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Section 42A Report

Plan Change 17 – GIS Mapping (District Plan)

Report prepared by:

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List of Abbreviations

CODCP or 'the Plan'		Central Otago District Plan
PC17		Proposed Plan Change 17
RMA		Resource Management Act 1991
NPSET		National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008
NPS		National Planning Standards

List of Submitters and Abbreviations

Submitter Number	Further submission?	Full Submitter Name	Abbreviation
1	N	Heritage New Zealand	HNZ
2	N	Transpower New Zealand Ltd	TNZ
3	N	Otago Regional Council	ORC

Introduction

1. My name is Ann Rodgers I am Principal Policy Planner for Central Otago District Council, based in Alexandra. I hold a Master of Regional and Resource Management from the University of Otago. I have twenty-four years planning experience working in central government, local government and consultancy. I am a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute.
2. This report evaluates the submissions and provides recommendations in the form of a s42A report. I was involved with the preparation of proposed Plan Change 17. Scope of Report
3. This report is prepared in accordance with s42A of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). It provides my assessment and recommendations to the Hearing Panel on submissions made on proposed Plan Change 17 to the Central Otago District Plan.

Overview of PC17

4. Plan change 17 corrects anomalies identified by the re-housing of the operative Central Otago District Plan planning maps into a GIS format, considered beyond the scope of a minor correction under clause 20A of the first schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991.
5. This plan change relates largely to the location of existing physical structures (High Voltage Transmission Lines (HVTL) and heritage items identified on planning maps and listed on schedule 19.4 of the Plan) and a land parcel incorrectly identified as a road parcel. The specific

properties where changes are necessary are identified in Appendix 1 to this report.

6. Inconsistency was also identified in the mapping of Water Surface and Margin Areas.
7. The intention of this plan change is to convert the existing Computer Aided Design (CAD), paper-based District Plan Maps into a GIS format that is compatible with ePlan to replace the current planning maps. This plan change does not seek to change the zoning of any property or District Plan provisions, nor does it seek to provide any development opportunities that do not already exist.
8. The GIS mapping will replace the paper-based CAD District Plan maps.
9. No changes are proposed to the objectives, policy or rule framework of the Plan.

Statutory and Planning Context

Resource Management Act 1991

10. Section 72 of the RMA states that the purpose of the preparation, implementation and administration of a district plan is to assist territorial authorities to carry out their functions in order to achieve the purpose of the Act.
11. Section 75(3) provides direction with respect to the contents of district plans as follows:

*“75. Contents of district plans –
(3) A district plan must give effect to –
(a) any national policy statement;
...
(ba) a national planning standard;
...”*
12. The purpose of the RMA, as set out in s5, is to promote sustainable management of natural and physical resources. In the context of Plan Change 17, GIS mapping will provide clarity, accuracy and accessibility to users of the district plan, enabling better management of natural and physical resources.

National Planning Standards (NPS)

13. In November 2019 Central Government released the NPS. The purpose of the first set of NPS is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning system by providing nationally consistent, structure, format, definitions, noise and vibration metrics, electronic functionality and accessibility for all regional policy statements, regional plans, district plans and combined plans under the Resource Management Act 1991 (“RMA”).

14. The implementation standard requires within twelve months of the NPS coming into effect (November 2020) plans to be hosted on a local authority webpage no more than three clicks (three pages or pop-ups) from the local authority's home page; up-to-date webpage; addresses for policy statements and plans must be provided to the Ministry for the Environment; plans must have keyword search functionality. The operative Central Otago District Plan (the Plan) complies with this requirement.
15. The NPS also requires District Plans to transition to an interactive electronic format (ePlan). The ePlan format requires GIS mapping and the proposed plan change will facilitate the transition to compliance with the National Planning Standard requirements. The Plan is in the process of being transitioned to ePlan and the conversion to GIS spatial mapping has resulted in some errors and anomalies being identified.
16. Clause 20A of the First Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991 allows Council to correct any minor errors in an operative policy statement without going through a plan change process. Some of the changes necessary are considered beyond the scope of clause 20A of the First Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991 (Clause 20A).
17. Plan Change 17 converts the existing page by page Computer Aided Design (CAD) drawn mapping to a seamless GIS layer, enabling transition to ePlan as required by the NPS.

National Policy Statement on Electricity Transmission 2008 (NPSET)

18. The NPSET sets out the objective and policies for managing the electricity transmission network (the National Grid) and imposes obligations on both Transpower and local authorities. The NPSET seeks that the national significance of the electricity transmission network is recognised by facilitating the operation, maintenance and upgrade of the National Grid while managing adverse effects on the environment. It requires that the benefits of electricity transmission are recognised and provided for, and provides direction on matters to be considered in managing the effects of the National Grid.
19. The NPSET is relevant to PC17, as one of the aspects of the mapping changes proposed relates to the mapping of the High Voltage Transmission that form part of the National Grid owned and operated by Transpower.
20. Transpower has lodged a submission in support of the proposed changes.

Submissions Received

21. As noted above three submissions were received from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, Transpower New

Zealand Ltd and Otago Regional Council. All submissions were in support of the proposed changes to the GIS mapping and no further submissions were received.

22. HNZ support Supports the review and correction of the mapping and heritage schedule in operative Central Otago District Plan, the correction of items on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rāngi Kōrero (the List) and has provided confirmation that items on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rāngi Kōrero (the List) are correct.
23. TNZ supports the proposed map changes which provide for more accurate mapping of the HVTL, and more effective implementation of the corresponding HVTL provisions within the District Plan itself.
24. ORC supports the correction of errors and anomalies identified through the process of transferring the operative Central Otago District Plan to an on-line interactive plan (ePlan).
25. No submitters wish to be heard in support of their submissions.
26. Pursuant to clause 8C of the First Schedule to the Resource Management Act 1991 as no submitters wish to be heard, no hearing is required.

Recommendation

27. Following considering of the proposed plan change and the submissions received, I recommend that Plan Change 17 as publicly notified be approved without modification.