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# LGOIMA

When releasing responses to previous LGOIMA requests, names and contact details of individual requestors will be withheld to protect their privacy.

Information requested by the media, lobby groups, public sector organisations and MPs will always be published, while information specific to an individual or their property will not generally be published.

**Request from:** Danilo Hegg, Federated Mountain Clubs

**Information requested:** Hydro scheme Resource Consents

**Response from:** Simon Bastion, Chief Executive

22 September 2020

Danilo Hegg Federated Mountain Clubs

Via Email:

Dear Danilo

#### Official information request for Hydro scheme Resource Consents.

I refer to your official information request dated 14 September 2020 for Hydro scheme Resource Consents.

Information relating to water take, discharge and disturbance would be held by the West Coast Regional Council. In these circumstances, we are required by section 12 of the LGOIMA to transfer your request.

You have asked for the following:

1. All resource consents issued to Inchbonnie Hydro Limited to operate its hydroelectric scheme.

Westland District Council does not hold any resource consents for Inchbonnie Hydro Limited.

2. All resource consents issued to Griffin Creek Hydro Limited to operate its hydroelectric scheme on Griffin Creek.

Information enclosed.

3. All resource consents issued to Amethyst Hydro Limited.

Information enclosed.

4. All resource consents issued to NZ Energy Limited to operate their hydro schemes.

Westland District Council does not hold any resource consents for NZ Energy Limited.

There is no charge in supplying this information to you.

If you wish to discuss this decision with us, please feel free to contact Mary-anne Bell, Senior Administration Assistant at LGOIMA@westlanddc.govt.nz, 03 756 9091.

Sincerely,

Simon Bastion | Chief Executive

SB/MB

Attachments: 080086 Decision, 080097 & 080098 Decision, 110019 Decision, 110129 Attach B, 110129 Decision, 180019 Full Signed Decision.

080086

Rebecca Strang

17 September 2020

Amethyst Hydro Ltd
C/- West Coast Planning
6 Dowling Street
GREYMOUTH
Attn: Martin Kennedy

Dear Sir,

# Resource Consent Number 080086: Non Complying Subdivision Consent: Rural: Amethyst Hydro Ltd at Wanganui River Valley, Harihari

I advise that the following decision has been made under delegated authority in respect of the above application.

# **Decision:**

Pursuant to Section 104B & D of the Resource Management Act 1991, subdivision consent is granted to **AMETHYST HYDRO LTD** for the subdivision activity as hereunder described:

The subdivision of RS 6406 (CT WS8A/32) into two allotments at Wanganui River Valley. Lot 1 is proposed for a utility purpose. No esplanade reserves will be provided as submitted in parts dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008.

# **Conditions:**

- **070189.** Pursuant Section 220 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this Resource Consent includes the following conditions:
  - i) The subdivision is to proceed generally in accordance with and described more fully in an application and plans dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008.
  - ii) Easements for the discharge of water and discharge of treated effluent shall be granted and shown on the plan if required.
  - iii) The access to Lot 1 shall be constructed and formed in accordance with the Westland District Council Code of Practice for Engineering Works.

# Notes to the Consents:

- This subdivision consent is processed separately from the land use activity proposed on site. The construction, maintenance and operation of a hydro electric scheme and associated power station require further resource consent from Westland District Council and no assessment of those activities have been undertaken during the processing of this subdivision.
- 2. This Resource Consent does not, in itself, provide for the erection or alteration of any buildings. All building work on the land to which this resource Consent refers must be subject to an application for a Building Consent pursuant to the provisions of the Building Act 2004.
- 3. Resource consent from the West Coast Regional Council will be required in relation to the discharge to land.
- 4. It is possible that archaeological sites may be affected by the proposed work. Evidence of archaeological sites may include burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Maori and European origin or human burials. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust if the presence of an archaeological site is suspected. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993.

# **Reason for Decision:**

The Consent Authority accepts that the subdivision can be undertaken without adverse environmental effect, will not have any off site effect or significant effects on the amenity or landscape values of the rural zone in the area. The proposed subdivision for a utility purpose is an anticipated outcome of the District Plan. As the effects of the subdivision are minor, Council is able to grant consent under section 104D of the Resource Management Act.

The Consent Authority has considered the application under the relevant provisions of the Westland District Nan, including the objectives and policies relating to the natural environment, the land resource and landscape. Consideration has also been given to the West Coast Regional Council Regional Policy Statement and the Coastal Policy Statement. This proposal has not been found to be inconsistent with any matters in these documents.

# **Objection to the Consent Authority**

You are advised that you have the right of objection to the Consent Authority in respect of this decision, pursuant to Section 357 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Any objection is to be in writing and must set out the reasons for the objection. Any objection must be made within 15 working days of receipt of this decision. The

Consent Authority will then consider the objection and give its decision in writing. Any person who made an objection may appeal to the Environment Court against the Consent Authority's decision on the objection, pursuant to Section 358.

Pursuant to Section 120 of the Resource Management Act 1991, you have the right of appeal directly to the Environment Court against the whole or any part of this decision. Notice of appeal shall be in the prescribed form and must be lodged with the Environment Court and served on the Council within 15 working days of receipt of the Council's decision.

Rebecca Strang

<u>District Planner</u>

Resource Consent: 080097 & 080098

9 February 2009

# **DECISION BY DELEGATED AUTHORITY**

RESOURCE CONSENT NUMBER: 080097 & 080098: NON COMPLYING LAND USE CONSENTS: RURAL: AMETHYST HYDRO LTD AT WANGANUI PLYER VALLEY, HARIHARI

#### 1 Preamble

This is a decision in respect of an application made by Amethyst Hydro Limited pursuant to Section 88 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to establish and operate a hydroelectric power scheme in the Wanganui River Valley.

The scheme involves the diversion of water from Arnethyst Creek through a 1.1km tunnel and 2.5km penstock to be discharged into the Wangand River through a power station. The power station will generate a maximum output of 6MW.

Only specific parts of the proposal require consent from the Westland District Council: The penstock, a discretionary activity under the Utility rules of the Westland District Plan, will be constructed within the access road where possible, except for where it must deviate to follow a straight route. Sections of the penstock near the tunnel portal and crossing the unnamed creek will be visible, with the majority of the structure being buried underground. The penstock will be buried within the bed of Tarpot Creek and will be piped across an unnamed waterway.

The construction of the penstock and the access road required from Powerhouse Road to the tunnel portal will require the clearance of 3.8 hectares of indigenous vegetation, a discretionary activity under the Westland District Plan. The construction will require the clearance of vegetation approximately 12-15 metres in width along the majority of the 2.5km length, widening to a maximum of 30 metres on steeper terrain. The vegetation clearance around the road access will be rehabilitated to a final width of 8 metres, including water tables. Vegetation along the penstock will be rehabilitated to a width of four metres, which will be required to be maintained on an ongoing basis.

Construction of the turnel and penstock will create additional effects for approximately 32 months. A steel catch fence will be erected during the tunnel excavation. Approximately 20000m³ of spoil will be removed by drilling and blasting to form the tunnel. Two staging areas will be created during construction involving further vegetation clearance of 4000m². The areas will contain offices, ablution buildings, a workshop, storage, a substation, vehicle parking and settling ponds. The gross ground floor of the buildings may exceed the 300m² allowed as a controlled activity by rule 5.6.3, therefore will be a discretionary activity. Blasting noise and other noise associated with construction may exceed the noise limits permitted under rule 5.6.3.

A power station, substation and switchyard will be constructed between Powerhouse Road and the Wanganui River. Final plans of the 71m² power station's external appearance are yet to be finalised, however the building will be a non farming building (a controlled activity and will be

located 3 metes from the unformed legal road, therefore is a non complying activity under the District Plan. The dimensions of the switchyard are approximately 8m by 8m. The permanent buildings erected on site will be an ancillary utility building which will be  $18m^2$ , a discretionary activity under the District Plan.

The consent application includes the ongoing maintenance and operation of the scheme and buildings.

The application was heard in the Westland District Council Chambers in Hokitika on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2008.

For the record we confirm that we have taken a site visit and are familiar with the site and that we are in possession of a copy of the application, the supporting information, the various submissions, a report prepared by a Council's District Planner Rebecca Strang, and the information and plans provided at the hearing by the applicant and the Wanganui Trust.

We also record that we have been appointed as a Hearings Commissioner to attend to this matter pursuant to the provisions of Section 34(3) of the Resource Management Act 1991 and pursuant to an instrument of delegation providing for both the hearing of this matter and making a decision.

#### 2 Attendances:

We record that we have heard from the applicant (Amethyst Hydro Limited) through Stephen Matheson of Mitton Electronet Ltd, Rob Caldwell of Westrower Limited and Martin Kennedy. We also heard from the Wanganui Trust who were represented by Dennis McLaughlin. District Planner Rebecca Strang presented the officer's report.

# 3 The Hearing

We first heard from Stephen Matheson of Mitton Electronet Ltd. Mr Matheson, a civil engineer, gave an overview of the technical aspects the scheme and focussed on the formation of the access road, tunnel, conditions imposed by other consent authorities, and consultation undertaken prior to consent lodgement. Mr Matheson explained that the access road would be constructed in alluvial gravels with culverted fords used to cross two creeks. Roadside water courses and run off control would be constructed in accordance with best practice, including the use of sediment retention ponds. Soil cleared during road formation cut and fill will be removed from the site and a specific condition of the concession prevents the disposal of waste material into the surrounding bush. Vegetation cleared during road construction will be mulched or removed from the site, again protected by a condition of the concession. The significant amount of fill removed (10000m³) will be placed on legal road adjacent to the power house site. Westland District Council as road controlling authority has given approval to this disposal.

Groundwater may be encountered during tunnel construction which will be collected in a sediment pond at the tunnel entrance and treated if necessary prior to discharge into the adjacent creek. Mr Matheson also supplied aerial photos indicating the catchment area of both Tarpot Creek and the unnamed creek crossed by the scheme, stating the areas cleared during construction will constitute 1% of the Tarpot Creek catchment and 5% of the unnamed creek. The additional sediment load during major storms, in his view, will therefore be minor.

After crossing Tarpot Creek, the penstock and access follow the true right bank along an existing stop bank that will be strengthened and armoured on the creek side.

We next heard from Rob Caldwell, Chief Executive of Westpower Limited outlined general aspects of the scheme and highlighted that the proposal sought to increase the security of supply in a region ongoing maintenance of lines is hampered. Tourism and farming activity in Westland and recent legislation amendments to enable line suppliers to operate generation schemes, led

Westpower to investigate the Amethyst scheme, along with Harihari Hydro Limited, who are a 20% partner in the scheme.

The third speaker on behalf of Amethyst Hydro was Mr. Martin Kennedy, of West Coast Planning limited, who provided planning advice. Mr Kennedy reminded us that five other parties limited notified had already given their approval to the activity under section 94 of the Resource Management Act.

Mr Kennedy traversed the application and its status and drew our attention to the permitted baseline. Mr Kennedy reminded us that construction periods of 12 months are permitted under the District Plan, strengthening of the flood wall along Tarpot Creek and the construction of power and phone lines and the clearance of a six metre wide corridor in order to maintain the lines is also a permitted activity. Accessory utility buildings are permitted activities subject to specific size requirements. Rural farm buildings are permitted if they are set back 5 metres from any boundaries with legal roads.

Mr Kennedy examined the effects of the proposal divided into the categories of vegetation clearance, visual effects, construction effects, traffic, refuelling, earthworks, stormwater, buildings, heritage and cultural matters, and recreation. He concluded that the effects of the activity were no more than minor and therefore Council was able to approve the application under the gateway test of section 104D. He also traversed the Objectives and Policies of the District Plan and stated that the application was in accordance with the provisions.

Mr Kennedy stated that Amethyst Hydro agreed in principal to the conditions suggested by the officer's report, with amendments. The applicants wished to amend the condition restricting noise to become two conditions, relating to specific parts of the proposal: construction and ongoing operation. One proposed condition would refer directly to the use of the relevant New Zealand Standard for the measurement of construction noise for compliance during construction. Amethyst were then happy to ensure that the operational roise from the scheme complied with the noise limits proposed by the District Planner, which reflect those set in the District Plan for a rural zone. However, Amethyst wished to remove reference to the Department of Conservation walking track and alter the point of noise measurement from within the boundary of dwellings to within the notional boundary. Mr Kennedy stated that the use of the walking track as a monitoring point was unclear, as the track location may alter ever time and suggested if we were of a mind to require monitoring at the location of the track, then the current course should be depicted in an attached plan. The alteration of the noise measurement point to refer to the 'notional' boundary was in accordance with the current rule in the Westland District Plan.

Mr Kennedy addressed the concerns raised in the submission from the Wanganui Trust. In his view, the Trust had been adequately consulted during a public open day and a separate meeting where it became clear that 'there was little likelihood of a resolution of concerns.' He stated that conditions imposed by the West Coast Regional Council suite of consents and the Department of Conservation concession, would adequately mitigate any matters relating to runoff and debris from construction activities. Mr Kennedy also stated that his understanding of the submission was that the main issue was the historic major diversions of Tarpot Creek which was outside of the scope of the application. Tarpot Creek would be diverted within its existing bed and this was covered by the resource consents from the WCRC.

We next heard from Dennis McLaughlin on behalf of the Wanganui Trust. Mr McLaughlin highlighted that the main point of concern of the Trust related to Tarpot Creek. Tarpot Creek crosses Rural Section 3578, flowing above and below the land, and causes erosion and periodic flooding. Mr McLaughlin provided historic plans indicating the previous course of Tarpot Creek and indicated that it previously flowed directly out from the base of the hill to the Wanganui River, rather than turning up the Wanganui River Valley and following the base of the hill as it currently does. A stopbank was erected that permanently directs the flow of the creek onto the land owned by the Trust. The Trust identified that the proposal from Amethyst Hydro Limited involves the strengthening of that stopbank and therefore will further reduce the possibility of the creek being

diverted off the Trust land. Aside from the fact that the Trust believed that the creek should not follow its current course, they were concerned that the formation of the road and the clearance of vegetation as part of the scheme will cause additional runoff and debri flow into the creek, which would then have further adverse effects on their land in times of flood. The Wanganui Trust sought that the stopbank be removed and Tarpot Creek realigned along with the proposed final layout of the penstock and access road.

Mr McLaughlin explained that the Trust had been involved in the concession process with the Department of Conservation but had not been involved in any process with the West Coast Regional Council.

We next heard from the Westland District Council District Planner, Rebecca Strang. Ms Strang took her report as read and reiterated that it was her view that the proposal was in accordance with the Objectives and Policies of the District Plan and that the effects of the proposal were no more than minor. She reminded us of the district council functions and stated that the relevant matters in the submission from the Wanganui Trust related to sediment and run off control from the road formation and land clearance. In her opinion, the applicant had adequately dealt with these effects and they were further protected by existing conditions imposed by other consent authorities.

The applicant exercised a right of reply and reiterated that the historic diversion of Tarpot Creek did not form part of the application and was therefore outside of the scope of the hearing. Mr Matheson suggested that Tarpot Creek flows over an alluvial fan and therefore prior to the erection of the stopbank may have altered course over time. He suggested that the creek may not have been diverted into its current course, but simply had changed course over the fan and the stopbank had then been erected to hold its course. Further discussion was held between the Trust and Amethyst Hydro Ltd in relation to the possibility of an amended proposal or the diversion of Tarpot Creek. This discussion sits outside of this decision as it is not related to the application in front of us for assessment.

# 4 Statutory Framework

We are required to deal with this application in terms of Section 104 of the Resource Management Act 1991. Specifically we are required to consider:

- Any actual and potential effects on the environment of allowing the activity.
- > The Westland District Plan.
- Any other matters considered relevant and reasonably necessary to determine the application.
- Part II of the RMA, which contains its purposes and principles.

Overall the application has non-complying status and therefore is subject to section 104D of the Resource Management Act 1991 whereby, in order to grant consent, we must be satisfied that the adverse effects of the activity on the environment will be minor; or that the applications are for an activity that will not be contrary to the Objectives and Policies of the Westland District Plan.

During discussions at the hearing we have also been directed to section 31 of the Act which outlines the functions of territorial authorities.

# 5 Relevant Planning Documents

The relevant planning document is the operative Westland District Plan. The subject site is zoned Rural. This covers all non-urban land in the District, including rural-residential areas.

We accept the assessment of the District Planner and applicant that the applications are non complying activities under the District Plan.

#### 6 Evaluation

The principal matter of discussion at the hearing related to Tarpot Creek. As stated at the hearing, the consideration of effects of an historic diversion of the waterway is not able to be undertaken by the Council as they do not form part of the application. Regardless of that fact, the effects of the diversion and the strengthening of the stopbank are not matters to be considered by a District Council.

We note the statements from Mr Matheson that reiterate statements in the application that the water is taken from the Amethyst utilising a settling basin which screens out gravel and sand which is returned to the river below the intake. We also note that the road access will utilise best practise road and culvert construction to control runoff and utilise retention ponds where necessary. Settling ponds will also be located near the tunnel to filter sediment from the tunnel construction. A secondary treatment plant may be utilised. Mr Matheson's diagram of the catchments of Tarpot Creek and the unnamed creek crossed by the access road and penstock was useful to indicate the size of the catchments, and to indicate that any additional sediment created during large rain events will be able to be absorbed by the creeks. The removal of most of the cut material during road construction will also aid in preventing additional debris and sediment being directed towards the land owned by the Wanganui Trust. Mulching, chipping and spreading on site of the cleared vegetation will also assist in this function. We are satisfied that there will be no adverse effects of sedimentation, debris or runoff caused by the scheme.

We note that resource consents and subsequent amendments have been granted by the West Coast Regional Council in relation to land clearance, works in the bed of the Amethyst River, diversion of and water take from Amethyst Creek, and discharge of water. An application for consent for effluent disposal is currently on hold. The Department of Conservation has also granted a concession for the activity. It is not the role of the District Council to make comment on the processes employed by these other authorities or the decisions made. We can simply deduce that through granting the consents and concession the regional council and the department are satisfied that the effects on the matter which they retain function over, have been adequately dealt with. We have sympathy for the Wanganui Trust and thank them for their input into the hearing, however we are not the correct consent authority to address their concerns in relation to Tarpot Creek. We also note for the record that the Trust is not opposed to the scheme in its entirety.

The second matter of discussion was the wording of suitable conditions to be imposed on the consent to control noise effects. It is noted that the noise limits requested by Amethyst Hydro are significantly higher than those imposed in the planning report. However, it also follows that Council should be guided by the specific national noise standard relating to construction noise and therefore this standard should be referred to in the conditions. We therefore concur with the suggestion of the applicant that a specific condition is created to control noise during the construction period and that this condition refers to NZS 6803. The monitoring of operational noise through the life of the scheme remains important and should be retained as a condition. We also agree with the amended wording proposed by the applicant to refer to the notional boundary and to remove reference to the Department of Conservation walking track.

We are satisfied that the information provided from the detailed assessment by Jan Derks of TAACRA Ltd ensure that the effects of the clearance of vegetation will be no more than minor. Although the clearance involves removal of some larger specimens of Rimu, Miro and Kamahi, this will be absorbed by their representation elsewhere within the Wanganui Valley and Westland. The proposed clearance does not meet any of the criteria listed in Policy 4.9 relating to Natural Habitats and Ecosystems. The proposal will therefore be in accordance with the Objectives and Policies relating to the Natural Environment and Natural Habitats and Ecosystems.

The outcomes of the Landscape and Visual assessment conducted by Boffa Miskell were not questioned by any party. We agree that the topography of the site and the natural active processes in the area will reduce any visual effect of the formation of the road and penstock. The introduction of temporary buildings during the construction period will have a visual effect; however the removal

of the buildings upon completion of the construction period will ensure that the effects are no more than minor. The District Plan takes the view that the rural area can absorb the introduction of some buildings without a detrimental effect on the amenity of the area, and the erection of the power station will be in accordance with this permitted baseline. We are therefore satisfied that the proposal is in accordance with the Objectives and Policies that relate to Landscape, Amenity, and the Built resource.

The reduction in setback for the unformed legal road has no effect on the efficient use of the Council's roading infrastructure as the road is not currently formed. The applicant proposes to prevent public access along the tunnel access road and imposing conditions to ensure that the access is formed to a sufficient standard and that there is a traffic management plan to address the construction period will ensure that there are no adverse effects on traffic using Power Station Road. It is acknowledged that the road is currently not maintained by Council past a certain point and that the current roading standard may not be to the Westland District Council Code of Practice, however the road is utilising by traffic using the quarry further up the velley and recreationists accessing the hot pools and walking tracks therefore it is important that any effects of construction traffic is mitigated.

There is a benefit to the community of increased security of electricity supply provided by the operation of the scheme. This provided with the mitigation of the effects discussed above ensures that the objectives and policies relating to infrastructure and services are met. We also note the background explanation to these objectives specifically refers to the provision of power to Westland. "the level of isolation experienced in many parts of the District emphasises the need for Westland to become less energy dependent on the rest of New Zealand and more energy efficient. In this regard, hydro electric power generation could represent a viable option in the future provision of the District's energy needs. In addition, independent and small scale generators of energy are likely to be required." The development of a scheme such as that proposed has clearly been anticipated and supported by the District Plan.

As discussed previously, a number of land use consents, a discharge permit and water permit have been issued to Amethyst Hydro have been granted by the West Coast Regional Council. This ensures compliance with the relevant Regional Policy Statement and Plans. The Department of Conservation has also issued a concession relating to the HEPS. This ensures that the relevant matters under the Conservation Management Strategy have been dealt to the satisfaction of the West Coast Conservator.

We note the recently proposed National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation which signals a clear intent from Government to encourage the development of renewable electricity schemes. We believe that the proposal would be an example of the type of scheme championed by this policy statement as the proposal will bring significant benefits to the community whilst avoiding the effects on the environment. For this reason, we also concur with the assessments of the District Planner and the applicant that the proposal is in accordance with Part II of the Resource Management Act.

The construction, operation and maintenance of a hydroelectric power scheme will have effects on the environment that are no more than minor and it is therefore appropriate to approve the consent subject to conditions. The specific nature of the proposal and the site ensure that the proposal is clearly supported by the Westland District Plan and should be approved on this basis subject to conditions.

B. Thomson.

Bryce Thomson Hearing Commissioner Allen Hurley Hearing Commissioner

#### 7. Decision

Pursuant to Sections 104,104B & D of the Resource Management Act 1991, land use consents are granted to **AMETHYST HYDRO LTD** for the activities as hereunder described:

To use land, described as Pt Res 1673 for the purposes of constructing, using and maintaining a hydroelectric power scheme including construction of a flume, tunnel, access road, penstock and staging areas. This consent involves the clearance of 3.6 hectares of indigenous vegetation, a construction period of over 12 months and associated blasting noise.

To use land, described as proposed lot 1 of the subdivision of RS 6406, for the purposes of erecting, utilising and maintaining a power station that is 3 metres from the road boundary. To construct an ancillary utility building that is 18m<sup>2</sup> and a 71m<sup>2</sup> power station. Construction activities will continue for 32 months.

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Resource Consents include the following conditions:

- 1. All activities authorised by these consents shall be undertaken in accordance with the information contained in the application and all supporting technical documents and plans, as submitted to Council and dated 'June 2008', except where inconsistent with these conditions.
- 2. That the consent holder informs the District Planner of Westland District Council in writing as soon as practicable of the date that activities first commence under these consents.
- 3. That the consent holder informs the District Panner of Westland District Council in writing as soon as practicable after construction activities cease.
- 4. That all blasting activities shall take place during daylight hours.
- 5. That the ventilation fan located at the tunnel portal shall be bunded with a hay bale wall or alternatively noise mitigation methodology to ensure that the ventilation fan is not audible at the bush edge.
- 6. Noise from all construction activities associated with this consent shall be measured and assessed in accordance with the provisions of NZS 6803:1999 Acoustics Construction Noise.
- 7. The consent holder shall ensure that operational noise from activities on site shall not exceed the following noise limits at any point within the notional boundary of any residential activity, or the hot pool site during the following time frames:

Monday to Friday 7am to 9pm 55dBA<sub>L10</sub> Saturday 7am to 6pm 55 dBA<sub>L10</sub>

All other times including public holidays 45dBA<sub>L10</sub>

Daily 10pm to 7am 70dBA<sub>Lmax</sub>

- 8. The power station shall be constructed with adequate noise insulation as described in Appendix 11 of the application.
- **9.** Any storage of fuel on site shall be contained within a bunded area to prevent any spillage into the surrounding environment.
- 10. Within six months of the completion of all construction activities all temporary buildings and structures erected during construction period shall be demolished or removed.

- 11. Within six months of the completion of all construction activities the spoil disposal area shall be re-contoured and planted in grass or other vegetation in conformity with the surrounding land.
- 12. Within six months of the completion of the construction of penstocks and road access the vegetation clearance shall be rehabilitated in accordance with the application.
- 13. An entranceway shall be formed from Power Station Road onto Pt Res 1673 in accordance with the Westland District Council Code of Practice. The formation of the entranceway shall be approved by the Westland District Council Manager of Operations.
- 14. That a traffic management plan shall be submitted to Westland District Council Manager of Operations at least one month prior to the commencement of work. The intent of the traffic management plan is to minimise potential adverse effects as a consequence of vehicle movements and to ensure the maintenance of a safe and efficient transport system.
- 15. That following the completion of construction activities, any damage to Power Station Road shall be reinstated to the standard of the Westland District Council Code of Practice or to a standard approved by Westland District Council at full cost to the consent holder. This work shall be approved by the Westland District Council Manager of Operations.
- 16. If considered necessary, Pursuant to Section 128(1)(a) and 128(1)(c) of the Resource Management Act 1991, the consent authority may, over a four week period commencing on the anniversary of the date of consent, review the conditions for any of the following purposes:
  - a) To deal with any adverse effect on the environment which may arise from the exercise of this consent and which it is appropriate to deal with at a later stage.
  - b) To require the consent holder to adopt the best practicable option to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the prironment.
  - c) To deal with inaccuracies contained in the consent application that materially influenced the decision made on the application and is such that it is necessary to apply more appropriate conditions;
  - d) To assess the appropriateness of imposed compliance standards, monitoring parameters, monitoring regimes and monitoring frequencies and to alter these accordingly;

Any such notice of the review of the conditions will be served in accordance with section 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Pursuant to Section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this resource consent will lapse on 29 January 2014 if the consent is not exercised before the end of this period. However, this period can be extended under the Resource Management Act 1991 upon application to the Consent Authority.

# Notes to the Consents:

- This Resource Consent does not, in itself, provide for the erection or alteration of any buildings. All building work on the land to which this Resource Consent refers may be subject to an application for a Building Consent pursuant to the provisions of the Building Act 2004.
- It is possible that archaeological sites may be affected by the proposed work. Evidence of archaeological sites may include burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps

including shell, bone and/or glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Maori and European origin or human burials. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust if the presence of an archaeological site is suspected. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993.

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Reference: RC 100019 Contact: Anna Derks

11th July 2011

Griffin Creek Hydro Limited 107 Puriri Street Christchurch 8041

Dear Rhys,

RESOURCE CONSENT NUMBER: 110019: DISCRETIONARY LAND USE CONSENT: FORMATION OF LEGAL ROAD AND GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY: GRIFFIN CREEK HYDRO LIMITED: GRIFFIN CREEK, STATE HIGHWAY 73.

I advise that the following decision has been mad under delegated authority in respect of the above application.

#### Decision:

Pursuant to Section 104B of the Resource Maragement Act 1991, land use consent is granted to **Griffin Creek Hydro Limited** for the land use activity as hereunder described:

To use land described as Pt RES 1676, the bed of Griffin Creek and adjoining legal road reserve for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining a hydroelectric power scheme including the formation of a track approximately 50m in length on legal road reserve as submitted in the application and plans received 5th April 2011 and further information received 11th May 2011.

#### **Conditions:**

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this Resource Consent includes the following conditions:

- 1. The land use is to proceed generally in accordance with and described more fully in an application and plans received the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011, further information received 11<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and as indicated on the plans attached and marked **'B'**.
- 2. Where works will be within 50m of adjoining boundaries the boundaries shall be accurately defined through survey or GPS prior to the commencement of the works.
- 3. Telecommunications services are to be underground unless inconsistent with supplier requirements.
- 4. The access track between State Highway 73 and the power station shall not include rock protection and shall not create a permanent diversion of Griffin Creek.

- 5. Prior to the operation of the power scheme the access point on to State Highway 73 shall be formed and constructed in accordance with the New Zealand Transport Agency's Diagram C standards.
- 6. Prior to the commencement of any activities on site a traffic management plan, detailing the management of traffic entering and exiting the application site and approved by the New Zealand Transport Agency, shall be submitted to Westland District Council.
- 7. The consent holder will meet all costs associated with monitoring procedures undertaken by the Westland District Council, or its agents, to establish compliance with conditions of this consent.
- 8. Pursuant to Section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this resource consent will lapse on **11<sup>th</sup> July 2016** if the consent is not exercised before the end of this period. However, this period can be extended under the Resource Management Act 1991 upon application to the Consent Authority.

# **Notes to the Consents:**

- 1. This Resource Consent does not, in itself, provide for the erection or alteration of any buildings. All building work on the land to which this Resource Consent refers must be subject to an application for a Building Consent pursuant to the provisions of the Building Act 2004.
- 2. Charges for the monitoring of compliance with conditions of this consent will be set each year in the Annual Plan. Consent holders may submit information to Council to demonstrate compliance with conditions of consent which if accepted will reduce the need for Council to undertake monitoring and therefore reduce associated monitoring fees.
- 3. It is noted that the subject legal road is not included in Council's maintained roading network and therefore all roading maintenance shall be undertaken by the private road users.
- 4. The Consent Holder is advised that the alpine fault and the fault rupture avoidance zone are located to the east of the power house and are dissected by the penstock.
- 5. It is possible that archaeological sites may be affected by the proposed work. Evidence of archaeological sites may include burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Maori and European origin or human burials. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust if the presence of an archaeological site is suspected. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993.

# **Reason for Decision:**

The Consent Authority has given careful consideration to the application, further information, the submissions made by the New Zealand Transport Agency and Patrick and Julie Fitzgerald and the relevant provisions of the District Plan and Resource Management Act 1991. Consideration has also been given to the West Coast Regional Council Regional Policy Statement.

It is accepted that the formation of the road and generation of electricity are able to be undertaken without adverse environmental effects. The temporary nature of the track and not involving the use of rock protection are considered to be initigating factors in relation to the effect of the track formation on the life supporting capacity of Griffin Creek. The imposition of conditions relating to access formation and traffic control will ensure that the use of the access will not adversely affect the safe and efficient use of State Highway 73.

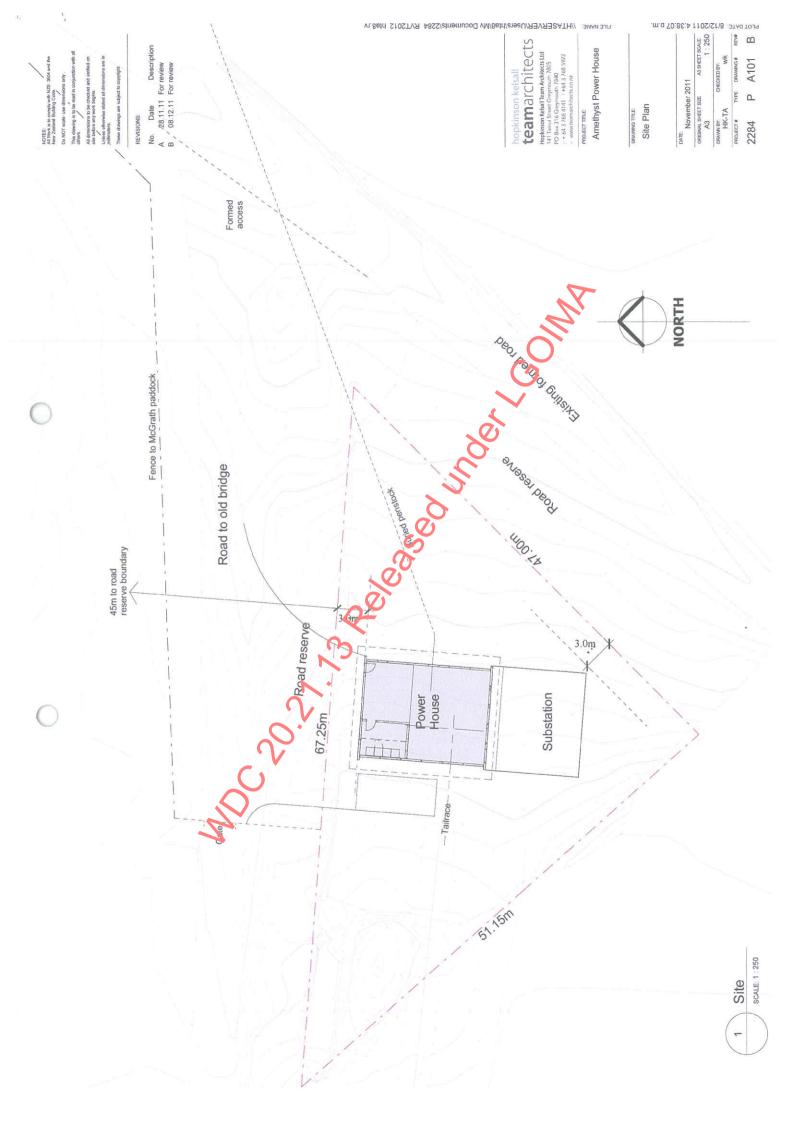
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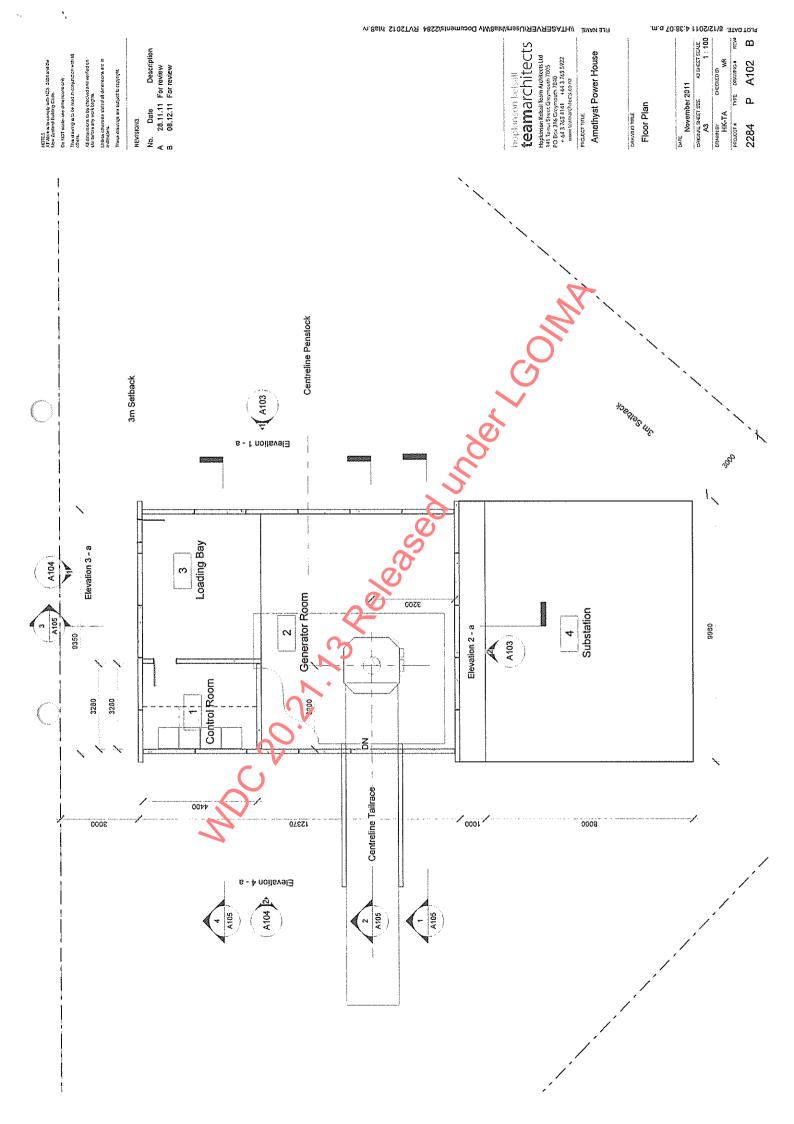
# Objection to the Consent Authority

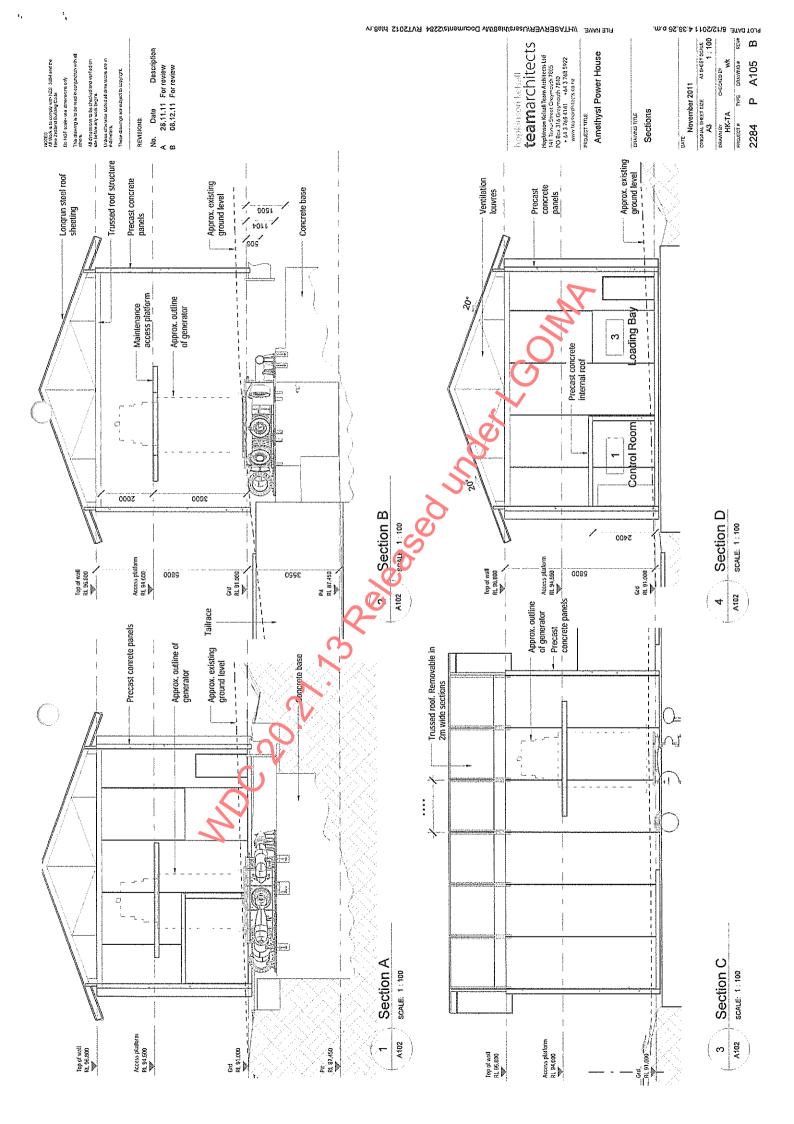
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Pursuant to Section 120 of the Resource Management Act 1991, you have the right of appeal directly to the Environment Court against the whole or any part of this decision. Notice of appeal shall be in the prescribed form and must be lodged with the Environment Court and served on the Council within 15 working days of receipt of the Council's decision.

Anna Derks Consents Officer







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P A106

Our Ref: RC 110129

Contact: Martin Kennedy

15 February 2012

Amethyst Hydro Ltd C/- West Coast Planning Ltd 6 Dowling Road Greymouth Attention Martin Kennedy

Dear Sir

RESOURCE CONSENT NUMBER 110129: NON COMPLYING LAND USE CONSENT: ERECT OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A POWER STATION: AMTHYST HYDRO LIMITED: WANGANUI RIVER VALLEY.

I advise that the following decision has been made under delegated authority in respect of the above application.

#### Decision:

Pursuant to Section 104B of the Resource Management Act 1991, subdivision consent is granted to **AMETHYST HYDRO LIMITED** for the subdivision as hereunder described:

The use of Lot 1 DP 429100 to construct an ancillary utility building that is 115.7m2, 7.8 metres high, and located 3 metres from the road boundary as submitted in plans received December 14, 2011.

# **Conditions:**

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the Resource Consents include the following conditions:

- 1. The activity is to be undertaken in general accordance with and described more fully in an application and plans received 14<sup>th</sup> December as indicated on the plans attached and marked **'B'**.
- 2. The power station is to be no larger than 115.7m<sup>2</sup> in area and have a maximum height of 7.8 metres.

- 3. The consent holder will meet all costs associated with monitoring procedures undertaken by the Westland District Council, or its agents, to establish compliance with conditions of this consent.
- 4. Pursuant to Section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this resource consent will lapse on **15 February 2016** if the consent is not exercised before the end of this period. However, this period can be extended under the Resource Management Act 1991 upon application to the Consent Authority.

# **Notes to the Consent:**

- 1. This Resource Consent does not, in itself, provide for the election or alteration of any buildings. All building work on the land to which this Resource Consent refers must be subject to an application for a Building Consent pursuant to the provisions of the Building Act 2004.
- 2. Charges for the monitoring of compliance with conditions of this consent will be set each year in the Annual Plan. Consent holders may submit information to Council to demonstrate compliance with conditions of consent which if accepted will reduce the need for Council to undertake monitoring and therefore reduce associated monitoring fees.
- 3. It is possible that archaeological sites may include burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Maori and European origin or human burials. The applicant is advised to contact the New Zealand Historic Places Trust if the presence of an archaeological site is suspected. Work affecting archaeological sites is subject to a consent process under the Historic Places Act 1993.

### **Reason for Decision:**

The Consent Authority is satisfied that the additional height and area of the building will not adversely affect the operation of the road, or the amenity of the area. The altered area and height will not cause any additional effects on the environment than those of the previous consent granted for the Hydroelectric Power Scheme and associated power station.

The Consent Authority has considered the application under the relevant provisions of the Westland District Plan, including the objectives and policies relating to infrastructure and services, the built resource, settlement character and amenity. Consideration has also been given to the West Coast Regional Council Regional Policy Statement and the Resource Management Act.

This proposal has not been found to be inconsistent with any matters in these documents and the effects of the proposal have been assessed as being less than minor, thus allowing Council to grant this non-complying consent under section 104 of the Resource Management Act.

# **Objection to the Consent Authority**

You are advised that you have the right of objection to the Consent Authority in respect of this decision, pursuant to Section 357A of the Resource Management Act 1991. Any objection is to be in writing and must set out the reasons for the objection. Any objection must be made within 15 working days of receipt of this decision. The Consent Authority will then consider the objection and give its decision in writing. Any person who made an objection may appeal to the Environment Court against the Consent Authority's decision on the objection, pursuant to Section 358.

Pursuant to Section 120 of the Resource Management Act 1991, you have the right of appeal directly to the Environment Court against the whole or any part of this decision. Notice of appeal shall be in the prescribed form and must be lodged with the Environment Court and served on the Council within 15 working days of receipt of the Council's decision.

Rebecca Strang District Planner Our Ref: RC180019

Contact: Simon Mutonhori

4th April 2018

Griffin Creek Hydro Limited C/- Titan Solutions 6 Pine Tree Road Hokitika 7811 WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

> Westland District Council 36 Weld Street Private Bag 704 Hokitika 7842

Phone 03 756 9010 Fax 03 756 9045 Email council@westlanddc.govt.nz

Dear Sir/Madam

RESOURCE CONSENT NUMBER: 180019: DISCRETIONARY LAND USE CONSENT: TO VARY RC 110019 CONSENT CONDITION BY RELOCATING THE POWER HOUSE TO A NEW LOCATION AT GRIFFIN CREEK HYDRO POWER STATION: GRIFFIN CREEK, STATE HIGHWAY 73.

I advise that the following decision has been made under delegated authority in respect of the above application.

# Decision:

Pursuant to Section 104B of the Resource Winagement Act 1991, land use consent is granted to **Griffin Creek Hydro Limited** for the land use activity as hereunder described:

To vary conditions of RC 110019 by relocating the powerhouse to a new location at Griffin Creek Hydro Station as submitted in the application and plans received  $6^{th}$  March 2018.

# Conditions:

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this Resource Consent includes the following conditions:

- 1. The land use is to proceed generally in accordance with and described more fully ir an application and plans attached and marked 'A' received the 6th March 2018.
- 2. Where works will be within 50m of adjoining boundaries the boundaries shall be accurately defined through survey or GPS prior to the commencement of the works.
- 3. Telecommunications services are to be underground unless inconsistent with supplier requirements.



- 4. The access track between State Highway 73 and the power station shall not include rock protection and shall not create a permanent diversion of Griffin Creek.
- 5. Prior to the operation of the power scheme the access point on to State Highway 73 shall be formed and constructed in accordance with the attached New Zealand Transport Agency's Diagram C standards marked B.
- 6. Prior to the commencement of any activities on site a traffic management plan, detailing the management of traffic entering and exiting the application site and approved by the New Zealand Transport Agency, shall be submitted to Westland District Council.
- 7. The consent holder will meet all costs associated with monitoring procedures undertaken by the Westland District Council, for its agents, to establish compliance with conditions of this consent.
- 8. Pursuant to Section 125 of the Resource Management Act 1991, this resource consent will lapse on 5th April 2023 if the consent is not exercised before the end of this period. However, this period can be extended under the Resource Management Act 1991 upon application to the Consent Authority.

# Notes to the Consents:

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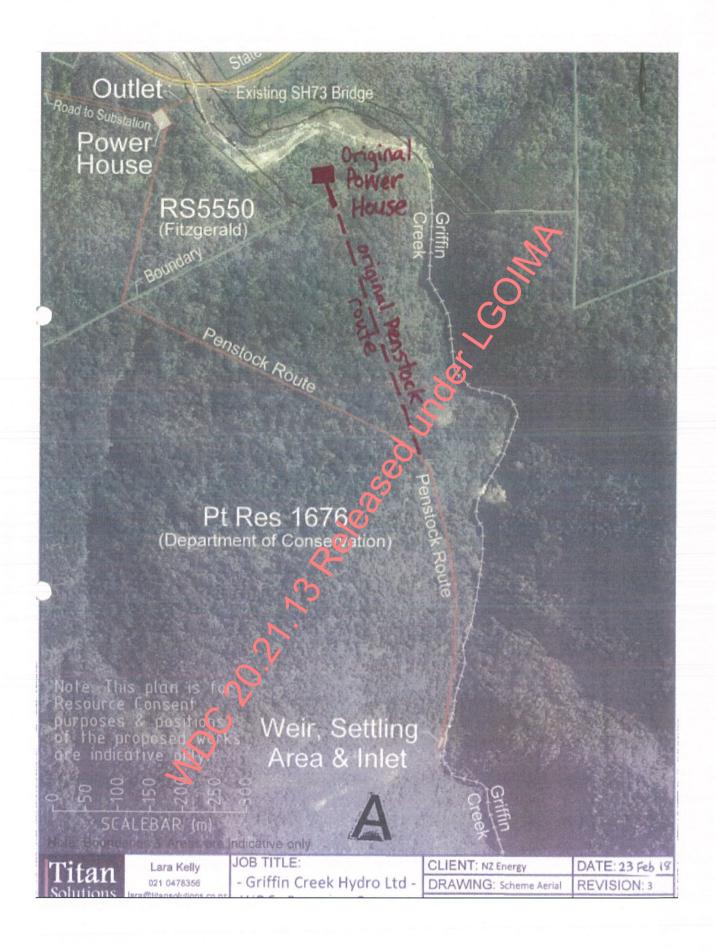
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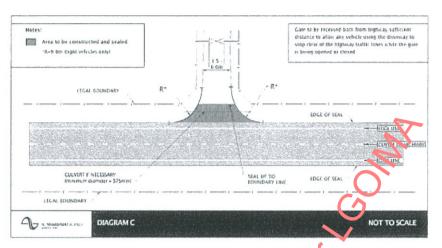
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Sincerely

Simon Mutonhori Senior Planner

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