working condition based on the August Proposed Conditions, with Meridian's proposed changes.
19. Meridian provided feedback on the draft recommendations, and discussed with Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua about how they might be incorporated through either an MOP or via conditions. This has resulted in amendments to conditions attached to the rebuttal evidence

of Mr Anderson (the **6 September Proposed Conditions**). The changes made as a result of these draft recommendations are shown in blue tracks.

20. The letter confirms that there is an MOP in draft form with Meridian, and that the addendum to the original 2014 Mount Munro Cultural Values Assessment (i.e. the CHA referred to above) is being prepared but is not yet available. The letter confirms continued support from Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua for the project in principle, conditional on the draft recommendations being included in the current conditions, or through the MOP process. It also reserves the right to provide further recommendations which might arise after the CHA is finalised. The concluding paragraph states that, despite the CHA not yet being available:

... we confirm that Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua supports the Project in principle, and does not object to the consent being granted on the conditions proposed by Meridian. This is on the basis that we have agreed with Meridian that we will continue to progress any matters falling out of the addendum that are additional to what is in the consent conditions. This can be through the process provided for in the conditions, as well as under the MOP when finalised.

21. At the time that this evidence is being prepared Meridian is also engaged with Rangitāne o Wairarapa, to get the position of their Hapu in response to the CHA not yet being available.
22. Based on the extensive consultation undertaken with both Rangitāne Hapu to-date, and the updated position just reached with Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua, I consider that there is no reason to suggest or conclude that the project will give rise to significant adverse effects on cultural values. In particular, no significant concerns have been raised to date. The proposed conditions (or other arrangements with iwi) will provide an appropriate opportunity for cultural input into the project, and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua has noted they are comfortable with

consent being granted on the conditions proposed. I am confident that the CHA report and recommendations will not contain anything Meridian is not expecting or cannot accommodate, or which is not already provided for in conditions.

Fill Importing

23. Ms Harriet Fraser notes in her traffic evidence at point 17 that, “*The nature and extent of traffic movements are relevant to the assessment of traffic effects associated with the Project. Importing fill to the site could result in increased truck movements onto and off the Project site. Meridian has yet to confirm whether fill is to be imported*”.
24. As identified in our **S92 Response Letter of October 2023**, Meridian has identified that the project will generate as much as 1,410,820 m³ excess fill, all of which will be disposed of within appropriate areas as identified in Appendix 1 of the same letter. It simply doesn’t make sense for Meridian to be disposing of significant volumes of fill on-site, while importing further material at the same time. Meridian confirms that no additional fill will need to be imported. I note that Mr Colin Shields has also addressed this point in his reply evidence.³

RESPONSE TO S 274 EVIDENCE

General Comment on S274 Evidence

25. In the remaining sections of my rebuttal evidence, I respond to the evidence of the Hastwell Mount Munro Protection Society Incorporated (**HMMPS**), Mr Ian Maxwell, Ms Janet McIlraith, and Mr Robin Olliver (**the s 274 evidence**).
26. I have addressed matters raised in the s 274 evidence in relation to engagement and consultation in particular. Where I have addressed a

³ Statement of Rebuttal Evidence of Colin Robert Shields on behalf of Meridian Energy Limited dated 6 September 2024, at [30]

matter raised in one statement of evidence, I have not repeated this where similar matters have been raised in another statement. I have also not addressed every matter raised in the s 274 evidence, but have instead focussed on addressing points that I consider particularly relevant or not already addressed in my evidence in chief. I rely on the full summary of the engagement process undertaken for Mt Munro as at the date of my earlier evidence.

27. As a general comment, there is a recurrent theme in the s 274 evidence that Meridian has not engaged with the community in good faith, and that there have been shortcomings in the engagement I have undertaken, along with some other key members of my team. I do not accept this criticism has validity, and consider this may be an example of 'shooting the messenger'.
28. Engagement is a two-way process and getting good results from it requires both sides to engage positively. However, presenting significant change to a community is confronting and this can create an often-difficult environment. Our team has strived at all times to remain respectful and to communicate with transparency and in good faith. I believe we have achieved good engagement results in many parts of the community and remain committed to building relationships where engagement results have fallen short of where we would like.

Hastwell Mt Munro Protection Society Incorporated

29. The HMMPS evidence states at point **1.vii** that Meridian has '*failed from the very early stages, to engage with our community with transparency and good faith,*⁴ and that Meridian has therefore lost its 'social licence'. I strongly disagree with this statement. Our community engagement has been open, transparent and comprehensive. We have held two community open-days and then in response to feedback

⁴ Statement of Evidence of Christopher Paul Clarke Chairperson Hastwell Mount Munro Protection Society Inc., Page 2, paragraph. iv

from the HMMPS about the adequacy of these we set up a community 'Pop-In' shop in Eketahuna for nine days. We have had individual meetings with all neighbours of the project that were prepared to meet with us and have had multiple meetings with some individuals to work through concerns. We have had two group meetings with the HMMPS, undertaken numerous visits to neighbours with our experts, and had an open line of communication that has resulted in over 660 entries in the record of engagement with neighbours (made up of meetings, emails, phone calls, texts and letters mailed) (attached as **Appendix B** updated engagement record).

30. The HMMPS evidence states at point 1.vi that Meridian's "*persistent refusal, to complete a social impact assessment (SIA) and the cynical way they have engaged our community means that they have abnegated their social license.*"
31. Wind farms are unusual in the sense that they often cause concern before and during construction, but have little 'social' footprint when the dust has settled post-construction, beyond access to the community fund, additional jobs and some limited additional traffic movements (here along an upgraded road network). I note Meridian has responded to these concerns, and has engaged Ms Rebecca Foy to undertake a social impact assessment which responds to the s 274 evidence.⁵
32. The HMMPS evidence provides excerpts from some published material from Meridian's website, and notes that this gives 'the very powerful impression that Meridian fully embraces and takes very seriously its social license'.⁶ This is correct.
33. Across the business Meridian strives to do right by people and the communities in which it operates, and this is also true of our part of the

⁵ [Rebuttal Evidence of Rebecca Foy \(Social Impacts\)](#)

⁶ Evidence of the Hastwell Mt Munro Protection Society Incorporated at point 4.i

organisation as well. But our engagement is not just about the consenting phase of the project; it is about starting a relationship for a potential project which could be part of a community for years to come. This relationship building is important, and it is something we take seriously.

34. The HMMPS evidence notes that that this current application for consents for the Mt Munro windfarm was a 'complete surprise' given that the previous application had been withdrawn.⁷ Meridian has been transparent and open that its interest in Mt Munro as a viable generation project remained. When it withdrew its previous application in 2013, Meridian issued a press release which I attach as **Appendix C**. This statement explained that the decision to withdraw the applications was due to the then flat demand for electricity. The statement notes, however, that Mt Munro remained an attractive project for Meridian, and that the company would look to review the project should market conditions improve.
35. The HMMPS evidence states at **6.I.iii**, under Mitigations, that, "*While acknowledging that Meridian have agreed to some helpful mitigations (i.e. no heavy traffic on Opaki Kaiparoro Road from Mt Munro Road via Mauriceville to SH 2 and no heavy traffic on Faulkner Road from the quarry to northern access to SH2, sealing of Old Coach Road), I do not believe that they are sufficient to address significant effects, especially over a long period of time*". It is unclear exactly what significant effects HMMPS is referring to, but these examples are by no means the only measures that we have proposed. Since engagement began, we have responded to the community, and we have worked with our experts and the Councils' experts to address a wide range of effects. Examples include establishment of a Stakeholder Liaison Group to be established before, and continue throughout the construction phase, a requirement to provide visual mitigation to those property owners (who want it)

⁷ Ibid, Page 6, paragraph B.i.

where the landscape and visual experts have determined that there is a moderate-high or high visual effect as a result of the project, ongoing consultation requirements in the Construction Traffic Management Plan, ongoing consultation requirements in the Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan, measures to address Shadow Flicker, and adherence to an Operational Noise Management Plan. Our proffered conditions currently run to around 70 pages.

36. The HMMPS evidence states at point **6.B.iv** that, “*After our approaching Meridian, a visit was arranged. Given Meridian’s poor approach to our neighbours, I believe that if we had not taken the initiative and approached them ourselves, we would not have been contacted until much further along in the process (if at all)*”. This is not correct. We had been planning engagement with the project neighbours for months and were working through our list of people who we had identified we should be contacting when Mr Clarke reached out to us. **Appendix B** attached, shows an engagement record of all correspondence with project neighbours from February 2022 to August 2024. This record shows a high volume of engagement around the time that Mr Clarke reached out to Meridian (25th November 2022). Once we began engaging with the community, we had anticipated that some would find out from the ‘grapevine’ prior to us making direct contact with them. Given the time and resource requirement that is part and parcel of this type of direct engagement, there is always a risk that an individual may find out about a proposal from another source, before we have had an opportunity to contact them directly. This is not evidence of a poor approach, a lack of good faith or a lack of willingness to engage with neighbours.
37. The HMMPS chairperson evidence states at point **6.B.v**, about his experience of Meridian’s engagement process, that “*Since the December 2022 meeting with Bowmar and Knott to date we have received 3 pamphlets in the mail*”. This statement grossly under-represents that amount of engagement that we’ve had with Mr Clarke. The engagement record attached as **Appendix B** to this evidence,

contains 86 entries (mainly email) of direct contact and communications with Mr Clarke. I note that this is a record does not include the official hearing correspondence between the parties, meetings at community days, and the group meetings which have been held at the Hon Kieran McNulty's Office, and at which Mr Clarke was present.

38. The HMMPS evidence also states at point **6.B.v** that we advised them that most of their neighbours supported the project. The context here is important. We would never presume to know what anyone felt about our project before engaging with them, nor we would offer this information unless we had been given that individual's approval. What others think of a project is often of interest to stakeholders during one-on-one engagement, and Meridian staff are alive to the need to be careful to not speak for others. If asked directly how others feel we respond with a generic answer, explaining that a wide range of sentiment has been expressed to us from members of the community, some negative, some positive and some neutral. If pressed on this for a straight answer (and if it was true), we might concede that most people we have spoken to about the project are indeed positively disposed (if that is the case), but we qualify this by pointing out that all views are important to us and especially where concerns about effects are raised.
39. The HMMPS evidence states at point **6.B.vi** that "*discussions had been held with [local iwi] for some time prior to our finding out. We were also very surprised to learn that the Pukaha National Wildlife Centre had been having discussions with Meridian*". Mana whenua have a special role in any project of this nature, and in light of this we engage with them early, before basic design and project scoping have begun. In the case of Pūkaha, engagement started slightly earlier than with neighbours to enable input into the design of the ecological studies for the project.
40. As noted in sections 43 and 64 of my EIC, the timing of initial engagement is about balancing the amount of detail the stakeholder

would reasonably expect see, with engaging early enough to enable meaningful input into the process. In my and Meridian's experience, communities generally want a higher level of information, and this often necessitates that engagement with them starts later than others. In this project for example, despite the extensive information provided, we have continued to receive complaints from s.274 parties that the information we have provided is inadequate. It is also important to note that early engagement (with iwi for example) is usually occurring prior to a project being green lit for consent, but this comes with a level of uncertainty that we'd prefer not to expose communities to.

41. The HMMPS evidence states at **6.B.ix** regarding the first meeting between Meridian and HMMPS, that, "Kieren McNulty who after a meeting with our committee approached Meridian's CEO for a meeting". This isn't quite correct. Hon Kieran McNulty wrote to Meridian's CEO outlining the concerns that some members of the HMMPS held about the project. Meridian's CEO responded to this letter and offered to meet. The second meeting also wasn't prompted by Hon Kieran McNulty as described by Mr Clarke. I arranged this meeting, following an email to Mr Clarke on the 15 Feb 2024, and then an email to Hon Kieran McNulty's PA. Attached as **Appendix D**.
42. The HMMPS evidence states at point **6.C.ii** that '*Meridian has repeatedly overstated the distance of Eketahuna from the proposed windfarm to the media and in its documentation*'. Both the proposed wind farm site and the Eketāhuna township are areas, so no single distance between the two can be truly representative *in all contexts*. When stating the distance, we've generally also included a map so that stakeholders can understand where the site is, in relation to the Eketāhuna township. The distance is therefore an approximation and part of the information provided. **Appendix E** attached, shows the wide range of distances, and each of these depends on the context of the measurement taken and can range from 2.4 to 9.5 km between Eketāhuna township and the wind farm.

43. The HMMPS evidence states at **6.F.ii** that, “*dissention from a small group of Meridian supporters, characterised by the destruction of Hastwell/Mt Munro Protection Society signs, interference with farming operations and harassment*”. Meridian is strongly against these forms of behaviour. In my email to Mr Clarke (attached as **Appendix F**, responding to this matter, I wrote, “*Meridian is completely against any form of vandalism, intimidation or abuse, and has zero tolerance for such behaviour. We believe differences of opinion can always be discussed with respect. We are confident that our partners at Mt Munro are not engaging in this type of behaviour, and we support your decision to get the police involved if needed.*”
44. The HMMPS evidence states at **6.H.i** that, “*There are major inequities simply because we do not have the expertise nor the resources to assess the huge amount of paperwork and details needed.*” Meridian acknowledges that the consent process does generate a large amount of material, and this is typical for a large infrastructure project. We have ensured that a Friend of Submitter has been available to the community during this process, and we understand the resource has been widely used to provide advice and assist with the ongoing process.
45. The HMMPS evidence at **6.H.iv** cites examples of alleged disrespect shown by Meridian. I disagree with the suggestion that our engagement has been disrespectful. Almost all our visits are prearranged with the only exceptions being two or three initial visits where we were unable to find a contact number. The very elderly pensioner Mr Clarke referred to was not one of these exceptions, as we called ahead and spoke to his carer who informed us the pensioner did not want direct contact from Meridian. Accordingly, we have only corresponded with this neighbour by letter and post. Mr Clarke has provided details of the visit to us, that make it clear to us it was not Meridian who visited that day. We confirmed directly with Mr Clarke that it was not Meridian personnel who visited, well before he filed his evidence. “

46. The HMMPS chairperson notes in his evidence at **6.1.i** that “*Information is disjointed and incomplete, it comes in drifts and drabs. Matters are often referred to the ‘detailed planning stage’*”. The consent process typically involves the flow of information. Because every project is different, the environment in which it is located is different, and the level of information expectations of reviewers can also vary, the range of queries on an application will vary considerably. Meridian’s application was approximately 1038 pages long, our follow-up response to S92 questions was approximately 564 pages, and our total Evidence in Chief (summarising effects assessments, and addressing submissions and expert reviews) was 1053 pages. In our view, while more detailed information has been requested and provided since we lodged the application than what we have experienced for other projects, we have still generally landed at the same place we started in terms of the assessment of effects (i.e. effects have not increased in scale or nature from those identified from our initial application).
47. It is worth noting that while further detail at this consenting stage would increase the understanding of precisely how an effect might be addressed, it would not generally change the level of the effect that needs to be addressed.
48. It is also worth noting that the costs and amount of information, increases roughly by an order of magnitude from the development/consent stage to the detailed design stage (i.e. an increase of cost about 10 times). It would be cost-prohibitive for any large infrastructure project to commit this level of resource at the consent stage, when the general approach to effects management, and the assessed level and nature of the effects are already well understood, and approval to progress the project has not been granted. The various management plans produced during detailed design require Council certification, and so provide assurance that the effects are addressed in an appropriate way at this stage.

Mr John Maxwell

49. Mr Maxwell notes in his evidence at **point 7**, “... in May 2021 they advised Harcourts Real Estate that they intended to proceed with the project. This notice of intent was in direct response to Harcourts advertising a block of five sections on the corner of Hall rd and Opaki-Kaiparoro rd. Yet it was not until mid 2022 (about a year later) that a flyer was circulated to each local resident advising of the proposed windfarm”. This is mainly correct. We let Harcourts know of our early plans as soon as we heard of the sections being sold, to ensure potential purchasers were informed, and to avoid future recriminations for failing to do so. In the context of this project, “proceeding” above meant that we were undertaking Feasibility Assessments, but as described in my evidence starting at **Point 38**, we were still to make the decision whether to progress the project through resource consent. We didn’t inform the wider community until later, when we decided to lodge applications for consent, completed high-level design and had enough information to share.
50. Mr Maxwell noted in his evidence at **point 8** that the pop-up shop was not widely advertised until the Society made daily Facebook posts. This is not accurate. In my EIC at points **79, 80, and 81**, I point out that at the request of the HMMPS, we widened our advertising about the Pop-Up Shop, and this included local radio. This was on top of mailed flyers, local newspaper advertising, and posters in local stores and library. None-the-less, we were grateful to the HMMPS for their use of community Facebook posts, to widen the advertising of this initiative.
51. Mr Maxwell includes in his evidence in **Table 1**, a table of effects on residents. Meridian disagrees with the effects as presented by Mr Maxwell. Experts engaged by Meridian and the Councils have largely considered and addressed these in their evidence. Mr Maxwell noted in the final line of this table that, “Primary windfarm landowner. Farm. Rumoured to be planning to plant pine trees and leave the area”. This

is a false and baseless suggestion, and I wonder why Mr Maxwell has chosen to assert this in his evidence.

52. Mr Maxwell notes in his evidence at **point 42** that, “Mail delivery contractor has already advised that they will not be able to deliver safely.” I met with New Zealand Post at the Masterton branch in April 2024. NZ Post were comfortable that any issues relating to the safe delivery of mail on Old Coach Road and the wider area, could be managed through the Construction Traffic Management Plan, and we agreed to engage again when this plan was being developed prior to construction. This point is also addressed in the rebuttal evidence of Mr Shields.
53. Mr Maxwell notes in his evidence at **points 47** and **51** that Meridian has used best-case scenarios in our assessments. That this is not correct. In fact, throughout our initial application and submission we’ve presented, and confirmed we have presented, the worse-case scenarios multiple times. Our initial AEE and Appendices alone directly refer to assessing worse-case scenarios, conservative scenario or upper limit scenarios 25 times (references attached as Appendix G).
54. Mr Maxwell states in his evidence at **point 52**, that due to winter shutdown and general weather conditions “*As residents we see the timeline stretching substantially longer (than 32 months).*” As stated in my EIC at point 19, the final timetable could vary from the outline below and will be confirmed as part of detailed design. However, the indicative programme represents the anticipated maximum overall construction period, barring unavoidable delays such as from a natural disaster or major supply chain interruption, such as was experienced during the Covid lockdowns, and following Cyclone Gabrielle.
55. It is worth noting that winter works could still be carried out subject to SSESCPs provided for in the conditions. If this is not possible, bulk earthworks on the project could shut down, and there would be a period of reduced construction effects.

56. Mr Maxwell notes in his evidence at **point 60** in his summation, that *“Additionally nearby is the Castlehill project that started with nearly 300 turbines approved. They have recently advised they are working on starting with only 20. Why can’t Meridian pick up some of the vacated turbine sites there. Or perhaps the Puketoi project?”* As a country, to meet the future increased demand for electricity, we will need to build all the best projects which are available. As noted in my EIC, Mt Munro is one of the best in Meridian’s portfolio, and I understand that Castle Hill and Puketoi have very good wind resources as well, although they are not sites that are available to Meridian. In any event, it isn’t necessarily a case of either/or; NZ may need all of these projects.

Ms Janet McIlraith

57. Ms McIlraith notes in her evidence at **point 40**, that she had difficulty obtaining enough information to make her submission, that her submission had to be made prior to receiving information in the 87F Reports, and that her evidence had to be lodged before the results of expert conferencing were available. In contrast to the HMMPS evidence above which cited “a huge amount of paperwork” Ms McIlraith found that there wasn’t enough. Meridian sympathises with both s274 submitters in this regard; getting the level of detail right is a difficult balancing act. I also note that parties were asked for and provided feedback on the proposed timetable, including at the case management conference.
58. Ms McIlraith notes in her Conclusion, that, *“The effect of the location of the windfarm at Mt Munro to my community, my family and me is not balanced by the benefits to renewable energy and Meridian’s profit when there are alternative sites available at Puketoi and Castle Hill, that have already been consented. There is a “world class” wind resource in the Whangaheue ranges which has excellent roading, proximity to the network, and few people in proximity”*. The sites at Castle Hill and Puketoi belong to other competing developers, and we have no rights to these. As noted in my evidence above, if these

projects have merit they will eventually be built too. Meridian has investigated the Wairarapa and Tararua regions extensively, including potential sites around Whangaehu (which I assume is the area being referred to). Putting aside the availability of these sites, in my opinion, the wind resource and the other key attributes discussed in my evidence and chief make Mt Munro the superior site for a wind farm development.

Mr Robin Olliver

59. Mr Olliver notes in his evidence on **page 5** under Visual, that, “*Meridian suggests all our visual issues with this project can be remedy [sic] by putting the BBQ table around the other side of the house*”. I was not part of the discussion where the BBQ reference was made, but the context of similar conversations regarding mitigation of visual effects has been Meridian providing examples of mitigation ideas, one of which could be the building of a new deck and outdoor area in a location that focuses away from views of the turbines. However, we respect that this idea is unsuitable in Mr Olliver’s opinion.
60. Mr Olliver asks in his evidence on **pages 6 and 7** under Communication (dated 10 July 2024), “*If the people are so important to Meridian why is it, considering this project has been going on since 2011, we have never been directly contacted by Meridian until 5 weeks ago*”. This is incorrect. I initiated a phone call with Mr Olliver on 24 November 2022 and posted information to him a few days later. The engagement record attached as **Appendix B** to this evidence, contains around 23 interactions Meridian has had with Mr Olliver in the form of phone calls, meetings and letters up to August 2024.
61. Engagement with Mr Olliver has been difficult throughout the process, and a number of concerning incidents have required Meridian to change its approach when engaging with him, and we now only correspond in writing.

62. Mr Olliver notes in his evidence on **page 11** under Detail and Timelines, that the timelines given for construction varied from 18 months to 50 years. As noted in above, the construction timeline could vary from the indicative programme of 32 months, however it is unlikely to be as little as 18 months. I am unsure where the reference to 50 years could have come from, as that is almost twice the life of a wind farm.

Nicholas Bowmar

6 September 2024



Te Whare Taiao o Rangitāne

Cultural, Environmental & Education Services

06 September 2024

Mariah Petera
Te Whare Taiao
6 Ward Street
Dannevirke 4930
taiao@rangitane.co.nz

To whom it may concern,

In response to the application regarding Mount Munro Windfarm and Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua conditions.

We understand that the councils are seeking confirmation that the proposal for the windfarm adequately and appropriately addresses matters of cultural importance for Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua.

We have a MOP (Memorandum of Partnership) with Meridian in draft form, but we do not have this ready for completion. We are also currently under an agreement with Meridian, to complete works on an addendum to our Mount Munro Cultural Values Assessment that was completed by Pat Parsons in 2014. We expect to have the final version of the addendum by 19th of October.

This addendum is important to Te Whare Taiao o Rangitāne as it will contain an Impacts section, which will clearly state what the nature and extent of the cultural and environmental impacts are to Rangitāne. It will also contain what our recommendations and/or conditions are on mitigating impacts with clear actions.

Thus, our support for the Project is conditional on the completion of the addendum with its impacts and associated mitigation measures and actions received and implemented.

In saying this, we confirm that Rangitāne o Tamaki nui-ā-Rua supports the Project in principle and does not object to the consent being granted on the conditions proposed by Meridian. This is on the basis that we have agreed with Meridian that we will continue to progress any matters falling out of the addendum that are additional to what is in the consent conditions. This can be through the process provided for in the conditions, as well as under the MOP when finalised.

Ngā Mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mariah Petera', is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mariah Petera

Appendix B

Date	Type	Type
10-Feb-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
1-Mar-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
25-May-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
11-Aug-22	Project Neighbour	Text
11-Aug-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
12-Aug-22	Project Neighbour	Text
12-Aug-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
15-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
22-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
23-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
23-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
23-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
23-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
24-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
24-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
24-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
24-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
25-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
25-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
26-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
28-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
28-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
28-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
28-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Letter
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit - Postponed
29-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)

Note: This Record of Engagement has been filtered to include only correspondence with Neighbours to the project, and excludes the wider community engagement. It also includes all email including those received from Neighbours, but it excludes official hearing correspondence. Note also that names have not been shown for privacy reasons

Date	Type	Type
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
30-Nov-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Text
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Text
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
2-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
2-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Text
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Text
6-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
6-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
9-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Text
9-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Dec-22	Project Neighbour	Email
12-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email

Date	Type	Type
17-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jan-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
7-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
10-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
10-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
14-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
14-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
14-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
15-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
16-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
17-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
20-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text

Date	Type	Type
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Feb-23	Project Neighbour	Text
1-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
1-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
1-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
2-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
3-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
4-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email
24-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
27-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
27-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Text
30-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
30-Mar-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
5-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
6-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
12-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
19-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
19-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Email

Date	Type	Type
21-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
27-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Text
27-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Text
28-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
28-Apr-23	Project Neighbour	Email
9-May-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
10-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
13-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
19-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
20-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-May-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-May-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
24-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
25-May-23	Project Neighbour	Text
26-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
29-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email
30-May-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit - Postponed
30-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
30-May-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
8-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
8-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
8-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
13-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Text
14-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
14-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
14-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
15-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
22-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email
30-Jun-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall (unsuccessful)
15-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email
20-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
20-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
20-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
28-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email
31-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email
31-Jul-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
4-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
4-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall

Date	Type	Type
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
16-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Text
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
23-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
31-Aug-23	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
1-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
4-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Group Meeting
5-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
5-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
5-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
7-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
7-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Text
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
11-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
14-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
15-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
18-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
18-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Sep-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
9-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
9-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email
9-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
10-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email
13-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
25-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email
26-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
27-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Oct-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
9-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
15-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
15-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
21-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email

Date	Type	Type
23-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
23-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
30-Nov-23	Project Neighbour	Email
1-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email
6-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Letter
20-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email
28-Dec-23	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
31-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email
31-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
31-Jan-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
7-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
13-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email
14-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email
15-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
15-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email
15-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
26-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
28-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email
29-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Feb-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
1-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
5-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
7-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
9-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
14-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
15-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
19-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
19-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
21-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
21-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email
27-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-Mar-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
3-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
4-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
5-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
7-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
8-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
9-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
10-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
10-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
10-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
10-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
10-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
11-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
12-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Text
12-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
13-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
15-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
15-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
15-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
15-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
17-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
18-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
18-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
19-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Group Meeting
20-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Phonecall
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Text
24-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
24-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email
29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email

Date	Type	Type
29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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29-Apr-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
2-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
2-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
2-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
3-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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4-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
16-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
16-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
16-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
17-May-24	Project Neighbour	Letter
17-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
20-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
24-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
24-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
25-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
27-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
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28-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
28-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
28-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
31-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email
31-May-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
6-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email
7-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
10-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
11-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
17-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
17-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
18-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Court Mediation
19-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Court Mediation

Date	Type	Type
21-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
24-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
25-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Letter
25-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email
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26-Jun-24	Project Neighbour	Email
2-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email
2-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email
2-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
3-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
4-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
8-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
8-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
14-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
15-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
16-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email
18-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
18-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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20-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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24-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Neighbour Visit
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31-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Letter
31-Jul-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread

Date	Type	Type
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9-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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9-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
9-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
12-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
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13-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
13-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Text
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21-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email Subthread
22-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email
22-Aug-24	Project Neighbour	Email



meridian

Meridian withdraws Mt Munro wind farm resource consent applications

For immediate release: 12 November 2013

Meridian Energy today announced it is withdrawing the resource consent applications for its Mt Munro wind farm project near Eketahuna.

The Mt Munro project is a 60MW, 20 turbine wind farm proposal located 5km south of Eketahuna. The project would generate enough electricity to power about 31,000 average New Zealand homes.

In December 2011, Meridian lodged resource consents for Mt Munro with Horizons and Wellington regional councils and Tararua and Masterton district councils. In September 2012 Meridian asked the councils for further time in which to hold a hearing as it wished to complete further work prior to the hearing. This included completing four-seasons of bird monitoring in the vicinity of the proposed transmission line route.

Since then two seasons of bird monitoring on the wind farm site has been completed, water quality monitoring continued and local iwi have completed their Cultural Values Assessments.

Meridian's Renewable Options Manager Chris More says Meridian completed the additional monitoring and other work, with no issues of concern. However, current and forecast electricity market conditions mean that now is not a good time to proceed with the project.

"We've made a decision to withdraw the Mt Munro consent applications because of the current flat demand for electricity, which means fewer new generation projects will be required in the short to medium term. Mt Munro remains an attractive project for Meridian," says Chris.

"Like other generators we recognise that the demand outlook for the next five years is probably flat to slightly declining."

Meridian will continue to monitor the situation looking at New Zealand's generation/supply opportunities and will look at reviewing the project should market conditions improve.

ENDS

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Michelle.brooker@meridianenergy.co.nz
meridian.co.nz

For Investor Relations queries, please contact:
Owen Hackston
Investor Relations Manager

Meridian Energy
(04) 382 7496 or 021 246 4772
owen.hackston@meridianenergy.co.nz

Meridian Energy facts and figures

Financials for the year ended 30 June 2013

- \$295.1.7 m net profit after tax
- \$162.7 m underlying net profit after tax
- \$584.8.6 m EBITDAF

Key facts

Meridian Energy:

- is an integrated renewable energy company; the largest electricity generator in New Zealand and an electricity retailer throughout New Zealand
- owns and operates seven hydro stations and four wind farms in New Zealand, with another wind farm currently under construction
- generates approximately 30% of New Zealand's electricity from renewable energy, making it this country's largest generator
- owns and operates one wind farm in Australia and has a further wind farm under construction
- retails electricity to over 270,000 connections to homes, farms and businesses through the Meridian and Powershop brands (220,211 Meridian customers and 50,423 Powershop customers). This includes 142,311 customers in the North Island (10% market share) and 128,323 customers in the South Island (25% market share)*
- employs approximately 800 permanent and fixed term staff
- has offices in Wellington, Christchurch, Twizel, Auckland, San Francisco and Melbourne
- is committed to renewable energy, environmental stewardship and supporting the communities living alongside its assets.

*Source: Electricity Authority 31 March, 2012



12 June 2023

Mr Neal Barclay
Chief Executive
Meridian Energy

By email: neal.barclay@meridianenergy.co.nz
& Liz.Cleland@MeridianEnergy.co.nz

Kieran McNulty
MP for Wairarapa

04 817 8766
kieran.mcnulty@parliament.govt.nz
Freepost PO Box 18 888
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160

Wairarapa office
06 377 7186
157 Queen Street, Masterton

/McAnultyLabour
 @Kieran_McAnulty

Dear Mr Barclay

PROPOSED WIND FARM AT MT MUNRO NEAR EKETAHUNA

Thank you for your letter of 19 May 2023.

I would like to take you up on your offer to meet to discuss this project further. I would hope that you would be agreeable to two representatives of the residents joining the meeting, namely Mr Chris Clarke, with whom we have been dealing, and one other person selected by the residents.

I am happy to make my office on Masterton available for the meeting. If one of your team could call my Masterton office on 06 377 7186 we can work out a suitable time and date.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kieran McNulty".

Hon Kieran McNulty
MP for Wairarapa



Kia ora Amber

I hope 2024 has started well for you, and that the disruption post elections hasn't been too turbulent.

Our meeting last year was very productive, and thank you again for your involvement in arranging this and distributing the minutes. The actions that followed, proved valuable for all those that attended. One further action was for Meridian to hold regular meetings with the Mt Munro Protection Group to keep them updated on the project, and to continue discussions on their concerns about the project. I recently reached out to Chris Clarke about arranging another meeting and he is keen.

Would Kieran be interested in Chairing/mediating this meeting again? If so, is there an approximate time that would suit him best?

Ngā mihi nui

Nick Bowmar

Nick Bowmar – RD Programme Manager

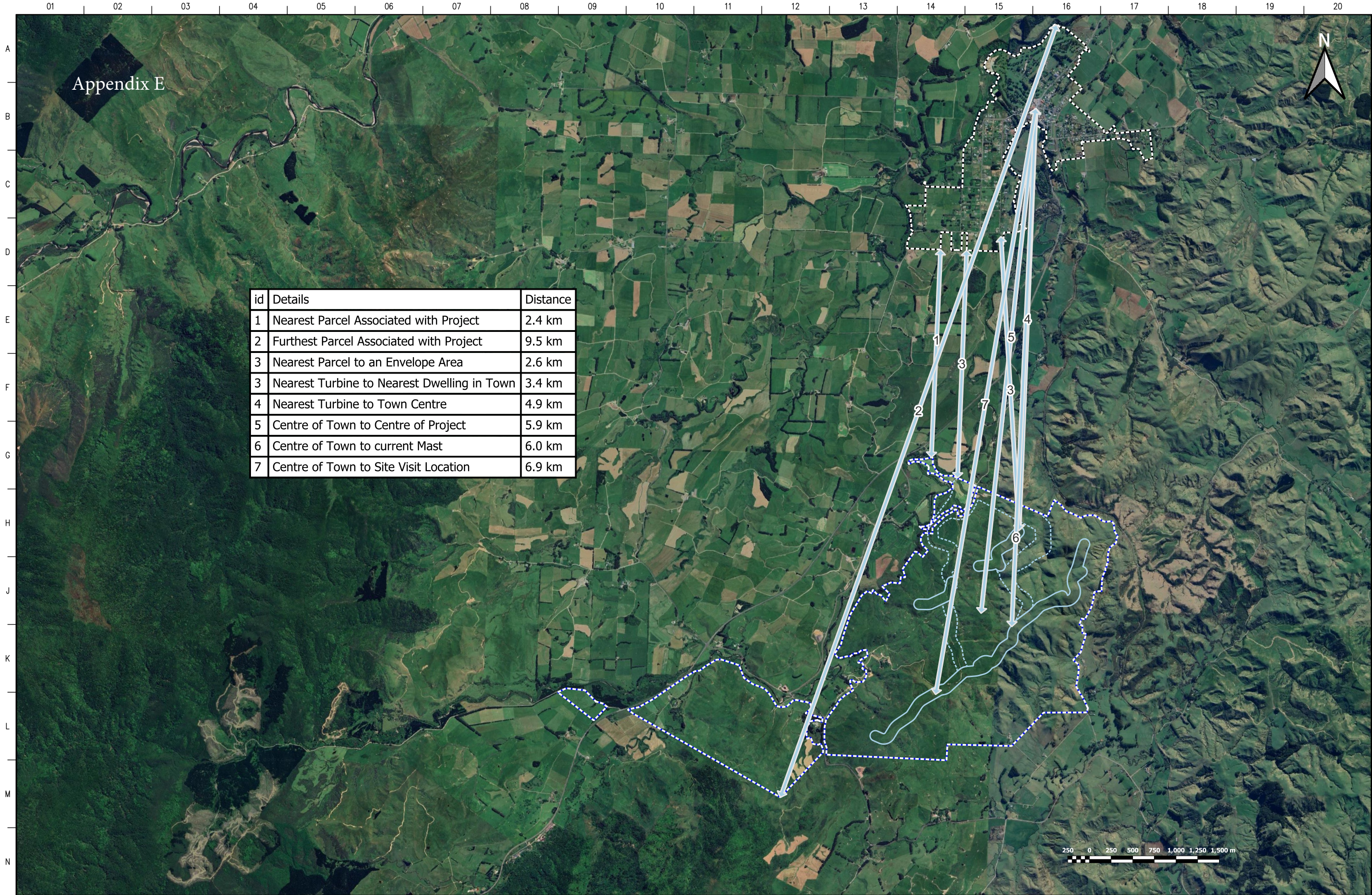
Meridian Energy Limited

Level 11, NTT Tower, 157 Lambton Quay, PO Box 10840

Wellington 6143, New Zealand


M. 022 6800 530





id	Details	Distance
1	Nearest Parcel Associated with Project	2.4 km
2	Furthest Parcel Associated with Project	9.5 km
3	Nearest Parcel to an Envelope Area	2.6 km
3	Nearest Turbine to Nearest Dwelling in Town	3.4 km
4	Nearest Turbine to Town Centre	4.9 km
5	Centre of Town to Centre of Project	5.9 km
6	Centre of Town to current Mast	6.0 km
7	Centre of Town to Site Visit Location	6.9 km

ISSUE	AMENDMENT	BY	CH'D	COMPANY	PROJECT	APP'D	DATE
01	INITIAL DRAFT	NB		MEL	MTMR		JUNE 24



MT MUNRO WIND FARM

DISTANCES TO EKETĀHUNA

DESIGN SKETCH ONLY
NOT TO BE ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION

SKETCH: MTMR_GIS_ConsentSubmissions_V01-01

COMPANY: MERIDIAN ENERGY LTD

ISSUE: JULY 2024

From: [Nick Bowmar](#)
To: [Chris Clarke](#)
Cc: [Rebecca Knott](#); [Janet](#); [Marc Braddick](#); [Josiebraddick@gmail.com](#); [John Maxwell](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Mt Munro - Vandalism of signs.
Date: Friday, 24 May 2024 1:35:00 pm
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Kia ora Chris

Thank you for your email and for letting us know. I am sorry to hear about all this.

Meridian is completely against any form of vandalism, intimidation or abuse, and has zero tolerance for such behaviour. We believe differences of opinion can always be discussed with respect.

We are confident that our partners at Mt Munro are not engaging in this type of behaviour, and we support your decision to get the police involved if needed.

Ngā mihi

Nick Bowmar

From: Chris Clarke <save.mountmunro@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 10:01 AM
To: Nick Bowmar <Nick.Bowmar@MeridianEnergy.co.nz>
Cc: Rebecca Knott <Rebecca.Knott@meridianenergy.co.nz>; Janet <janetmc@inspire.net.nz>; Marc Braddick <marc.braddick@yahoo.co.nz>; Josiebraddick@gmail.com; John Maxwell <j_maxwell@yahoo.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mt Munro - Vandalism of signs.

Ata marie Nick,

A quick email to let you know that the process of intimidation continues with more vandalism of our signs in Eketahuna and on SH2 - found this morning. The Police have been advised.

As you were told at our recent meeting and via phone contact with Robin Olliver, this is on top of other acts/ attempts of intimidation happening in our community - including trespassing on private property, people spotted casing properties, the opening of farm gates causing stock to wander on the road (on one occasion wandering stock walked into live power lines felled after a storm - electrocuting over 20 sheep). I am also getting anecdotal information of bullying and harassment. Needless to say, we are being super vigilant locking farm gates, and where possible noting registration plate numbers to pass on to the Police.

As you may appreciate such acts of intimidation and harassment are very unsettling for our community which, - as is our right - is engaging in legitimate, lawful protest. It would be appreciated that Meridian supports a no tolerance approach to such

behaviour and passes this on to all your agents and to those you are engaging with who stand to make significant financial gains should the windfarm proceed. The ongoing impact of Meridian's proposal on our community is profound and causing significant distress. Needless to say, this latest act of vandalism only serves to deepen our resolve to fight the windfarm.

Ngā mihi
Chris Clarke

Chairperson
Hastwell/ Mount Munro Protection Society Inc.

Right Energy Wrong Place!



Appendix G

Assessment of Environmental Effects (no Appendices) - Page 16, Paragraph 3
Assessment of Environmental Effects (no Appendices) - Page 113 Paragraph 5
Assessment of Environmental Effects (no Appendices) - Page 113, Paragraph 8
Ecological Assessment - Page 23, Paragraph 1
Ecological Assessment - Page 54, Paragraph 7
Ecological Assessment - Page 74, Paragraph 2
Ecological Assessment - Page 86, Paragraph 3
Ecological Assessment - Page 87, Paragraph 5
Transportation Assessment - Page 26, Paragraph 8
Transportation Assessment - Page 27, Paragraph 3
Transportation Assessment - Page 33, Table 1
Transportation Assessment - Page 33, Paragraph 1
Transportation Assessment - Page 34, Paragraph 6
Transportation Assessment - Page 43, Paragraph 7
Transportation Assessment - Page 44, Paragraph 2
CWMP and Effects Assessment - Page 41, Paragraph 11
Noise Effects Assessment - Page 6, Paragraph 3
Noise Effects Assessment - Page 13, Paragraph 6
Noise Effects Assessment - Page 14, Paragraph 7
Noise Effects Assessment - Page 14, Paragraph 13
Assessment of Landscape Effects - Page 93, Paragraph 4
Radio Compatibility Assessment - Page 7, Paragraph 3
Radio Compatibility Assessment - Page 7, Paragraph 4
Radio Compatibility Assessment - Page 10, Paragraph 2
Radio Compatibility Assessment - Page 11, Paragraph 9